

two-inch strip contains the incomplete notation "...vg A. 1740." below which is the incomplete notation "...B 2393." The September 1989 design prepared for and sent to the Thomases contains the notations "1740 LA" and "2393". As confirmed by the Thomases, the living area (i.e. "(L)vg A." and later expressed as "LA") was to be 1740 square feet. The "(SLA)B 2393" shown on the blueprint likewise coincides with the simply expressed "2393" on the graph paper design in their possession. Moreover, the blueprint shows what appears to be a partial street address on Jamestown Drive. The Thomases confirmed that the house which would have been built for them in late 1989 was to be at the corner of Jamestown Drive and Shoreline Avenue.

As a supporting point, I personally calculated the square footage of the living area from the Thomases' graph design, which totals 1740 square feet. In that Ed Walters builds only custom-designed homes, it is extremely unlikely that he would have built two homes less than three years apart which had a Jamestown Drive location and those precise dimensions. No one has questioned the veracity of either the Thomases or the Menzers regarding their willing testimony.

The living area and concrete slab dimensions confirmed by the Thomases and recalculated by myself are telling evidence. The location of the prospective home on the corner of Jamestown and Shoreline further supports Ed Walters' claim that the Thomas graph paper design and the blueprint strip on the model are of the same home - both drawn in September 1989 and therefore well after the Walters' experiences had concluded.



Given this firm documentation, anyone wishing to contend that Ed Walters himself constructed the UFO model must locate another home on or at the corner of Jamestown Drive - built by Ed in that period - with a living area and outer slab of exactly the same dimensions. It should be mentioned here that Gulf Breeze Mayor Ed Gray, in trying to pin the model on Ed Walters, is said to have analyzed every blueprint he ever submitted, but was unable to find a home with the "1740" and "2393" notations.

Thus, this subplot of the Walters' experiences can be put to rest. The only logical conclusion is that someone crimped the water pipe leading from the refrigerator in the Walters' home after they moved out, then planted the model along the pipe in the attic in the hope that the new owner would find and report it. Was the "someone" a UFO skeptic, a UFO investigator out to embarrass MUFON, or perhaps the Military Intelligence establishment? Perhaps, we'll never know. Nevertheless, this issue is declared dead. ■

THE M.I.T. ABDUCTION STUDY CONFERENCE (JUNE 1992)

At the end of March of this year, to our great astonishment, we received a confidential document from Professor David E. Pritchard of the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) giving details of plans for a high-powered scientific conference to be held in the Boston area, and possibly at M.I.T. itself, between June 13 and June 17, for the purpose of discussing all aspects of the "abduction problem"! It was proposed that up to about one hundred scholars and UFO investigators would participate. The meetings would be held behind closed doors, with no press, and we were requested not to give any advance publicity to the matter.

Then, to our equally great surprise, just as we were preparing this issue of FSR, we read a long two-column account of the project in — of all places! — the *Wall Street Journal* for May 15/16. On May 15 the London *Daily Express* also carried a brief report about it, and on May 19 the London *Times* followed up with its own version (displaying a degree of oafish ignorance that we expect to find in the cheaper reaches of the British press).

Since this particular cat is now obviously out of the bag, we feel ourselves under no obligation to avoid mention of the project.

According to our information, the organisers of the Conference are as follows:

Conference Chairman Dr. David E. Pritchard, of M.I.T.

Conference Co-Chairman Dr. John E. Mack, the Harvard Medical School psychiatrist who wrote the Foreword to Dr. David Jacob's new book *SECRET LIFE*, and who has personally made a study of fifty abductees and conducts monthly support meetings for them. He told the *Wall Street Journal*: "It's not mass hysteria. These are people who have no reason to lie, and they've come forth with great reluctance".

Conference Committee: T.E. Bullard, J Carpenter, D. Gotlib, Richard Hall, Budd Hopkins, Dr. David Jacobs, P. Kasey, J. Nyman, Mark Rodeghier, Michael Swords, Walter Webb.

Another organising member mentioned in the *Wall Street Journal's* report is Dr. Malkah Norman, Acting Head of Harvard University's Department of Psychiatry at the Cambridge Hospital, Massachusetts.

And all this — to take place possibly in the august and hallowed scientific precincts of M.I.T.! Forsooth, will wonders ever cease? —G.C