

## Woods' Press Release Claims Cooper's Failure To Pass Polygraph Test On His "New MJ-12 Papers" Does Not Challenge Their Authenticity

The press release belatedly issued by Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan on Aug. 15 reporting on the results of the polygraph test taken nearly two months earlier by Tim Cooper--the source of the "New MJ-12 papers" whose authenticity the Woods have endorsed--demonstrates their great skill in obfuscation. Their press release was headlined: *"Failed Polygraph Yields Unexpected Benefit."* It begins: *"The recently leaked Top Secret MJ-12 documents from Mr. Timothy Cooper have undergone a series of authentication tests by investigators Dr. Robert M. Wood, Ryan S. Wood and other questioned document examiners."* Not until the end of the lengthy opening paragraph does the press release state: "Recently, however, Mr. Cooper took a polygraph examination and did not do well." (Emphasis added.) (If the Woods had written a White House press release on the Monica Lewinsky affair, it probably would have been headlined: *"PRESIDENT'S ACTS PROVE THAT HE FAVORS SEX EDUCATION FOR YOUNG WOMEN."*)

The press release admits that during the polygraph test, Cooper was asked three times, *"Did you lie when you said you received the 'Majestic Documents' in your mailbox?"* as Cooper had previously claimed. When Cooper answered "No," his *answer clearly indicated deception.* But the Woods try to justify Cooper's false answer by explaining: *"This deception is to be expected, based on his determination to conceal the identity of the other sources..."* The test was given by William S. Lane, former president of the California Association of Polygraph Examiners.

In post-test discussions with the Woods, Cooper now claims that he not only received documents in his Post Office Box from Thomas Cantwheel (pseudonym), but also from Cantwheel's daughter, from a former Air Force counterintelligence agent and from a former CIA employee. The press release quotes Ryan Wood as saying: *"Tim's polygraph test, although conclusive that his answers very likely showed deception consistent with the context of the questions, is moving us toward a better understanding of the provenance of these fascinating documents, many of which are deemed authentic by other means."* There is no mention of the suspicious flaws in several of the documents that had earlier been reported by Wood's long-time friend, Stanton Friedman. Suspicious flaws in other Cooper documents were reported by SUN [#55/Jan. 1999] and by "pro UFOlogists" such as Timothy Good and MUFON's Tom Deuley. [See page 8.]

UFOlogist Robert J. Durant, who first challenged Cooper to take a polygraph test during a radio talk show in January and paid half its \$1,000 cost [SUN #58/July 1999], offered the following commentary on the Woods' press release: *"I find it preposterous and deceptive in its description of the polygraph test and its results..."*

## Firmage Bedazzles MUFON Audience With Esoteric Pronouncements

Personable Joe Firmage, one of two featured Saturday night speakers at MUFON's recent annual conference in Arlington, Va., impressed many in his large audience with his sincerity and very esoteric vision for the future--even though he made scant mention of UFOs. But at the MUFON press conference the previous afternoon, speaking to the few media present, Firmage initially focused on *"why I believe UFOs are real."* Firmage said the evidence indicates *"that we have a real unknown phenomenon at work in our skies and have had such a phenomenon for at least five decades--and probably for millenniums....The most important reason why I believe UFOs are real is that science now suggests that their propulsion systems are plausible..."*

Firmage then transitioned to the more esoteric issues that interest him. *"The opportunity that I see now that needs to be publicized by those of us involved in UFO research is to move beyond just assessing the evidence and just articulating the case histories but to push beyond the boundary of our understanding of the implications of the evidence. What does it mean to humanity?....How would we live? How would we trade? How would we learn? How would we interact with beings from other worlds?....So those are fascinating questions. Those are questions you could spend a lifetime studying and still not get it right....But it's a path that I'm trying to institutionalize in my forthcoming science research organization--the International Space Sciences Organization [ISSO]."*

During the press conference, Firmage was asked if he planned to fund efforts by UFO organizations (such as MUFON). He replied: *"I have reached the conclusion that UFOs are real....Therefore I'm not interested in financing investigations into the reality of the UFO phenomenon. To me, it's a given. That's the result of [my] 15 years of concentrated study. Therefore I'm interested in financing projects which explore the implications of this and which advance our own scientific and engineering capabilities."*

Firmage became a bit angry when asked about his reported conversation with an "alien." (As earlier described by Firmage on his Web site, in the fall of 1997 he awakened in the morning to see "a remarkable being, clothed in brilliant white light hovering over my bed." According to Firmage's original account the visitor asked: "Why have you called me here?" Firmage said he replied: "I want to travel in space." When the visitor asked why he should grant Firmage's wish, he replied: "Because I'm willing to die for it." Then, according to Firmage, "out of him emerged an electric blue sphere, just smaller than a basketball....It left his body, floated down and entered me....Something had been given to me.")

In response to the question about this reported incident, Firmage said: *"What I said was that I had a conversation with a being of light. I didn't say alien. I didn't say an organic body. I didn't even say that it was definitely not a psychologically induced experience of some kind. I did report what happened."*

## SUN Interviews Firmage - - Via E-Mail

A few days before Firmage's trip to the Washington D.C. area, a meeting with SUN's editor was suggested to him by a mutual acquaintance. At the close of Firmage's press conference remarks, he mentioned that he expected *"to enjoy my first conversation with Phil Klass sometime this weekend. With due respect to his research over the years, I've come to a conclusion that is 180 degrees off from his in evaluation of the best cases."* But Firmage's busy schedule did not permit us to get together. So shortly after the conference, SUN sent Firmage a short message via e-mail, posing several questions we would have asked had we been able to get together during the MUFON conference. The questions, and Firmage's answers, follow below. (The first question was prompted by Firmage's earlier reference to the "best cases.")

\* Based on your more than a decade of reading/study of UFO data, request you list the five (5) UFO cases that you believe offer the most impressive evidence for the reality of UFOs, i.e., that some UFOs are ET visitors.

*"It's impossible to narrow the domain in that way. The case for UFO reality hinges on the number of credible cases climbing far beyond any 'top five.' Having focused my efforts on pattern analysis rather than individual case investigations, I am attempting to answer the question of 'why' rather than 'what.' Truly, I am in no position to ascribe weight to the relative credibility of specific witnesses whom I have not interviewed or investigated. My belief hinges on the fact that hundreds, rather than a handful, of credible testimonies are available, for which Occam's Razor points toward the ET hypothesis, given permission from physics. Such permission is clearly now in hand." [Firmage is referring to the exotic theory of unlimited "Zero Point Energy" in the vacuum of space.]*

\* On a scale of zero to 10, how confident are you of the reality that some Earthlings have been abducted by ETs and taken aboard their craft?

*"An important question. I would peg my belief in the classic physical 'abduction' scenario as a 7 on your scale. There is both evidential support and anthropological sensibility to such a phenomenon. However, I would not rule out the possibility that the 'abduction' event represents something of a more nonphysical etheric nature, comprehensible only with a deeper appreciation of the nature of consciousness itself. I am more certain of the parallels between modern UFO/contact phenomena and events described in many spiritual/cultural traditions than I am of almost any other specific insight into the nature of these phenomena, including abduction....Several mystics and saints described their experiences with words such as 'abduction'." (Emphasis added.)*

\* Have you been informed of the results of the polygraph tests conducted on Tim Cooper? If so, what are your reactions to the results?

*"Yes, I have been made aware. The results likely indicate one of two things: Tim Cooper fabricated documents, and/or the questions he was asked forced him to confront irregularities or ambiguities in their provenance." [SUN Comment: Before a polygraph test is given, the operator reviews all of the test questions with the subject to assure that the questions are not ambiguous and that the subject can answer each with a "yes" or "no."] "I remain open to whatever conclusions the Majestic document investigation can identify, including the possibility that the documents are bogus. I have multiple independent, and some very senior, indications that we have some very exotic nonhuman technology in our possession. It is remotely possible that such indications reflect a stunningly sweeping official program of disinformation, the purpose of which would be hard to imagine. In any event, I rate the 'government coverup' issue a 2 on a scale of 1 to 10, where the significance of UFO reality ranks 100. Official behavior over the last 50 years can be viewed to reflect such knowledge, but this view can also be deceiving to people gifted with a sense of paranoia." (Emphasis added.)*

\* Of the many books dealing with UFOs that you have read, please list the five books which you found to be most informative and credible.

*"There are many dimensions to this question. 'Informative' is relative to the question one poses....I'll list the eight authors whose works I find most useful." Firmage cited the following as the "most useful" UFO book authors: Raymond E. Fowler/Betty Andreasson, Dr. Richard Haines, Richard Hall, Paul Hill, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Dr. Joe Lewels, Dr. Jacques Vallee and Travis Walton. Firmage also listed another dozen authors of pro-UFO books which are quoted in his lengthy treatise "The Truth."*

*(Lewels, whose book is titled "The God Hypothesis," presented a paper at last year's MUFON conference in Denver which was titled "Aliens or Angels?: The Conflict Between The ET and God Hypothesis." Lewels said that studies of ancient scriptures, ranging from the Bible to the Vedic literature of India, show the same theme: "They all speak of contact between celestial beings and the ancient peoples. In my research and in my work with abductees, I have found that these beings call themselves variously watchers, custodians, guardians or caretakers. They claim to have seeded life here on earth as well as throughout the universe and to have genetically intervened in the evolutionary process many times throughout history. I have found ample evidence to support this conclusion." These views resemble those of Firmage.)*

**SUN Comment:** How curious that Firmage's "most useful" list does not include any UFO-abduction books by Budd Hopkins or David Jacobs, or Roswell "crashed-saucer" books by Stanton Friedman, or Kevin Randle/Don Schmitt. However, Firmage does refer to or quote from books by Hopkins and Friedman in his writings.

## Hopkins Faults Self For Early Skepticism About Some Abduction Tales

Budd Hopkins, whose talk preceded Firmage's Saturday evening presentation, said that he had been much too skeptical during the early days of his "UFO abduction" research. In 1980, during a radio talk show in New York City, Hopkins had described how "missing time" could be a symptom of an unremembered UFO abduction. This prompted a call-in from a man, whom Hopkins referred to by the pseudonym of "Sean McIntyre," who described his "missing time" experience in 1961--when he was a 24-year-old second-lieutenant in the Army.

McIntyre said he had been driving through North Carolina at night, enroute to his new assignment at Fort Jackson, S.C. Because he was running low on gas and still about 100 miles from his destination, he left the main highway for a small town to refuel. Soon he was stopped by a man he assumed to be a police officer and told he must take a detour on a narrow road. (McIntyre said he was puzzled because even though he was wearing civilian clothes, the man referred to him by his rank.) Suddenly, while driving down the dark narrow detour road, McIntyre said, the car's headlights went out, its radio stopped and the car's engine died--but his car continued to move forward and UPWARD ABOVE THE ROAD.

*"The next thing he remembered was waking up fully dressed in a motel room, with sunlight streaming through the curtains,"* Hopkins reported. McIntyre said he quickly went to the motel's front desk to ask how far he was from his intended destination--Fort Jackson. He was told to look out the window and there he saw one of the main entrance gates of Fort Jackson. When McIntyre checked the motel records, he found that he had signed in. When he went outside he found his parked car and *"the odometer reading was approximately the same as the previous evening, as was the gas gauge--approximately 1/4 tank--although he had obviously traveled about 100 miles,"* Hopkins told his MUFON audience.

Because Hopkins was then learning the technique of hypnosis, he turned to a professional hypnotherapist who conducted three sessions with McIntyre to try to enhance his recollections. Under hypnosis, McIntyre recalled some elements of the traditional UFO-abduction tale. But because the incident reportedly had occurred nearly two decades earlier, Hopkins opted not to journey to South Carolina to seek verification of McIntyre's tale. Hopkins also opted not to include the McIntyre incident in his then-upcoming book "Missing Time." He explained why to his MUFON audience: *"The idea that an automobile could be lifted up in one state and put down 100 miles away seemed almost too much to swallow, even though I had no reason to doubt McIntyre's credibility. How could no one have seen the car, either going up or coming down, particularly if it was returned to the ground in broad daylight? Who led him into the motel? Would a neutral observer have been able to see McIntyre's companion [who presumably helped him register at the motel and took him to his room]?"*

*"The idea of alien technology of 'willed invisibility' [ET's ability to make themselves and/or abductees visible to some persons but invisible to others] was simply unacceptable to me 20 years ago, though subsequent investigations and new data have forced me to change my mind,"* Hopkins said.

### HOPKINS CITES OTHER EVIDENCE OF ETs' POWER OF "SELECTIVE INVISIBILITY"

The ETs' ability to make themselves, their craft and their abductees visible to some people while they are invisible to others, was the focus of Hopkins' presentation at a one-day conference on UFO abductions, held in New York on April 10 and sponsored by his Intruders Foundation. Hopkins credited this important "discovery" to his associate David Jacobs. Hopkins cited as evidence the reports of UFO abductions which occurred in New York, Tokyo, Rome, London, Paris and Istanbul. *"There is no way that these abductions could take place in daytime, even at night, without hundreds and hundreds of witnesses. It is simply impossible for*

*these things not to be seen....These things somehow are unseeable. Now, of course, that's an outrageous idea but if they can float you through a wall, I suppose they can also make you invisible," Hopkins said.*

He then related a broad-daylight UFO abduction that reportedly had occurred in lower Manhattan which should have been seen by many persons. The mother of a young boy who attended a parochial school received a call from the boy's teacher, referred to as "Sister Teresa" (a pseudonym). The mother was told that her son had called Sister Teresa "a liar and a jackass." When the mother then talked to her son, he explained that he had made a drawing for Saint Patrick's Day which showed a triangle in the sky with a beam of light extending toward the ground. When Sister Teresa sought an explanation, the boy said *"that's where the little people live."* When she responded that there really weren't any such little people, the boy replied: *"Well, if you think that then you're a liar and a jackass, because you were there too."*

The boy explained to his mother what (allegedly) had occurred. During a recess when his class went out into the schoolyard, his shoelaces had come untied and he had difficulty in tying them. *"So Sister Teresa bent down to tie his shoelaces, and he said there was a sort of light around them, and UP HE WENT. And he said that as he went up, Sister Teresa went up with him. He said she was stuck to his shoe,"* Hopkins said. *"And they went inside this craft and there were these little men. He was led off into another room and said he could see Sister Teresa screaming as they were taking off her clothes."* Later, Hopkins said, when they were about to leave the craft, *"one of the little figures picked up her Rosary beads, handed them to the little boy and said, here, you give them to her."* When they were beamed back to the ground, the school yard was empty. When the boy's mother asked her son if he was telling the truth, he assured her that he was and added: *"I even kept her Rosary beads because I was afraid to give them back to her."*

Hopkins stressed: *"Nobody saw him going up with this nun to a craft over Greenwich Village in daytime. What is the only conclusion we can have from that--and also from hundreds of other cases--except that nobody could see them. They were invisible. That seems to be the only explanation--if we accept the idea that this happened."* SUN Comment: Hopkins finds it easier to believe the young boy's story than the alternative--that the boy was spinning a fanciful tale rather than admit he had taken Sister Teresa's Rosary beads as a prank.

#### HOPKINS CITES ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF ETs' POWER OF "SELECTIVE INVISIBILITY"

During Hopkins' April 10 presentation in New York City, he cited one of his earlier encounters with the ETs' remarkable power of "selective invisibility," following a lecture in Brisbane, Australia, in 1992. There he was shown a photograph taken by a man which (allegedly) should have shown his wife and two sons, but which only showed a seaside park because a hovering UFO had made the wife and children invisible to the camera's film prior to their being abducted. Although the husband said he could see his wife and children being "beamed up" to the UFO, none of the other people in the park could see what (allegedly) was taking place. The husband claimed he was "frozen" in the spot for the duration of the abduction. But other persons in the park could not see him standing there because he, his camera and its film had been made invisible by the ETs, according to Hopkins. (He first reported on this incident at the 1993 MUFON conference in Richmond, Va. His summary: *"An invisible man with an invisible camera with invisible film in it took a photograph of invisible people and what he got was the general [seaside park] surroundings."*)

Hopkins failed to note the most amazing aspect of the case: If the husband could see his wife and children standing in front of the camera when he snapped its shutter--even if invisible to the film--their bodies should have blotted out portions of the background. But they did not. This suggests that the ETs also have the power to cause film to show details that the camera cannot see. [For more details on this case, see SUN #23/Sept. 1993.]

## New MUFON Director Accuses SUN Of Inaccuracy But Withholds Data

John F. Schuessler, who will become International Director of the Mutual UFO Network in mid-2000 when Walt Andrus retires 30-years after creating MUFON, has complained about the "inaccuracy" of our recent item about the death of Betty Cash [SUN #56/March 1999]. Betty was one of the principals involved in the famous Cash-Landrum UFO case which Schuessler investigated. SUN's article quoted Schuessler's account in the Feb. 1999 MUFON UFO Journal which said: "Betty died of health problems associated with the injuries that were caused by her close encounter with a UFO exactly 18 years earlier....Never a year passed that she wasn't hospitalized and treated for complications arising from that initial extensive radiation exposure." Our account, whose accuracy Schuessler challenges, said: "SUN suspects that Betty's death certificate shows that her demise resulted from heart failure." SUN then reported her long-standing heart problems--including open-heart surgery several years before the UFO incident and her subsequent heart attacks as well as surgery for breast cancer. Schuessler also complained about the inaccuracy of SUN's statement: "So far as is known, Betty never suffered from or was treated for leukemia or other radiation-induced health problems."

In our letter of June 30 to Schuessler we said that if he would provide SUN with a copy of the death certificate or provide its cause-of-death statement, we would be happy to run a correction. Our letter also stated that we would run a correction if Schuessler would "provide specific information as to the dates and institutions where Betty Cash was treated for radiation-induced health problems during the last 10 years prior to her death." When Schuessler replied on July 6, he refused to provide the requested information. Our response of July 9 concluded: "Let the record show that while I am anxious to correct any factual errors in SUN, you have opted to withhold pertinent information--even the cause of death which you should be eager to make public if it confirms your claim that exposure to radiation in 1980 was the cause of death."

## Congressional Hearings Sought To Expose (Alleged) UFO Coverup

Several efforts are under way to get Congress to help reveal the "Secret of the Millennium" via open hearings on UFOs and blanket immunity to enable former military and government personnel to reveal the government's (alleged) UFO secrets. For example:

\* Larry Bryant, MUFON's Director of Government Affairs, and Robert Bletchman, MUFON's Director of Public Affairs, are heading up MUFON's "UFO Ballot Initiative" to collect sufficient voter signatures in 16 states which enable citizens to vote laws by direct initiative. The stated objective is to obtain a ballot vote which will prompt Congress to launch an open-hearing investigation of UFOs at which former military and government employees would be granted immunity from any prior oaths of secrecy.

\* Stephen Bassett, a trained physicist turned Washington lobbyist, recently created the Extraterrestrial Phenomena Political Action Committee (X-PPAC) to raise funds for political candidates who support its objective: "To end the government embargo of facts confirming the presence of extraterrestrial life forms in our world and to form a partnership between the government and the American people to create policy dealing with that fact."

More than two years ago, Dr. Steven Greer, international director of the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CSETI), launched a campaign to get Congress to hold UFO hearings. Greer optimistically predicted that such hearings would be held during 1997 [SUN #45/May 1997]. The most recent Congressional UFO activity was a one-day "UFO Symposium," on July 29, 1968, sponsored by Rep. J. Edward Roush, at which six witnesses--all pro-UFO--were invited to appear. When Roush was not reelected, he accepted an invitation to become a member of the Board of NICAP--then the nation's largest pro-UFO-group.

## "UFO-LAWYER" GERSTEN QUESTIONS VALUE OF CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

However, **Peter Gersten**, who heads Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), has stated that based on his 20 years in the UFO field he is convinced that *"the legislative branch of government is not the proper forum for setting this truth free....It is illogical and unreasonable to suggest that Congressional hearings could remain open to the press and public."* [SUN Comment: But if Congress decided the hearings had to be closed, that would confirm the UFO coverup.] According to Gersten, *"The necessity of immunity for a confidential informant prior to any disclosure is a non-issue. No one has ever, in the 50-year history of the UFO phenomenon, been prosecuted for revealing such information."* [SUN Comment: Nor have any such alleged informants experienced mysterious "accidental" death.] According to Gersten, *"Congressional hearings, immunity, and amnesty are red herrings to divert attention away from the real issue....It is not the UFO or craft that need to be revealed. It is the truth about the presence of an extraterrestrial intelligence in contact, directly and indirectly, with the people on this planet. The CAUS INITIATIVE involves the judicial branch of government....It is a logical, practical and relevant strategy for ending some, if not most of the secrecy and learning the truth quickly and openly while affording all witnesses the utmost confidentiality and privacy,"* according to Gersten.

But in a subsequent Internet message dated July 24, Gersten said he expected the U.S. District Court in Phoenix will dismiss his Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Defense Dept. *"If and when this last lawsuit is dismissed, CAUS will have exhausted all reasonable judicial remedies. It will then be time to attempt any and all extrajudicial remedies."* (Emphasis added.) Gersten did not explain what these "extrajudicial" remedies might be.

## SPEAKING OF UFO ABDUCTIONS . . .

Seven of the 13 speakers at the recent MUFON conference in Arlington focused on UFO abductions and two of the speakers claimed they themselves were "abductees."

\* **Beverly J. Trout**, MUFON state director for Iowa, said her UFO abductions began when she was only 4-1/2 years old and have continued since then. In the fall of 1993, while driving back from California, she said she encountered ETs in her motel room in Nevada. According to Trout, the ETs--who wore no shoes--had orange-colored, duck-like webbed feet. Later, when Trout was back in Iowa, ETs visited her again, but this time they (reportedly) were dressed in country-western clothes and wearing mud-boots. Under hypnosis, Trout suddenly realized that the ETs were eager to learn "country western dancing," which Trout teaches. *"I simply had never entertained the possibility that this might be useful to the alien agenda,"* Trout said.

\* **Betty Ann [Andreasson] Luca**, who achieved fame as an "abductee" in 1969 (three years after the Betty/Barney Hill incident was publicized), has co-authored three books with UFOlogist **Raymond E. Fowler** about her continuing encounters with ETs and he has authored two more books on his own. Their books are on **Joe Firmage's** "most useful" book-list, which is not surprising because many of Betty Ann's ETs appear to have traditional religious connections. For example, one type of ET--whom she refers to as the "Elders"--is described as being tall, white-haired and albino. Betty Ann concluded her MUFON paper by noting that *"Information documented over five thousand years ago in the Bible's Old and New Testaments may hold a clue to these gentle beings as Sons of God....Is it possible, the Elders who say they are not human, have been formed like Melkezedek and are members of an order of Sons [of God] unlike any other?"* [SUN Comment: We'll leave that to Firmage to answer.]

\* UFO-abduction researcher **Thomas E. (Eddie) Bullard** reported the results of his analysis of "content consistency" for 437 cases, dating back to 1966 when the Betty/Barney Hill case was first made public. In Bullard's analysis he compared the "content consistency" of 52 UFO-abduction cases reported from 1966 to 1977 with 131 cases reported from 1978 to 1986 and with

254 cases reported since 1987 when Whitley Strieber's best-seller "Communion" was published. Of the 64 content details Bullard selected for comparison, he reported that 42 of them were reported in the same proportions for the three periods, while 12 details reported by "abductees" changed significantly. Bullard concludes that his analysis "reinforces the hypothesis that abduction reports are consistent because they have an experiential basis of some sort." (SUN Comment: We compliment Bullard for his analytical effort, but we suspect that the "consistency" is the result of the filtering out by abduction researchers of tales that they consider to be too wild and inconsistent. Furthermore, Bullard did not use all of their "filtered" data but only those incidents that met his own "basic reliability credentials.")

## SHORT SHRIFT:

\* Gersten appeals for funds for CAUS: Six months ago when Peter Gersten appealed to members of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) for contributions, 10% of its members responded, according to Gersten. But at present, he complains, he receives "only a handful of contributions each month." Six months ago, Gersten says, "I decided to forgo (sic) the general practice of law and devote all my energies to CAUS." However, more than a year before, Gersten told SUN that although he was licensed to practice law in his new home state of Arizona, he was devoting his time to running a travel agency rather than working as a lawyer.

\* Looking at a UFO may cause "missing time": Two night photos of a small glowing UFO taken by a female doctor in Phoenix, Az., on April 6, 1995, prompt UFOlogist Dr. Bruce Maccabee to believe that simply looking at a UFO can cause "missing time." The woman and her husband claim both photos were taken "within three minutes" of one another. But based on test-photos which the woman took at Maccabee's request, which show different background illumination from city lights that become dimmer late at night, Maccabee is sure that the second UFO photo was taken several hours later than the first. Maccabee offered his recent MUFON conference audience the following explanation for the discrepancy: the woman and her husband experienced several hours of "missing time" as a result of looking at the UFO.

\* MUFON official challenges authenticity of MJ-12 documents: Tom Deuley, MUFON's treasurer and a member of its board of directors as well as the board of the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR), has sharply challenged the authenticity of the original MJ-12 documents released in mid-1987 by William L. Moore, Jaime Shandera and Stanton Friedman, as well as those recently supplied by Tim Cooper, in a two-part series of articles published in the May and June issues of the MUFON UFO Journal. Deuley, a former Navy officer, spent several years at the National Security Agency (NSA) where he probably viewed more "Secret" and "Top Secret" documents than any other UFOlogist in the world. Deuley's articles draw on this background to cite flaws and anomalies which indicate the MJ-12 documents are counterfeit.

\* Derrel Sims dissolves partnership with Dr. Roger Leir: Southern California podiatrist Dr. Roger Leir--who achieved fame for his removal of "alien implants" from the toe of a subject--has resigned as medical director of the Fund for Interactive Research in Space Technology (FIRST). The organization was created several years ago for alien-implant research in partnership with UFOlogist Derrel Sims, who requested Leir's resignation shortly after he admitted negligence in treating a former (non-implant) patient and agreed to undergo further training [SUN #58/July 1999].

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