

UFO Returns to Gulf Breeze--Under Wind Power:

Shortly after Ed Walters returned to Gulf Breeze, Fla., in April from his talk-show tour to promote his new book "The Gulf Breeze Sightings: The Most Astounding Multiple Sightings of UFOs in U.S. History," a UFO showed up several nights around 9 p.m. to be seen and photographed by Ed and numerous friends. But unlike Ed's early photos, taken with his old easy-to-double-expose Polaroid camera which show a craft-like object with illuminated portholes, the new photos show only a blob of light in the sky.

These recent sightings offer useful insights into an old question: IF UFOs are E-T craft, what kind of propulsion system do they use. The answer, judging from the recent Gulf Breeze sightings, would seem to be wind-power.

For example, on the night of April 11, shortly after 9 p.m., a red light was spotted by Ed and others which hovered briefly then moved from north to south--the same direction as the prevailing wind at that hour, according to data obtained from U.S. Weather Service office in Pensacola,

On the night of Friday, Apr. 13, shortly after 9 p.m., a red glowing object was seen moving from the southeast in a northwesterly direction. Prevailing wind at the time was out of the southeast at 6 kt. On Tuesday, April 17, a red light was spotted headed in an easterly direction. Prevailing wind at the time was out of the southwest at 7 kt..

Two persons who called a Pensacola TV station to report their UFO sightings said the object appeared to be a balloon carrying a flare.

Similar UFO appeared over Gulf Breeze on Jan. 8 and remained in view for nearly 30 minutes--enabling Walters to alert and get out a number of friendly observers. Winds at the time were reported as "calm," with broken-clouds at 1,300 ft. Despite long-duration of UFO's presence, Ed took only two photos, using newly acquired 35 mm. camera with a 200 mm. telephoto lens. Based on size of image, and 1,300 ft. cloud ceiling which set UFO's maximum height, size of the glowing part of UFO was calculated to be about 1 ft. in diameter.

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Walters Urged To Alert Congress to UFO Dangers:

On March 30, CSICOP's UFO SUBCOMMITTEE publicly challenged Ed Walters and his wife Frances to seek a Congressional investigation into the dreadful things UFOs (allegedly) are doing to innocent U.S. citizens.

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CSICOP's press release said that "if the Walters story is indeed true, they should promptly seek the aid of elected officials responsible for the safety and well-being of the American public." CSICOP urged Ed Walters to write his Congressman, Earl D. Hutto, somewhat as follows:

"Enclosed is a copy of (our) new book...It describes our numerous encounters with UFOs in the vicinity of our home in Gulf Breeze. These include instances when my wife and I were 'zapped' by a Blue Beam from the UFO, and two instances in which I was abducted. These numerous encounters are substantiated by many photographs published in our book.

"I hereby swear that all of my UFO photos are authentic and are not the result of trick photography, and that all of the experiences described in this book are true--to the best of my knowledge.

"We urge the Congress to investigate this clear and present danger not only to the well-being of innocent citizens of this country but also to our National Security so that the U.S. government can take appropriate measures. My wife and I are willing and eager to testify under oath--subject to the penalties for perjury--on this critically important matter." A copy of the challenge was sent by overnight mail to Walters.

There has been no response from Walters.

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Reviews of the Walters' book have been mixed. Most favorable review seen todate, other than one in the MUFON UFO Journal (whose leadership has strongly endorsed the Gulf Breeze case) was a brief, error-filled review in the prestigious Washington Post.

It read: "They took lie-detector tests and passed them. (Frances did not take a polygraph test.) They were offered a deal by The National Enquirer and turned it down. (Wrong, The National Enquirer declined to exercise its option to buy Ed's photos and story after photo-analyst Dr. Robert Nathan, of NASA'S Jet Propulsion Lab, said photos looked very suspicious.) They have herewith submitted their findings to skeptical analysts. Clearly Ed and Frances Walters, pillars of Gulf Breeze, Fla., do not want to be lumped with the dunderheads who fill supermarket tabloids with their maundering claims, yet they believe they have seen and photographed UFOs..."

PJK Comment: The Washington Post's book reviewer probably believed President Nixon when he said he knew nothing about the Watergate Break-in. If Ed and Frances Walters "believe they have seen and photographed UFOs" why didn't they earlier alert their local police department, or officials at nearby Navy/USAF bases, or Congressman Hutto??

One of the most critical reviews of the Walters book comes from Bob Girard, whose Arcturus Book Service offers it for sale along with other books on UFOs and the paranormal. In the Arcturus catalog, "UFO-believer" Girard writes: "It's astounding, all right: astounding that in this entire monosyllabic account of supposedly great proportions, there is not a single paragraph--nay, not even a single phrase--in which the authors appear to have reflected on the nature of what their alleged encounters meant...."

"It means that either the aliens themselves had chosen an absolutely insensitive clod upon which to shower their favors...-or that this book's shocking shallowness could only be accounted for if it had been prepared for and written by someone whose over-riding motive was either greed, attention or the satisfaction of putting a big fat one over on a bunch of foolish human beings. Our choice is the last...Someday...the whole country will have a big belly laugh over it. All, that is, except those gullible Ufologists whose Waterloo this prank will prove to be."

One of the principal victims of a "Gulf Breeze Waterloo" would be Dr. Bruce Maccabee, a U.S. Navy physicist and head of the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR). Maccabee, one of the UFO Movement's most technically qualified investigators, strongly endorsed the Walters photos as authentic in his MUFON report and in a lengthy chapter he wrote for the Walters book.

Maccabee has not challenged reports that he was paid approximately \$20,000 for his contribution to the Walters book, but has so far refused to give the precise amount.

Last year, MUFON members voted Maccabee as the person who had made the greatest contribution to UFOlogy during the previous year.

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There is growing suspicion that Stanton Friedman's long-awaited report on his \$16,000 FUFOR-funded study of the authenticity of the MJ-12 papers may have been abducted by a UFO. The report originally was scheduled to be complete late last year, but by late last year the date had slipped to "spring of 1990," according to FUFOR spokesman. Summer is nearly here--but where is Friedman's MJ-12 report?

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Whitley Strieber's movie "Communion" is now available in video cassette, only a few months after it first opened last November in movie houses. Typical of the reviews for the movie is one that appeared in People magazine (Nov. 27, 1989) which began "To say that this film seems more effective than the book that it comes from is as meaningful as saying that a barrel with a crumb is fuller than one that's empty."

Strieber's new book "Majestic" has fared little better. The review in the San Diego Union (Jan. 7, 1990) begins: "Listening to 'Majestic,' anger and boredom struggled within me for dominance. Boredom won out, but there is still plenty here to be upset about.

"Simon & Shuster, the publisher of this Whitley Strieber work, never admits on the cover that this is a novel. Deep on the back cover, it is noted that Strieber 'blends fact and fiction' in this tale of the 1947 alleged crash of a UFO outside Roswell (N.M.) Army Airbase. But on the front, we are told that this is 'the shocking story of a real-life UFO event and the United States government's desperate battle to keep it hidden from you.' I wish the government had put up a better fight..." (Emphasis added.)

On the other hand, the Washington Post's reviewer characterized "Majestic" as "an intriguing, intelligent, exciting novel." Reviewer Allen Appel praised Strieber for "meticulous research, vivid characterization, an engrossing mystery and convincing documentation." You win some, you lose some.

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Is Whitley Strieber suffering depression as a result of the critical reception accorded his movie and most recent book? This unconfirmed rumor arises in part because Strieber admitted in "Communion" that he was subject to depressed moods--long before he alleged encounters with "aliens." A possible straw in the wind: the next (March) issue of Strieber's quarterly newsletter, "The Communion Letter," is several months overdue. However, a full-page advertisement on the inside cover of a recent issue of "UFO" magazine seeks new subscribers.

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Plans to build a major UFO landing facility, near Elmwood, Wisc., have run into a small snag. Thomas Weber, who achieved international fame last summer when he announced his plan, explained to the Associated Press: "We got tens of thousands of letters...if people had slipped \$5 or \$10 or \$20 in each envelope, we'd still be operating."

Gulf Breeze would seem a better location for a UFO landing site in view of the frequent UFO visits reported by Ed and friends. Perhaps Ed Walters will make a generous contribution based on the \$200,000 cash advance obtained for his book and another \$450,000 reportedly paid for TV rights.

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Science Teachers Briefed on UFOs and "Critical Thinking" by MUFON representatives. National Science Teachers Association conference, held Nov. 30-Dec. 2 in Phoenix, included a panel-

session on UFOs by four pro-UFO speakers. No "UFO-skeptics" were invited to speak.

One paper, by UFOlogist Marge Christensen was titled: "Using the UFO Subject to Spark Students' Interest in Critical Thinking." Another, by Dr. Michael D. Swords, was titled: "Using Anomalous Phenomena to Teach Science." A third, by Dr. Richard F. Haines, was titled: "Using UFO Reports by Pilots to Illustrate Scientific Procedures," and the fourth, by John Schuessler, was titled "Learning Critical Thinking from the Study of Unidentified Flying Objects."

This recalls the advice offered by Dr. Edward U. Condon in the final report of the University of Colorado UFO investigation in the late 1960s. Condon wrote: "A related problem...arises from the fact that many children are being allowed, if not actively encouraged, to devote their science study time to the reading of UFO books and magazine articles...Such study is harmful not merely because of the erroneous nature of the material itself, but also because such study retards the development of a critical faculty with regard to scientific evidence, which to some degree ought to be part of the education of every American..."

Instead, Condon urged, teachers "to channel [student] interests in the direction of serious study of astronomy and meteorology, and in the direction of critical analysis of arguments for fantastic propositions that are being supported by appeals to fallacious reasoning or false data."

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"The STAR PEOPLE TOUR to PERU: The Only UFO Expedition in 1990." according to a flyer in "UFO" magazine, will depart Miami on Sept. 12 for the 16-day junket. Tour leaders will be Brad Steiger--former teacher at an obscure junior college in Iowa who hit the jackpot when he started writing books on the paranormal--and his beautiful wife Sherry. Tour is slated to include a flight over the Nazca Lines, "speculated to be an ancient UFO landing field." Also, a night sky viewing at Lake Titicaca, which allegedly is "well-known for frequent UFO sightings." All-inclusive tour price is \$2,799.00 (double occupancy).

(I wonder if Internal Revenue Service would consider this tour as an allowable business expense for a skeptical UFO investigator? The prospect of standing in darkness alongside the charming Sherry Steiger as we search the sky for UFOs is very tempting--even at my age!)

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"UFOs: The Best Evidence," a two-hour "documentary" produced by Las Vegas TV station KLAS news director George Knapp, won first place in the new Donald E. Keyhoe Journalism Award

Competition, held by the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR). Knapp received \$1,000.

As Knapp's "token UFO-skeptic," I appeared for a total of less than one minute on the two-hour program. Knapp, who served as the program commentator, made no attempt to be neutral. For example, following my first brief appearance, Knapp commented that "many of his explanations have proven false." At another point Knapp said: "Many UFO researchers are convinced that Klass is a government agent." Stanton Friedman then appeared to say: "I cannot believe that anybody could so persistently be wrong, over and over again making claims which are false...without having been told..." I then appeared briefly to deny such defamatory allegations.

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PSYCHIC PREDICTION: Watch for new claims of confirmation of U.S. government recovery of a crashed-saucer by a respected British-born scientist who reportedly served in the Pentagon during the 1940s, later became dean of engineering at Penn State. His name: Dr. Eric Walker. Walker, now 80 years old, claims to have attended Top Secret meetings at Wright-Patterson AF Base "dealing with a recovered crashed saucer."

In a letter written on Sept. 23, 1987 to a UFO researcher when Walker was 77 years old, he says he believes the crashed saucer "still exists and is kept someplace near Wright Field." But Walker denies any dead ETs were recovered. Instead, he says, "there were four very normal [live] individuals, all male...They learned the English language within a few hours and it was our decision...(to) allow them to be absorbed into American culture as soon as we were sure that they did not bring any contamination with them."

According to Dr. Walker, "all four have done this very successfully. One...became the president and innovator for one of the largest and most successful computer organizations. [PJK: Could this be Steve Jobs of Apple Computer, who is considered a little "off-beat"?] A second one became a world famous athlete. [PJK: Mohammed Ali?]...the third...made himself famous as a Wall Street raider, and is very rich. [PJK: Ivan Boesky or Mike Milken?] The fourth, I have lost track of." [PJK: Could this be Ronald Reagan, who sometimes mentioned ETs in his speeches?]

According to one of SUN's reliable sources, Jerome Clark, editor of the "International UFO Report" (IUR) is impressed with Walker's tale. Stanton Friedman, who reportedly interviewed Walker in June, 1989, also is said to be impressed by his credentials.

Perhaps Walker will make his formal debut in UFOlogy as a key witness in Friedman's long overdue \$16K FUFOR-funded MJ-12 report?

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A usually reliable source in the U.K. reports: "UFOlogy on this side of the ocean is in a state of alarm and despondency due to Stanton Friedman and his writs served on BUFORA and on Jenny Randles. [PJK: Because of their criticism of MJ-12 papers and Friedman's defense of them.]...neither BUFORA nor Jenny could possibly pay the sums demanded, so Friedman is likely to end up paying his own legal costs..."

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FOR THE RECORD: I no longer can deny claims that I have been paid by the U.S. government for my UFO activities, as I did on George Knapp's TV program, which was taped last year. Within the past month I received a check for \$100.00. It was payment for my appearance on a Voice of America radio talk-show, where Mark Rodeghier (scientific director of CUFOS) and I discussed UFOs. Rodeghier also received a \$100.00 honorarium for his appearance. Based on my 24 years of UFO-debunking, this government payment averages out to roughly \$4.00 per year.

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Ed Walters refused to appear on the popular Larry King Live TV talk-show on the Cable News Network on March 21 when he learned I would also be a guest. The previous day, Walters threatened to walk off the set of a local Boston morning talk-show on station WCVB-TV when he learned I would participate briefly by telephone line from Washington. Walters finally agreed to stay.

Bruce Maccabee, after talking to Walters, had a ready explanation for cancellation of the Larry King Live appearance. According to Maccabee's letter of Mar. 29: "It was a spur of the moment thing. King had a cancellation and tried to get Ed...Ed, after he learned about it, was willing to go on but the Morrow [publisher] publicity person decided against it. She already had several hours of air time lined up in New York City which would have had to be cancelled...Ed told me that he only became aware of what had happened after it was all over."

When I challenged this explanation, Maccabee came up with a different one in his letter of April 9, and claimed that "Ed told me several days later that he didn't know about your appearance [on the King show] and the cancellation until after it had happened". However, Maccabee admitted that "Ed told me some time ago that he had told the publicity person that he didn't want to be on a show with you." Maccabee said that Ed "welcomes rational skeptics" and "is willing to appear with credible UFO skeptics."

In my letter of April 11, I asked Maccabee to list three experienced UFO-skeptics who have investigated the Gulf Breeze case whom he considered to be "credible and rational and suitable for Ed Walters." In Maccabee's reply of April 17, he admitted there were none who could meet these requirements.

First issue of the new Budd Hopkins UFO-abduction newsletter, dated Fall, 1989, was mailed to subscribers in early March, 1990. As of this writing the second issue has yet to appear. The newsletter, called "IF: The Bulletin of the Intruders Foundation" is terribly dull reading, compared to Strieber's.

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If you're curious to know the true facts about the late Canadian UFOlogist, Wilbert Smith, whose writings may have inspired the MJ-12 papers counterfeiter, read the article by British UFO-researcher Christopher D. Allan in Mar./April, 1990, issue of "Orbiter," a bi-monthly newsletter. It is published by Jim Melesciuc, who departed MUFON after its leadership endorsed the Gulf Breeze case. His address: 43 Harrison St., Reading, Mass. 01867. Annual U.S. subscription rate is \$20.00.

The same issue contains a bitter attack on MUFON leadership for its endorsement of the Gulf Breeze case by another long-time UFOlogist, Bill Pitts, Ft. Smith, Ark. Pitts says that MUFON director Walt Andrus and Bruce Maccabee, "should be banned from any responsible position in so-called UFOlogy, and their testimonies should never be considered credible in any future sighting reports." [PJK: Fat Chance!]

In recent issue of Jim Moseley's newsletter "Saucer Smear," he reports that Dr. Rima Laibow, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. psychiatrist who has broken off her previously close alliance with UFO-abductionist Budd Hopkins, "is apparently an abductee. Thus her deep, sudden interest in the abduction phenomenon."

When Dr. Laibow was asked to comment on Moseley's claim, she responded that she had "been mentioned twice" in "Jim's endearingly outrageous and inaccurate publication, both times with massive inaccuracy." Laibow did not flatly deny Moseley's claim when she responded: "It is true, though, that if I were an abductee (whatever that might eventually turn out to mean), I would take deep personal umbrage at the salacious and disrespectful way the issue was being bruted about by Jim and others."

Both Laibow and Hopkins are scheduled to speak at MUFON's upcoming conference in Pensacola in early July, and I hope to be on hand to report on the conference highlights in the next issue of SUN.

The views expressed above are those of the editor and do not necessarily represent those of any organization with which he is affiliated.