

# CANADA'S UFO POLTERGEIST

*Mrs. W. Graystone*

**E**XTENSIVE 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

children and took them up to bed, remaining there with them. This broke up the family party and, after helping their father tidy up the kitchen, the boys and their father, Fred senior, also went upstairs to bed. However, the Coulthard household was not going to receive much sleep that night—for down in the kitchen there was a continuous clatter going on. When Mr. Coulthard or his sons went to investigate, they found spoons and other objects had been thrown around the kitchen. During the night they also began to notice a very strong odour of roses each time they went down to investigate the kitchen.

### The official explanation

Corporal Clifford Fairbanks, a radio controller from the Air Base, later stated that he had many calls that night (July 2) about bright lights wherein people were facing east and saw them, while other people located west of these people and facing west also saw the lights. The official explanation released to the press was that these lights were "a meteor". Cpl. Fairbanks did not agree with this explanation and pointed out that the sighting reports were received over a two-hour period. (See "Flap" article in this issue on p. 21 for a discussion of the "meteor" explanations.)

### Later events: A newsman witnesses the manifestations

July 3 was quiet until the evening, when strange things again began to happen in the house, just like those on the evening before.

July 4 the house was quiet and normal. That night Mr. Coulthard woke Fred and Wayne and together the three men sat in the kitchen or adjoining room in the dark. Several objects were periodically thrown around the kitchen but, each time the lights were turned on, there was no one there. Although numerous searches were made inside and outside the house, no one was found.

July 5 was a repeat of the day and night before, except that the newspapers had now heard about the phenomenon. Mr. Ed Strome, a reporter for the Toronto *Daily Star*, spent the night there. Mrs. Coulthard became so completely unnerved and was so upset that

Shattered back porch windows dove-shaped break with no cutting edge



early the next morning Mr. Coulthard took her and seven of the younger children to relatives living approximately 100 miles north of Wooler, where she stayed until events quietened down. During the night of July 5 the manifestations continued, even though Strome and officers of the Ontario Provincial Police were present. "Butch" Mallory took tape recordings of the sounds taking place in the kitchen, but because of the unusual amount of publicity, his father later took the tapes and locked them away and has forbidden "Butch" to discuss the events with anyone.

The Ontario Provincial Police were completely baffled. One officer sat outside the home all night in his car watching for pranksters, but no one came near the house while he watched, although the events were going on inside as usual.

The first news story was published on July 5, 1968, in the Toronto *Daily Star*.

July 6 was again a quiet day, with Mr. Coulthard and the boys

sleeping most of the day after Mr. Coulthard had returned from taking his wife and children to the relative's home. That night before dark the following people assembled in the home: Mr. Coulthard and his two sons Fred and Wayne (the third child, a daughter, was staying at the home of a friend in Wooler), Ed Strome, Cpl. Fairbanks, "Butch" Mallory, two police officers, and a professional ghost-hunter from Hespler, plus two people from Ontario who were interested in UFOs and who strangely enough spent the entire evening and night in the kitchen without ever giving their names. The police officers made a thorough search of the house, inside and out, then one officer remained outside at all times until daybreak. Nothing happened while the lights were on unless everyone was in one room, then the poltergeist manifestations and strong odours would occur in the other, empty, room.

Mr. Strome took numerous flash pictures aimed at the sounds, but

nothing appeared on the films except some very surprised faces of the men around the table. Everything was checked, especially for the strange rose-like odour that at times became almost nauseating. Furnace pipes, register and cold-air intakes, windows, cracks, etc., were all carefully examined but the source of the odours was never discovered.

I have interviewed Mr. Strome twice and he is baffled by it all. He does not want to believe what he heard and smelled and yet he cannot deny his own experiences. He has checked every angle he could think of without finding any logical explanation.

### The smashed window

A professional glazier was called in to examine the broken porch window. He was unable to explain it. Later, Mr. Strome took pictures of the window and submitted them to a lab in Toronto. They were also baffled. The edges of the break, which is in the exact centre of the window, are uniformly smooth. I ran my finger all around the edges without finding a sharp or jagged edge. Although the break mark was definitely on the outside of the window, all of the broken glass—except for a few slivers—fell to the ground *outside*.

A few minutes after midnight on July 6, the investigators were having coffee with the lights on and, as Mr. Strome was explaining to a police officer about the lab reports and the report from the professional glass cutter, he was idly turning the picture around in his hands when he suddenly noticed something. He took a pen from his pocket and traced the outline of the whole break in the glass and asked if the group saw anything odd in it. Everyone thought he was getting carried away until suddenly they too saw what he saw, which was an almost perfect outline of a dove in flight. They all talked about this for some minutes, then decided they had better once more turn out all the lights and get back to the business at hand. After the lights were turned out, the odour of roses became quite overpowering for several minutes, then there was nothing—only dead silence except for the breathing and whispering of the assembled group.

This episode marked the end of the manifestations.

### The "Fairy" rings

Mr. Strome told me of the discovery of some "rings" on the ground north of Wooler, and I later tracked down the owner of the property where these "rings" had been found. The man was extremely reluctant to talk to me for fear of the slightest publicity of any sort. After I had talked to him for a while and I agreed to respect his privacy, he offered to show me the phenomena.

He took me into a place called Oak Hills which are in line with and directly north of the Murray Hills where the July 2 sighting occurred. We went deep into the hills, stopping on top of a hill overlooking a valley ringed with oak trees. The floor of the valley is quite flat. Actually it is an overgrown pasture which hasn't been used for 25 years, not even for spring grazing. At the edge, right up against the trees, and where the ground begins to slope upwards, is a perfect ring 25ft. in diameter. An 18in. wide circle around the perimeter is dead vegetation. The circle, I was told, is about five to six years old and until this summer nothing has ever grown there, although the grass and weeds outside and inside this circle are fresh and healthy. Several years ago the University of Toronto took soil samples, measurements and flora samples from the area, but the owner has never heard from them.

We then climbed a very high, overgrown hill until it levelled off to a ledge before it rose sharply again. On this ledge or slightly flattened area, and again at the very edge of the clearing, snug up against the oak trees, was another circle. This was exactly like the first one, except that it was ellipsoid rather than a perfect circle. Again the ring was approximately 18in. wide with no growth, although there was a peculiar fungus growth with brilliant red tips *only* in the ring. One thing I noticed was a smaller but perfect circle about 5ft. in diameter with a ring only about 12in. wide. This circle was immediately beside the larger one. The owner mentioned that when the rings were fresh (five or six years

ago—I couldn't get him to pinpoint it any closer than that) there had been strange triangular impressions in the earth outside the rings. They were about 6in. deep and 6in. along each side of the triangle.

### The witnesses

The senior Mr. Coulthard seems to be a very sincere man. He is deeply religious—a devout Catholic. Fred jr. is very mystified and most embarrassed by the whole affair. Both my husband and I got the impression during our interview that he was wishing he had never mentioned seeing the object land that night.

A strange residue was found encrusting the soil of the Coulthard garden. Samples have been taken but we have no further information at this time. While handling materials around the Coulthard home, Mr. Strome received three burns between the index and middle fingers of his left hand. Two of the burns are circular and one jagged, about  $\frac{3}{16}$ in. in diameter.

The essential facts in this case are circumstantial and coincidental on the surface. A family which had never suffered any poltergeist-type manifestations before was suddenly plagued by such occurrences beginning *less than two hours after* two members of the family viewed an unidentified flying object. The manifestations began with the inexplicable smashing of a window pane and were accompanied by the odour of an unidentifiable gas of unknown origin. There were many witnesses to the events which followed, including police officers and a newspaper reporter. A thorough search of the premises failed to uncover a human prankster or natural cause for these events. The events continued on the night of July 6 after the children in the household had been moved 100 miles away.\*

The object reported by Fred and Wayne apparently descended somewhere in the immediate vicinity of the circles later discovered. This suggests that UFO activity in the area has been developing there over a long period of time and has been largely unnoticed.

(continued on page 70)

# THE "ALTERNATE REALITY" THEORY

*Allen H. Greenfield*

THE points set out below are not to be regarded as a matter of final understanding but rather as points of a working theory, suggested by certain trends in the available evidence.

1. The universe - framework wherein we reside is in fact only a portion of the totality of reality. True Reality in full perspective is made up of an unknown number of realities, each with their own scientific laws which may or may not coincide with the corresponding laws in other universe-frameworks.

2. These realities are quite separate in that they can exist in what appears to be the same point in space and/or time without overt influence of a visual, tactile or other nature upon one another.

3. The separating factor between these realities may be partly of a physical nature, but also possibly of a partly psychological nature. This separating factor can be overcome and in fact is overcome, both in nature at certain coinciding points, or reality warps, on a temporary or permanent basis, and through artificial means.

4. Artificial transition through this barrier may be effected through the utilisation of various forces of either mechanical and/or psychic nature.

5. Such reality translations have in fact been effected on countless occasions between our own universe-framework and one or more other universe-frameworks.

6. While overt contact has not taken place within modern times, the inhabitants of one or more alternate realities have been in touch with human beings throughout the history of mankind.

7. Some of this contact has been for purposes generally friendly to mankind, while other contact has been for neutral or for directly hostile purposes.

8. A purpose of the latter seems to be the domination of mankind through covert manipulation at times, and overt control at other times.

9. Contact is at present so integrally tied to mankind that it is ubiquitous. An unknown number of human beings are in a covert co-operative relationship with these beings.

10. Of the forces malevolent to mankind, there is a subgroup which seems virtually purposeless in its action; a degenerate subgroup or a group from another alternate world than those described as being similar to humans. This subgroup seems to constitute the "little man" type as opposed to the more nearly humanoid.

11. One group of entities seems to be interested in combating the malevolent forces. These may in fact be wholly or partly a group of humans living in symbiotic relation with mankind as we know it. They may be the descendants of an ancient Earth civilisation, possibly destroyed by the outsiders.

12. Beings from other planets

## BEYOND THE CONVENTIONAL HORIZON

That the conventional extraterrestrial hypothesis on the origin of UFOs does not seem to fill the bill has long been recognised by many of my friends and colleagues and by myself. For the best part of the last decade a handful of us have been looking beyond the conventional horizon and speculating on possibilities which, until the last two or three years, have always seemed too strange to publicise. While *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* limited itself, up to 1966, mainly to the essays of Luis Schön herr on *UFOs and the Fourth Dimension* (four parts since 1963) we have taken note of the work of philosophers and others who have postulated the existence of *other levels* where life goes on unknown to the majority of human beings, and sensed perhaps by a few sensitives. Levels or undetected worlds within our Universe where, for example, molecular structure is perhaps so different that the entities and artifacts therein pass through our level without colliding with us and our artifacts. And we have wondered if they in their levels may be possessed of the means to pass through into our environment, and away again, at will.

It is obvious too that scientists are becoming aware—perhaps uneasily—that there may be these other levels, or *parallel universes*, where time, for example, runs in a different direction to our time. In my contribution *Few and Far Between* in *THE HUMANOID*, I drew attention to the fact that in 1966, in an article in the scientific journal *Nature*, an eminent physicist of London University had postulated the existence of a parallel world where time runs in the reverse direction to the time in our world—and he had a very good reason for this idea.

An American correspondent of mine, Jerome Clark, had once referred to these hypothetical "levels" as *alternate realities*, and he was careful to add that he had not coined the name. The description appealed to me, and I was delighted, therefore, when I happened on Mr. Greenfield's article in his journal *UFO Sighter* (Vol. 7, No. 2)\* in which he presented his alternate reality speculations.

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