

THE GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, CONTACT CLAIM

John A. Keel

AMONG the strange UFO stories circulated by the small American ufological publications in 1967 (but ignored by the national press) was the unearthly account of a woman in Glendale, California, who claimed a series of contact experiences beginning on Wednesday, July 26, 1967. Although she could not possibly have known it—even if she had read all the UFO literature available—her narrative includes many of the significant details which are proving to be so important in this phenomenon. Pfc. Richard Hack, a serious researcher now in the army, corresponded with the Glendale woman and asked her certain specific questions which had been relayed to him by myself.

Here is the full text of her reply, with footnotes which will offer fuller correlations and explanations:

GLENDALE, CALIF.
2-15-1968

HI RICHARD:

Your interesting letter came to-day. Thanks. I don't type so will write a note.

Richard you didn't say how you read my story—The News-Press fouled up the Glendale printing. But the Tujunga Ledger is very accurate in their story.

To set a number of things right, contrary to some stories printed: I am a divorcee with a 12-year-old son, and the Mr. Kisner mentioned was a friend of mine who does research with me. His name is "Mike".

I have experienced the unusual for some years—in fact since I was about 6 years old. However, 1967 was the most active in all my life, and the most unusual. Mr. Kisner entered my life during 1967 and I feel he might be an instrument of unusual qualities.

The experiences last summer happened all at once, while several of us were out driving to and from a beautiful park in the mountains some distance from Big Tujunga Canyon. One evening,¹ Wednesday, July 26, to be exact, we encountered the unusual. A voice spoke to us.² Telling us to watch for something unusual within 300 feet. Soon a huge saucer appeared to the left of our car sorta hanging on the cliff, like. It was 20 feet in dia, glowing with 3 beams of colored light emerging from the top of it. It followed us several miles again

looming up from the Canyon on the opposite side. That nite it disappeared over the mountains over the Tujunga area.

The second nite we went back we watched in the same spot for a reappearance. It came with the spacemen Kronin, Karaff, and one or more others speaking to us. I interrogated quickly to learn what I did find out.

The spacemen picked up our car and propelled it some 2 or 3 miles down the road and set it down again. This was so frightening because they controlled it and the powers lit the car like a dozen electric lights would. This nite we saw the blue beam to the mother ship which "Kronin" discussed.³

I want to stop here to remark about the blue beam. The story I made public was written late in the fall after I read another sighting in the same area of the blue beam and a mother-ship by 2 people from Nr. Hollywood whom I had never known, nor had they ever heard of me.

Again, we returned to the same area 4 nites in a row. The third nite I met, and we heard from Kronin again, but no ship. Fourth nite the same.

We were told the 5th nite to look for him elsewhere under different atmospheric conditions. Believe me, Kronin then started making appearances at my home. His foreword was he was always to appear at such and such a time. At this point I bought a recorder and recorded some conversations which I use in my lectures.

I have also recorded 3 or 4 telephone calls from spaceships.⁴

One from Kronin's ruler. "Kronin" is master of the Kronian race. He stands very tall, has no bones; or eyes.⁵ His face & forehead light up on most visits, and there is extreme warmth emanating from his body.⁶ His legs are short.⁷ He is of a vegetarian substance and is a space robot encased in a time capsule, he says.

"Kronin" told me their planet was being destroyed by radiation and that there are 3,000 of them on our planet.⁸ He refused to say where they were, but I feel that it's Tujunga Canyon because of so many sightings in the same area, and the descriptions being similar.

I feel they're stationed underground, about 2, or 5,000 feet near the "big dam" lake. There is a strange

protrusion of rock jutting out in the spot where they always appear.

A week after the story printed there were 3 ships over my house at 9 p.m.

One had sound, the other 2, not. The ironical thing about this was I had received a phone call from one of the ships about 9.12 p.m.⁹

Five minutes later, 5 watchers $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from me called me to tell me about the 3 ships over my house. They did not know of my experience at that moment. A true test, wouldn't you say? We chased them, but lost trace of them.

Later on Labor Day weekend we had another unusual event.

While driving to Acton round 4 in the morning, Kronin, took over controls of my car—drove it some 5 miles or so and parked it. I was asked to set the shift control in neutral while he used his foot on the clutch and brake. I was dreadfully frightened.

We sat in the car listening to "Kronin". He talked about 15 minutes to us, and tried to bring the scout ship down to take us for a ride but the air-base trainers were on maneuvers and he left suddenly and told us to meet him in another 15 minutes. In 15 minutes, he did come back and told us to watch the 2 scout ships enter the mother ship. We saw this, and this is outstanding.

Throughout the fall months contacts were several and the last ships I saw were during the week of Jan 6 near Lancaster. Mr. Kisner and I saw 5 huge saucers with windows in them remain stationary for about 2 hours. We stopped at a cafe and called all the patrons out. Needless to say, there was commotion all around.

Now—to another vein. I don't have a secretary to do all my mail for me, and I'm without work too so I spent a great deal of time job-hunting.

I am slow getting to my "saucer mail". I do a good deal of lecturing with my now worn-out tapes. I've had some 25 phone-calls, I guess, and many, many visitors. Some were from the "Pentagon" followers, others scientists, librarians, schools and mostly "sweet kids".

The events "Kronin" told us to watch out for occurred, even to the X-15 crash. We also saw the sky demonstrations he spoke about, and we called this to the attention of others.

The most interesting question I asked "Kronin" was: "Why have you picked me and my little son for all this?"

His reply was: "You are an earth angel!"¹⁰

Richard, I have moved since the newspaper story broke, so watch for my new address.

I am District Chairman for the Heart Dr. this week, & I am very very busy so must close and get this out to you.

You may use my name among your associates, but not the general press. Your publications, Yes! Kronin's ruler asked me not to give the press news of my future contacts if I were to continue receiving contacts from them.¹¹ Use my name in any scientific way you wish. My name is *Maris*.

My reception from the public has been great; only about 5 or 6 were not. This is indeed a high average. On the other hand, I am a well known woman and this could account for the reception I got on all occasions.

The story is true and you can believe everything I say.

I just don't have time to write everything, but "saucers" or U.F.O.s I see frequently.

My blessings to you and your associates. If you're ever back in this area, give me a call, please.

My son doesn't like to write, and Mr. Kisner is an "Apache Indian",¹² and subject to moods at times. Right now, he doesn't seem interested in writing to anyone. In fact, he can only write the Apache language.

You'll probably hear from him later.

Sincerely,

MARIS.

NOTES

¹ My 1966 study which revealed that the majority of all *initial* contacts seemed to occur on Wednesdays was not publicly revealed until June, 1967, one month before this alleged event. Maris had not heard of this study. It was not published and widely circulated until several months after copies of it had been distributed to a few of the ufologists attending the Congress of Scientific Ufologists in New York.

² There have now been several cases in which witnesses claimed to have heard "voices" before or during a sighting—notably the Malley case in Ithaca, N.Y., in December, 1967.

³ Several times in the past few years, witnesses have testified that the objects and/or occupants seemed to take control of their autos in some inexplicable way. These cases are rarely well publicized.

⁴ Although they have been given no publicity, even among the UFO buffs (who usually regard them as hoaxes of some kind), there have been hundreds—perhaps even thousands—of phone calls received by UFO witnesses throughout the country and allegedly placed by the UFO occupants. The voices usually speak in a dull monotone, carefully pronouncing each word. In many cases, background electronic sounds are audible. Since these calls have now occurred in every state and have all followed the same patterns, a common hoax or prank can be ruled out—unless the hoaxer has the equipment and funds necessary to conduct a rather pointless nation-wide campaign and is able to select his victims *before* they receive any publicity. See *The Warminster Mystery* by Arthur Shuttlewood, for a complete description of this type of "hoax".

⁵ The boneless and eyeless description is common in several of the "silent contactee" cases I have uncovered. Mr. Brad Steiger has independently come across this same "boneless" feature in cases he is currently investigating. Usually the witnesses claim that upon shaking hands or otherwise coming in contact with the entity they were unable to discern any bone structure. In a series of "contacts" on Long Island, N.Y., in 1967, the witnesses told me that the entities were boneless and freely discussed the fact. In a number of confrontations, witnesses have noted that the eyes of the entities, when visible, appeared to be non-functioning.

⁶ Luminous faces are common in religious as well as UFO lore. See the "Books of the Secrets of Enoch" for early descriptions of tall, radiant entities. The "angel" which purportedly appeared in the bedroom of young Joseph Smith in 1823 was described as having a glowing face. Smith's encounter led to his establishing the Mormon Church.

⁷ In several interviews, witnesses have remarked to me that the entities seemed to have legs which were either too short or too thin to support their tall bodies. In one of my early interviews with the West Virginia contactee claimant, Woodrow Derenberger, he noted this odd feature. The full details of his story have not yet been published and are not common knowledge. Nor did he have any knowledge of UFO lore at the time of his initial experiences on Wednesday, November 2, 1966.

⁸ There are few if any correlations in what the contactees are *told* about life on other planets. These descriptions appear to be deliberate lies and probably have no bearing whatsoever on the problem. Since many of the contactees are remarkably honest people, albeit somewhat gullible, I believe that *they are lied to*. If the entities are deliberately lying about their origin, it seems probable that a very unexpected answer can be found somewhere in the "trivial" details of these stories.

⁹ Here we have an example of the witness receiving a mysterious phone call immediately after a sighting. Such phone calls are common in hundreds of cases. Usually the phone rings and there is no one on the other end of the line, or only eerie electronic sounds can be heard. Many witnesses do not relate such phone calls to their sighting until I bring up the question in my interviews. It is rather remarkable that our telephone "hoaxsters" are able to zero in on UFO witnesses within minutes after their sightings, and before they've had a chance to tell anyone.

¹⁰ "You are an earth angel" is apparently just a variation on what is told to every contactee; i.e. that they are somebody very special and have been deliberately selected. Some are told they are reincarnations of great personalities of the past; others are told that they have been chosen because they have exceptional psychic abilities; still others are informed that they are actually "space people" themselves and were planted here as very small children. Indeed, several contactees have proven to be adopted children of unknown parentage. Since most contactees are of humble backgrounds and low stations, they are flattered and pleased by such revelations. The entities have the ability to ferret out flaws of character and exploit them. Often they appeal to the ego. One very prominent American researcher underwent the contactee experience in August, 1967, and he was promised that he would be

given a cure for cancer which would lead to his receiving the Nobel Prize in 1972. His ego thus led him into a labyrinth of disastrous manipulations which nearly caused an emotional breakdown. He didn't get wise to this ploy until it was almost too late. He has since abandoned his interest in the subject.

¹¹ This is the way in which many, many "contactees" are kept silent. They are told that if they reveal their experiences contact will be broken immediately. Since many believe they are undergoing a religious experience, they obey. Others, as cited above, are led to believe that if they keep quiet they will eventually become rich or famous. However, in most of the cases I have investigated the witnesses have confessed that they were sorry they ever got involved and if given another choice they would not have obeyed the entities.

¹² Mr. Mike Kisner died in 1968. It is significant that he was Indian. Most American contactees have either Indian or Gypsy ancestry. This fact seems to play a rôle in their selection. It should be noted that the late Arthur Bryant, the controversial British contactee, possessed Gypsy blood.

The UFO mystery has many components, of which the objects themselves are the least important. Even *Maris'* name is significant. Many female contactees have names beginning with MAR: Marla, Mary, Margaret, Marilyn, Marion.

In *Maris'* case, which has been investigated by many researchers on the West Coast, we have a long line of sightings, many of which were witnessed by whole groups of people, and we have all of the minor elements which underlie the contactee phenomenon but have never before been mentioned in print. Determining the validity of this type of unprovable experience is less important than correlating the details of many such claims. If we are dealing with liars and psychopaths the subject still deserves careful study. If we are dealing with actual entities of unknown origin, then every single minute detail of these stories demands full examination. In nearly every case that I have investigated, the objects seemed to have been used only to provide a frame of reference. Once the contactee has accepted that the entity is a Ufonaut, the objects play a diminishing rôle in the contacts. Later contacts often involve the use of automobiles or unexpected materializations in the witnesses' homes. All

of the talk about outer space, life on other planets, etc., may be employed merely to provide that frame of reference. The entities may be unable or unwilling to tell the witnesses where they are actually from. Perhaps the witnesses would be unable to comprehend it even if told.

Maris mentions that certain prophecies given to her proved to be accurate. It is common for contactees to be given precise predictions on future events. When those events occur as prophesied, the witness feels he or she has received proof of the validity of the entities' claims. If the witness begins to publicly repeat such predictions, false predictions are quickly passed along. When the witness repeats these with total conviction and they fail to occur, he or she is automatically discredited by her friends and the public.

Certain contactees are urged to make public statements, however. The late George Adamski may have been one such contactee, and the information and "experiences" (possibly hallucinatory) which he revealed could have been nothing more than propaganda meant to foster belief in the outer space thesis. Just as the myth of a "secret inventor" was carefully and cunningly circulated in the 1896-97 "airship" flap, the extraterrestrial idea may have been foisted upon us in the 1950s.

The events in many UFO cases are obviously false or deliberately misleading. We must turn our attention to the details surrounding those events. The truth lies not in the messages received, but in the manner in which those messages have been conveyed to us. From Zechariah and Daniel in biblical times, to William Denton in 1866, to Woodrow Derenberger in 1966, is really not such a long jump. Nothing much has changed. It is now safe to guess that thousands upon thousands of people have been carefully selected, contacted and "used" throughout history. We are only now becoming aware of the real phenomenon. Our hopes that a "flying saucer" from another planet may some day land on the White House lawn probably have no foundation whatsoever. The phenomenon is historically consistent. The objects were as numerous in 1846-47 as they were in 1946-47. And they will probably still be aloof from us in 2046. But now that we are beginning to notice, we can also begin to make a serious study and forget all the childish controversies and nonsense of the past. We may be dealing with something very basic and very important to our own environment. Now we have a chance to find out what it really is.

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CANADA'S UFO POLTERGEIST

Mrs. W. Graystone

EXTENSIVE taped interviews, photos, clippings and other pertinent material on this case have been filed with CAPRO, the Canadian affiliate of APRO, Tucson, Arizona. The following account is a detailed summary of my original report.

The initial sighting

Between 10.00 and 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 2, 1968, Fred Coulthard jr. (24) was outside the back of his father's home in Wooler, Ont., Canada, with his younger brother Wayne (19). Fred was on leave before going overseas with the army, and the large family were having a quiet get-together for him. Both he and his brother noticed a bright light in the sky. The colour was quite a bright red and he described it as being a throbbing light rather than a blinking one. It was very high, but even with the naked eye it was noticeably descending. Fred instructed Wayne to remain outside and not take his eyes off the light while he ran inside to get his binoculars.

Upon returning with the binoculars he followed the path of the light with them until it reached the horizon. Then, as it passed the horizon line but was still descending, the lights which he claims he could now make out with the help of the binoculars were definitely rotating around the object. At this very same time, the lights changed in colour from red to bluish-purple. This was followed immediately by the whole object appearing to glow

brightly. Then it was lost from sight and his impression was that it had shut off all its lights. However, the path of the object was directly into the Murray Hills and he states it could have dropped behind one of the hills, but I must state that he gave an alternate opinion while, at the same time, he still believes that he saw it land and shut off its lights.

Fred and Wayne watched the area for quite some time without seeing anything else, so they decided to go back into the house and join the rest of the family. Wayne never did look through the binoculars and, although he was able to follow the light easily with the naked eye, he did not see the colours change but did see the bright glow.

Animal reactions

The boys noted that the horses in a field about 100 yards from their position were running in circles during their sightings, apparently in a state of panic. I noted the horses myself during my visit to their home later. There were two mares and a colt. There were small children riding the mares and they appeared to be very quiet, gentle saddle horses.

The family owned three cats at the time. When Wayne and Fred returned to the house after losing sight of the object, they found one cat on its back with all four legs straight up in the air. They could not bend its legs or rouse it. Later, it suddenly snapped out of the "trance", ran off and has not been seen since. The second cat also just disappeared. The third cat was

killed by a police car a short time later. The strange part is that the car started up, then backed over the cat, yet the noise of the car did not startle or alert the cat. All three cats were family pets, creatures of habit and not given to wandering.

Poltergeist manifestations

A snack was being served when the two young men returned to the house. They told the family what they had seen and Fred jr. decided to phone the Air Base at Trenton, Ontario, and report what he had seen and also to ask if there were any reports of a helicopter down. The report was taken at the Air Base but no information was given out at that time regarding a helicopter. So Fred and Wayne and a lad from next door, "Butch" Mallory, made plans to go up into the hills the next morning and search to see if it was a downed aircraft.

About 11.30 p.m., while everyone was still in the kitchen, the window in the back porch suddenly shattered. From that moment on, several very strange things began to happen. A deck of cards lying on the kitchen table was thrown into the air and scattered all over the floor, although there were no doors or windows open. Following on this, before the witnesses had time to recover from their shock, a glass of light home-made wine was yanked from Wayne's hand and literally fired across the room, smashing on the floor opposite.

These events frightened and upset Mrs. Coulthard, so she gathered up several of the younger