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New Development In "Linda UFO-Abduction" Case: Poor Dan (That S.O.B.) Is No Longer Among The Living--IF He Ever Was:

"Dan," one of two (alleged) security guards who (allegedly) witnessed the (alleged) UFO-abduction of Linda Napolitano from her 12th floor apartment in New York City in late 1989, and who (according to Linda) later kidnapped and tried to kill her, is dead--according to word received by abduction-guru Budd Hopkins. Hopkins has hailed Linda's tale as the "most important" UFO-abduction incident of all time because it (allegedly) had been witnessed by Dan and his partner Richard, as well as by United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar whom Dan and Richard (allegedly) were guarding at the time, as well as by a Connecticut woman who (allegedly) was visiting New York. [See SUN #17/Sept. 1992]

SUN has not been able learn who was responsible for Dan's "tragic demise." At last report, Dan (allegedly) was in a mental institution so he might have taken his own life. Or he might have been "done in" by ETs or by U.S. Government agents. Alternatively, if the whole tale is a product of Linda's vivid imagination, she could be responsible for Dan's demise. One skeptical observer predicts that Dan's partner Richard "will either suffer a similar fate or will retire to a Lamasery in Tibet, depriving Hopkins of still another witness."

If Linda's UFO-abduction tale is spurious, Dan's "demise" is fortuitous for her because some pro-UFOlogists--such as George P. Hansen--had strongly urged that Linda's claim that Dan had abducted and tried to kill her should be reported to law enforcement authorities, which Linda was reluctant to do. Hopkins, who earlier urged Linda to do so, later changed his mind. [See SUN #18/Nov. 1992] Jerome Clark--editor of International UFO Reporter, published by the Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)--also opposed Hansen's suggestion.

When Hansen circulated a memo criticizing the views of Hopkins and Clark on this issue, Clark responded with a bombastic memo which likened Hansen to Torquemada--Spain's first Grand Inquisitor whose name is synonymous with cruel fanaticism. When Hansen responded to these harsh charges, Clark circulated another memo which characterized Hansen as "an obsessed fanatic" and a "zealot some call Torquemada."

Hansen is preparing a 25-page response which is expected to be made public in early January. Perhaps Hansen will note that if his advice had been followed, "Dan's demise" might have been avoided and the veracity of Linda's tale could have been checked.

HOPKINS ENCOUNTERS MORE DISSENT WITHIN OWN "INTRUDER FOUNDATION":

The last issue of SUN (#18) reported that at least two of the eight-member board of advisors of Budd Hopkins' Intruder Foundation had privately told him that they disagree with his strong endorsement of the Linda UFO-abduction case. SUN has now learned from a highly reliable source that a THIRD member of the board of advisors has informed Hopkins that he has serious doubts about the Linda case.

When Hopkins reported the Linda case in a feature article in the Sept. 1992 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal, he warned that "officially sanctioned intelligence agents within various UFO investigative networks" would "be mobilized to subvert the [Linda] case from the inside." It is not known whether Hopkins has now begun to suspect that the dissenters in his own board of advisors are covert intelligence agents. But SUN hears that one dissenter, formerly one of Hopkins' close confidants, no longer enjoys his previous relationship with Hopkins.

WE GOOFED...

Several alert SUN subscribers wrote to point out an error in the article in SUN-18 dealing with the (alleged) ET implant in Linda's nose which began: "The first claim (to SUN's knowledge) that ETs implant 'gadgets' in the nasal cavities and/or brains of UFO-abductees came from Whitley Strieber in his best-selling book 'Communion' published in early 1987." What we intended to say, but did not, was that Strieber's claimed ET implant was the first to achieve wide impact on public awareness--via Strieber's numerous TV network talk-show appearances and the sale of several million copies of his book.

Martin Kottmeyer wrote to say "the first individual to claim nasal implantation was Sandy Larson in a hypnosis session dated Jan. 17, 1976...The nasal implant next appears in a hypnosis session dated June 18, 1977, involving Betty Andreasson..." [SUN comment: Larson's abduction claim, which she disclosed shortly after the NBC-TV two-hour "docudrama" telecast on Oct. 20, 1975 of the Betty/Barney Hill abduction story, did not achieve much acceptance in the UFO Movement. Larson claimed "even our heads were opened and all parts of our brain were looked at...we were dissected like frogs," but she had no scars to confirm her claims. Andreasson's fantastic story, which included ETs with no heads and two giant eyes at the ends of rods and giant eagle-like birds, was not widely endorsed by UFO Movement leaders.]

Eddie Bullard, author of an in-depth historical study of UFO-abduction claims, recalled that the 1979 book on Andreasson's tale reported the ET stuck a needle up her nostril, penetrated into her head and withdrew a small burr-like ball. And in a later recollection of a 1950 incident, she claimed the ETs pulled out her eyeball and inserted a tiny object deep into her brain. Subscribers Richard Heiden and Robert Davis also wrote to point out the error.

[Would you believe SUN's editor if he claimed the error was intentional and was designed to test both the expertise of our subscribers and how closely they read each issue? We were afraid you wouldn't--so we decided to "come clean."]

MUFON'S DIRECTOR OPTS TO IGNORE RESULTS OF SALISBERRY INVESTIGATION AND WILL SOON "RE-ENDORSE" THE ED WALTERS/GULF BREEZE PHOTO-CASE:

GUFOG (Great UFO Guru) Walt Andrus is expected to announce in the Jan. 1993 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal that MUFON's reinvestigation of the Ed Walters/Gulf Breeze case, using what he calls "the best talents within the Mutual UFO Network," have confirmed his earlier assessment: the Walters/Gulf Breeze case is "one of the most important UFO cases in the past 40 years." Andrus will boast that debunkers have failed in their efforts "to challenge the integrity and truthfulness of Ed Walters." [Those who question Walters' tale include Gulf Breeze's former mayor, Ed Gray III, Police Chief Jerry Brown and some MUFON members.]

The reinvestigation was launched after a small UFO model resembling the UFO in Ed's photos was discovered hidden in the attic of his former residence and after Tommy Smith, son of a prominent lawyer and friend of Ed's son, went public claiming Ed had tried to involve him in hoax UFO photos. [See SUN #5/Sept. 1990] The mid-section of the UFO model was made from a section of a house plan that Walters--a building contractor--had himself made. But Walters claimed he did not make the drawing (for Mr./Mrs. Lynn Thomas) until the fall of 1989--nearly two years after he first released his UFO photos. Walters claimed he had discarded the "Thomas house plan drawing" in late 1989 after they decided not to build, and that debunkers had recovered it from his garbage and used it to construct the UFO model which they then hid in the attic of Walters' former residence--where he had shot his "UFO photos." However, as revealed in SUN #5, if the new owners had not decided in early 1990 to buy a new refrigerator with an automatic ice-maker, requiring the husband to search for the master water valve underneath attic insulation, THE UFO MODEL WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN FOUND.

Careful examination of the segment of the house plan used to construct the UFO model showed that it could not possibly be the one that Walters had made in late 1989 for Mr./Mrs. Thomas. One very obvious difference is that the entry doorway to the garage for the Thomas house plan was PERPENDICULAR to the long dimension of the house whereas the entry doorway for the UFO model house plan is PARALLEL to the long dimension of the house. Furthermore, the Thomas drawing shows a house that is essentially rectangular while the one used in the UFO model shows a "staggered-block" type design. [Photocopies of the two house plans were shown in SUN #9/May 1991]

When MUFON decided to launch its reinvestigation of the Walters case, it named Rex and Carol Salisbury to head the effort. Mr./Mrs. Salisbury had been honored at MUFON's then-recent conference in Pensacola for their "unsurpassed investigative skill." When the model was discovered, Walters claimed it had been made by "debunkers" based on Ed's sketch of the UFO which was published in the March 1988 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal. But the Salisberrys discovered a small, seemingly insignificant statement in the Walters book which challenged Ed's claim.

On page 28 of the book, published in April 1990, Ed revealed for the first time a detail about the (alleged) UFO's appearance which he had not shown on his 1988 sketch and which was not visible on any of his photos: "...there were definitely horizontal lines going around the main body [i.e. midsection]." BY A CURIOUS COINCIDENCE, THE SMALL UFO MODEL DISCOVERED HIDDEN IN THE ATTIC OF WALTERS' FORMER RESIDENCE ALSO HAD "HORIZONTAL LINES GOING AROUND THE MAIN BODY." There is no way that anyone but Ed would have known of this detail before the Walters book was published--by which time the model had already been discovered by the new residents of Ed's old house.

Mr./Mrs. Salisbury uncovered much more evidence that the Walters case is a hoax. [See SUN #6/Nov. 1990] But Andrus decided that their lengthy report "posed more questions than it answered." Andrus concludes: "Based upon the investigations made by competent investigators and researchers within the Mutual UFO Network, the evidence and the accumulated testimony of Ed Walters for his UFO-experiences are still valid."

JOURNALISM PROFESSOR (AND FORMER USAF OFFICER) "MANUFACTURES" A TALL UFO TALE, THEN ACCUSES THE GOVERNMENT OF COVERING IT UP:

The headline in the article published in the National Enquirer in 1982 read: "UFO SPIED ON SPACE MISSILE--AND I CAPTURED IT ON FILM." Its author was Dr. Robert Jacobs, identified as a University of Wisconsin professor, whose article began: "I was ordered by the U.S. Air Force to keep quiet about an incredible UFO sighting filmed by official cameras under my control. An Air Force major and two mysterious men from Washington D.C. banned me from ever mentioning the astonishing footage of an actual close encounter between the UFO and an Atlas [intercontinental ballistic] missile.

"The coverup has continued right up until this day. But now I'm speaking out--because I feel the American public has a right to know. At the time of the mind-boggling encounter--Jan. 8, 1965--I was an Air Force first lieutenant in charge of photo-optical instrumentation at California's Vandenberg Air Force Base. To get a clear film record of missile test launches over the Pacific, we installed a TV camera attached to a high-powered [sic] telescope on a nearby mountain. Radar kept the telescope locked on the moving missile. It was while we were tracking an Atlas F missile that we caught the UFO on film....

"It wasn't until two days later that I learned about the encounter. That day I was ordered to report to my superior, Maj. Florenz J. Mannsman, chief science officer. Two men in business suits were with him. I was given only their first names and told they were from Washington....Major

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Mannsmann ran the film of the test... 'Watch closely,' he said. Suddenly a UFO flew into the picture. A round object, very distinct. It flew right up to the missile and set off a brilliant flash of light. It changed course and hovered above the missile...and a second flash of light came. The object circled the missile and set off two more flashes from other angles--then flew off. Split seconds later the missile warhead malfunctioned and tumbled into the Pacific Ocean hundreds of miles short of its target.

"The office lights came on and I found myself staring into three very intense faces. 'Lieutenant,' Maj. Mannsmann said quietly, 'just what the hell WAS that?' I told him I had no idea. We watched the film several more times and I examined it under a magnifying glass. Mannsmann then asked me for my opinion. I said, 'Major, it was a UFO.' He smiled and said, 'you are to say nothing about this footage. As far as you and I are concerned, it never happened--right?'

"My mouth fell open. Here was confirmation of what UFO experts had said for years--that the government is covering up what it knows about UFOs...It's been 17 years since that incident, and I've told nobody about the incident until now. I have been afraid of recriminations. But the truth is too important to hide any longer. UFOs are real, the Air Force knows they're real and the government knows they are real. I think it's high time the public knows it too." (Emphasis added.)

A more detailed account of the incident, authored by Jacobs, was published in the January 1989 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal, with the headline: **"DELIBERATE DECEPTION: THE BIG SUR UFO FILMING."** In the article, Jacobs wrote: "I am a scholar, a card-carrying Ph.D., and a university professor in a department of Journalism and Broadcasting...I have been a participant in an official United States Government ordered UFO coverup." (Emphasis added.) In the MUFON UFO Journal article he admitted that the incident occurred in September 1964 rather than early 1965, as reported in his earlier article.

Jacobs' article said he now believed that "what we photographed that September day in 1964 was a solid, three-dimensional, intelligently controlled flying device...This 'craft' was not anything of which our science and technology in 1964 was capable...The demonstration was put on for our benefit for some reason by extraterrestrials."

On Jan. 25, 1989, I wrote to Jacobs requesting a copy of an unclassified Air Force document, "Preliminary Report on Image Orthicon Photography from Big Sur," authored by Kingston A. George--a USAF scientist who directed the test--a report which Jacobs had cited in his MUFON article. I offered to pay Jacobs \$25 to cover cost of making a photocopy and mailing it to me. Jacobs--who by this time was a member of the faculty of the University of Maine--replied on Feb. 15. He said he "might be willing to arrange for [me] to see it, if in fact it still exists," yet in his MUFON article Jacobs said he had the report "in my collection of aging papers and books." (Emphasis added.) Jacobs also expressed concern about providing me with a copy of the unclassified report, saying that I might be "an agent for a foreign government or power." In my reply of Feb. 18, I provided Jacobs with the names and addresses of several former top Pentagon officials he could contact to check "my bonafides as a loyal American citizen." On April 3, Jacobs finally responded but refused to provide a copy of the report by Kingston A. George.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE "BIG SUR UFO" REVEALED BY KINGSTON A. GEORGE:

The Winter 1993 issue of Skeptical Inquirer, published by CSICOP (Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal), reveals that there was indeed a "coverup" by the USAF of some aspects of the incident but they did not involve UFOs, as Jacobs claimed. The article is authored by Kingston A. George, who was the project engineer for the tests and who had written the report which Jacobs refused to send me. In the SI article, George explains that the image orthicon used in the test was a then-new type of TV camera which was so very

sensitive that it could "see" stars even during twilight. A key objective of the test was to obtain close-up movies to determine how well the ICBM's "warhead" separated from the last stage of the missile and to assess the effectiveness of two decoys released at the same time which were intended to fool Soviet ballistic missile defenses. In the early 1960s, when the test was run, the results would be considered highly classified--especially if they revealed any shortcomings as this particular test did.

On Sept. 22, 1964, an Atlas ICBM was launched shortly before dawn and the small rockets intended to release its "warhead" and two decoys seemed to function properly. (Contrary to Jacobs' claims, the warhead did not "tumble into the Pacific Ocean hundreds of miles short of its target.") But the motion pictures obtained with the new image orthicon were analyzed and they revealed that when the decoys were released they were accompanied by a small cloud of debris. Unless this was corrected, George wrote, "the Soviets could defeat our ICBM decoys by using a few telescopes on mountain peaks in the USSR." IT IS NOT THEREFORE SURPRISING THAT THE SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THE MOVIES TAKEN BY JACOBS WAS QUICKLY UPGRADED FROM "SECRET" TO "TOP SECRET."

As a result of this important discovery, George reports in his article, *"Everyone who was at the telescope site or had seen the film had to be identified. All, including Jacobs and myself, had to be questioned on what they had seen and what they thought it meant. Each was cautioned not to mention what was on the film to anyone and not to discuss it with others--even fellow workers who had originally seen it at the same time! None of us had more than a guess at the meaning, and the civilian intelligence experts who did the 'debriefing' gave no hints. Weeks later, my clearance level was increased to allow me to see the films again and analyze them. I don't think Bob Jacobs ever gained the required clearance."*

After publication of Bob Jacobs' wild Big Sur UFO tale in the National Enquirer, he wrote to his former boss, Florenz Maunsmann, on Jan. 14, 1985 to explain what had prompted him to write the article. Jacobs said he first tried, unsuccessfully, to sell the article to Omni magazine. "As a poor teacher in an impoverished state [Wisconsin], I then sold it to The Enquirer to pay a few bills." Jacobs reportedly received \$500 for his article. At last report, Jacobs had left the University of Maine for the University of Cleveland (Ohio).

KEY HOPKINS 'ABDUCTEE' CHANGES HIS TALE TO CONFORM TO LATEST DOGMA:

The UFO close-encounter of "Steve Kilburn" (a pseudonym) was one of the centerpieces of Budd Hopkins' first UFO-abduction book, "Missing Time," published in 1981. At the time, Hopkins had not yet developed and publicized his theory that the reason for UFO-abductions was an extraterrestrial cross-breeding experiment involving extraction of female ova and male sperm, nor his hypothesis that those chosen typically experience a continuing series of abductions which begins in early childhood. "Kilburn" did not recall any such experiences in his three regressive hypnosis sessions in late 1978 and early 1979, according to "Missing Time."

Lest anyone suspect that "Steve Kilburn's" sperm is not as good as that of other male abductees, he has changed his story--IN HOPKINS' PRESENCE AND SEEMINGLY WITH HIS APPROVAL. "Steve" appeared with Hopkins on the "Night Talk" TV show on June 18 under his real name: Michael Bershad. Other guests included David Jacobs, Hopkins' principal disciple, and Dr. John Mack, a Harvard psychiatrist, along with two female "abductees." Near the end of the hour-long show, a lone skeptic--James Oberg--made a brief appearance.

During the TV show, Bershad reported: *"They put this thing that was similar to, well it was just some kind of a metallic-looking tube, over my genitals and it made me have an orgasm in about two seconds. And it was NOT fun."* Hopkins' looked on approvingly, seemingly delighted that Bershad's revised scenario now conformed to the current abduction dogma.

In the regressive hypnosis sessions conducted in the late 1970s, Bershada had recalled that the ETs had placed a "giant clamp" on his shoulder. But on the TV show there was no mention of a giant clamp. Instead, Bershada reported, "I felt my back being opened. I felt one of them sort of picking at my spine." Another discrepancy: during one of his 1978-79 hypnosis sessions, Bershada was asked what he was wearing during the ET examination and he replied: "It looked like a diaper of some sort." But on the TV show, he said, "I had no clothes on." In "Missing Time," Bershada did not recall any previous abduction experiences but on the TV show he said his first encounter was at age five.

During the TV show Bershada claimed: "I've never read a UFO book. I don't read the material. I haven't even read my own story in Budd Hopkins' book "Missing Time." His claim is contradicted on page 39-40 of "Missing Time" (paperback edition). Hopkins reports that he first met Bershada via long-time UFOlogist Ted Bloecher, who had met him at a Fortean conference. "From his Fortean connections and his friendship with Ted, Steven [Bershada] was acquainted with the basic shape and complexity of the UFO phenomenon, although he had read very little of the literature or the specific case material." (Emphasis added.)

When UFO-skeptic Oberg finally joined the group, he asked: "Where is the physical evidence" to support abduction claims. Hopkins replied: "At this very moment, four apparent recovered implants are being studied at major universities by major people. The basic point is that these are all extraordinarily unusual objects. They have very peculiar properties." Hopkins withheld from TV viewers the results of previous analyses of such alleged implants. According to David E. Pritchard, Mass. Institute of Technology physicist and close friend of Hopkins who has performed many of the analyses, "all tests of structure and composition of alleged [implants] have yielded results which are consistent with earthly origin--either natural or man-made fiber."

Recall that Hopkins and Jacobs claim that several million American citizens have experienced UFO-abductions, based on the Roper Organization survey. [See SUN #16/July 1992] With so many potential "implantees," it is strange that they have not been able to come up with a SINGLE IMPLANT WHICH IS NOT A "NATURAL OR MAN-MADE FIBER."

FRIEDMAN'S PARTNER ADMITS CONCERN OVER ANDERSON'S TALE OF SECOND "CRASHED SAUCER" AT SAN AGUSTIN:

Don Berliner, who co-authored the latest crashed saucer book with Stanley T. Friedman, has admitted he has some reservations about the tale of Gerald Anderson who is their key "witness" for their claim that a UFO crashed on the Plains of San Agustin in New Mexico in July of 1947. Kevin Randle and Don Schmitt, who co-authored "UFO Crash at Roswell" which suggested the possibility of a San Agustin crashed saucer, recently have admitted that there is no credible evidence to support such a claim and have denounced Anderson's tale as a hoax. [See SUN #18/Nov. 1992]

During a talk to the Harford County [Maryland] Astronomical Society on Oct. 10, Berliner admitted that there are "some weaknesses in his [Anderson's] story, things that bother us..." Later Berliner said: "Frankly, I would be more comfortable if we could move Anderson's story out completely... We just aren't certain about some of the information we've gotten from Anderson."

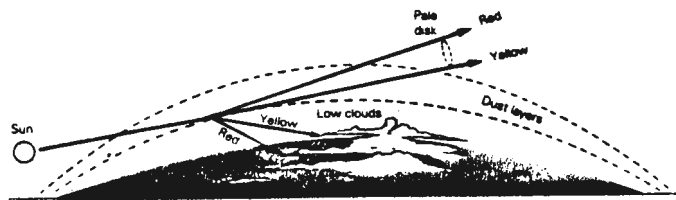
If Friedman shares Berliner's doubts, he has so far kept them under cover. One seasoned UFOlogist, noting that Friedman is now one of the few UFOlogists who still defends the MJ-12 documents as authentic, commented: "If Friedman had been aboard the Titanic on its ill-fated voyage and there had been 10 extra life-boats, Stan would have refused to board one because he had told friends he would arrive on the Titanic when it docked in New York."

IF YOU SHOULD SEE A GIANT UFO AT SUNSET...

An unusual type of mirage effect which some observers might characterize as a UFO was reported by yachtsman Jack D. Harvey in the January/February issue of Ocean Navigator magazine. The incident took place about 200 miles northwest of Bermuda at about 8:30 p.m. Harvey said "a pale white light was observed emanating from a line of dark clouds [at a] bearing approximately 270 deg. true. Immediately thereafter, the top of an enormous pale disk appeared from behind the clouds. A complete disk of white light gradually rose in the sky; it had a pale radiance of much the same color as the moon. The disk occupied approximately 80 deg. of the 360 deg. horizon. Gradually the disk diffused and stars were visible through it. At roughly 2045 the phenomenon disappeared..."

Harvey said he later wrote to the National Weather Service to describe the incident and received a reply from Duane S. Cooley, chief of the Technical Procedures Branch, who said the phenomenon is called "Clear Shine." The NWS official added: "It is described as a bright, blue-white disk 50 deg. or more high which may be circumscribed by an indistinct, grayish 'browning ring.' 'Clear Shine' is a rare species of projection...of the sun. It is pale because much of the light is scattered in other directions. The bordering grayish ring may not always be noticeable, or it may appear in other colors..."

He explained: "The cones of light are produced by diffraction and scattering of sunlight passing through dust layers in the atmosphere...The diffraction and scattering are due to certain arrangements and size distributions of particles in the dust layers. The low clouds serve to block the bright sky just above the sun--which has sunk below the horizon--making the diffraction pattern more easily visible." Ocean Navigator's illustration (r.) is based on a sketch provided by Cooley.



As sunlight moves through layers of dust in the atmosphere, it is diffracted. Given the right conditions, this can result in an enlarged, pale image of the sun called "Clear Shine." Well-placed clouds along the horizon enhance the viewing of this rare event.

Kevin Randle Complaint:

Kevin Randle and Don Schmitt took issue with my review of their book "UFO Crash at Roswell" [which is any author's inalienable right], published in the Fall 1991 issue of Skeptical Inquirer [SI] in a letter to the editor which occupied more than one page of the Summer 1992 issue of SI. In my rebuttal to their criticism, which occupied only one-third page, I noted that "two of their key 'first-hand witnesses' have subsequently recanted and significantly changed their stories." (Emphasis added.) When Randle later asked me to identify the two persons I was referring to, I cited Col. Thomas DuBose, who was chief of staff to Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey, 8th Air Force commander at Ft. Worth, when the "crash debris" was brought there from Roswell; and Bond Johnson, a reporter for the Ft. Worth Star Telegram, who came to Ramey's office to see and photograph the "crash debris" and who wrote a story on what occurred there.

Randle's letter of Aug. 4 admitted that "Bond Johnson might have changed his testimony now that he has been coached by [William] Moore and [Jaime] Shandera." Randle also conceded that statements attributed to DuBose in an article by Shandera, published in the Jan. 1991 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal, flatly contradicted things that DuBose (then nearly 90 years old) earlier told Randle and Schmitt. Don Ecker, Research Director for UFO magazine, told me that DuBose had also told him contradictory stories during two interviews in a single day.

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Randle's Aug. 4 letter complained that my "statements in the Skeptical Inquirer were highly misleading, and in fact inaccurate, but I don't suppose you'll...correct this. I might add that characterizing either DuBose or Johnson as 'key witnesses' is inaccurate as well...I'll look forward to your statement correcting these errors. I will not be surprised when it does not arrive." In my Aug. 8 letter, I responded to Randle's complaints and said I would submit a "correction-addendum" saying that R/S did not consider DuBose or Johnson to be "key witnesses." But I asked that they provide the names of five or more persons "whom you do consider to be 'key witnesses.'" I asked Randle/Schmitt to "respond promptly because SI has a 4-6 month lead time."

On Nov. 19, I wrote Randle to remind him that more than three months had elapsed since I made this request but that he had failed to respond. On Nov. 28, Randle finally replied: "I see no need in informing you of whom we consider key and whom we consider important and whom we consider interesting." (Emphasis added.)

Short Shrlft:

* The cornerstone of Hopkins-Jacobs' theory that "UFO-abductions" are prompted by an extraterrestrial cross-breeding experiment was sharply challenged on genetic grounds by Dr. Michael Swords in a paper given at the 1991 MUFON Conference in Chicago. [See SUN #11/Sept. 1991] Despite this, Swords joined with Hopkins and Jacobs to lecture on UFO-abductions at a seminar for mental health specialists held in Los Angeles in mid-November. The fourth speaker was John Carpenter, a hypnotherapist who has strongly endorsed the veracity of Gerald Anderson's San Agustin crashed saucer tale.

* Dr. John Mack, Harvard professor of psychiatry who recently has jumped on the Hopkins-Jacobs bandwagon and contracted to write a book on "UFO-abductions," has recently been elected to MUFON's Board of Directors. His title: Director at Large (Psychiatry).

* Linda Napolitano, Hopkins' new "Queen-Bee Abductee," has achieved international celebrity status. A German TV crew recently visited her Manhattan apartment where Linda claims mysterious things are now happening--such as balls-of-light UFOs emerging from electric wall sockets. Alas, none showed up for the TV taping to confirm Linda's stories.

* "A Manhattan doctor who thinks he was abducted by aliens and believes UFOs are part of a Nazi plot to eliminate Jews can continue treating patients, the [New York] Board of Regents ruled yesterday," according to a feature article in the Nov. 21 edition of New York Post. "The Regents refused to revoke the medical license of East Side dermatologist Stephen Kurzweil because they said there was no proof his beliefs harmed his patients...Witnesses, including a UFO 'expert' brought in by the state, testified that Kurzweil believes he has been marked with a leg scar by Nazi-linked aliens operating from a base near the South Pole. The expert, identified as Budd Hopkins...also testified that Kurzweil told him: 'My mind is completely gone now. I know that I can kill...'Kurzweil, who is Jewish, also said he has started a support group called 'Abductees and Zionists Against UFOs' and believes that aliens were answering his office phone in an effort to 'misdirect' his patients and sabotage his career. He insisted, however, that he is not mentally ill..." (Emphasis added.) So, if you live in New York and need a dermatologist, you know whom to call.

NOTE: Opinions expressed in SUN are those of its Editor, unless otherwise noted, and do not necessarily represent the views of any organizations with which he is affiliated--or his spouse. We thank Dr. Gary Posner for help in proofreading.

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