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NICAP



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WALTON ABDUCTION COVER-UP REVEALED

Philip J. Klass, author of UFO's EXPLAINED, agreed to give NICAP a complete interview regarding his findings concerning the Travis Walton Case. After six months of detailed research, Mr. Klass has valid data which indicates that information had been withheld intentionally by APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization) which is based in Tucson, Arizona. The *National Enquirer* was also aware that additional information about the alleged abduction was available but this has been withheld from the public.

NICAP ran an article covering the Travis Walton Case in the January 1976 issue of the UFO INVESTIGATOR. NICAP's consensus even at that time was that Walton and his associates were either involved in a hoax or that a psychological phenomenon was involved. It was decided that no further manpower would be allocated. This decision was based on NICAP's original data, and the knowledge that APRO was continuing the investigation. It has been a normal procedure in the past for the two organizations to exchange information on cases, and we felt that duplication of efforts was not necessary.

A summary of the incident as it was presented by the news media is included for your information.

On the evening of Nov. 5, 1975, at approximately 6:15 p.m. MST, a crew of seven young woodcutters, headed by Michael Rogers was returning home. Rogers (age 28) was under contract to the U.S. Forest Service to thin out 1,277 acres of National Forest land near Turkey Springs. According to the

story later told by Rogers, and other members of his crew (ages 17-25), they saw a UFO hovering nearby. They claim that Travis Walton jumped out of the moving car and walked/ran under the UFO, that he was "zapped" by an intense glowing beam from the UFO, and that the rest of the crew panicked and drove off, leaving their friend behind. A short time later, they claim, they returned to the spot to seek Travis but that he had disappeared — seemingly carried off by the UFO. It was not until more than two hours later that Rogers and his crew decided to report the incident to Under-Sheriff L.C. Ellison in nearby Heber, Ariz.

While Travis was missing, Rogers and the other five young men took a polygraph test, on Nov. 10, administered by C.E. Gilson of the Arizona Dept. of Public Safety of Phoenix. Five of the young men "passed" the examination but the results for one (Allen M. Dalis) were "inconclusive," according to Gilson. The reported test results have been widely interpreted as endorsing the authenticity of the alleged UFO abduction.

Shortly after midnight on Nov. 11, Travis telephoned his sister, Mrs. Grant Neff, of Taylor, Ariz. (near Snowflake), from a phone booth in Heber, about 30 miles away. Mr. Neff and Travis' older brother Duane, who had come to Snowflake from his home in Phoenix shortly after the alleged UFO incident, both drove to Heber to pick up Travis. They reported finding him crumpled on the floor of the phone booth, and in a very "confused" mental state. A short time after

returning Travis to his mother's home in Snowflake, Duane decided to drive Travis to Phoenix, reportedly to obtain medical assistance. Later that same day he was examined by two physicians at the request of APRO.

On Feb. 7, 1976, almost three months after Travis' return, he and Duane took polygraph tests administered by George J. Pfeifer, then employed by Tom Ezell & Associates of Phoenix. According to published reports, both men passed the exam which involved many questions dealing with Travis' claim of having been abducted by a UFO. The widely publicized results of these tests seem to confirm that such an incident actually occurred.

In evaluating the authenticity of such a case, UFO researchers must concentrate on the validity of available data. After reading the reports published by other organizations and national newspapers, one would think that the Walton Case was a very strong one for the following reasons.

IT WAS REPORTED THAT:

1. Walton passed the polygraph examination.
2. There were six other witnesses. Five of the six passed the polygraph examination.
3. Walton is of high character.
4. Walton and his family had very little prior interest in UFOs. Therefore, it would be unlikely that he would concoct a story relating to UFOs.
5. None of the other six witnesses had any motivation to participate in a hoax.

For the information of NICAP members, these points are discussed in detail. They give even stronger indication that NICAP's original conclusion is the correct one, i.e., the case is a hoax.

WALTON'S POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION

Mr. Klass revealed to NICAP that a lie detector test had been administered to Travis Walton THREE MONTHS EARLIER, ON NOVEMBER 15, 1975. WALTON FAILED THE POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AT THAT TIME.

This first test was given in the Sheraton Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona on the afternoon of November 15. The arrangements for the examination were made by Mr. James Lorenzen, APRO's director, and the test was paid for by the *National Enquirer*. The examination was administered by Mr. John J. McCarthy, director of the Arizona Polygraph Laboratory in Phoenix. Mr. McCarthy's credentials are excellent. He was trained at the Army's polygraph school at Fort Gordon. Mr. McCarthy is a member of the American Polygraph Association and has been licensed by the State of Illinois since 1964. At present, Arizona does not require that polygraph examiners be licensed to practice in the state.

The examiner reported his findings as instructed to the *National Enquirer* and Dr. James Harder, APRO's director of research, immediately upon the completion of the test taken by Walton. Dr. Harder reported that information to APRO's James Lorenzen.

McCarthy was further instructed to send a written report to the *National Enquirer*. The *Enquirer* instructed McCarthy not to reveal that he had tested Walton. An excerpt from the report which was sent is, "Attempting to perpetrate a UFO hoax, and that he has not been on any spacecraft." The report further stated that Travis Walton had tried unsuccessfully to distort his respiration pattern in an attempt to deceive the examiner. However, he was unsuccessful.

APRO published a full account of the Travis Walton case in their November 1975 newsletter which included the

events that had transpired during the week following Travis' return through November 16. No mention of the November 15 lie detector test was included.

Mr. Klass has hard physical evidence in his possession, which has been checked by NICAP, that Mr. McCarthy did test Travis Walton on November 15, 1975, and that Walton failed the test. The evidence includes such documents as:

1. The polygraph examination statement of consent dated Nov. 15, 1975 and signed by Travis Walton.
2. McCarthy's written report to the *National Enquirer* dated Nov. 16, 1975 which includes his conclusion that the UFO account was a hoax.
3. The voucher receipt from the *National Enquirer* payable to McCarthy's Arizona Polygraph Laboratory dated Jan. 14, 1976, for "Travis Walton UFO Incident."
4. Agreement to conduct test and supply report to *National Enquirer*. This statement is dated Feb. 15, 1976 rather than Nov. 15, 1975. This is clearly a typographical error.

Three months after Travis Walton failed the first polygraph exam, he took another one administered by George J. Pfeifer, an examiner with only two years' experience, who was employed by Tom Ezell Associates of Phoenix. The results of this test were widely publicized because he seemingly passed the test with flying colors. Mr. Klass discovered that Travis Walton dictated the questions that he wanted to be asked. Mr. Pfeifer complied with Walton's request. To check the validity of the method of testing, the president of Tom Ezell Associates, Mr. Tom Ezell, was contacted. He stated that it is perfectly proper for the sponsor of a test (APRO) to indicate the areas which should be explored. However, Mr. Ezell in later correspondence with Mr. Klass stated, "Because of the dictation of questions to be asked, this test should be invalidated." He further stated that after examining the Travis Walton charts, "The reactions on the charts, to my way of interpretation, would not be readable. You would not be able to say if he (Travis Walton) is telling the truth or if he's lying."

CORROBORATING WITNESSES' POLYGRAPH EXAMINATIONS

As reported in the January 1976 issue of the *UFO INVESTIGATOR*, the polygraph exam given to the other alleged witnesses was designed to determine whether or not Walton might be the victim of foul-play instigated by his associates. Three of the four relevant questions asked during the test dealt entirely with this issue. The test was given by C.E. Gilson, an examiner with five years' experience. His statement to Mr. Klass was, "That was our sole purpose . . . to determine whether or not there had been a crime committed." The single question about the UFO was added at the request of Sheriff Gillespie. Gilson stressed . . . "That one question does not make it a valid test as far as verifying the UFO incident."

WALTON'S CHARACTER

In the evaluation of witness testimony, the credibility of the witness must also be evaluated.

On May 5, 1971 Travis Walton and Charles Rogers pleaded guilty to first degree burglary and forgery charges. (Charles Rogers is a younger brother of Michael Rogers, who was also involved in the UFO incident.) This information was revealed by Travis Walton himself during a preliminary discussion with the polygraph examiner, Mr. McCarthy, and confirmed by state authorities.

The young men agreed to make restitution of the funds and were placed on a two year probation. Arizona law provides that if probation is fulfilled satisfactorily the party may later return and ask the Court to expunge the record. Both of the boys retracted their original pleas after the completion of the probation period.

At the time of the report there is no indication that Walton was continuing his youthful misbehavior.

PRIOR INTEREST IN UFOs

Interest in UFOs does not prohibit the interested party from having a valid sighting. However, in a large majority of hoax reports, prior interest is usually

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present. It has been reported elsewhere that Walton had little or no prior interest in the field. Dr. Howard Kendall, one of the two physicians who examined Walton at APRO's request was asked if the Waltons had indicated any prior interest in UFOs. Kendall replied: "They admitted to that freely, that he (Travis) was a 'UFO Freak' so to speak . . ." He had made remarks that if he ever saw one, he'd like to go aboard.

Dr. Jean Rosenbaum, a psychiatrist who examined Walton was asked whether he had mentioned any prior interest in UFOs. He replied, "Everybody in the family claimed that they had seen them (UFOs) . . . Travis has been preoccupied with this almost all of his life . . . then he made the comment to his mother just prior to this incident that if he was ever abducted by a UFO, she was not to worry because he'd be all right." Duane Walton has stated that he and Travis had often discussed the possibility of getting a ride on a UFO.

MOTIVATION OF THE SIX WITNESSES

It has been stated that there was no motivation, other than possible friendship for the other six witnesses to corroborate Walton's story if it were not true. Investigation has revealed a strong financial possible motive for Mike Rogers and the other five crew members to perpetrate a hoax.

Mike Rogers had submitted a bid in the spring of 1974 to the U.S. Forest Service for a timber thinning operation of 1,277 acres of land in a National Forest, located in the Apache-Sitgreaves area. His bid was accepted and was 27% under the mid-figure

submitted by the other companies. By the following summer (1975) it was clear to Rogers that he had grossly underestimated the magnitude of the job and could not complete it on time. He applied for an extension which was granted but he was penalized \$1.00 per acre for all work performed after the expiration of the original contract date. The new work completion deadline was November 10, 1975. As the new deadline approached, it became clear that once again, they could not possibly complete the work by that time and he would have to ask for another extension that would result in another pay cut. More serious, the Forest Service was withholding 10 percent of the payments until the job was done. With winter at hand, Rogers could not finish until the next spring to collect these funds. The alleged UFO incident gave Rogers a legal basis for terminating his money-losing contract on the ground that his crew would not return to the work site out of fear, allowing Rogers to collect the withheld funds and pay his crew.

SUMMARY

The reaction of the Travis Walton family when informed that he had been "zapped" away on a UFO provides a valuable measure of whether they had prior knowledge of a planned hoax. If they believed that the incident actually took place, they would realize that they might never see Travis again. Troopers from the Navajo County Sheriff's Department assembled late on the night of November 5 and returned to the alleged site to search for Travis. It was not until several hours after midnight on Nov. 6 that the group then

proceeded to inform Travis' mother that her son could not be found.

One member of the troopers informed Mr. Klass that when he explained the horrible fate of her son, she simply replied, "I'm not surprised."

Mrs. Keilet suggested to the law enforcement officials that the search be abandoned, saying, "I just don't think there's any use of looking any further . . . I don't think he's on this earth." Travis' brother, Duane, stated that he would stay on the site and wait because they always return their victims to the same spot.

At no time during the entire episode did the family or crew members show or express any concern for his well being. Mr. Klass stated that, "One possible explanation for the reaction of Rogers and the members of his family is that they knew the incident was a hoax and that Travis was safe in a terrestrial hideout, rather than aboard an extraterrestrial spacecraft that might be taking him to a distant world from which he might never return."

On November 8, while Travis was "still missing," Duane said he was not at all concerned for his brother's safety. Duane said he regretted that "I haven't been able to experience the same thing."

In any scientific investigation, all data must be considered. Any organization or corporation reporting on investigations has the responsibility to disclose all facts to its readers . . . not just the information which supports a preconceived position.

When the strengths and weaknesses of the Walton Case are evaluated, it seems that the indications are that a hoax has been perpetrated. NICAP members now have additional data at their disposal and can reach their own conclusions.



NEW EVIDENCE THAT THE TRAVIS WALTON 'UFO ABDUCTION' IS A HOAX

The alleged 'UFO abduction' of Travis Walton on Nov. 5, 1975, in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (Ariz.) is a hoax, and the claims of six other young wood-cutters that they saw the alleged incident are not true. Evidence that indicated that the incident was a hoax has long been known to APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization), a large Tucson-based UFO group, and to the 'National Enquirer' newspaper. This evidence has been withheld from APRO's membership and from the general public.

[Summary of the incident as reported in the news media: On the evening of Nov. 5, 1975, at approximately 6:15 p.m. MST, a crew of seven young wood-cutters, headed by Michael Rogers, was returning home. Rogers (age 28) was under contract to the U.S. Forest Service to thin out 1,277 acres of National Forest land near Turkey Springs. According to the story later told by Rogers and members of his crew (ages 17-25), they saw a UFO hovering nearby. They claim that Travis Walton jumped out of the moving car and walked/ran under the UFO, that he was "zapped" by an intense glowing beam from the UFO, and that the rest of the crew panicked and drove off, leaving their friend behind. A short time later, they said, they returned to the spot to seek Travis but that he had disappeared -- seemingly having been carried off by the UFO. However, it was not until more than two hours later that Rogers and his crew reported the incident to Under-Sheriff L.C. Ellison in nearby Heber, Ariz.

[While Travis was missing, Rogers and the other five young men took a polygraph test (on Nov. 10), administered by C.E. Gilson of the Arizona Dept. of Public Safety. Five of the young men "passed" the test but the results for one (Allen M. Dalis) were "inconclusive" according to Gilson. These test results have been widely interpreted as endorsing the authenticity of the alleged UFO abduction.

[Shortly after midnight on Nov. 11, Travis telephoned his sister, Mrs. Grant Neff of Taylor, near Snowflake, from a phone booth in Heber, about 30 miles away. Mr. Neff and Travis's older brother Duane, who had come to Snowflake from his home in Phoenix shortly after the alleged incident, both drove to Heber to pick up Travis. They reported finding him crumpled on the floor of the phone booth, in a very "confused" mental state. A short time after returning Travis to his mother's home in Snowflake, Duane decided to drive Travis to Phoenix, reportedly to obtain medical assistance. Later that same day, he was examined by two physicians at the request of APRO.

[On Feb. 7, 1976, almost three months after Travis's return, he and Duane took polygraph tests administered by George J. Pfeifer, then employed by Tom Ezell & Associates of Phoenix. According to published reports, both men passed the exam which involved many questions dealing with Travis's claim of having been abducted by a UFO. The widely publicized results of these tests seem to confirm that such an incident actually occurred.]

WHAT THE PUBLIC AND APRO MEMBERS HAVE NOT BEEN TOLD AS OF THIS DATE (6/20/76) IS THAT TRAVIS WALTON TOOK A LIE-DETECTOR TEST ON NOV. 15, 1975. HE FLUNKED IT!

This first lie-detector test was given in the Sheraton Hotel in Scottsdale on the afternoon of Nov. 15. Arrangements for the test were made by Mr. L.J. Lorenzen, APRO's International Director. The tests were paid for by the "National Enquirer."

[OVER]

This Nov. 15 lie-detector test that Travis Walton failed was given by John J. McCarthy, director of the Arizona Polygraph Laboratory in Phoenix. McCarthy, who has been practicing for nearly 20 years, was trained at the Army's polygraph school at Fort Gordon, considered to be the top polygraph school in the U.S. McCarthy is a member of the American Polygraph Assn. and has been licensed by the State of Illinois since 1964. (Arizona presently does not require polygraph examiners to take a rigorous test to practice in the state although such legislation is now pending.)

Immediately after the test, McCarthy reported his findings of "gross deception" to Paul Jenkins of the "National Enquirer" and to Dr. James A. Harder, APRO's director of research and Harder then relayed the results by telephone to APRO's Lorenzen, according to McCarthy. Duane Walton, upon hearing McCarthy's conclusions, became furious with the polygraph examiner, McCarthy told me.

The "National Enquirer" asked McCarthy to send a formal written report to Mr. John Cathcart at the newspaper's headquarters in Lantana, Fla. and McCarthy was instructed not to reveal that he had tested Travis Walton. In McCarthy's formal report, dated Nov. 16, he said that his charts indicated that Travis Walton was "attempting to perpetrate a UFO hoax, and that he has not been on any spacecraft." The very experienced and perceptive McCarthy reported that he had detected a deliberate attempt by Travis Walton to distort his respiration pattern in an effort to deceive the polygraph examiner.

The "National Enquirer" ran a feature article on the Travis Walton incident in its Dec. 16, 1975, issue. But there was no mention of the lie-detector test that Travis Walton had taken under McCarthy.

The November 1975 issue of "The APRO Bulletin" carried an extensive account of the Travis Walton case, including a report on events that had transpired during the period that Travis had taken and flunked his Nov. 15 lie-detector test, but there was no mention of this test.

There is hard physical evidence, which I have personally examined, to show that McCarthy did test Travis Walton on Nov. 15, 1975, and that Walton failed the examination. This includes the following:

- (1) Polygraph examination statement of consent, dated Nov. 15, 1975, and signed by Travis Walton, in which he agrees to let McCarthy conduct the test.
- (2) McCarthy's written report of Nov. 16, 1975, to the "National Enquirer," stating McCarthy's conclusions that the UFO incident is a hoax.
- (3) "National Enquirer" payment voucher receipt, payable to McCarthy's company, dated Jan. 14, 1976, for "Travis Walton UFO Incident."
- (4) Agreement to conduct the test and supply written report to "National Enquirer" signed by Paul Jenkins and Jeff Wells. (This statement is dated Feb. 15, 1975, which is a typographical error.)

During the private discussions between McCarthy and Travis Walton prior to the start of the formal examination, WALTON ADMITTED THAT HE AND A FRIEND HAD ONCE BEEN ARRESTED FOR STEALING PAYROLL CHECKS, FORGING SIGNATURES AND CASHING THE CHECKS. McCarthy told me during a telephone interview on Mar. 15, 1976.

The accuracy of McCarthy's information was confirmed when I called the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Navajo County, in Holbrook, on May 10, 1976. Mrs. Leona Downing, chief deputy clerk, after checking the case file, informed me that on MAY 5, 1971, TRAVIS WALTON AND CHARLES ROGERS HAD PLEADED GUILTY TO FIRST DEGREE BURGLARY AND FORGERY CHARGES. (Charles Rogers is a younger brother of Michael Rogers, later involved in the UFO incident.)

The charges arose from the theft of blank payroll checks from the Western Molding Co., of Snowflake, where Charles Rogers then worked and where Travis Walton had earlier been employed on a part-time basis. The stolen checks were filled in with a fictitious name, the signature of company president Robert W. Gonsalves was forged, and the checks were then cashed.

On May 10, 1971, after the two young men agreed to make restitution of the funds, Charles Rogers and Travis Walton were placed on a two-year probation. Under such circumstances, Arizona law provides that if the parties fulfill their probation period satisfactorily, they can later return and ask the Court to expunge the record, Mrs. Downing explained to me. On Aug. 3, 1973, Travis Walton and Charles Rogers took advantage of this provision to retroactively retract their original "guilty" pleas and to enter "not-guilty" pleas. Mrs. Downing told me.

McCarthy also told me that during his pre-examination discussions with Travis Walton, that Travis admitted that he had previously used "pot," "speed," and LSD. The importance of this will become apparent shortly.

It was not until nearly three months after Travis failed the McCarthy lie-detector test that he took another, whose results have been widely publicized because he seemingly passed with flying colors. The test was arranged by APRO and was given by George J. Pfeifer, an examiner with only two years experience.

Pfeifer had abandoned his own private practice in January, 1976, to go to work for Tom Ezell & Associates of Phoenix. A short time after the Walton test was given, Pfeifer decided to return to private practice.

When I first talked with Tom Ezell about the Walton test on Mar. 13, 1976, he explained that he had been out of town when the test was given and that APRO had made all of the arrangements directly with Pfeifer. Ezell told me that when he returned to Phoenix and discussed the Walton test with Pfeifer that he had learned that APRO and the Waltons had told Pfeifer the specific questions they wanted asked and that Pfeifer had obliged. Ezell, who has himself been practicing for five years, told me he wanted to dig into the matter and examine the Walton charts.

When next I talked with Ezell, on Mar. 22, 1976, he told me: "According to his [Pfeifer's] report, Travis did dictate the questions that he wanted asked." Ezell explained, and later confirmed in a Mar. 29 letter, that it is perfectly proper for the sponsor of a test (APRO) to indicate the areas which are to be investigated. But Ezell emphasized that the polygraph examiner should use his training and expertise to frame the specific questions asked of the subject.

"Because of the dictation of questions to be asked, this test should be invalidated," Ezell wrote. More important, Ezell said, after examining the Travis Walton charts: "The reactions on the charts, to my way of interpretation, would not be readable. You would not be able to say if he [Travis Walton] is telling the truth or if he's lying." Ezell reaffirmed this appraisal in his Mar. 29 letter.

Pfeifer acknowledged that Travis had come in with the questions he wanted to be asked. When I asked Pfeifer if this was standard procedure, he first said it was. But when I replied that I had talked with other polygraph examiners who said it was not a normal procedure, Pfeifer replied: *"Well, like I wouldn't say no. [But] we don't have a standard situation here either."* When I asked: *"In what respect,"* Pfeifer said: *"Well, how many times do people claim that they've been picked up by a UFO?"*

Pfeifer disclosed an even more "curious" aspect of the Travis Walton test during our Apr. 27 conversation. He said that when APRO's Lorenzen called to arrange the test he only asked that Pfeifer test DUANE Walton. There was no mention of Travis being present or being tested, Pfeifer told me. Only after Pfeifer had completed the test on Duane on the afternoon of Feb. 7, and went out to inform APRO's Lorenzen that Duane had passed, did Lorenzen then ask Pfeifer if he would test Travis Walton also.

THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT TRAVIS WALTON TOLD AT LEAST ONE FALSEHOOD DURING HIS FEB. 7 TEST WHICH PFEIFER FAILED TO DETECT.

The question was one that Travis insisted that he be asked and which Pfeifer (in accordance with accepted procedures) discussed with Travis prior to the test to be sure that he understood its meaning and that he could answer it with a clearcut "yes" or "no."

That question was: *"Before November 5, 1975, were you a UFO 'buff'?"*

Travis answered: *"NO."* Pfeifer believes Travis believed he was telling the truth.

Yet according to McCarthy, during the pre-examination discussion with Travis, he admitted that he and his brother Duane, and their mother Mrs. Mary Kellet, had often speculated about riding in a UFO. This prompted McCarthy to pose the following question during the formal examination of Nov. 15: *"In the past, have you ever thought of riding in a UFO?"* Travis answered: *"YES"*. The resulting polygraph chart indicated that Travis was being truthful.

There is extensive evidence, from sources that can not be considered to be prejudiced against Travis Walton, that the Walton family had a keen and long-standing interest in UFOs before Nov. 5, 1975. For example:

Dr. Howard Kandell, an APRO member, was one of the two physicians who examined Travis on Nov. 11, the day that he reappeared. During a telephone interview with Dr. Kandell on Apr. 25, I asked him whether Travis or Duane had indicated any previous interest in UFOs during his Nov. 11 discussions and examination. Dr. Kandell replied:

"They admitted to that freely, that he [Travis] was a 'UFO freak,' so to speak... He had made remarks that if he ever saw one, he'd like to go aboard."

Dr. Jean Rosenbaum, a psychiatrist from Durango, Colo., journeyed to Phoenix and interviewed Travis Walton several days after his reappearance. APRO's Dr. James A. Harder was present during the interview. During a telephone interview on Apr. 26, I asked Dr. Rosenbaum whether Travis had mentioned any prior interest in UFOs during their interview. Dr. Rosenbaum replied:

"Everybody in the family claimed that they had seen them [UFOs]... He's been preoccupied with this almost all of his life... Then he made the comment to his mother just prior to this incident that if he was ever abducted by a UFO she was not to worry because he'd be alright." (Emphasis added.)

Duane Walton was interviewed, along with Mike Rogers, on the evening of Nov. 8, 1975, while Travis was still "missing." The interview was conducted by Fred Sylvanus, head of the Arizona Regional UFO Project and a member of Ground Saucer Watch. The interview was tape recorded and I have obtained a copy. During the interview, Duane Walton volunteered that he and Travis had often discussed the possibility of getting a ride on a UFO. That if either one of them got such a chance, he would try to get the UFO to go and pick up the other brother so he could share the experience. Here are Duane's precise words:

"Travis and I discussed this many, many times at great length and we both said that we would immediately get as directly under the object [UFO] as physically possible... We discussed this time and time again. The opportunity would be too great to pass up and at any cost, except that of death, make contact with them and whoever happened to be left on the ground, if one of us didn't make the grade, to try to convince whoever was in the craft to come back and get the other one. He performed just as we said we would and he got directly under the object, and he's received the benefits for it."

Earlier in the interview with Sylvanus, Duane said:

"I saw one almost identical to what they [Mike Rogers and other crew members] described for a period of almost 30 minutes in broad daylight about 12 years ago at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, about eight miles from this location right here [site of the alleged Travis Walton incident]. And it followed me around these woods for about 30 minutes and was never more than 200 feet from me at any time." (Emphasis added.)

Yet when I interviewed Duane Walton by telephone on Apr. 23, 1976, and asked him when he and Travis first became interested in UFOs, Duane replied:

"About November 11, 1975."

Contrast Duane Walton's answers to some of my other questions with the known facts. For example:

Klass: "Has Travis ever gotten in trouble with the law on any serious charges?"

D. Walton: "No sir! Everybody has trouble as a juvenile delinquent, even I."

Klass: "But to your knowledge, he has never been in trouble with the law in any serious thing, except maybe being arrested for speeding?"

D. Walton: "Or a traffic warrant or ticket. But my brother is not a criminal if that's what you're trying to imply... I think on two occasions he was arrested for outstanding traffic warrants, for not paying a traffic ticket."

SURELY DUANE WALTON WAS AWARE OF THE INCIDENT LESS THAN FIVE YEARS EARLIER WHEN TRAVIS HAD PLEADED GUILTY TO THE FIRST DEGREE BURGLARY AND FORGERY CHARGE.

According to McCarthy, Duane Walton was present when McCarthy reported the results of his test on Travis, and Duane was outraged at his findings. The following exchange took place with Duane during our telephone interview of Apr. 23:

Klass: "When did Travis first take a polygraph, or lie-detector, test?"

Walton: "I don't know. I don't have the foggiest notion. I know that he and I took one together recently. That's been six weeks, maybe two months."

Klass: "Had he taken any polygraph test before that?"

Walton: "I don't have the foggiest notion. I really don't know..."

Klass: "Well, you were with him the first few days after he came back."

Walton: "Yup."

Klass: "And did he take a polygraph test at any time during that week?"

Walton: "I don't know. I mean I was with him just about every minute of the time, but I have a job...and there were times that I had to be away."

Klass: "Were you with him when he was interviewed by James Harder and the 'National Enquirer'?"

Walton: "Yes, I was there when a doctor [Harder] gave some hypnotic regression."

Klass: "And was there any polygraph test given at or about that time?"

Walton: "I don't know sir."

During my interview with Duane, I asked whether he and Travis had told Pfeifer the questions they wanted him to ask during their lie-detector tests:

Klass: "Who framed the questions that you were asked? Did you or Travis have anything to do with the framing of the questions?"

Walton: "That would be kind of at odds to the end [purpose], wouldn't it? No sir, in answer to your question, no."

Duane Walton's answers to my questions provides another useful benchmark for appraising the overall value of Pfeifer's polygraph examination of Travis and Duane Walton. During the examination of Duane, Pfeifer asked him the following: "Would you lie to help Travis in this matter?" Duane answered: "No." Pfeifer found no indication on his charts that Duane was not telling the truth.

In the polygraph test given to the six young wood-cutters, it has been reported that five of the six passed. The results for the other, Allen Dalis, were termed "inconclusive." The test was given by C.E. Gilson, a man with five years experience, employed by the Arizona Dept. of Public Safety. The test was given on Nov. 10, at a time when Walton had been missing for five days and there was

great concern by Navajo County law enforcement officers that Travis might be the victim of foul-play at the hands of his associates. For this reason, three of the four relevant questions asked by Gilson during the test dealt solely with the issue of whether the young wood-cutters had killed or physically injured Travis. Obviously all of the men could truthfully answer these three questions with a "NO." During our May 20 interview, Gilson said: "That was our sole purpose...to determine whether or not there had been a crime committed."

Gilson said that the one question about a UFO had been added at the suggestion of Sheriff Marlin Gillespie. With the perspective of hindsight, Gilson told me on May 20: "That one question does not make it a valid test as far as verifying the UFO incident. I wish these people out here would realize that, but there's no way you can even get them to listen to you..."

This single UFO-related question was: "Did you tell the truth about actually seeing a UFO last Wednesday when Travis Walton disappeared?" Note that the question did NOT ask whether they saw Travis being "zapped" by a UFO, nor whether they really believed that Travis had been abducted by a UFO.

Celestial bodies are sometimes mistaken for UFOs. At the time of the Walton incident, the planet Jupiter was very bright in the early evening sky and would have been visible at 6:15 p.m. This is NOT to suggest that Rogers and his crew honestly imagined that Travis had been "zapped" by Jupiter. But if they were all partners in a pre-arranged hoax, all might be able to answer "yes" to this one UFO-related question without displaying overt signs of telling a significant falsehood.

The testimony by Mike Rogers and the other five crew members has seemed to some to substantiate the UFO abduction story because these six witnesses seemed to have no motive, other than possible friendship with Travis, to fabricate the story. BUT INVESTIGATION REVEALS THAT THERE WAS A MOTIVE, A STRONG FINANCIAL MOTIVE, FOR ALL OF THEM TO COLLABORATE ON A HOAX.

In the spring of 1974, the U.S. Forest Service requested bids on a timber-thinning operation on 1,277 acres in the Turkey Springs area of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Three bids were received: \$71,512 \$44,567 \$34,989. The low bid came from Mike Rogers. His estimate was less than half the amount of the highest bid, and 27% below the mid-figure, and worked out to only \$27.40 per acre. If Rogers had underestimated the amount of work involved, both he and his crew would suffer financially.

The contract called for the job to be completed in 200 working days, i.e. excluding bad-weather and winter when work was impossible. Although the contract was awarded on June 26, 1974, it was not until more than a month later--Aug. 7--that Rogers finally assembled his crew and started work, according to Maurice Marchbanks, Forest Service contracting officer at Springville, Ariz. It was a portent of things to come.

By the summer of 1975, it was clear that Rogers had badly underestimated the job and he was stuck with his fixed-price contract. Rogers asked for an extension and the Forest Service granted one -- for 84 days. The new work completion deadline was Nov. 10, 1975. But in return for the extension, Rogers would be penalized \$1.00 per acre for all work performed after the expiration of the original contract date.

Rogers' financial situation was aggravated by the long-standing Forest Service policy that calls for paying contractors for only 90% of the work performed, so they can pay their crews, while withholding 10% until the entire job is completed.

As the Nov. 10 deadline approached, it was clear to Rogers that he could not meet even his extended contract date. In the Nov. 8 taped interview with Sylvanus, Rogers mentioned that "This contract we have is seriously behind schedule. In fact, Monday the time is up. We haven't done any work on it since Wednesday because of this thing, and therefore it won't be done. I hope they [Forest Service] take that into account, this [UFO] problem." Without the "fortuitous" UFO incident, the best that Rogers could expect would be another deadline extension, but he would be assessed still another financial penalty in contract price.

More serious, winter was near and its bad weather would prevent Rogers from completing the job until the following spring. Thus the Forest Service would continue to hold back 10% of the earned pay. Rogers and his crew faced a bleak financial situation as the Nov. 10 deadline neared.

Then, on Oct. 20, 1975, NBC televised a two-hour special: "The UFO Incident." This dramatic Hollywood produced film told the story of Betty Hill, who claims that she and her late husband Barney, were taken aboard a UFO in 1961 and given physical examinations. Dr. Rosenbaum says that Travis told him he saw this TV show, and in view of the advance publicity and Travis's keen interest in UFOs, it would be surprising if he had missed it. (Travis has denied this in a recently published letter, saying: "I did not have a TV and did not see the show. I know that at least a couple of others [in the crew] didn't see it either." Even if only one crew member saw the show, it would certainly have been discussed with Travis because of his UFO interest.)

If a UFO could abduct the Hills in New Hampshire, why couldn't a UFO abduct a wood-cutter in Arizona? After such a terrifying incident, it would be only natural for other members of the crew to refuse to return to the work-site. Rogers would now have grounds to claim that he simply could not complete his contract for reasons beyond his control. If the Forest Service agreed, Rogers could then collect the 10% of his earned funds that had been withheld and the crew would not have to wait until the following spring to receive all of their pay.

Travis Walton would be the logical 'victim.' His oft-expressed desire to ride on a UFO could explain his seemingly foolhardy act of running under the UFO. And his expertise in UFOlogy, compared to other crew members, would make it easier for him to concoct a story about his experiences aboard the UFO.

Plans could be worked out in advance for a hide-out, perhaps a cabin that would not be used during the winter months. Travis's mother was then living in a small house on the Gibson ranch, not far from the Turkey Springs area where the crew was working. The two hours between the time that the incident allegedly occurred and the time when it was first reported to Under-Sheriff Ellison at Heber would allow plenty of time to drive Travis to the selected hide-out. (It may be simply coincidence, but the day after the UFO incident, Mrs. Kellet decided to leave the Gibson ranch house and return to her home in Snowflake. This would avoid visits by law-enforcement officers to the Gibson ranch house.)

According to one account, Duane reportedly drove to the site of the UFO incident each night in the hope of being present when Travis returned. Another possible explanation for these nightly visits is that Duane was bringing provisions to Travis in his hide-out.

On Nov. 18, 1975, Rogers wrote to inform the Forest Service that he could not complete his contract because of the UFO incident "which caused me to lose my crew and will make it difficult to get any of them back on the job site." The Forest Service put the remaining work up for bid, awarded it to another contractor and later released the funds it had been withholding to Rogers.

The reactions of members of Travis Walton's family when they first were told that he had been "zapped" and abducted by a UFO provide a useful clue as to whether they really believed the story. If the family really believed that such an incident had occurred, they might never see Travis alive again.

Several Navajo County law enforcement officers had assembled late on the night of Nov. 5 and had returned to the "UFO site" with Rogers and several of his crew to search for Travis. Shortly after midnight, it was decided to inform Travis's mother who was then staying in a small house on the Gibson family ranch, not too far from where the incident allegedly had occurred. Rogers, who knew where Mrs. Kellet was staying, and Under-Sheriff Ken Coplan, of Holbrook, drove over to bring Mrs. Kellet the shocking news of the fate that seemingly had befallen Travis.

Coplan described the incident to me during our telephone interview on Jan. 5: *"When Rogers told the mother what had happened, she did not act very surprised."* She did not break into tears or become hysterical. Instead, Mrs. Kellet proceeded to tell of earlier UFO sightings that she and Duane had had. (One possible explanation for Mrs. Kellet's calm reaction is that Travis had earlier informed his mother that if he were ever abducted by a UFO she should not worry because he would return safely, according to what Travis told Dr. Rosenbaum.)

Mrs. Kellet decided that she ought to tell her daughter, Mrs. Grant Neff, who lives in Taylor, near Snowflake. Because the Gibson ranch house had no telephone, Mrs. Kellet, Rogers and Coplan drove to Mrs. Neff's home to bring her the dreadful news of the UFO abduction. Coplan described subsequent events in the following words:

"Mrs. Kellet woke up her daughter and said: 'Travis is gone.' The daughter asked: 'Where did he go?' to which Mrs. Kellet calmly replied: 'a flying saucer got him.' Then Mrs. Kellet called Duane in Phoenix to tell him."

On Nov. 6, a large search party was organized to look for Travis, or his remains. Mrs. Kellet and Duane, who had arrived from Phoenix, joined the group. But according to Under-Sheriff Coplan, by late in the day it was Mrs. Kellet herself who suggested that the search be abandoned, explaining: *"I just don't think there's any use of looking any further... I don't think he's on this earth."* This was confirmed to me by Navajo County Sheriff Marlin Gillespie, during our Mar. 15 interview. As members of the search party were preparing to leave the site, Duane announced that he would remain on, alone. Coplan said that Duane remarked that he would stay *"because they [UFOs] always bring them [victims] back to the same spot."* This suggests that Duane had considerable knowledge of other alleged UFO abduction cases.

Duane and Travis had had a very close relationship. Mrs. Kellet's two ill-fated marriages had left the family without a father and Duane told me that he had assumed that role. Even if Duane were correct that the UFO would bring Travis back, Travis might have been blinded or seriously burned from the intense beam of radiation that allegedly had zapped him -- IF THE INCIDENT HAD REALLY OCCURRED.

Yet during the Nov. 8 taped interview with Fred Sylvanus -- at a time when Travis was still "missing" -- Duane was very calm and confident. At one point in the interview, Duane volunteered: *"I don't believe he's hurt or injured in any way. He will be back sooner or later, whenever they get done what they're doing."* (Duane's calmness on Nov. 8 is in striking contrast to his legitimate concern when Travis later returned in a confused state-of-mind, to be described shortly.)

The Nov. 8 interview continued as follows:

Sylvanus: "You feel he will come back?"

Walton: "Sure do. Don't feel any fear for him at all. Little regret because I haven't been able to experience the same thing. That's about it."

Sylvanus: "You feel you just miss him and he'll come back?"

Walton: "He's not even missing. He knows where he's at and I know where he's at."

Sylvanus: "You know where he's at?"

Walton: "Basically, he's not in the woods. They took him for whatever purpose they take people, to run a few tests."

Sylvanus: "Well, where do you feel he is?"

Walton: "Not on this earth!"

(Later in the interview)

Sylvanus: "You know that he's going to come back?"

Walton: "Sure do. It's a matter of time. They don't kill people...."

Sylvanus: "You feel that he'll be found?"

Walton: "Yeah, he'll be found and if he doesn't come back, it'll be voluntary because he wanted to stay..."

The bulk of the Sylvanus interview was with Mike Rogers as he described events leading up to the alleged UFO incident. During the hour-long interview, Rogers described in great detail the construction details of the UFO, even commenting several times on its great beauty. Rogers described how Travis had been zapped by the intense beam from the UFO that allegedly sent him "flying" in the air with his arms outstretched.

BUT AT NO TIME DURING THE HOUR-LONG INTERVIEW DID ROGERS EXPRESS THE SLIGHTEST CONCERN OVER WHETHER TRAVIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN INJURED OR KILLED BY BEING ZAPPED, OR WHETHER HE WOULD EVER SEE HIS FRIEND AND ASSOCIATE ALIVE AGAIN!

ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THE REACTION OF ROGERS AND MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY IS THAT THEY KNEW THAT THE INCIDENT WAS A HOAX AND THAT TRAVIS WAS SAFE IN A TERRESTRIAL HIDEOUT, RATHER THAN ABOARD AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL SPACECRAFT THAT MIGHT BE TAKING HIM TO A DISTANT WORLD FROM WHICH HE MIGHT NEVER RETURN.

There is reason to believe that Travis Walton may not have followed the original "game plan" for the hoax. On the evening of the initial search party effort, on Nov. 6, Mrs. Kellet had urged that the search be abandoned on the grounds that Travis was "not on this earth." The law enforcement officers, suspicious of a hoax, were not unhappy to comply with the request.

Two days later, on Saturday, Nov. 8, Duane told me that he drove to Holbrook to see Sheriff Gillespie whom he sharply criticized for failing to continue the search for Travis. (Recall that the search had been called off earlier at the suggestion of Travis's mother.) So another costly search effort was mounted on Sunday, Nov. 9, and it continued on Nov. 10, being called off only a few hours before Travis reappeared. Also on Nov. 10, Rogers and five members of his crew went to Holbrook to take a polygraph test administered by C.E. Gilson.

Shortly after midnight, Mrs. Grant Neff told me, she received a telephone call from Travis who said he was calling from a pay-phone booth in a gas station in Heber, approximately 30 miles west of Snowflake and about 10-15 miles from where the UFO incident allegedly occurred. Mrs. Neff said her husband drove to Mrs. Kellet's house to pick up Duane and the two men drove to Heber to pick up Travis. They brought him to Mrs. Kellet's house, then Mr. Neff returned home so his wife could drive to Mrs. Kellet's home to see her brother.

During my Mar. 12 interview with Mrs. Neff, she told me that her husband said they had found Travis *"slumped in the bottom of the phone booth."* Mrs. Neff used the following words to describe Travis's condition when she saw him that night: *"so shook-up, he was so upset...he was very panicky...even talking to us was a real strain. He was very upset."*

This is confirmed by other evidence that shows that Travis was barely aware of what was going on at the time of his telephone call. During a tape-recorded interview with the "National Enquirer," several days after his return, Travis said: *"I rushed into the first phone booth I came to and called my mother."* (Emphasis added.) There was no telephone either in Mrs. Kellet's home in Snowflake or in the house on the Gibson ranch in the mountains.

Shortly after Travis called his sister, Sheriff Gillespie received a tip that a man claiming to be Travis Walton had called Mrs. Neff from a telephone booth in Heber. Gillespie called Sheriff's Deputy Glen Flake, in Snowflake, asking him to get dressed and drive to the highway from Heber to watch for Travis. Flake did so but without success. So he decided to drive to Mrs. Kellet's house, arriving there around 2 a.m., he told me during our Mar. 12 interview. Flake said he found *"lights were on in the house and there was a fellow out in the yard siphoning gas out of a car."* The officer got out to investigate and recognized the young man as Duane Walton. Duane explained that he had decided he had to return to Phoenix immediately to get back to his business but had forgotten to buy gas for the four-hour trip. So he was siphoning gas from his brother-in-law's car since there would be no gas stations open at that hour. Flake made no attempt to enter the Kellet house.

Only two days earlier, Duane's criticism had prompted Navajo County officials to launch another costly search effort to find Travis. Yet now that Travis had been found, Duane did not tell Sheriff's Deputy Glen Flake that Travis had returned and was just inside the nearby house. ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT DUANE DID NOT WANT ANYBODY OUTSIDE THE FAMILY, AND ESPECIALLY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, TO SEE TRAVIS IN HIS "CONFUSED" STATE-OF-MIND.

During my Apr. 23 telephone interview with Duane, I asked him why he had not informed Sheriff's Deputy Flake that Travis had returned. Duane replied: *"It was none of his damn business!"* Duane went on to explain that at that point his primary concern was for Travis's health and well-being, and that he wanted to get medical attention for his brother.

When I asked Duane why he had driven all the way to Phoenix to get medical attention for Travis, he explained: "Snowflake does not have a doctor, and as to why I spirited him away to Phoenix in the middle of the night -- because those narrow-minded, small-town red-necked people [in Snowflake] are dangerous.... There's no doctor there and the reason I took him to Phoenix in the middle of the night was to get him medical assistance."

Investigation showed that Duane was correct about there not being a physician in Snowflake. However, only 16 miles south, in the town of Show Low, there is a physician named Dr. Garver who operates a medical clinic there. If speedy medical aid was Duane's principal concern, he did not have to drive all the way to Phoenix, unless Duane had a family doctor there in whom he had great confidence. When I asked about this possibility, Duane replied: "No. Nobody in my family is sick, ever, very seldom."

Polygraph examiner McCarthy told me that before he ran the test on Travis, he had first talked with Duane. During this discussion, McCarthy told me, Duane stressed what a fine young man Travis was and that he was NOT A DRUG USER. McCarthy told me: "One of the things he [Duane] harped on was that when he found him [Travis] in Heber, the first thing he did when he got him home was to strip him naked and look all over his body. And he found a needle mark in his right elbow, and he [Duane] knows this is foreign because this boy has never used anything [i.e. drugs]." But McCarthy said that when he later interviewed Travis that he contradicted his older brother's statement and that Travis admitted to having used "pot," "speed," and LSD.

The first person outside the Walton family to talk with Travis after he returned was Lester H. Steward, of Phoenix, a hypno-therapist and health-consultant. The meeting was arranged through William Spaulding, an official of Ground Saucer Watch (GSW), a UFO group that is sympathetic to the idea of extraterrestrial visitors in the form of UFOs. Duane and Spaulding had met during the time that Travis was "missing" and Spaulding had offered to provide assistance if Travis returned safely. According to Duane, he and his brother arrived in Phoenix shortly after 6 a.m. on Nov. 11. Duane called Spaulding who in turn called Steward around 7 a.m. Shortly afterward, Duane called Steward and arranged to visit him in his office at 9:30 p.m.

In retrospect, it seems that Duane originally thought that "Dr. Steward" was a physician who could give Travis a medical examination. Steward is not. He is a psychologist and hypnotist whose Ph.D. is from a small private school in Southern California. Soon after the Waltons arrived, Duane realized that Steward could not himself perform a medical exam and he made it clear to Steward that Travis was not ready to undergo hypnosis. Steward agreed and called a friend, an M.D./psychiatrist, to ask him to try to arrange for extensive laboratory tests. But by the time the latter could make the necessary arrangements, the Waltons had decided to depart.

In the course of the discussions in Steward's office, the Waltons learned that he had worked extensively in the field of drug-addiction. When the Waltons first arrived, Steward noted that Travis seemed dazed and confused. Travis sat silently holding his head in his hands, Steward told me in a telephone interview on Apr. 25, while Duane proceeded to tell in detail what allegedly had occurred to Travis aboard the UFO. At first, Steward told me, he had assumed that Travis's dazed condition was the result of his traumatic experiences aboard a UFO.

But as the interview proceeded, another possible explanation for Travis's condition occurred to Steward as a result of his own first-hand experience with the withdrawal symptoms of drug-users. As time passed, Travis began to emerge from his confused and depressed state-of-mind. If his original condition had been the result of a traumatic experience aboard a UFO, it should have persisted for a much longer time, Steward concluded. More important, Steward had observed the small puncture wound on the inside of Travis's right elbow.

This prompted Steward to suspect that Travis might have injected LSD, perhaps in combination with an animal tranquilizer called PCP, Steward later told me. Although LSD usually is taken orally, when injected in combination with PCP it can have a very powerful hallucinatory effect. Steward told me that the effect would normally begin to wear off about 8-16 hours after being injected. At the time that Travis had arrived at Steward's office, it was about nine hours after he had called from the Heber telephone booth in a "confused" state-of-mind.

It is not known whether Steward's growing suspicions of drug involvement were obvious to Duane, nor what effect Steward's mention of his experience in treating drug-addicts may have had in prompting the Waltons to terminate the interview after approximately an hour-and-a-quarter in Steward's office.

Later that same morning (Nov. 11), APRO officials made contact with Duane at his home. In response to his request for a medical exam for Travis, APRO called two physicians, both APRO members, to ask them to visit Duane's home and examine Travis. The two physicians, Dr. Howard Kandell and Dr. Joseph Salts arrived about 3 p.m., Dr. Kandell told me during our second telephone interview on April 25.

Dr. Kandell said he brought along both a tape recorder and a camera, but Duane flatly refused to let him record the interview or take any pictures of Travis. Kandell told me that Duane *"asked me to limit my examination to just determine that he is alright and not to go into any details as to what had transpired [aboard the UFO.] It was hard to examine him without questioning him, and I did question him somewhat, although most of the information that I got at that time as to what [had] transpired was from the brother [Duane]."* (Emphasis added.)

[Considering that Travis had been in such a "confused" state-of-mind when picked up in Heber and that he apparently remained in this dazed condition until late in the morning of Nov. 11, it is strange that Duane would have been able to acquire so many details by 3 p.m. of the same day as to what allegedly had happened aboard the UFO. And despite the fact that APRO officials were very sympathetic to the UFO abduction story, Duane was not yet ready to allow even APRO representatives to tape record Travis's story of the alleged incident.]

Dr. Kandell described to me Travis's condition on the afternoon of Nov. 11: *"He was lying there in bed with the shades drawn...looking up at the ceiling... He really didn't show any emotion... He answered questions appropriately when spoken to but he wasn't very verbal...his attitude was like a person who was disturbed, depressed."* In response to my question, Dr. Kandell acknowledged that he has had no first-hand experience with drug-addicts because he is a pediatrician.

Dr. Kandell found no evidence of physical injury or burns, despite the claim that only six days earlier Travis had been "zapped" by a very intense beam from a UFO. However, Kandell told me that he did find a small puncture wound on the inside of Travis's right elbow.

Dr. Kandell said this small puncture was similar to what would be found if a blood sample had been taken. *"I came across this in the course of my examination and asked him if he knew how he got this, and he said 'no,' that he hadn't noticed it before."* (This contradicts McCarthy's statement that Duane said he had spotted the mark shortly after Travis's return when Duane had him strip down.)

Dr. Kandell said that the puncture mark was not directly over the large vein. When I asked him whether LSD injected into the spot where the puncture mark was found could have caused a narcotic effect, he replied: *"Yes, because whether it is injected into a vein or under the skin anywhere, it is absorbed and would have its effect. Most people who take drugs usually inject it into the vein because you get an immediate effect. If you inject it into a muscle or under the skin, you get an effect but it is delayed."*

When I asked Dr. Kandell whether he had mentioned this puncture mark in the elbow in his official report to APRO, he replied: *"Yes, it was in my report."* YET APRO HAS NEVER MENTIONED THIS TRAVIS WALTON PUNCTURE MARK IN ITS ARTICLES ON THE CASE. Instead, APRO has emphasized that there could not possibly be any drug involvement because an analysis of a urine sample, allegedly the first voided by Travis after his return, showed no evidence of drug use.

I asked Dr. Kandell whether this "first" urine sample had been obtained in his presence so he could be certain that it had really come from Travis. Kandell replied: *"Duane gave me a jar and he said 'this is Travis's first voided specimen since he's been found.' All I have is his [Duane's] word for it."* (GSW's Spaulding told me that prior to Travis's return, he had urged Duane to obtain an early urine specimen because there would be speculation that there might be drug involvement. If Travis's condition prompted Duane to believe there was drug-involvement, the urine specimen he gave Dr. Kandell could have come from Duane or his brother-in-law.) Dr. Kandell told me that there is no possible way to determine if the original specimen really did come from Travis.

Dr. Kandell commented on one curious aspect of the urine sample that Duane provided. This was the lack of "acetones" in the urine. The physician explained that if a person has gone without nourishment for several days, his body begins to break down its own fat for survival. The waste-product of this process shows up as acetones in that person's urine. Despite the fact that Travis had been "missing" for more than five days, lab analysis of the "first" urine sample revealed NO acetones present. This means the urine sample came from a person who had not gone without nourishment for five days.

It might be argued that the sample did come from Travis and that he was fed aboard the UFO. But in his frequent tellings of his alleged experience, Travis never has mentioned being fed while he was "conscious." It might then be claimed that perhaps while he was "unconscious," he was fed intravenously and this could then explain the puncture mark in his right elbow. But as Dr. Kandell noted, the wound is not over a large vein, which would rule out intravenous feeding.

According to Steward, when LSD is injected, no traces of the drug can be found in blood, urine or saliva samples 18-24 hours after injection. When the Waltons first came to Steward's office, Duane was extremely anxious that Travis undergo full lab tests. But by later that afternoon, when Dr. Kandell and Dr. Salts arrived, Duane only wanted a more casual physical check-up. It was not until the afternoon of Nov. 13, more than 48-hours after Travis's return, that he came to Dr. Kandell's office to give blood and urine samples for lab analysis. Lab tests of these samples showed no traces of illicit drugs.

Not until Travis was in Phoenix, and outside the legal jurisdiction of Navajo County Law Enforcement officials who had been suspicious of a hoax from the start, did Duane notify the Navajo County Sheriff's office in Holbrook that his brother had returned. At first Duane said that Travis had been taken to an unnamed hospital in Tucson for medical tests. Duane later admitted this story was false and he said it was released to avoid the news media. (Yet within several days he and Travis willingly met with the "National Enquirer.")

According to Sheriff Gillespie, it was not until late in the afternoon on Nov. 11 that Duane called to give a truthful report on Travis's whereabouts. During my Mar. 15 interview with Gillespie, the Sheriff told me he had said to Duane: "I need to talk to Travis, and he said, 'well, Travis is not available.' And I said, well, you need to make him available so I can talk to him." Duane finally agreed and Gillespie told me that he promptly drove to Phoenix, arriving late that night.

Gillespie described his meeting with Travis as follows: "When I first went into the house, he [Travis] was laying on the sofa in the living room... He appeared to be tired, spoke in a very low tone of voice. I talked to him for quite a while and asked him numerous questions, and had him relate his story to me."

When I asked the Sheriff whether he had tape-recorded his interview with Travis, he replied: "No. They had made an almost insistent request that there be nobody else around, and no recordings, or anything like that." (One possible reason for Duane's insistence is that this would be the first time that Travis himself would have to tell of his alleged UFO experiences, rather than having Duane tell them. Travis had not had much time, since recovering from his "confused" state-of-mind, to master the story. Gillespie told me that he has since noted a number of changes in the Travis Walton story as he originally heard it and as it has since been reported in the news media.)

Shortly after APRO made contact with the Walton brothers, it alerted the "National Enquirer." The newspaper asked APRO to arrange the polygraph test and APRO called McCarthy. The newspaper also asked APRO to rent rooms at the Sheraton Hotel in Scottsdale to shield the Walton brothers from the rest of the news media. It was in the Sheraton where Travis flunked the lie-detector test given by McCarthy.

The Dec. 16, 1975, edition of the "National Enquirer" ran a full-page feature on the Travis Walton case under the following banner headline:

5 Witnesses Pass Lie Test While Claiming

ARIZONA MAN CAPTURED BY UFO

There was no mention of the fact that the "abductee" himself had been questioned about the alleged experience by a very experienced polygraph examiner who had concluded that the story was a hoax!

On Feb. 21, 1976, Travis Walton and APRO's L.J. Lorenzen were interviewed on an NBC-TV network program called "The Unexplained." The moderator (Leonard Nimoy), after mentioning that APRO had carefully investigated the case, asked Mr. Lorenzen why he believed Travis Walton's story. Lorenzen replied:

"Well, he's truthful and doesn't use drugs. We had psychological testing carried out and it shows he has a normal psychological profile."

(Apparently it is quite "normal" to hope to be abducted by a UFO!!)

The February, 1976, issue of "The A.P.R.O. Bulletin," (mailed in late April), carried another story on the Travis Walton case which began: "Pursuant to our policy of attempting to present as accurate information as possible to the membership, and because Travis Walton was kind enough to furnish exact information, we herewith correct some inaccuracies which appeared in our initial recounting of his experience."

These corrections included such minutia as: "The dividers did not glow but were a dull silver color...The clothing of the creatures [aboard the UFO] was not brown but rather an orangish-tan which Travis designates as a difficult color to describe ...He was not taken into another craft, but rather out of the enclosure which Travis refers to as a 'hangar,' down a straight hallway to a small room..."

But there was no mention of the Nov. 15, 1975, lie-detector test by McCarthy that Travis Walton had flunked. Nor was there any mention of the small puncture wound on his right elbow. The article concluded with the following appraisal:

"The Consulting and Administrative staffs of APRO feel that the Travis Walton case is one of the most important and intriguing in the history of the UFO phenomena." (Emphasis added.)

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT APRO IS THE OLDEST UFO ORGANIZATION IN THIS COUNTRY AND THE LORENZENS ARE AMONG THE MOST EXPERIENCED INVESTIGATORS OF UFO CASES.

Another very experienced UFO investigator is Dr. J. Allen Hynek who has been active in the field for nearly 30 years and who now heads his own Center For UFO Studies. In late March, 1976, Hynek visited Arizona to conduct his own investigation of the Travis Walton case. He was interviewed by the press and the Associated Press released the following story:

Phoenix (AP) -- A leading national authority on unidentified flying objects said yesterday there is "no substantiation" for allegations of a hoax made against a young Arizonan who said he was abducted by a UFO last year.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek...said he had interviewed Travis Walton and believes he is "not hoaxing." He also said Walton had successfully taken a lie-detector test three weeks ago..."

"He has been made the subject of a lot of unnecessary and unfounded accusations," Hynek said. "There seems to be little support for the accusations made against him..."

"I still don't know whether he was abducted in a nuts-and-bolts UFO," said Hynek in the interview. "The case isn't open and shut."

Hynek added that he would await hypnosis of Walton before reaching more definite conclusions.

NOT ALL UFO ORGANIZATIONS WERE SO GULLIBLE:

William Spaulding, western director of Ground Saucer Watch (GSW), quickly became suspicious of the Walton story in the wake of the incident in Steward's office. By Nov. 15, both Spaulding and Steward had publicly denounced the case as a hoax even though neither was aware of the then-secret McCarthy lie-detector test. (I wish to express my appreciation to Spaulding for his considerable assistance in my investigation by providing a copy of the Nov. 8 taped interview and

copies of local newspaper clippings on the incident which were most helpful. Although Spaulding and I disagree on the fundamental UFO issue, we share the common view that hoaxes ought to be exposed and that failure to do so can only hurt the "UFO Movement.")

NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena), in its first report on the Travis Walton case to its members, said there was cause for suspicion that the case might be a hoax.

* * *

The March 1976 issue of "The A.P.R.O. Bulletin" contained another article on the Walton case, reporting that Mrs. Kellet had taken and passed a polygraph examination given by Pfeifer, who had earlier passed Travis and Duane Walton.

The article concludes by suggesting that "individuals whose testimony conflicts with that of Mrs. Kellet, Travis and Duane Walton, as well as the six individual witnesses, should volunteer, as the foregoing have, to submit to a polygraph test to determine their roles in this case. Those individuals include Sheriff Gillespie, Stanford Flake, Ken Copland, Bill Spaulding, Lester Steward and Phillip (sic) Klass. APRO will be happy to underwrite the cost of these tests and only await the acquiescence of the participants."

On June 9, the day after receiving the March issue, I wrote to Mr. & Mrs. L.J. Lorenzen. After expressing regrets at news of Mr. Lorenzen's recent surgery, and citing the above challenge, I wrote:

"I hasten to accept this offer, subject only to the following condition: that my test be given by a licensed polygraph examiner with at least 10 years experience -- to assure his competence. Otherwise I leave the choice of the examiner in your hands. I shall be delighted to take the test in Washington D.C. area or in Phoenix if APRO will underwrite my travel expenses, whichever you prefer.

"I ask, but do NOT set as a condition to my test, that Jim Lorenzen also agree to take a polygraph examination to be given by a licensed examiner with 10 or more years experience. Investigation shows that there is a very competent polygraph examiner in Phoenix who was trained at the highly respected Army Fort Gordon school and who has practiced for nearly 20 years. He would be my choice to administer Jim's test as soon as his health permits.

"I trust that your acceptance will be as prompt as mine and that APRO will publish this brief letter in "The APRO Bulletin" so members can be informed of my prompt acceptance and of my own challenge."

Sincerely

(signed) Philip J. Klass

Any or all portions of this report may be quoted in print providing written permission is obtained from the author and that full credit is given to the author as the source.

CREDIT: Philip J. Klass; Author: "UFOs Explained" (1974, Random House)(1976, Vintage Press)

[Home Phone: 202-554-5901

560 "N" St. SW.

Washington D.C. 20024

June 20, 1976

"He who does not bellow the truth when he knows the truth makes himself the accomplice of liars and forgers." ... Charles Peguy.

July 19, 1976

Mr. Philip J. Klass
560 "N" St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Mr. Klass:

We, the persons involved in the Travis Walton UFO abduction of November 5, 1975, hereby make this challenge to you, a challenge to either put up or shut up. Because, in your own words, "Talk is cheap. Put your money where your mouth is."

Being as you are attacking our honesty and are attacking the truth of our experience on the basis of polygraph examinations that we have taken, we hereby challenge you to either have us retested, or to admit to the validity of the previously passed tests.

It is true that Alan Dalis had an inconclusive polygraph test because of being overly agitated. And it is true that immediately after Travis Walton's return his emotional state (as confirmed by experts from APRO and the National Enquirer) prevented any significant determination to be made of a privately arranged polygraph experiment that was performed.

However, the tests from the Arizona Department of Public Safety that five of us passed and the tests from Ezell Polygraph Institute that Travis, his brother and his mother passed, definitely far outweigh those two immaterial responses.

It is your contention that, for a number of reasons, these lie detector tests we have passed do not substantiate the truth of our experience. We do not agree with your criticism of that evidence. However, rather than argue ad infinitum the value of those previous tests, we challenge you to provide polygraph tests that do not have the elements that you feel invalidated our previous tests.

The conditions of acceptance of this challenge are as follows:

(1) The tests must be arranged and financed by you. Due to the scattered residence we now hold, travel expenses and time lost from work must be compensated for. Afterall, it is you who are first challenging us on the basis of our honesty.

(2) The individuals on whom you have focused your accusations, Travis Walton, Duane Walton, and Mike Rogers, must be retested. We are not aware of what financial burden this retesting might bring you, however; at least three of the other five witnesses must be retested, all five if possible. Travis's mother is also willing to be retested.

(3) Cost can not be an excuse for not accepting the challenge. You will be reimbursed for any of our tests that are negative in result. You see, if you really do believe we will fail, you must also believe it will not cost you anything.

(4) Testing will be performed by a mutually acceptable examiner of high standing and proper credentials, using modern conventional polygraph equipment.

(5) All examiner's reports and polygraph charts from the tests, regardless of outcome, will immediately be made available to public knowledge.

(6) Questions must pertain directly to the original UFO experience beginning November 5 and ending November 11, 1975. The examiner will be provided with copies of this challenge and of APRO's written report on the Travis Walton case and of Philip Klass's seventeen page written report, to familiarize the examiner with areas from which to formulate questions, so that it will be un-

necessary for any of the parties involved to suggest questions. Specific wording of test questions will be at the discretion of the examiner. The standard pretest rehearsal of questioning will be used to assure that a clearcut yes or no response can be given to all questions.

(7) There will be present one other mutually acceptable polygraph expert. His capacity will not be to participate in the testing but only to observe and assure that the examinations are correctly and fairly administered.

(8) Prior to our undergoing these tests you must sign a notarized statement (enclosed) that states that you accept our subsequent passing of these tests to be positive proof of the truth of our experience with a UFO and, when we pass, that you will make public retractions of all accusations of hoax made against us. The enclosed statement includes the agreement by you to cease any further accusations of hoax about us to the public. This statement, when signed, will also be made immediately available to public knowledge.

(9) Your acceptance or refusal of our challenge must be sent by registered mail to the Snowflake address given below and postmarked no later than twenty-four hours after receipt of this challenge. If you do not reply within that twenty-four hours or do not arrange for the retesting to take place according to the conditions stated above within thirty days, it will constitute refusal of our challenge.

(10) We have been completely fair and explicit in compiling these conditions for acceptance of our challenge. All of these conditions must be met before retesting will take place.

You must take a stand on the validity of polygraph examinations. Either you support the fact that properly administered polygraph tests constitute proof of truth when passed or you believe that polygraph examinations, however well administered, are proof of nothing, whether the results be positive or negative.

In your efforts to deny the existence of UFOs you employ a very contradictory tactic that allows you to use polygraph results, whether negative or positive, in your own favor.

If a man has a UFO experience and fails a polygraph test you say, of course, that it is proof he is lying. However, if he passes the test, you claim that the test does not mean anything. This is a totally inconsistent argument. Either properly administered polygraph examinations are proof of truth when passed or they are proof of nothing. Which is it, Mr. Klass?

If you do not believe that polygraph tests are proof of anything then you should stop attacking our integrity and the truth of our experience on that basis. If you do not accept this challenge you must either admit the validity of the polygraph tests we have passed, or admit that you do not believe polygraph tests have any meaning and therefore you should not use them in your arguments. If you continue to use that tactic, you are proving that you are not really interested in whether UFOs are real or not and that you are just forcing the evidence to fit your own preconceived ideas.

You openly admit to carrying into every UFO case you 'investigate', the preformed conclusion that UFOs do not exist. Yet, you criticize other investigators because you say they have already made up their minds that they do exist.

In your seventeen page report, which you sent out to so many people and the media, you claimed to have come up with what you call facts and evidence, which you claim proved our experience was a hoax. The report you sent to Sheriff Marlin Gillespie was turned over to the Navajo County Attorney, Bob Hall.

Neither Sheriff Gillespie nor the County Attorney think your so called proof of hoax amounts to anything more than theories and hearsay. These men are professionals in their jobs and would certainly file charges against us if there were any real evidence to support such charges. However, they are not filing charges against us and certainly not because of your report. They need facts, Mr. Klass, not theory, and the only facts are those which support the truth of our experience.

Since you have chosen to write negatively about us to the public, we challenge you to not stoop to those kind of smears, insinuations and quoting out of context. We challenge you to stick to the facts of the case in trying to prove your notion that the UFO incident did not occur. Because we know that if you do stick to the facts you will not have a thing to say. We know it did happen.

A man can live in a community for years, building a good reputation for himself. One person can tear all that down with one vicious rumor. It is easy for you to sit on the other side of this continent and accuse us with never having interviewed or talked with us prior or having made any sort of an in-person investigation. Now is the time for you, Mr. Klass, to put up or shut up.

If you wish to accept our challenge, you may contact us by writing by registered mail, care of Box 1072 Snowflake, Arizona 85937 within twenty-four hours from the time you receive this letter.

If we receive your letter of acceptance it will be copied and distributed. Your acceptance or decline of this challenge will immediately become available to public knowledge.

Very Seriously,

cc: Jim Lorenzen
George Pfeifer
Tom Ezell
John McCarthy
Charles Bowen
William Spaulding
Dwight Connelly
John Acuff
Stanton Friedman
Allen Hynek
John Cathcart
Richard Robertson
Etc.

Travis Walton *Michael H. Rogers*
Travis Walton Michael Rogers

Kenneth E. Peterson *DE Walton*
Kenneth Peterson Duane Walton

John E. Goulette *Jeff Pierce*
John Goulette Jeff Pierce

Mary Kellett (PRESENTLY UNAVAILABLE)
Mary Kellett FOR SIGNATURE
Dwayne Smith

(PRESENTLY UNAVAILABLE)
FOR SIGNATURE
Alan Dallas

I, Philip J. Klass, do hereby give my word on my honor and my agreement to the following: (1) These polygraph tests that are now commencing have been arranged to standards I accept to be a valid testing situation to determine actual truth or falsehood in the report of the UFO abduction near Heber, Arizona on November 5, 1975. (2) I therefore accept any subsequent passing of these polygraph examinations to constitute positive proof of truth in answering the questions on the part of the individual(s) passing the test(s). (3) If none of the tests on these individuals are failed I will make immediate public retraction of all previous accusations of lying and hoax I have made against the individuals tested. Retraction will be made from all persons to whom I have sent my seventeen page report and from all media who carried my story of charges of hoax. (4) If none of the tests are failed I also agree to cease any further accusation of lying and hoax on the part of these individuals.

Signed,

Notary Public:

Philip J. Klass

PHILIP J. KLASS
560 "N" STREET, S. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024

July 24, 1975

Mr. Michael Rogers
Box 1072
Snowflake, Ariz. 85937

I EAGERLY ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE YOUR PROPOSAL THAT YOU, THE OTHER SIX MEMBERS OF YOUR CREW, AND DUANE WALTON, UNDERGO A NEW POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION TO BE GIVEN BY AN EXPERIENCED EXAMINER WHO IS MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH OF US, AS SOON AS THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE WORKED OUT, AND THAT THE FULL RESULTS AND CHARTS OF THE TESTS THEN BE MADE PUBLIC.

FURTHER, I AGREE TO PAY THE COST OF TESTS FOR EACH SUBJECT WHO, IN THE OPINION OF THE SELECTED EXAMINER, TRUTHFULLY ANSWERS ALL RELEVANT QUESTIONS. ADDITIONALLY, FOR THOSE SUBJECTS WHO MEET THIS CRITERION, I WILL PAY THEIR COST OF TRAVEL TO THE EXAMINATION SITE, AT 15 CENTS/MILE, AS WELL AS REIMBURSE EACH FOR LOSS OF PAY INVOLVED IF THEY MUST BE ABSENT FROM WORK FOR THE TESTS.

In our telephone conversations today, you agreed to extend your deadline for my response. Your letter of July 13, received by me at noon today, demanded that I reply with a notarized statement via certified mail within 24 hours of receipt. Because this is a physical impossibility, you agreed to extend your deadline to Monday noon, July 26. Barring physical incapacity, this letter will be posted by your ultimatum deadline.

You insist that there can be no other changes in your list of 10 conditions. One of these is that the tests must take place "within thirty days." I agree that the tests should be conducted as soon as all arrangements can be made. But they cannot begin until we both have agreed on the choice of polygraph examiner and he can find four days in his regular schedule to conduct the tests, i.e. 1/2 day per subject, on average. Furthermore, it will be necessary for each of us to establish an Escrow account of approximately \$1,500 in advance to assure that the examiner will be paid regardless of the outcome of the tests.

More important, the tests cannot begin until you have located two members of your crew: Alan Dalis and Dwayne Smith to get their agreement to take the tests. You told me that you have tried to locate them for two weeks without success. All things considered, it should be clear to you that the timing of the tests involves many factors that are beyond my control so I cannot agree to your 30-day deadline.

Another one of your 10 conditions, that you stress are "not negotiable," is that the Examiner's "questions must pertain directly to the original UFO experience beginning with November 5 and ending November 11, 1975." My discussions of this issue with a very experienced examiner prompted him to state that he could not accept this constraint. This examiner said that a polygraph examiner must be free to explore any related areas that he believes are necessary or desirable to appraise the truthfulness of the subject.

Another one of your "non-negotiable" conditions is that I "must sign a statement that states that you [Klass] accept our subsequent passing of these tests to be positive proof of the truth of our experience with a UFO."

July 24, 1976

I cannot agree to endorse your statement which I know, and which every experienced polygraph examiner knows, is not true. The very best test, given by the most skilled examiner, cannot provide "positive proof." If it could, polygraph tests could be used to eliminate long, costly trials and lawsuits. The results of a good polygraph test provide only one more piece of evidence that must be weighed along with all other pieces of evidence. If I believed that a polygraph test administered by a very experienced examiner could provide "positive proof," I would have ended my investigation of this incident when I first learned that John J. McCarthy's test of Travis Walton on Nov. 15, 1975, resulted in the conclusion of the examiner that Walton was engaged in "gross deception."

In urging that I endorse your "positive proof" principle, you seem to overlook the reverse side of that coin. If even one of the eight subjects should fail to pass on relevant questions dealing with the alleged UFO incident, this might be construed as "positive proof" of a hoax. Would you want Navajo County officials to act on the basis that such an event amounted to "positive proof" of a hoax?

In fact, the Courts have held that the polygraph test results can not offer "positive proof," and I know of no polygraph examiner who claims to the contrary.

Furthermore, as noted on page 310 of my book "UFOs Explained," a very experienced polygraph examiner, Max Burleson of Truth Inc., told me that a second or third polygraph test may lose its effectiveness because "once a subject has gained confidence that he can 'beat the machine,' it makes a falsehood more difficult to detect."

If all eight subjects pass all relevant questions, I shall be delighted to issue a public statement saying that these new results should be given the fullest consideration, along with other evidence, in appraising the validity of the UFO incident. I would take the results into account in my future appraisal of the incident.

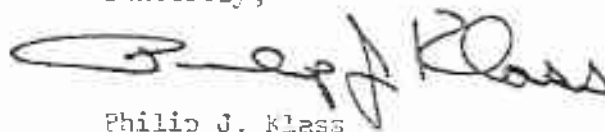
If one or more of the subjects should fail to pass one or more of the relevant questions, I do not ask that you issue a public statement stating that the whole thing was a hoax.

During the next few days, I will draw up a brief proposed Memorandum of Understanding, incorporating most of your 10 principles with the required clarifications to assure there is an unambiguous meeting of minds on the arrangements. Inasmuch as you took 10 days to formulate and execute your letter-challenge, it seems only fair that I be given 10 days to formulate my formal response and more precise terms of the agreement.

There will be no deadline for your response, with the thought that both of us are desirous of reaching prompt agreement to proceed with the re-tests.

You have my permission to reproduce this letter in its entirety and to make such distribution as you wish.

Sincerely,



Philip J. Klass

Controversy

CONCLUSION

APRO supports the efforts of Phil Klass and others to comment critically on our case investigations. Such comment, when executed objectively and in good faith will only result in the strengthening of a good case. For example, Klass' implied suggestion that the six witnesses to the initial phase of Travis Walton's experience should undergo more complete polygraphic testing is commendable. If present plans proceed as expected they will all be retested.

It is commendable too, that Mr. Klass understands and respects the time-honored journalistic tenet that allows an investigative reporter to protect the identity of his sources and the nature of privileged information. During a telephone conversation which took place while the existence of Travis' first polygraph was privileged information, Mr. Klass asked me if I had any knowledge of a polygraph test of Travis which took place earlier than Pfeifer's test. Considering quickly that an answer of "yes" or "no comment" would compromise privileged information and betray trust placed in me I simply answered "no". This response could have been reported out of context in a way that would discredit me personally but it wasn't. Such gentlemanliness should not pass unnoticed.

L.J. Jim Lorenzen

* * * * *

John J. McCarthy, the first polygraph examiner to test Travis Walton on November 15, 1975, was quoted in the ARIZONA REPUBLIC for July 12, 1976 as follows: "I decided to break silence because the National Enquirer is involved in complicity which is detrimental to our profession."

A number of his peers feel that it is McCarthy's action that has damaged the image of the profession. After all, he had advised Travis of his rights against self-incrimination and assured him that the test results would become the property of the National Enquirer's Paul Jenkins. "If there's any release of the information it will come from him, not me," he had promised. And he had signed an agreement to preserve the confidentiality of the test. Prospective polygraphic subjects are assured of the privileged nature of the pre-test interview. What happens when they can no longer take that assurance seriously?

Of major concern to polygraph operators in the Phoenix area is McCarthy's apparent willingness to disclose confidential information in direct violation of verbal commitment and written contract. He has also talked freely about information gleaned during his "confidential" pretest interview. It was

Not true. I did not offer an "implied suggestion" of new polygraph tests anywhere in my Walton Case Report of 6/20/76. As noted in my book "UFOs Explained" (p. 310), quoting an experienced polygraph examiner, "once a subject has gained confidence that he can 'beat the machine,' it makes a falsehood more difficult to detect." However, I am willing to proceed with a new test providing all seven members of the Rogers Crew take the new test.

An investigative reporter, or a UFO investigator, has a duty to report all significant facts he uncovers, even if some run contrary to his own beliefs. During my telephone interview of 3/21/76 with L.J. Lorenzen, following the widely publicized polygraph test given by George Pfeifer which Travis Walton "passed," I asked Lorenzen: "Do you know, has Travis taken any other polygraph tests?" Lorenzen replied: "NO. NEVER." He need not have told this falsehood. He could have replied: "Yes he has, but I am not at liberty to disclose the results or to say anything more about the earlier polygraph tests at this time."

What were/are the terms of APRO's agreement with the "National Enquirer" and with the Waltons. What information did APRO agree to withhold and for how long?? Is there still other important information that APRO is still withholding because I have not yet uncovered it?

IF TRAVIS WALTON HAD PASSED THE FIRST TEST BY MCCARTHY, WOULD THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN KEPT SECRET?

APRO has criticized McCarthy on the grounds that he was the one who first revealed the earlier test of Walton. What are the true facts?

On 3/13/76, I first talked with Tom Ezell, for whom Pfeifer worked when he tested Travis on 2/7/76. During this interview, Ezell volunteered that Travis had taken and flunked an earlier polygraph test. When I asked who had given the test, Ezell replied: "I believe by Jack McCarthy, who I would say is one helluva good examiner." Ezell had learned of the first test from Pfeifer, who presumably learned of it either from APRO or from Travis.

On 3/15/76, when I first talked with McCarthy and asked if he had tested Travis Walton, McCarthy faced the same issue that would confront APRO's Lorenzen a few days later. Both knew that widespread publicity had been given to the fact that Walton had "passed" Pfeifer's test, but the Public did not know of the first test that he had flunked!

McCarthy opted to tell the truth. Lorenzen opted for falsehood.

Richard M. Nixon also opted for falsehood when he decided that maintaining the confidentiality of Presidential conversations was justification for lying about when he had first learned of White House involvement in the Watergate break-in.

during this interview that Travis confided that he had been in trouble with the law over the theft and forgery of payroll checks. Although thorough investigation confirms that this was an isolated event in what Travis calls his "wild teen-age phase" and has nothing to do with the UFO case that was supposed to be the focal point of McCarthy's test, McCarthy seems to feel perfectly comfortable in using this material to "criminalize" his former subject.

In addition, McCarthy, possibly due to faulty memory, is propagating false information as to what took place in that pre-test interview. He claims that Travis admitted that he, his brother Duane, and his mother, often speculated about riding in a UFO. The tape recording made of that interview shows that (1) Duane and his mother were not mentioned by Travis in connection with UFO riding and (2) that in response to McCarthy's repeated and persistent questioning about riding in a UFO, Travis maintained that he had merely speculated about making contact with UFO beings, not in taking a ride per se. When reviewing the question "In the past have you ever thought of riding in a UFO?" Travis decided to respond with a "yes" because he probably had thought about it sometime or other. He explained this to McCarthy. So once again McCarthy had asked the wrong question.

"Have you recently thought a lot about riding in a UFO?" would have given a lot better indication of whether or not Travis had been planning a hoax.

In the test administered by Pfeifer the question, "Before November 5, 1975 were you a UFO buff?" (suggested by Travis) was asked. Travis answered "No." Klass insists that this answer is a lie. We maintain that a person may at some time or other have thought of riding in a UFO and may have speculated about contact with extraterrestrials and still not consider himself to be a "UFO buff." Travis had not read a book on UFOs, did not know that there were UFO research organizations and in fact did not recognize the name J. Allen Hynek.

Klass' investigation is targeted to prove that the Walton brothers and their mother Mrs. Mary Kellart, were very much involved in the UFO subject and flying saucer lore. A first-hand investigation as conducted by APRO does not bear this out. The members of this intelligent family group have an attitude in common with over half the citizens of the United States: i.e., they think that some UFO reports are based on the existence of real vehicles and that these vehicles are possibly extraterrestrial in origin. They were interested enough to read reports that appeared in the press but not concerned enough to buy (or borrow) books or magazines on the subject.

Duane reports that he saw a UFO close at hand when hunting about 12 years ago. It came nearly to tree-top level and seemed to be following him. He ran home, and of course told the family about it. In

APRO admits now that it intentionally withheld information about Travis Walton's earlier criminal act and his "wild teen-age phase" because APRO decided that it had no possible bearing on whether Travis--five years after the felony--was a truthful, credible person.

Dr. Jean Rosenbaum and his wife Beryl, also a psychiatrist, spent considerable time interviewing Travis when they came to Phoenix a few days after he reappeared. Following is a verbatim transcript of a portion of my telephone conversation with Dr. Jean Rosenbaum [JR] on 4/26/76:

PK: "In the course of your discussions with Travis Walton, did you discuss with him, or did he volunteer, anything about his prior interest in the field of UFOs, or that of his mother or brother?"

JR: "A great deal."

PK: "Could you tell me?"

JR: "Everybody in the family claimed that they had seen one [UFO]...and he [Travis] has been preoccupied with this almost all his life. Lot of talk about it in the family. Then he made the comment to his mother just prior to the incident that if he was ever abducted by a UFO she was not to worry because he'd be alright. So he was, like, prepared for this kind of a [incident]"

PK: "Who else was present at the time he was telling you this?"

JR: "My wife Beryl, who is a psychoanalyst, and his brother Duane."

PK: "Duane was present?"

JR: "Yes."

PK: "How about Jim Harder [APRO's director of research]?"

JR: "Now let me think a second. Yes, Harder was there."

PK: "Are you fairly sure about that?"

JR: "Yes, I'm fairly sure of that. It's been a while ago, but Harder knew about this. I know that Harder knew about this because he mentioned it."

PK: "Did Harder seem concerned about this proclivity for UFOs?"

JR: "No, because you know Harder's bag is that he's convinced it happened and it really did happen and all that. And so anything that would in any way influence the case, he had explanations for everything..."

PK: "But there's no doubt in your mind that he, his mother and his brother were UFO enthusiasts?"

JR: "Oh for sure. They talked about it all the time."

Were the Waltons "very much involved in the UFO subject?"
"A FIRST-HAND INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY APRO DOES NOT BEAR THIS OUT."

"ONE FALSEHOOD TREADS ON THE HEELS OF ANOTHER"....TERENCE

ensuing years the subject has been discussed occasionally and Duane has recounted his adventures. On one of these occasions Travis had made a tongue-in-cheek remark, "If one of those things ever grabs you make sure they come back and get me." Duane, during Travis' absence, recalled this remark and repeated it with a fair amount of embellishment to newsmen and other investigators. In the press this developed into a "pact" between the two brothers. Also, during Travis' absence, Duane made quite a few positive statements about UFOs which Klass interpreted as indicating that Duane had a thorough knowledge of UFO lore. The same facts can just as easily support the hypothesis that Duane believed the accounts given by the six witnesses, some of whom he knew personally, and that he was talking to keep up his own hopes as well as those of his mother.

Compare APRO's version with the actual words used by Duane Walton in an interview with Fred Sylvanus of GSW on 11/9/76, at a time when Travis was still "missing."

"Travis and I discussed this many, many times at great length. And we both said that we would immediately get as directly under the object [UFO] as physically possible... We discussed this time and time again. The opportunity would be too great to pass up at any cost, except that of death, make contact with them and whoever happened to be left on the ground--if one of us didn't make the grade--to try to convince whoever was in the craft to come back and get the other one. But he performed just as we said we would and he got directly under the object. And he's received the benefits for it."

When Sylvanus asked if Duane wasn't concerned that his brother might be harmed, Duane replied: "I don't feel any fear for his life. He's not in any danger...All I can say is that I wish I was with him." A few moments later Duane added: "Everybody in my family...We've paid a lot of attention to it. We've lived with it for 10 years. The fact that they're [UFOs] here and we see them quite regularly, and they don't kill people."

If Duane and his family were not familiar with other cases of alleged UFO abductions, or aware that Travis was safe in a terrestrial hide-out, how could Duane be so confident? Since Mrs. Kellett was not present during the interview, there was no need for Duane to lie simply to buoy up her spirits.

In earlier correspondence with Mr. Lorenzen, Klass had forwarded a report to the effect that when Mrs. Kellett had been notified of the incident involving her son's disappearance she had responded with, "Well, I'm not the least bit surprised." He included the names of a half dozen law-men who were supposed to have been witnesses to this event. APRO investigation discloses that Mrs. Kellett was notified by Mike Rogers, and that the only other person present was Under-sheriff Ken Coplan. The above quote attributed to Mrs. Kellett could only have come from Coplan but Coplan has now retreated from such a position and so has Phil Klass. Ken Coplan was Dr. William Bickel's source for the talk show rumor (see APRO Bulletin for December 1975). Coplan later denied that he had ever heard or repeated such a rumor.

Coplan's current position is that Mrs. Kellett didn't act very surprised. However, we find that Coplan was not previously acquainted with Mrs. Kellett and therefore can make no valid appraisal of her reactions. Mike Rogers notes that both Travis and his mother are reserved in nature and simply are not in the habit of reacting visibly. Rogers says that when he told Mrs. Kellett of the incident she seemed unable to grasp what he was telling her and insisted that he repeat the details at least twice and that on the drive to Snowflake she continued to ply him with questions about details intermingled with her own recollections of Duane's experience and other accounts she had heard. Coplan does not disagree with Rogers' account.

The "earlier correspondence" to which APRO refers was an informal letter written shortly after I had begun my investigation of the Walton case. My formal report of 6/20/76 states: "Rogers, who knew where Mrs. Kellett was staying, and Under-Sheriff Ken Coplan, of Holbrook, drove over to bring Mrs. Kellett the shocking news of the fate that seemingly had befallen Travis. Coplan described the incident to me during our telephone interview on Jan. 5: 'When Rogers told the mother what had happened, she did not act very surprised.'..."

No matter how stoic a woman Mrs. Kellett may be, if she really believed that her son had been carried off by a UFO, that she might never see him alive again, one might expect that her reactions of shock and grief would be apparent even to a stranger like Coplan.

BUT PERHAPS THE EXPLANATION FOR MRS. KELLETT'S CALM REACTION IS THAT TRAVIS HAD THOUGHTFULLY WARNED HIS MOTHER THAT IF HE WERE EVER ABDUCTED BY A UFO SHE NEED NOT WORRY BECAUSE HE WOULD RETURN SAFELY, ACCORDING TO DR. ROSENBAUM'S ACCOUNT. SEEMINGLY TRAVIS HAS THE PSYCHIC ABILITY TO PREDICT FUTURE EVENTS!

Another "criminalizing" item that McCarthy revealed from Travis' "confidential" pre-test interview was his revelation that he had experimented with "pot" and "uppers" and had inhaled LSD once. APRO's investigation supports Travis' claim that his experimentation was a temporary phase, terminated at least two years prior to the abduction incident. Klass, however, indulges in some wild conjecture concerning a red mark that looked like the remnant of a puncture inside Travis' right elbow, theorizing that Travis could have injected LSD. However: (1) Travis is right-handed so the mark is in the wrong place to have been self-administered; (2) why, when LSD is easily ingested orally, would anyone in this situation resort to injection?; (3) if Travis was indeed participating in a hoax as Klass claims, why would he resort to drugs at all at this crucial time?

It is of importance to note that we are dependent on Travis' basic honesty for all knowledge we have of his drug experimentation. He volunteered this information in good faith. He did not have to do so.

To help portray Travis as a drug user

Klass relies on "Dr." Lester Steward, already exposed in these pages as having an unaccredited correspondence school doctorate. Steward claims to have talked about his alleged experience in treating drug abuse and to have noted the puncture mark. The Waltons, however, say that Travis was wearing a long-sleeved shirt making the mark invisible and that Steward did not discuss drugs in their presence. They say he spent most of the time on the phone trying to arrange for an M.D. to give Travis a physical and when it became apparent that he was being unsuccessful they left.

Which APRO statement are we to believe? That APRO itself investigated Walton's claim that he stopped using illicit drugs at least two years before the UFO incident? Or that "we are dependent on Travis' basic honesty for all knowledge we have of his drug experimentation"? (Emphasis added.)

If Duane Walton did not suspect that Travis was under the influence of drugs when recovered from Heber shortly after midnight, why did Duane withhold from Sheriff's Deputy Glen Flake when he talked with Duane outside Mrs. Kellett's house in Snowflake that Travis had been found and was inside the house? Why did Duane "smuggle" Travis out of Snowflake to distant Phoenix, allegedly in search of medical attention for Travis when there was a doctor only a few miles away in Show Low? Why did Duane refuse to let two APRO-sent doctors photograph Travis on Nov. 11 or tape record their interview with him? And why did Duane ask the doctors to limit their examination, deferring for 48 hours a controlled obtaining of a blood and urine sample from Travis. Such a delay prevents detection of drug after-effects.

Steward says that it was a warm day and that he first spotted the puncture-like mark on the right elbow when Travis rolled up his sleeves during the interview.

APRO claims that while the Waltons were in Steward's office he "spent most of the time on the phone trying to arrange for an M.D. to give Travis a physical..." And the November 1975 issue of "The A.P.R.O. Bulletin" challenges Steward's statement that the Waltons spent approximately two hours in Steward's office, claiming it could not possibly have been longer than 15-20 minutes: "Duane Walton claimed that he and his brother were only in Steward's office for 15 or 20 minutes, beginning at 9:30 a.m. It takes one half hour to drive from the Westward Ho Hotel where Steward's office is located to Duane Walton's home, and considering at least a half hour for breakfast...they could not possibly have arrived home before 12:15. However, Mrs. Lorenzen made her first telephone contact with Duane at 10:45 a.m., indicating that Duane Walton's version is the correct one." (Emphasis added.)

APRO's arithmetic, based on Duane Walton's claims and Mrs. Lorenzen's statement sounds quite convincing. However, when Duane Walton was given a polygraph test by Pfeifer on 2/7/76, he was asked the following question: "DID YOU SPEND APPROXIMATELY 1-1/4 HOURS IN LESTER STEWARD'S OFFICE?"

Duane Walton answered: "YES."

PFEIFER CONCLUDED THAT DUANE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH!

"He who permits himself to tell a lie once, finds it much easier to do it a second time and a third time, till at length it becomes habitual."

... Thomas Jefferson

Errors and misrepresentations are rampant in the Klass paper and in some instances they are pyramided to produce entirely false impressions. Example: McCarthy's untrue statements about Travis' alleged obsession with UFOs is reinforced by a false quote from Dr. Howard Kandell to the same effect and these are then used as a basis for discrediting Travis' normal psychological profile as established by M.M.P.I. test.

APRO is described as having alerted the *National Enquirer* and is implied to have rented the rooms at the Sheraton when in fact, the *Enquirer* contacted Duane Walton first and then contacted APRO when they learned from him we were investigating. The *Enquirer* rented the rooms at the Sheraton. We noted these basic facts in the Nov. 1975 *APRO Bulletin* the receipt of which is acknowledged in Klass' 17-page report dated June 20, 1976.

"A false quote from Dr. Kandell"?? Following is a verbatim transcript of my telephone conversation with Dr. Howard Kandell [HK] on 4/25/76. (The underlined portion was used in my Walton Case Report of 6/20/76):

PK: "At any time during your discussions, either alone-- when I say alone I mean the first [exam] on Tuesday or Thursday [second exam] or in the subsequent ones, did the question come up of the prior interest in UFOs by Travis and/or Duane and/or the mother?"

HK: "They admitted to that freely, that he was, you know, a 'UFO freak,' so to speak. He's interested in it."

PK: "Which one?"

HK: "Travis. He had made remarks before that if he ever saw one, he'd like to go aboard, this and that. So, yes, that was mentioned. That was out."

PK: "When was that? Was that when you and Dr. Salts were there or when more of the people were there [at hotel]?"

HK: "No, that was, I think, subsequently, it came out. I don't know whether it was that Friday night, or it could have been that I, that it was in the newspapers (or) that somebody else might have mentioned it."

PK: "But you heard it from their own lips?"

HK: "I think so. I think so. I can't be 100% positive. But if I didn't, it was discussed. They didn't deny that. That wasn't denied."

When I first talked with Dr. Kandell on 4/23/76, I asked him to verify the accuracy of verbatim quotations attribute to him in the 12/16/75 issue of the "National Enquirer." One quotation was: "And there was a small puncture wound on the inside of his right arm -- the kind you get from a blood test. But he said that nobody had stuck a needle in his arm."

Dr. Kandell responded: "There was a small mark in the crease of the left (sic) elbow which was compatible with a puncture wound such as when somebody takes blood from you.. I came across this in the course of my examination and asked him [Travis] if he knew how he got this and he said no, he hadn't noticed it before."

During my 4/25/76 interview, Dr. Kandell said: "I am not saying it was a puncture mark. I'm saying it was a tiny scab that could have been a puncture mark."

When I asked Dr. Kandell for his estimate of when the wound had occurred, he replied: "I would say it was sustained anywhere from, probably, 24 to 48 hours before I saw him." Kandell saw Travis approximately 14 hours after he was recovered from Heber.

PERHAPS THERE WERE THORNS OR BUCK-THORN BUSHES ABOARD THE UFO??

It is also implied that APRO misrepresented what Klass describes as information about Travis' "puncture wound" and he implies that Kandell refers to it as such in his medical report to APRO. Kandell's actual reference reads, "a 2mm red spot in the crease of the right elbow," Dr. Kandell told us that it was completely healed when he discovered it and that it was quite possibly six days old when he examined Travis. At any rate if it was the remnant of a puncture, it had been made too far in the past to account for the drug induced state theorized by Klass' "drug expert" Steward. Travis and some of the other woodcutters have reported that they sometimes pick up splinters or thorns in the course of their work. Punctures from the buckthorn bush, which grows in that area, were commonplace enough that one could conceivably go unnoticed. This seems a much more likely way to account for the Walton red mark and as such it was not considered to be a particularly significant detail in reporting the case.

Klass's final conclusion is that the case was a hoax planned by Rogers and Walton with the help of the rest of the crew to enable Rogers to break a Forest Service contract that had him in serious financial trouble.

The facts are that Rogers was behind on his current contract since he had been working on three other contracts simultaneously. But, he had collected on the other contracts and therefore was not in financial trouble.

Not true
See below

Also, it was to his advantage and to the advantage of the crew to work as long as possible on the contract. Rogers knew from experience that a small time overrun would be tolerated providing they were making good progress. In addition, a contract could be defaulted without serious penalty or prejudice without going to all the trouble of creating an excuse. Rogers knew this because he had defaulted a contract a few years earlier.

Rogers had requested an inspection from the Forest Service to take place on November 7, which would enable him to collect for the past three weeks work. The UFO incident short-stopped this procedure and held up monies already earned. Rogers did not have a regular

On Aug. 3, 1975, as Rogers came to the end of the allotted 200 working days of his Forest Service contract, he had managed to complete 852 acres, or roughly 70% of the job. (He had gotten the contract 13 months earlier, but the winter snows come early and stay late in the mountains so there had been only 200 working days during this period.) Rogers had averaged 4-1/4 acres/day during this period.

The Forest Service agreed to give Rogers an 84-day extension to Nov. 10, 1975. If he maintained the 4-1/4 acre/day average he could complete the remaining 353 acres within this time. As a penalty, the price per acre was reduced from \$27.40 to \$26.40. Furthermore, the Forest Service retained 10% of the money that Rogers had already earned, until the job was completed. This then amounted to \$2,335.

But by Oct. 16, 1975, Rogers had been able to complete only 115 of the remaining 353 acres. During the two-week period between Oct. 2 and Oct. 16, Rogers and his crew had complete only 15 acres, or an average of barely more than ONE ACRE PER DAY, according to Forest Service records. (When I talked by telephone with Mike Rogers on 7/11/76, he falsely told me that at that time "we were moving at about 15 acres per day.")

ON THE BASIS OF ROGERS' PERFORMANCE BETWEEN OCT. 2 and OCT. 16 (ONLY A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE UFO INCIDENT), THE CREW WAS EARNING LESS THAN \$30.00 PER DAY, OF WHICH THE FOREST SERVICE WITHHELD THE "10% RETENTION," LEAVING LESS THAN \$27.00 PER DAY TO BE DIVIDED AMONG ROGERS AND HIS FIVE OR SIX CREW MEMBERS--AN AVERAGE OF LESS THAN \$5.00 PER MAN PER DAY.

In our telephone conversation of 7/11/76, Rogers admitted that he had been "moonlighting" by hiring out his crew to other Forest Service prime contractors, rather than devote his best efforts to trying to complete his own prime contract within the contract extension period. This was something that Forest Service Contracting Officer Maurice Marchbanks had not known at the time he granted Rogers the 84-day extension. Marchbanks did not learn of it until the morning after my telephone conversation with Rogers, when Rogers hurriedly drove to the Forest Service office early the next day so that Marchbanks would learn the facts from Rogers rather than from me. Marchbanks told me: "If I had known this [about Rogers moonlighting activities] I would almost have insisted 'to hell with what you've got with someone else. This is your obligation here."

During my 7/11/76 conversation with Rogers he claimed that although he and his crew had been able to complete only 115 acres from Aug. 3 to Oct. 16, that he would have been able to complete the remaining 238 acres by Nov. 10, if it had not been for the UFO incident. ROGERS' PERFORMANCE BETWEEN AUG. 3 and OCT. 16 PROVIDES A USEFUL BENCHMARK FOR JUDGING THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THIS ROGERS CLAIM.

APRO claims that Rogers "was not in financial trouble."

Here is what Rogers himself told me during our 7/11/76 conversation: "You see the problem of it was that the money I had made on this contract was the 10% retention which I had intended to carry me through the winter. And, and that's why I was in a financial bind this winter." As a result, Rogers told me, he "had to use food stamps to keep going".

Rogers, knowing the unfavorable report that had been turned in by the Forest Service inspector after his Oct. 16 visit, decided to write a letter to Contracting Officer Marchbanks on Oct. 20, in which he said in part: "I cannot honestly say whether or not we will finish on time or not. However, we are working every day with as much manpower as I can hire. I will not stop work until the job is finished or until I am asked to stop. I have had considerable trouble keeping a full crew on the job. The area is very thick and the guys have poor morale because of this. I have had to break in several green men." (Emphasis added) [It is not surprising that Rogers was having trouble keeping a crew on the job considering that at the then current rate of work he could only afford to pay each man less than \$5.00 per day.]

As an experienced woodsman in that area, Rogers knew that early winter snows can arrive in October and almost certainly hit in November. If it had taken Rogers from Aug. 3 to Oct. 16 -- roughly 2-1/2 months--to complete 115 acres, there was NO WAY HE COULD HOPE TO COMPLETE THE REMAINING 233 ACRES BEFORE WINTER SNOWS HIT--certainly not with an inexperienced crew suffering from "poor morale."

Thus, Rogers could not possibly hope to complete the job and collect his "10% retention" until late spring or early summer the following year. And as Rogers himself admitted to me, he was counting on that "10% retention" to tide him and his family over the long winter.

crew on payroll. He picked up men as he needed them and they were paid strictly for the hours worked. For Duane Smith the UFO incident occurred on the third day he worked for Rogers. He had not seen a payday. He was a stranger to the rest of the men. There simply was not the closeness between the men that would support the idea that they could collaborate on a hoax that would gain them nothing -- which in fact could well lose them three weeks pay already earned.

It is true that Rogers could simply have defaulted on his contract. It would then be put up for re-bid. If the new contractor's price was less than Rogers' figure, Rogers could collect the full "10% retention." If the new bid were higher, the excess would be deducted from Rogers' "10% retention" fund.

But Rogers already had an earlier contract default on his record. Another default would not improve his reputation with the Forest Service--especially if it learned the true reason for default was that he had been "moonlighting" for other contractors instead of discharging his own contractual obligation.

If only there were some way to provide "extenuating circumstances" -- like an "Act of God." On Oct. 20, the same day that Rogers felt impelled to write to Marchbanks to try to explain his problems (but without revealing the true cause), NBC-TV telecast its two-hour special on the Barney/Betty Hill "UFO abduction."

In his letter to the Forest Service stating that he could not complete the contract he did not mention UFOs. At this writing Rogers is working on another thinning contract for the Forest Service using a special machine that renders the individual woodcutter with chain saw obsolete. Are we to believe that six men who perpetrated a hoax for Rogers' benefit are now going to remain silent while Rogers collects his best acreage rate ever without them?

If a UFO could abduct a New Hampshire couple, why couldn't a UFO abduct a member of the Rogers crew -- a young man like Travis Walton who was so eager to fly in a UFO that he would throw caution to the wind and run directly under a UFO in an effort to get aboard. If such an incident occurred, who could blame members of the Rogers crew if they refused to go back to work--considering that the crew already was suffering from "poor morale."

Rogers did not mention UFOs in his letter of Nov. 18, asking the Forest Service to terminate his contract. But he did refer to the incident in the following words: "It appears now that I will be unable to complete the Turkey Springs thinning and piling contract due to an incident that happened on the job site two weeks ago which caused me to lose my crew and will make it somewhat difficult to get any of them back on the job site."

What do Forest Service personnel think about Klass' hoax theory? Maurice Marchbanks, the Forest Service contracting officer, thinks it is nonsense. He can see no way that Rogers could have benefited from the alleged hoax. Persistent phone calls from Phil Klass have failed to convince him otherwise.

What does Sheriff Gillespie think about Klass' hoax theory? "A collection of personal opinions and unsubstantiated theory," he says.

From a pragmatic point of view the Klass effort may even be, in the final analysis, a blessing in disguise. It has focused attention on the Walton case once more, largely through his (Klass') challenging of the validity of the Pfeifer polygraph tests and his touting of McCarthy's test. Rogers and Walton, et al, have issued a challenge to Phil which he gives every indication of accepting, whereby he will pay for the new tests if the witnesses pass them but he will pay nothing if they do not pass. APRO has obtained a commitment from a polygraph examiner of national stature and reputation, suggested by McCarthy and approved by Pfeifer, to conduct the new tests. Klass has expressed approval of the choice. No date has been set but we hope to be able to report the results in a future issue of the Bulletin.

During a telephone conversation on 7/18/76, Marchbanks made the following comment about the Travis Walton story of being abducted by a UFO: "I didn't believe it then. I don't believe it now."

Whether or not APRO members agree with my conclusions on the Walton case, there can be no doubt that as a result of my investigation and case report APRO members have learned a great deal more about Travis Walton and the background to the incident than they had previously been told.

At the time of this writing, I am still waiting to hear from Mike Rogers, in writing, that he and the other six members of his crew are willing and able to take the new polygraph test. He told me over the telephone that he had finally managed to locate two "missing" members of the crew (Duane Smith and Allen Dalis) and that both had agreed to take the new test but so far Rogers has refused to confirm this in writing.

AND I AM STILL WAITING TO HEAR FROM APRO IN REGARD TO ITS CHALLENGE THAT I UNDERGO A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AT ITS EXPENSE, AND MY OWN CHALLENGE THAT MR. LORENZEN ALSO AGREE TO TAKE SUCH A TEST AT MY EXPENSE IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAVIS WALTON CASE.

The APRO challenge was published in the March, 1976, issue of "The A.P.R.O. Bulletin," received by me on June 9, 1976. I replied on the same day:

"I hasten to accept this offer, subject only to the following condition: that my test be given by a licensed polygraph examiner with at least 10 years experience to assure his competence. Otherwise I leave the choice of the examiner in your hands. I shall be delighted to take the test in Washington D.C. area or in Phoenix if APRO will underwrite my travel expenses, whichever you prefer."

"I ask, but do NOT set as a condition to my test, that Jim Lorenzen also agree to take a polygraph examination to be given by a licensed examiner with 10 or more years experience... I trust that your acceptance will be as prompt as mine and that APRO will publish this brief letter in "The APRO Bulletin" so members can be informed of my prompt acceptance and of my own challenge."

A copy of my acceptance (above) was also contained in my Travis Walton case report which was received by APRO on July 10. Still another copy of my letter of acceptance was mailed to APRO on Sept. 28, and again by Certified Mail on Oct. 14. Nearly five months now have passed since my initial letter of acceptance for the polygraph test. Yet there has been no published word of my prompt acceptance, nor of my challenge to Mr. Lorenzen, nor have I heard directly from APRO.

IN THE AUGUST ISSUE OF "THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN," MR. LORENZEN CONFESSES THAT HE TOLD ME ONE FALSEHOOD AND WITHHELD INFORMATION BECAUSE OF THE OBLIGATION OF "CONFIDENTIALITY." PRIOR TO THIS RECENT PUBLIC ADMISSION, IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT HE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO UNDERGO A POLYGRAPH TEST. BUT UNLESS THERE IS STILL MORE INFORMATION THAT IS BEING WITHHELD, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE NO PLAUSIBLE REASON WHY BOTH MR. LORENZEN AND I CANNOT PROMPTLY PROCEED WITH THE POLYGRAPH TESTS IN RESPONSE TO THE APRO CHALLENGE MADE FIVE MONTHS AGO!

Philip J. Klass
November 8, 1976

PHILIP J. KLASS
560 "N" STREET, S. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024

Nov. 11, 1976

Mr. L.J. Lorenzen
A.P.R.O.
3910 E. Kleindale Road
Tucson, Ariz. 85712

Dear Jim:

This will be only a partial response to yours of Nov. 5 because I am leaving on a short trip. I hope to reply to the other issues within two weeks. Here I will focus on the "Backster Affair."

On Aug. 17, 1976, you wrote to Mr. Cleve Backster (with copy to me), in a letter proposing that he be named to conduct the polygraph re-test of Rogers et al. The letter began as follows:

"This letter recaps today's (sic) phone conversation for the record. I don't know how familiar you are with the work of our organization or the Travis Walton case but the enclosed copies of our publication should set the stage for what I am going to discuss.

"An extant problem with this case is that Travis Walton has taken two polygraph tests with respect to his experience and the results of the two are contradictory. One examiner concluded that Walton participated in a hoax and the other concluded that he was telling the truth about his experience.

"Last thursday (August 12) I participated in a Television (sic) program in Phoenix in which this matter was discussed. As sometimes happens in situations of this sort the discussion continued after the show was over. During the discussion, Mr. Jack McCarthy of the Arizona Polygraphic (sic) Laboratory suggested your name as that of an authority in the polygraph field who might be willing to come to Phoenix and settle this matter. McCarthy also furnished your address and phone number, arriving in today's mail...." (Emphasis added.)

How very cleverly you worded this letter of Aug. 17 so that I would be misled into thinking that McCarthy had proposed Backster's name for the re-test and that your very first conversation with Backster occurred on Aug. 17, only after you obtained Backster's phone number and address from McCarthy. Even after talking with Backster on Aug. 17 you profess to be uncertain as to how much Backster knows about the Walton case.

If I had not become suspicious and begun to probe the PRE-Aug. 17 discussions that you and your associates had with Backster, you would have kept these "under-the-table" dealings secret. But thanks to my probing your letter of Nov. 5 now reveals that "I made an exploratory contact with him [Backster] by telephone on August 9, 1976, to feel him out on the UFO subject generally and question him concerning the special techniques he had developed." IT IS CLEAR THAT WHEN YOU WROTE YOUR AUG. 17 LETTER, YOU CAREFULLY WORDED IT SO AS TO MISLEAD ME INTO THINKING THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN ANY EARLIER CONTACTS WITH BACKSTER. Very Tricky!

On Nov. 12, THREE DAYS AFTER YOU NOW ADMIT YOU TALKED WITH BACKSTER, following the TV program on the Phoenix station, you pretend to McCarthy that you do not know how to contact Backster and ask that McCarthy supply you with Backster's address and telephone number!

Your letter of Aug. 17 claimed that it was McCarthy who first raised and suggested Backster's name as the potential examiner for the re-test following the Phoenix TV program. After your Nov. 5 letter admits that you already had had telephone conversations with Backster three days before the TV program, you go on to explain: "I did not volunteer Backsters (sic) name on Aug. 12 because I wanted McCarthy's recommendation to be entirely spontaneous." [Emphasis added.]

WHAT A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE! You (and as will be discussed below) Pfeifer had carried on extensive discussions of the Walton case with Backster PRIOR TO AUG. 12 and find him and his views to be to your liking and you want him to be selected to conduct the Rogers et al re-test. According to your version of what transpired following the TV show, you ask McCarthy to suggest the name of an experienced polygraph examiner for the re-test. Out of many thousands of polygraph examiners in the U.S. -- MIRACLE OF MIRACLES-- MCCARTHY RECOMMENDS THE ONE MAN [BACKSTER] WITH WHOM YOU ALREADY HAVE TALKED AND WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT THE RE-TEST. A VERY REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE INDEED!

McCarthy's recollection of what transpired suggests another possible explanation for this seemingly remarkable coincidence: "Actually it was Jim Ryerson, the young TV announcer who was the moderator at this little panel [who first raised Backster's name]. After the thing was all over and we were off the air, he said that he had tried to get ahold of Backster a week or two ago but he had been in Brazil. And I said, yes, I know, I saw him at our seminar in New Orleans and he had recently returned from Brazil. So he [Ryerson] was trying to contact him on his own. Who recommended Backster to Ryerson I haven't the faintest idea. And they asked me is he satisfactory, and I said absolutely, he's nationally known... And I sent Lorenzen Backster's phone number and address in San Diego..."

Either a very remarkable coincidence or a very cleverly staged event that is deserving of an Academy Award "Oscar."

When I first began to suspect there had been "under-the-table discussions" prior to Aug. 17, it seemed entirely within my legal and ethical rights to determine the forthrightness of the examiner you had proposed, since the one selected was--by agreement--to be "mutually satisfactory" to both sides of the controversy. Although you had been the first to discuss possible employment with Backster, if he were selected we BOTH were his potential "employers" and he owed each of us EQUAL CANDOR AND ALLEGIANCE.

My letter of Oct. 12 to Backster (with copy to you and Rogers) posed four straight-forward questions, two dealing with his prior interest in UFOs and two dealing with possible pre-Aug. 17 discussions with you and your associates. Backster's reply of Oct. 18 prefaced his replies with the statement that "the answers to each of these four questions, in my opinion, in no manner would have a bearing on the outcome of an ethical polygraph examination." Assuming that this statement is true, there was no reason for Backster not to reply fully and candidly, informing me of his Aug. 9 discussions with you and his extensive discussions of the Walton case with Pfeifer during his visit to Phoenix on April 10-11, 1976.

Instead, Backster's answers were very cleverly constructed so as to avoid falsehood without revealing the full truth. For example, in reply to the question as to whether he had talked with you prior to Aug. 17, Backster replied: *"I have had no conversation with Mr. L.J. Lorenzen...prior to August 1976."* By intentionally omitting the specific date of the 17th, he could avoid mention of your Aug. 9 discussions.

In response to my question as to whether Backster had ever discussed the Walton case with Pfeifer or the other three polygraph examiners involved, Backster replied: *"I believe I was introduced to Mr. George Pfeiffer (sic) and was told that he had conducted polygraph examinations as related to the case concerned."*

One would conclude from Backster's words that during his visit to Phoenix in April the extent of his discussion with Pfeifer was merely a few words of introduction, lasting for no more than a minute or two. Yet in reality, according to Pfeifer himself, he and Backster discussed the case for "several hours" and Backster was very interested in the Walton incident!

During my April 27, 1975, telephone interview with Pfeifer, he suggested that I call Backster to discuss the Walton case with him. When I asked whether Backster had also tested Travis Walton, Pfeifer replied: "No (but) he and I had several hours of conversation at the symposium here in Phoenix not too long ago and he is very interested in this."

So, Backster and Pfeifer had a long discussion of the Walton case in Phoenix in April, and, to use Backster's own words from his Oct. 18 letter, *"I may have had a telephone conversation with George Pfeiffer some time in July"* (after my June 20 Walton Case report came out), and you yourself talked with Backster on Aug. 9, and again on Aug. 17. Yet in your letter of Aug. 17 to Backster (with copy to me) you wrote: *"I don't know how familiar you are with...the Travis Walton case."*

If you really believe that all of these Pre-Aug. 17 discussions with Backster could not possibly have any influence on the results of the proposed re-test, WHY DID YOU GO TO SUCH GREAT LENGTHS TO CONCEAL THEM FROM ME AND TO COMPOSE YOUR AUG. 17 LETTER TO DISGUISE AND COVER-UP THESE "UNDER-THE-TABLE" CONVERSATIONS?

In my very first letter to Backster following your Aug. 17 letter, written on Aug. 22, I mentioned that I would like to chat with him by telephone. You responded with a letter dated Aug. 31 to Backster in which you asked that he make tape recordings of all such telephone conversations with me "for the record."

If you and Pfeifer's pre-Aug. 17 discussions with Backster could not possibly have any influence in the results of the re-test, why was it so important that tape recordings to which you could have access be made of my telephone conversations with Backster? Yet I would have no equivalent recordings of your Aug. 17 or prior discussions with Backster. Is this your idea of "Fair Play"?

Your letter of Nov. 5 states: *"Your [PJK] implication that whoever gets to the examiner first can somehow maneuver him is an insult to the profession."*

Nov. 11, 1976

Every person who reads the details of this episode must decide for himself what you and your associates hoped to accomplish by your "under-the-table" efforts and attempted cover-up.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Backster is not now satisfactory to me for the proposed re-test of Rogers et al. Had the circumstances been the reverse, I have no doubt that you would have reached the same conclusion.

Before any steps are taken to find a mutually satisfactory examiner for the re-test, I urge that you and Rogers et al agree to an above-board procedure, such as that proposed in my Nov. 6 letter to Rogers, copy of which was sent to you. Under this proposed procedure, none of the principals on either side of the controversy will approach or hold discussions with any other prospective examiner until the other side has been informed and gives approval.

I hereby swear that I have not to date discussed with any polygraph examiner the matter of the re-test except for Backster, following receipt of your Aug. 17 letter, and McCarthy, who obviously is not himself a candidate for the re-test.

LET ME EMPHASIZE AS STRONGLY AS POSSIBLE THAT THE FOREGOING SHOULD NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE CONSTRUED BY YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES AS INDICATING ANY DESIRE TO WITHDRAW OR BACK-OUT FROM THE PROPOSED RE-TEST OF ROGERS AND THE OTHER SIX MEMBERS OF HIS CREW.

LET ME REPEAT FOR EMPHASIS: THE FOREGOING SHOULD NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE CONSTRUED BY YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES AS INDICATING ANY DESIRE TO WITHDRAW OR BACK-OUT FROM THE PROPOSED RE-TEST OF ROGERS AND THE OTHER SIX MEMBERS OF HIS CREW.

But if you agree to an above-board no-secret-discussions with any prospective polygraph examiner for the re-test, I caution you that I will not tolerate any violation of such an agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip J. Klass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Philip J. Klass

cc: Cleve Backster
Michael Rogers
et al

EVIDENCE THAT MIKE ROGERS WILL RESORT TO DECEPTION TO ACHIEVE HIS OBJECTIVES

On Aug. 28, 1976, Mike Rogers called me in an intentional effort to deceive me. Rogers and APRO's L.J. Lorenzen already had decided that they wanted Mr. Cleve Backster, of San Diego, to conduct the proposed new polygraph tests on Travis Walton, Mike Rogers and associates, after secret discussions with Backster. To try to get me to accept Backster, Lorenzen and Rogers used deception to try to make it appear that Backster had first been proposed by Jack McCarthy, the polygraph examiner who had first tested, and flunked, Travis Walton. And Rogers' call was intended to mislead me into thinking that Rogers was reluctant to accept Backster for this reason.

I had first learned that Backster was being considered when I received a copy of Lorenzen's letter of Aug. 17, 1976, to Backster which stated that his name had been suggested by McCarthy on Aug. 12, following a TV program in Phoenix in which McCarthy and Lorenzen appeared. Lorenzen's letter of Aug. 17 said he had asked McCarthy to supply Backster's address and telephone number and that Lorenzen had not received this until Aug. 17, at which time he called Backster.

RECENTLY, AFTER I BECAME SUSPICIOUS AND BEGAN TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SECRET UNDER-THE-TABLE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN APRO, ROGERS AND ASSOCIATES WITH BACKSTER, DID LORENZEN ADMIT THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH BACKSTER BY TELEPHONE ON AUG. 9, THREE DAYS BEFORE LORENZEN HAD FALSELY CLAIMED THAT MCCARTHY HAD FIRST SUGGESTED BACKSTER'S NAME AND EIGHT DAYS BEFORE LORENZEN RECEIVED BACKSTER'S ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER FROM MCCARTHY.

Note how Rogers' telephone call of Aug. 28 to me was cleverly contrived to strengthen this deception:

ROGERS: "I got this letter in the mail, this copy of the letter [from Klass to Backster, dated Aug. 22, in response to Lorenzen's letter of Aug. 17]. The first thing I want to say is that I think that's kind of jumping the gun. We shouldn't, I don't think -- in our proposal we said that there should be no verbal exchange with any examiner, you know. Of course, maybe we can do that, but I think that you should at least [have] talked to us before you started doing that [writing to Backster with copy to Rogers and Lorenzen]."

KLASS: "Well, let me interrupt you for just..., well, you go ahead Mike. Go ahead."

ROGERS: "Well, you know we've of course checked up on Backster because he was suggested to us by McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy was on a television shown down in Phoenix. I'm not saying, I should say we're not saying that we're against Backster, because his credentials seem to be in order. But I'd like to ask you one question."

KLASS: "What's that?"

ROGERS: "Did you put McCarthy up to suggesting Backster to us?"

KLASS: "I did not. I did not. In fact, the first time that I heard the name Cleve Backster was from George Pfeifer [the polygraph examiner who had passed Travis Walton] when I interviewed him [on 4/27/76]..."

ROGERS: "Well, O.K."

(Cont.)

During our subsequent telephone conversation, Rogers acknowledged that he himself already had talked with Backster by telephone to "check on him." Yet earlier he had chastised me for "jumping the gun" by writing a brief letter to Backster even though I had sent a copy to both Rogers and Lorenzen to keep them fully informed of my actions.

As the conversation proceeded, Rogers'carefully "staged" hesitation to accept Backster disappeared and he began to push to get me to firmly commit myself to accepting the polygraph examiner that he and Lorenzen were so eager to hire for the re-test of Travis Walton, Rogers et al.

ROGERS: "Well, I supposed that we could agree on Backster. Like I said, we've checked into him and he seems to be on the level, you know. He meets all the requirements that you made in your proposal-agreement. I assume that by this letter [Klass to Backster, 6/22/76] that you're with him, that you would as soon have him [perform the re-test]."

KLASS: "Well, as I say, you have talked to him on the phone. Lorenzen has talked to him on the phone. I think that I ought to be entitled to talk to him on the phone and form [an opinion] before I give a final go-ahead. In other words, since you and Lorenzen have taken the liberty of talking to him."

ROGERS: "I assumed from your letter that you were kind of suggesting him, or affirming him."

KLASS: "Well, I was simply indicating that I certainly have no objection to him and he seemed to have good qualifications..."

At the time I was a little suspicious over the rapid change in Rogers' attitude toward Backster--from hesitation to eagerness. Later in our telephone conversation I said: "I suggest that you leave a blank for the name of the examiner [in the new draft of the proposed re-test agreement] and after I have had a chance to talk to Backster as you and Lorenzen have done, then hopefully we will be able to agree on him."

IT IS CLEAR THAT ROGERS AND LORENZEN ARE EAGER TO HAVE BACKSTER PERFORM THE NEW POLYGRAPH TEST -- SO EAGER THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO RESORT TO DECEPTION AND FALSEHOOD TO GET ME TO ACCEPT THEIR CHOICE.

IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT MIKE ROGERS CAN BE A VERY SKILLFUL PERFORMER IN CARRYING OUT DECEPTION WHEN NEEDED TO ACHIEVE HIS OWN OBJECTIVES.

THIS PROVIDES USEFUL PERSPECTIVE ON THE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF WHETHER ROGERS MIGHT CONCOCT A HOAX "UFO ABDUCTION" TO PROVIDE AN "ACT-OF-GOD" SITUATION TO GET OUT OF HIS BADLY PAYING CONTRACT WITH THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE IN THE HOPE OF AVOIDING ANOTHER OUTRIGHT DEFAULT ON HIS RECORD.

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
Nov. 30, 1976

JUNE 18 '77

MRx

WOULD MIKE ROGERS RESORT TO FALSEHOODS TO DECEIVE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT?

The record shows that he did in connection with his Turkey Springs contract with the U.S. Forest Service several weeks before the Travis Walton "UFO incident." This, along with other evidence, provides the motivation for a concocted hoax.

By late October, 1975, several weeks before the alleged "UFO abduction" of Travis Walton (a member of the Rogers thinning crew), Rogers was seriously delinquent on his Forest Service contract to thin the Turkey Springs area in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Rogers' contract, originally signed in July, 1974, required him to complete the 1,205 acres within a year. But by the end of this period, July, 1975, he had finished only 70% of the work and had 353 acres left to complete.

So Rogers had requested a contract extension from Forest Service Contracting Officer Maurice Marchbanks, and received an extension to Nov. 10, 1975. If Rogers could average as many acres per day between early August and Nov. 10 as he had done the previous year, he could finish by Nov. 10. But he would be "docked" \$1.00 per acre and thus would be paid only \$26.40/acre instead of the original \$27.40/acre.

On Oct. 16, 1975, less than four weeks from the Nov. 10 deadline, and less than three weeks before the "UFO abduction incident," the Forest Service inspector made one of his periodic visits to inspect Rogers' progress at Turkey Springs, and he filed a discouraging report back to the Contracting Officer as follows: "CONTRACTOR HAS COMPLETED APPROXIMATELY 15 ACRES OF FUEL-BREAK IN LOCK-D SINCE LAST PAYMENT WAS MADE [i.e. for work to Oct. 2]. CONTRACTOR HAS BEEN WORKING STEADILY. HOWEVER, PROGRESS HAS BEEN SLOW DUE TO THE DENSITY OF THE STANDS BEING THINNED. TODATE 80% OF THE TIME-EXTENSION HAS PASSED AND 37% OF THE WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED. CONTRACTOR CLAIMS HE IS TRYING TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF HIS CREW [from 5 men] BUT SO FAR HAS HAD VERY LITTLE SUCCESS." [Emphasis added.]

Although the inspector reported that "CONTRACTOR HAS BEEN WORKING STEADILY" this is something that the inspector could not know from first-hand knowledge because he had last visited the site on Oct. 2. Presumably this was something that he had been told by Rogers himself. This was a falsehood.

Because the inspector's report showed that Rogers was very seriously delinquent on his contract extension, Rogers decided he had some "explaining" to do. So, on Oct. 20, Rogers wrote to Contracting Officer Marchbanks as follows:

"I AM WRITING TO TELL YOU PERSONALLY OF OUR PROGRESS ON TURKEY SPRINGS THINNING. I CANNOT HONESTLY SAY WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL FINISH ON TIME. HOWEVER, WE ARE WORKING EVERY DAY WITH AS MUCH MANPOWER AS I CAN HIRE. I WILL NOT STOP WORK UNTIL THE JOB IS FINISHED OR UNTIL I AM ASKED TO STOP. I HAVE HAD CONSIDERABLE TROUBLE KEEPING A FULL CREW ON THE JOB. THE AREA IS VERY THICK AND THE GUYS HAVE POOR MORALE BECAUSE OF THIS. I HAVE HAD TO BREAK IN SEVERAL GREEN MEN. WE WILL KEEP WORKING AND TRYING HARD." (Emphasis added.)

ROGERS WAS USING FALSEHOODS TO TRY TO DECEIVE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT/FOREST SERVICE. THE REAL REASON THAT HE WAS SO DELINQUENT WAS THAT ROGERS HAD BEEN SECRETLY "MOONLIGHTING" ON OTHER, BETTER-PAYING JOBS. But Contracting Officer Marchbanks would not learn the true facts until the following summer (1976) as a direct result of my investigation into the Travis Walton "UFO abduction" incident.

Evidence of Rogers' deception has recently become available as a result of admissions made by Rogers himself in his two letters of April 19 and May 3, 1977, to L.J. Lorenzen of APRO.

OVER

In the Rogers letter of 4/19/77 to Lorenzen he wrote: "DURING THE TIME BETWEEN 10/2/75 AND 10/16/75 WE SPENT MOST OF OUR TIME ON ANOTHER PROJECT AND ONLY A COUPLE OF DAYS ON THE TURKEY SPRINGS CONTRACT." But when the Government inspector had visited the work site on 10/16/75, Rogers had convinced the inspector that he "HAD BEEN WORKING STEADILY" on his Turkey Springs job. THIS WAS A BLATANT FALSEHOOD!

In the Rogers letter of 4/19/77 to Lorenzen he says: "BETWEEN 10/16/75 and 10/28/75 [date of inspector's next visit] THE INSPECTORS (sic) DIARY CLEARLY SHOWS WE LOST 3-1/2 DAYS ONE WEEK ALONE DUE TO SOME UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE 1/2 DAY ACCOUNTS FOR THE OTHER 4 ACRES [that were completed between 10/16/75 and 10/28/75 at Turkey Springs]. THE OTHER 8 DAYS WERE SPENT ON ANOTHER JOB, AND OF COURSE, A WEEKEND OR TWO." [Emphasis added.]

Simple arithmetic shows that if Rogers is telling the truth in his letter to Lorenzen, then he MUST HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THE OTHER JOB (not Turkey Springs) UNTIL AT LEAST OCT. 24. (Oct. 16 + 8 days = Oct. 24, or even later allowing for weekends.)

Yet on Oct. 20, Rogers wrote to Contracting Officer Marchbanks saying: "WE ARE WORKING EVERY DAY WITH AS MUCH MANPOWER AS I CAN HIRE."

When I challenged Rogers on this "discrepancy," he replied on 5/3/77 and he claimed: "WE NEVER WORKED ON ANY OTHER PROJECT BUT TURKEY SPRINGS AFTER 10/20/75." But this contradicts Rogers claim of 4/19/77 to Lorenzen that "BETWEEN 10/16/75 AND 10/28/75...8 DAYS WERE SPENT ON ANOTHER JOB."

But even if one overlooks this serious discrepancy, and accepts his claim that he had been spending most of his time on the other job, it is clear that Rogers' original letter of 10/20/75 to Marchbanks resorted to falsehoods to deceive the Government. In an effort to get out of this, Rogers wrote to me on 5/3/77 saying: "MY STATEMENTS TO MARCHBANKS OF 10/20/75 MEANT THAT WE WOULD BE WORKING TURKEY SPRINGS EVERY EVERY NORMAL WORKING DAY POSSIBLE." How terribly "careless" of Rogers to write the Forest Service and say "WE ARE WORKING EVERY DAY..." when what he really meant to say was that in the future he would abandon his moonlighting jobs and concentrate on his contract obligations to the U.S. Government. (Yet the very next day, on 10/21/75, Rogers decided to give his crew the day off so they could pay their bills!)

In my telephone interview with Rogers on 7/11/76, he denied that there would be any need for him to try to deceive the Forest Service by concocting the "UFO incident" Rogers told me: "I WOULD NOT HAVE EVER HAD TO DREAM UP THAT [UFO] STORY OR ANY SILLY STORY TO GET OUT OF A CONTRACT. BECAUSE EVEN IF I WAS IN TROUBLE ON A CONTRACT, ALL I WOULD HAVE HAD TO HAVE DONE WAS TO HAVE GONE TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER AND SAY 'HEY, I'M IN TROUBLE ON THIS CONTRACT...WHAT CAN WE WORK OUT.' IF NOTHING AT ALL CAN BE WORKED OUT, HE WOULD SAY THEY WOULD DEFAULT ME..."

Rogers had an opportunity to use this direct, honest approach after the next visit of the Forest Service inspector on 10/28/75, barely 8 days before the "UFO incident." The inspector's report back to Marchbanks said: "DURING THE PAST WEEK, THE CONTRACTOR HAS ACCOMPLISHED 4 ACRES OF FUEL BREAKS. THE REASON FOR THE SLOW PROGRESS IS THAT IT RAINED ONE DAY. CONTRACTOR'S VEHICLE WAS BROKEN DOWN FOR TWO DAYS. AND A FOURTH DAY OF WORK WAS LOST DUE TO AN ON-THE-JOB INJURY THAT REQUIRED MEDICAL ATTENTION. THE CONTRACT TIME EXTENSION WILL TERMINATE AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON [Saturday] NOV. 8, 1975. IT IS APPARENT THAT THE CONTRACTOR WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE ENTIRE JOB UNDER THE PRESENT TIME-EXTENSION. CONTRACTOR HAD STATED THAT HE HAD WRITTEN YOU A LETTER [10/20/75] EXPLAINING SOME OF HIS PROBLEMS AND WOULD LIKE TO SET UP A MEETING TO DISCUSS WHAT COURSE OF ACTION MIGHT BE TAKEN FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THIS CONTRACT." [Emphasis added.]

Presumably the purpose of such a meeting with Forest Service Contracting Officer Marchbanks would have been to request another contract extension, at still another reduction in per-acre price. But if the \$26.40/acre price already was so low that Rogers found it more profitable to engage in "moonlighting" for other contractors, another contract extension was hardly worthwhile.

More important, a contract extension could not possibly solve Rogers' most pressing problem: getting enough money to tide him over the long winter. The Forest Service withholds 10% of a contractor's earnings until the job is satisfactorily completed. As of late October, the Forest Service was holding approximately \$2,638 of Rogers' earnings. The winter snows would soon hit the Arizona mountains, putting an end to all work at Turkey Springs until the following April or May. This meant that if Rogers obtained another contract extension he could not possibly hope to complete the Turkey Springs job until the next June or July and thus could not possibly collect his \$2,638 until the summer of 1976. That Rogers was hard pressed financially is evident from the fact that he admitted to me later that he was forced to go on "food stamps" in December, 1975.

It is clear that Rogers had no intention of requesting a contract extension. He made no effort to set up a meeting with Contracting Officer Marchbanks, despite the opportunity to do so during the week of Oct. 27 when it rained one day and he could not work at Turkey Springs. Even as late as Wednesday, Nov. 5 (the day of the alleged UFO incident), Rogers had not arranged to meet with Marchbanks, yet his contract extension expired on Nov. 10 (Monday), making Saturday, Nov. 8, the last available working day.

The only other legal alternative open to Rogers was to simply allow his Turkey Springs contract to be terminated for default. If this occurred he would promptly receive most, perhaps even all, of his \$2,638. The remaining 238 acres would be put up for re-bid. If the new low-bidder's price was \$26.40/acre or less, Rogers would receive the entire \$2,638. If the new bid was higher, the additional cost-difference would be deducted from the \$2,638 and Rogers would receive the balance. This could carry him through the long winter.

BUT THIS WOULD BE A SECOND CONTRACT-DEFAULT AGAINST ROGERS AND IT WOULD NOT ENHANCE HIS REPUTATION WITH THE FOREST SERVICE--ESPECIALLY IF THE FOREST SERVICE SHOULD LATER LEARN THAT ROGERS HAD LIED ABOUT THE REASON FOR HIS DELINQUENCY AND HAD REALLY BEEN "MOONLIGHTING" ON BETTER PAYING JOBS.

Since Rogers had made no effort to meeting with Marchbanks as of Nov. 5, one might think that he had decided simply to let the contract be terminated for default on Monday, Nov. 10. But on Monday, Nov. 3, Rogers did a strange thing for a man who is resigned to termination for default: HE EXPANDED THE SIZE OF HIS CREW FROM FIVE MEN TO SEVEN MEN. WHY? In the three months since he obtained his contract extension, Rogers had completed only approximately 115 acres, and has 238 acres left to finish in six working days. There was not the faintest possibility that seven men could complete in six days TWICE the acreage that five men had done in three months, to avoid termination.

The most logical explanation is that Rogers had expanded his crew "for show," as part of an ingenious new option that he had devised in the hope of obtaining the advantage of contract termination without its disadvantages: AN "ACT-OF-GOD,"

All contracts, including those with the Forest Service, protect contractors from freak events of nature that might intervene to prevent a contractor from fulfilling his commitment, as for example an earthquake or a flood. What Rogers needed at this point was an Act-of-God, but it had to be tailored to his peculiar situation. If an Act-of-God should intervene, to prevent Rogers from completing the Turkey Springs job, he could hope to quickly receive his 10% retention funds to tide him over the winter, and this might avoid a second default against his Forest Service work record.

On the night of Oct. 20, 1975, the very same night that Rogers sat down to write to Contracting Officer Marchbanks, and resorted to falsehoods to deceive the Government, NBC-TV telecast a dramatic two-hour Hollywood produced film telling of the alleged UFO abduction of a New Hampshire couple, Barney and Betty Hill. Whether Rogers himself saw the TV show can never be known with certainty. But since Travis Walton and his whole family had had a keen and long-standing interest in UFOs, it would be surprising if Travis did not himself see the show, or at least hear about it from friends/family.

If a UFO were to abduct a member of the Rogers crew, it might provide the Act-of-God excuse he needed, but ONLY if the incident occurred under the right conditions. For example, if Rogers were to visit Marchbanks and negotiate another contract extension to the following summer, a UFO abduction would be of no help because Rogers would have many months to round up a new crew and would not get his 10% retention to carry him through the winter. This would explain why Rogers never called Marchbanks to set up a meeting, even though he told the Forest Service inspector he would do so.

Furthermore, the UFO abduction incident had to occur near the Turkey Springs work site, so Rogers could then inform the Forest Service that his crew was afraid to return to the area and thus he could not finish the contract. If the incident were to have occurred many miles away, say on the highway between Heber and Snowflake, it would not provide the excuse that Rogers needed. Fortuitously for Rogers, the alleged abduction occurred near the Turkey Springs area.

If Travis Walton had been as frightened of the alleged UFO as Rogers claims that he and the other five crew members were, so that Travis had remained in the truck, no UFO abduction could have occurred. But fortuitously for Rogers, Travis Walton had long wanted to ride aboard a flying saucer. According to his older brother, Dwayne Walton, the two had made a pact earlier that if either of them ever saw a UFO he would run under it and try to get aboard.

If Travis Walton had not been seated next to a door of the truck, according to Rogers' story, so his exit had been blocked by one of the other "terrified" members of the crew, Travis could not possibly have jumped from the moving truck to run under the UFO and the alleged abduction could not have occurred. Fortuitously for Rogers, Travis was seated next to a truck door!

If Travis Walton had been taken aboard a UFO in "more conventional fashion," as claimed by Betty Hill, or as reported by Charlie Hickson and Calvin Parker of Pascagoula, Rogers and his five crewmen might have mustered their nerve and rushed over to rescue poor Travis as he was being led, or levitated, aboard the UFO. But fortuitously, the Arizona UFO decided to "zap" Travis with an explosive beam of light so powerful that it allegedly sent Travis flying through the air and caused Rogers and his crew to panic and drive off, abandoning poor Travis to his fate!

If the alleged UFO had interfered with the ignition and lights of the Rogers truck, as sometimes claimed in other UFO incidents, then Rogers could not have driven off and he and his crew would have been close at hand to prevent Travis from being taken aboard the UFO. But fortuitously no such interference occurred either with the ignition or the lights, according to the Rogers account.

The beam of light that allegedly "zapped" Travis Walton had to be so powerful that it would allegedly knock him unconscious, so he would not need to explain how he was taken aboard the UFO, and so powerful as to panic Rogers and his crew into leaving the area. But the UFO beam had to also be very mild so there would be no visible burns or bruises a few days later when Travis reappeared and was examined by two doctors. Fortuitously, the alleged UFO beam was precisely the right intensity.

IT IS AS IF ROGERS HIMSELF HAD DREAMED UP THE SCENARIO FOR THE INCIDENT, TAILORING IT TO MEET HIS "ACT-OF-GOD" NEEDS, AND THE UFO MIRACULOUSLY APPEARED AND FOLLOWED THE ROGERS SCRIPT TO THE LETTER!

And it is as if the UFO had communicated with Rogers in advance of the incident and assured him that despite the "explosive" beam that would be used to "zap" Travis, no injury or harm would befall Travis and he would be returned safely. This would explain why Rogers and Travis' older brother Dwayne were so calm and confident that Travis would be returned safely when the two were interviewed on Nov. 8, 1975--at a time when Travis was still "missing"! (A tape recording of the interview by Fred Sylvanus of GSW is in my possession.) NOT ONCE DURING THE HOUR-LONG INTERVIEW DID EITHER ROGERS OR DWAYNE WALTON EXPRESS ANY CONCERN THAT TRAVIS MIGHT BE DEAD, OR SERIOUSLY INJURED FROM THE "ZAPPING," OR THAT THE UFO MIGHT BE CARRYING HIM OFF TO ITS NATIVE PLANET. NOT ONCE!

Dwayne, at one point in the interview, said he was confident that Travis was "not in any danger." Dwayne added: "ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT I WISH I WERE WITH HIM... HE'S HAD AN EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME AND ALL I WISH IS THAT I WAS THERE..."

Or, all of these curious aspects of the incident are understandable if the incident was a hoax, concocted by Rogers, to try to have his contract terminated because of an "Act-of-God," rather than for default. The appealing thing about a "UFO abduction" was that IF Contracting Officer Marchbanks should later disbelieve the story, and decide to terminate the contract for default (as he later decided), Rogers would be no worse off for trying. In three more working days, his contract would be terminated for default so Rogers had almost nothing to lose, if he was the sort of person who readily resorts to falsehoods to get out of a tight spot.

And there were other possible financial incentives. For example, perhaps NBC might be anxious to produce a TV special on the Travis Walton case, as it had on the Hill case, and the principals would then share in the royalties. Whether Rogers was then aware of the large financial award offered by the National Enquirer for the best UFO case of the year can never be known for sure.

How could Rogers get members of his crew to participate in the hoax? By offering to cut them in on his \$2,638.00 retention fund when the Forest Service paid off, and by cutting them in on any other income from a TV special and the National Enquirer prize money. Why would crew members continue to support the story now? Because Sheriff Marlin Gillespie has publicly stated that if he ever got positive proof of a hoax, he would prefer charges against those involved. Thus to talk now is to risk a jail term.

WOULD MIKE ROGERS CONCOCT A UFO ABDUCTION HOAX IF HE THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP HIM FINANCIALLY AND AVOID A SECOND DEFAULT AGAINST HIS RECORD WITH THE FOREST SERVICE? THE RECORD SHOWS THAT ROGERS READILY RESORTS TO FALSEHOODS AND DECEPTION, EVEN WHEN DEALING WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT/FOREST SERVICE!

Philip J. Klass
Washington D.C.
June 13, 1977

OCTOBER 1975	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Oct. 1975	Friday	Saturday
THIS IS WHAT ROGERS TOLD THE U.S. GOVT. THIS WAS A FALSEHOOD.	ROGERS LETTER OF OCT. 20, 1975, TO U.S. FOREST SERVICE CONTRACTING OFFICER: "I CANNOT HONESTLY SAY WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL FINISH ON TIME. <u>HOWEVER, WE ARE WORKING EVERY DAY WITH AS MUCH MANPOWER AS I CAN HIRE...</u> I have had considerable trouble keeping a full crew on the job... <u>WE WILL KEEP WORKING AND TRYING HARD.</u> " [Emphasis added.]			2 INSPECT. TURKEY SPRINGS	3 OTHER JOB IN REALITY, ROGERS WAS "MOONLIGHTING" ON A BETTER PAYING JOB!	4 OTHER JOB
5 NO WORK?	6 OTHER JOB?	7 OTHER JOB ? MIKE ROGERS LETTER OF 4/19/77: "During the time between 10/2/75 and 10/16/75 <u>we spent most of our time on another project and only a couple of days on the Turkey Springs contract.</u> "	8 OTHER JOB ?	9 OTHER JOB ?	10 OTHER JOB?	11 OTHER JOB ?
12 NO WORK?	13 OTHER JOB? COLUMBUS DAY	14 OTHER JOB?	15 TURKEY SPRINGS	16 INSPECT. TURKEY SPRINGS	17 OTHER JOB	18 OTHER JOB
19 NO WORK	20 OTHER JOB ROGERS WRITES U.S. FOREST SERVICE	21 NO WORK (Rogers gives crew day off)	22 MIKE ROGERS LETTER OF 4/19/77: "Between 10/16/75 and 10/28/75, the inspectors [sic] diary shows we lost 3-1/2 days one week alone due to some unfortunate circumstances. The 1/2 day accounts for the 4 acres [completed during this 12-day period]. <u>The other 8 days were spent on another job, and of course, a weekend or two.</u> " (Emphasis added.)	23	24	25 NO WORK
26 NO WORK?	27 TURKEY SPRINGS 1/2 day (Accident)?	28 INSPECT. TURKEY SPRINGS Rogers tells inspector he plans to meet with Marchbanks	29 NO WORK	30 NO WORK	31 SAWS BROKE DOWN	1 NO WORK
2 NO WORK	3 TURKEY SPRINGS	4 TURKEY SPRINGS	5 UFO INCIDENT	6	7	8 LAST WORKING DAY BEFORE END OF CONTRACT EXTENSION.
ROGERS LETTER OF 4/19/77: "It was after that date of 10/28/75 that I added John Goulette and Dwayne Smith to my crew and by 11/3/75 we were working Turkey Springs full time." [Emphasis added.]				Since Aug. 1975, Rogers had done only 115 acres, leaving 238 acres to complete by Nov. 8.		

1. If Travis Walton's story is true, and he really thought that he was in a hospital when he regained consciousness after being "zapped" by a UFO, why did Travis strike out so savagely at the creatures standing at his side using a glass tube as a weapon?
 - ☐ (A) He did not have Blue Cross coverage and knew he could not pay the hospital bill.
 - ☐ (B) He wanted the hospital management to know that he did not like the ugly nurses who had been assigned to his room
 - ☐ (C) Despite his great pain, Travis wanted no medical treatment because he is a devout Christian Scientist.

2. If Travis Walton really thought he was in a hospital, as he claims, why did he ask one of the human-like creatures "if he was from Earth?"
 - ☐ (A) That is a standard greeting for Arizonians, who long ago abandoned the traditional "Howdy Pardner."
 - ☐ (B) Travis knew that some Arizona hospitals employ extraterrestrial doctors (from Zeta Reticuli) on their staffs and he did not want extraterrestrial treatments.
 - ☐ (C) Travis himself is an extraterrestrial and was not too sure what an Earthling looked like.

3. According to Duane Walton, he and his brother Travis had earlier agreed that if either of them ever saw a UFO he "would immediately get as directly under the object as physically possible," would attempt to get on board the UFO, and then would "try to convince whoever was in the craft to come back and get the other one [brother]." Yet Travis has stated "I didn't have any intention of going any closer [to the UFO]." How can we explain this discrepancy?
 - ☐ (A) Travis is not telling the truth.
 - ☐ (B) Duane Walton is not telling the truth.
 - ☐ (C) Travis fell madly in love with the female creature he reports having seen aboard the UFO and didn't want any competition from his older brother.

4. If Travis Walton's story is true, by the time he had finished exploring the giant UFO, or hangar containing several flying saucers, and had seen strange-looking creatures, and had even tried to ask one if he was "from Earth," at that point, where did Travis think he was?
 - ☐ (A) In Disney-Land.
 - ☐ (B) Inside a Boeing 747 Jumbo-jet.
 - ☐ (C) In a movie theatre watching a science-fiction film.
 - ☐ (D) On a "bad trip."
 - ☐ (E) Aboard a giant UFO or in an extraterrestrial hangar.