

THE TWILIGHT SIDE OF A UFO ENCOUNTER

Brent M. Raynes

SELDOM are the paranormal mechanics of a UFO encounter as visibly demonstrated as they were in this particular incident, an incident which contained many classic manifestations.

My attention was alerted to this situation at about 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday evening, October 28, 1975, when I received a telephone call from my associate, Mrs. Shirley Fickett of Portland, Maine. Mrs. Fickett excitedly briefed me on an interesting new UFO sighting that had taken place in the early hours of Monday, October 27, near Oxford, Maine. It involved two young men, whom we shall call P, 18, and W, 21, who shared a trailer in Norway. (To protect the witnesses from possibly undesirable feedback we do not use names or even initials.) At about 7.30 p.m. I telephoned W's mother as the young men did not have a telephone at their place. Mrs. W informed me that the young men were there at her house at the moment and that earlier in the day, when Mrs. Fickett had called them, she suggested that they check the automobile and the young men with a compass, which they did. They found that the needle spun wildly in reaction to the car, and both young men, and even seemed to register a slight reaction with her and her husband. She also told me that they had seen UFOs that evening and, when I indicated a desire to do so, encouraged me to drive up. As soon as I had directions I made arrangements with my friend James Carey of Windsor, and we decided to meet at the Androscoggin County Sheriff's Department in Auburn, where the W family had phoned in a report on the event. I copied the details from their file on the call, and noted that they had telephoned in the data to Dr. J. Allen Hynek's Center for UFO Studies.

At about 9.45 p.m. we arrived at Mr. & Mrs W's residence, in Oxford. The two young men were there, quite visibly shaken and upset, and Mr. & Mrs. W. displayed concern over their conditions. Within perhaps a minute of stepping inside the house we were asked if we would like to see a UFO. Naturally we said we would. And as James Carey later wrote for inclusion with my records: "The young man, W, pointed skyward and told us that the bright light in the sky was a big UFO, another we were told was another UFO, and in another section of the sky still another, all bright and all visible to everyone concerned. I am an amateur astronomer, and I told him that what he was concerned about were in fact not UFOs at all, but heavenly bodies, and that he should not be alarmed as these would not in any way harm him since they were natural objects,

Flying Saucer Review respected the request from the author and Mrs. Fickett through Dr. Schwarz that anonymity of the witnesses should be preserved, and initial letters were used in place of names. Since typesetting was completed, one American magazine has published a less detailed version of the report, in which Mr. Raynes and Mrs. Fickett were quoted, and the name of the main witness ("W" in our accounts) was given: it is David Stephens.

EDITOR

each in its place since the creation of the universe. He was angry with me, and went into the house. I went to my car and got my star maps. I showed him that his first "UFO" was in fact Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, the second "UFO" was Betelgeuse in the constellation of Orion, and the third was the planet Mars."

I followed W. as he entered the house and quickly set up my tape recorder. I explained to him that I wanted him to describe for me everything that he could remember and that I would then review it with him. We stepped into the living room to conduct the interview. About an hour later P. joined us and I questioned him about the various things that W. had described to me. At this point I also had them both hold my pocket compass, but no reaction was registered. Also, shortly after arriving, I checked the car (1971 *Plymouth Satellite*), but again I found nothing abnormal in my readings. While we were there, Ben Twitchel of the Civil Defense in Oxford arrived with a geiger counter and checked the automobile over, but indicated that he had gotten nothing other than normal background readings.

Meanwhile the details had begun to solidify. Both W. and P. worked at night jobs (W. at a poultry processing plant, and P. at a wool mill). Hence their being up at 3.00 a.m. on October 27, when this experience unfolded, was not unusual. They had been inside listening to music when suddenly they heard from outside a sound similar to an explosion of some sort, so they rushed outside but saw nothing unusual. As they stood outside, W. suggested that it would be nice to go for a short ride, and P. abruptly recommended a drive down to nearby Lake Thompson. With P. driving, they had planned to drive about four miles south down Route 26 and just a short distance past the Oxford Plains Speedway stadium and then cut across to a road that would

take them a couple of miles to the west into Oxford. They would then head southwards down the western side of Lake Thompson. But instead of taking this route, they had driven only about a mile down Route 26 when, according to their testimony, the car turned on to a back road to Oxford, completely under its own control. P. had a firm grip on the steering wheel, but there was nothing he could do.

This road is a more direct route to Oxford, about five miles long, passing by Webber Cemetery and Allen Hill. The ride seemed unusually smooth and they estimated that it took only about two minutes to go over it. A song that was playing on the radio at point of entrance was still playing at point of exit.

They continued on through Oxford and down the eastern side of Lake Thompson. About a mile south of Oxford, they passed a field with a group of cows sitting on the ground, all shaking their heads from one side to the other. This struck them as unusual since this had been the only sign of life they had seen on the strange ride down from Route 26.

Just a short distance further they were passing a large cornfield to their left where there were two white lights shining out on to the road. They thought that someone was sitting out in the field in a truck. They slowed to a stop and suddenly the thing began rising. They then considered that it was probably a helicopter, so they turned the motor off and rolled down the windows, but there was no sound. The object also had an assortment of other lights around its body that were green, blue and yellow, but they were extinguished when it rose up just above the tops of the trees that lined up in a row by the road in front of the field. It was only about 20 or 30 feet from the car and seemed very large and elongated, cylinder-like in appearance.

P. restarted the car and hit the gas pedal. They rolled up the windows and locked the doors, with the object giving pursuit. As they were continuing south about a mile down the road, they were aware of the "brightest lights I've ever seen" (W's description), their next fully conscious recollections were of being on the right side of the road, at a complete stop, a mile south of the cornfield site, situated on the left side of a gravel road that empties on to the tarred road they had been travelling. Their windows were rolled down some and their doors unlocked.

They glanced at each other and both saw something strange in the eyes of the other. To W. P's eyes were "all just orange" while to P., W's eyes were orange except for a dark area in the centre where the pupils are.

The UFO was still visible in the sky to the east, so they continued south into West Poland where they turned around and headed north along the same road that they had just come down. At about same road they had just come down. After about two miles the object was no longer visible. W. suggested that they turn back and so they did. Then by an unexplained impulse, as they were going back, again headed south, P. turned into a gravel road leading down to Tripp Pond, which is located to the east of the southern part of Lake Thompson.

There, off to the east, at about a 20° or 30°

elevation above the horizon, was the cylinder-like UFO, giving off a bright white appearance. It was hovering, and W. estimated that it was perhaps 500 feet distant from the car.

Meanwhile; upon their turning into the mouth of this road, the car motor died and could not be restarted, and the car radio faded out. Within a few moments the object seemed to move in an up-and-down fashion, and then rose up into the air to about an 80° elevation, in a south-easterly position, and remained there for the remainder of the encounter, which was approximately an hour and a half. W. estimated that the UFO was 500 yards from the car at this point.

Within 45 minutes to an hour of their being stuck on this road, two disc-shaped objects with green, red and blue lights appeared in the sky, spotted by P., and W. estimated that they seemed to be about a quarter of the size of the "mother ship," which they both agreed was the size of a football field. The discs put on a spectacular "air show" type of display wherein they performed aerial motions in time with one another. In falling-leaf fashion they descended to Tripp Pond, "skimmed across the water," and then flew upwards at right angles, like ascending a pair of invisible stairs, except that these stairs would be going upwards in one direction, at angles, and then suddenly reverse the direction.

Then they noticed a strange "dark grey" and "thick-looking fog" rising out of the pond.

Tripp Pond is approximately a half mile from where they sat at the entrance of this gravel road, but during this experience it appeared to be only 20 or 50 feet from them. One section of the pond seemed to be all water as far as they could see, like an ocean, and there was an island, which one of the discs seemed to fly over during its manoeuvres.* In reality there are hills in the distance behind the pond and no islands are visible.

At any rate, the "fog" soon engulfed their car during which time a voice boomed in over the radio announcing that it was going to be a clear and bright sunny day. The "mother ship" was the only thing visible to them above. The car started when P. tried again at about 6.30 a.m. and at about 7.00 a.m. they arrived at the W. home. They had intended to keep to themselves everything that had happened, but immediately upon setting foot inside the house they were overcome with a number of odd symptoms. They both felt light-headed, their eyes burned, their throats became sore, they couldn't talk coherently, they suffered lack of balance and co-ordination, their teeth became sore and even loose, they had

* George Yeaton Jr., Civil Defense director for Farmington, Maine, saw a cylindrical object with green, red and orange lights hovering low over an island in Rangeley Lake at about 4.30 a.m. on November 5, 1975. The object projected a "bright light" on to the island and fully illuminated it for about 15 seconds, during which time his car radio went dead. He was less than a mile from the island. Not long after extinguishing the light beam, the object "zipped off at an unbelievable speed." (Source: Portland, Maine, *Sunday Telegram*, November 30, 1975.) The similarity between these two separate events is noteworthy.

difficulty in breathing, and they experienced "chills" despite heavy clothing.

At one point they were both startled at the same instance as a mental impression came to them in waves — "no language" as best they could describe it — wherein they were told; "We're not done with you yet. We're coming back for you."

Mr. W. noticed that both young men had yellow discoloration on the skin immediately surrounding their eyes. P. observed in the bathroom mirror that his tongue had a "brownish-white" sort of "scum" on it, and that it was "really cracked." (W. recalled: "When we came to, it felt like it was a desert inside my mouth. It was so dry.")

The experience seems to have contained symbolic elements of sorts. For example during my initial investigation of October 28, W. remarked: "What was weird was when the big one went straight up, the clouds seemed to follow it. It just took off, and all this time not a car went by. We didn't see a person, or an animal, or a bird...nothing! And when the cloud disappeared two ducks went by and then two geese went by and then two ducks again went by. They were going in twos, and we noticed the cows were getting up in twos."

Neither young man recalled seeing the moon during this experience. Mrs. Linda Carey, Mr. Carey's wife, consulted the *Farmer's Almanac* and found that the moon was in its last quarter and rose at 11.01 p.m. on October 26, and set at 1.30 p.m. on October 27. Was the "mother ship" actually the moon? In view of the curious distortions of reality, that must be considered.

The after effects also included strange secondary hallucinations. At about 4.00 p.m. on October 28, W. and P. visited the Tripp Pond site and on several occasions saw what appeared to be white snow flakes coming down around them and overhead black cubes and spheres flying in the direction of the pond, while silver spheres whizzed in all directions. W. alone witnessed a red face-like outline as well as what looked like the beak of a giant bird that flew across the sky and dived into the pond.

On the night of October 27, P. was watching television in the living room of Mrs. W's home when he saw a black cube-shaped object "tumbling" in the air. It seemed to disappear through a wall. A few minutes later what looked like "golden wires" appeared over the television set. They vanished without a trace after a few moments also. Even though W. was in the living room at the time, he saw nothing of this.

That same day W. was alone in his parent's home when he saw an ash tray rise into the air about a foot and then drop back down on to the table.

At about 8.00 a.m. on October 28, something walked across the roof of their trailer in Norway. Shortly afterwards P. went into a very deep sleep. This sleepy condition was repeated again about 4.00 p.m. on October 28, during their visit to the Tripp Pond site, where they both suddenly became very tired and fell asleep in W's 1971 *Chevrolet 10* van.

About an hour before our arrival on the night of October 28, at about 8.45 p.m., three knocks sound-

ed from the front door. W's oldest sister, 22, opened the door. No one was there. P., standing near the kitchen sink about eight feet from the door, heard a male-sounding voice say the letters "UFO". No one else heard it.

My second visit was on November 1. By that time a number of noteworthy developments had erupted.

On October 29, at approximately 9.00 a.m., there came a knocking on the front door of the trailer in Norway. W. opened the door (he was alone), and outside stood a stockily built stranger who had a crewcut hair style, wore sunglasses, and was dressed in dark blue clothing. He asked W. if he was the one who had seen a "flying saucer," and upon getting the affirmative he told W., "Better keep your mouth shut if you know what's good for you." With that the stranger scurried away and around the corner of a nearby building, never to be seen again.

On October 30, at about 8.40 p.m., I was conversing on the phone with my friend James Carey, discussing this case, when the operator cut in to inform me that someone was attempting to place an emergency call to my number. We hung up and within moments my phone rang and it was Mrs. W. She was very upset and told me that her husband was behaving in an "irrational" manner. He had developed an obsession to visit the UFO sites that night but Mrs. W. was fearful of this so she hid the car keys from him.

Her voice quivered as she told me: "I talk to him and then he'll sit there, and sit there, and then he'll say 'What's the matter?' and we just discussed it and he'll be saying 'What's the matter?'"

I suggested that she let me speak to him, but she replied that he did not want to speak with me. Then I told her that perhaps it would be best to let him drive up to the UFO sites, but he responded that he no longer wanted to. Also as we were talking he told her that he knew she was going to have difficulty reaching me.

Not long after our conversation ended, Mrs. W. went to the bathroom, suffering from a sudden and severe headache that began in the left temple, moved across the forehead, and disappeared in the right temple, within probably less than five minutes. A UFO-type light had been outside, but when the headache ceased it was gone.

Mrs. W. noticed that Mr. W. was restless throughout that night, but he recalls no dreams. And when I confronted him with his actions he could not account for his unusual behaviour.

Looking back at the experience of October 27, W. said that he had been functioning as his normal self, he feels that he would most certainly have been very frightened, but both he and P. were in an emotionless sort of state as this UFO activity transpired.

Regarding their friendship, the two young men explained that W. had just been discharged from active military service (US Navy) about a month and a half before the UFO incident of October 27, and P. was visiting in the area with his mother and step-

(continued at foot of page 14)

THE MAIN ^EUFO ENCOUNTER: Investigation under Hypnosis

Shirley C. Fickett

THE case of W. and P. was brought to the attention of The International UFO Bureau in Portland, Maine, on October 28, 1975. A friend of mine called from Lewiston, Maine, stating that a brief account of the incident had appeared in *The Lewiston Daily Sun*.

From the Eastern bureau headquarters, I contacted the paper as well as the Androscoggin County Sheriff's Department, which had also been notified of the UFO encounter experienced by the two fellows during the early morning hours of October 27. The Sheriff's Department supplied the un-listed number of the W. family, and upon calling I talked extensively with Mrs. W. about the case. Upon learning that the young men were experiencing continuing physiological after effects, I realized the implications that the two had undergone some very traumatic experience.

It was November 11 before I could get to the W. residence for a taped interview. Both fellows were present and talked freely of their UFO encounter. We were all curious about the lost time element when the UFO beam of light hit the car, sliding it sideways and rendering the two unconscious. It was decided that hypnosis was the best course of action to follow in order to try to pull together the missing facts.

At about that time, through mutual friends, I met Dr. Herbert Hopkins of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, and discovered that among other talents he was a hypnotist and used this therapy on some of his patients. He had five years' study on the subject to his credit as well as a back-ground of psychiatric study. I made arrangements with him for a number of sessions to learn if W. could be regressed, and to see if we could learn what occurred during the blackout. After the first session, Dr. Hopkins said he would do the hypnosis free as a scientific adventure, as well as to cut our costs. W. was chosen as the subject for study since he was the elder, and served as spokesman whenever an interview was conducted.

P. was present for the first hypnosis session as were W's parents and myself. However, after that session P. refused to be present, and he gradually

withdrew. He refused to discuss the subject, and not long after that he moved to Oklahoma with family members where he remains to this writing. During the November 11 interview he remarked that he was terribly shaken by the ordeal. The remaining hypnotic sessions were all attended by the W. family and myself, taping them for the records. Gradually, over a period of time, the enigma of those lost moments of unconsciousness began to unfold under the skillful and gentle technique of Dr. Hopkins.

Session 1, December 2, 1975

Dr. Hopkins explained how hypnosis works, what to expect from it, and that the sessions could not last any longer than thirty minutes once W. had been put under. I will exclude dialogue here to save space, and cover only the highlights of the most important findings. Since Dr. Hopkins did not know the complete story, and had heard only a sketchy account from me, he did not have too much to work with in the first two sessions. Later I gave him a full report of what W. knew in the conscious mind. After that the probing of what had occurred became easier.

In the first session, Dr. Hopkins performed an arm levitation exercise after W. was under, whereby he tried to push the arm down, but to no avail; by this means he knew his subject was under full control of the trance state. This session revealed little and was a review of substantiating what W. knew in the conscious state. As Dr. Hopkins brought the subject to the point where the light hit the car and they passed out, W's excitement became apparent by his breathing, and it was at this point the session was terminated.

Session 2, December 10, 1975

At this session a complete description was given by W. of the earthly-appearing man who approached him October 29 and threatened him not to divulge any further information about the UFO encounter. Again, there was further review of what happened on the conscious level in order to bring W. to the point where the light hit the car. This session ended with

Twilight... (from page 13)

father when they became acquainted. They were both amazed that they each had experienced many identical things. Within a week they moved into a trailer and shared expenses. And it was at this point that P. began to have ESP insights. For example, one night about a week before the UFO incident P. told W. that they should not go out that night for a ride as something bad would happen.

W. ignored him, and they and two friends were involved in an auto accident.

W. told me that on occasions in the past he had seen the outsides of houses in which he psychically knew the appearance of the interior, and upon stepping inside it would be just as he had visualized in his mind, despite the fact that he had never been inside those buildings before.

W's statement that he was outside the car at the point when it was in the process of skidding sideways after being hit by the light from the UFO. He was reluctant to give any more information and he was then counted out from the trance.

These first two sessions each lasted approximately fifteen minutes or so. The ones that followed lasted about thirty minutes, and revealed much more.

Session 3, December 17, 1975

This time W. was in a more emotional state than at any time other than the final session. Dr. Hopkins guided his subject back through time, bringing him to the area where he concluded session 2 when the car was hit by the light. After much probing W. stated that he was standing on a floor suspended above, looking through a window and observing the car sliding sideways with his friend still within. Further questioning revealed he was standing in a room approximately fifteen feet high and thirty-five feet in diameter. There was one door in the room and the walls caved inwards as they rose. There was no furniture, and at this point W. was alone.

It was soon established that a non-human being came in to join W. Although it was not human, we learned from W. that it was a living being, but not of this world. At this point, as the doctor instructed W. to observe the creature and relate what he saw, it was obvious that he was under great stress, and his breathing became laboured, but he continued. His voice trembled slightly as he described the being as about four and a half feet tall, wearing a garment that "looked like a sheet," and having a face that was not at all human. Under questioning W. was having much difficulty finding words to describe the face of his visitor, and emotion rose once more, making it impossible for him to forge ahead. The session was brought to a halt at this point.

After the hypnosis, it was brought to Dr. Hopkins' attention that ever since the UFO encounter, W's eyes had been bloodshot continually. The doctor examined his eyes and confirmed that they were still in that condition.

Session 4, December 23, 1975

It should be pointed out that during this taped session there was an alternation of high-frequency sound within the tape that did not show up in the other recordings. There was no electrical equipment within the room that could account for this.

W. seemed much calmer as Dr. Hopkins slipped into the area where he had left off in the previous session. It was stated that the creature walked on feet, had hands and arms. It had three fingers that were webbed. (In a later session W. stated there were four fingers, but the doctor established that one appendage was a thumb, not a finger.)

This was the only time W. would discuss the shoes worn by the creature in spite of repeated questioning about it later. He stated the shoes looked as if they were made of paper.

As Dr. Hopkins went to explore the face of the creature, we learned that the skin was white, the

head was shaped like a mushroom, and that it had two eyes (later W. stated these were slanted, large and white in colour, and were unblinking). The nose was small and rounded; no mouth could be observed.

The creature began relating to W. by what he, W., refers to as "brain waves" (speaking telepathically). By this manner he was told not to be afraid, that he would not be harmed. When asked by the doctor if the creature told W. who he was, he said "No." When asked if the creature inquired who W. was, the answer was: "He already knew my name".

Next, W. said he was escorted to another room where he met four more similar beings. This room was described as being like a hospital room with what appeared to be an operating table. It had equipment and machinery. Two needles-full of blood were extracted from W's arm (at the elbow of the right arm). After this, they tried to make him lie down on the table for an examination. He rebelled, hitting one of the creatures in the face. In response, it just looked at him, and showed no signs of retaliation. At this point W. was beginning to breathe deeply and show signs of uneasiness, so once more he was brought back to consciousness.

Session 5, January 14, 1976

After a slight review of previous affairs, Dr. Hopkins took W. back once more to the subject of the appearance of the creatures. Their garments were black in colour. (Because W. had stated they looked like sheets, we had assumed they were white... This was a surprise.)

The sleeves of the garments were flowing, and extended to the hands. The gowns were long. Their arms appeared short compared to the body structure, and W. did not notice whether they had fingernails or not, although he observed their fingers were of different lengths, and that they had joints like ours but were thinner than the human finger. Their garments seemed to be made of paper (here Dr. Hopkins named all manner of materials, but nothing seemed to fit but paper). There was no hair on their heads.

Attention was next focused upon the room and the table within. After hitting the creature, W. had finally relented and lay down to be examined. The table was white and soft. There were bright lights overhead, and W. stated that an instrument was used for the examination. When asked if it hurt, the reply was negative. The subject had once more been under hypnosis for the allotted time and was thereupon counted back to consciousness.

Session 6, January 21, 1976

The questioning began concerning the feet and shoes of the creatures, but for some reason the only thing W. would relate was that some of them were wearing footgear and some were not. That was all he would say in spite of continued questioning on the subject. When asked whether or not the beings had ears, W. could give no answer. He did not relate that they had no facial hair. He was asked to draw a picture of them upon awakening.

Now came interrogation about the examination.



The creature as described by "W", drawn by Shirley C. Fickett

The machine used was square with gauges on the side, knobs in the middle. This had an extension on it about four feet long, and at the end of this was a smaller machine which slid over W's body as it was manoeuvred, but did not come in contact with the body. W's clothing was all removed (the beings assisted). This bothered W. but, although the room felt cool he was not cold. Dr. Hopkins named all the parts of the body when asking if they were examined: eyes, nose, mouth, ears, chest, etc. Each time the answer was "Yes." Travelling further down the body, the question was asked; "Did they examine



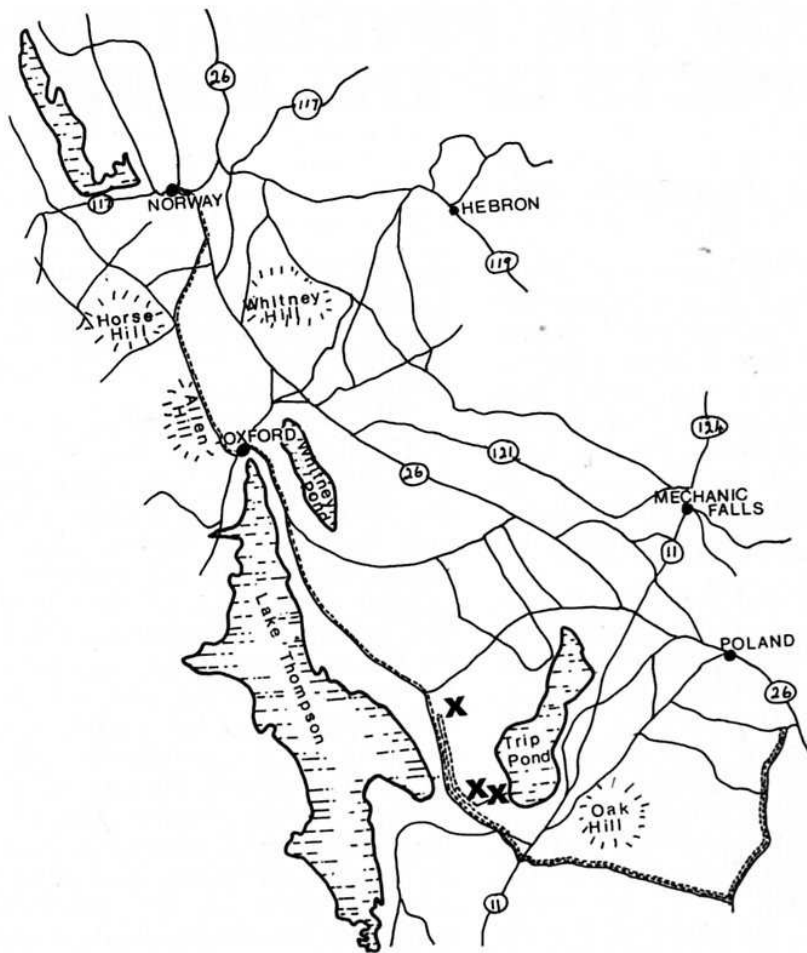
The creature, drawn by "W" following the hypnotic session on February 21, 1976

your genitals?" When this was confirmed, the next question was; "Did they do anything to them?" The answer to this was in the negative. So the questions went on to all the other parts of the body. It appeared there was a thorough going-over, on the part of the intruders, from head to feet. A small sample of hair was taken and put into an empty container. There were no other machines used, and no wires were attached. It was estimated that the examination took about forty to forty-five minutes, in all.

After his clothes were put back on (this time without any help), W. stated that the beings began to communicate with him mentally, saying they had been watching him for some time and wanted to study him. They stated they would be seeing him again and-he was given a shot of something. This was administered in the right arm near the shoulder. He was told that it might make him a little tired. When asked if it did, he stated "Yes, about a week later!" After this, W. was escorted back to the room where it all began, and related that next he was back in the car with his friend P.

Before awakening W., Dr. Hopkins went on to a few more questions, asking if there were a lot of test tubes in the hospital room. The answer was yes. We learned that a fingernail sample was taken and bottled. There was more questioning as to what was done with the blood samples. W. stated that after the samples were placed on a table awhile, they were taken from the room by one of the creatures. Upon being asked how he felt upon returning to the car, W. related that it felt like there was glass in his eyes. The doctor asked if this told pretty much the story of what happened while W. was unconscious, and the answer was affirmative.

Once more the hypnosis was terminated. Upon awakening, W. stated he felt there was something he was supposed to do. He was told, and escorted



Area where the witness saw the UFO.
 X indicates the place it was claimed the light shone on them from the object.
 XX where they stated they observed UFOs over the lake.

to the kitchen table where he drew a picture of the beings he'd observed while aboard the UFO.

Later Dr. Hopkins asked if we could have a couple more sessions to tie up some loose ends.

Session 7, March 9, 1976

More questioning about the first room. The window size was about one and a half feet. The floor was shiny. Walls a shiny grey, and the ceiling the same. W. felt a slight vibration and there was an odour as though something had burned. There were no pictures on any of the walls. More stress was laid on the area where the creature was hit. Upon impact, he was not knocked down but just stepped backwards, he made no noise, and the others did not react. His skin felt harder than ours, there was no discolouration, and no mark remained where the impact was made.

The creature seemed surprised when hit and when asked if they appeared to want to be friendly, W. stated "Yes." There was no indication that the beings communicated among themselves, for there was no sound between them. A button was missing from W's denim sleeve, which he said they put into a jar after cutting it off.

After W. returned to the car, it appeared that P. had no recollection that his friend had left him.

Throughout the hypnosis sessions there was complete consistency of both the conscious and

subconscious mind, during the questioning by Dr. Hopkins.

Session 8, March 23, 1976

W. said very little in this session but was more disturbed than at any other time. Dr. Hopkins suspected it was due to the line of questioning. This dealt in the main with the question of when the beings told W. they would return. W. stated he was given a time when they would see him again but when asked when this was, he would not answer. After persistent questioning on this point, W. became very upset, trying desperately to say something but at the same time giving the impression that something was holding him back. He trembled and shook his head indicating alternately yes, then no. Dr. Hopkins stated there was great conflict going on within. He was asked if he had been made some sort of promise and the answer was "Yes," but the nature of that also remains deep within the subconscious mind. W. was so upset that the questioning was brought to a halt and the session ended.

And so we have an account of what occurred during the blackout when the car was hit by the beam of light, with the exception of the promise made to W. and the matter of the return of the beings. Perhaps it is just as well that that remains in the shadows of W's mind.

COMMENTS ON THE PSYCHIATRIC-PARANORMAL ASPECTS OF THE MAINE CASE

*Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.**

SHORTLY after the Maine UFO Encounter, Brent Raynes telephoned me. Since it was impossible for me to leave at once, I suggested some nearby colleagues who had ample facilities at their disposal. However, since this didn't work out and I was becoming curious with each new report from investigators Mrs. Shirley Fickett and Brent Raynes, both of whom had corresponded with me for some years before the incident, I could resist no longer and drove to Mrs. Fickett's home in Portland, Maine, on January 16, 1976.

Mrs. Fickett reviewed past and current developments, and showed me all her material. I had previously listened to audio tapes of the hypnotic sessions that Herbert Hopkins, M.D., had with W. The following day, W., the contactee, arrived with his parents at noontime, and in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Fickett, Brent Raynes (and his parents who came later), it was possible to go over the whole experience and conduct a psychiatric-paranormal survey. Although this technique of airing material in the presence of everyone (exclusive of P., the other young man who was with W. the night of the experience) had its drawbacks, there were advantages. For example, it was possible to observe the interaction between W., his parents and the investigators, etc., and also to weave back and forth over many features of the story. The obvious drawbacks to this quasi public method were compensated for by seeing W. and his parents individually and privately. During the eight-and-a-half hours spent with the family, I photographed all the people and we attempted an experimental paranormal audio taping.¹

W., aged 21, was a U.S.N. veteran of the Vietnam war, who received an honourable discharge. A high school graduate, he seemed to have average intelligence, and was open and co-operative; with one understandable proviso, that anonymity be maintained. W. gave no evidence for any undue trends of thought or preoccupations. Two and one half months after the contact W. still seemed frightened and puzzled by his unusual experience. His account dovetailed with what he had told Mrs. Fickett and Brent Raynes. There was no evidence from W's past history, or from interviews of his father and stepmother, for dishonesty, lying, falsification of, or loss of memory, previous sociopathic or dissociative behaviour, or of excessive interest in flying saucers, detailed knowledge of the Betty and Barney Hill abduction case,² or the Pascagoula incident,³ etc. This was also the situation for W's parents. They were distressed by what had happened to W., and as reported, the father even developed an episode of entranced and strange behaviour.⁴ The father

wanted help for his son (and himself?) and had to fathom the meaning of what happened. He completely trusted his son, and his family shared that attitude with Mrs. Fickett, Brent Raynes, Dr. Hopkins and myself.

The hypnotic sessions penetrated W's amnesia and yielded material that W. was unaware of. Only gradually did he learn what had happened aboard the UFO. It is interesting that, like the Hill's case and the Hickson-Parker case, W. had a physical examination. But superficially and technically considered it seemed so absurd that one wonders if this wasn't also staged by the UFO forces in order to create a particular impression. While entranced, W. recalled hitting one of the entities who was solid⁵ and who did not retaliate.

Many of W's symptoms following the encounter, when he entered his parent's home, might be explained as the physiological expressions of anxiety. Although weightlessness can be a symptom of anxiety or depersonalization, it is not a common complaint, and in view of the possible teleportation this symptom should be kept in mind. The battery of physiological tests⁶ that were used with the astronauts could be applicable here and might yield valuable clues. The complaint of sore and loose teeth is not common, but it would not be an unusual reaction for someone to develop when frightened and clenching his teeth. If the eyes were indeed orange⁷ it is unusual. I've never come across that history in seeing thousands of patients through the years. Although seriously disturbed patients in mental hospital can present bizarre symptoms, they don't develop orange eyes. Floyd Farrant, my ophthalmologist colleague, also could not account for this. However, he said that when he uses fluorescein in his work, the eyes become transiently orange. Could W (and possibly P) have had an eye examination with fluorescein dye? The orange eyes are also reminiscent of what is reported for many of the UFO-related Big Foot encounters, where the eyes are described as a glowing yellow or orange.

Possibly the sightings and events aboard the UFO were sufficiently awesome to induce the terror and the psychosomatic sequelae of sleepiness. Electroencephalography might give clues to the particular stage of sleep induced, or define a normal rhythm that is usually associated with a trance-like state. Other information might show temporal lobe concomitants to W's (and later to his father's?) fugue, changes in photic sensitivity (e.g., a factor in his headaches), etc. Although I've done electroencephalograms on gifted paragnosts (and on one person involved in an outbreak of presumed poltergeist activity) there were no scalp lead changes when successfully performing. That doesn't mean that UFO

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contactees might or might not have findings unless serial tracings or specialized techniques are used.

Although perhaps not unlike some of Mrs. Stella Lansing's seemingly allegorical experiences,⁸ there are the bizarre symbolic features of the twosomes of cows shaking their heads, and the ducks and Canadian geese alternately flying in twos. Was this reality, illusion, or hallucination? It seems similar to later events that occurred in the home and the pond, where W and P saw black cubes and spheres, and silver spheres. W. alone saw the beak of a giant bird. At times he saw things when others didn't, and this was also the case for P, who saw at W's home a black cube and golden wires, which W. didn't see. Many of these percepts are similar to what Mrs. Lansing has filmed on numerous occasions. Also, although there was no one else with him, W. reported seeing an ash tray suddenly levitate. Other psi and puzzling aspects of the case include the "fog"⁹ that engulfed the car, possible telephonic and mail effects, telepathy, precognition, various poltergeist effects, and a man in navy blue. What a field day for a team of investigators!

The question could be asked, what psychodynamically significant events, if any, might have gone on that might have set up the contactees for their experiences? Although it would have been desirable to have spent more time with W. alone, it was learned that he was upset, when he was in the Navy during the Vietnam war, and his parents were divorced. His father choked up when he confided that W's natural mother attempted suicide and had been hospitalized twice. It was strange that the stepmother didn't volunteer that she was not W's natural mother. The stepmother seemed to be a warm person who related well to W. She wanted the best for her family. She, like W's father, had been married previously, but unable to have children of her own, she and her first husband had adopted two children. W. was thus the second oldest of four natural siblings and of two young adoptive siblings. Of all the children, only his older sister, age 22, was involved in the UFO sequelae, for when she once opened the door after hearing a knock, she discovered no one there. The father, but not she, heard spelt out the letters "U-F-O." Were these events psychic projections from the unconscious of the protagonists and aimed at specific people and not others? If so, why and what is their origin? Paragnosts Jacques Romano and Joseph Dunninger were masters of telepathy, who could produce analogous presumed psychic effects when they were properly worked up, so that would not be an unusual situation, but again, why these people, at this time and place? What are the psychic dynamics?¹⁰

Approximately three months prior to the contact, W. and his family were jolted when they learned that the stepmother had an advanced malignancy which would need immediate and prolonged treatment. It should be noted that in some other contact situations prior to their experience the protagonists, like some gifted paragnosts, were keyed up to a near-crisis proportion, for the future seemed to hang in the balance. It has been mentioned that while in the Service W. had already lost his mother through

divorce, and apparently she was a taboo subject. Now W. was threatened with the loss of his warm and giving stepmother, and also his plans for marriage were marred. The reverberations echoed throughout the family; however, it is obvious that such tragedies are not that unusual, and when similar situations exist elsewhere, they are rarely, if ever, accompanied by UFO-psi sequelae as happened here. It is regrettable that there are not suitable clinical controls to aid in the evaluation of such factors. However, the highlights touched upon here suggest how this might be a fruitful area to explore.

In contrast to W's parents, P's family denied the validity of their son's reality and even called him a liar. Perhaps this lack of understanding drove him out of the home. P. moved west and it was impossible to obtain any further information. It might be wondered how well he will fare in the future, because of hypothesized previous similar home experiences¹¹ and the way that his UFO contact was handled (mangled?).

On speculating why these young men were "chosen" it should be noted that it might not have been an accident, for in their short acquaintance-ship both W. and P. were drawn together by their interest in the occult. Could this affinity have set the stage for what later happened? Motivation and suggestion are powerful forces. They can be contagious, and in spontaneous psi examples or in some seances they seemingly further the phenomena. The psychic nexus is part of a continuum — it can go back in time and peer into the future. Although as far as we know, both men had no previous consuming interest in UFOs, there was a background for psi. Perhaps a more prolonged and detailed study of W. and P. could uncover more psi data and better define the UFO-contact/psi interface. Before a collective unconscious effect is proposed, all the specific individual influences, interactions and experiences of the protagonists and their families should be worked out.

Psi could also account for the supposed EM effects. The alleged feats of Uri Geller¹² and other gifted mediums¹³ support this viewpoint. Perhaps a study of many gifted contactees will reveal the hypothetical anatomical, biochemical, or psychic substrates that energize and set off the critical interaction with the UFO. My experience indicates that W. has much in common with other contactees and gifted paragnosts I've studied, i.e., an apparent superabundance of energy, individualism, often being a loner, tendencies toward dissociation and perhaps much pent-up tension — people who give the impression that if their energies are not sufficiently channelled they would be ready to explode. Whatever the final reason, it is also a fact that in some of the families I've studied there is a permissive attitude for psi, sometimes going over three generations, or by history even longer.

Unfortunately not much is known about P. Although W. had no past dissociative behaviour like sleepwalking, fugues, excessive daydreaming, etc., it should be noted that like so many contactees in my experience, and unlike most people in general, he was an excellent hypnotic subject and

had amnesia for what he recalled during entrancement.

Not much was learned about W's family history. His father's father was of German descent: his mother came from a long line of New Englanders, some of whom were clergymen, and there might have been a witch or two in the background. W's mother was of Irish extraction and came from the midwest. Aside from her mental illness (recurrent depressions and suicide attempts?), not much is known about her. According to the father, W's natural mother had no knowledge of her son since the divorce. The father did not know if the former wife remarried or not. In the interviews, it appeared that W's relationship to his mother was glossed over. His private responses indicated unrequited longing and curiosity. Possibly this repression could have been displaced and have added force to the outlet in his contact and related psi experiences. Although touchy, this is also a necessary area for further probing.

W. recalled a possible psi episode when he was in the Navy. While stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, he once met a stranger on the street, called him by name, and told him things about his life. Although W. could not immediately recall other similar psi examples, he said this experience was not unusual. Coupled with the psi aspects of the UFO experience, this faculty might indicate that W. possesses the potential of being a powerful medium. However, this does not explain how, if psychic ability is an indispensable factor for a UFO experience, it took the specific trappings: i.e., the supposed EM effects, the terror, the medical examination, etc. Is the brilliant display of psi — via the UFO symbolism — the message? Could it be as simple as some contactees proclaim: that the purpose of the contact is to alert man to the existence of forces and powers that exert control over his destiny, and that these forces

can vastly expand man's awareness and free him from the materialism that endangers his present-day culture? Or the opposite could be: if man can't learn to cope with such forces as his own hostilities and aggressions he will be destroyed by them. Like all powers, psi can be used for good or evil, depending on the values accorded: e.g., myths, dogmas, superstitions, and the belief systems that surround us.¹⁴ Whether these forces and effects come from projections and condensations of men (or UFO entities) — individually or collectively — in complex ways analogous to how thought and feelings can be transferred in psychodynamic telepathic drawing experiments,¹⁵ is impossible to determine. Whatever the explanation, and the cause and effect relation, the paranormal aspects appear to be central in this case. Mrs. Fickett, Brent Raynes, and Dr. Hopkins had to cope with factors that ethically prohibited their pursuing matters further, but they are to be complimented for their care, consideration and diligence.

Under utopian circumstances it would have been advantageous to have had collaborative psychiatric study of W, P, and their families, so that the loose ends to their experiences could have been pinpointed and fitted together. Facts could replace speculations. In psychotherapeutic techniques the more time that is spent, the more that is learned.

Complex human matters cannot be approached in a simplistic way. In future cases it is hoped that more physicians can be recruited to aid in the investigations and that it will be possible to have thorough physical examinations, appropriate laboratory studies, including electroencephalography, etc. At the least, as much attention should be paid to the human part of the equation as is given to the other data. Perhaps something of practical benefit could come from ufology. No study of any close sighting, landing



Figure 1

Photograph taken by Shirley Fickett at the UFO site. Two strange artifacts resembling UFOs, are seen, similar to those Mrs. Stella Lansing has obtained on many occasions.

or contact case is complete without plans for a long-term follow-up, an adjunctive medical, psychiatric-paranormal survey, and the contributions of the various social sciences.

The thirty-minute attempted paranormal tape recording made in the presence of everyone during the visit did not yield anything. However, in their studies Mrs. Fickett and Brent Raynes took pictures of the UFO site. Mr. Raynes obtained some unusual photographic effects, but artifact seemed to be the likely explanation. Mrs. Fickett's pictures of the alleged landing site showed some strange artifacts resembling UFOs which were similar to what Mrs. Stella Lansing has obtained on many occasions (Figure 1).

Notes and References

1. Schwarz, B.E.: "Commentary on the Roberts Mystery," *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol.21 (No.6) 18-19, 1976. Also, on a more recent audio tape Mrs. Lansing obtained a halting man's voice, perseverating: "...please believe me," and then later, "Please believe me, Mrs. Lansing." This was associated with jamming of the tape recorder, and was photographed on motion picture film by Mrs. Lansing. Experimental presumed paranormal tape effects in connection with ufology can also be found in: "Follow-up on Betty Hill," submitted to FSR for publication, 1976.
2. Fuller, John: *The Interrupted Journey*, Dial Press, New York, 1966.
3. Blum, R., and J.: *Beyond Earth*, Bantam, New York, 1974.
4. For similar entrancement with a fugue and its possible dangerous complications, see Schwarz, B.E.: "Berserk: A UFO Creature Encounter," FSR, Vol.20 (No.1): 3-11, 1974. Also, a situation that I have followed over a period of time and which Stan Gordon and the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research, of Greensburg, have thoroughly investigated, involved a series of spectacular psychic effects, MIB phenomena, and recurrent fugues, during which the quasi contactee behaved as if possessed, and demonstrated, on many occasions, dangerous, violent acting out.
5. Similar indications of the solid (materialized?) nature of the UFO or entities are given in a Venezuelan case, where the protagonist stabbed the UFO-associated dwarf and found that the blade "glanced off the body as though from steel," (Creighton, Gordon and Bowen, Charles (ed.), *The Hum...s*, Neville Spearman, London, 1969, pp. 93-94) and in the instance where Gary Wilcox threw a rock at the craft and it bounced off (see FSR, Special Issue No. 3, 1969, pp. 20-27, "Gary Wilcox and the Ufonauts."); also, the famous Kelly-Hopkinville sighting as reported in Hynek, J. Allen: *The UFO Experience, A Scientific Inquiry*, Henry Regnery Co., Chicago, 1972, pp. 150-155. In *The Edge of Reality* (Hynek, J. Allen, and Vallée, Jacques, Henry Regnery Co., Chicago, 1975, pp. 129-142), Dr. Hynek recounts the example of Mr. H., who with three other hunters had noticed what they thought was an airplane come down and crash. The craft, or whatever it was, had four occupants beside it. In the course of matters, Mr. H. fired a shot and hit one of the forms in the right shoulder: "When the individual was struck, he spun around, down to his knees, and he got up with the other guy's assistance, and looked over and said or hollered, 'Now, what the hell did you do that for?' (p. 136)." This experience indicates a solid effect. For many years afterwards Mr. H. suffered with this horrible secret. Through coincidence or synchronicity it was my fortune to spend several hours with this man. As in other contactee situations, I learned about his many personal and family paranormal experiences.
6. The severity and persistence of many of W's symptoms, as for example his weightlessness and sleepiness, would suggest considering the battery of physiological studies for some contactees that were used for the astronauts (see Driscoll, Everly: "Every Man's Response to Zero-G," *Science News*, Vol.102 (Sept. 9): 172-174, 1972; and "Inside the Crew of Skylab II," *World Medical News*, Dec. 14, 1973, pp. 26-27).
7. Although not orange eyes, a related eye effect pertains to a contactee under study by the Cleveland Ufology Group. In the midst of her experience, this woman noted a golden spotlight shining out from her left eye. She claimed it was 10-12 inches in diameter and would light up the TV, refrigerator, walls, and that she could read through it. My study of this contactee revealed many interesting psychic aspects for her and other members of her family.
8. Schwarz, B.E.: "Stella Lansing's UFO Motion Pictures," FSR, Vol.18 (No.1): 3-12 (Jan./Feb., 1972). "Stella Lansing's UFO Movies of Four Entities and Possible UFO," FSR, Special Issue No. 5, UFO Encounters: 2-10, 1973. "Stella Lansing's Clocklike possible UFO Formations," FSR, Vol.20 (No.4): 3-9 (January 1975) Part I; *Ibid.*, Part II, Vol.20 (No.5): 20-27 (March 1975). *Ibid.*, Part III, Vol.20 (No.6): 18-22 (April 1975). *Ibid.*, Part IV, Vol.21 (No.1): 14-17 (June 1975).
9. In World War I, British troops mysteriously disappeared at Gallipoli, after they were enveloped in a strange mist, according to accounts from New Zealand sources. References on mist and UFOs are: Creighton, G.: "Teleportations," FSR, Vol.16 (No.2): 14-16 (Mar./April 1965); Galindez, Oscar A.: "Teleportation from Chacomus to Mexico," FSR, Vol.14 (No.5): 3-4 (Sept./Oct. 1968); Frederickson, Sven-Olof: "Finnish Encounter on the Snow," FSR, Vol.16 (No.4): 31-32 (July/Aug. 1970); Frederickson, Sven-Olof: "More on the Imjarvi Case," FSR, Vol.16 (No.6): 22 (Nov./Dec. 1970); Frederickson, Sven-Olof, et al.: "The Strange Force That Moved a Car," FSR *Case Histories Supplement No. 10: 1-3* (June 1972). The apparently related subject of teleportation with its parapsychological and ufological implications, can be found in a 30-item bibliography featuring studies by Fodor, Sanderson, Jessup, Creighton and Galindez; see Galindez, Oscar A.: "A New Teleportation Near Cordoba," FSR, Vol.19 (No.3): 6-12 (May/June 1973); also see Bowen, Charles: "Car Teleported by UFOs in Rhodesia," FSR Vol.21 (No.1): 18-20 (June 1975); van Vlierden, Carl (transcribed by Bowen, Charles) "Escorted by UFOs From Umvuma to Beit Bridge," FSR, Vol.21 (No.2): 3-10 (August 1975); and the Travis Walton case in the *APRO Bulletin*, Vol.24 (No.5): 1-5. (Nov. 1975); *ibid.*, "Walton Takes Polygraph Test," Vol.24 (No.6): 1-3 (Dec. 1975).
10. Some of my psychiatric studies touching on the paranormal aspects of ufology can be found in FSR, Vol.17 (No.2): 4-9 (March/April 1971); Vol.17 (No.3): 21-27 (May/June 1971); Vol.18 (No.4): 5-9, 17 (July/Aug. 1972); Vol.19 (No.1): 3-6 (Jan./Feb. 1973); Vol.19 (No.2): 18-23 (March/April 1973); Vol.21 (Nos. 3,4 (No.2): 18-23 (March/April 1973); Vol.21 (Nos. 3,4): 22-28 (Nov. 1975). Also see, Proceedings of the Eastern UFO Symposium, Jan. 23, 1971, Baltimore, Maryland, pp. 8-12 (sponsored by APRO, Tucson, Arizona); Proceedings of the 5th APRO UFO Symposium, June 15, 1974, Pottstown, Pa., pp. 14-18; Proceedings, MUFON 1974 UFO Symposium, Akron, Ohio, June 22, 1974, pp. 82-95. A fascinating case from the New York-New Jersey megalopolis dealt with possible landings, occupants and sightings, involving different witnesses near the Stonehenge apartments. See Bloecher, T.,

Hopkins, B., and Stoehrer, J.: "Digging Holes in the Ground, Occupants Sighted in New Jersey," *Skylook*, No. 100, pp. 3-7, (Mar. 1976). My cousin whose medical office is close by, told me about a medical secretary at the local hospital and her related sighting with possible telephone harassment. I also saw four of the Stonehenge protagonists in cursory psychiatric and paranormal surveys, and unsuccessfully attempted some movie experiments. EU, the day dorman, and a leading experient, has had lifelong high-quality psi: e.g., possible precognition — he claimed foreknowledge of the UFO activity — apparitions and telekinesis. His son and wife also had unusual presumed psi experiences. EU and the apartment electrician shared a close daytime sighting. They noted how the top floor of their apartment was unique, and might have resembled the stereotyped concept of a conventional UFO by its circular shape, dome, and flashing lights on the sides. EU wondered: "Is there an attraction to this building?" It might have been more than just the building. If hoax can be excluded for the episodes of the little man digging a hole, this series of UFO events in the heart of the metropolitan

area is unusual. From the earliest years to the present FSR has had many excellent articles on the general and psychological psi aspects of ufology.

11. Robinson, David B. (ed.): *Experience, Affect, and Behaviour, psychoanalytic Explorations of Dr. Adelaide McFadyen Johnson*, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1969.
12. See Creighton, Gordon: "Uri Geller, the Man Who Bends Science," *FSR*, Vol.19 (No.5): 8-11 (Sept./Oct. 1973); Puharich, Andrija: *A Journal of the Mystery of Uri Geller*, Anchor Press, Doubleday, Garden City, N.Y., 1974; and Geller, U.: *Uri Geller, My Story*, Warner Brooks Inc., (Paperback) New York, 1975.
13. Fodor, Nandor: *Encyclopaedia of Psychic Science*, University Books, New Hyde Park, N.Y. 1966.
14. The masterful writing of John A. Keel and many FSR editorials and articles through the years fully explore these challenging possibilities.
15. Schwarz, B.E.: "Psychodynamic Experiments in Telepathy," *Corrective Psychiatry and the Journal of Social Therapy*, Vol.9 (No.4): 169-214 (1963).

BOOK REVIEW

Flight Towards Reality, Victor Goddard (Turnstone Books, £2.50)

AS most of our readers will know, the author is a distinguished scientist and retired R.A.F. Air Marshal. In this deeply thoughtful and thought-provoking book, he deals with much paranormal experience, ranging from survival of death and the evidence for it, down to dowsing and other techniques which undoubtedly exist, yet still defy satisfactory explanation. Sir Victor also deals with UFOs, and this is why a review of the book appears here.

As all our readers know, many authorities today are beginning to veer away from belief in the actual and extraterrestrial existence of UFOs — the chief proponent of which is still Major Keyhoe — and to think in terms of more subjective explanations, despite the undoubted facts that UFOs can leave physical traces, can interfere with electrical circuits, can be tracked by radar, and seem in every way to be examples of some supernatural hardware with an equally supernatural power to manoeuvre and attain almost astronomical speeds.

The favourite new theory of some is that what we are seeing over our world — and *really seeing* — are fully materialised projections *backwards* in time from the period in the next millenium when such vehicles will first be built in ordinary "man-made" time. This concept is difficult to grasp, but it is finding favour, especially in certain official circles which have now been forced to accept the actual existence of UFOs in our skies.

But Sir Victor puts forward the theory — for the first time, I believe — that the UFOs we see today are materialised "thought-forms" brought into existence by discarnate inventors and designers who — in the next world — carry on their aeronautical work. The notion of "thought-forms" will be familiar to all those engaged in research on survival after death: it has been convincingly shown by many discarnate communicators that, in certain circum-

stances, they can create actual objects by the power of imagining, hence "thought-forms." It has also been shown — occasionally — that discarnate people can succeed in materialising themselves and certain other items for us to see and experience on earth. Sir Victor carries this idea further, and suggests that UFOs may be fully materialised thought-forms of this kind.

Whatever one's own views, this book, for both its mental and spiritual examination of many paranormal subjects, is well worth reading. Sir Victor displays a very fine mind, and as fine a sensibility, allied with that humility of spirit common to many great men.

CHARLES H. GIBBS-SMITH

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