

TALKS WITH BETTY HILL: 1 - AFTERMATH OF ENCOUNTER

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JOHN FULLER'S *Interrupted Journey*¹ describes Betty and Barney Hill's† abduction aboard a UFO, where they were intensively studied and examined by the occupants. Because of emotional psychosomatic complications following this experience, the Hills sought psychiatric assistance and were seen in hypnotherapy by the eminent psychiatrist, Benjamin Simon, who treated them over an extended period of time.

Little has been written about related experiences of the Hills before or after the initial contact in 1962. Fuller wrote an earlier book describing UFO activities in Exeter, N. H.,² an area 14 miles from the home of the Hills and Simon³ prepared a short article for a psychiatric journal.

Barney died February, 1969, age 46, of cerebral hemorrhage, the same disease that his father died of. Since then Betty has continued to appear on various TV interviews as well as to lecture to various UFO, university, and scientific organizations.

Earl Neff, Cleveland ufologist, showed me Xerox copies of the Air Force Manual, "Introductory Space Science," Chapter 33, which is used in an elective course, Physics 370 at the Air Force Academy. This chapter explores the UFO problem and contains interesting paragraphs on the Hills. He also showed me Xerox copies of a subsequent edition which is highly diluted compared to the first. However, official government correspondence omitted mention of an original and detailed chapter which was only discovered by Neff's persistent sleuthing.

Beyond such official recognition, the significance of the Hills' experience assumed enormous scientific importance when in 1968 Marjorie Fish⁴ constructed a model and analysis of Betty Hill's star map. Betty had seen the star map aboard the UFO, and two years later (1964) she recalled it following post-hypnotic suggestion and drew it during automatic writing. Miss Fish showed that Betty's star map was correct and that some of the stars Betty drew were not known to astronomers in September 19-20, 1961, having been discovered later. Of all aspects of the case, Marjorie Fish's tour de force more than any other has excited the interest of scientists.

Having studied people who have had alleged close UFO sightings, contact with occupants, etc., I was naturally curious about Betty Hill, by far the most thoroughly studied, and most famous of those who have had UFO contacts. My curiosity was further whetted when I met Betty and her mother at an APRO symposium in Baltimore, January 23, 1971, and later at an APRO meeting in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1974, when I again visited with Betty and also met Barney's sister Lillian. I learned

that Betty had had many unusual experiences that might have been related to her UFO contact. These events might give clues to the kind of person Betty is and how they might fit into the jigsaw puzzle that comprises the UFO mystery.

Betty impressed me then, and more recently when I visited her home in Portsmouth, N. H. (January 18, 1976), and in a study in my office+ (March 11-13, 1976), as a highly intelligent, open, straight-talking, good-natured lady of unquestionable probity. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire and a social worker for many years, Betty has a splendid sense of humour and a good grasp of reality. She graciously consented to these studies and experiments.

The anecdotal nature of much of the experiential data which preceded and followed the UFO abduction is an admitted shortcoming. However, because of the uniqueness of the Hills' UFO capture and the subsequent Fish confirmatory analysis of the star map, it is essential to record material that has been hitherto either omitted or overlooked. Since the person should not be studied apart from the other data, the UFO experience might be more fully understood if all its segments are included. To omit some material because it is subjective or anecdotal, and not the more desirable objective data, is folly and wasteful, and blurs the total picture. Therefore this report describes apparently relevant events that followed shortly after, and long after, the Hills' abduction as well as some possibly related situations that occurred long before the abduction. In a concluding section, a clinical experiment in audio taping is reported.

Home Sweet Home Potpourri

Occasionally, after the abduction, when Betty returned home she would find that although other coats would be in the living room closet, *her* coats would be unaccountably thrown in a pile in the middle of the living room and topped with Barney's scarf.

Other disruptive household events included this recent (1975) situation: Betty returned home and noticed that a kitchen clock had been set back three hours and 15 minutes. It was an electric clock, made by her mother, and although she has four other

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† For ease in communication Mr. and Mrs. Hill, as well as some other persons in this article, will be referred to by their Christian names.

+ A 10-channel electroencephalogram taken at this time was normal.



Betty Hill

electric clocks made by her mother, nothing happened to them. Once before Betty had problems with another electric clock. "It stopped running about a week after Barney's death, at 7.20 p.m., which was about the time he died. I left it. Several months later, the clock started running again, but the amazing thing was the fact that the clock started at the exact moment to correct in time."

Sometimes Betty would come home to find "... someone must have adjusted the gas burner, because when I turned it on the flame went up quite high. One time I came home and all the water in the house was shut off. Another time all the sinks had the plugs in and the water was running full force, flooding the house. I have an oil furnace with a circulator pump, and the pump motor has springs in it. I'd come home and find someone had pulled the springs out and I'd hear the clack-clacking. Another time when I came home, the wires were pulled out of the pump.

"Last August (1975) I was gone all day and had the burglar alarm system on. When I came home, the girl who rents the front apartment came down, all excited, and said the police had been there. At two o'clock in the afternoon the alarm had gone off. The police came and looked around but couldn't see anything. When I got home, the side door (the burglar alarm was still ringing) was wide open. Whoever it was must have gone in the side door, tripped the alarm, and then when the police went by must have ducked down, and later ran out and left the door open. That's the only way I could figure it out. [Nothing was missing.]

"One night when I came home (August, 1975), my refrigerator had stopped functioning. I was told a repairman couldn't come for 3 to 4 days or a week. So I cleaned everything out and transferred the food to a basement refrigerator. Two days later the broken refrigerator started functioning, and I've had no problem since. It's like something is done and the electricity starts malfunctioning. Irons, toasters, radios, and TVs shut themselves off. Once I came home, turned on the TV, but there was no picture. I tried it two or three times — still no picture. I called the TV repair service and when he finally came (I hadn't turned the TV on for days), he just turned it on and said: 'What's wrong with it? Look at that, you've got a beautiful picture.' So, I'm the only person in the world who has self-healing electrical appliances.

"Things got so bad after Barney died (1969) that my niece and her husband — students at the University of New Hampshire — gave up their apartment and moved into my basement apartment, to keep an eye on the house. But so many strange and mysterious things happened that they couldn't take it. They heard noises in my apartment as if someone was moving around. When they investigated, they didn't find anything. They had a feeling that someone was there. When they went downstairs, they heard a bang: the front door opened, a man walked down the front hall, went out the front door, got into his car and drove away. They checked to see what the bang was, and the clothes pole in the corner of the closet had been knocked over. Apparently the man was hiding in the closet: which was the only place they didn't look. I wondered why anyone would be interested in going there.

"All kinds of characters have followed me. One of them looked very much like one of the men who went to jail on the Watergate thing — he looked so much like him. He was baldheaded and on the chunky side. I found him in my front hall, and asked what he was doing there. He said he was selling subscriptions to magazines. When I asked where his magazines were he laughed and left. I saw him again in the parking lot at the Welfare Office where I work. He was reading the *New York Times* — holding it up to his face and putting it down, and up again. Then, instead of going into my office, I went upstairs to the ladies room which overlooks the parking lot, and I watched him again. He then came up into the hall, looked around, went down to the parking lot and drove off.

"During the McGovern election campaign I had kids from all over the country come to my house one day. One was a little guy who introduced himself as Donald Simmons. He said he was a law student, but he kept trying to get away from me. Later I learned that Donald Segretti used the name of Donald Simons when he was in NH and closely resembled the man who came to my home."

The blue dress and blue earrings

The first mysterious event happened six weeks after the abduction. On the night of the capture Betty was wearing a blue dress and blue earrings. One

night, six weeks afterward, when Barney and she had just come home from an evening out and entered the kitchen, where they have a snack bar, they noticed a pile of leaves. In the leaves were Betty's blue earrings. She grabbed them, put them in her jewelry box, and hasn't touched them since.

Recently (1975) while studying a spectacular contact case in New Hampshire, Betty was intrigued to learn that the chief protagonist was a woman who was wearing, at the time of her alleged UFO apprehension, the exact shade of blue dress and same kind of fabric that Betty had worn the night of her capture.

The iceman cometh?

One afternoon, about three months after the capture, Barney had come home early. Shortly afterwards when Betty came home, Barney was still resting. Betty walked into the kitchen, and there on the snack bar, underneath a newspaper, she noticed "a frozen piece of ice in a pattern — as if somebody had taken a bowl, filled it with water, and frozen it. There were strange marks in the ice." She woke Barney up and questioned him for this nonsense, but he didn't know what she was talking about. Without thinking, she put the ice in the sink and ran hot water over it. As an afterthought she condemned herself for not putting the ice in the freezer and checking the data in the accompanying newspaper. She found this ice would melt only when the hot water was running on it and she and Barney took turns during the evening going to the kitchen to do this.

Tapped telephone

"My line has been tapped so many times. They set up a circuit telephone in the office of a federal agency so that whenever my phone rang it was like a party line. They heard the phone ring, picked it up, and listened in. Twice this happened the same way. For example, when I had a phone call and I later put the phone down and then picked it up again to make a call, my line was open, and I said, 'Hello.' Someone answered, 'Federal Agency.'

↳ asked what he was doing on my line, and he said they were trying to protect me. I said I didn't need their protection, that I'd protect myself. I went down to the telephone office and told them to get a truck and take the tap off the line.

"And after that the Air Force tapped my line. Only what they did got reversed. They were getting my calls and I got theirs. My phone would ring, I'd pick it up, and some voice would say, 'I want to speak with Johnny.'

"And I'd say; 'Johnny? There's no Johnny here.'

"Well, isn't this Base Intelligence?"

"That went on for months. At first I thought someone was playing a joke on me, but when I realized that I was tapped into Base Intelligence, I had it corrected. Even when the BBC was here for a filming and a psychiatrist who was with them picked up the phone, he overheard: 'Pease Air Force Base Intelligence' "

My upstairs tenant

"Maureen Keating, my upstairs tenant, reminded me of other experiences. One was my mail, which she put on the radiator in the front hall, went to the store and when she came home, the mail was gone. At the same time, my cat which was locked in my apartment, was found outdoors.

"On another occasion, someone was in Maureen's apartment and turned on her radio. I thought she was at home, and called up to her. A man's voice answered, saying he was waiting for Maureen to come back, and she knew he was there. Later he left in a blue car. Maureen knew nothing about this, has checked with others for a year, and still does not know who this person is. Also, she does not know anyone who drives a blue car."

More odd happenings

On many occasions neighbours have reported to the police that prowlers were seen looking in the windows. Her phone frequently rings, but when she answers there is no one on the line. A typical episode occurred when Barney was alive, and his cousin Marge, who lives in Baltimore, kept dialing the Hills in Portsmouth. She did this four times until someone came on the line and said; 'The Hills are not home. They've gone to a meeting and they won't be home until 11.30.' Betty added, that the 'someone' even told Marge where we had gone for the meeting, the name of the organization — the whole bit. My guess is that the telephone operator got tired of listening to Marge dialling."

Laurie and the Air Force Manual

Betty's friend Laurie got hold of the unexpurgated pages from the Air Force Physics text that described Betty and Barney's abduction. Laurie sent a copy to Betty. However, it took more than a month to arrive, going from Boston to Indiana, to Portsmouth. In the meantime, a man visited Laurie and introduced himself as an Air Force officer. He threatened Laurie for stealing Air Force property and was nasty. He said he was going to have her arrested and thrown in jail for the rest of her life.

When Laurie's husband came home and heard about it, he was furious. He called the Air Force and asked to speak to the man, but was told there was no one on base by that name. Laurie and her husband never found out who he was. But, whoever he was, he knew that Laurie had a copy of that particular chapter. Laurie had the reputation of being a psychic and she claimed that she had once been tested at Duke University.

Mr. Geist

Barney's son by his previous marriage, Barney, Jr., was in the service, stationed in Panama. Several times between two and four in the morning, when Barney Jr. was on guard duty, he was approached by a tall, swarthy man dressed in white pants, shirt and jacket. The man had a foreign accent; yet Barney Jr., who spoke Spanish, said it was not a Spanish accent. The man said his name was Mr. Geist (ghost),

but said nothing further about himself. Mr. Geist quizzed Barney Jr., about Betty and Barney's experience with the flying saucers. Betty did not know if any of Barney Jr.'s friends had contact with this man subsequently or before. However, the military authorities soon found out about this relationship and they questioned Barney Jr. extensively about his father, Betty, and their experience. Other relatives, and Betty's two adoptive children by her previous marriage have never had similar experiences.

Men in Green

"One day Barney's sister Lillian decided to come up from Philadelphia and visit on the spur of the moment. We didn't know she was coming. I picked her up, brought her to the house, and went to work. Between 8.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. three men came to the door. The first said hello, and that he had come to check the gas meter downstairs. Lillian said, 'Fine, go ahead.' Shortly afterwards a second one came and said, 'I've got to check the gas meter,' She thought that was strange since someone had been there, but maybe he hadn't done the thing correctly, so she said, 'OK.' He went down. Finally, a third man came and said, 'Oh, Lillian, your brother told me you would be here to let me in.' She locked the door in his face, since she then realized something was wrong, for Barney did not know she was here (surprise visit). And that really scared her. Lillian went out and sat on the front steps until Barney got home from work. The men were all dressed in green shirt and green pants.

"The same thing happened to me last August (1975). When this man came to the door dressed in green, and said: 'I've come to read the gas meter.'

"I said, 'Fine,' opened the door and let him in.

"A week later another man came to read the gas meter, and I thought it was strange. A couple of weeks later a third man came to read my gas meter. When I got my gas bill it said 'estimated.' So I called the gas company and asked what was going on, and how could I get an estimated bill when they had sent three men here.

"Oh, no, Mrs. Hill, our gas meter man came around,' said the clerk, 'you weren't home, and he couldn't get in.'

"And when I said there were three meter checkers, the clerk asked if they were dressed in blue, and I said no: green. She said all their men wear blue. She said, 'I don't know who you had in your house, but don't blame it on us. It wasn't anybody from our company.'

"So I had three men in my house, and I have no idea what, or who they were, or why they wanted to go downstairs!"

Possible creatures

Although Betty had neither seen nor heard Big Foot personally, she recalled an incident four or five years ago when her nephew and his wife, while camping out on a 4th of July weekend in some wooded area on her mother's property in New Hampshire, reported "That night it was particularly active. Like hearing a door slam. Metal hitting metal,

and various lights appearing. So the next morning we started walking around to see what we could find, and on one side of the old cow hole, where years ago the cows used to drink, we found a huge footprint." Betty reported that it wasn't like the wax cast that Marianne Cascio* has of Big Foot, but that she thought there was another one Marianne had that was similar — something like a duck foot.

I (BES) had seen Marianne Cascio's paraffin cast of Big Foot obtained from the father's farm near Agawam, Massachusetts, and it was entirely similar to some of the plaster casts that Stan Gordon⁵ and his group had made in western Pennsylvania. I later showed Betty a plaster cast of the abominable snowman presented to me by Bob Durant, President of the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained, but she felt this was not similar to what her nephew had seen.

* See section entitled Paranormal Tape Experiments (in a later part).

References and Comments

1. Fuller, John G.: *The Interrupted Journey*, Berkley Publishing Corp., N.Y., 1973.
2. Fuller, John G.: *Incident at Exeter*, a Berkley Medallion Book (paperback), New York, 1967.
3. Simon, Benjamin: "Hypnosis in the Treatment of Military Neuroses," *Psychiatric Opinion*, Vol. 4:24-29 (Oct. 1967).
4. Dickinson, Terrence: "The Zeta Reticuli Incident," in *Astronomy*, magazine, Zeta reprint, 757 N. Broadway, Suite 204, Milwaukee, WI 53202, 1975. Related material in this issue includes: Kretch, Jeffrey: "The Age of Nearby Stars;" "Center for UFO Studies Established," *Astro-News*, March, 1974; and Commentary, Discussions and Rebuttals from "In Focus," by Terrence Dickinson, Jeffrey Kretch, Carl Sagan, Steven Soter, Robert Schaeffer, Marjorie Fish, David Saunders, and Michael Peck. Among her other contributions to the Hill case, Marjorie Fish, with Betty's co-operation, made an anatomically sensible drawing and models of the UFO occupants' heads. She wrote me (BES) on August 22, 1972, about the possibility that the occupants performed a pregnancy test on Betty by inserting a needle in the navel (*Interrupted Journey*, pp. 164-65). Betty wrote Miss Fish that she may have blacked out during this presumably traumatic incident. In response to Miss Fish's query to me, J. B. Skelton, M.D., a leading gynecologist, wrote that the laparoscope, a device that could provide a vision of the peritoneal cavity using fibro-optic light systems, was first introduced in the U.S. about 1964. Shortly afterwards the laparoscope was used by Dr. Steptoc in England for tubal sterilization procedures. The chronology of this information and technology was unknown to Betty in 1961, and it tended to support Miss Fish's contention that possibly the occupants were experimenting with human eggs.
5. In Schwarz, B. E.: "Berserk: A UFO-creature Encounter." *FSR*, Vol.20 No. 1: 3-11 (July 1974).

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

ENCOUNTER ON DAPPLE GRAY LANE: Part 2

Ann Druffel

IN JULY 1976 the author prepared to transcribe the tape of John Hodges' hypnotic session. It was found that most of the two-hour recording had been blacked out, and in other parts the voices played backwards. In discussing this with Dr. Dennis R. Regan, an oscilloscopic research expert, it was determined that the tape had inadvertently become twisted during recording. Hodges, who had also recorded the hypnotic session on a borrowed cassette recorder, stated that his tape also sounded like "garbage." Since the session had taken place in a hospital setting, Hodges suspected that some electromagnetic hospital equipment had caused interference. However, Hodges' tape, when played on the author's new cassette weeks later, was perfectly clear. Possibly Hodges had been unable to hear it clearly because of some undetermined malfunction in his borrowed recorder.

Before it was determined that Hodges' tape was clear, and subsequently transcribed, the author interviewed him again on July 13th for the purpose of attempting to retrieve whatever he could remember of the hypnotic session. The circumstances gave an unexpected opportunity to compare the actual hypnotic session with Hodges' now-conscious memory of it. The basic details coincided closely. He brought out additional details which he had not mentioned during hypnosis, but these do not seem to indicate "embellishment." Consciously, Hodges now remembers the date as August 31 rather than August 17, 1971. This was the only discrepancy noted.

"The weather was clear," stated Hodges during the interview of July 13, 1976.⁴ "There was a slight overcast hiding the stars. Visibility all the way over the city [Los Angeles] was clear, no smog. There were no street lights, but there was enough lighting from the city so we could see.

"I turned the car lights on. There was a kind of a mist centred directly around the objects. It didn't fog up the windows, but it looked like we were looking through a blurry mist all of a sudden. The larger object floated up, came over the hood and floated outside the windshield, more to Pete's side. Its exact words at that time were, 'Take the time to understand yourselves.' It was beyond me that such a thing was happening!

"The words, instead of originating from a specified direction, actually came from within the mind — loud, clear, crisp. The voice sounded male, but it's odd. It sounded as if it was the same voice I have to myself, when I *think*. I think in a specified voice, as I'm sure we all do.

"It continued, 'The time draw nears when you shall need to. You shall not remember these things,

but they will be in the back of your mind always. You shall not remember this incident until we meet again.'

"It floated back to the ground. I looked at Pete, and here's an added point. I was still in the process of saying, 'What the hell is that' to Peter when the creature sat down again on the road. We got out of there! At that point, Pete and I were both extremely frightened.

"I made reference under hypnosis to a 'dream.' It wasn't a dream. It was a projection, a super-advanced hologram, maybe. I was engulfed in a buzzing ... my whole body buzzed. I felt it throughout the whole 'dream', but while I was in the room it was almost imperceptible.

"I tried to look around because I was curious of the room. I remember I could see in front of me, but when I turned I couldn't see anything in back. I looked over each shoulder, about sixty degrees to the left, about forty-five degrees to the right — nothing back there, just black. Say the middle of the 'room' was northward — the 'brain' and the screen would be northwest.

"It was as if the brain were directing my attention to where he was at. He said, 'You in this world have too much power.' I was wondering what the hell 'power' was — not verbally, but I received the impression that it knew. In other words, whether they were sensing my thoughts or just going by plan, I don't know.

"His voice was like thinking. I think, though, that in 'thinking,' there's a kind of suppression or muffling to it. Like there's no question that it's coming from my brain. But in *this* case, it was definitely a question. How could it be my voice, coming from my head, and be so clear, so crisp?

"He showed me on the screen what looked like moving pictures, but three-dimensional. Atomic explosions ... on the desert, three in the ocean I think, and one in the polar regions. That one amid snow and ice — explosions like you wouldn't believe.

"The entity was brain-like⁵ ... the convolutions almost imperceptible. It had what would correspond to a *patula oblongata* facing me. What I call the *patula oblongata* ... heaven knows what it is. (Note: Correct term "*medulla oblongata*" — AD.)

"I call it a brain because it's the closest I can describe it. I have absolutely no idea what it is. For all I know, what I call the '*patula oblongata*' could have been its head, and the 'brain' could be its body.

The four humanoids in the room ... the hands and feet weren't as clawlike as I've indicated (refer to Figure 7 in Part I of this report). That's lack of artistic talent. They were much narrower, the fingers