

TALKS WITH BETTY HILL: 3-EXPERIMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS

*Berthold Eric Schwarz M.D.**

DOCUMENTATION of the things that happen to and around Betty Hill were the subject matter of Parts I and II. Herein I will close the chapter of those events, past and present [to July, 1976] and describe some interesting experiments.

Old Virginia Dungeon

As far as Betty knew, Barney had no past history for psychic phenomena, either for himself or other members of his family. However, Barney recalled an old house in Virginia which had belonged to a family who owned slaves. "When the slaves were freed, because they were all relatives, the owner wanted them to have his property, since he had never married or had children of his own except the black ones running around.

"Downstairs was a hangout — a carryover from the old slave days. It was like a dungeon. There were straps and chains where the runaway slaves had been taken for punishment. The dungeon was supposed to have been haunted and had clanking, moaning, groaning and things like that. I heard Barney refer to it. He never heard the sound himself, but he said they always talked about it on the old farm in Virginia."

The wall came tumbling down

On April 25, 1976, Charles Bowen, editor of *Flying Saucer Review*, was a guest in my (BES) home. We phoned Betty Hill, who reported that she had just come back from California and had gone downstairs to her basement, and found "...the whole wall lying out on the floor. She said: "I couldn't believe it. I was just astonished. There was no reason for it (no water leak, work in the street, extraneous vibrations or noises. The house had been all locked up. To get in, a person would have had to set off the burglar alarm. It didn't go off, as far as I know, but here's the wall. It's sturdy, and had been there for 20 years."

Current events: a letter of May 28, 1976

"I have had many unexplained things happen to me, but these happened when Barney and I were here, or when I was here alone; they have never happened when anyone else was here — until this past week. Just before Hal (pseudonym) arrived, I found under the hood of my car a paint stirrer, with an abstract kind of painting on it, and I placed it under the hood of the car. Then while Jim was here, a clock in my living room, which was not running, starting operating — maybe it does have a

loose wire somewhere, I do not know, however, it started and continues to run.

"Another thing, I have found something that looks like beige plastic. I put it in the trash several times and would find it again somewhere in the house. The last time this happened I had my upstairs tenant and friend Deb watch me put it in the trash then, while Jim was here, I slipped off my shoes and when I went to put them back on, I found the plastic thing in my shoe! We were both there all the time, within three feet of my shoes, when this happened.

"Then, a knife from my set of Towle silver disappeared. I have searched everywhere and it cannot be found. I am hoping it will be returned. Also, my car registration disappeared from my purse at one time, and about 10 days later I found it one morning lying on top of my purse. So I am hoping the knife will come back.

"On May 10 Marianne and I got together at my mother's home in Kingston. We went out to a well-known UFO area, and Marianne and I heard beeping sounds, loud and clear; however, the other two in the car could not hear these. We saw some strange lights in the sky and got out of the car, to get a better look. We were standing in the middle of a dirt road, no houses, sort of scary place, when we heard the most unforgettable snarling and growling of an animal. I was shaking, telling them to get in the car (only two doors and I wanted to get in the driver's seat). Marianne was standing there, calm, fascinated, and saying it was only a big foot. She hears them often in back of her home. I think I would move!

"As for mystery helicopters, Lew Wilson (pseudonym), whom I quoted in my report, saw a helicopter come down over a tree in his yard, so low that it was swirling the branches. He told me that helicopters are not easy to handle, but one thing that must be avoided is close contact with a tree. If a chopper comes too close, a down-draft is created and the chopper crashes. This one was not affected in any way, so he is now questioning the origin of it. He has a friend who has 4 or 5 flying around his home occasionally, at night. Another mystery he told me: a few days before he came to see me a strange woman came into his business — he has a foreign cars franchise — she was small, wearing a long dress and carrying a pink briefcase. She asked directions to another town. She had the most unusual eyes he has ever seen, very large, dark pupils, but it seemed to him that they protruded to such an extent that he wondered if it was possible for her to close her eyes. As a car dealer, he noted the car she was driving — a dark green, 4 door, Dodge Dart, with a dent in the left front fender. He told me that the day he visited

* Consultant Psychiatrist, Essex County Hospital Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey 07009 U.S.A.

me he saw this same car parked in front of my house. Later this same car was seen about 40 miles from here, parked, again, in front of a home of an acquaintance of mine; however, Ron also knows this person, but was not aware of it until this past week. Now I have learned that Ron spent his summers at the lake which is close to my mother's home, and which is known as a 'hot spot' of UFO activity; also, the area where he lives. He refused to watch the movie of my book last October because he knew UFOs did not exist. Now he has 7 at a time flying around his home and he has become 'converted.'

"Incidentally, Jim took the paint stirrer and plastic home with him so I am hoping that this is the last time I will see them."

Paranormal tape experiments

Background: At 11.30 p.m., Friday, March 12, 1976, Betty Hill, Marianne Cascio, Georgia and Eddie Burns (pseudonyms), Hugh White, my wife Ardis and I were present with three tape recorders and fresh cassettes. Eddie had a Contact, Betty had a solid state Sony, and I had a Sony Cassette-Corder TC-55.

Prior to beginning our paranormal recording attempt, Georgia and Eddie told us about their prolonged period of allegedly UFO-related poltergeist experiences, including possible materialization, dematerialization, malodorous writing on a picture window, audible, purportedly paranormal taping sessions, bizarre phone harassment, and so on. Because of the terror, emotional complications, synchronistic factors, ouija board instructions, and bizarre spontaneous alleged clowning episodes involving some of the protagonists and UFO tie-ins, the group sought my professional assistance. Later, when the group and I were meeting together, the chief protagonist's telephone⁷ was apparently violently disconnected and the police were called. I had been with Georgia, Eddie, and other members of their group of young adults, including the chief protagonist, when strange events took place, but I had been unable to get paranormal tapes. Because Georgia and Eddie were uncomfortably situated in the middle of the holocaust and seriously wondered about the UFO aspects, they were anxious to meet Betty Hill and get her opinion.

Marianne Cascio, who has already been described in this article, had been visited by Betty Hill over a period of several months. Whatever the realities of her claims and subsequent episodes involving, at times, other people and data, to Marianne the experiences were true. She was also apparently part of previously alleged paranormal recording effects. Although I was not present during these sessions, she played a tape that was recorded when she was in a hypnotic trance. The hypnotist's voice came through clear and loud, whereas Marianne's hypnotized voice sounded as though the recorder had gained speed giving her a high-pitched tweety-bird-like sound.

Betty Hill said that she had tried paranormal tapings in the past and had obtained some non-descript but nevertheless recognizable effects. Hugh

White had been experimenting with paranormal tapes for close to a year and had been obtaining many effects, including numerous voices for which he had no explanation.

Prior to Georgia's and Eddie's visit to my home, Marianne had been regaling Betty, Ardis and I at the dinner table with some of her experiences. Immediately after Hugh White's arrival from West Nyack, N.Y., the lights in the consulting room (adjacent to the dining room) suddenly flickered out. I discovered that a 20 amp cartridge fuse had blown. There was no ostensible reason for this, such as overloading a circuit, and it was a striking event because of the context of the table talk and Marianne's claims and spontaneous possible parapsychical (?) demonstrations of electrical and electronic effects. For example, on three occasions, earlier in the day, when Ardis had attempted to use the push-button 'phone to call Marianne's parents in Agawam, Massachusetts, she was immediately put in touch with the operator, who offered help, rather than having the call go through. This event also happened with Marianne at the National Institute of Rehabilitation Engineering at Pompton Lakes, N.J., when the call was dialled from there to Montclair, N.J. Marianne said this was not an unusual experience for her. Months earlier I had a possibly related peculiar experience which involved a 'phone call from Mrs. Stella Lansing⁸ of Massachusetts.

Results: With these background factors then, the group and I attempted a paranormal recording for approximately twenty minutes. During the middle of the recording Marianne got up and changed seats with Betty. Marianne waved her hand several inches above Betty's tape recorder and said that she'd change places. When the tapes were played back, nothing was heard on Eddie's tape; there might have been a distant mumble of hardly audible voices on my tape; but the introduction to the procedure that I had made, and which was clearly heard on Eddie's and my tape, was not heard at the beginning of Betty's tape. She seemed flustered about this and searched her tape looking for it. On playing her tape from beginning to end, she suddenly heard my announcement of who was present, the date, etc., in the *middle* of her tape. It seemed that Marianne had succeeded in transferring the announcement. Since this episode, Marianne has phoned me immediately after another similar episode and put her Uncle Dave on the wire who witnessed the second transposition from the beginning to the middle of the tape.

It is stressed that at no point in the experiment did Marianne, in her hand waving 'image passes' touch the tape recorder, and Betty Hill had a new cassette. Although this experiment is electronically indigestible, facts are facts, and it is not unlikely many odd effects noted in ufology: for example, an automobile motor starting up spontaneously after it had been shut off, due to an alleged close UFO effect, and so on. It can be wondered why the taping transposition happened only between Marianne and Betty.

Discussion and Summary

This brief survey of some possibly previously omitted aspects of Betty Hill's life indicates that there are parallels between her and other people who have had reputed UFO experiences. Betty has had examples of bizarre harassment, many of which are probably in the realm of the here-and-now and explainable, and some of which might cross the border into UFO cat-and-mouse-like games and intriguing domains of psi.

In my sessions with Betty, I learned that she, members of her family, and close friends have been involved in nearly lifelong major psychic phenomena. Perhaps these events have increased since the abduction. It can be conjectured from her reported early-life examples of precognition plus other episodes, which she could not readily remember, that she is an unwitting proscopist. This unique talent possibly ties in with her star-map experience while on board the UFO. For example, it is possible that, because of her likely prophetic ability, Betty received the star map information that was not known, or known incorrectly at the time, but which was later proved by Marjorie Fish to be true. We may ask, did Betty literally receive the information while on board the UFO, as she recalled during post-hypnotic suggestion, or was her experience in some way a projected thought from the occupants, or whatever force that is behind them? Could her experience have been a spectacular example of clairvoyance? It is obvious that her experience does not "prove" (nor does it disprove) an extraterrestrial origin for the information, because, for example, the prophetic elements from Jules Verne's science fiction come to mind; also the recent controversies stemming from Dr. Velikovsky's⁹ successful projections; and paragnosts Harold Sherman's and Ingo Swan's¹⁰ precognitive statements that apparently smashed time and space barriers. Since the prophetic theme is related to many UFO contacts, it can be wondered if this information was telepathically transmitted to Betty for reasons that are beyond our understanding at present. The riddle of precognition¹¹ might have much to offer ufology, just as ufology with its manifold psi manifestations might give clues to the mysteries of parapsychology.

In Betty's abduction case, as in some UFO contactee examples, there is the overall impression that the involved individual is a unique type of person whose talents (e.g., ability to rapidly enter a deep hypnotic trance, dissociative traits, and high quality psi potentialities), latent or otherwise, are necessary for the UFOs or the forces behind them, and that these factors might be vital to the generation of the apparent mind-matter interface experience.

On superficial scrutiny, many of Betty's isolated experiences would appear hard to accept, and perhaps to those who are inexperienced with such data they could conform solely to psychopathology. However, to one who is familiar with this type of data, and who is experienced in studying psychopathology, and who looks at the events in their totality, the problem is more complex. It can be seen how persons who have had UFO encounters like Betty and Barney

Hill can as easily develop emotional disturbances as the other way around: viz., pre-existent psychodynamics can colour and in some cases account for part or all of their alleged experience.

It is to Betty Hill's credit that she has a solid ego structure which has enabled her to maintain a healthy outlook and "inlook." Others with a less stable ego structure might have succumbed to the combination of psychopathology, psi, the UFO experience, associated harassment, and in some cases the effects of a self-engendered superstitious "bad luck syndrome." It is a coincidence, if not synchronicity, that among all the psychiatrists in the United States, Betty and Barney Hill, after a few initial attempts elsewhere, chose a physician who was not only skilled in hypnotherapy, but who was familiar with the possibility of thought transference.¹²

Whatever the force that induces such disparate effects above and beyond the close UFO encounter or the awesome abduction experience, these superficially trivial human details may really be the top of the iceberg. They should not be overlooked and could be the heart of the problem.

Notes and References

7. As additional background information, in the course of the group's harassment I also became involved in a prolonged UFO sighting by the chief protagonist and her mother, and during the group's mystery phone calls I logged 87 mostly late-night calls with no one at the other end of the line, between November 13, 1975, and December 3, 1975. Although I have an Answering Service, which reported no- or few-unexplainable calls when I was out of my office, on several occasions the phone would ring immediately when I entered the office from an outside engagement. This was at random intervals. Also, on two occasions my bedside office phone rang when it was supposedly impossible, since it was cut off by a switch in my secretary's office. My wife also witnessed this incident. Mrs. Crane of the Answering Service, who was unaware of what was going on but dutifully logged the calls, once reported: "The phone rang and there was no light on the board. It was funny because I was looking at the board at the time — there are two lights under each doctor's name — and this is the first time this happened in nine years at the exchange. Whoever the party is, he seems to know a lot about electrical equipment — the two lights didn't go on when they should have."
8. For comic relief, I had just finished hanging up on a "mystery call" when I received a call from Stella Lansing in Massachusetts. She was upset because she had just called me on reverse charges, and the operator repeated the correct number, but she got a man who accepted the call and initially sounded like me. When Stella became aware that it was the wrong number, she hung up and got the same operator again, who said she felt sure she had dialled the correct number and recalled the correct digits ... coincidence, comic relief, or perhaps something else, when considered within this broad context of specifically annotated events. For possibly related data see Creighton, Gordon: "Gobbledegook," FSR, Vol. 18 (No.6): 25-27 (Nov./Dec. 1972); and Schwarz, B.E.: "Saucers, Psi and Psychiatry," MUFON, UFO Symposium Proceedings, Akron, Ohio (June 22, 1974), pp. 88-89.
9. Based on his studies of the world's ancient records, I. Velikovsky in his predictions of what would be found in the space probes of Venus, Mars and the moon was

often correct when experts in astronomy and related sciences were wrong. See de Grazia, Alfred; Juergens, Ralph E; Stecchini, Livio C. (editors): *The Velikovsky Affair: Scientism vs. Science!*, University Books, New Hyde Park, N.Y., 1966, Bowen, Charles (ed.): "The Leopard's Spots," FSR, Vol.14 (No.3): (May/June 1968).

10. Harold Sherman and Ingo Swan, two gifted paragnosts, attempted psychic probes of the distant planet Jupiter on April 27, 1973. Their responses were monitored by Drs. H.E. Puthoff and Russell Targ of the Stanford Research Institute and later compared with feedback material from the Pioneer X space craft. Both paragnosts gave similar responses to each other and to data sent back from Jupiter (approximately December 3, 1973).

Later, Janet Mitchell, a parapsychologist with the American Society for Psychical Research, monitored Swan's out-of-body precognitive (?) observations of the planet Mercury, which were subsequently confirmed by the Mariner X's fly-by. Miss Mitchell wrote about this in the May/June 1975 issue of *Psychic*.

Therefore, it can be supposed that Betty Hill, whatever the nature of her star map experience, could have

used her natural paragnostic abilities in analogous ways to Sherman and Swan, and the scholarship and intuition of Velikovsky, or that she possessed considerable latent psychic abilities which were precipitated by her life crisis: i.e., the abduction, and which were projected into the clairvoyant, precognitively perceived star map.

11. Guideposts for investigations into precognition can be found in chair tests by Professor Tenhaeff with the Dutch paragnost Gerard Croiset, and the contributions of Jule Eisenbud. See Tenhaeff, W.H.C.: "Seat Experiments with Gerard Croiset," *Proc. of the Parapsychology Institute of the State University of Utrecht*, No. 1:53-65, 1960; and Eisenbud, Jule, in Dean, Stanley R. (ed.): *Psychiatry and Mysticism*, Nelson Hall, Chicago, 1975 (Chapter on "Research and Precognition," pp. 101-110).
12. Although Dr. Simon alluded to the possibility of telepathy as an important factor in explaining some of the events of the Betty and Barney Hill abduction, this theme was not developed. However, Betty Hill recalled, from her conversations with Dr. Simon, his mention of some hypnotic-telepathic experiments with other people. Therefore it would appear that this aspect of his opinion about the abduction was not just wild speculation.

STRANGE OBJECT NEAR CHILDRENS' HOME

Jenny Randles

This is a NUFON report, specially prepared for UFOIN (UFO Investigators' Network)* and for *Flying Saucer Review*.

THE affinity that the UFO phenomenon has for schools and school-children, especially during the 1977 UK wave, has already been noted in FSR. The following report may serve to corroborate this idea as the incident occurred in the vicinity of a Childrens' Home.

The date was July 5, 1977, and the location was Marple, Cheshire. A Mr. and Mrs. Simpson look after the Home, which is surrounded mostly by open farm and woodland. In the direction in which the object was seen there is a lake surrounded by trees, and some electricity power lines.

The UFO was first seen by some of the children at about 10.20 p.m. Mrs. Simpson was called to look at it and they all watched from upstairs

as a yellowy object hovered just at the top of the tree line, seemingly over the lake. It seemed to alter shape on a number of occasions from that of a cigar to that of the edge of a saucer. The sides seemed to shimmer or tremble. From the underside came beams of light which slanted outwards at an angle as if illuminating the area underneath.

At 10.40 p.m. Mr. Simpson returned home and he observed the phenomenon with his younger brother and the previous witness. It remained stationary for some twenty more minutes.

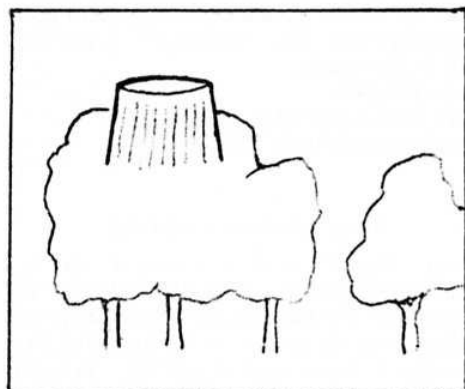
The object was at least three times as bright as the brightest star in the sky and had a definite size to it. The moon was visible in roughly the same arc of sky, and was low down and almost full. It was possible, however to affirm absolutely that this was not the cause of the sighting owing to later events.

After watching it with the naked eye for some while Mr. Simpson obtained some binoculars and viewed it through these. He saw an elongated silver shape with what seemed to be lumps on its side. The object then slowly moved across to the south east and stopped in a clearing between the trees. Here it seemed larger and possibly closer. It then dulled through orange to red and eventually just disappeared from view. A few moments

later it reappeared in the same position where first seen, and back in its original shape and colour. After a few minutes it began to descend below the trees and was lost to view. Because of their responsibility at the Home the witnesses could not go to the lake to see what was happening.

At 12.10 a.m. Mrs. Simpson finally contacted me at the local UFO investigation group (I had only just returned home after being out with a friend). She had obtained my number from the local radio. After she had quickly related the story, I asked her to make ready a camera and take a long duration exposure if the object reappeared. I then went to a high vantage point and scanned the area in question (Marple is roughly 1 1/4 miles distant). I was able to ascertain that the Moon was in a different position and that there were no bright stars in the vicinity. Although the night was clear, and I stayed out for some minutes, nothing was seen by myself.

At 12.25 a.m. the object was reported to have returned, but no photographs were taken as it was only visible for a few seconds, moving very fast in the same vicinity. As it disappeared, an aircraft came by overhead, clearly audible. The witnesses



UFO at Marple, Cheshire

* UFOIN address: 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester, M30 6NJ. Tel: 061 775 4749.