

EXCLUSIVE UFO REPORT INTERVIEW

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Wyoming, is best known as the man who, through the use of hypnotic regression, brought to light the UFO contact experiences of Herbert Schirmer, Carl Higdon, and others.

Since 1962, Dr. Sprinkle has been a consultant to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (A.P.R.O.) of Tucson, Ariz. He also served as consultant to the Condon Committee, the University of Colorado's government-sponsored UFO probe headed by the late Dr. Edward U. Condon. It was in this capacity that Sprinkle was called on to investigate the sighting of Ashland, Neb. Patrolman Herb Schirmer, who had reported a puzzling loss of time during what otherwise seemed to be a fairly routine UFO experience. Under hypnosis Schirmer told Sprinkle a much more spectacular story, which Sprinkle discusses in this interview.

Most recently Dr. Sprinkle has been investigating the experience of Carl Higdon, an elk hunter who late in October 1974 was reportedly abducted into a UFO which had landed south of Rawlins, Wyo. This episode was described in detail in the Fall '75 issue of UFO REPORT.

Dr. Sprinkle, who was born on Aug. 31, 1930, graduated with a B.A. degree from the University of Colorado in 1952, earned his master's degree in personnel services from the same institution four years later, and took his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 1961. He taught at the University of North Dakota for three years (1961-64) and during his final year there assumed the directorship of the school's counseling center. Since 1964 he has been at the University of Wyoming (located at Laramie), where he is director of counseling and testing.

He is also a member of a wide variety of professional organizations, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Psychological Association, the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, and the American Society for Psychical Research. He has published a number of studies in several scholarly journals and is currently at work on a book on self-improvement. Occasionally he contributes articles to The APRO Bulletin, Skylook, and England's Flying Saucer Review.

UFO REPORT: Let's start with the inevitable question: how did you first get interested in UFOs?

SPRINKLE: I became interested as a result of two UFO sightings which I experienced as a student at the University of Colorado. Some time in the fall of 1951 a friend and I were attending a general semantics symposium and we had come out of the Arts and Sciences Building. We were testing one another, asking questions like what do you see over there, how do you describe it, what level of abstraction are you using, and so forth. We saw what appeared to be a round, metallic-looking object flying overhead from south to north. We tried to see it as an airplane or a helicopter or a balloon, but it looked like a flying saucer.

That's when I first became interested. Before then I'd been a scoffer and I really didn't accept the idea that people were seeing these things. But after that sighting I became less of a skeptic. I was puzzled, but I still didn't understand what was going on.

Then in the summer of 1956 my wife and I were driving back from Denver and we saw what appeared to be a planet or a star and we remarked on how lovely it was over the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Then it started to move. I stopped the car. We got out. We could see it apparently descending because now we could see it between us and the foothills. We watched it for several minutes as it hovered and moved and gradually disappeared north of Boulder in the gathering darkness. So at that point I began to believe something was going on which I didn't understand which I wanted to learn more about.

UFO REPORT: Had you been interested in ESP or anything like that before then?

SPRINKLE: No, though as a youngster I had become interested in spiritual development. I'd had a religious experience when I was 14 or 15 years old at a church camp, but it was more in terms of spiritual development, the possibility that Mankind could mature and gain knowledge. That was kind of a general interest.

UFO REPORT: As a psychologist you have a special perspective on the UFO phenomenon. What would you define as the psychologist's role in UFO investigation?

SPRINKLE: I think that psychologists in general could take the standpoint that

the characteristics of UFO witnesses are of interest. One doesn't have to accept the notion, as I do, that flying saucers exist in order to study the characteristics of the UFO observers. I believe that my own special interest is in that area, in terms of what they perceive. However, I think that psychologists in general could study the observers. They could study the reactions of the persons in the general community to UFO reports, as Dr. David Saunders has done.

UFO REPORT: In a very real sense that may be the crux of the situation, since, as Dr. J. Allen Hynek is fond of saying, so far UFOs exist only as reports. It's all we really have to study—the only concrete UFO phenomenon is the witness.

SPRINKLE: Yes, I think that's one reason why behavioral scientists in general—not only psychologists but anthropologists, sociologists, many others—could take some part in the general investigation.

UFO REPORT: What do you think of some of the ideas of Dr. Carl Jung, as expressed in his book *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*?

SPRINKLE: I think that Jung's book is most interesting. He argues, of course, that it's possible there could be psychological reasons why people could report UFOs. He lists cases of dreams, visions, and other events. However, he does end with the observation that radar observations and other evidence are impressive with regard to the physical reality of UFOs, so he suggests that either there are real objects on which we project our mythological concerns or the other possibility is that people project thoughts in such a way that they become "real" and physical. Either kind of idea is very fascinating.

UFO REPORT: As Jacques Vallee suggests in *Passport to Magonia*, "There exists a natural phenomenon whose manifestations border on both the physical and the mental. There is a medium in which human dreams can be implemented."

SPRINKLE: Yes. This is a most fascinating idea that the observer may have some influence on what is being perceived. There is the question of whether people project their fears or their hopes into what they perceive during their UFO sighting and perhaps to some extent are able to manifest that which they're concerned about.

UFO REPORT: As you know, as someone versed in the literature of parapsychology, this is somewhat parallel to what happens in poltergeist manifestations, where through the process of psychokinesis, psychological conflicts and concerns are being projected into the so-called objective world.

SPRINKLE: That seems to be one of the best hypotheses to explain the poltergeist phenomenon. It may be that in some way it's related to the UFO phenomenon. I don't know that but it's a fascinating idea.

UFO REPORT: Now let's get into some specific cases you've been involved with. I think you're probably best known for your work with the Condon Committee and the consequent hypnotic sessions with Patrolman Herb Schirmer. Could you tell us how you initially became involved with the Condon Committee?

SPRINKLE: I served as the consultant to them on two occasions in early 1968. I was invited to the Boulder campus to discuss the question of whether hypnotic techniques might be a useful procedure for obtaining more information from UFO observers.

During that first meeting we considered a variety of cases in which hypnotic techniques might be a possible additional tool for investigation. Then it was decided that the Herb Schirmer case might be a good one because the possible "loss of time" experience which apparently occurred during his sighting at Ashland, Neb., on Dec. 3, 1967.

So at the second meeting with the committee, on February 13th, Herb Schirmer, at that time a patrolman in Ashland, and his superior officer, Chief Bill Wlaskin, met with members of the Condon Committee. A bit later in the afternoon we conducted an interview to determine whether hypnotic techniques might provide more information about his UFO sighting.

UFO REPORT: In your work with the Condon Committee, what did you observe of its operations? Was the final report a surprise to you?

SPRINKLE: No. By that time it wasn't a surprise because I had heard a lot of rumors from Jim and Coral Lorenzen (of APRO), from Dave Saunders, and from other people who were close to the operation. I had the opinion that the conclusions would not be favorable to further investigations of UFO sightings.

However, the impression I had while I was there—one of several impressions—was that I didn't really find myself able to feel any sympathetic vibrations with Robert Low, who seemed very busy and preoccupied with other matters. So I didn't get any feeling that he was interested in this

kind of investigation.

Dr. Condon was there during the afternoon sessions, when Herb Schirmer was describing his sighting and going through the hypnotic regression. It was hard for me to get a reading on Dr. Condon's reactions. He asked good questions, penetrating and critical-minded questions, without being critical of Schirmer as a person. I found it difficult to tell if Dr. Condon was asking these questions because he was very much interested in the UFO experience or because he was trying to pin down the possibility of other evidence aside from Herb Schirmer's testimony which could provide investigative leads on the case. For example, he would ask questions about the source of the information which Schirmer had. Of course Herb was not able to identify the source of the information. He just felt he had received it, through "mental communication" with someone, but he wasn't sure where the information came from.

UFO REPORT: You mean mental communication after the original contact?

SPRINKLE: Yes. It was hard to find the words to identify what the feeling was but he (Schirmer) described it as though he was in communication with someone right at the time the hypnotic interview was being conducted. It was difficult for me to know whether he was going back and reliving that experience so that he had a feeling he was in contact mentally with someone, or whether it was a feeling right at the time of the interview—not only was he remembering what had happened during those 15 or 20 minutes but he believed someone was monitoring him.

UFO REPORT: Why did he feel that? Did he hear voices in his head?

SPRINKLE: I don't know. I never did get a copy of any tape recording or videotape recording that might have been made of the interview. It was never made available to me. I had to rely just on my own notes and my own observations from listening to and watching Herb at the time. This is what he said. He had a feeling he was contacted when he was in during the interview. This was very interesting and very strange, but there's no way to pin it down as to how it could happen or why it would happen.

UFO REPORT: As you know, in the Barney and Betty Hill case one of the ufonauts told Betty that she and her husband would not remember the experience. Was any such statement made to Schirmer?

SPRINKLE: The impression he had was that something like that was said but not exactly a specific suggestion. It was very hard for him to recall. It was

almost as if there was the feeling that he shouldn't recall, shouldn't remember. The kind of feeling people sometimes experience in hypnotherapeutic interviews where they are going back in memory to some experience which was very bothersome or traumatic to them. In some cases I suppose someone could have told them not to remember something, but in most cases it was something they told themselves: "This is too silly, this is crazy, or this is stupid, I won't think about it." This is the impression I had, that he didn't have so much a specific instruction, but the experience seemed so bizarre, so strange, that it was easier to forget about it than try to deal with it.

UFO REPORT: Was this the first case you were ever involved in where you used hypnosis?

SPRINKLE: No, I'd used it in other cases, although the Schirmer story was a little more dramatic than most.

Herb was very reluctant about going through with the interview. At the start he even had doubts about whether we could use hypnotic techniques. So we started out with what is called the pendulum technique, using a little chain and a little Lucite ball so that he could obtain what are called ideo-motor responses; questions could be asked which might obtain an answer of yes or no, an answer of "I don't know" or "I don't want to say." That way he wouldn't have to feel as if he were being "hypnotized" and turned into a puppet.

So we started with the use of the pendulum technique and after a while he discovered that he could get answers which he consciously was not aware of. Later on as he concentrated on the questions and as he watched the pendulum moving, he relaxed until finally it became apparent that he was going into a nice comfortable trance state. So I suggested to him that he close his eyes and go back in time to recall more of the events which had happened.

It was initially quite a struggle for him to do so and then surprising things began to occur. It seemed that he could recall not only seeing an object, which he consciously remembered, but also undergoing some strange experiences which he could *not* consciously remember. During the "missing time" several things occurred. He did remember consciously trying to reach for the microphone (in his patrol car), but he didn't radio in. He also tried to reach for his pistol but he didn't pull it out of the holster. During the interview he commented that he was somehow prevented from reaching for the microphone or the gun, implying that some-

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this did occur. But at the time of the Cordon Committee the information that came out suggested he had sat in his car as a bright light shone on him—he was transfixed—then something emerged from the object to “talk” telepathically. Schirmer recalled the ship glowing, then suddenly rising, moving up to the electrical power lines and then disappearing in the sky. By that time he had opened the door, gotten out of the car, and looked up.

When he got back to the police station, he looked at the clock and saw it was three a.m. He had last looked at his watch around 2:30 a.m., which he thought was just a few minutes ago, and it should have taken him no more than 10, maybe 15 minutes, to return to the police station. He informed from this that he had “lost” 15 to 20 minutes.

UFO REPORT: In these earlier cases in which you used hypnosis, you did it, I take it, simply to get the witnesses to recall more details of their experiences. But did you get any spectacular new stories?

SPRINKLE: There was one case which was first submitted to Jim and Coral Lorenzen of A.P.R.O. It eventually proved rather dramatic, but since there was a question about the reliability of the witness, we didn't really feel that we could publish the case. Now, though, as time goes by, we find more and more really strange cases. It's almost as if the witnesses were being chosen in some way to become percipients.

UFO REPORT: Could you tell us about that incident?

SPRINKLE: This involved a man who claimed that he was coming home from work—he was on the late shift so it was past midnight—when he saw a strange, tall man who started talking with him while the witness had stopped his car at a stoplight. During the hypnotic interview the story that emerged suggested that the UFO occupant, the tall man, changed faces. That is at times he would look human-like, at times fish-like, at times animal-like. At the same time the witness felt as if he were being told mentally that he should go with the man. He could see a long ladder which moved up toward the flying saucer, which was hovering overhead. He became quite frightened. During the hypnotic interview he could recall a feeling he had at the time of the experience that he was being hypnotized and given instructions to get out of his car and go up the ladder. This frightened him so much that during the interview he was weeping. He cried out, “I don't want to go! I don't want to go!” He seemed very upset and bothered by it.

The trouble with the story, from our point of view, was that there was some question as to his reliability as a person, based upon his employment experience. And there was also a question



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planets, and they had a sister ship higher up which they would join later on. In short, the kinds of comments that often are associated with persons who claim to have some kind of contact with UFO occupants. Schirmer was asked if he remembered leaving the car and entering the object. No, he did not. He didn't think he did, although in a later hypnotic interview supposedly he remembered that

and toward him to talk with him through mental communication. Some of the things said sound strange to most people unless they've seen or read about UFO sightings.

Supposedly the “someone” told him that they, the ufo-nauts, had ships which were propelled by electromagnetic systems. They were friendly, they were here for trade, they had bases on other

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SPRINKLE INTERVIEW

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one in the craft in front of him was responsible. Then he remembered a white light shining on the car from the object and then a blurred object emerging from the craft as if someone was coming out of it

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to be very sincere about being involved in a fantastic UFO experience, and yet according to those who investigated, the incident took place near a well-traveled bridge where there should have been many witnesses, since the incident supposedly occurred over a 40-minute time span, and yet no one else saw the object. The Zoomar security camera flashing over the river all night didn't catch any UFO or anything like it on film. So we have two men talking about something they sincerely believe and yet at the same time it doesn't seem to have happened in any "veridical" sense. Have you any comment on this?

SPRINKLE: I have some speculations. I don't know whether mine are any better than anybody else's, but I tend to take the view that at the present time we don't have enough evidence to accept one hypothesis or the other. One hypothesis would be that there are some parapsychological events going on. For example, flying saucers which can change their shapes from one kind of craft to another, or can split into two or three objects, then come back together to form another. Or the paranormal, parapsychological hypothesis that we are being investigated by beings which are spiritual or psychic in nature without any real objects or real craft.

UFO REPORT: Which can manipulate time and space in unimaginable ways.

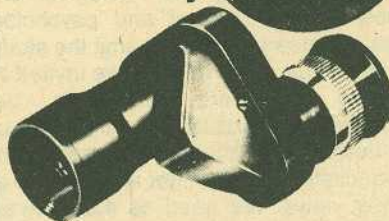
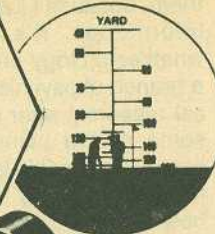
SPRINKLE: Yes. I take the position that both parapsychological and parapsychological events are in operation. That there are physical craft, there are biological beings, that these beings are advanced to the point where they can utilize psychic events and manipulate time and space in such a way that we would regard them as "angels" or "demons." In other words, we don't necessarily have to take the extreme view that either they're only parapsychological events or that they're only parapsychological events. You can take the position that both physical and psychological processes are variable in the universe and that these persons or these beings are in some way moving back and forth through what we think of as the limitations of space and time.

UFO REPORT: The UFO phenomenon in a curious way appears to be able to transcend the duality of "subject" and "object."

SPRINKLE: Yes, I think that's a good inference. Dr. Frank Salisbury, in his book, *The Utah UFO Display*, theorizes that the UFO observer is being provided a display by UFO occupants. There is, in other words, for some reason a demonstration being given to the witness and his reaction may in some way be significant to the event. It's as if we are being taught something relating to the matter of right hemisphere and left hemisphere activities in

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the brain. The notion is that much of our everyday verbal activity is related to the so-called left hemisphere, activity that is language, rationality, and so on, whereas a right hemisphere activity tends to be of the emotions, feelings, colors. And these investigators are finding that we don't always have to learn by the process of verbal activities, meaning that there are other ways to gain knowledge. Good teachers, good coaches, and good parents have known this for years. There is the possibility that UFO observers are being taught by this very significant event in their lives, perhaps down deep on a level removed from verbal communication.

UFO REPORT: What is your view of the extraterrestrial hypothesis? As you know, it's come under increasing criticism from John Keel, Jacques Vallee, and other researchers. Now there's a whole school of thought in ufology that's turning away from it. Then, of course, there are those, like Donald Keyhoe and Coral Lorenzen, who are still defending it.

SPRINKLE: Once again I may not be knowledgeable enough to have a good position. But I tend to be a fence sitter in this regard, too. It seems to me that anybody who has the capacity to manipulate time and space barriers would be able to come and go as he or she pleases. This would suggest to me that they would be *both* extraterrestrial and extradimensional.

In other words, just like a native sitting on an island cannot imagine anyone flying over to the island and would disbelieve anybody could come over from the mainland in a couple of hours. After all, you have to paddle a canoe and that takes three or four days. He might say anybody who could fly over must be a mythical creature and wouldn't have to eat bananas and pineapples and yet he might find someone coming over in a helicopter, sitting down, and eating pineapples and bananas. That analogy says to me that we may be experiencing the same thing. We may be seeing people who have the capacity to come from other planets, and also may have the capacity to slip into other time dimensions both.

So at this point I don't prefer either the extraterrestrial or extradimensional hypothesis. I like them both.

UFO REPORT: Some people argue that ufology should really be viewed as a branch of psychological research. For example, Keel and also Steiger have written that the "real" UFOs may be globules of pure intelligence which have the capacity to assume any shape they want, whether it be a shape of a so-called extraterrestrial spacecraft, an airship, an apparition, a fairy, a religious vision. Have you any reaction to that?

SPRINKLE: Those are most interesting comments. I am fascinated to learn more about what these men are saying. I don't know if I agree or disagree with them, because I just don't have enough information. It's an open question whether ufology should be considered a branch of psychical research. Psychical research, after all, is going through some of the same kinds of growing pains—that is, it's trying to find out how much is "physical" and "biological" and how much is "spiritual" and "psychological." Instead of trying to limit the study, it would be much better if we invited as many physicists, biologists, behavioralists, artists, lawyers, military officers, technicians, engineers, and scientists as we can get and listen to all their views. We need as many investigators as possible so that we can learn more about the shape of ufology.

UFO REPORT: Getting back to Herb Schirmer, you referred to the "blinding light" he saw at the beginning of his experience. This seems to happen to a lot of contactees. The experience begins with a sensation of white light in particular. Mystics have always talked about the blinding light. Carl Higdon said the lights inside the UFO he allegedly boarded "were so intense they hurt my eyes." What do you think is the significance of this phenomenon?

SPRINKLE: I have several kinds of reactions. I don't know which of these is more important. But one speculation relates it to the prophets of old who claimed to "see the light." A book by Richard Maurice Bucke, written around 1900, describes various prophets and teachers over the ages who developed a higher level of awareness, so-called cosmic consciousness. Many of these people reported a bright light which they associated with their spiritual rebirth.

So there is a possibility, at least in my thinking, that whoever is in back of the UFO phenomenon may be a kind of teacher, master or controller of Mankind, and might use various kinds of hope, inspiration, "knowledge" to feed into individuals who may be leaders of other persons.

Another kind of speculation could be that if there is a great deal of energy associated with the propulsion system from the craft, then UFO observers might be experiencing this burst of energy during the sighting. This may be one reason why they become "aware" after their UFO experience. That's one thing that's hard to pin down because we don't have good studies yet, but it appears that many UFO observers have an increased capacity for ESP after their UFO sightings.

UFO REPORT: Keel, in his latest book, *The Mothman Prophecies*, talks about the phenomenon of "false illumination."

We've seen this happen with so many contactees. They're led down the road to ruin because of some message given them by the "space beings" who make promises that they don't fulfill or give the contactee an exaggerated sense of his own importance.

SPRINKLE: I haven't seen as many contactees as Keel and some other have, but some of my observations of people I've worked with show that some seem to hold up very well, become stronger and more creative, more interesting persons. Then I've seen some people who have experienced the usual list of difficulties. They lose their jobs, go through self-doubt, uncertainties and so on.

It's difficult for me to know whether this is something that's "programmed" into the person or whether this is just an indication of individual differences between people and how they react. Some people react to stress with fear and uncertainty, whereas other people become more courageous. So I don't know that Keel is correct. Nor do I know that he is incorrect. But I think that it's true some people react very unfavorably to their UFO experience.

UFO REPORT: What is the most interesting UFO case you have been involved in personally?

SPRINKLE: I suppose, from a selfish viewpoint, my own sightings, which I realize aren't very impressive to other people because only two persons were watching and they were very brief.

From the scientific point of view, I'm not sure I can point to any specific case. There have been some that were very dramatic—Herb Schirmer, Carl Higdon and other persons I helped to regress back to the experience. Those are exciting, but to me the people who have been claiming to have mental communication with the UFO occupants are quite interesting.

I've corresponded with 100 people over the past five or six years asking them to fill out an information form and to complete personality and vocational interest inventories. Many of these persons are having an ongoing communication with a source which claims to be a UFO occupant. These people on the average seem to be "normal" with regard to their psychological characteristics and they seem to be average or above average in their education and yet they have very strange claims. They don't know for sure that the claims are absolutely true but a few of them—five to 10 of them—get regular, every week or several times a month messages or transmissions which make for some interesting kinds of information.

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(Continued from page 76)

wish there was some way I could learn more about these people. I wish I could learn more about the methods by which they receive this material.

UFO REPORT: What is the general pattern of these messages? Is there a pattern?

SPRINKLE: Yes, there is. There seems to be a general message as well as a specific message. The general message that most of them get is one which beseeches us to be good to each other, good to yourself, and urges Mankind in general to shape up. The more specific message depends upon the individual person. If the person is scientifically oriented, that message may concern devices or machines which could be built, which could harness energy or which could help Mankind to develop. Or if the person is more educationally oriented, there could be suggestions how to teach other people to develop morally and spiritually. In general it's a spiritual or religious message. The messages could come from any pulpit on a Sunday morning, about peace and brotherhood and the good life. It's hard to really analyze these things, as far as I can tell right now.

UFO REPORT: One thing that's striking, if we're dealing with a superior intelligence, why are the messages so full of cliches and hackneyed ideas?

SPRINKLE: It's hard to know whether these people might be tuned in on some galactic station picking up messages which are being beamed out . . .

UFO REPORT: A sort of "vast wasteland" of the galaxy?

SPRINKLE: (Laughs.) That's one kind of speculation which isn't very appealing, but it could be. You know it could be that these kinds of messages are going out all the time, and picking them up is like having a tooth filling which picks up radio messages and believing that you're being told by the gods about something which is really a commercial or a radio program.

Another kind of speculation could be that whoever is behind the phenomenon may be programming us to move away from violence, war, and so on toward a more cooperative society.

Now this is just speculation that follows. One could also worry about whether this is preliminary to takeover by some powerful extraterrestrial civilization. But I don't see any evidence to warrant this kind of speculation because any superior civilization could have come in long before this. One is left with the impression that either we're being trained to become docile and give up our spiritual energies through medi-

tation or whatever it is that somebody would tap. Our spiritual energy would be "food" to them.

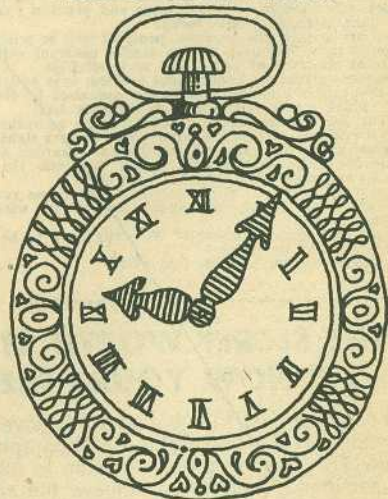
Or it may be a teaching method to get us to pray and meditate and then when we have that energy we can direct it toward some very practical ends, such as replenishing our diminishing food supply. We can teach cows to produce more milk, apple trees to produce more apples, and so on. It may be that other civilizations are teaching us to become more creative, more spiritualized, more able to make use of our latent psychic potential.

UFO REPORT: Overall, then, are you optimistic or pessimistic about the ultimate meaning of the UFO phenomenon?

SPRINKLE: I'm very optimistic. I don't know whether it's because of my general nature, a country boy who grew up and each year was better. I liked high school better than grade school, I liked college better than high school, and each year in my life became healthier and better. So I'm an optimistic person in general.

That's the bias I have toward UFO research. I believe that we live in a most exciting time. It may be that the predictions of Edgar Cayce and others will come true, that is, there will be great Earth changes. Some of these Earth changes will reap destruction. I hope that isn't the case, but I still feel optimistic about the prospect of Mankind's learning about physical, biological, psychological, and spiritual processes. I think the next 25 years will be most interesting in regard to the directions we will be moving in.

It's Time...



March of Dimes Time.

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY THE PUBLISHER

MESSAGES

THANK YOU

This is the first time I've ever written to any magazine but I felt compelled to compliment you on UFO REPORT. My husband and I have read every regular issue and annual you have published, and have enjoyed them very much. Together with our friends, we have spent many fine hours discussing your recent articles and have had many interesting debates pro and con of the same.

We feel that the quality of your magazine is excellent (and improving) and that you are supplying the public with much needed and desired information.

My husband and I have seen two UFOs—one in July 1968, and one this past April (1976). I say we saw UFOs because to us they were indeed Unidentified Flying Objects. We readily admit that we have no idea what kinds of objects. Couldn't there be some other kind of term for these objects other than the catchall acronym UFOs?

Again we thank you for your enlightening publication and urge you to keep up the good work.

Jo Anne K. Cox
Cartersville, Ga.

OAHSPÉ

I have received quite a number of letters from the readers of UFO REPORT in regards to my article "Fantastic Giant Spaceships" (Winter 1975), in which I mentioned the book called *Oahspe* originally published in 1882. Most readers wanted to know where they could obtain the book in the U.S.

It can be ordered from Venture Bookshop, P.O. Box 249, Highland Park, Ill. 60035.

Brinsley Le Poer Trench,
London, England

OOPS!

I always read your magazine from cover to cover, finding numerous hours of enjoyment, as well as many stimulating ideas and much provocative information.

However in your June 1976 issue there is a printer's mistake (I assume) which has all the ingredients of instigating more paranoid reaction among UFO enthusiasts. I refer to the omission on page 74 of one or more paragraphs

which occurs in the interview with Dr. Leo Sprinkle. Dr. Sprinkle's answer to the reliability of contactee information promised to be very interesting. So did the following question by UFO REPORT which was also missing. Hoping that this was indeed a printer's oversight and not the censor's pencil, I am looking forward to seeing this omission remedied in your August issue.

E.A. March
Fairhope, Ala.

Editor's note: No, it wasn't a censor's pencil which cut Dr. Sprinkle's answer and UFO REPORT's question. It was an unfortunate typographical error and we apologize to our readers for any inconvenience. Just to set the record straight, we are reprinting the missing questions and answers:

SPRINKLE: That's a good question. I wish I knew the answer. There does seem to be enough evidence from a variety of cases that the information given to UFO observers is some kind of experimental attempt to find out what information is getting out to the public. The reason I suggest that is because, as John Keel has said, as the Lorenzens of APRO have said, there is such a wide variety of kinds of information which is given from UFO occupants to UFO observers. We really don't know whether we're being kidded or whether we are being visited by many, many representatives of many civilizations.

UFO REPORT: Schirmer and some other people involved in UFO investigation were on NBC's *Tomorrow Show* several months ago and on the show it was explained that Schirmer was undergoing examination at U.C.L.A., which had begun a study of UFO contactees. Do you know anything about that?

SPRINKLE: I've heard that from several sources. I heard this from a man in a Toronto radio station and from a telephone conversation with (author) Ralph Blum. And also I had a conversation about a month ago with Herb Schirmer. All these people said the same thing, so I believe it's true.

On the other hand, I also heard that no public information was being released about that investigation. Now I don't know whether that means that they want to evaluate it before it was

released or whether that it wasn't to be released. I don't know the answer to that question. But it does sound as if that information is not going to be published.

UFO REPORT: Do you have any knowledge of what U.C.L.A.'s perspective on this is—whether they're viewing it as evidence of mental aberration or whether they're seeing it as evidence of a real and unknown experience?

SPRINKLE: All I know is that some of the people involved are well known in the field of psychology and hypnosis. If any information is forthcoming, I would find it very interesting. But I just have no way of knowing what the motive or whether the backing for the project might be.

SIMILAR SIGHTINGS

I am 12 years old and an avid reader of UFO REPORT. In the April 1977 issue of your magazine, I was a little surprised to see in your "Messages" department two UFO sightings that apparently duplicated two of my own sightings. On the letter titled "Revelation," the saucer described is the same or very similar to one which I have personally witnessed.

On Apr. 21, 1973, at approximately seven p.m., I was in Blackwood, N.J. waiting for the appearance of an expected meteor shower. I saw a light moving quickly toward my right (I am not really sure of the direction on the compass) and I thought that it was a meteor or a plane. Needless to say, it wasn't either. It was disc-shaped with lights flickering around it. It had what appeared to be a bubble or cabin in the center, on the bottom. The bubble had flickering lights—visible through the portholes—of various colors of the spectrum. The surface color of the craft itself appeared to be similar to gunmetal gray. The object was moving horizontally and descending behind a grove of trees. I did not notice any antennas, and I could not tell, from my vantage point, if the object was rotating. I would think that the object was approximately the size of a large ranch house.

Referring to another letter in the same issue, I think I saw the same UFO detailed in the letter entitled, "No Explanation."

(Continued on page 5)