

WOODSTOCK UFO FESTIVAL, 1966 — 2

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THIS is the second part of a report of UFO events, in 1966, from the small town of Woodstock—an arts and crafts centre which is actually some fifty miles north of the site of the 1969 Rock Festival which bore the same name—in the Catskill Mountain area of the State of New York. The principals, the Carriers (pseudonym), were interviewed in 1969 and 1970 (including a psychiatric interview of Mr. Carrier) and were found to be in good health with no evidence of previous emotional or psychosomatic illness, or of lying, stealing or dishonesty. We saw how the young couple were completely bewildered by the events which began with the observation of greenish lights six feet in diameter in a field near their house, and of “something” that flew close to their car.

Continuing events at Woodstock; Summer 1966

Mrs. Carrier's account continued:

“One afternoon, my girlfriend (age 20) and I heard something like a jet breaking the sound barrier, but it was above our roof. We ran out to look and saw a thick vapour cloud from it: the noise was like a jet—but the vapour trail didn't break up, it lasted a long time—it went straight over the roof to the mountain. It had a zigzag pattern over the mountain. Later in the summer a friend (a young man) came out from Boston. We talked about seeing green lights above the fields and other strange things; and later, when this happened to all of us together, my friend went out to check and see if there were lights in the mountain, but there weren't any. It was in the fields.¹⁰ One time there was a power blackout; and the man came to fix it. At that point the light was close in the field and we were so scared that no one went out to see what it was.

“Another time, when my girlfriend and I were looking at TV, we saw and heard the (green) thing; and we got a local Florida station on our TV set!¹¹ Toward the end of the summer (1966), another friend, who had lived there for several years, told us about Little Buck, a Hopi Indian¹² and his family, who lived high up in the mountains near the Reservoir. When he heard about my experiences the Indian came to see me. Indians are very reserved people, and Little Buck was reluctant to bring up his own experiences, but after I told him what had happened to us, he said that for years he and his wife wondered if they were insane, because the same thing had happened to them. And that was the reason why they finally left Woodstock. He said, “They (lights) came close to us and the sound and pull increased so much that we threw ourselves face down on the ground and rocks were strewn about. I yelled at

them: “Show yourself!” We ran to a friend's house in fear.”

“One time, when my girlfriend and I were in the house we saw the light and heard the sounds. The vibrations and sensations were so strong that our throats were constricted (globus hystericus?). It was strong—like a magnet above the house—directly above our heads, pulling us up. It increased until the centre of gravity was in the centre of the stomach. The legs were ordinarily heavy, but this time I felt giddy and was laughing at the novelty of the experience. It was like carrying your body around like a thin handkerchief. We walked around on the tip of our toes. We couldn't force our heels on the floor and I became frightened. We were afraid we would float up toward the ceiling. Then it broke—so quickly that it was like going back into your body. I could feel the heaviness.^{13, 14}

“Once, [after many of the described events] the niece of the man we rented the house from, the pilot, came to our house to say hello. It was the time of so many reports. She told me about flying back from New York to Kingston, when she saw something so strange that

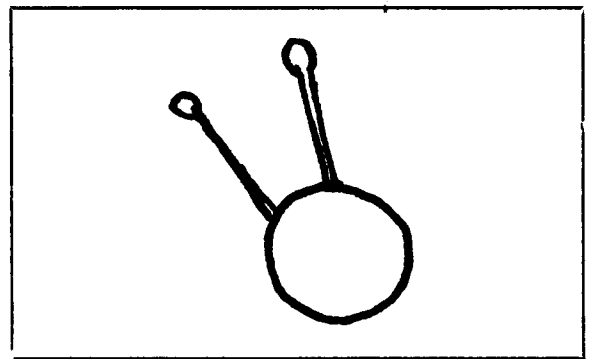


Fig. 3. UFO, as seen by the 12-year-old. The Tappan Zee bridge crosses the Hudson River just south of Nyack (see sketch map)

she couldn't describe it.¹⁵ She had a young boy with her, and she told me about a friend of hers who works for the Kingston paper. She also told me how her niece,¹⁶ who was sixteen years at the time, said that several years ago she had been in the middle of Woodstock on the green, and saw a thing like a ship with portholes. It stopped and landed on the green. The door opened and then closed. The girl said she was so terrified that she didn't tell anyone outside of her family for two to three years. Last summer I heard, from a friend, of another

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sighting where there were thousands of people at the fair, close by, and they saw an object hovering above them.¹⁷

"The other mountain, in back of our house, has Clarence Schmidt¹⁸ the artist living there. His house was up one year before we moved to Woodstock. He is an old man with white hair and beard. He has a lot of mirrors around his house that reflect on the water; and he can look out at the reservoir. There is something funny about this. We'd seen bright lights around his house all summer. There might be a clue there. Once we all stayed up late one night to talk about him. Then we decided to go and see him. We stopped in town to buy some cookies, and as we were about to take a turn—our intention was to go straight up the road—in a split second my husband impulsively wheeled the car to the left. He just cleared a truck ahead of us with a huge blade on its back, which fell off and hit the pavement. It was a close call.

"Once, toward the end of the summer, in the middle of the night, my husband and I were in the house and we heard a voice over a loudspeaker, like a megaphone, saying, 'No. A little to the right. Over there.' It was very strange, for there was nothing there. I was so frightened that I called the Air Force at once, and told them of this and the (associated) lights. [However, Mr. Carrier felt that this was due to people with walkie-talkies, although he couldn't explain the incongruity of the timing.] There was also a brilliant white light. When the policemen came, they had the siren going and nothing was up there. One of the policemen¹⁹ listened quietly and said, 'Don't be upset. I've seen them myself.' The lights have even appeared in the form of a cross in Kingston.

"Our house had poltergeists.²⁰ I'd put safety pins and baby lotion down many times, in the middle of the bed. I'd turn around and they'd be gone. Then they would be back later. [Husband: "We'd miss things. It was insane. We'd look and look and we couldn't understand it."] My girlfriend, who lived close by with her family, would hear a car drive up. They would look out, and

see nothing. They would hear the crunch on the gravel, doors slamming, footsteps, a knock, and then nothing. She said this happened several times.

"The night that May came to the house we aimed an old movie camera at the (green) light and tried to get some footage. After that a few people came to the house and a lot of negative things happened to us. Things were being lost that never happened before. My husband didn't believe me. The light and the steady noise you could take in your stride, but we heard funny noises from the house—high-pitched. [Husband: "High-pitched screams."] Once the two poodles came back very frightened. There was a funny crackling sound, like the kind that comes out of a hi-fi set. My husband heard it too. [Confirmed.]

"One night we heard a noise like someone yelling, "Help." But it was a crackly, taut voice, the stereotyped spooky voice. Then our house was robbed and the movie camera taken. The film had not been developed and there was a lot of footage on it. Many other things were stolen.

"Our car was breaking down all the time for no reason at all, and it wouldn't start. Once, my husband's friends and I were sitting on the screened porch and we heard some funny crackling sound on the gravel. 'That's it,' a friend said, and there was a brilliant flash of light, as if someone was taking his picture. The fellow who was with us later disappeared, and we haven't heard from him in a long time. We would have constant harassment on the telephone: clicks, disconnects, and funny sounds.

"When we moved to the city we dismissed all this from our minds."²¹

* * * * *

We emphasise that neither Mr. or Mrs. Carrier nor their immediate families had a past history for various diseases, including brain syndromes, injuries, temporal lobe epilepsy, delirium or drug ingestion.²² The Carriers, like many other young couples, had smoked marijuana in the past, but at the time of their experi-



Fig. 4a: Merz grandchild

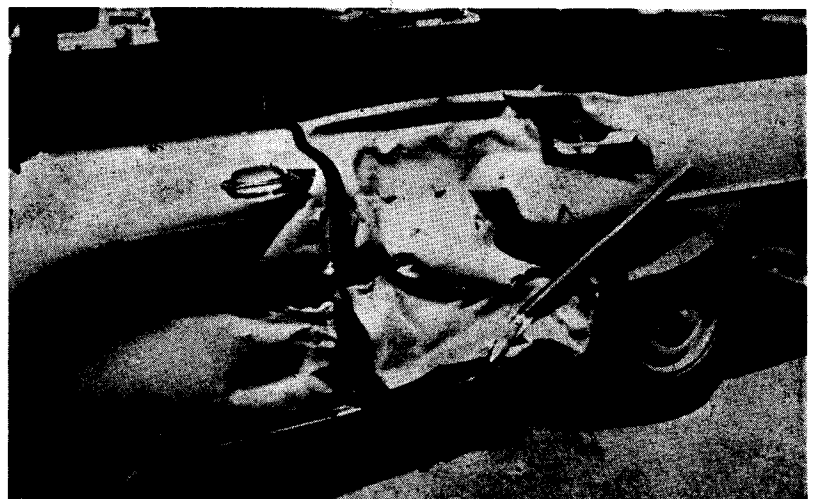


Fig. 4b. Similar image on damaged car

ences neither they, nor their friends were under the influence of marijuana. After the Carriers left Woodstock, their son was born, and at the time of the study (1969-1970), both mother and child remained healthy. Her pregnancy and delivery were uneventful.

At the conclusion of my (BES) original telephone interview of Mrs. Carrier (29/7/69) at 9.30 p.m., the electric lamps of my recently deceased father's office, where I was working, suddenly went out. My mother, who then entered the room and who did not know the content of my phone talk or anything of these researches, remarked how odd it was, since the lights were on timers and set to go off at 10 o'clock, and should not go off at 9.30. I was as unaware of this data as she was unaware of my odd interview; so I checked the clocks to see what was wrong. There was no explanation why the two lamps went out within a half minute of each other at this earlier time and almost immediately following this call. There was no evidence

for a local or general interruption of the house current. Perhaps this episode illustrates how possible telekinesis might occur under emotionally charged conditions. If records are kept for such minutiae over the years, a pattern of built-in controls,²³ as also happens in telepathy, can frequently be observed.

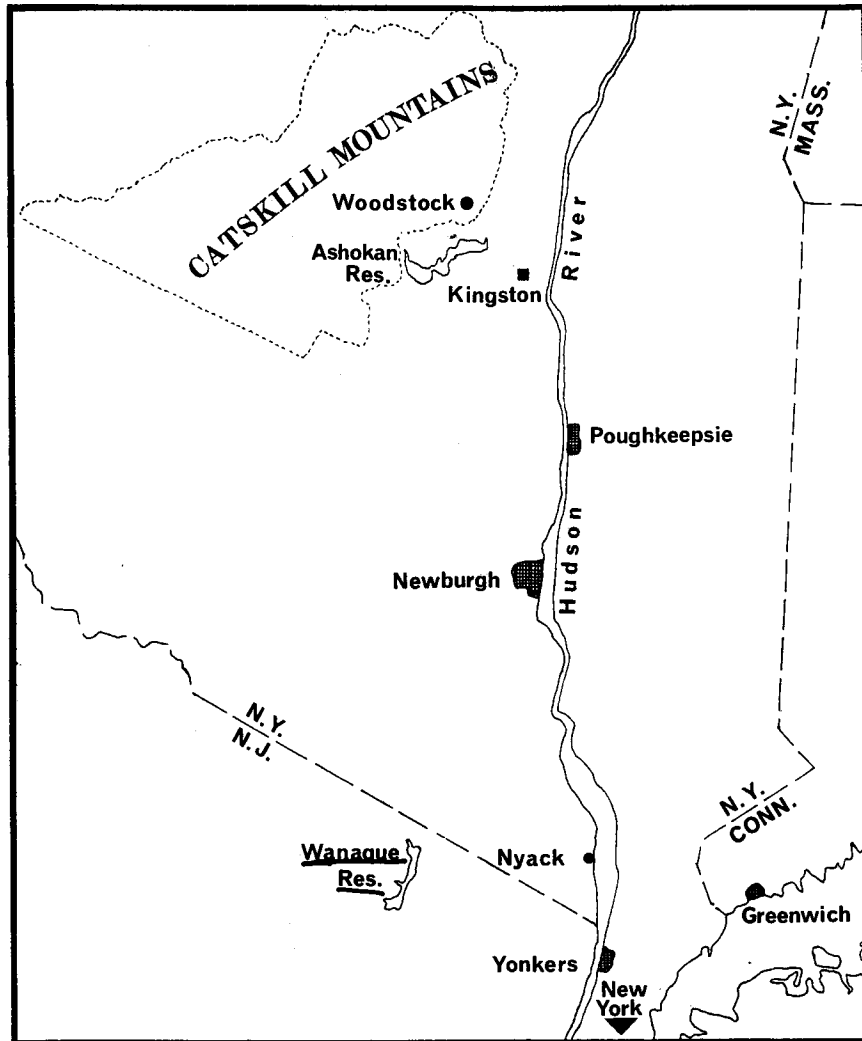
Summary

Psychiatric study of a young couple who had numerous presumed UFO-related experiences over a period of months, tends to support the credibility of their accounts and suggests the need for more prolonged and intensive probing in the attempt to understand the complexities of the interphase of psi and ufology.

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Notes and references

¹⁰ Telephone interview on September 25, 1969, of Mr. P.M., who had a master's degree in mathematics and worked



Part of the State of New York, showing the location (within the dotted boundary line) of the Catskill Forest Reserve, and the position of the country town of Woodstock. Abbreviations employed at the inter-state boundary lines: N.Y., New York State; N.J., New Jersey; CONN., Connecticut; MASS., Massachusetts. The Tappan Zee bridge referred to in reference 15 crosses the Hudson River close to Nyack, N.Y.

C.B.

with Mr. Carrier, confirmed the essential features of the account. Mr. M. lived in Woodstock throughout the period of these happenings. He was frequently at the Carrier home and spent nights there. He specifically recalled seeing lights hovering over the cornfield, chasing lights with a car and finding nothing, hearing strange noises outside and from the ceiling of the house "as though someone was walking around and yet no one was—it is an isolated area—" sound of cars driving in and out yet there were no cars, sewing-machine-like sounds in the house as if coming from the ceiling which he heard himself with the Carriers, mysterious unexplained thefts of jewelry and on one occasion the sound of cows moving around in a field of six-foot-high corn, yet there were no cows within a mile of the area and they failed to discover the cause. Mr. M. said that the Carriers were truthful and that neither he nor they were accustomed to playing practical jokes on each other. On occasion they all had used marijuana, but were not under its influence at the time of these odd experiences.

Although Mrs. Carrier had a mystical inclination and was interested in the supernatural, it should be stressed that her possibly UFO-related experiences preceded her reading knowledge of the subject. Mr. M. recalled one episode when Mrs. Carrier had begged him not to go to an Army Reserve meeting in Massachusetts because of an impending disaster. As Mr. M. was driving up, a deer jumped in front of the car and smashed it. Because of the continued weird events and terror in Woodstock, Mr. M. finally left, as did also the Carriers. Mr. M. had no idea of my preliminary investigations nor my knowledge of the Carrier's experiences. He denied any relevant psychopathological stigmata, on tangential and direct questioning. He has been healthy and has had a good job throughout the years.

¹¹ C.D.B., an electrical engineer who has been a ham radio operator for thirty-five years, told me that it is not unheard of to pick up a television programme originating from a local station many miles away. He wrote about another unexplained phenomenon occurring in radio transmission. "It has been observed rarely . . . this phenomenon is the observance of long-delayed echoes by both the originators of transmissions and by others. Since radio waves travel with the speed of light, you wonder where they've been all that time." Two relevant references originating from the Radioscience Laboratory, Stanford University, and supported in part by the Office of Naval Research, are: Villard, Jr., O. G., Graf, C. R., and Lomasney, J. M.: Long-Delayed Echoes . . . Radio's "Flying Saucer" Effect, *QST* [Radio Amateur's Journal] 38-43, May 1969; *ibid.*: There Is No Such Thing As a Long-Delayed Echo AR . . . or, The LDE Mystery Deepens; *Quest*: 30-36 (February) 1970. A spectacular example of a possible LDE if verifiable is presented in Edwards, Frank: *Strangest of All*, chapter headed "Signals From Space," pp. 165-166, Ace Books Inc., New York, 1956.

¹² In *The Sky People* (Award Books, pp. 104-106, N.Y., 1970), Le Poer [Trench—ED.] writes about some of the UFO-related myths in the legends of the Hopi and their supernatural friends, the Kachina, who believed they originated from the skies. "If the Hopi and Kachina had a link long ago with Mars, could the Kachina today, in their ritual dancing still wear the symbols of two Martian satellites?"

¹³ From the *World of Coos Bay, Oregon* (September 28, 29, and October 10, 1959) and personal letters to me, Leo Bartsch, a real estate agent, described an early morning episode: "I was lifted right out of bed. I was weightless for [about] a minute." At the same time as his experience,

he subsequently learned that a Mrs. Carlson and her two sons had seen (and reported to the police and the Air Force) a brightly coloured, mysterious, low-flying object. In an article entitled, "The UFO, a change in my life," Mr. Bartsch described his experience (as told to his wife at the time): ". . . something out of the universe just went low over this roof. Although I saw and heard nothing, I knew it. How or why, I do not know . . . my arm became normal instantly. Then I realised she [the wife] must be thinking I had a nightmare. So I told her to look at the clock and be sure to remember the time, as I said, 'someone saw it and it will be in the newspapers.' I even wondered why I was saying this when I had not heard or seen a thing. And when the next issue came off the press, there it was, September 28 (my birthday), the 1959 issue of the *World*, Coos Bay, Oregon. . . . This woman and her sons lived only three miles from me. From where she lived, the direction of her sighting was directly over my house, and she stated it was low."

He attributed the immediate healing of his left arm, which at the time of the experience felt "like a sparking, electric contact," to the UFO, and soon afterward started attending flying saucer meetings. He became a knowledgeable fundamentalist in his interpretation of the Bible. It is regrettable that there was insufficient medical evidence or observation to document and speculate upon this alleged effect.

¹⁴ In a bizarre experience H. D. Stocks reported (Red Sun That Rises Straight Up, *Air Facts, The Magazine for Pilots*, Vol. 33: 10, 50-55 (Oct.) 1970, also see FSR, Vol. 15, No. 3, May/June 1969) how, in association with an eerie glow and a feeling of detached unreality, he noticed, "with amazement that they (a flock of sheep) all appeared to be standing on tiptoe, like ballet dancers, with their heads held unusually high, just as if they were suspended in space with their hoofs barely touching the grass." Mr. Stocks and the farm manager, Jock Marais, then experienced "a peculiar feeling, almost of weightlessness." This experience was related to an ancient Zulu legend of the sun "that rises straight up into the sky after devouring some of the tribe's cattle." After the sensations of weightlessness appeared, Stocks had a most peculiar, near-immediate experience in his aeroplane, which had "an incredibly rapid accelerating ascent," associated with instrumental changes and "strangely no feeling of the G force." (For a well-documented similar experience see Sanderson, I.T.: *Invisible Residents*, Chapter 9, "Supramarine Time Anomalies," pp. 143-156, World Publishing Co., New York, 1971.)

This episode, which occurred in Natal, was "forgotten" until a very peculiar related experience, "halfway across the world, almost exactly a year later, the 15th of June." While flying with a man who was one-quarter Cherokee Indian, they were amazed to suddenly see an "eerie pinkish glow, more intense in the centre of the circular object as it shot straight up into the sky." With appropriate details Stocks describes how they had a sensation of "no G force, and my camera, which had been lying in my lap, now felt light as a feather to my touch."

After Stocks and his passenger had landed they compared notes on their experience, and by a peculiar coincidence, a farmer then telephoned them to describe his strange related phenomena. They flew over to the farmer's ranch and were amazed to hear how a herd of white-faced Hereford steers had stood in a semicircle in association with a pinkish glow, an absence of sound, a peculiar weightless feeling—and "one of the oldest steers was missing." One of the ranch hands, an American Indian, recalled a legend of "the sun that rises straight up." This account was confirmed by Stocks' friend who had heard the same story from his Cherokee grand-

mother. Stocks' experiences were reported to *Project Blue Book*.

- ¹⁵ After a preliminary telephone interview on October 29, 1970, Mrs. Gale Brownlee, a licensed commercial pilot, with a flight instructor rating, was interviewed in her home on February 14, 1971. Present at that time was William Salvucci, a prominent local restaurateur. Both of these people recalled hearing the Carriers describe "what she saw and felt—told goofy things. I didn't get the impression that she was imaginative. She genuinely believed, and, whatever it was, she was terrorised." Mrs. Brownlee was free of any relevant psychopathology. She described her own sighting, which was reported in *The Daily Freeman* (Kingston, New York, Saturday evening, April 23, 1966). A twelve-year-old passenger and she were returning by aircraft: "We were at an altitude of about fifteen hundred feet. When flying over the Tappan Zee bridge, we looked out and saw the object. It was high above us and appeared as a bright green and yellow flare, travelling in a north-north-west direction. A green and yellow flame appeared to be shooting from the UFO, which was travelling at a high speed like a satellite."

As reported, the object was witnessed from other vantage points by many people. On telephone interview (29.10.70) of the young man who was the original passenger, his account was as reported, except that he recalled that the object was noiseless and there were no physiological effects.

- ¹⁶ Mrs. Brownlee's sister, Mrs. E.K., and her friend, Miss E.H., when interviewed on the telephone (29.10.70) recalled the golf course UFO episode of 1958: "It was approximately 11.00 p.m. There was moonlight, and no clouds. There were three oval-shaped [craft], with domes on top, hovering about one telephone length over the airport. They had windows with slots all around. There were no lights. They were gunmetal grey and there was no noise. We had a weird feeling before we saw them. Our observation lasted 5 to 10 minutes. We were scared and stayed in the car. It had no effect on the motor or lights. One UFO came back and it was just sitting there; then two went back and forth. We told our parents and many people. They didn't believe us."

The friend, Miss E.H., said: "Spooky effect. Strange-appearing—out of the ordinary. Not like a plane or a helicopter—no noise. One object was elliptical." Both ladies were of good health and had no previous or subsequent experiences similar to this. This was one of the most moving experiences of their lifetime. This event took place a very short distance from the Carriers' home.

- ¹⁷ On direct interview of the then current occupant of the Carriers' home (2.2.71), he reported no strange events in his home since he lived there, but he recalled a Woodstock rock concert in August, 1969, which was tape-recorded by N.Y. radio station WBAI (Pacifica Foundation). At that time everyone was amazed, because a UFO hovered above the audience. This event took place about one mile from his home. It was impossible to check out this story further, and the gentleman could not locate the tape. See Figure 3 for his drawing of what he saw.
- ¹⁸ Rehberg, W.: Clarence Schmidt of Woodstock, *The Newark News Sunday Magazine* (cover story), Nov. 29, 1970. In my interview of Mr. Schmidt on Sept. 13, 1969, he denied any knowledge of UFOs. However, it appeared that he was an observant old man, and with more time the results might have been different.
- ¹⁹ When contacted on the telephone, the chief of police of Woodstock vaguely recalled the Carrier incident. However, the officer who made the house call during a particularly trying time remembered entering the complaint on the blotter but with no details. He chiefly recalled the Carriers' terror. Both the officers remem-

bered Mrs. Brownlee's personal experience. When State Trooper CVW was phoned, he was initially reluctant to discuss his own Woodstock observations of a "red-green-blue standing-still object that also went like hell. It appeared to be a mile away, then over the street and I observed it for four hours, I counted seven or eight of them. There was no influence on the car, lights, compass, or wristwatch. The other officers saw it too. I contacted Stewart Air Force Base but took a hell of a beating and harassment because of this. They convinced me it was ice crystals. But it was quite a thing to see. This was in 1967" (near the area of the Carriers' sighting).

- ²⁰ The relationship between parapsychology and ufology is difficult to define. If levitation, teleportation, materialisation, and dematerialisation were easily demonstrable facts, which they are not, these would be the most reasonable explanations for such UFO phenomena. Many of the presumed associated telepathic aspects of ufology are assumed to come directly from the UFOs or the entities. However, this might be too superficial a view of a much more complex problem. For example, from my experience in psychotherapy, it is not unusual to have highly polarised, poorly repressed ideas telepathically sent or received. Of course when one is worked up and excited about a subject as fascinating as UFOs, this can be an excellent *modus operandi* for telepathic leakage from the physician investigator to the witness, and totally without the witness's awareness of what is going on—an unconscious process. Thus, this greatly simplified process alone could be a suitable explanation for much of the supposed UFO-associated telepathy and other paranormal phenomena, without any need to invoke its origin in the UFOs themselves.

As an illustration, there is the Merz case (note p. 26, FSR, Vol. 17, No. 2: 4-9, March/April 1971) where three generations of a family saw UFOs at different times, and in some instances under well-controlled conditions with countless other observers. The grandmother, who never took herself seriously, also has had many lifelong non-UFO related psychic experiences. For instance, when her grandson was injured, a picture of her sister (who was psychically talented) fell off the wall. At another time, when Mrs. Merz's husband and son were involved in an auto accident many miles away, Mrs. Merz, in the presence of her granddaughter (whom she had raised since age five), had a premonition that something horrible had happened. She was very attached to this granddaughter who was the only one of the five grandchildren who resembled herself. When Mrs. Merz later found out what had happened—her husband and son knew better than to try to conceal such news—they were more surprised than anyone else to see that the polaroid picture (of their damaged car door), taken by the mechanic for insurance purposes, showed a resemblance to the favoured granddaughter through a coincidental deformity (see Figure 4 a and b). Unfortunately, I could not borrow the best picture of the granddaughter, which showed her bangs and which was a better resemblance to the image on the damaged car door.

These accounts become so complex that it is almost impossible to find a cutoff point for the psi material *per se*, let alone relating it to the UFOs. The Merz case involved the later haunting by the same favourite aunt and psychic who "came back" on many occasions with warnings which checked out. In her lifetime the aunt was a snake charmer with a circus for many years, had many unusual psychic experiences as did her sister, the grandmother. Thus, do UFO experiences happen to odd people? Or, are people who are accustomed to out-of-the-run-of-the-mill experiences—like psi stuff—more likely to become aware of other strange events such as UFOs? Or do

UFOs (or what is behind them) take advantage of such biologically and psychopathologically vulnerable individuals?

In many cases, why should one have to resort to the hypothesis of implanted lies, false pronhesies, etc., when observation of non-UFO-related psychic matters in paragnosts reveals the same pattern: i.e., an inexactitude and a groping for correctness. For example, anyone who has followed the careers of some of the publicised prophets will note the infrequency and vagueness of their hits, and their many outlandish errors. Although such "errors" are at times parapsychologically correct—they are more often, perhaps, examples of the paragnosts' own projected psychopathology and fumbling attempts at synthesising their impressions (see Tenhaeff, W. H. C.: Proceedings of the Parapsychological Institute of the State University of Utrecht, Nos. 1-3, 1960, '62 and '65).

Thus, much more spade work would be indicated in cases like the Merz or Carrier families and in other published reports, before jumping to an unjustifiable *pars pro toto* conclusion. The UFO and psychic phenomena might be related; yet there are also differences that must be taken into account. It can be erroneous to try and place them all under one umbrella.

- ²¹ When scouting the area for additional opinions, I noticed the name of a psychiatrist who was formerly affiliated with our local hospital in Montclair, New Jersey, and with whom I was acquainted from departmental meetings. When I telephoned him (2.11.70), he claimed no knowledge of UFOs and was most reluctant to discuss the subject. It is of interest that at the time this man practised in my town, he had much pressure on him because he was allegedly a follower of Wilhelm Reich, and such practices as espoused by Reich were far from the mainstream of practice.

It is of interest that in his writings Wilhelm Reich called attention to the possible connection between his Orgone energy and flying saucers. This would be an interesting subject for someone to undertake who is thoroughly familiar with the controversial researches and personality of Wilhelm Reich. Either Reich was a genius years ahead of his time, or a once brilliant man who succumbed to the insidious effects of psychosis. Some interesting and conflicting references about Reich and UFOs are:

Steiger, Brad, and Whritenour, Joan: *New UFO Breakthrough*, Award Books, New York, 1968; Ch. III: "The Silencing of Wilhelm Reich," pp. 29-37.

Hoppe, Walter: *Autobiography, The Journal of Orgonomy*, Vol. 3 (No. 2): 155-165, Nov. 1969.

Reich, Ilse O.: *Wilhelm Reich, A Personal Biography*, St. Martin's Press, Inc., New York, 1969, pp. 110, 115, 119, 122, 129, 146, 150-151.

Eden, Jerome: *Orgone Energy*, Exposition Press, New York, 1972, pp. 69-74; 149-153.

Schatzberg, A. F.: *Wilhelm Reich: Self-Destined Victim and Social Casualty*, *Archives of General Psychiatry*, Vol. 27 (No. 1: 67-72, July, 1972).

Mention was made elsewhere (*Proceedings of the Eastern UFO Symposium*, January 23, 1971, Baltimore, Maryland, published in 1971 by Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation, Tucson, Arizona: page 12) of a world-renowned physiologist who had a close UFO experience that was initiated by telepathy. This researcher, famed for his many contributions, was a former student of Reich and performed numerous successful but unpublished experiments. Although many years later he privately upheld to me the validity of the earlier researches and his UFO experience, few knew of his interesting and significant association with Reich earlier in his career. He was still intrigued with the possibilities of UFOs and orgone energy.

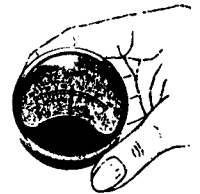
²² Although the study of the Woodstock events is, unfortunately, incomplete from the psychiatric viewpoint, attention might be directed to the experiences of the astronauts and cosmonauts, some of whom reputedly had UFO or UFO-related experiences. While voluminous data has been published on the telemetric monitoring of their various physiological functions and other data, as far as I am aware, there have been no psychiatric reports of these brave men. If the matter is as it seems, then it might be asked why has exclusive attention been given to the "objective" aspects of the astronauts' experiences, while neglecting the correlative subjective, or human aspects. Unless such anamnestic anecdotal data about the astronauts' UFO experiences (see *Condon Report*, pp. 204-208, New York Times Books, 1969) exists in presumably classified files, this omission could be reprehensible from the broad scientific and ufological viewpoint: e.g., clues concerning the extraterrestrial vs. ultraterrestrial hypothesis. Furthermore, if the popular accounts of some of the astronauts developing various presumed emotional problems are creditable, then the lack of intensive pre- and post-flight psychiatric (and parapsychological?) study of these highly trained and programmed astronauts might have left them unduly vulnerable to their emotionally charged explorations.

Unlike the largely anecdotal data obtained from the young Woodstock couple, the accounts of the highly trained and technically sophisticated astronauts might have given clues for such questions as: (1) Are the UFO and UFO-related events "real"? (2) Might such events be related to possible psychodynamic factors, and if so, in what way? (3) In what ways might these almost experimentally observed factors have influenced, if at all, the astronauts (and vice versa)?

If such psychiatric investigations have not been undertaken previously it is hoped that NASA, which has not overlooked myriad other aspects, will consider future flights as an ideal opportunity for such studies. It is regrettable that the Condon Report was inexplicably remiss in such an opportunity by not tackling close UFO landing or occupant cases from the psychiatric viewpoint.

- ²³ Schwarz, B. E.: *Built-in Controls and Postulates for the Telepathic Event*, *Corrective Psychiatry and the Journal of Social Therapy*, Vol. 12: 64-82 (March) 1966. Some key articles on psi and ufology which have appeared in FSR are those by Charles Bowen, Gordon Creighton, P. M. H. Edwards, Janet Gregory, John A. Keel, Ivar Mackay, and Aimé Michel.

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CONTRARY to some popular accounts, the early serious UFO literature paid little heed to possible paranormal aspects of close encounters. Despite the plethora of subjective data, the paucity of solid objective data was and is notable. However, the journals and file cabinets soon became replete with detailed and sometimes fanciful subjective accounts of UFO experiences. Still the mystery of the origin, purpose, and *modus operandi* of UFOs was as obscure as ever. In many ways, the same can be said for psi.

Careful study of contactees reveals that many had claimed high-quality psi *after* their UFO experiences.¹ However, deeper scrutiny also yields evidence for many psi experiences before their alleged UFO contacts. The common contactee attributes for dissociation, capability for entering a deep hypnotic trance, hypersuggestibility, *etc.* are also found in many high quality sensitives. The overlap between various psychic phenomena such as telepathy, precognition, telekinesis, materialization, dematerialization, teleportation, *etc.* have their analogies in many UFO experiences. Despite the appealing practical and theoretical relationships between psi and close UFO encounters, little has been written about the UFO experiences of *documented* gifted sensitives. Although known almost exclusively for their UFO-related experiences, there is a wealth of anamnestic psychic information for Stella Lansing, Betty Hill and Dr. Herbert Hopkins.¹

One spectacular psi case that I studied involved alleged materialization, dematerialization, cloning, bending a key and coin "melting", writing on a picture window, and paranormal audiotape effects pertaining to UFOs and the experiencers. In this example, the torrent of events was precipitated by the suicide of a young man who had betrayed his two paramours . . . each of whom did not know how, at the time, they were being used.

The second precipitating factor was the death of the principal young woman's father who, on his death bed, had importuned his daughter to learn all she could about life-after-death experiences. She sought help from the American Society for Psychical Research, read Jane Roberts' Seth books and finally, with her friend, resorted to the ouija board. Per instructions received from the board, an array of psychical events, including several alleged paranormal tapes, ensued. In a few cases, the psychodynamic and psychic factors were that apparent and, in some instances, very tragic.

Despite the multiplicity of alleged genuine psi, there was little that was directly observed by the researcher: i.e. numerous instances when an office telephone rang even when the cut-off switch was open and it should have been electrically impossible; and some experiments¹ involving one of the protagonists to these events and UFO abductees Betty Hill and Marianne Casio.

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perception of this superworld/superspace universe.
"The world of our senses is apparently a single, three-dimensional element projected out of this stupendously infinite superspace."

However, the world we see isn't just a random selection from superspace. It depends in a crucial way "on all the other worlds we don't see", which exert their subtle influence on it.

Mind the Creator?

The Princeton University physicist John Wheeler even proposes that the observer "literally creates the universe by his observations", says Davies. Wheeler proposes that the universe we know is meaningless or unworkable unless it can produce life, consciousness and observership somewhere in it.

Another interesting chapter in the book is that headed "Mind, Matter and Multiple Worlds". It follows on from Wheeler's proposition above, but explains that few physicists are willing to accept that consciousness creates the world (or conjures up a more concrete world from one of the ghost worlds existing in superspace).

However, Davies apparently believes that it is the logical conclusion of some theories and mathematical calculations. The physicist Hugh Everett even proposes that the "ghost worlds" are actually real, concrete worlds like our own.

Indeed, the Everett theory is sometimes called the "many universes interpretation of quantum theory". It has some profound implications.

SETH Universe Constantly Splitting

For example, it states that the world we know is constantly splitting into countless near-copies of itself. The physicist Bryce Dewitt says: "Our universe must be viewed as constantly splitting into a stupendous number of branches."

Our own bodies are also split time and time again. Our brains and consciousness, too, each copy becom-

ing just the average found in our own. The answer, if considering life as we know it, is probably "no".

"On the other hand, there may be forms of life quite unlike terrestrial bioforms, perhaps based on entirely different processes, which could survive and even flourish under widely different conditions from those on earth."

Life as we know it is carbon-based. Both silicon and tin are occasionally proposed as the base for other life forms. Yet, what is life? According to Davies, there is no real definition for it, and the boundary between life as we understand it and non-life simply doesn't exist. There may be complex systems elsewhere in the universe which bear no resemblance whatsoever to living organisms on earth, but are "every bit as living as we are".

As the author says, we may be too narrow-minded in our vision of life.

Consciousness the Key

Davies ends his book with a chapter on Supertime, and speculations on the nature of consciousness and our perception of time. Again, he drives us to question fundamentals: for example, no-one has succeeded in registering the existence of consciousness in experiments, he writes. Does mind exist apart from the physical brain processes?

Certainly, there are mysteries about the "very nature of our perceptions". We are led on to the question of whether our minds can affect our physical brain and other matter (i.e., is there such a thing as mind over matter?).

There is no evidence that this is so, he states, "apart from the ESP (Extra Sensory Perception) experiments". Somehow, we might be able to affect the course of the world (the future) through mental means, via an element of chance and an element of choice.

In spite of this conclusion, "there is no reason to suppose that the future does not already exist — even

In a brilliant study, Jules Eisenbud has expatiated on the significance of presumed psychic filmic effects produced by Casio and other alleged UFO experiencers.² Puharich³ has detailed many fascinating UFO aspects in his study of Uri Geller. In 1973, Gordon Creighton⁴ wrote an article for *F.S.R.* on Uri Geller and his remarkable abilities. In a later study, Creighton's son Philip⁵ speculated on the significance of "paranormal metal bending" and ideas of "parallel worlds". In his own book, Geller⁶ said surprisingly little about his UFO experiences. Those who are interested in the interface between UFO experiences and gifted sensitives might consult Woodrew's⁷ account and some spectacular field trip observations by Lee Pulos.⁸ Also, Nandor Fodor,⁹ the highly creative psychoanalyst and psychic researcher, has detailed various UFO relevant aspects of physical mediumship in his classic compilation written long before the terms 'flying saucer' and 'UFO' were invented.

I. SORRAT (Society for Research on Rapport and Telekinesis)

One of the best documented, long-term studies of spectacular physical psi concerns the SORRAT group based at Skyrim Farm, near Columbia, Missouri.¹⁰ The leading protagonists are Dr. and Mrs. John Thomas Richards, Mrs. Alice Thompson, daughter of the late eminent Dr. John Neihardt,¹¹ founder of SORRAT, and Joseph Mangini. They have been in the centre of a whirlpool of high-grade psi. The veteran parapsychologist and world-renowned expert on telekinesis, engineer, magician and associate of J. B. Rhine, William Edward Cox,¹² has studied SORRAT for years and has, with capable assistance, built various devices so that he could obtain hard evidence on motion picture film of materialization, dematerialization, teleportation, levitation, direct writing, blowing up and knotting of balloons, linkage of unsealed rings, spontaneous combustion, reversal of clock hands, etc. Recently James McClenon, who spent considerable time in Missouri studying SORRAT, completed his analysis of the fascinating alleged direct writing of the entities, usually in response to various typed or written questions.¹³

Dr. Richards and I corresponded for six years until we briefly met in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1983. Finally, I went to Rolla and to Skyrim Farm from December 15-18, 1985. While there, it was possible to meet the above-mentioned SORRAT protagonists, scrutinize the locations, and instrumentation, and to observe various examples of alleged psi, including the linkage of painted metallic rings prepared by a leading metallurgist. This event is described elsewhere.¹⁴

With these factors in mind, it seemed to be of more than passing interest to ufologists to prepare a brief account of the UFO experiences of this group which has been so intensively and extensively studied.

1. Mrs. Alice Thompson. As reported in the *Columbia Tribune* of August 18, 1970, at 10.00 p.m. on August 17, 1970, Mrs. Thompson suddenly heard her colt, which is kept outside with a mare, running and acting excited. She got up to take a look and then heard a strange noise like a "pop" which reminded her of a cork coming out of a bottle. She said it was a hollow sound and sounded like it could have been some distance away. She rushed to look out the back door of the trailer, which faced east. Just as she opened the door, she saw an intense light, shining through a nearby tree, which illuminated the inside of her trailer. She also saw something behind the tree. The object moved from behind the tree. It was large and completely round, she said, and either looked like a ball of fire or an intensely illuminated object some ten to twenty times as bright as the moon. She also saw something, which looked like a long piece of rope, possibly with another small object at the end, hanging from the object in the sky. The object was low in the sky, at perhaps the altitude of a small plane, but made no noise. It seemed to be less than an eighth of a mile away and she added, "I'm accustomed to planes because I was a LINK training instructor in the WAVES". At this point, Mrs. Thompson said she called Mr. W. B. Cook, who was sitting in the living room, and he, too, saw the object. As they watched the object, it moved north across the sky at a moderate rate of speed and then suddenly disappeared, according to Mrs. Thompson's account. She had seen it for about a minute.

On December 15, 1985, Mrs. Thompson, in response to my (BES) questions, described her experience as reported above and, in a letter written February 17, 1986, she enclosed copies of the newspaper articles, and wrote that the "object moved into the clear space between two hickory trees. The round space between the trees was about twelve to fifteen feet in diameter and was filled by the round, glowing globe. However, this round glowing object was some distance up, of course. The 'rope' hung down in a triangle effect; at the end was something which reminded me of a basket. I can still 'see' the object clearly in my mind. It was bright, glowing orange-red, with dark spots all over it. Remember — I was very close. The light was blinding (yet I saw clearly). Then it moved north across the front of my trailer and then north-east across our little lake, and seemed to disappear".

In follow-up articles dated August 19 and 21, 1970, *The Columbia Tribune* reported eight other sightings in that area at that approximate time. The Weather Bureau considered unlikely such explanations as balloons, satellites, airplanes, coal company equipment or possible pranks.

2. Dr. and Mrs. John Thomas Richards. The following is from a letter to me (BES) from Dr. Richards,

based on notes taken at the time. The account was also recalled by Mrs. Richards and Joe Mangini. Maria Hanna was not interviewed. "The UFO experience which included Elaine, Joe Mangini, Maria Hanna and me, happened when we were on our way to Columbia from Skyrim Farm. Briefly, we had enjoyed a pleasant table levitation SORRAT session, and left Skyrim (and Alice Thompson) about 11.10 p.m. Driving south on U.S. 63 toward Columbia, we were about two miles from the city limits when we noticed a wavering, brilliant light travelling from west to east at about the speed of an ordinary private prop-driven airplane. The light resolved itself as it drew nearer; we could see that it consisted of bars of light flying parallel to one another and moving very slightly up and down, as though they were separate, not part of some rigid structure. It resembled a Venetian blind moving sideways — that is, the bars of light were like closely-spaced, very bright fluorescent tubes arranged so that they stood upright, vertically, like this: IIIIIII, and wavered slightly on the vertical plane as they moved together horizontally. This light moved at about a height of six hundred to eight hundred feet, although it might have been more; the length was about as long as the Goodyear blimp, and we supposed that it was, in fact, a huge advertising sign on the side of a blimp.

The lights crossed the highway; we parked behind a truck, the driver of which had gotten out of the cab and was watching the lights, too. We watched the lights circle first toward the north, then east, then, finally, south-west, three-quarters of a circle. During this time, there was no engine noise, as would be present if the craft had been a blimp or an airplane. Then the bars of light pulled together to form a single ball of intense white light, which flew off to the south-west faster than any jet which I have ever seen.

We drove around the highway to where the city lights would not obscure our vision, but we could not see any further sign of the UFO. We then stopped at the Howard Johnson's restaurant in Columbia and were eating ice-cream and drinking coffee when four or five people came in and sat nearby. They were very excited and described the lights in the sky which they had seen — from their account, they had seen them from a street in Columbia, looking north and west.

The next day, there was a short article in the *Columbia Tribune* about odd lights in the sky, but no further account or explanation. We took no photographs. In looking over my notes for this event, on August 15, 1976, I find that the successful SORRAT experiment ended at 10.30 p.m., but that we stayed at Skyrim and talked with Alice for a while, so the actual sighting of the lights was about 11.30 p.m."

II. Joe A. Nuzum

Since 1974, I have studied a gifted presumed telekinetic sensitive, Joe A. Nuzum, age twenty-eight, an unemployed iron foundry worker.¹⁵ While completing my report on Nuzum, twelve key books on telekinesis disappeared from my office. Nuzum has been observed and, in some cases, videotaped while performing psychic metal-bending, levitating matches and metal paper clips, presumably draining a magnet of its power, exhausting a 9-volt transistor-battery, presumably opening new combination locks by telekinesis, changing the hands of a watch, stopping the second hand of an electric clock for several seconds, in addition to other various and sundry psychic effects.

Early in the course of the investigations, Nuzum reported an early evening event that involved his girlfriend and himself. They were walking along the railroad tracks near his former place of employment when, "all of a sudden, a glowing, sizzling form of energy came past my head and fell in front of us. It rolled across our pathway, went on sizzling and gliding and then disappeared into nothing. It was like a golden basketball and lasted seconds". There were no discernible after-effects and both Nuzum and his girlfriend remained alert. A second, similar episode occurred during the week of February 16, 1986, when "I was at home, asleep in bed, late at night when I suddenly woke up and saw a big, glowing ball surging with energy, hovering in the air." This event lasted seconds and there were no apparent after-effects.

III. Peter Sugleris

On August 28, 1985, I observed Peter Sugleris, age twenty-two, in a public demonstration of his alleged psychic abilities. On several occasions he, without touching, apparently bent quarters in the hands of other people, levitated a pencil and a page in a telephone book, started watches, including my wife's broken wrist-watch, and bent and snapped spoons brought in by members of the audience.

Later, I examined Sugleris and videotaped some of his feats in my Florida office: i.e. moving a compass needle thirteen times without touching the compass, bending spoons and keys and causing a methylene blue pill to disappear. While interviewing Mr. Sugleris about these and other spontaneous events, including four episodes of alleged total body levitation (three supposedly were videotaped or filmed), he told me of his UFO experiences. Many of his videotaped comments coincided with data monitored from audiotaped radio interviews made shortly after the alleged events in January of 1984. There were no conflicts.

His manager, Mr. Bhupendra Patel, a native of India, independently described the experiences on the radio show and said that he witnessed them in Mr. Sugleris's home while preparing for the East Brunswick (New Jersey) High School performance on February 13, 1984. During the radio interview, Patel said, "I asked him if he knew about UFOs. Peter concentrated and I heard something. Peter said, 'Yes, I'm talking to them'. After a while, the door slammed and cracked, a light bulb broke, and the tapes went (askew). I got scared and asked Peter to stop. His brother, Angelo, came running. In attempting to explore what happened, Peter said, 'When in the trance, I communicated with the aliens and asked them why, if they are intelligent and claim to be so above our race, they create natural disasters that cause deaths. They told me that in the past contacts that was what they did. It's hard for me to communicate with them, but easy for them to communicate with me. Every time I ask questions, it breaks the state of concentration. After I asked them questions, they got angry. Everything went crazy in the room, which I was not aware of. They revealed to me that cave paintings have pictures of flying machines. I do not know much about UFOs. As a youngster, I considered them a hoax. In my youth, I made drawings of UFOs in my notebooks (that I still own) and wrote my name below. I do not know if this was because I would some day come in contact with them. In other contacts with the aliens, they said that if there are more sightings, the governments will not harm them for the mistakes of the past. Now they want me to reveal a few messages . . . to tell the media and public. Every time I come in contact with them, my powers are stronger for a few days afterwards; if I bent a key for you now it might take seconds instead of five minutes or it might take only two to three seconds concentration to levitate a ring or other object'. When looking at some of Mr. Sugleris's oil paintings, including one of a UFO, I met his fifteen-year-old cousin, who volunteered the information that he witnessed Peter in his trance and, while painting, "for a while the paint brush was moving all by itself." As reported by Puharich with Uri Geller, and in some cases which I have studied, Mr. Sugleris also had audiotapes with "screeching sounds" and which subsequently disappeared.

IV. Katie

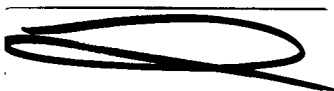
Since the spring of 1984, I have studied a young Florida housewife and her family, who prefer to remain anonymous. The woman, the tenth of twelve siblings, had to discontinue her education in the third grade in order to care for her ill mother. In addition to data derived from her personal and family history, she has demonstrated a spectacular array of psychic talents, some of which have been videotaped during her entrancement. She has germinated seeds in her

cupped hands, as well as in the cupped hands of others, bent metal directly (and also in sealed jars); and she has produced apports of various objects.

She has had stigmata of crosses, linear markings and, on three occasions, a drawing of a Viking ship covered her whole abdomen (and once covered her back). She has had gold leaf-like material cover parts of her body and she has telepathically produced clues helpful in police investigations, including correctly prophesying the exact location and day for the appearance of marijuana bales on the shoreline. Other alleged effects have included healings, paranormal tape recordings, presumed production of a color photograph of her recently deceased brother in his coffin in a location hundreds of miles away, Katie's alleged teleportation to a distant area, and "bringing back orange clay on her feet from the area she was visiting", and presumed direct writing. In one instance, she observed a capped nylon-tipped pen writing unaided in medieval French which was identified by Stewart Robb¹⁶ as coming from an early edition of Nostradamus. She has demonstrated automatic writing in German, with proper capitalization of the nouns, and has spoken a few words of Dutch. During one of the videotaped sessions in January of 1986, Katie, in her trance, was in alleged contact with various UFO entities. She drew pictures of them.

Once during the height of telekinetic activities in the home, Katie's fifteen-year-old son observed, early in the evening, "orange globes the size of a basketball in the orchard in the backyard". The son was once videotaped bending spoons with his mother and a third person. The stem of one of the son's spoons split so that a sliver of paper could be inserted through the tiny crack. On another occasion, when at his home the son asked his mother if it was possible "*to go back in time*". With her approval, he immediately went into her walk-in closet, closed the door, lay on the floor and presumably entered a trance. According to what he told me in an audiotaped telephone report shortly after the event, "*I wanted to see what it was like in the 1920s and the next thing I knew I was by a Christmas tree and there was an old, bald-headed man nearby. I knocked over an oil lamp, but grabbed a cardboard box when I woke up*". Now, apparently the box returned to 1985 with him. Upon opening the box, he discovered (and I later confirmed on personal examination) that it was an "ostrich skinned" cigarette lighter and gold leather pouch inscribed; "*Compliments Moragues Bay City, Inc., Mobile, Ala., Christmas 1928.*"

In a separate videotaped interview of Katie's parents, the mother, who is part Cherokee Indian, recalled an event in an isolated rural area of Tennessee at the end of World War I. "They made peace. We all saw it. It was in the newspaper. We looked at the sky and there were two suns, then three suns, three moons, three rainbows and stars. This was at 10.00 a.m. and then it got all dark and hazy." To date, it has



been impossible to trace this Fátima-like, possibly mass psychic hallucinatory(?) event, to either confirm or deny what many supposedly witnessed and Katie's mother and others recalled. The family history had other unusual possible paranormal events which, in and of themselves, would not arouse undue curiosity if there was not ample videotape documentation of many of Katie's feats.

Discussion. Unfortunately, the need for brevity prevents a more systematic, detailed report and analysis. However, it would seem that the study of documented gifted sensitives can yield a wealth of high quality psi that is entirely analogous to many UFO experiences. By psychiatric study and experiments of these gifted persons, more might be learned about the *modus operandi* of the UFO experiences which, like psi, encompasses a wide variety of enigmatic phenomena.

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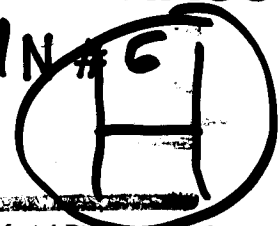
CONTINUED ABDUCTIONS AT MIRASSOL, BRAZIL

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(Translation from Portuguese)

FSR VOL 31 N # 6
ANO 1986
MES OCT



FSR 30/1, published in October 1984, contained Senhora Irene Granchi's account, *Abduction At Mirassol*, describing the case of the Brazilian Negro Antônio Carlos Ferreira.

According to a fresh report which appeared in the local Mirassol newspaper, *Diário Da Região*, of 12/18 June 1986, this man has now told Professor Ney Matiel Pires (who has been studying the case since 1979) that he has been picked up again by a UFO twice during the past twenty days, namely in the early morning of Sunday May 25, 1986, and again in the course of Saturday, June 7. This latter episode took place at the Ibraco Furniture Factory in Mirassol, when the alien beings even left marks on the door of the plant and inside the section where Antônio Carlos is employed.

Professor Ney Matiel Pires says he has not yet completed his report on these two latest episodes, and adds that in July of this year some investigators are due to arrive from the U.S.A. to look into this case, when it is planned to have a further session of hypnotic regression with Antônio Carlos in the hope of extracting details about the two events. "The subject claims to have no recollection of what happens to him during these "trips" with the aliens).

On the first of these two occasions, namely in the very early morning of Sunday, May 25, 1986, Antônio Carlos, who, as will be recalled, is employed as a night-watchman at the furniture factory, has told Professor Ney Matiel Pires that he even tried to draw his revolver, as he could no longer put up with the situ-