

place *within another "plane of existence"*,\* what scientific discipline could become involved?

There are changes of perception in the scientific community on some of these matters, but Fowler comments:-

*"If the recalled memories of UFO abductees like Betty actually reflect genuine physical events, then our comprehension of reality is indeed limited. We could be compared with lower animals that experience life within the constraints of their particular physical and mental capabilities. Such animals are completely oblivious to the co-existing world of man and his technology... The forces that operate behind UFOs appear to be functioning on an infinitely higher plane of awareness that man is only just beginning to perceive through experiences like Betty's."*

This is a book not only about abductions but also about silent, unmarked helicopters; men-in-black;

highly detailed accounts (and drawings — Betty has a photographic memory and has considerable artistic talent) of UFOs, both inside and out; of great personal tragedy for Betty; of investigative work which confirmed dates, times and locations of some weird experiences; and of intrigue on behalf of the reader.

I leave you, dear readers, to ponder.

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\*NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

For years past, in my articles for FSR, I have been pointing out that there is not yet a shred of evidence that any human has ever been taken aboard a UFO *in the physical body*, and that the only possible explanation therefore is that they are literally "*lifted out*" of the physical, and taken, in their "*astral*", or "*etheric*", or "*spiritual*" or "*radiant*" body, or whatever you may choose to call it (*there are at least a dozen such terms that have been used at various times*) for their uncanny rendezvous with beings *who arrive from some totally different reality that is in all probability also HERE.* — G.C.

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## BOOK REVIEW

*By George Wingfield, MA (Hons.), FSR Consultant*

**UFOs: THE GULF BREEZE SIGHTINGS.** By ED WALTERS and FRANCES WALTERS, Pub. by WM. MORROW & CO., NEW YORK, 1990. Hardback. US\$21.95. (BANTAM BOOKS, LONDON, say (November 1990) they also have copies available for £14.99).

**P**ROCLAIMED as the most astounding multiple sightings of UFOs in U.S. history, Ed Walters' UFO encounters of 1987 and 1988 undoubtedly rank as one of the most significant UFO cases of modern times. Certainly this book does appear to be one of very few books on the subject that actually "deliver the goods". But acceptance of whether or not this is, at last, the genuine article is already dividing ufologists everywhere.

The thirty-nine excellent colour photographs of UFOs taken by Ed Walters are of a quality seldom previously achieved with this elusive subject, and if we are to accept their authenticity, then we can only conclude that the non-human intelligence behind this quite extraordinary chain of encounters intended that these pictures should be seen. But are the photographs genuine?

The photographs were mainly taken with a Polaroid camera; this is a most difficult sort with which to fake photos. They have been examined in relentless detail by MUFON investigators, by technical experts from the Polaroid Corporation, and by Dr Bruce Maccabee, a government research scientist, who is a US Navy optical physicist and photo-analyst. He and the others conclude that there is no evidence of a hoax and that the photos are indeed authentic.

The story of Ed Walters' continuing series of UFO encounters is told plainly by him and his wife in diary form as events unfold. These include Ed's confrontation with small robot-like entities, apparently occupants of the UFO, which are vividly described. He tells of recurring contact with what seems to be a particular type of UFO (though other types did appear), usually accompanied by telepathic communication from the UFO intelligence. On some occasions when the UFO appeared near his house he was struck and immobilised by a blue beam which shone down from the craft. This beam seems also to be the means by which the small alien creatures leave and re-enter the UFO. Two of the encounters with UFO and these aliens resulted in "*missing time*" experiences, which regression hypnosis of the author at a later date showed to have concealed abduction events. These are not described in the book but may be the subject of a further volume.

What are we to make of these bizarre and unbelievable happenings, which to many readers will seem just too much to accept? The reaction of the skeptics is, of course, fairly predictable. Since it is too difficult to pin this particular series of UFO encounters on the planet Venus or the mythical "plasma vortex", they have no alternative but to accuse Ed and Frances Walters of having perpetrated massive fraud and faked all the photographs with the motive of financial gain. What these people are really saying is that since their view of the world is unable to encompass such events, the events *have* to have been fraudulently contrived. Some of the debunkers, who are clearly rattled, have gone so far as falsifying photographs of Gulf Breeze-type UFOs themselves in order to discredit Walters' photographs. Others have attempted to undermine the Walters' story by producing a 9-inch model UFO, said to have been found in an attic of a house where Walters lived at the time of the UFO encounters, but subsequently left vacant.

Neither of these attempts at character-assassination have been in the least bit convincing. Quite apart from anything else, the town of Gulf Breeze and its vicinity has been the centre of a major UFO flap for several years and well over a hundred witnesses have sighted UFOs there, some similar to those seen and photographed by Ed Walters. On some occasions people who were with Ed saw "his" UFO, or were with him when he shot photos of it with a sealed Polaroid camera. Bob Oechsler, a former NASA mission specialist who has investigated the case in detail, tells me that he saw the UFO when he was travelling with Ed in a truck.

Ed Walters has taken polygraph (lie-detector) tests which indicate that he, at least, believes what he has told us about his UFO encounters. Ed is a wealthy man whose house-building business brings in more than \$300,000 a year and the suggestion that he contrived the UFO story for financial gain simply does not hold water. And this case has been investigated in the greatest detail by the top people in the MUFON organisation, such as Walt Andrus, Don Ware, Bob Reid and Charles Flannigan. These men are no fools and there is every reason to respect their judgement. My own impression of Ed Walters, whom I've met, is

certainly one of sincerity.

The high degree of strangeness of the events described bears the hallmark of the genuine UFO phenomenon, as will be recognised by experienced ufologists. Once again a whole series of encounters, and indeed, two abductions, are targeted on a particular individual. Nevertheless the reality of his experiences is not a purely subjective matter, as is amply evidenced by the testimony of others who were associated with him, and also others he did not know, who lived in Gulf Breeze. All of us struggle to rationalise the bizarre happenings which the Walters describe, and, if we accept that these did in fact occur, interpretation is no easy matter. An extraterrestrial explanation is undoubtedly that which is most favoured by U.S. ufologists, but despite that, the overall impression we are left with is not that of "nuts-and-bolts" flying saucers.

Ed Walters' UFOs have a distinctly ghost-like and insubstantial quality. They appear from nowhere and they blink out like lights being turned off. Despite their craft-like structure and apparent "port-holes", these elusive objects seem to have no more than a transient existence within our dimensions. Stereo camera measurements show they are smaller (25 ft diameter or less) than one might suppose, and appear much closer to the observer, say within 500 ft, than is usually thought. Nevertheless they are capable of leaving lasting images on photographic film, or, as happened here, traces in the form of ground markings, or swirled circles, like the English Crop Circles, in grass.

The key feature of Ed Walters' encounters is the psychic interaction between whatever non-human intelligence is "out there" and his mind. Once this link is established, the UFO may appear to him, and sometimes to others with him, and any subsequent developments of this transient manifestation then take place. Without denying the reality of what occurs, this seems to be far more something of a paranormal nature than the arrival of a solid spacecraft from Outer Space.

One reason that UFO events have consistently eluded understanding is that they are simply not explainable in terms with which we are currently familiar. For this reason the Gulf Breeze case will most probably in the long run be held to have been discredited by the skeptics, who will never allow such matters to become generally accepted. No doubt they will refer to the "Gulf Breeze Hoax", saying that the photos were all faked using model UFOs, and this may eventually become the general perception of the Ed Walters case.

A balanced appraisal of the facts shows that the truth is very different. The reader will judge for himself and I strongly urge everyone who is interested in the subject to read this very important book, which gives a better insight into the UFO phenomenon than almost any other. Meanwhile, although Ed Walters' UFO encounters may have temporarily ceased, the inhabitants of Gulf Breeze, Florida, still report sightings of strange luminous objects in their skies.

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## A PLEASANT ENCOUNTER IN BRAZIL WITH "HUMAN-LOOKING" LITTLE PEOPLE

*By Irene Granchi (President of C.I.S.N.E., Brazil). FSR Consultant*

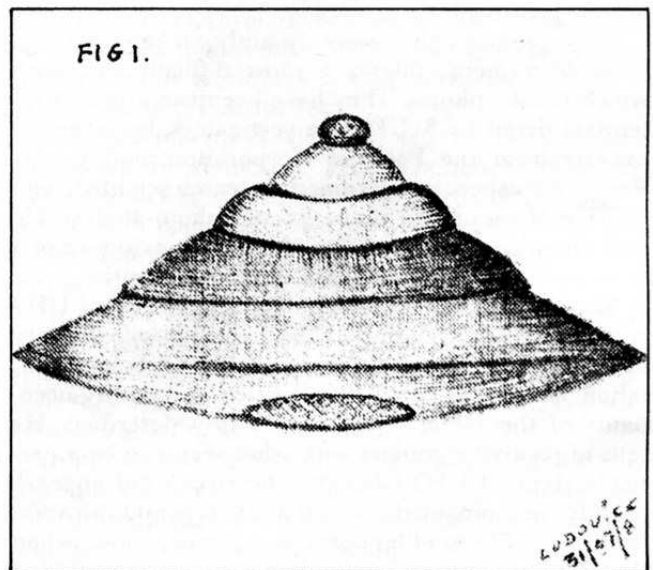
It happened on Sunday, July 31, 1988, in the neighbourhood of Itacuruçá, a place lying about 100 kms. from Rio de Janeiro, along the coast.

The witness was awakened by the barking of his four dogs. He looked at his watch: it showed 4.00 a.m. Then he looked at his compass. It was spinning around wildly.

Looking out through the window, he saw a bright light, so strong that everything appeared to be in daylight. He opened the living room window, and then saw a large UFO, about 30 m. wide, flying to and fro, quite slowly, above his house, swinging from one side to the other as it moved.

Once again it flew over the house and back; and then stopped at a height of about 200 m.

The disc — or maybe not actually the UFO itself, but a vapour-like aura surrounding it — displayed some very bright and colourful blue and orange lights. In its base was a large circular opening from which, as the object passed closer to the house, he was able to see that there was a white vapour coming out, like the vapour produced by a refrigerator when there is too much ice in it. Other than that, he saw no other openings on the object. He said the UFO itself seemed metallic-looking, and leaden grey in colour. He said it looked "something like a wasp's nest", or also a bit like the "June balloons" that are traditionally let off into the air during festival days in Brazil. (See his sketch, fig. No. 1.)



He said: "I continued to watch it, and, as it passed over the house for the third time, I saw it stop, and it suddenly emitted a brightly lit white panel with writing in black letters on it. The borders of the panel were also black."

"On impulse, I ran to fetch a pad and pen, and I started to copy down what I saw. This phase must have lasted for about ten minutes, during which time I