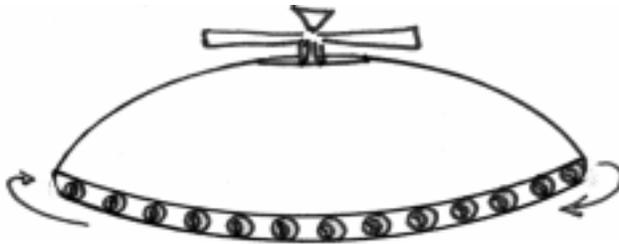

UNUSUAL EXPERIENCES FROM THE TIMMERMAN FILES

BY MICHAEL D. SWORDS

As readers may recall from “The Timmerman Files” (*IUR*, Winter 2001–2002, pp. 13–14, 30), CUFOS board member John Timmerman collected hundreds of new UFO case reports while shepherding the CUFOS Photo Exhibit around the country in the 1980s. These cases are in the process of being extracted and collated for a Fund for UFO Research monograph. The cases I describe below represent some of the more thought-provoking material in the collection.

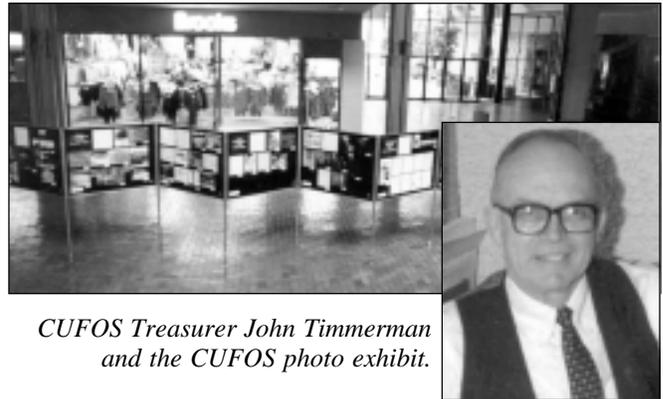
Case One: Benton, Louisiana, January 19, 1988. A father and daughter were driving to pick up the mother from work at about 5 p.m. They pulled into the parking lot and stopped. The lot, the street, and the nearby Interstate highway were all in their normal hubbub of activity. The daughter brought the father’s attention to a streak of light in the sky. Almost as soon as he focused on it, the light appeared immediately in front of them (about 150 feet away and about 50 feet above the ground).



It was a disk, dull silver or steel gray in color. All around the edge were openings like wind scoops (what the witness called “turbines”). They spun about fairly rapidly like a slow-moving fan on which you can follow the blades if you concentrate. The witness speculated that these held the object up. From the top of the disk emerged a sheath from which extended rotary blades as seen in helicopters. The device performed this extension for them as they watched, though the blades did not turn.

The disk was about the size of an automobile and

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CUFOS Treasurer John Timmerman and the CUFOS photo exhibit.

around five feet tall. There was never any noise. In fact, for the approximate minute and a half of the performance, nothing seemed to be happening at all. As the witness said, “It seemed at this time that there were no cars moving, didn’t hear a thing in the world. Nothing. Just like the world stood still.”

Then the device began to move, again with no noise, and “zip” it was gone. “As soon as the machine left, traffic on I-20 came alive and the parking lot became active.”

Was it an out-of-this-world technology that can pinch off a little bubble of time and play around in it?

Case Two: Near Pittsburg, Kansas, late July or early August 1975. A married couple and their small son were driving in the country about 9 p.m. The wife said, “Look! A falling star!” At that instant, an object began to move quickly toward them. It came across the highway at about telephone pole height. It was round and glowing intensely, with even more intense, small panels inset all around it. And it was very large; it covered the whole highway.



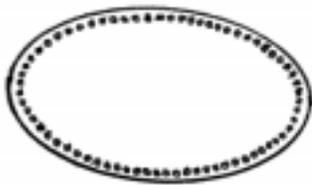
It was hovering above, and the wife said, “Stop! Pull over.” At that moment, the object began to pull away. The couple followed it as they drove on, and each time the wife would say something, the device would slightly change its motion. As the wife said, “We wanted to look at it and it

seemed more like it reacted to my voice. Anytime I said something it changed direction.”

The object finally picked up a little speed and then was just not there anymore: “Like someone turned off a switch.” While the sighting was happening, they were amazingly calm, and only began to feel scared afterwards. There was no noise throughout, no wind, just completely dead silence. As they drove on down the country road, they began to notice animals—skunks, opossums, raccoons, dogs, cats, and rabbits—all over: “They were out running around like they were excited.”

What technology responds to a person’s voice (or thought) at a long distance, creates a zone of silence, and releases some gush of nervous excitement as it leaves?

Case Three: Shelby, Ohio, February 1979. A woman was visiting her aunt and they were just sitting down to view a favorite television show when a bright light shone outside the window. They looked outside and saw a bright light hanging in the air behind their dog kennel in a field. The woman went out to investigate. Two more lights appeared and one by one went into the original light. That light disappeared and was replaced by red and green lights, which resolved into a great number of lights of both colors on an object.



As she approached the field near the house, the object began to move towards her. She could not count the number of lights as it passed overhead. It appeared as big as a large jetliner with bolts on the bottom as large as volleyballs. As the huge oval craft moved overhead, her dog began whining and cowering, and she thought of her previous dog Poochy and felt that he would never have acted so unprotectively in the same circumstance.

As she had that thought, “I just had an awful pain in my head and I fell down to my knees immediately. At the time I thought this is absolutely crazy, but I can remember everything about Poochy that ever happened to us in the whole time that I had him. It was like everything was all in my head.”

As the object moved slowly away with a soft whirring noise, she got back to her feet. Her aunt, who watched the object first from inside and then from the other end of the house, said, “It’s gone! It never came out on the other side of the house!” The object just passed (somehow) across the road over a neighbor’s house and then (somehow) left the area.

The woman and her aunt went back inside . . . and their television program was over, and a second show was just going off the air.

“I said, wait a minute, I don’t understand this, we

weren’t outside that long. I said, how long do you think we were outside? And she says, ‘maybe five minutes.’ And here we figured there was almost maybe 45–50 minutes gone from the time we saw it, went outside, and came back in, that we couldn’t account for, that it was gone.”

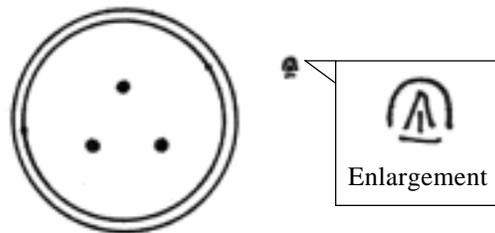
She then reported that she had this headache for perhaps weeks thereafter, before she finally shook it off.

What kind of technology activates memory packets in the brain, dislocates in space, and plays with time?

Case Four: Salisbury, North Carolina, in the early 1970s. A family was woken up by a humming noise outside their house late at night. It sounded something like an electric generator. But they did not rise to investigate it. The next morning, they discovered a circular mark in their front yard. It was a ring of depressed grass about 15–16 feet in diameter and about nine feet wide. Inside of this circle, the grass was not depressed, except for three circular “pod marks” arranged in a triangle.

As the witness stated, “There were three markings on the inside of the circle, where it looked like something had set down, some type of, you know, an object.” Scattered in the yard was an odd material, “big wads of it, looked something similar to like a filter out of a cigarette.”

And separated from the circle, by about three or four feet, was a small insignia or symbol, also formed by depressing the grass. (Upon viewing the CUFOS photo exhibit, the witness told Timmerman that the symbol was very similar to the one shown seen by Lonnie Zamora in connection with the famous Socorro, New Mexico landing case.) As time went by, the grass in the depressed circle browned and died.



What technology leaves imprints on grass that later causes the vegetation to die? What technology leaves behind symbols, and why?

Case Five: Concord, North Carolina, March 23, 1987. A woman heard a crash outside her home in the evening and went to the window to investigate. Though partially obscured by a tree and its limbs, there was no question that she was looking at a domed disk parked in her backyard. The dome was about six feet in diameter and the whole craft about 25 feet high.

From the dome came the brightest orange light that she had ever seen, so bright that she could only look for a while, turn away, recover, and look again. (The light created shooting pains in her eyes, so that her eyes didn’t



fully recover for two to three days.) The orange light filled the back of her yard so thoroughly that it seemed tangible.

“It was so dense that my outside light looked just like a small light bulb, couldn’t see the post at all. . . . My neighbor heard the noise and she said that everything down there at my house looked real orange. And all around it looked like it was just a thick orange fog.”

The lower part of the craft looked blue-silver, especially what seemed to be an extended 18–20 foot wide ramp. The object was about 75 feet from the witness. Her eyes were hurting and she didn’t see it leave. No ground marks were found the next day. Two days later, her grandson visited and was told the story. He walked the area and held up some keys to the fence gate at the dog lot, which was close to the scene. The keys swung over on their own and hit the metal post, indicating a magnetic field.

What technology creates thick but blinding light and leaves behind remnant magnetism?

Case Six: Near New London, Connecticut, Spring 1983. A woman who was the night supervisor at a local hospital was driving to work at about 10 p.m. A light seemed to flick by quickly in the sky ahead. It stopped above the treetops and shined a searchlight-like beam down on the woods. She pulled over to watch. Abruptly it moved and was in the road directly in front of her. She said, “The eerie thing is there’s no cars on the road, and this is a well-traveled road. . . . All of a sudden, a peace came over me, and I don’t know what it was.”

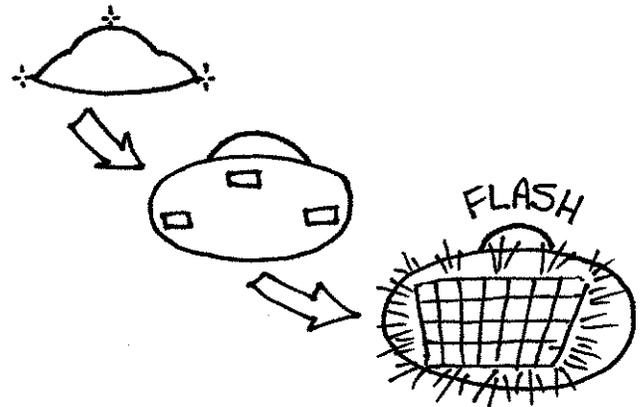
The object was round, and besides the light beam, had blue, yellow, red, and white lights flickering in a circle. Then she blanked out. When she came to, she was feeling comfortable in her car, but the engine, lights, and radio had been turned off. Also, very uncharacteristically for her (as a woman traveling at night), the window was rolled down. The car stalled when she tried to start it, then caught, and she went on to work.

As she explained, “I was late to work that night, the first time I had been late in 15 years, I swear. I walked in about five after 11 and everyone asked me what happened. I said, ‘Nothing. Why?’ And they said, ‘Well, you look so strange.’ That whole night I was like walking on clouds.”

What technology alters traffic, meddles with time or memory, and creates euphoria?

Case Seven: Wells Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, December 27, 1967. At about 9 p.m., two people were traveling along a back road when they saw three lights at the horizon. They stopped their car as the lights approached, and it became apparent that the object was a domed disk. It was following the road at a height of about 300 or 400 feet.

As it closed to less than a mile (“a thousand yards”), it made a banking movement that revealed square, fluores-

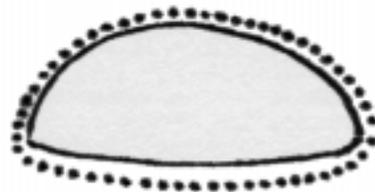


cent panels on the bottom. The dome light in their car came on simultaneously with the banking maneuver, and the whole bottom of the UFO flashed: “There must have been a hundred of these panels on there.”

All this occurred in an atmosphere with absolutely no noise. The two witnesses got back in their truck and drove off. The saucer continued to follow them for a while, then banked away and moved off towards Elmira, New York. About 20 minutes later, the parents of one witness reported that they had a power failure where they lived on Elmira’s south side.

Again we have our curious, performing technology which seems to have gotten a little too overenthusiastic with a city’s power supply.

Case Eight: West Seneca, New York, August 1973. Three people were sitting in their front yard when a low hum directed their attention to an object above the garage. It was a silvery half-egg with glowing orange-and-blue overtones. It began a slow descent towards the roof of the garage, and when it was only five feet above the roof, one of the witnesses yelled, “Stop! You’ll crush the garage!” At that moment the object stopped, hovered briefly, and shot away straight upwards.



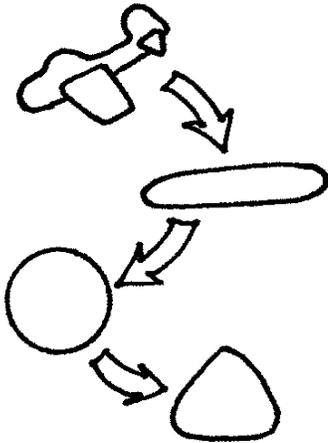
Two days later, one of the witnesses (this time alone) heard the same hum at about the same time in the evening (between 10 and 11 p.m.). Moving down his street was what appeared to be the same object. The “egg” or disk was only three to four feet above the pavement and covered the width of the road. The witness felt compelled to leave the house and go towards the object, which stopped at the end of his driveway. He walked forward until he was only four to five feet away. “I didn’t feel any heat, actually I didn’t feel *anything* at that point, other than that I knew I was moving towards it.”

Then his dog barked, and he snapped back into his

senses, and backed away. The object waited a moment, then slowly moved away about 20 feet down the street, quickly rose upwards, and vanished rapidly at a 45-degree angle of flight.

Here we see a technology of response, compulsion, and environmental or mental manipulation.

Case Nine: Near Tyler, Texas, September 23, 1973. At about 5 a.m., a truck driver was traveling a familiar route to work. A small “cub airplane” seemed to fly directly in front of another car on the road and nearly caused a wreck. (The witness is very sure that this was in the shape of a small plane.). The plane flew up over the side of the road and hovered above the trees, whereupon it changed into a long cigar shape, looking like an elongated balloon with lights.



The truck driver stopped and got out of the truck to watch. The cigar moved off, then came right back at him with a new, round shape. It began to light up and display many multicolored lights. The object was now over the top of a nearby house. It made a low, “loop-loop-loop” thumping sound, but no one in the house roused, and no other vehicles had stopped to watch.

Then a large, bright, square light seemed to descend and swing from the object. It seemed to approach the truck, go past, and come back at him. This scared the trucker so much he decided to jump back in the truck. But, he said, “I thought I jumped into it, but when I came to myself I was standing holding the truck door. I got so nervous I think I passed out. Sometimes I think this thing picked me up. I had some marks on my hip, marks on my shoulder.”

He remembers seeing the big machine (“larger than the house”) morph from a round shape into a triangle, move backwards, and go out of sight.

What kind of technology shifts shapes?

Case Ten: Bethel, Alaska, September 3, 1976. Early in the morning, the witness heard a very high-pitched whine, and looked out onto the tundra where a small (2½–3 inches in diameter) white beach ball seemed to be moving in the air, close to the ground. After a while it tilted so that she could see that it was a disk with a rotating “platinum-shiny” area in the middle. The object arced upwards, then back down, and seemed to just disappear into the ground.



As soon as it entered the ground, the sound stopped. On inspection, she found no ground marks or evidence where it had disappeared.

Following this incident by about a month, the same witness and a little dog were on her porch facing the area of the sighting. She went inside for a couple of minutes and the dog wandered off. She immediately began to search for her, following tracks in the fresh snow, but she couldn’t find her. As she said, “It was snowing. And her little tracks went out there and she just disappeared. . . . She weighed maybe five pounds max. So possibly some owl or something could have [gotten her]. But there wasn’t, you know, any other disturbance in the snow.”

Since these events, the witness feels that she has had a few very unusual light-projecting experiences which result in vivid dreams or out-of-body experiences. The content of the experiences is difficult to describe. Here are some of her words:

I had the feeling of movement, and there were these enormously huge objects that were like suspended in space, that were all around me. And they were very bright shining.

They were all different kinds of geometrical shapes and forms. I can’t begin to explain to you what they looked like. They were just beautiful; I’ve never in my life seen anything like it before.

But they were immense. And I have a feeling like it was an invisible corridor that I was moving down. I remember saying to myself at the time: I wonder what it is that they want?

So, dear lady, do we.

This concludes our adventures into the Timmerman Files. Look for a monograph of their contents (1,200 or so cases) in a Fund for UFO Research publication sometime in 2003. ♦

THE KING SPEAKS ON SAUCERS

After a nocturnal-light UFO sighting in 1965 at his home at 525 Perugia Way, Bel Air, California, Elvis Presley grinned and said to his bodyguard and friend Sonny West, “They will come but they won’t hurt us. If they make contact, we can’t be afraid, because they are not going to hurt us.” Elvis was convinced there were people on board.—Steve Dunleavy, *Elvis, What Happened?* (New York: Ballantine, 1977), p. 171.