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FINAL REPORT ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING OF UFO "ABDUCTEES"

By Ted Bloecher, Aphrodite Clamar, and Budd Hopkins

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DOS DESCRIPTION ASSESSMENT FOREWORD

This paper reports the results of a psychological study of a group of people who claim to have had "abduction experiences" within the UFO context (i.e., the witness reports that a sighting of unusual lights or of an unusual object is followed by the experience of being kidnapped and subjected to some sort of an examination by non-human "entities"). The study was carried out in order to determine whether or not such reports could reasonably be thought to derive from some type (or types) of psychopathology (mental disorder). The main conclusion of this study is that a battery of standard tests failed to detect any psychopathology that could be reasonably expected to be a cause for UFO abduction reports. A second conclusion is that the psychological characteristics which the tests did detect are generally consistent with what would be expected from people who have been subjected to a traumatic event such as a kidnapping or "abduction."

As with most pioneering studies it answers some questions and raises others. Perhaps more intense psychological investigation could turn up some as-yet undetected psychological cause. Furthermore, the study is limited by the rather small number (on a statistical basis) of persons tested. Thus one might argue that testing of many more "abductees" might result in the discovery of some consistent,

but previously unknown psychopathology.

Although not strictly germane to this report, it is of interest to consider the abduction case statistics that have been published by Budd Hopkins (MUFON Journal, No. 200, Dec. 1984). The statistics are based on investigations of 79 reports, many of which were uncovered during and after the psychological study reported here. According to Hopkins, of the 79 cases, 5 involved people who fully recalled their experiences WITHOUT hypnosis, 20 recalled their experiences WITH the aid of hypnosis, and 11 involved people who recalled NO abduction EVEN WHEN HYPNOTISED. The remainder of the cases are classified as highly probably abductions but they are, as yet, not completely resolved. Of these unresolved cases 13 have been investigated with the aid of hypnosis and 30 have been investigated without hypnosis. Thus, of the 79 well investigated abduction experiences, 6% were recalled without hypnosis, 38% have been investigated without hypnosis, and 14% turned up no abduction even under hypnosis.

These statistics provide a counterargument to those who have claimed that abduction experiences are memories of birth trauma (Lawson, 1980) or other effects of the human psyche that are uncovered by hypnosis, or that they result from the desire of the hypnotised person to "please" the investigator by making up an abduction. The birth trauma and "please the investigator" hypotheses have a particular difficulty in explaining the 14% of cases for which no abduction experience was uncovered even though they seemed to

the investigators to have been abduction events.

These statistics have led Hopkins to conclude that the number

of UFO abductees is much larger than has been imagined and may actually number in the thousands.

The present study was limited by the available funding and by the number of persons who had been thoroughly interviewed by ufologists (Bloecher, Hopkins) and who were also willing to "be subjected to" a battery of psychological tests. The second limitation may have been overcome since the completion of this study by the increase in the number of people reporting abductions after the publication of Hopkins' book, MISSING TIME (Marek Pub., 200 Madison Ave., New York, 10016; 1981). However, it is unlikely that we will find out until more funds are available because the tests are quite expensive. (All psychological testing has been carried out by

professionals who are paid for their services.)

This Final Report begins with an introduction to the abduction phenomenon written by Dr. Ronald Westrum. The introduction is followed by a summary of the results of the psychological testing. The summary was written by Ted Bloecher, Dr. Aphrodite Clamar and Budd Hopkins. The main text of the report concludes with a commentary on the results by Dr. Westrum. The Appendices include the original and retrospective analyses of the results that were written by Dr. Elizabeth Slater, who conducted the psychological tests. The original analysis was completed before she was told of the "UFO connection." After she learned that she had studied abductees she wrote a retrospective analysis to put her original report into the proper context. Also included in the Appendix are several examples of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) test results and, finally, the comments by another professional psychologist (whose name is confidential) who had been asked to evaluate Dr. Slater's analysis. This second analyst did not and still does not know of the UFO context.

When information has been given that could lead to the identification of the person being discussed the information has been removed to protect his/her identity and the standard patient-doctor confidentiality of the psychological analyses. More complete data

are available for qualified scientists.

This research was supported by the FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH, a non-profit organization which solicits donations from the general public and provides funds for high quality scientific or education projects related to the UFO phenomenon. The FUND will support further work in this field to an extent that is commensurate with donations and responsibilities to other FUND projects.

Bruce Maccabee, Chairman Fund for UFO Research January, 1985

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INTRODUCTION: PUTTING ABDUCTION REPORTS INTO PERSPECTIVE

By Ronald Westrum, Ph.D. Professor of Sociology Eastern Michigan University

UFO abductions are among the most interesting, complicated and frightening anomalous events that human beings can report. Because of their association with UFO sightings these reports seem to offer help in interpreting the UFO phenomenon, but because of the intensely personal and emotion-provoking aspects the reports also lend themselves to purely psychological explanations. Many critics have suggested that they are largely due to internal forces within the percipient (i.e., the person reporting the abduction). Ufologists, especially those who have been involved with abduction cases, tend, on the other hand, to see these reports as instances of human contact with other, possibly extraterrestrial, intelligence. Abduction reports are thus highly controversial and are likely to remain so for some time.

In spite of the controversy we should treat these reports seriously since at least some of them might actually provide some evidence of extraterrestrial (or some other kind of non-human) intelligence or of some heretofore unrealized factor of the human psyche. We should investigate these reports with any of the tools that can be used to illuminate their true nature. The psychological study reported here is an important contribution to this understanding, but we need much more.

A UFO abduction is ostensibly a real event to the witness who reports that he or she was removed from a routine context (e.g., driving a car) by non-human entities (aliens) and taken aboard what appeared to be a spacecraft. Although the exact scenario varies considerably, the following gives the general sequence of events during and following an abduction:

A husband and wife are driving down a lonely road at night when they see a light off in the distance. The light comes closer and becomes blindingly bright. Some sort of strange object is seen. After what seems to be a short time the light recedes into the distance and the couple continue driving down the road. Eventually they realize that it is much later than they thought and that there is a period of "missing time" for which they have no explanation. They also discover that they don't feel

quite right; feelings which persist long after the

journey is over.

In the following weeks or months they have strange, disturbing dreams. They also discover that there are certain things of which they are now afraid: flashing lights, certain buzzing noises. One night, upon hearing a program on UFOs they begin to wonder whether or not something significant took place during the period of "missing time."

They seek out a UFO investigator, who carefully interviews them and tries to learn everything that they can remember, and who then suggests that they explore the "missing time" by using hypnosis. They agree.

When they are hypnotized each recalls that after the light came closer their car stopped and would not restart. They then observed a strange craft landed nearby. Then "little men" in what looked like form-fitting costumes with strangely shaped heads pulled them out of the car and took them into the craft in spite of their protestations. They were subjected to a quasi-medical examination and were then returned to their car after being told that they would not remember the events. After the craft departed the car started easily and they continued on their journey.

This kind of report is very different from the typical "contactee" UFO reports of the 1950's (Jacobs, 1976, pg. 95-116) for several reasons. First, the emotional tone is very different. The contactees reported pleasant, voluntary contacts with attractive beings. They had no difficulties in remembering their experiences and one felt that, on the whole, their experiences were positive. By way of contrast the abductee experience is involuntary, often involves paralysis, extreme terror, and its effects on the individual's

life are largely negative, or even disastrous.

Another major contrast is in the reaction of the person to his/her experience. Contactees have been very willing to discuss their experiences publicly, even going on the lecture circuit to do it, and some have founded religious cults. Abductees, on the other hand, are generally very reticent about discussing their experiences except, perhaps, with other abductees or UFO investigators. The "coming out of the closet" of many abductees, in contacting UFO investigators, is similar to the modern social movements of rape victims or battered spouses, who need the aid and comfort of sympathetic understanding and catharsis in the presence of other victims. The contactees were generally proud of their experiences; abductees seldom are, and usually suffer silently in a kind of "pluralistic ignorance."

Ufologists were relatively slow to recognize the existence of abductees. The Villa Boas case of 1957 was considered a singleton for many years. Even the Barney and Betty Hill case, in 1961, was seen as an unusual event. Only with the publication of UFOs: OPERATION TROJAN HORSE (John Keel, 1970), in which he

discussed the "silent contactee" problem, was it suggested that abductions were a widespread event. In the 1970's more investigations of abductions were carried out and sometimes published. James Harder, Iris Maack, Leo Sprinkle and other members of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization carried out a large number of investigations, but most of these have never been published in any great detail (but see Lorenzen and Lorenzen, 1977). Cases for which detailed studies have been published include the Tujunga Canyon (Druffel and Rogo, 1980) and the Andreasson (Fowler, 1979) incidents. The most complete study of abduction reports is contained in the book MISSING TIME (Hopkins, 1981). THE EVIDENCE FOR ALIEN ABDUCTIONS (Rimmer, 1984) is a useful survey for anyone beginning study in this area.

As Ufologists became more interested in abductions, so did UFO critics, who were not slow to point out the problems with previous investigations, and the possibility of alternative explanations. Alvin Lawson (Lawson, 1980) has reported the results of experiments in which people who had had no UFO sighting were asked to imagine that they had been taken aboard a spaceship. These "imaginary abductees" generated surprisingly convincing abduction stories. On the other hand, the traumatic features of the "real" UFO abduction were largely absent in Lawson's experiments and they leave unexplained the reasons for the "real" abductee's loss of consciousness. Other critiques by Klass (1981) and Taves (1979-1980) have attacked both hypnosis as a method of investigation and the psychological stability of the witnesses. There has also been a

more general critique of UFO witnesses by Alexander Keul.

Thus the abduction phenomenon remains unexplained and intriguing. Although the problems involved with understanding this phenomenon are too numerous to go into here, we can characterize the event overall as follows. The abductee has had, or at least believes he/she has had, an unusual experience at one (or more) definite points in time, about which the conscious memory is more or less defective, and in some cases completely absent. This point in time typically involves a consciously remembered UFO sighting. Often there is a period of time for which no conscious memory exists; a "time gap" that can be explored only with hypnosis. Furthermore, whatever the nature of the experience, it continues to affect the witness' life after the fact. The abductee is likely to experience unexplained fear, anxiety, phobias, nightmares, flashbacks and quasi-memories. In more severe cases there is a considerable alteration of lifestyles, sometimes in the direction of increased religiosity, but often also involving personality deterioration, divorce, impulsive life-decisions, and interference with the individual's job. It is significant that many of these ill effects can be helped by simply talking the experience over with a Ufologist, although even more symptoms can be alleviated through hypnotherapy. There is thus an obvious suggestion that many of these cases display the symptoms of the Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome so common with Vietnam veterans (Horowitz, 1976). minimal explanation of the abduction experience would have to explain the following features:

- 1) An amnesic period, often of several hours duration
- 2) Memories associated with that period, memories of aliens and UFOs
- 3) Post-event symptoms of traumatic stress: phobias, flashbacks, nightmares, anxiety, etc.

It is also essential to take into consideration the multi-witness character of many (perhaps half) of the abductions. The number of persons involved has been as high as five in my own experience, and large in those of others (Hopkins, 1984). Any explanation which does not take this multi-witness nature into account is simply inadequate. This is not to say that no mechanisms exist which would explain why two or more persons could become unconscious at the same time, have similar and complementary memories, etc. Many of these mechanisms have been suggested in reference to the Betty and Barney Hill case. But many such proposed mechanisms seem much less adequate when they involve larger groups of people.

Finally, many abduction experiences seem "contagious." Like a disease, they seem to infect extended families or networks of friends. This is true in the Tujunga Canyon and Kitley Woods (Hopkins, 1984) cases and in at least two cases which I have investigated. This contagion may make the phenomenon seem more psychological or social in nature, but whatever its cause, it must be taken into account in any explanation. We must not ignore some of the data simply because they do not fit with the explanation that is

most appealing to us.

If the traumatic stress syndrome exhibited by so many abductees resulted from a remembered shooting, a rape, a near-fatal auto accident, or some similar remembered event, it would be perfectly acceptable. In these cases we would find it easy to believe that the event actually took place basically as remembered and that the individual repressed it from consciousness. IT IS ONLY BECAUSE THE UNDERLYING EVENT IN ABDUCTION CASES IS A UFO EXPERIENCE THAT WE DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY ACCEPT IT AS REAL. If such an event did take place, the trauma, the intense fear sometimes shown during the hypnotic regression, the phobias, flashbacks and other symptoms would all make sense and we could concentrate on the underlying event. Since, however, the MANIFEST explanation is exotic we must inquire more deeply into the psyche of the percipient than we otherwise would. These inquiries have led to three general hypotheses:

1) PSYCHOLOGICAL CAUSES: In this case the entire event, from beginning to end, is caused by (mental) processes within the percipient, probably caused by stress. This explanation can be made to seem more likely if the abductee can be shown to be emotionally unstable or psychotic. The spread of such an event might take place through "folie a deux" or hysterical contagion. Evidently, however, this cause could not explain why two or more people become amnesic at the same time.

- 2) MIXED CAUSES: Here the amnesia might be externally triggered, but the memories would be due to psychological or social processes. A natural phenomenon, such as the tectonic strain forces postulated by Persinger (1983), or some exotic effect of technology might cause the loss of consciousness. The time gap would then be filled in by confabulation or "social construction of reality." Why such an implanted memory would trigger severe stress, is however, unclear.
- 3) ALIEN CAUSES: Under this hypothesis the event would be caused by non-human intelligences whose actions would constitute the remembered experiences or whose manipulations would cause certain memories to be planted in the mind of the abductee. This hypothesis could be adopted if the other two proved inadequate or if the events remembered in the abduction case could be shown to fit a pattern established by other non-abduction UFO cases.

Ideally these hypotheses should be carefully tested against a systematically gathered and arranged collection of abduction experiences. Such systematic testing is urgently needed. It will be supported (to the extent possible) by the FUND for UFO RESEARCH and should be supported by other funding sources. The present study is a very important contribution to the testing of hypothesis #1 since, if the experiences were due to psychopathology, we would expect this psychopathology to be evident in psychological tests and interviews.

and that the individual repressed it from consciousness. IT is only

SUMMARY REPORT ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING OF NINE INDIVIDUALS REPORTING UFO ABDUCTION EXPERIENCES

By Ted Bloecher, Aphrodite Clamar, Ph.D., and Budd Hopkins

As every UFO researcher must know by now, reports of abductions by UFO occupants have been made by scores of credible people. These accounts form a distinct pattern, suggesting an underlying modus operandi: the witness is first paralyzed or otherwise physically controlled and then taken into a curved room, placed on a table and subjected to some sort of physical examination. The communication is often telepathic and generally minimal -- "You will not be harmed, you should remain calm," etc. The experience from beginning to end usually lasts not more than several hours.

These reports are taken seriously for three basic reasons: first, the solid reputations of many of the witnesses; second, the commonly encountered physical wounds, marks, etc., as well as other apparently related physical evidence; and third, the surprising congruity of detail in these various and geographically separated accounts (turning up, as they do, in many parts of the world).

UFO abduction reports have been explained away by some committed UFO researchers as well as by the usual coterie of dedicated debunkers as either hoaxes or psychological aberrations. These assertions are usually made with little, if any, supporting investigation, and obviously an in-depth exploration of each is essential. The idea of the witness' deliberately lying -- perpetrating a hoax -- can be tested by polygraph examination. It is worth noting that, while a polygraph test seems almost impossible to pass if the subject is deliberately lying, critics claim that a subject telling the truth has about a 30% chance of failing such a test. Polygraphs, in William Safire's phrase, measure nervousness, not untruth. Passing a polygraph, therefore, is highly significant; failing one, much less so.

When people who report abduction experiences take and pass lie detector tests, critics are forced to shift ground. They assert, now, that since these individuals obviously believe they were abducted, they are not lying but instead are deluding themselves. The emphasis now falls on various psychological explanations. The witnesses are hallucinating, are paranoid schizophrenics or are otherwise mentally disturbed. Obviously one or the other of these basic explanations is essential if we are to avoid taking UFO abduction accounts seriously as providing "perhaps the key to the entire UFO enigma," in the words of astronomer Dr. Allen Hynek.[1]

Realizing the importance of the issue, psychologist Dr. Aphrodite Clamar, UFO investigators Ted Bloecher and Budd Hopkins secured a grant from the Fund for UFO Research to examine this questions: What is the mental state of people who report UFO abductions? This research team has been involved in investigating, through extensive interviews, hypnotic regression and other means, a number of abduction accounts. To date, twenty-two individual cases

in which abduction scenarios came to light -- seventeen with the aid of hypnosis and five without its use -- have been investigated. We selected as a test sample five men and four women from this group. Each, we were satisfied, was credible, desired no publicity, and in fact demanded anonymity. Each reported an apparently legitimate UFO abduction experience involving missing time, an encounter with "aliens", physical examination and the rest.

The centerpiece of our project was its basic method: the psychological tests were to be administered blind; that is, by a psychologist who would have been told nothing whatsoever about the nature of our project, the involvement of the UFO issue, or the reason these particular nine people had been selected. There could be no unconscious bias in the test results attributable to the tester's feelings about so controversial a subject as the UFO phenomenon.

Miriam Foreman, Ph.D., was asked to recommend a psychometrician whose work she knew and respected. She gave us the name of Elizabeth Slater, Ph.D., a psychologist with experience administering projective and standardized psychological tests. Dr. Slater was told that we were interested in evaluating the subjects in order to determine similarities and differences in personality structure, as well as psychological strengths and weaknesses. The battery of tests consisted of the MMPI (a paper and pencil standardized personality test) as well as the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, and the TAT, the Rorschach and projective drawings.

Our project began in the fall of 1981, and testing proceeded slowly over the next twenty months. Each subject was instructed to make no reference whatsoever to the subject of UFOs or to the reasons s/he was selected to be tested, and this secrecy was scrupulously maintained. It is our feeling, therefore, that the

results are free from bias or ideological slant.

Bloecher, Clamar and Hopkins, in their proposal to the Fund for UFO Research, described several goals involved in administering this test battery to such a group of subjects. We felt, first of all, that the issue of psychopathology — the presence or absence of mental problems sufficient to account for the investigation of highly bizarre stories — would be addressed and resolved for this group of nine people. Secondly, we hoped to see if certain psychological characteristics or physical attributes might predispose one to such an experience. (For example, are "they" out there "looking for particular types of people to abduct?") Thirdly, we hoped to see if certain kinds of "psychic scars," to use Dr. Robert J. Lifton's phrase, might turn up in individuals who feel they have had such a experience. The frightening events in a UFO abduction, attested to by the intense emotions often displayed by the recollecting witness, would be expected to have long-term psychological effects.

As each of the nine subjects was tested, Dr. Slater wrote an extensive individual report and sent it to Dr. Clamar. (These individual reports are naturally highly confidential and remain in the possession of Dr. Clamar.) In June 1983 Dr. Slater completed her report, Conclusion on Nine Psychologicals. This fifteen page paper is the summary of her findings on the group of nine subjects,

describing their shared qualities and their differences and evaluating them as a group. It will be herein summarized through relevant

quotes.

"...While the subjects are quite heterogeneous in their personality styles, there is a modicum of homogeneity in several respects: (1) relatively high intelligence with concomitant richness of inner life; (2) relative weakness in the sense of identity, especially sexual identity; (3) concomitant vulnerability in the interpersonal realm; (4) a certain orientation towards alertness which is manifest alternately in a certain perceptual sophistication and awareness or in interpersonal hypervigilance and caution...Perhaps the most obvious and prominent impression left by the nine subjects is the range of personality styles they present...there is little to unite them as a group from the standpoint of the overt manifestations of their personalities...they [are] very distinctive, unusual, and interesting subjects.

"One of the positive aspects of this group is their above average intelligence. As measured by the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, one subject has an overall I.Q. score in the Very Superior range and five had overall I.Q.'s in the Bright Average range. Only three of the nine fall within the Average range, and they fall in the very upper end of that range. Breaking down intellectual skills further, there is no pattern among the nine in

terms of strongest abilities.

"...Results of projective tests, particularly the Rorschach, indicate...considerable flexibility of thought and sensitivity to affect and/or fantasy...They show a spontaneity and originality in thought and feeling...There was only one exception to this point...a woman

who showed considerable rigidity and inflexibility...

"The richness of their inner world, however, is something of a double-edged sword. While it allows for originality...and spontaneity...many of the subjects are continually at risk of being overwhelmed by the urgency of their impulses...Anxiety was prominent in all nine subjects, some of whom were simply flooded by it...

"In addition to the relative propensity for emotionally disorganizing experience, another factor common to the nine subjects...is a modicum...of narcissistic disturbance. It is manifest along at least three dimensions: identity disturbance, lowered self-esteem, relative egocentricity and/or lack of unity, substance, coherence and definition about oneself, which is typically accompanied by a sense of fragility, dependency and vulnerability to insult and psychological injury. It may also be felt very concretely in terms of impaired body image and/or somatic concerns about one's bodily integrity.

"Identity disturbance was particularly apparent from the standpoint of sexual identity confusion of varying degrees in all of the subject. ...Low self-esteem is the typical accompaniment to a fragile or weakened sense of self. Thus, one subject continually apologized for her performance and became excessively alarmed over her errors...One spoke of `somebody being crushed by something,'

pointing to a sense of smallness and victimization in the face of overwhelming outer forces.

"Along with above average intelligence, richness in mental life, and indications of narcissistic identity disturbance, the nine subjects also share some degree of impairment in personal relationships.
...For [some] subjects, problems in intimacy are manifest more in great sensitivity to injury and loss than in lack of intimacy and relatedness.

"...The last salient dimension of impairment in the interpersonal realm relates to a certain mildly paranoid and disturbing streak in many of the subjects, which renders them very wary and cautious about involving themselves with others. One of the women, for instance, gave frequent Rorschach responses of people who are back to back, looking at one another over their shoulders, or otherwise facing one another only indirectly. On the [Rorschach percept] thought to elicit one's view of oneself, she described an elf with large ears, suggesting she requires well-developed hearing to be especially alert to what's happening around her. One of the men anticipates he will be used and abused by others...Similarly, another man showed an expectation of biting assault from others. For him, relationships are characterized by discord, rudeness, disappointment and distrust.

"It is significant that all but one of the subjects had modest elevations on the MMPI paranoia scale relative to their other scores. Such modest elevations mean that we are not dealing with blatant paranoid symptomatology but rather oversensitivity, defensiveness and fear of criticism and susceptibility to feeling pressured.

"To summarize, while this is a heterogeneous group in terms of overt personality style, it can be said that most of its members share being rather unusual and very interesting. They also share brighter than average intelligence and a certain richness of inner life that can operate favorably in terms of creativity or disadvantageously to the extent that it can be overwhelming. Shared underlying emotional factors include a degree of identity disturbance, some deficits in the interpersonal sphere, and generally mild paranoia phenomena (hypersensitivity, wariness, etc.)."

A few days after Dr. Slater handed this report to Dr. Clamar, Dr. Clamar told her about the nature of our project, the UFO connection and the reason nine subjects had been selected. She was, it is safe to say, flabbergasted. She had very little information about the subject of UFOs, and almost none about the specific abduction issue. She was given a copy of Hopkins' book Missing Time to read, and she was told that several of the people dealt with in that book had been among her nine subjects. She read the book and later attended a meeting with the three project authors. This gave each of us the opportunity to ask questions about the implications of her various findings, and to ask her to address these points in her addendum. That final eight-page report is summarized below:

"...The first and most critical question is whether our subjects' reported experiences could be accounted for strictly on the basis of psychopathology, i.e. mental disorder. The answer is a firm no. In

broad terms, if the reported abductions were confabulated fantasy productions, based on what we know about psychological disorders, they could only have come from pathological liars, paranoid schizophrenics, and severely disturbed and extraordinarily rare hysteroid characters subject to fugue states and/or multiple personality shifts. ...It is important to note that not one of the subjects, based on test data, falls into any of these categories. Therefore, while the testing can do nothing to prove the veracity of the UFO abduction reports, one can conclude that the test findings are not inconsistent with the possibility that reported UFO abductions have, in fact, occurred. In other words, there is no apparent psychological explanation for their reports."

Dr. Slater devotes two pages to an elaboration of that statement as born out by the test results, and then she goes on:

"From another, more speculative point of view, one can consider how UFO abduction, as reported in Mr. Hopkins' Missing Time, might affect the victim. [My report] suggested that while the nine subjects were heterogeneous in the overt personality style, they did share several characteristics. Those characteristics may relate to other aspects of the subjects' lives and have no connection whatsoever to UFO abduction. There is really no way of knowing. However, at least one can say that these features are not inconsistent with what one might anticipate as the psychological consequences of such a startling, disturbing event as UFO abduction.

"Certainly such an unexpected, random and literally otherworldly experience...during which the individual has absolutely no control over the outcome, constitutes a trauma of major proportions. Hypothetically, its psychological impact might be analogous to what one sees in crime victims or victims of natural disasters, as it would constitute an event during which the individual is overwhelmed by external circumstances in an extreme manner...[The] subjects typically recalled having been subject both to mind control and an even more basic loss of control over motoric functions, i.e., they reported that they seemed to have been physically transported to the UFOs and had somehow been stripped of any mental capacity to resist physically. Events such as these, when one is denied every opportunity for even minimal forms of mastery, can only be characterized as psychologically traumatic.

"Psychological traits which arose consistently in the subjects first included a surprising degree of inner turmoil as well as a great degree of wariness and distrust. Logically, such emotional upheaval and accompanying caution about the word might certainly follow in

the wake of an experience as described above.

"Furthermore, if one considers the skepticism and disrepute that is typically encountered with reports of UFO sightings, then not only are we characterizing UFO abductions as inherently traumatic, but we must add that it would likely carry social stigmatization as well. ... Assuming for the sake of argument that abduction has actually occurred and that presumably its occurrence would be very rare, it then becomes something that cannot be

readily shared with others as a means of obtaining emotional support. Consequently, one would likely find a deep sense of shame, secretiveness and social alienation among the victims, who would have undergone a profound experience that could not be comprehended or accepted by others. The closest analogy might be the interpersonal alienation of the rape victim, who has been violated most brutally but somehow becomes tainted by virtue of the crime against her.

"It will be recalled that the nine subjects showed considerable interpersonal difficulty that is in keeping with the above description...They all showed anxiety and discomfort in interpersonal contexts and frequently were at a loss about how to handle themselves or others. This anxiety was accompanied by a general wariness, instinctive self-protectiveness, and sensitivity to criticism or other interpersonal injury or insult. Such problems make a great deal of sense if these individuals have an awful secret to guard.

"The last feature that the nine subjects share relates to considerable impairment in the sense of self manifest most particularly in deficits in body image -- that is, a coherent sense of one's own physicality, of residing in one's body, an acceptance of one's gender and comfort with one's sexuality... However, again assuming... that the UFO abductions did happen, one is no longer so surprised given the invasive and injurious nature of physical examinations that may have taken place. [2]

"These examinations may be compared to what happens to individuals who undergo surgery, are otherwise hospitalized for serious illness, or are handicapped. Under these conditions, a great deal of psychological importance may become attached to the injury so that the sense of identity with an attendant sense of personal inadequacy and inferiority. While this phenomenon may occur at any time, it is likely to be especially dramatic if it occurs in childhood."

Dr. Slater ended her paper with a review of these findings and a statement about the limitations of psychological tests per se, plus a few useful suggestions for future avenues of investigation. As she wrote in the addendum, the results of the nine psychological test batteries obviously do not prove that our subjects were actually abducted. The project results do, however, establish two major that a trained psychologist, testing nine individuals points: "blindly," found no psychological (i.e. pathological) explanation for their bizarre accounts. And, second, that the patterns of psychological deficits each of the nine exhibited are commensurate with what one might assume to be the kind of psychological damage that would result from such an event. This pattern, moreover, gives UFO researchers a data pool to use in comparing the results of future test batteries derived from the investigation of similar cases. In sum, the test results neither support the "psychological explanation" of UFO abductions, nor in any way contradict the disturbing hypothesis that these nine people are recalling actual experiences.

The three authors of this project owe a great debt to Dr. Slater for the thoroughness and objectivity of her study, and to the

Fund for UFO Research and its contributors for supporting our investigation. We are especially grateful to the nine subjects who gave their time and attention to this difficult and personal exploration.

Footnotes:

- 1. Hynek, J. Allen, letter to Budd Hopkins, quoted in Missing Time, Berkeley, N.Y., 1983.
- 2. One of the subjects, under hypnosis, recalled that a sperm sample was taken from him, and most of the other subjects describe sometime painful incisions, punctures and other "invasive, injurious" procedures.
- 3. Four of the nine subjects specifically recall childhood abductions, and there is reason to believe that some of the other also had such experiences (see Table).

INFORMATION ON THE NINE SUBJECTS

SEX	MARITAL STATUS IN 1983	HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL	PROFESSION	YEAR OF BIRTH	YEAR OF REPORTED ABDUCTION
М	DIVORCED	GRADUATE SCHOOL	COLLEGE PROFESSOR	1942	1979
М	DIVORCED	COLLEGE	ELECTRONICS EXPERT	1954	1978*
М	DIVORCED	COLLEGE TENN	ACTOR AND	1951 R	1973*
F	MARRIED SCHOOL	GRADUATE	CORPORATION LAWYER	1943	1950, 1960
F	NOT MARRIED	COLLEGE	COMMERCIAL ARTIST	1947	1972*
Fairan	NOT MARRIED	COLLEGE	BUSINESS EXECUTIVE	1952	1957, 1968,1973*
M eb etc.	NOT MARRIED	GRADUATE SCHOOL	DIRECTOR OF CHEMISTRY LA	1947 B	1980*
M	DIVORCED	COLLEGE	SALESMAN AND DIO TECHNICIA		1957, 1965,1969, 1971,1976*
F	NOT MARRIED	COLLEGE	SECRETARY	1957	1962, c. 1977*

^{*}Indicates some evidence of at least one other as yet uninvestigated UFO abduction experience.

COMMENTS ON THE RESULTS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

(including the Korschach which was used in both the Slater and Keul studies), the MMPI is at $Y^{\mathbf{B}}_{\mathrm{FF}}$ retical and in principle could be

Dr. Ronald Westrum

This study of nine purported abductees is an excellent example of scientific research directed toward the UFO phenomenon, of which abduction reports are a part. Dr. Slater examined the abductees in a "blind" manner, not knowing why she had been asked to test them. This lack of knowledge on the part of the person carrying out the psychological tests is extremely important in a study of this type, since a previous knowledge that the people were "abductees" might have predisposed the examiner toward a diagnosis indicating pathology. On the whole, it must be said that the results appear entirely consistent with hypotheses #2 and #3, and do not support hypothesis #1 given near the end of the Introduction. Thus it appears that the data suggest a real traumatic experience rather than an hallucination caused by psychosis.

While the individuals examined all show neurotic tendencies to varying degrees, it must be emphasized that a group of "normal people" (non-abductees) taking the same tests would show similar neurotic tendencies. Therefore the reader should not be misled by descriptions that emphasize the individual's emotional problems for at least two reasons. First, we are all somewhat neurotic and signs of neurosis are not the same thing as signs of psychosis (insanity). Second, if the individuals involved had really suffered traumatic experiences of the kind described (UFO abductions) it would be surprising if the events had not left serious psychological scars. Thus, if the events had occurred as described, we would actually expect certain kinds of psychological disturbances to be present. It is significant that Dr. Slater, in her retrospective Addendum, finds the abduction hypothesis (#3) to be consistent with her data. Thus this study presents evidence which makes the first hypothesis, that abduction experiences are purely psychological, seem very unlikely.
This study gains further importance because it contradicts

This study gains further importance because it contradicts the conclusions of an earlier study, carried out under the direction of Dr. Alexander Keul (Keul, Vienna, 1981), and funded by the Vienna Board of Education. Keul's study of ten "unidentified" UFO case percipients (NOT abductees) suggested that the crazier the witness the more extreme the UFO report. The Keul study as reported in summary form (I have not seen the full study) appears to have had two weaknesses which the Slater study does not have. First, it was not a "blind" study because the researchers apparently knew the subjects had reported UFO sightings and this may have had an impact on their conclusions. Second, the Keul study did not include the MMPI, the

Minneapolis Multiphasic Personality Inventory. The lack of this test is very important since, unlike most projective tests (including the Rorschach which was used in both the Slater and Keul studies), the MMPI is atheoretical and in principle could be interpreted by a machine. Scores on the MMPI can be compared objectively with scores on the same test of schizophrenics, etc. Projective test, while more powerful in picking up mental themes, are much more subjective and unreliable, since they depend on a considerable amount of interpretation.

It must be stressed that in a new science no results are final. Thus, while the results of this study suggest that abduction experiences represent at least some objective external event, many more studies will be required to make this finding more solid. In the meantime, it is worth concentrating some attention on the other two hypothese (#2, #3), which gain increased interest from the study's results. If we work with the idea that the abductee has suffered some kind of traumatic experience, then we must inquire more closely into the nature of the experience and its possible causes. It is particularly important also to determine how widespread this "hidden event" actually is because, if hypothesis #3 should turn out to be the correct one, this knowledge would represent important strategic information.

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APPENDIX A mo expense of the Rocky Mountain Conference on

This Appendix contains Dr. Slater's initial report on "nine psychologicals" and her retrospective report ("Addendum") that was written after she was told that her subjects had all reported UFO abductions.

Identifying information has been removed to assure confidentiality of the people who were tested and the confidentiality of the doctor's comments about specific people. In particular, references to sex have been deleted by a combination of slight alterations of the wording and by removing of all pronouns. The changes have been made using hand printing to make them obvious to the reader. Pronouns (he, she, his, hers, him, her) have been replaced by [...]. (More complete data are available to qualified practitioners.)

Certain statements in the following text have been underlined for emphasis. The underlining was not, however, in the original report by Dr. Slater.

CONCLUSIONS ON NINE PSYCHOLOGICALS

By Elizabeth Slater, Ph.D.

(June 30, 1983)

The purpose of the following discussion is to summarize the findings from psychodiagnostic test batteries for nine of the subjects participating in this study. In particular, it will devote itself to comparing and contrasting the nine individuals, with special emphasis on shared features in their intellectual and emotional development. It will attempt to illustrate that while the subjects are quite heterogeneous in their personality styles, there is a modicum of homogeneity in several respects: 1) relatively high intelligence with concomitant richness of inner life; 2) relative weakness in the sense of identity, especially sexual identity; 3) concomitant vulnerability in the interpersonal realm; 4) a certain orientation towards alertness which is manifest alternately in a certain perceptual sophistication and awareness or in interpersonal hypervigilance and caution.

Perhaps the most obvious and prominent impression left by the nine subjects is the range of personality styles they present. On one end of the continuum, some were flamboyantly exhibitionistic and dramatic with exaggerated display of emotions. In contrast, others were quite shy, sensitive, and reticent in their demeanor. Some subjects were cooperative, considerate and sweet, sometimes to the point of being saccharine, while others were openly hostile to the point of brazenly disparaging the tests and examiner. Some presented themselves as very cool and in control, while others were clearly flustered and scattered in their approach to the testing situation. Finally, some subjects were seemingly autonomous and independent in the way they worked while others were rather clinging and demanding of assistance. In short, there is little to unite them as a group from the standpoint of the overt manifestations of their personalities.

What can be said, however, is that as a group they present as very distinctive, unusual and interesting subjects. As the testing proceeded, it became clear, with only one exception, that they did not represent an ordinary cross-section of the population from the standpoint of conventionality in lifestyle, banality of interest, or conformity to typical middle class values. Indeed, in lay terms, several individuals involved in this project might be labelled downright "eccentric" or "odd". This lack of ordinariness is likely an artifact of the selection process for participation in the study -- that is, that individuals were chosen just because they were atypical and not "run-of-the-mill" or "garden variety" anything. As I hope to demonstrate, this factor of distinctiveness has both very positive as well as seriously

detrimental implications in terms of psychological functioning for

the group as a whole.

One of the positive aspects of this group is their above average intelligence. As measured by the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale, one subject has an overall I.Q. score in the highest or Very Superior range and five have overall I.Q.'s in the Bright Average range. Only three of the nine fall in the Average range proper, and they fall in the very upper end of that range. Breaking down intellectual skills further, there is no pattern among the nine in terms of strongest abilities. Three are more adept at verbal reasoning tasks than practical (perceptualmotor or mechanical) tasks. Three are more facile in practical tasks than verbal ones, and three showed comparable abilities on both types of tasks. The only noteworthy commonality is that seven of the nine had their lowest score on a subtest requiring the understanding of social relationships and roles in an applied (as opposed to hypothetical) situation. This point will be taken up again later in the discussion of interpersonal relationships.

From a more qualitative point of view, as a group testing reveals a considerable richness of inner life. Thus, projective tests, particularly the Rorschach, indicate that these individuals show considerable flexibility of thought and sensitivity to affect and/or fantasy. They are relatively facile in bringing a number of different determinants of experience to bear on the way they perceive their world and to do so with a relatively high degree of articulation and integration. They show a spontaneity and originality in thought and feeling. This contrasts sharply to more typical testing protocols, which generally show greater objectivity and neutrality, greater inhibition, conventionality and adherence to cultural pressures, but also less deviance and idiosyncratic responsiveness. Of the nine subjects, there was only one exception to the point involving a person who showed considerable rigidity and inflexibility in thought and feeling. The richness of their inner world, however, is something of

The richness of their inner world, however, is something of a double-edged sword. While it allows for originality in thought and spontaneity in emotional expression, many of the subjects are continually at risk of being overwhelmed by the urgency of their impulses and are in a rather continual struggle to bind them and keep them at bay. Thus, anxiety was prominent in all nine subjects, some of whom were simply flooded by it. In these later cases, the originality of their thinking can be characterized only as hollow exercise because their high level of anxiety hampers them in putting it in the service of practical reality. While the potential is certainly there for these subjects, at present, they show more form than substance.

When under stress, all nine subjects are predisposed for impulsivity either in the form of acting out behaviors or for intense and disorganizing emotional storms. Moreover, under stressful condition, at least six of the nine show a potential for

more or less transient psychotic experiences involving a loss of reality testing along with confused and disordered thinking that can be bizarre, peculiar or very primitive and emotionally charged.

In sum, the formal test results support the earlier stated clinical impression that one has a group of unusual and interesting personalities characterized by relatively high intellectual ability and richly evocative and charged inner worlds. At their best they are highly inventive, creative and original. At their worst, they are beset by intense emotional upheaval.

In addition to the relative propensity for emotionally disorganizing experience, another factor common to the nine subjects in terms of emotional functioning is a modicum of what is technically termed narcissistic disturbance. It is manifest along at least three dimensions: identity disturbance, lowered self-esteem, relative egocentricity and/or lack of emotional maturity. Impaired identity sense refers to an experiential lack of unity, substance, coherence and definition about oneself, which is typically accompanied by a sense of fragility, dependency and vulnerability to insult and psychological injury. It may also be felt very concretely in terms of impaired body image and/or somatic concerns about one's bodily integrity.

The test protocols include a variety of examples reflecting on these issues. Most dramatically, seven of the nine subjects demonstrated what are technically called boundary failures on their figure drawings. These are gaps, omissions of lines to separate one part of the figure from another, or lines that overlap in such a way as to give the impression of transparency. An omission might be failure to draw a neckline when the cuffs and waistline of a shirt are clearly indicated. A transparency might involve the outline of the skirt bisecting the outline of an arm placed over it. One of the seven left [...] figures unclothed, reflecting a sense of emptiness and lack of differentiation about self-image. Another drew a head only, indicating an absence psychologically of connection with his bodily self. While most of the boundary failures were minor and not so glaring, they are significant by virtue of their frequency and suggestive of a certain emptiness, vagueness and diffusion that most of the subjects have about themselves.

A similar quality of incompletion was conveyed by two subjects who consistently described projective images assumed to mirror one's self-image as "rough at the edges," "off-balance," or having "loose ends" and "fuzzy edges." One of them provided a Rorschach response of cells dividing, in the process of pulling apart, reflecting a lack of separateness and differentiation. Another subject's sense of incompletion and deficiency was illustrated in [...] many anatomical responses, which indicate concerns over [...] bodily integrity, while in [...] test behavior

[...] presented [...] self with many somatic complaints and as a

person who is falling apart at the seams.

Identity disturbance was particularly apparent from the standpoint of sexual identity confusion of varying degrees in all of the subjects. It appeared in a variety of formal test responses, including: a) cross-sex responses, such as drawing an opposite sex figure first on figure drawings or giving human responses on the Rorschach that were predominantly opposite sex; b) sexual reversals, such as identifying female TAT figures as male; and c) giving responses that lacked sexual differentiation, such as "a person." It also appeared on the MMPI Masculinity-Femininity scale scores. Finally, it appeared in qualitative responses. One person for instance, openly admitted wishing to be of the opposite sex. Two people gave feminized descriptions of men on the Rorschach. One was a blatantly hermaphroditic image of basketball players wearing high heeled shoes. The other depicted men wearing such feminine garb as long, flowing capes.

Low self-esteem is the typical accompaniment to a fragile or weakened sense of self. Thus, one subject continually apologized for [...] performance and became excessively alarmed over [...] errors. Another complained through projectives that [...] biggest problem is "people not accepting for who [...] is." Two other subjects made more vivid expressions. One spoke of "somebody being crushed by something," pointing to a sense of smallness and victimization in the face of overwhelming outer forces. The other's Rorschach response of "an angry and demented mouse" again captures smallness and timidity and the sense of impotence and frustration that accompanies such a stance in the world.

Finally, another subject gave several responses of royalty that are ostensibly opposite from the above examples of impaired self-image and esteem. Rather, they are suggestive of self-inflation and an elevated, grandiose sense of identity. Yet they are so lofty and exaggerated that they imply a need to compensate for underlying insecurity. Indeed, this subject alluded to this by stating that the Empress and King responses were only masquerades or engaged merely in empty, ceremonial ritual and lacking in real substance. In fact, these elevated image alternated with rather debased responses, e.g. a fat ballerina or gossiping women.

Egocentricity, which was very evident in this person's braggadocio and need to draw attention to [...]self during testing, is another typical manifestation of narcissistic identity disturbance. It was evident in other subjects as well. For instance, one person failed to come to the first testing appointment. When [...] arrived at the second appointment quite late, [...] immediately complained of a headache and requested aspirin, suggesting [...] was rather preoccupied with [...]self and had little energy available to comprehend that [...] was inconveniencing someone else. This person aptly described

[...]self through projectives as "...a little detached, perhaps a little vain even."

Another person showed a basic lack of maturity and consideration for others in responses to the comprehension subtest of the WAIS. For example, when asked what one should do if [...] were the first person to detect a fire in a movie theater, [...] replied, "try to make it to the exit, before the rush...."-i.e., save [...]self rather than the more socially responsible answer, which is to alert someone in authority who could arrange for orderly exit for everyone. Similarly, when asked why one should stay away from bad company, [...] answered that it might be dangerous instead of the idea that it might influence one towards anti-social behavior towards others.

In sum then, as a group these are people who lack solidity and coherence in their experience of selfhood in spite of their many gifts. A proviso is necessary, however, in making this point. It is that this type of narcissistic problem has been discussed by experts as more or less pervasively in evidence in terms of the varieties of psychopathology in today's clinical practice and as an even more widespread, contemporary cultural phenomenon that goes beyond the clinical population. Therefore, it is not clear that the kind of narcissistic psychopathology noted here is specific or peculiar to the population in this study, and it would be necessary to compare them to a sample from the general population to make this conclusion firm. Nevertheless, it is striking that this is a non-clinical population in that their difficulties are so like those one sees in the consulting room.

Along with above average intelligence, richness in mental life, and indications of narcissistic identity disturbance, the nine subjects also share some degree of impairment in interpersonal relationships. Thus, while there was no general pattern to high and low scores on the WAIS subtest, it is striking that for seven of the nine, the one subtest that was a low score relative to their other scores involved the ability to perceive hypothetical social situations accurately.

Interpersonal difficulty is manifest in several respects. First, it shows itself in a certain lack of relatedness or knowledge about what actually happens between people. Thus, one person had difficulty making up stories on the TAT and would resort to borrowing two-dimensional characterizations of "good guys and bad guys" based on "a grade B movie" instead:

Looks like a scene from a movie...Looks like they just had a discussion about something and he's made up his mind to leave or do something. She doesn't want him to go and she's trying to plead with him to make a point. And I would say that he goes...Reminds me of a B movie--cowboy

movie. He's going out to get the villain, and she's saying, "Don't go." Looks like Gary Cooper.

Another person had even greater difficulty formulating or describing some kind of interaction: "...Doesn't seem (like) there's that much going on. That person's here, and one's there. There's nothing really inter-connecting." One person repeatedly described people who urgently want to express themselves to other but were unable to achieve closeness. For example:

"An elderly female--kind of compassionate, you know. Maybe she's not showing enough of her feelings other thancompassion. Just one feeling. It's hard to get to know her."

In a last example, another person described people who again lack connection or meaningful relatedness. For [...], interactions occur without rhyme or reason and without any kind of closeness.

This guy went out the night before and got drunk, and he picked up some unsavory female in a local pub.... This picture is the next morning, and he doesn't know how he got there.... He's got a hangover, and her doesn't know where he is, and doesn't really care.... He gets his stuff and leaves. Does the same thing next weekend.

For other subjects, problems in intimacy are manifest more in great sensitivity to injury and loss than in the lack of intimacy and relatedness above. One [...], for example, continually described relationships in which individuals are bound together by and submerged in pain and guilt. One person shows considerable wariness and sensitivity to others based on fears of being abandoned, which [...] equates with a loss of part of [...]self. Separations, therefore, are wrenching:

He's having an affair, and she adores him.
He seems to be torn, and I don't see any
affection in his face. She's begging him to
stay, and I think he leaves.

For this subject, when women are not seen in such degraded or tragic terms, they are viewed as snobbish, supercilious or self-absorbed. One person, who is especially vulnerable to injury, expressed the view that one will never gain acceptance no matter how lofty one's achievements are, as in the following story:

We could say its Ronald Reagan come home to see his mother to win her approval. However, she's turned her back on him because he was a failure in the film industry....

The last salient dimension of impairment in the interpersonal realm relates to a certain mildly paranoid and distrusting streak in many of the subjects, which renders them very wary and cautious about involving themselves with others. One person, for instance, gave frequent Rorschach responses of people who are back to back, looking at one another over their shoulders, or otherwise facing one another only indirectly. On the inkblot thought to exemplify one's view of oneself, [...] described an elf with large ears, suggesting [...] requires well-developed hearing to be especially alert to what is happening around her. One person anticipating being used and abused by others. This person described the female figure drawing as follows:

She's like...Egotistical....And she seems to feel that men are there just to serve her, for her to use so to speak. She uses her femininity and her looks just to trap them, and then when they make a play for her, she tells them to take a hike. All in all she's not a nice woman at all, the kind you don't want to run into....

Similarly, another person showed an expectation of biting assault from others. For [...], relationships are characterized by discord, rudeness, disappointment and distrust. One of this person's stories is as follows:

This doctor, the older man, has just hypnotized this guy....The young guy....Made an appointment to be hypnotized. It was part of his therapy with the doctor... And the doctor was up to no good. He's going to do some- thing else. I think the doctor is evil, and when the guy wakes up, he's not going to know what the doctor's going to do....And he thinks the doctor's his friend, but he's not.

In a last example, one person indicated that [...] suspects others of being calculating and controlling. [...] test protocols are noteworthy for the relative absence of kind, warm or sympathetic images. Instead, [...] spoke of "a menacing lady" and

"gossipy old women," while [...] used adjectives such as "stern," "smug," and "disapproving" to describe others. As a result, [...] must be hypervigilant to guard against interpersonal danger.

In sum, as a group these are people with interpersonal problems. Several have made only a very anxious adjustment with a need to either control others or withdraw from contact. Several have a very unsophisticated view of the kinds of transactions and interchanges that occur between people. They see others in unidimensional, black and white, all good or all bad terms.

There is one last issue that arises very frequently with the nine subjects. This is a tendency towards mildly "paranoid" thinking which was already discussed above from the standpoint of interpersonal relationships, but some elaboration on this point is in order. It is significant that all but one of the nine subjects had modest elevations on the MMPI paranoia scale relative to their other scores. Such modest elevations mean that we are not dealing with blatant paranoid symptomatology but rather oversensitivity, defensiveness and fear of criticism, and susceptibility to feeling pressured.

In our subjects, this factor expressed itself in a number of forms and with certain accompanying characteristics. First, when one anticipates hostility and/or crisis, one becomes cautious. In some of our subjects, this is evident in projective responses such as shrouded figures, figures in profile and figures wearing capes, all suggesting a wish to remain hidden. For others, it was clear in their need to make themselves look good and/or to expose as

little of their inner life as possible.

Secondly, when one is afraid of emotional injury, assault or exploitation, he may become hyperviligant, the rationale being that if one is aware enough, he can prevent or elude harm. Such a strategy typically backfires, however, because conversely, if one is always anticipating hurt, he will usually find it. In many of the subjects, this hypervigilance is evident in a marked tendency to attend and to be sensitive to nuance and fine detail. Such a tendency may represent a degree of emotional and interpersonal liability as outlined previously. However, from the standpoint of cognition, it may amount to subtlety in thinking and is consequently a considerable asset.

Similarly, some subjects display a tendency to link percepts into a single gestalt that more properly and realistically should remain separate. Alternately, some have a need to take every piece of data into account. Both instances may be motivated by leeriness and caution and may represent an effort to maintain control and leave no room for unanticipated eventualities. Finally, the emphasis on eyes and ears in many of the Rorschach protocols reflects once more a need to see and to hear, to "watch-out," as it were. Again, this disposition towards wariness

may take its toll emotionally, and in the less well-integrated subjects it reflects a failure to discriminate essentials. Nevertheless, it can also underlie thoroughness of thought as well as the capacity to create unusual juxtapositions, indicating a degree of cognitive ingenuity. Moreover, in several of the subjects, interest in the visual and auditory sensory modalities has been a foundation out of which skills in and enthusiasm for the visual arts and music have been cultivated.

Conclusion

To summarize, while this is a heterogeneous group in terms of overt personality style, it can be said that most of its members share being rather unusual and very interesting. They also share brighter than average intelligence and a certain richness of inner life that can operate either favorably in terms of creativity or disadvantageously to the extent that it can be overwhelming. Shared underlying emotional factors include a degree of identity disturbance, some deficits in the interpersonal sphere, and generally mild paranoid phenomena (hyper-sensitivity, wariness, etc.)

The structure of this paper is circular, starting with intellectual and cognitive factors and ending with them. I hope it has become clear that they are not easily separated from emotional issues and personality style. Thus, richness of thought and inner life can also lead to a flooded and overwhelmed ego. Similarly, hypersensitivity interpersonally can lead to cognitive sophistication — that is, an awareness of subtlety and nuance, an ability to see things in unique and unusual ways, or a capacity for comprehensiveness. On the other hand, if this so-called sophistication is exaggerated or relied upon too heavily, it leads quickly to a loss in one's ability to perceive one's environment realistically, and is therefore very detrimental.

An implicit question that runs through this discussion then is the relationship between creativity and psychopathology. It has been written about extensively and is not easily answered except to say that a modicum of personality integration is needed to bring one's creative abilities into focus in a productive manner. Two of the subjects in this study show great talent in this regard. Two others show considerable potential but much too much disturbance to bring it to fruition. The others fall somewhere on a continuum between these two extremes. Some show solid functioning when they are working in neutral, impersonal contexts, while some show a capacity to diffuse uncomfortable emotional situations by interposing their artistic interest and observational capacities to distance themselves.

To conclude, I hope that some of the intricacies and vicissitudes that occur between thought and feeling have been elucidated for these subjects. Further, I hope that this summary

of the psychologicals will augment other facets of the study.

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To conclude, I hope that some of the intricacies and vicissitudes that occur between thought and feeling have been elucidated for these subjects. Further, I hope that this summary

Addendum to "Conclusions on Nine Psychologicals" Elizabeth Slater, Ph.D. (Oct 30, 1983)

The nine psychological test batteries on the subjects of this study were administered "blind", that is without knowledge about the actual nature of the study. In fact, I had been given vague suggestions that the study related to some aspect of creativity, and the final summary report, "Conclusions on Nine Psychologicals" was written with this idea in mind. Having been debriefed following the submission of "Conclusions on Nine Psychologicals", some additional comments about the test findings are in order. The purpose of this addendum will be to reconsider some of the original data with the context of reported UFO abductions.

The first and most critical question is whether our subjects' reported experiences could be accounted for strictly on the basis of psychopathology, i.e. mental disorder. The answer is a firm no. In broad terms, if the reported abductions were confabulated fantasy productions, based on what we know about psychological disorders, they could have only come from pathological liars, paranoid schizophrenics, and severely disturbed and extraordinarily rare hysteroid characters subject to fugue states and/or multiple personality shifts. Before describing these problems in more detail, it is important to note that not one of the subjects, based on test data, falls into any of these categories. Therefore while the testing can do nothing to prove the veracity of the UFO abduction reports, one can conclude that the test findings are not inconsistent with the possibility that reported abductions have, in fact, occurred. In other words, there is no apparent psychological explanation for their reports.

To return to the possible psychopathological analogues to reported UFO abductions, only three categories suggest themselves. One involves the pathological liar, someone who regularly invents convincing stories and presents them as real. The second involves the systematized paranoid delusions of the paranoid schizophrenic who is convinced of the reality of elaborately conceived, malevolent schemes and conspiracies that are perpetrated against him. To repeat, there was no evidence in the test data that any of the nine subjects were either pathological liars or paranoid schizophrenics. Even if there were, it is hard to know if their respective lies or delusions would arise under conditions of hypnosis.

Finally, there are very rare fugue states and/or multiple personality manifestations that occur only in severely disturbed hysterical personalities. Fugue states describe changes in

consciousness such that the individual subject to them may experience time lapses and cannot account for his or her activity during the lapsed time. That is, they do not recall what they have been doing, and it is as if some other facet of their personality has motivated them without their awareness during that time. Multiple personality phenomena are more dramatic, but essentially comparable occurrences. Both types of events are based on a psychological mechanism known as dissociation. Simply put, under dissociative conditions, it is as if the right hand does not know what the left is doing. Once again, there was no evidence in the test data that any of our subjects were subject to these unusual experiences. In fact, more common and ordinary hysterical personality features were largely absent in several subjects and they predominated in only a small number of cases. Moreover, even where hysterical characteristics are in evidence, such dramatic forms of dissociation are still unlikely just because they are so rare. However, one must also add that dissociation is very subtle and difficult to detect on projective tests, and careful interviewing is need to firmly rule out its presence in our subject.

In sum, there is no evidence in the test administered any of the nine subjects possess the various forms of psychopathology by which they might have invented their reported experiences of UFO abduction.

From another, more speculative point of view, one can consider how UFO abduction as reported in Mr. Hopkins' Missing Time might affect the victim. Conclusions on Nine Psychologicals suggested that while the nine subjects were heterogeneous in their overt personality style, they did share several characteristics. Those characteristics, may relate to other aspects of the subjects' lives and have no connection whatsoever to UFO abduction. There is really no way of knowing. However, at least one can say that these features are not inconsistent with what one might anticipate as the psychological consequences of

such a startling, disturbing event as UFO abduction.

Certainly such an unexpected, random, and literally otherworldly experience as UFO abduction, during which the individual has absolutely no control over the outcome, constitutes a trauma of major proportions. Hypothetically, its psychological impact might be analogous to what one sees in crime victims or victims of natural disasters, as it would constitute an event during which the individual is overwhelmed by external circumstances in an extreme manner. It will be recalled that subjects typically recalled having been subject both to mind control and an even more basic loss of control over motoric function i.e. they reported that they seemed to have been physically stripped of any mental capacity to resist physically. Events such as these, when one is denied every opportunity for even minimal forms of mastery, can only be characterized as psychologically traumatic.

Psychological traits which arose consistently in the subjects first included a surprising degree of inner turmoil as well as a great degree of wariness and distrust. Logically, such emotional upheaval and accompanying caution about the world might certainly follow in the wake of an experience as described above.

Furthermore, if one considers the skepticism and disrepute that is typically encountered with reports of UFO sighting, then not only are we characterizing UFO abduction as inherently traumatic, but we must add that it would likely carry social stigmatization as well. Moreover, assuming for the sake of argument that abduction has actually occurred and that presumably its occurrence would be very rare, it then becomes something that cannot be readily shared with others as a means of obtaining emotional support. Consequently, one would likely find a deep sense of shame, secretiveness and social alienation among the victims, who would have undergone a profound experience that could not be comprehended or accepted by others. The closest analogy might be the interpersonal alienation of the rape victim, who has been violated most brutally but somehow becomes tainted by virtue of the crime against her.

It will be recalled that the nine subjects showed considerable interpersonal difficulty that is in keeping with the above description. Strikingly, all of them did relatively poorly on an intellectual task requiring practical understanding of ordinary social relationships. They all showed anxiety and discomfort in interpersonal contexts and frequently were at a loss about how to handle themselves or others. This anxiety was accompanied by a general wariness, instinctive self-protectiveness, and sensitivity to criticism or other interpersonal injury or insult. Such problems make a great deal of sense if these individuals have an awful

secret to quard.

The last feature that the nine subjects share relates to considerable impairment in the sense of self manifest most particularly in deficits in body image — that is, a coherent sense of one's own physicality, of residing in one's body, an acceptance of one's gender and comfort with one's sexuality. The degree of difficulty in this sphere across subjects was a surprising finding. However, again assuming for the sake of argument that the UFO abductions did happen, one is no longer so surprised given the invasive and injurious nature of physical examinations that may have taken place.

These examinations may be compared to what happens to individuals who undergo surgery, are otherwise hospitalized for serious illness, or are handicapped. Under these conditions, a great deal of psychological importance may become attached to the injury so that the sense of damage physically easily becomes translated to a damaged sense of identity with an attendant sense of personal inadequacy and inferiority. While this phenomenon may occur at any time, it is likely to be especially dramatic if it

occurs in childhood. For some of the subjects, the mere fact of having an open wound followed by a scar which cannot be accounted for could have wide-ranging psychological consequences as it would raise questions about one's basic sense of bodily integrity.

In sum, I have tried to make clear first that there is nothing in the test data -- such as a conclusion that all nine subjects were disturbed in areas which would lead them to invent a story of UFO abduction -- that is inconsistent with a hypothesis that these abductions have actually occurred. Secondly, on a more speculative note, I have tried to show that the traits shared by the nine subjects their relative emotional turmoil, their anxiety and wariness, especially interpersonally, and the body image difficulties -- can be seen as the <u>logical outcome of an event as described in Mr. Hopkins' book</u>. That is not to say that these traits may have very different sources or causes, but again at least they are not inconsistent with the possibility that UFO abductions have occurred.

While the test findings do not rule out the possible veracity of UFO abductions, there are a number of limitations to the study which must be cited along with recommendations for further inquiry. First, one would want to know more about the potential for dissociative phenomena in these subjects, as dissociation is not easily detected on standard psychological tests. This is a limitation imposed by the tests themselves. Careful interviewing of the subjects is necessary to support the conclusion that these individuals are not prone to fugue states or multiple personality configurations, the rarity of these mental states notwithstanding. Secondly, one would want to gather careful life histories for the subjects in order to gain some understanding of what life forces contributed to the shaping of their personalities and the kinds of problems they have. Thirdly, one would want to compare test findings of these subjects against a random sample of individuals who have not reported UFO abductions to see what kinds of psychological issues might be directly attributable or correlated with reported UFO abduction.

Finally, some of the subjects tested were familiar with the nature of the study before undergoing hypnosis, raising a possibility that their reports derive from suggestibility rather than their own buried memories. Interviews again would be helpful in determining how prone to suggestion these subjects are in order to rule out this possibility.

APPENDIX B: SAMPLE MMPI TEST RESULTS

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Sychological Report -- MEPT Suplement of Testing: 05/15/02

The THT for is consistent with the findings of earlier psychological testing, with generalized restlessness and bodily concerns salient along with the use of projective defenses and denial.

To elaborate, first somaticizing tendencies are evident as a means of channelling and concretizing less tangible psychological issues. Trustrated dependency needs and insecurity are likely to accompany these tendencies along with denial of instinctual needs and emotions and a lack of introspectiveness. Secondly, he is prone to rely on projection, leading to a modicum of wariness and over-sensitivity to criticism. The isolikely to experience inward pressure that a great deal is expected of him.

defenses are strained. That is, they do not bind his impulse life effectively enough to prevent considerable restlessness and distractibility, which leads to a tendency to action and impulsivity. Given his tendency to dany, such action and impulsivity may look like apparent optimism, energy and a happy-go-lucky stance.

Elizabeth T. Slater, Ph. 3.

ROCHE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE INSTITUTE



MMPI REPORT

CASE NO: 341484 AGE 34 MALE

RPSI. NO: 23772 MAY 10,1982

THE TEST RESULTS OF THIS PATIENT APPEAR TO BE VALID. HE SEEMS TO HAVE MADE AN EFFORT TO ANSWER THE ITEMS TRUTHFULLY AND TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ACCURATELY. TO SOME EXTENT, THIS MAY BE REGARDED AS A FAVORABLE DIAGNOSTIC SIGN SINCE IT INDICATES THAT HE IS CAPABLE OF FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS AND ABLE TO RESPOND RELEVANTLY AND TRUTHFULLY TO PERSONAL INQUIRY.

THIS PATIENT TENDS TO BE OVERLY SENSITIVE, DEPRESSED, AND SOMEWHAT SUSPICIOUS. HIS TENDENCY TO MISINTERPRET THE INTENTIONS OF OTHERS LEADS TO INTERPERSONAL FRICTION AND HANDICAPS HIM IN SOCIAL SITUATIONS. ALTHOUGH HIS PRESENTING COMPLAINTS MAY BE MEDICAL IN NATURE, HIS PERSONALITY PROBLEMS STAND OUT MORE PROMINENTLY THAN ANY PHYSICAL DISTRESS. HIS PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS ARE STABLE AND QUITE RESISTANT TO CHANGE.

HE MAY HAVE ESTHETIC AND CULTURAL INTERESTS WHICH, ALTHOUGH HIGHLY CORRELATED WITH EDUCATION AND INTELLIGENCE, SUGGEST NONIDENTIFICATION WITH THE SOCIALLY STEREOTYPED MASCULINE ROLE. IN MEN WITH A BROAD EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND THIS IS NOT UNUSUAL, AND MAY BE SUGGESTIVE OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SENSITIVE, IDEALISTIC AND INTROSPECTIVE. IN SOME MEN HOWEVER, THIS PATTERN REFLECTS A REJECTION OF MASCULINITY ACCOMPANIED BY A RELATIVELY PASSIVE, EFFEMINATE NON-COMPETITIVE PERSONALITY.

NOTE: ALTHOUGH NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE CLINICIAN'S PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT AND SKILL, THE MMPI CAN BE A USEFUL ADJUNCT IN THE EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF EMOTIONAL DISORDERS. THE REPORT IS FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE SHOWN OR RELEASED TO THE PATIENT.

The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory

Starke R. Hathaway and J. Charnley McKinley

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Psychological Report -- MMPI Supplement

Date of Testing: 5/15/82

The MMPI results for are consistent with earlier psychological testing. They indicate first that she is very determined to put herself in a good light before others and is likely to deny or otherwise cover over unacceptable or unpleasant aspects of herself and her life. Her overt presentation to those around her is that of a cheerful, optimistic, confident and energetic person. However, she is actually quite sensitive, guarded and somewhat remote when it comes to genuine intimacy. She is likely to experience difficulty establishing and maintaining close personal ties.

high energy level, which may be a defense against underlying passive longings, may be a problem for her to the extent that she is likely to be quite restless and to have difficulty settling down. She is likely to be impulsive, and she acknowledges acting out behaviors both sexually and with regard to run-ins with authority figures.

In sum, this is an apparently enthusiastic, active person. who may be prone to impulsivity and who is actually quite sensitive and somewhat wary when it comes to trusting others.

Elizabeth T. Slater, Ph.D.

ROCHE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE INSTITUTE



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APPENDIX C: REVIEW OF DR. SLATER'S ANALYSIS

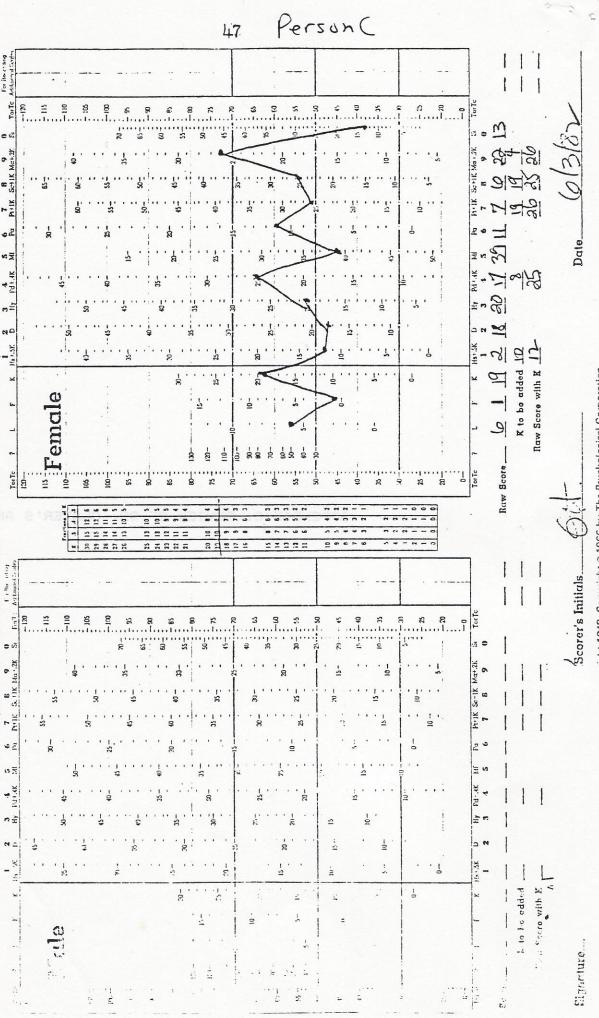
The Winnesola Multiphasia Personality Inventory

Starke R. Hathaway and J. Charnley McKinley

Age 29 Sex: Femule.

Coordinator

Occupation:



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psychologist, was asked to review a randomly selected five individual reports as written by Dr. Lisa Slater. Her task was to study all the raw test material and to make a judgement about the quality and accuracy of Dr. Slater's conclusions. Like Dr. Slater in her initial testing, Dr. was not told anything about the nature of our sample, or about any "UFO connection"; she was asked to comment only on issues of technique and judgement. Her remarks follow:

"The protocols were documented with a clarity and detail that made it possible to trace the basis for the conclusions drawn in the reports. Overall, I concur with the conclusions made regarding each of the five individuals who had been assessed."

Dr. added a short comment about each of the five subjects, which will be added to these five individuals files.

About these individual comments she adds:

 $u_{\rm I}$ have been brief because I found the conclusions to have been quite accurate and I only wish to add an observation or emphasis where appropriate. 17