

GARY WILCOX AND THE UFONAUTS

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Our contributor is Consultant to Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Overbrook Hospital, Cedar Grove, New Jersey. This study of a witness to an incident which, occurring on the same day as the Socorro sighting, was somewhat overshadowed by that well-known event, was specially prepared for FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

PSYCHIATRIC study of witnesses to close-range UFO sightings is useful in establishing the reliability of the witness in obtaining data of medical significance, and in understanding the event.

Unfortunately, of all the episodes involving possible UFO occupants, there are very few published studies by physicians.¹⁻⁴ The writings in the popular press and, in particular, the detailed, documented accounts by Charles Bowen *et al.*,⁵ and the provocative data collected by John A. Keel,⁶⁻¹² raise many questions in the answering of which psychiatric techniques might have value. Such problems as psychosis versus health, paranoid state versus the alleged reality of bizarre "men-in-black" persecutions, such paranormal phenomena as prophecy, hauntings, telekinesis, and sightings of supposed monsters have come to light.

The author first learned of the extraordinary experience of Gary Wilcox, Newark Valley, New York, while studying many UFO sightings in the vicinity of Towanda, Pennsylvania. His informant, Mrs. Aileen Isbell of Luther's Mills, whom he had studied and found trustworthy, mentioned her brother-in-law, Arthur Frederick, Jr., who formerly rented an apartment next to Gary Wilcox's farm. Mr. Frederick, a computer programmer, who had worked on the Apollo simulator project, vouchsafed for Mr. Wilcox's veracity.* The author then recalled Olga Hotchkiss's story¹³ of the Wilcox experience, and also paperback reports¹⁴⁻¹⁶ which at the time seemed rather farfetched, and which might have been based on Binghamton, New York, newspaper accounts. After the author had studied Mrs. Isbell, however, the Gary Wilcox UFO encounter seemed most intriguing. Therefore, on October 18, 1968, Gary Wilcox was psychiatrically examined in his home. His wife was also interviewed.

These studies were supplemented by several telephone interviews with the Wilcoxs and face-to-face interviews with Mr. Wilcox's younger brother Floyd, of Newark Valley, and Sheriff Paul J. Taylor of Tioga County, Owego, New York. Mr. Wilcox's mother and his second oldest brother, Barry were questioned on the telephone.

* A telephone interview with Mrs. Arthur Frederick, Jr., fully confirmed this opinion.

A neighbouring farmer and steelworker, Vic Kobylarz, whose daughter was a schoolmate of Gary Wilcox, was also interviewed on the telephone and through letters. Mr. Kobylarz is a relative by marriage of Mrs. Theresa Krajewski and also the uncle of her closest, lifelong friend. Mrs. Krajewski is a close friend of the author. Mr. Kobylarz talked with Gary Wilcox shortly after the UFO event. Mrs. Winifred Martz, Monroeton, Pennsylvania, mother of the author's EEG technician, Mrs. Evelyn Guldner, also contacted one of her close friends, Mrs. Pauline Beale, of Newark Valley, New York, whose son Philip had been a classmate of Gary Wilcox. Strangely enough, Mrs. Martz's lifelong best friend, Mrs. Adriana Gutowski, of Glen Rock, New Jersey, is a good friend of the author's family and, in fact, the godmother of his first cousin.

Miss Priscilla J. Baldwin, a former neighbour of Gary Wilcox, who is a legal secretary and who was a radar technician during World War II, kindly supplied much crucial information through correspondence and on the telephone. She contacted friends of neighbours of Gary Wilcox, Mrs. Helen MacPherson and Walter Stevens, who supplied additional information. It was due to Miss Baldwin's initiative that this extraordinary case came to the attention of the Binghamton, New York, newspapers and to Sheriff Paul J. Taylor of Tioga County, New York.

I—Miss Baldwin's Role

The following notes were recorded by Miss Baldwin, age 37, on April 28, 1964, after talking with Gary Wilcox, age 26, about "the space ship" that landed on his property on April 24, 1964.

"Some questions and answers I received:

Q. When did you notice object?

A. About 10 a.m. I was spreading manure in lower field above my house and barn. Noticed a white (or shiny) object above the field, just on inside edge of woods. I was curious and drove tractor (and manure spreader) up to edge of woods and stopped. Got closer look at object and thought it to be a fuselage (or fuel tank) from a plane.

Q. What did you do?

A. I thumped it and kicked it. Felt like metallic canvas.

Q. Then what?

A. Two men appeared from under the object. These men were holding what seemed to be a metal tray (approx. 1ft. square) filled with alfalfa, with roots, soil, leaves and brush. The men were attired in what seemed to be white or some kind of metallic suits, with no part of their body showing.

Q. Were you frightened?

A. I sure was. I didn't say much for the first few minutes, but thought it was some kind of a trick being pulled on me.

Q. What were the first words spoken?

A. They said 'do not be alarmed.' They asked what I was doing, what the tractor, manure spreader, and manure was. I told them I was spreading manure. I talked and answered their questions for two hours and learned they had been watching me for quite a while. They were very interested in organic substances, such as soil, as Mars is made up of rocky substances, not fit for growing. Was told that in the future, Mars and Earth will be trading environments, due to the rockets, missiles, and miscellaneous objects being ejected into space from Earth.

I asked them if I could go back with them. Was told I could not, due to the thinness of atmosphere. They also said it was impossible for them to land in congested areas. The fumes of traffic were too dense.

They also mentioned that Astronauts Glenn and Grissom (?) and the two astronauts from Russia would die within a year, due to exposure of space.

They seemed interested in learning the art of farming and growing. After learning that fertiliser would enrich this art, they wanted to know more about it. They did not seem to know what cows were either.

I told them I could get a bag of fertiliser for them, but they did not wait.

They said they usually did not appear after dark, as their metallic ship would be too obvious. It made a swishing noise only, and in daylight the ship is not easily observed.

I watched them take off, after being advised not to mention the incident. After a burring and swishing sound, they disappeared to the north. Only marks remaining that I could detect were a kind of red dust (evidently from propulsion) where vehicle rested. I could not tell if it actually was resting on the ground or whether it was hovering in mid-air. It seemed to be larger than an auto, approximately 20ft. long and 14ft. wide, and shaped like an egg.

The voices seemed to come from what might be the chest of the men and they had an eerie sound.

Later that same afternoon, I returned to the spot where this took place, and left a 75-lb. bag of fertiliser near a small tree. On returning to the scene, Saturday morning, April 25, 1964, I found the fertiliser was gone." (End of personal talk with Gary.)

"On April 29, 1964, I went up to Gary's and asked if he would take me to the spot on his tractor. After finishing his afternoon chores, he took me up (in the rain) on the back of his tractor and he also spread some fertiliser on the way. I had a camera with me and took a couple of shots. With the rainy weather, it is doubtful if they are good. I also picked up some rocks and leaves that were lying where the red dust had accumulated.



Figure 1. Miss Priscilla J. Baldwin's photo of site of UFO landing

However, after the rain, there was no evidence of dust.

"That same day, on my return home, I contacted Sheriff Paul Taylor by telephone, and told him of this incident. He had not heard of it before. He said he could not come to Newark Valley that day, but would when there was time.

"After not hearing if the Sheriff had been up or not, I made another call to his office on Friday, May 1, 1964. I was informed he had not, but would soon. About 1½ hours later an officer from the Sheriff's office, George Williams, drove in my driveway. He asked if I was the one that made the 'complaint' to his office. I said 'yes'. I asked him if he had been up to Gary's farm and he said he had, but found no one there. I told him I thought he would be doing chores at that time and I offered to go back up with him, which I did. We found Gary in the barn and after the officer questioned him for a short time, he (the officer) wanted to go up to the place where the incident occurred. Gary did not want to interrupt his chores, but said I could show him the exact place. I agreed to go with him and after trying the hill with the Sheriff's car, decided to walk, as the ground was very muddy. We walked up and I showed him just what Gary had shown me and pointed out where the red dust had been and also where he had left the fertiliser. After inspecting the surrounding areas, we came back down. The officer asked me if I thought Gary would be willing to come to the Sheriff's office to make a statement and I told him I thought he would. On returning to the barn, the officer entered the barn again and asked Gary if he would. Gary agreed to be at the office in Owego at 7.00 p.m. that night.

"On bringing me back to my home, the officer questioned my being so interested in this. I told him that Gary had told several people, but, like the majority, very few believed his story, and he was going to do nothing further about it. I had asked him prior to my telephone call to the Sheriff if he cared if I did. He said he didn't and that he would just tell them the same he had everyone else.

"I told the officer I had written down notes after I had talked to Gary the first time. The officer took these notes with him and said he would return them to me after talking to Gary. They evidently were used in cross-checking his story.

"Thursday night, May 7, 1964, I stopped in the Sheriff's office with a friend, and picked up my notes. They had been retained in a sealed envelope.

(signed) P. J. Baldwin"

On November 24, 1968, Miss Baldwin wrote the author and enclosed newspaper clippings of the event. She also sent, "some very brittle leaves and pieces of stone that I picked up at the scene (of the UFO landing). You are welcome to them if they could be of any significance. It was raining the day I rode up the hill with Gary on his tractor. The leaves and stones were wet. . . . I picked them up right on the spot where 'the red dust' was supposed to be. After I had been on the hill, I did read that samples had been taken on the spot* for researches, so I always thought the 'samples' I had taken were of more value, seeing I had been at the scene before anyone else had. I am also enclosing two very dim pictures taken the day I was there. You may not be able to decipher same, but the one picture does show broken branches on the trees where this object appeared (see Figure 1)."

Miss Baldwin continued, "I have known Gary since he was a boy and knowing what a quiet, shy fellow [he has always been], I have never had any doubts as to what he saw. There are people who would revel in causing this kind of excitement, but I truly believe Gary would have been the last person who would have wanted this type of notoriety. . . . I was in the Air Force for three years and my career field was A.C. & W. (radar). In my work I plotted 'UFO blips' (as they were called at that time) on the radar screen in the control centre. Many times blips were not identified. The speed in most cases was unbelievable. However, I don't know if any of that was ever the reason for my interest or not, but I do believe it had a lot to do with it."

II—Sheriff Taylor's Report

Miss Baldwin contacted the Sheriff's office, Tioga County, Owego, New York, on April 29, 1964, and on May 1 Gary Wilcox was visited by officer George Williams. He reported:

"Travelled to Newark Valley and contacted Priscilla Baldwin on matter pertinent to this com-

plaint. We drove to farm of Gary Wilcox. His farm is off the Wilson Creek Road, the second place on the left side on the Davis Hollow Road. Gary was milking his cows at the time of our arrival, which was about 4.15 p.m. He stated that he milks some of his heavy milkers three times a day. This, of course would cause him to lose some sleep. The text of his statement concerning the unidentified object is contained in statement which is made a part of this file. He admitted that he drank a little but that he was not drinking at the time of this reported incident. He also stated that he had some marital difficulty, but this did not encourage him to drink any more than he had been accustomed. This man does not appear to be unstable or mentally disturbed in any way. His eyes are slightly different in appearance from the average person, but it is believed that it is more of a physical characteristic than it is a mental affliction. He is a hard worker. The complainant in this case says that she has no reason to doubt him. We (complainant and myself) walked to the top of the hill where this 'space ship' was reported to have landed or hovered. This hill is northeast of the farm buildings, and there is an old, abandoned refrigerator on top of the hill, which was reported to be physically situated about 20ft. from where the 'space ship' had been. We checked the area, particularly for the red-coloured dust and impressions in the ground. This was about a week after the reported incident and there had been considerable rain during this time. The only thing unusual noted at this time was that the ground where this 'ship' was reportedly hovering was damp. This could have been caused by a spring or ground formation. The ground surrounding this area was comparatively dry. There was no evidence of red dust. This would have been washed away anyway. Did not look too close for any evidence of digging at this time as we were not advised until later that the individuals of questionable origin had been holding trays of sod. This, Gary believed, had been samples of his soil. He stated that the sod had grass or vegetation on top. In event that samples had been removed from his property in this area, it would be comparatively simple to locate the place of digging. Even at this late date, it might be possible to locate evidence of digging in the grassy area on top of this hill. We continued to look around for a while and then returned to the barn."

Officer Williams then incorporated Miss Baldwin's notes into the official record, as reported above. His next entry was as follows:

"May 1, 1964. Upon checking the area with complainant (Priscilla Baldwin), it was noted that there was one (1) set of tractor tracks near the scene of reported incident. Gary stated that the first time he went up the hill he stopped the tractor about 100 yards from the top of hill where ship was reportedly parked, and then he dismounted and walked the remainder of hill (to top). Gary then stated that he returned later that day and dropped off a bag of fertiliser at site. He then stated that he again drove the tractor to top with complainant Priscilla Baldwin to show her the spot this incident reportedly occurred. If this was the case, there should be two sets of tractor tracks near the site. One set when he brought

* Check for radioactivity of appropriate samples was arranged by Sheriff Taylor shortly after his investigation. The results were negative. On December 17, 1968, Philip M. Johnson, M.D., Associate Professor of Radiology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and Director of Nuclear Medicine, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, reported that the specimens collected by Miss Baldwin were not "radioactive in so far as my instrumentation can determine. Each sample was exposed to a 2in. scintillation crystal with flat field collimator and pulse height analyser. By varying the setting on the analyser, the crystal was made sensitive to gamma photons in the energy range of 30 Kevs to one Mev. No activity above background levels was observed. I did not test for alpha-particle radiation nor for low-energy beta radiation since I do not have the proper equipment."

the bag of fertiliser to the spot and one set when he transported the complainant to the site. There was only one (1) set of tracks noted. It isn't likely that the tractor could get to this area without making some tracks even if the ground were dry because the incline is great."

The following statement and diagrams by Mr. Wilcox (see Figure 2) were obtained by Sheriff Taylor and Officer Williams on May 1, 1964.

"I, GARY THELBERT WILCOX, say that I am 28 years of age the 7th day of this month, having been born May 7, 1936, at Endicott, New York. I live at R.D. No. 1, Newark Valley, New York, with my wife, Judith Lynda. I am self-employed as a dairy farmer. I graduated from Newark Valley Central School in 1954.

"At about 10.00 o'clock in the morning last Friday the 24th of April, 1964, I was spreading manure with my manure spreader on one of my fields located east of my house. My house is the second house on the left on Davis Hollow Road which runs off the Wilson

Creek Road out of Newark Valley. The weather was clear and the sun was shining. The ground was dry. I glanced up the hill from the field I was working and noticed a shiny object on top of the hill. I thought at the time that it was the abandoned refrigerator that I knew was up there. After again glancing I noticed that the object did not seem to be the refrigerator, but that it was something else. Then I started driving the tractor with the manure spreader up the hill, toward the object. The distance from the bottom of the hill where I first noticed the object to the top of the hill where it appeared is about 800 yards. While I was driving up the hill toward the object and about 100 yards from it, this is when I thought it was a wing fuel tank from an airplane. I wasn't scared or anything. I parked the tractor at this point and walked the remaining 100 yards to the object. The first thing I noticed was that it was off the ground, it was a little bigger than a car in length. It was an oblong shape something like an egg. There were no seams, rivets or anything like that. It was completely smooth. It was aluminium colour. I touched the thing and the metal was harder than aluminium and it did not move. I don't know whether it was on legs or hovering in the air. It was about 20ft. in length, 4ft. high and 15 or 16ft. wide. While (I was) feeling it there was no vibration or sound and it was not hot or anything. While I was touching it, two (2) small men about 4ft. high came out from under the tank object. I don't know where they came from. Each of them was carrying a tray about a foot square. The tray looked like it was made of the same stuff the ship (tank) was made of. Inside the tray was what appeared to be sod. I was standing about a foot away from the ship. I will refer to this object as a ship from now on. I first thought it to be a tank. The two little men started walking toward me from under the ship. They stopped about one (1) yard away from me. Then it sounded like one of them spoke and said 'Don't be alarmed, we have spoken to people before.' Their voices did not sound like a voice I could describe. I could understand what was said but cannot tell whether they were speaking English or not. One of the men was standing in rear of the other. I could see that both of these 4-foot-high men had arms and legs the same as us. I couldn't tell whether they had feet or hands the same as us. They were quite broad for such short persons (or individuals). I could not distinguish whether they had shoulders or not; they seemed to just go straight down. They had no face, such as eyes, ears, nose, mouth, or hair. The voice seemed to be coming from about them rather than from either of them. There was a voice, but I don't know where it was coming from insofar as their body was concerned. They seemed to have a sort of suit on that covered where the head would normally be located all the way down. When they raised their arms, you could see a wrinkle where our elbow would be located. The colour of this completely smooth cover-all-type suit was whitish-aluminium-tint colour. There was no evidence of hair. There were no seams or stitches, pockets. The only thing I noticed was the wrinkle when they moved their arms at the elbow.

"They said, 'We are from what you know as the

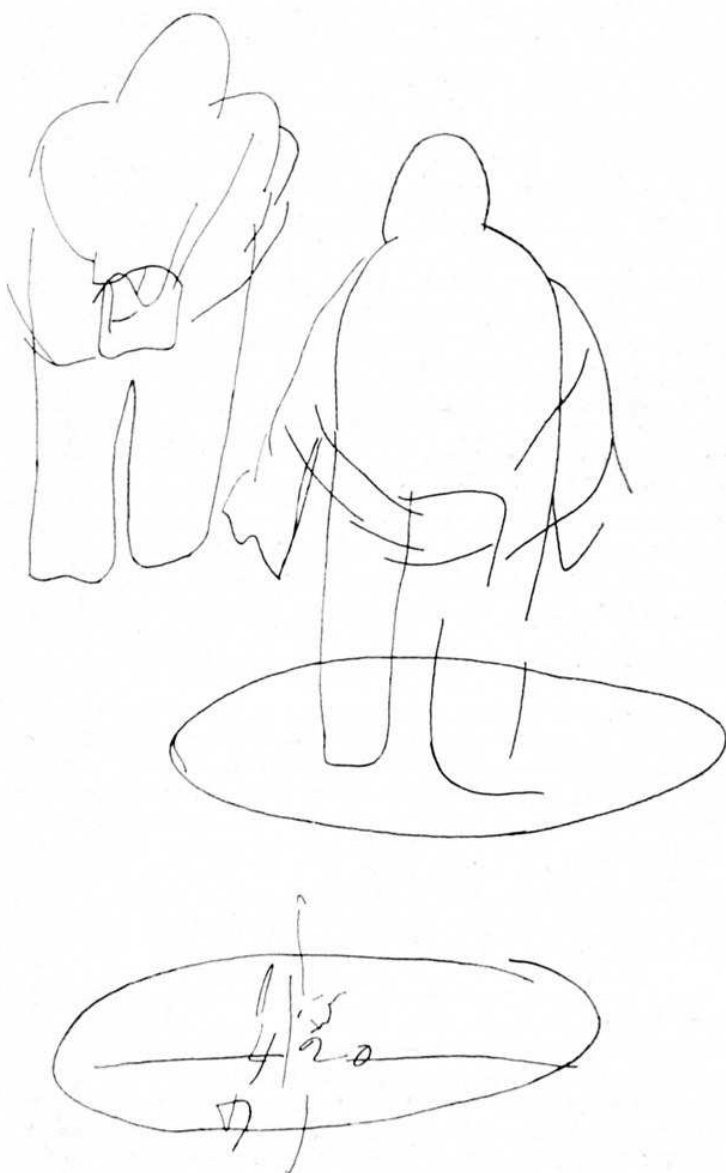


Figure 2. Gary Wilcox's sketch of occupants and UFO

planet Mars.' They then asked me what I was doing. I told them what I was doing was spreading manure. They asked me to explain what this was in more or less detail. They seemed interested in what this manure did. After I told them what it was and where it came from, they asked what else I made stuff grow with. That's when I told them about the lime and fertiliser. They did not say anything about the lime but were interested in the fertiliser. I told them it was made of bones from dead animals. During the time I was explaining to them the function of fertiliser, they asked if they could have some. I told them that I would have to go down to my barn and get some. Then one spoke up and said that they were travelling this hemisphere. I don't know which one it was as I have said before. The voice seemed to come from the front one, the one closest to me. I then asked them if I could go. They then said that they could only come here (earth) every two years. Their conversation seemed to shift rapidly from one subject to another. They mentioned that we should not send people out into space. They said that they have watched us. They said that we could not survive there at Mars and that they could not survive here on earth. They also said that they got stuff out of the air to live on and that they were here to see what they could learn about our organic material because they felt that the earth and Mars, plus some other planets, might be changed around. They said there was a difference in the gravity pull and that there was a change taking place. They said they did not fly near cities because the fumes or stuff in the air affected the flight of their ship. That they tried to stay where the air was pure. They seemed to know more about planets, air, and all that kind of stuff, but they did not seem to know much about our agriculture. They also said that our people that had entered into space would not survive over a year. They then walked back under the ship and disappeared. They ducked a little bit when they went under it. The ship then seemed to hover. I heard a noise that sounded like a car motor idling. It was not loud. Then it just took off slowly forward above the ground in a gliding manner and flew over the valley in the direction of Sokoloski's barn and disappeared into the air after it was about 150ft. away. There was no heat, blasting, wind, dust, noise (other than the idling sound), light, or anything else left behind when the ship took off.

"They did not try to harm me in any way and there was nothing with them that looked like a weapon. They did not raise or lower their voice. It was the same throughout the conversation. They did most of the talking.

"After they left, I drove back home and called my mother on the phone. I told her the highlights of seeing this object. I then milked the cows and did some other chores. I went back up the hill with a load of manure about 4.30 p.m. and put a bag of fertiliser on the spreader. When I got back to the top of the hill where the ship had been, I dropped the bag of fertiliser to the ground and left it. The next morning, I went back up the hill and noticed that the bag of fertiliser was gone.

"I have read this statement and it is true. I realise

that the incident described above is unusual, but I do certify that it is a true and accurate account of what actually happened."

(signed) Gary T. Wilcox
 (witness) George E. Williams
 (witness) Paul J. Taylor

III—Psychiatric Study

On October 18, 1968, psychiatric examination of Gary Wilcox (in his home) corroborated all the salient features mentioned in Miss Baldwin's and Sheriff Taylor's reports. At the time of the psychiatric study Mr. Wilcox was no longer a farmer but a highly skilled mechanic. He was respected by his employer and had received several promotions. He had never had any UFO, psychic, or other very unusual experiences before, nor has he since. Although he could not recall any details, he mentioned that a neighbour told him about a close-range UFO experience at the approximate time of his episode.*

Mr. Wilcox's attitude was open and cooperative, and produced no material that conflicted with the previous reports. He spoke in a polite, refined manner, and his answers had a literalness about them. There was no tendency toward expansiveness or embellishment. He was quite reserved. He was sure that he had seen only two occupants of the UFO, and that at one time he was approximately 10ft. distant from one of them. He felt he could judge their height quite accurately because he is 6ft. tall. When asked about his initial reaction to the supposed ufonauts, he said, "I was laughing. I thought it was the Candid Camera—you know, somebody pulling a gag, or something."

Wilcox had no past history for neonatal disturbances, serious illness in the formative years, neurotic character traits, dissociative or amnesic experiences, fugues, sociopathic behaviour, school problems, head injury, encephalopathy, surgery, or any kind of aberrant behaviour. He had never been hospitalised, and he did not have a family physician. Review of all his bodily systems revealed no disease stigmata. He was a good student in school† and had one semester in college. He spent three years in the Army, being stationed in

* Although this could not be confirmed via correspondence with the deceased neighbour's wife, she reported that a respected gentleman of Berkshire, New York, was "out in his field that day and saw something that was unexplainable." Also, in a letter to the author, Walter Stevens recalled that he and a friend saw a possible UFO that "almost blinded us for a moment," on April 18, 1964, on Highway 38. Also, Mr. Kobylarz remembered how "one or two people saw something [UFOs] near Gary Wilcox's farm that day."

† This was verified by the parents of two former schoolmates and longtime friends. Mr. Kobylarz said, "A well-liked kid, modest, and never a braggart—of a reliable and hard-working family—he knew it wasn't a mirage because he had his hand on it (UFO). They are very fine people. My brother has known his people for forty years." Mrs. Beale wrote: "Philip [her son] knows him . . . was in his grade in school . . . and says he is an honest person and wouldn't concoct a cock-and-bull story just to get publicity."

Germany.* He was a sergeant in the Engineers and received an honourable discharge.

The oldest of four siblings, Gary Wilcox has a sister, Sandra, who is two years younger, and two brothers, Barry and Floyd, who are four and seven years younger. There was no family history for mental illness, sociopathic behaviour (such as lying, stealing, cheating, truancy, fire setting, delinquency, drug usage, alcoholism, etc.), or difficulties with the law. He is of old American stock and his family has an excellent reputation in the community. Gary Wilcox has always enjoyed good health and has rarely consulted physicians. He seldom dreamed and could not recall any particular dream, including one about his UFO experience.

Direct examination revealed him to be a tall, handsome, intelligent-appearing man (see figure 3) who became restless and fidgety when describing his encounter with the alleged UFO occupants. There was no evidence for any undue preoccupations, trends of thought, pathological thinking, or inappropriate affect. "Within one hour" after the UFO experience Wilcox telephoned his mother, and then the other members of his family quickly learned about it. Direct and telephone interviews with his mother and his two brothers confirmed this.† No one in his family had ever experienced anything like this before. Wilcox had no previous particular interest in UFOs or any other kind of exotic subject. His reading was limited to newspapers and magazines like *Look*, *Life*, and the *Reader's Digest*. Wilcox and the other members of his family gave no history for any unusual paranormal phenomena before or after this episode. He gave no history for unusual harassment since the episode. Wilcox had never been hypnotised. However, he was annoyed by various eccentrics and curiosity seekers who sought him out or ridiculed him. He was particularly irritated by one newspaper article that falsely stated he was being treated in a hospital in New York city for radiation burns. Although hardly affluent, Wilcox, according to his brother Floyd, turned down a considerable sum of money offered by a leading national magazine for the publication rights to his story. He also refused payments for lectures about his experience. He graciously consented to psychiatric study and freely gave permission for publication of his story in a scientific journal with the understanding that his current address would not be revealed.

In an interview Gary Wilcox's second wife (married for two years, and after UFO episode) confirming the foregoing UFO information. She described her husband as a quiet, family man, "conscientious and doesn't

* When Mr. Kobylarz talked with Gary Wilcox, he asked if the UFO occupants were Russian. Wilcox said they were not and they had no accent. He was familiar with many foreign accents from his Army service in Germany.

† Gary Wilcox had no knowledge of Sergeant Lonnie Zamora's UFO-occupant experience¹⁷ until shortly before May 11, 1964, when he brought an undated news-clipping (from his father) to Sheriff Paul Taylor. "Dad told me about it—came up to the house with it (clipping) about a week or so later (after Newark Valley UFO episode)." It is of interest that many features of the Newark Valley and Socorro experiences are similar.

easily lose his temper . . . yet he has a sense of humour." He did not use alcohol or tobacco and has always enjoyed excellent health.* He occasionally attends the Baptist Church. Questions pertaining to Gary Wilcox's past life and the personal nuances of his marriages† elicited no evidence for any disrupting psychopathology, psychosomatic reactions, dishonesty, or proclivity for playing practical jokes or hoaxes. Mr. Wilcox was characterised as a serious, truthful, hard-working man who had little time for frivolity. There was never any suggestion of jealousy or unfounded suspiciousness. His chief pleasure seemed to be playing with his children (two by his second wife and four adoptive children from his second wife's first marriage).

Study of Gary Wilcox's (and his wife's) answers to the Cornell Medical Index Health Questionnaire, Rotter Incomplete Sentences Test, and the computer automated Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) revealed answers consistent with physical and emotional health. On the MMPI "a configural search for positive traits and strengths showed correlations for describing the subject as compliant, methodical, orderly, socially reserved, and sincere."

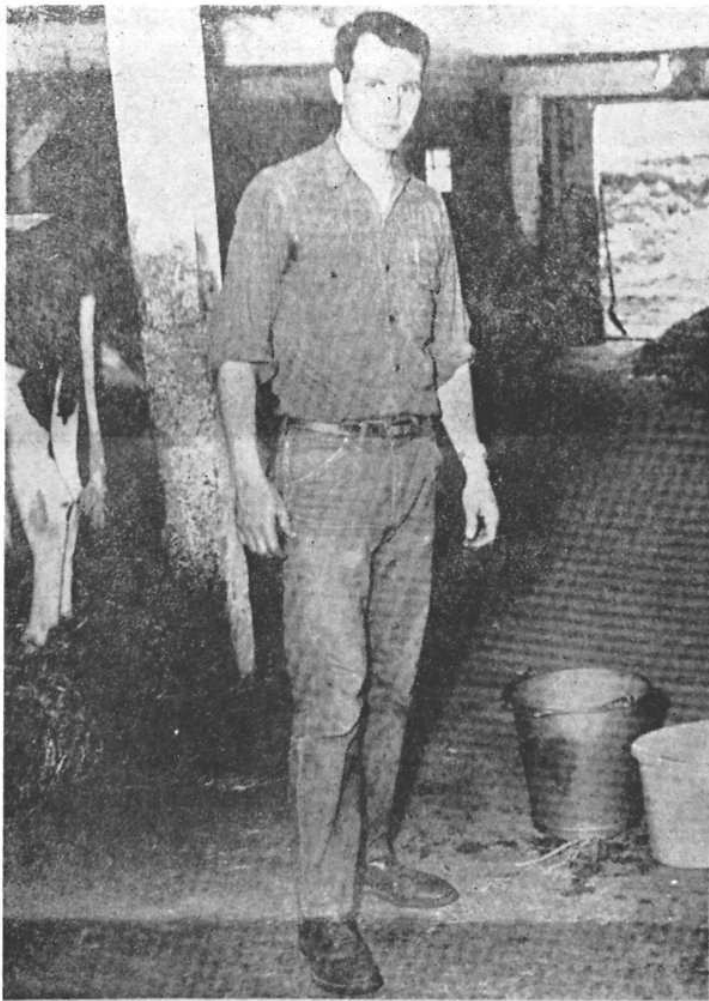
Discussion and Summary

Although single-witness UFO experiences have obvious drawbacks, Gary Wilcox's report is exceptional because of his unusually healthy background, during and after the purported incident, the rarity of such close-range UFO-occupant encounters, and the difficulty and need for recording all data that might contribute to this multi-faceted problem. Despite some explainable discrepancies, such as Officer Williams' observation that there was only one set of tractor tracks instead of two, Wilcox's account was essentially unchanged. It should again be stressed that Gary Wilcox told his mother (and other members of his family) shortly after the incident, and that it was not until several days later that he learned of the Socorro, New Mexico, episode involving Officer Lonnie Zamora. It is odd that the widely reported and studied account of Lonnie Zamora occurred on the same day, and approximately eight hours earlier than Gary Wilcox had his experience. Recently the Newark Valley incident has received renewed attention.¹⁸ The independent studies of Walter N. Webb, NICAP adviser, and his associates (and the NICAP file on the Newark Valley case¹⁹) provided detailed data that supplement and coincide with the material reported here. Should future investigations confirm the "reality" of such experiences: for what actually seemed to happen or for some new and strange kind of mental or psychic influence, or the converse—the discovery of some new and hitherto unrecognised type of psychopathology, the psychiatric studies would still have significance.

Study of the UFO-occupant problem is still at an

* At the time of the UFO incident he had not been under the influence of alcohol. During his farming years he used alcohol only infrequently and sparingly.

† His first marriage, which lasted only a short time, was terminated under amiable conditions because of lack of harmony of interests.



—PRESS PHOTO BY REID A. OCHS

PAUSE IN WORK — Gary T. Wilcox, 28, of Davis Hollow Road, Newark Valley, works in the barn on his 300-acre farm unperturbed by interest he roused with a report of talking April 24 with two Martians who, he said, landed in a spacecraft at a secluded spot a mile from his barn.

Figure 3. Gary Wilcox, from the "Press", Binghamton, N.Y., May 9, 1964

early, explorative-qualitative stage. Had circumstances permitted, it would have been desirable to have had additional procedures, such as a physical and neurological examination, an electroencephalogram, polygraphic studies, hypnotic trance, laboratory and some complete psychometric evaluations. It is unfortunate that it was not possible, at the time of this report (1969) to have traced out more completely the various collateral leads as suggested by the situations of Kobylarz, Stevens, and MacPherson.

As has been pointed out by Keel,¹⁰⁻¹¹ who has had much experience with alleged contactees, the interpretation of what was supposed to have happened is an entirely open question. For example, that the occupants said they came from Mars does not mean that they did come from Mars.* Everything that the contactees (or ufonauts) reputedly said should be critically analysed from many points of view: truthfulness, purposely

* It should be noted that Peter Gilman called attention to the unusual compatibility between what the Martians told Gary Wilcox and what Dr. Immanuel Velikovsky has theorised.²⁰

implanted lies, distorted propaganda, material that could be communicated and understood only by one of Gary Wilcox's psychodynamic make-up, possibility of telepathy, and so forth. Unfortunately, the facts do not justify much speculation in this regard.

It would be most unusual, however, for Gary Wilcox to concoct such a fantastic story without some clues for this from his psychiatric examination or from interviews with his friends, acquaintances, and family. It should be stressed that as a down-to-earth person, a highly skilled machinist, with a rather literal frame of mind, Wilcox never showed any unusual interest in UFOs or space. He had no undue preoccupation with abstruse, esoteric matters, quasi-religious cults, or off-beat stories, before or since the episode.

The ufonauts' prophecy of the death, in space, of some astronauts was not completely fulfilled as stated; however, it is of interest that Virgil A. Grissom (along with Edward H. White and Roger B. Chafee) died in the tragic Apollo capsule fire on January 27, 1967. Although not specifically named by the ufonauts, Russian astronaut Vladimir M. Komarov* was the first man known

* On October 12, 1964, Komarov was scheduled to orbit for at least five days, but according to London newspaperman Bruce Sandham (*Daily Gleaner*, Jamaica, Monday, February 26, 1968), he returned to earth after twenty-four hours. "Recording of radio transmissions . . . indicates that the spacecraft's crew had seen something strange and inexplicable in orbit—something that terrified them so much that they made a hasty and unscheduled descent from space." It may be proper to mention here that Komarov, through an interpreter, told the world-famous telepathist Joseph Dunninger, during a banquet at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel at the Seattle World's Fair in 1962, that he (Komarov) had observed during space flight "strange phantasms . . . odd things that appeared before his eyes. He was sure his mind was not playing tricks on him, and that it was not an illusion." Dunninger was impressed with Komarov's openness. Although there was a language barrier, Dunninger recalled how he also tried a telepathic stunt with Komarov: "I never got an analysis of what I drew on my pad . . . something that I saw in my mind's mirror." However, according to Komarov's reaction and that of the interpreter, Dunninger succeeded. The author clearly recalled this unusual interview because Dunninger had given him an autographed photograph of Komarov and Dunninger in May, 1965.

It might also be noted here that the reporter, Sandham, quoted observations of strange space objects by American astronauts: (1) the NBC-monitored space flight of Gordon Cooper (May 15, 1963); of (2) Edward White and James McDivitt (June, 1965); and of (3) James Lovell and Frank Borman (December, 1965). Another astronaut sighting, according to the *UFO Investigator* (Vol. IV, No. 9, January, 1969), is that of Charles Conrad, September, 1966.

It would be of interest, since many contactee experiences allege telepathic communication, to have a proven, eminent telepathist work with them and study what "impressions" (telepathic thoughts) might be received. It is not far fetched that someone like Dunninger, who has amazed the world for more than fifty years with his extraordinary mental abilities and who has also successfully used his talents to aid the police in the solution of crimes, and physicians in the treatment of diseases, might be able to "recall" (amnesic) material "forgotten" (repressed) by the contactee. Such repressed data, accessible to a paragonist, might provide further clues in the study of such cases.

to have been killed in actual space flight when his capsule plunged to earth under unopened parachutes (April 24, 1967), exactly three years after the prophecy. Keel has documented some unusual instances of successful prophecy in connection with UFOs.⁹

As described elsewhere,⁴ nothing in the medical aspects of a possible human-UFO-occupant experience is applicable to the situation of Gary Wilcox. As in the examples of Miss Stichler and Mrs. Carow, Wilcox also had no mental disturbance, no history of being hypnotised, no suggestion of paranoid thinking, no hints of specific psychopathology, and no cultural-religious-like determinants that could account for his experience. Although inexplicable, there is much in Gary Wilcox's encounter with the UFO and its occupants that sounds like data obtained from other worldwide sources.⁵ There might be considerable value in psychiatric study of many more contactee experiences. It is ironic that billions are spent to put men on the moon in order to probe the secrets of space, yet apparently little attention is paid to the possibility that forms of life—ufonauts—from somewhere in the universe, possibly outer space, may have already landed on earth.

In summary, Gary Wilcox, almost twenty-eight years old and a farmer of Newark Valley, New York, claimed he had a close-range experience with a UFO and two of its occupants. From psychiatric evaluation of Wilcox and interviews with various members of his family, neighbours, and friends, it would seem that he is a truthful person with no emotional illness and that his experience was "real" even though the interpretation of his encounter is a complicated and uncertain matter.

* * * * *

Acknowledgments

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other people, mentioned and unmentioned, in this study for their indispensable help.

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THE "ONE-EYED ENTITIES" OF BELO HORIZONTE

Gordon Creighton

CASE No. 30 of my article *Humanoids in Latin America* in THE HUMANOIDS consisted of a brief précis of this occurrence, the date of which was August 28, 1963, and the scene a garden in Família Sagrada, a residential suburb of Belo Horizonte, capital of the Brazilian State of Minas Gerais. A fuller account was promised for a later occasion and here it is. I have translated it from S.B.E.D.V. Bulletin No. 62-65 (May/December 1968), Editor Dr. W. Buhler. Dr. Buhler considers the second part of particular value for all investigators.

Part I

(This part is taken from CICOANI Bulletin No. 51/53, Belo Horizonte: Editor Dr. Húlvio Brant Aleixo).

During the 1965 wave of sightings the highly regarded Belo Horizonte paper *O Diário* (August 15, 1965) carried a report that two years previously three children had seen a strange flying object and several members of its crew in the very garden of their home!

Senhor Alberto Francisco do Carmo, CICOANI associate, at once went to the house to investigate. Here is his report, handed to us the same day, after a lengthy interview with the three children and their parents at the site where the incident was alleged to have occurred:
Date of occurrence: August 28, 1963.

Time: Between 7.00 and 7.30 p.m., local time.

Duration: 10-15 minutes.

Place: Garden of Rua Conselheiro Lafaiete No. 1533, bairro Sagrada Família, Belo Horizonte, M.G.

Witnesses

(deponents): Fernando Eustáquio Gualberto, 12 (now aged 14 at the time of this report, August, 1965).

Ronaldo Eustáquio Gualberto, 7 (9 at the time of this report).

José Marcos Gomes Vidal, 7 (9 at the time of this report).

The two first-named boys are sons of Sr. Alcides Gualberto and his wife, Maria José Gualberto, and live at the address stated, along with four other brothers, all younger than they. As for José Marcos, he is a close friend who lives in the house opposite across the street.

Fernando and his companions declare that, on the night of August 28, 1963, immediately after their supper, they went out into the garden for the specific purpose of washing a coffee percolator with water from a container standing beside a well. Reaching the garden via the back-door, Fernando noted that the garden was brightly illuminated, but this did not surprise him as there was a moon. José Marcos went quickly to the container (an old gasoline drum) and lowered his head

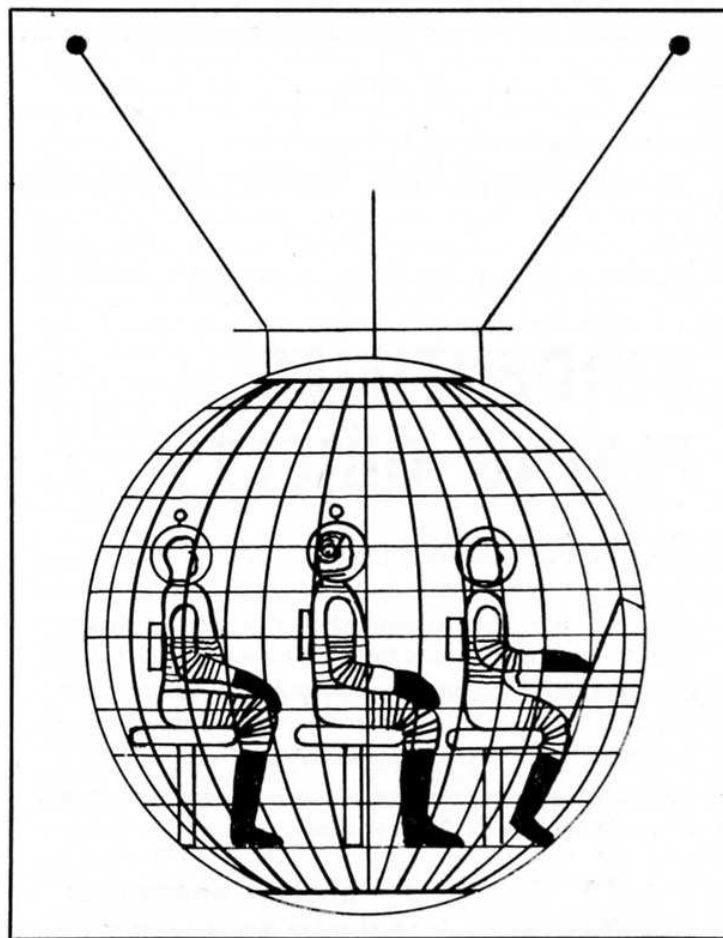


Figure 1. Sketches by Ronaldo (aged 7 at time, aged 9 when he made sketch in August 1965)