

Subject: Fw: Information on a well known UFO case

Date: Thu, 30 Jun 2005 21:04:31 -0500

From: "CUFOS" <infocenter@cufos.org>

To: "John Timmerman" <jptimmer@bright.net>

20 MUL AUDIO TAPES SENT TO
MARK R. IN CHICAGO

FILE July 6, 2005
JPT

John,

Here is the email I mentioned to you concerning this fellow who says he has documents about the Ravenna, Ohio case. If you can contact him for us, that would be very helpful.

Mark

— Original Message —

From: Michael Nelson

To: infocenter@cufos.org

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 8:22 PM

Subject: Information on a well known UFO case

Greetings. I have some documents and information that you may be interested in.

On April 17th, 1966 2 deputy sheriffs from the Portage County Sheriff's Office (Portage County Ohio) were on patrol in the southern section of the county. They stopped in to see a road crew working the night shift on SR 224 in Brimfield Twp. They volunteered to go to a 24 hour dive in Deerfield Twp to get coffee for them all. They got the coffee and on their return (heading West on SR 224) they saw a vehicle with many radio antennas stopped on the side of the road in the East bound lane, in Atwater Twp. They turned around and came up behind the vehicle. They noticed it was "full" of what appeared to be radio equipment, but no people were seen. They also stated it had a strange insignia on the door, with a diamond shape, lightning bolts and some words (later one deputy said the words were "seven Steps to Hell", but that is questionable). It sounds strangely like the ARRL insignia, I am an amateur radio operator and know the design well. While checking out the car a UFO rose out of a field on the North side of the state route, and proceeded East, more or less following the course of SR 224, then SR 14. They decided to pursue, and the chase went through Mahoning County, into Columbiana County, and ended in Conway PA just off SR 51 (same as SR 14 in Ohio). In all, 4 police officers gave chase from 3 departments. It was big news in the Akron, Cleveland, Youngstown, Pittsburgh and Beaver County papers. It was investigated by Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe USMC (RET), the Director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in Washington, D.C., and Professor William Powers of the Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, a Major Hector Quintanilla and a William B. Weitzel.

All of this is well known, and documented (see NICAP). However I have some new material. From 1985 to 1989 I was a deputy at the Portage County Sheriff's Office. One of the various duties to fall my way, was to help clean out the old paper files of cases (excepting crimes involving injury or violence) for the move to the new facility. I came across the original documents filed by the investigating deputies when the S.O. did their own investigation into the event. Evidently the government investigators never got to see these, and a 'old timer' who had been on the department in 1966 and was preparing to retire, stated the Sheriff never told the government investigators that they had done their own research into it. So I have some taped interviews and documents that to date no one in the UFO investigations community has had an opportunity to look at. I am contemplating a short book about what I have found, and would be glad to get you copies of any materials that you may be interested in.

Please feel free to contact me at the location below if you wish to talk about what I have.

Regards,

Michael Nelson

41 Walnut St.

Leetonia Ohio 44431

(330) 427-6975

email: 41st_ovj@comcast.net

Mark Rodeghier

From: "Phyllis Budinger" <phyllbud@yahoo.com>
To: "Michael Nelson" <41st_ovi@comcast.net>; "Jones, William E (Columbus)" <jonesw@BATTELLE.ORG>
Cc: <phyllbud@yahoo.com>; <FSDHILBERG7@msn.com>; <markrod@xsite.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 11, 2006 11:30 AM
Subject: Re: Portage County Case materials Status

Bill and Mike,

The speaking venue sounds like a winner. I have found the local CUP and local MUFON groups a good rehearsal for a national MUFON presentation. (Not familiar with LAURA.) CUP gave me a good critique on the last presentation I did for the national presentation. Mike, this would be a good promotion for your book. I also think a publication is in order for both the MUFON and CUFOS journals (especially the CUFOS IUR).

By late spring and summer I should be regaining energy. Though I will be on an experimental drug, the main chemo regimen will be over (in February). It seems the timing will be better for everyone.

The analysis is not quite finished on the samples. However, the indications are both the coal and brick have been exposed to extreme temperatures. The apparent glass formation in the brick suggests at least 1300 - 1400 F. That is not natural, unless there was a lot of lightening in the area.? I don't think so from the appearance of the brick "melt" area.

Mike, good luck on the thesis defense!

Best, Phyllis

Michael Nelson <41st_ovi@comcast.net> wrote:

Bill:

Sounds good. I live near Youngstown, and am MUCH closer to Cleveland/Akron/NE Ohio than I am to Columbus! My dissertation is ready now to go back to committee, and I will defend it in April. After that, there is just mostly some administrative housekeeping and I will finally have the Ph.D. monkey off my back! Then I will be able to proceed with the book on the Portage County case. Plus I always get a little busy around the

holidays. Please keep me in the loop.

Warmest Regards,

Michael

----- Original Message -----

From: Jones, William E (Columbus)

To: Michael Nelson

Cc: phyllbud@yahoo.com ; FSDHILBERG7@msn.com ; markrod@xsite.net

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2006 5:04 PM

Subject: RE: Portage County Case materials Status

Mike:

I will leave the speaking venue up to Phyllis, because she may want to do that at a MUFON conference or some similar venue in the future. I would also like her to consider doing a presentation before our state UFO groups, particularly MUFON of Ohio, CUP and LAURA. That would be best done somewhere up north. And Phyllis wouldn't have to travel far for that. Having you there to speak and tell everyone about your book and how you got involved with all of this would be a real plus too.

Have a good weekend.

Bill

From: Michael Nelson [mailto:41st_ovi@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, November 10, 2006 4:16 PM

To: Phyllis Budinger

Cc: Jones, William E (Columbus)

Subject: Re: Portage County Case materials Status

Phyllis:

Thanks for the reply. I have been very busy myself, and finishing my dissertation has consumed all of my time, so the book is temporarily on hold for now. Perhaps we could give a talk on this material sometime in the future? I will ask Bill to see if anyone would be interested. Would it be fair to say that the chemical and or physical alterations on those materials could not be a product of some natural process? As an archaeologist I am always a little skeptical about results that seem way out of the expected results. I will have some specifics on the radioactive material that went to the lab in August as soon as I get the email from them (the state of Ohio is S L O W).

Warm regards,

Michael

Everyone is raving about the all-new Yahoo! Mail beta.

Dear Rob,

Rowell

Early November 2007

Keep this confidential — ^{re:} Nelson's new information on the Portage County case.

I mentioned in Dallas that my "feeling" about his material was uncomfortable to say the least. Upon returning home, I've re-read his stuff and look at some of the case documents from the time, & I'm even more uncomfortable.

I'm not going to go into some master analysis of this since it's not of great enough interest to me to make the effort, but I'll say a few things.

1. Nelson does not provide the originals for anyone to see & analyze, & gives a very lame excuse for not doing so. (The excuse is in fact illogical — possible legal ramifications are just as great giving someone copies to look at as the originals).
2. The set of alleged papers by "Smith" have specific interviews with "Huston", "Panzanella", et al, but none by Sparr or Neff, who are in the same location — only some "narrative" occurs, not direct interviews. Seems odd at a minimum.
3. The "Huston" statement may or may not be credible, but seems too "pat" to me — all thru this document it's like everyone got together to agree exactly on all details. (cont'd) ↓

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Huston says in the original documents that this started c.5AM not 5³⁰* (maybe 2 weeks later he makes a mistake, but "Smith" should know better, & time sequences are important). There are other inconsistencies.*

* according to the police ^{radio} log, the cars were already at the PA border by 5:35.

*^{ex.} The "Huston" statement by "Smith" is allegedly May 16, 1966. This is the day the Air Force contacted both he & Panzanella for a follow-up statement. Quintanella did not do this — a guy out of 911th troop carrier group did & sent info on to Blue Book. Yet Nelson/"Smith" has Huston saying that he was contacted by "that Major Quintella".

4. The "Panzanella" statement is an almost word-for-word crib from his statement on May 16 (as above) to the Air Force guy from Pittsburgh. Unless he was reading from it to "Smith" just after the AF guy left —
 < actually there's some date-funk here ... the AF doc. says May 18 on it, but then so does "Smith" — so no matter what the funk's about "Panzanella" has to be talking to "Smith" on the same day ... stretches my credulity ... & keeping the AF doc copy ... & reading right off it when "Smith" makes it sound like an interview. > He also claims to talk to Quintanella, which is not apparently so, and to Keyhoe — no evidence for this at all .. he talked to Bill Weitzer of Pittsburgh NICAP sub-committee.

5. The "Betty Raymond" and "Charles Dodson" statements —
here's where the narrative goes crazy.

a) time's wrong — they've got a low level Close Encounter at a time when Huston (in the real documents) says that the thing's already at least 800 up in the air — and he says that he was in East Palestine — "they" say they were in Deerfield — East Palestine & Deerfield are not side-by-side, and 800' puts the UFO "in" wherever it was & not anywhere else.

b) but the stuff that really blew me out of there was all the hi-strangeness (& wonderfully perfectly coordinated like an X-Files episode) involving CE2's, wheezy car & symbols, MIB et al. NONE of this appears in official documents either by USAF or NICAP. AND it does appear (much later, I think) as either a) bad dreams [the car & contents] had by Spawr, as his life deteriorated due to mockery; or b) as if true, by loose UFO writers. What does appear in the original documents is the NICAP statement that local police easily identified the owner of the derelict vehicle.
◀ notice also that we are being asked to believe that weird secret agents are nesting in rural Ohio waiting for a big UFO. ▶

c) Where'd this story originate? I don't know, but Bill Jones regurgitated an undocumented story by one Allan Manak (a pretty poor UFOlogist) in 1993 repeating the weird car & contents business — In 2004, Scene, a Cleveland newspaper, repeats the same stuff. Nelson lives close to Cleveland, where Manak resides. He could have easily picked up this story.

chromatids "sister chromatids" and "homologous chromosomes"

times more DNA than in a single chromatid
times more DNA than in a single chromatid

each chromatid has a centromere
each chromatid has a centromere

homologous chromosomes are pairs of chromosomes that have the same structure and carry the same genes
homologous chromosomes are pairs of chromosomes that have the same structure and carry the same genes

each chromosome has a centromere

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← Jerry Clark (in the Encyclopedia) refers to this odd add-on to the case as follows:

Every night, moreover, Spaur would relive the first stage of the sighting in a horrifying dream which mixed real and surreal elements. He would see the 1959 Ford along the road. The car would be full of radios and electronic equipment. On its side he would see a strange emblem: a bolt of lightning inside a triangle. Above it would be the words "Seven Steps to Hell." The UFO would rise out of the trees, paralyzing him and Neff with a blinding ray. Then it would move away, and Spaur would dash to his police car, only to have it vanish the moment he touched it. At that moment he would awake terrified.

Note: if this is true (that Weitzel inspected the car) then the whole deal is complete crap.

(In some subsequent accounts part of Spaur's nightmare is treated as a real aspect of the episode, and the Ford becomes a mysterious, sinister vehicle, perhaps even a plant of some sort. In fact, authorities quickly traced the owner. Moreover, Weitzel examined the vehicle while it was still parked along 224. "It had some tapes, a cheap Japanese transistor toy tape recorder with a tape of hillbilly music on it, some miscellaneous electrical gear, in the back seat. Trunk full of old tires," he recorded [Weitzel, *op. cit.*].)

P.S.: I trust Bill Weitzel as a very good UFOlogist.

6. The "samples" — you can get coal, coke, & heated bricks anywhere.
— there's one (alleged) unusual object — the space program metal fragment — it is not seen nor touched by anyone else known to us to my understanding, & the "lab" refuses to be identified.
— one (or more) of these samples ^{is} allegedly "hot" so it couldn't be shipped (i.e. dangerously radioactive). We are to believe that it was just picked up 40 years-ago-better by Smith & then left lying around the police department in a desk.

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Rob, this smells so bad to me that it's violating air pollution ordinances in 7 states. Go into it with your Crap detectors WAY UP. If it was me (unless I felt a duty to debunk this), I wouldn't bother, but if it's easy for you to "test against/reality checks", well, God Bless You.

Q's: Who the hell is Nelson — really?

Did he work there?

Did a "Smith" work there?

Any phone book check in 1966 Deerfield for $\frac{f}{o}$?
witnesses

Read the bio in the Syon Proc again....

"Deputy Director for Homeland Security m...."

"Progressive Archaeological Solutions" ?

"PhD student at Univ. of Leicester, UK" ?

Really?

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T BE SUBMISSIVELY CONGENIAL ABOUT WHAT YOU FIND & SAY THINGS WHICH CAN FEED THIS GUY'S FIRE IF HE DOESN'T DESERVE IT.

"Nice" is nice, but truth is truth.

Mike.

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April 17 cont.: I called Fire Department and Civil Defense office, talked to Chief Vatch, John Gembar; they had examined Spaur and Neff and P-13 for radioactivity on their return this morning. No unusual levels. Site not examined. Bill Jasulaitis called; could not get Geiger counter to me. Decided Candusso's was all right; Victoreen CD model, with fresh batteries. About this time, Rick Hilberg, Glenn A. Barth, and David Olesko, from a Cleveland UFO group, had arrived. We went to 224, found abandoned car Spaur and Neff had originally stopped for. It had some tapes, a cheap Japanese transistor toy tape recorder with a tape of hillbilly music on it, some miscellaneous electrical gear, in the back seat. Trunk full of old tires. Spaur looked for burglary tools. (Car was towed later.)

Candusso went into the woods with the Geiger counter, claimed normal background count. Nothing on berm (radioactivity). Spaur went through details of initial sighting. I taped entire trip.* On way back, interrupted trip to call Tom Schley at BCT, exchange data (no opinions or conclusions). We returned to Courthouse. Sheriff Dustman there. I took room at Kent Motor Inn. (* Our trip to and from site.)

April 18: Went to Akron to buy more tape equipment at Olson Radio. Got back to Ravenna to find Chief Buchert had been notified that Dayton wanted his negative. No one knew whether this meant a personal visit by Major Quintanilla or not. One deputy told me Buchert was going to "release the picture at noon," did not know what this meant. Chief Buchert was in Mantua at this time. I drove up there to find office closed. Called Ravenna, found that Buchert had been notified I was there, and he was on way to Ravenna. Said he would stay there a while, then return. I called again about ½ hour later; Buchert had turned around, hearing I was in Mantua, and was on his way. While waiting, I called William Powers, told him my data, having checked with Richard Hall for release. I told Powers about Spaur's comparing the UFO's size to his windshield rearview mirror, larger than the mirror during chase. When I reviewed the rapid elevation at the end of the sighting, in Conway, Powers agreed Venus was ruled out. Buchert arrived at Mantua Village Police Station. I examined negative. Taped examination and interview, except for some questions from B.

Buchert was interrupted several times during the interview by news media, by phone and in person. I was interviewed by TV reporter on camera. I encouraged Buchert to have more prints made before sending in the negative; he agreed to have made for me, three contact prints of entire film and four enlargements, and about twenty enlargements for interested news media. We got to Ravenna about 3:00 PM EST, and spent much time in the Ravenna Record-Courier darkroom waiting for a photographer. One finally came, and I went outside to give report to NICAP-DC. While talking to Richard Hall and Major Keyhoe, Buchert left the photo lab without having contact copies made. I called him in Mantua, persuaded him the contact process was harmless. He agreed to come back in ½ hour. Tom Schley arrived on another visit to Ravenna. We talked about 1 hour, waiting for Chief Buchert, who never returned. I called his office. He was tied up with village officials, reluctant to talk. Said to forget about a contact copy. W-P AFB had called early today asking that the negative be mailed to them and he was anxious to do so. I persuaded him to wait until we could talk more freely. He agreed. I called back later at a pre-arranged time. Officer Dale Kernan said the chief was "out" and would be back at 4:00 tomorrow. I gave pitch for scientific value of contact prints; Kernan was encouraging. Had supper with Spaur and Schley. Spaur named Floyd after his middle name, frustrated that his UFO could not be called a name like "Ford" or "B-29".

Called Jim White for latest on AP and UPI news. Returned to Franklin, Pa. to stock up on tapes and get batteries recharged (the recorder's and my own) and pick up more equipment.

The Ohio Police Chase

The prime example of reconnaissance of official land-based vehicles took place on an 85-mile strip of interconnecting highways between Ravenna, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pa. on the 17th of April 1966. We are indebted to Attorney Carl Funk for his wrapup of certain important details. Although hundreds of people apparently spotted the object we will deal with the major sighting involving the police cars.

Press reports first quoted unidentified Air Force Reserve pilots at Youngstown, who reportedly said they had attempted to chase the object but its 100-mile-per-hour speed was too slow for their jet trainers. Later these reports were withdrawn when AF officials at Youngstown said no planes were scrambled. The first reports placed the object as travelling east along U. S. Highway 224 north of Canton.

At 5 a. m. Deputy Wayne Huston was cruising about East Palestine, Ohio when he heard a message on his car radio stating that a woman had reported from east of Akron having sighted a bright UFO which was apparently headed Eastward. Portage County (to the east) Deputy Dale Spaur received the message and with another Portage County deputy took off in search, and picked up the object near "Brady's Park going into Rochester"—on State Route 224. The vehicle followed the UFO at speeds of between 80 and 100 miles per hour, later leaving Route 224 and taking State Route 14 toward Pittsburgh. All the while, these deputies were using their radio and were listened to from the first by officer Wayne Huston of the East Palestine police.

As the chase passed East Palestine on Route 14 about 5:35 a. m., at the highway junction just north of the town, Huston joined the chase and all three, the UFO, the Portage deputies and the East Palestine cruiser, proceeded eastward toward Pittsburgh at 80-100 miles per hour. Attempts were made to rouse Pennsylvania officers without much success, due to differing radio systems between the states. However, on reaching Conway, Pennsylvania, contact was made with the local officers, and the matter was turned over to them.

The Pennsylvania Police became highly uncommunicative about what happened after Conway, but the following is known about the object and the "chase".

The object looked "like an ice cream cone, big end up", said one deputy. It was a bright white light, so bright they "could have driven without their own lights being on," they said. There were no windows, no irregular surface fea-

tures, no exhaust or contrails. The only noise was a whirring similar to that of a rapidly turning motor. The average height at which it travelled was about 800 feet but once or twice it dipped to 200 feet. Motion was not erratic or oscillating. The only variation was when it ascended which it did very rapidly.

The deputies assumed that it was intelligently controlled. It seemed to be able to go much faster but it held a speed of 80-100 miles per hour so it could be followed. The men in the cars felt that their radio communications were being monitored and their changes in procedure being anticipated.

At no time was there any interference with their engines' performance or the operation of the car radios.

One man, a Portage County deputy and also Chief of Police of Mantua Village, Gerald Buchert, obtained a photograph of the object and reportedly was told by the AF to keep it from the public. It went out on the press wires the next day (Tuesday) however. The photo does not appear to be anything spectacular, being merely a blob in news prints of same.

Some of the quotes by the men who chased the object are quite interesting:

The object was "about 35-40 feet in diameter".

Deputy Robert Wilson said that at one time during the chase, he heard Spaur say that the object had something like an antenna protruding from the bottom, as it hovered over the cruiser in which he (Spaur) and W. L. Neff were riding.

Buchert was quoted as saying the object looked round until it moved away, then it appeared like two saucers cupped together, lip to lip. The top half was very bright, the bottom half was dark.

At one point, when the deputies reached a highway interchange bridge, they had to slow down and the object appeared to slow and hover, waiting for them.

Spaur was a complete skeptic about UAOs prior to his experience but has since changed his mind.

Two developments during the ensuing week are interesting. One is explained, the other is not:

On the 23rd, the official word came out of Washington that the officers had chased a "double image" of Venus (whatever that is): They did qualify the statement with the word "probably", however. This development is explained, we believe, by the fact that officialdom has made a practice of denying the reality of the discs. Although considerable editorializing and general reporting on the happenings of the last year has convinced many people, the TV-Radio industry seems determined to keep any

pro-UFO information off the air.

The second item, which is unexplainable, is the apparently abandoned car found near the area where the object was first sighted. It was carrying walkie talkies, recording equipment and tape recordings. It was registered to a Robert W. Nelson of Edinboro, Pa., and a driver's temporary permit was found in the car, also, issued to Sanford Brown of Crawford. We have no further information on this vehicle and would appreciate any available. It may have no connection whatsoever with the incident, and it may have been a plant.

The Wanaque Reservoir Incident

On the night of 11 January 1966, hundreds of residents of Wanaque, New Jersey reported observing a strange, large white light which maneuvered over the local Reservoir. Some of the many were Mayor Harry T. Wolfe, who was alerted by the police, and Councilman Arthur Barton and Warren Hagstrom. The object was seen from Oakland, Ringwood, Paterson, Totowa, Wayne and Butler. It was reported to have been seen in Oakland first, then over the Reservoir, then above Lakeland Regional High School, and over the Houdaille Sandpit in Haskell. It then appeared to move southeast toward Pines Lake in Wayne where it "disappeared."

The object was described as "gliding oddly" and changing color from white to red to green and back to white. Some described it as a very brilliant white light like a star except that it didn't flicker, and others said it was "oval."

Civil Defense Director Bentley Spencer and Richard Vrooman were also alerted by reservoir Patrolman George Dykman and went out to view the object. Spencer went to the top of the 1500-foot-long Raymond Dam with reservoir employee Fred Stennes and from that vantage point, he reported later, he observed a "bolt of light" which shot down, as if "attracted to the water." He said it appeared to be a beam of light emitted from a porthole. Hundreds of curious were turned back by reservoir police when they converged on the dam from both the north and the south to view the object.

Later news clippings carried the explanation by the Air Force that observers had been watching an AF helicopter, but it was later learned that the helicopter was not in that area at that time. Also suspect were Venus, in the evening sky, and Jupiter in the early morning sky. However, the appearance of these two planets does not coincide with the

(See Wanaque, page 4)

PORTAGE Co.

Dear Bill:

August 24, 2006

Here are some of the materials from the Portage County case. Again, I obtained these while I was a deputy for Portage County. These materials were in a old oak desk, in the file drawer.

My lawyer says I am *probably* OK with giving these to your organization, but I was forced to send the typed transcripts instead of the originals, as there may be confidentiality issues as some of the persons involved are still alive. } *Suspicious*

So I have included the following in this shipment:

- Supplemental Report from Det. Smith
- Voluntary Statement – Wayne Huston - Patrolman
- Voluntary Statement – Frank Panzanella – Patrolman
- Voluntary Statement – Betty Raymond
- Voluntary Statement – Charles Dodson
- Evidence – Brick from nearby foundation at first contact site
- Evidence – Sample coal from surface seam at first contact site
- Evidence – Sample coal, apparently altered by energy, from seam at first contact site

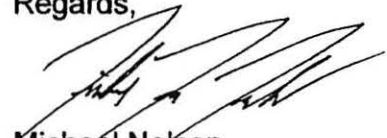
I do hope that these items assist you in your quest for the truth. I do have more documents and physical evidence, but some of the material is still registering 'hot' with a CD survey meter, and cannot be shipped commercially except in a special container and in very small amounts.

} *unlikely if from 1966. "Smith" simply walked into it and took samples.*

I would very much like to hear the results of your examination of this material, and of course would request that I be contacted for approval if you plan on publishing anything on this, or speaking about it in a public forum. As you know I have a vested interest in this with my book nearing completion – I would not want any publicity before it went to press either for the existence of these materials, or of who/how you came to possess them.

Thank you again for your time and understanding.

Regards,



Michael Nelson
Progressive Archaeological Solutions, LLC

It is fairly important to find out more about this guy & the validity of these materials.

Claims in the "Smith" report are way beyond the Weitzel understanding of this case.

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Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Detective Division Supplementary Report

Date 19 April 1966

ORC n/a

Call Card # 66-0621

Date of Call 17 April 1966

Time 5:10 A.M.

Address State Route 14 one mile west of RR bridge and other locations (see narrative).

Deputy Dispatched

Dale F. Spaur & Posse member William L. Neff

Person Reporting

Above Deputies, East Palestine and Conway police officers

Victim

n/a

Detective Steve Smith, Badge # 113

Narrative

On April 18 1966, I received a call to come in early and start an investigation on a situation involving 2 of our deputies and other police officers and citizens. When I arrived I found deputy Spaur and special deputy Neff at the post. They both appeared upset and tired. I was told that an Air Force Colonel was on his way to Ravenna from Wright-Patterson base in Dayton, and Sheriff Dustman explicitly stated he wanted me to pursue an investigation independently of the other investigators. I spoke with both at length in the interview room and they related the following story.

Spaur and Neff were on patrol in the southern area of the county. They had just checked in with the road crew doing some work near Brimfield, and had agreed to get some coffee for them. They drove west on Route 224 to the Deerfield Circle restaurant and got the coffee, that being the only dinner open all night. As they were returning they received a call from the radio operator stating that Summit County had been receiving calls about a possible flying object in Springfield Township heading east toward Portage County. A deputy had seen the light, but it was moving so fast that by the time he got to the county line, it was several miles ahead of him. As Spaur & Neff, in car P-13, were heading back west toward Summit County to investigate, they spotted a car on the south side of the road with no lights on. It had not been there when they went by 15 minutes earlier, so they decided to stop and check it out. They called out and approached the car. It had no license tag on it, and seemed to be full of radio or other electric apparatus and had several antennas. They saw an emblem on the door which looked like a diamond in shape with lightening bolts and other symbols and some words. Just then a large, bright object rose above the bank on the north side of the road and seemed to hover above them. They both agreed it was so bright it was like broad daylight, except the light seemed to be a blue to purple tint to it. They heard a high pitched whining noise, and their hair seemed to stand on end. They both ran back to P-13 and locked the doors. The object seemed to be dome shaped, or like a half of a football, and a cone of lights came out of the bottom, so it had the appearance of an ice cream cone, with the ice cream being solid and the cone being made of the light. As it started moving off to the east, they finally called the radio operator and reported what had occurred and that they were following the object east along Route 224 toward Atwater. Deputy Figart, who was in Atwater at Waterloo road and Stroup road, reported that he also saw the object to the north of him, moving to the east and that it appeared to be very large, perhaps 50 feet across, and that it looked like it had a purple halo around the bottom half, with a pointed

cone of light below the halo. He heard no noise but did report that his radio had static until it had passed a couple of miles to the east of his position. He was told not to assist P-13 as he was the only deputy left in the south area, and that P-13 had 2 deputies.

The object went straight southeast, but P-13 had to turn south onto Route 183 and east again on Route 224 toward Deerfield. They got further behind because of the turns and sped up to 100 miles per hour to try to catch up. At that point the sergeant asked if one of them could take a shot at it. Neff replied no. They said that it moved to different parts of the sky, first being by the moon, then being by the big dipper, then again to the south, but it seemed to follow the path of the highway. They proceeded on Route 224 to Deerfield, where the cook and waitress who had provided their coffee earlier were outside and seemed to be trying to hide from it behind a car in the parking lot. They turned southeast onto Route 14 at the Deerfield circle, and cut through the corner of Mahoning County and into Columbiana County. Salem police had been listening on the radio and had sent 2 officers to see what was going on. They both saw the object and also a few minutes later saw 2 jets heading south from the vicinity of the Youngstown 459 Troop Carrier Wing, Youngstown AFR which did have jets stationed there. See the Voluntary Statements for these officer's observations. As they continued down Route 14, which also becomes Route 165 for a stretch, and then into Unity where 165 becomes Route 14 again. It was here that patrolman Huston from the East Palestine police joined the chase behind the Portage deputies. See his Voluntary Statement.

They proceeded east on Route 14 to the PA line, and continued east on Route 51. They passed through Rochester, where they fell behind again due to traffic at Brady Run Park, but after passing under several RR bridges they found that the object appeared to wait for them. Just then they noticed the object shoot up rapidly to over 1000 feet and they realized that 2 or 3 jets were approaching from the direction of Youngstown. They continued on to Conway, where patrolman Panzanella met them at a service station on Route 65. There all three watched as the jets approached. One appeared to actually go over the object, and just then they heard a high pitched noise and the object's "cone" changed color to include an orange tint, and it shot up so fast it was out of sight in a few seconds. Apparently at this time the Rochester police called Panzanella and told them some Colonel wanted to speak with the officers. When they arrived at Rochester, a patrolman there was already on the phone. He relayed that jets had been scrambled from Youngstown. Then apparently the Colonel got on the phone and said that was wrong, and that no jets had been sent because it was either the moon or a planet they had been chasing.

The rest of the specifics are found in the Voluntary Statements, but I should mention that Salem radio operator Jack E. Cramer and Lieutenant Richard M. Winnery both heard on a frequency of either 155 mc or 29.58 mc the transmission "I'm going down to take a look at it. I'm right above it and it's about 45 feet across, with something trailing behind it like a ball of fire. It is now climbing out, we are at 20,000 feet and it has pulled away, I cannot see it and cannot confirm it was not a SV, Over." This is attested to by both men. The civilian witnesses were also interviewed and they made Voluntary Statements. Both of them also complained that military officers kept visiting them at work and at home, and that they wanted to know what they should do if they felt threatened. I referred them to the prosecutor's office.

I did find some elevated readings from the CD survey meter at the site where the deputies claim the object arose from, and some of the field seemed to be scorched. I attempted to take photos of the field, but all of the film was either bad or processed incorrectly as all of the images were fogged, and looked fuzzy. In addition, I collected some samples of brick from a nearby old foundation, and some coal from a surface seam, both which appear to have been

altered by exposure to some energy source or heat. I believe that these witnesses are credible, and they must have seen something that remains unexplained. Because Sheriff Dustmen requested that this investigation not come to the attention of the other agencies involved, I cannot at this time do much more to prove or disprove the reported accounts of those involved. Other than the witnesses, those most involved with the official investigation includes:

Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe USMC (RET) Director of the National Investigations
Committee on Aerial Phenomena
William B. Weitzel NICAP investigator
Prof. William Powers, Dearborn Observatory Northwestern University
Major Hector Quintanilla, USAF

In summary, there obviously was some disturbance involving an bright object of some sort on the morning of April 17 1966. Several credible witnesses observed it, including several deputies and police officers. A chase ensued covering over 85 miles, 5 counties, 5 police agencies and 2 states. The government has taken an interest and has sent several investigators to interview the witnesses, some of whom feel threatened by them. It was seen by the civilian population from Akron Ohio as far west as Kecksburg Pennsylvania. Several local newspapers have covered the story, and despite all of the physical evidence we gathered at the site of the first contact on route 224, the government officials refuse to acknowledge that anything happened at all. This case will remain open for now, until I can round up the witnesses at a later date and interview them extensively.

Det. Steve Smith # 113

Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Voluntary Statement

Det: OK, please state your name and your job.

Mr. Huston: My name is Wayne Huston, and I was formerly a patrolman for the East Palestine Police Dept. , but now I am employed at Lees Auto Sales, I work on Ramblers.

Det: Thank you. How are you, well, how were you involved in these events?

Mr. Huston: You mean the whole story?

Det: Ya, the whole story, just as you remember it.

Mr. Huston: Alright. Well, it was the early morning of April 17, of this year

Det: Please state the year

Mr. Huston: OK, April 17, 1966. I was on patrol and sitting in my car, when I heard on the radio that Summit County calling Portage County saying a woman near Springfield township reported that some sort of flying object was traveling above State Route 224 toward Portage County. Their cars had seen a low flying light, but it was already into Portage County and could they check it out. The Portage radio operator had just told one of his patrol cars to check the area for anything unusual in the skies in the vicinity of State Route 224. The car replied that they would comply, but after a few minutes they called to say they were checking a vehicle on the side of 224, with its lights out. It was just about a mile west of the railroad bridge in Atwater. They had just called out when all of a sudden one of the deputies called on the radio that they had some sort of bright flying object that just took off from near their position, and that they were following it east down 224 toward Atwater. Well, this was about 5:10 A.M. that I heard this. The Portage radio operator asked if one of them could shoot at it. They said no. They were heading now down state route 14, east toward Columbiana County. As they came through Columbiana, I went down to Route 14, and waited by the side of the road. At about 5:30 A.M. the flying object went right over me, at what I would guess was about 800 feet. It looked like a giant ice cream cone with the point pointing down. The rounded top looked solid, the pointed part looked more like light beams then solid, and it was very bright, it lit up the ground beneath it. The Portage deputies went by, waving to me. So I pulled out behind them and caught up to them in a few miles. We were going about 85 to 105 miles per hour. It changed its position several times, at times it was by the moon and venus, and at other times is was on the opposite side of the sky, but it did appear to follow the highway. Anyway, at the entrance to Brady Run Park we lost sight of it. We continued on to Bridgeport and then we saw it again.

Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Voluntary Statement

Det: Ok, when you say you lost sight of it, did it go to high?

Mr. Huston: No, it went to fast. It had sped up when some jets seemed to fly by the area.

Det: OK. Then you saw it again? I mean, well please go on with your story.

Mr. Huston: It is not a story, it happened just like this. So we saw it again in Bridgeport and then we followed it to Conway. Conway Pennsylvania. A Conway police officer was there waiting for us, and he saw it too. He called his radio operator and had them call the Greater Pittsburgh Airport to see if they knew anything. At that point the jets were back, and it shot right up, very fast, faster than any jets I have ever seen. I mean jezz, it was gone in like 2 seconds. That was it. The Conway patrolman was talking with the Portage deputies and waiting to see if Pittsburgh knew anything about it. I said good night and returned to the city. That's all.

Det: Mr. Huston, thank you again for taking the time to do this. Has anyone else spoken to you about this?

Mr. Huston: Besides the newspapers?

Det: Ya.

Mr. Huston: Yes, that Major Quintella from the Air Force asked me what happened, but that is all. I don't want my name associated with this mess. OK? So just, don't ask me about this again, OK?

Det. OK. Thank you again It is May 16 1966. Call card 66-0621

SGN Det. Steve Smith, #113

This just doesn't feel right - "Huston's" testimony is too patly coherent with the alleged Portage descriptions, & Huston's name was thoroughly publicized with his picture.

1. 1945-1946 - 1947-1948 - 1949-1950

1951

1952

1953-1954 - 1955-1956 - 1957-1958

1959

1960

1961-1962 - 1963-1964 - 1965-1966

1967-1968 - 1969-1970 - 1971-1972
1973-1974 - 1975-1976 - 1977-1978
1979-1980 - 1981-1982 - 1983-1984
1985-1986 - 1987-1988 - 1989-1990
1991-1992 - 1993-1994 - 1995-1996
1997-1998 - 1999-2000 - 2001-2002
2003-2004 - 2005-2006 - 2007-2008
2009-2010 - 2011-2012 - 2013-2014
2015-2016 - 2017-2018 - 2019-2020
2021-2022 - 2023-2024 - 2025-2026

Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Voluntary Statement

Det: It is May 18 1966. Please state your name and job.

Ptl. Panzanella: **Frank Panzanella**, Patrolman for Conway Bars Police Dept.

Det: Thanks. Please tell me about the events of this past April, and include that date and times please.

Ptl. Panzanella: I was on patrol on the morning of Sunday, April 17 1966. I had been at the Conway Hotel having a cup of coffee, and I had just left to patrol. I went down 11 th street and up the hill. Looking to my right I saw a bright object in the sky, off west. I thought it was a plane from the Pittsburgh airport or a reflection off of a plane. I got as far as the bar Mickey's Lounge on the hill when I noticed that this plane was not moving. So I turned around and drove down to Adamowski Service Station at 10 th street and Route 65. I got out of my car and watched it for a few minutes, rubbing my eyes to be sure it was not some sort of thing in my eye. In a couple of minutes I saw 2 other patrol cars come racing down Route 65 and they pulled up along side me. They asked me if I had saw it. I replied saw what? They then pointed to the object in the sky, and I told them I had been watching it for 10 minutes. It was just then that we heard the jets in the distance. The object was the shape of half of a football; it was very bright and about 30 feet across. It had bright lights shining in beams coming out of its bottom. What appeared to be 2 or 3 jets came from the direction of Pittsburgh, or Youngstown they have a big airport there too. In any case the object then moved out towards Harmony Township at approximately 1,000 feet high. As the jets got closer, it shot up to about maybe 3,500 feet in an instant and just hovered. I called the base station and told the radio operator to contact the Pittsburgh airport to notify them about this. As the jets got close, it shot up again and it became just a spot of light in the sky in a few seconds. My base told me we had a phone call, so we drove to the Rochester Police Department, where officer Parr talked to someone at the airport. First they said the jets were Air Force jets, then someone else got on the phone and said no, there were no jets in the area. I saw the object from about 5:20 A.M. until 6:15 A.M. That was all.

Det: Great. Have you spoken to anyone else about this?

Ptl. Panzanella: Yes, that Major from Wright Patterson, and Mr. Keyhoe, with some investigation committee. And the newspaper.

Det: Thank you again for your cooperation. It is May 18 1966. Call card 66-0621
SGN Det. Steve Smith #113

Again: a perfectly pat coherent agreement in terminology.

How did the "base" know to call him, he does not say he called this activity in

Watched the thing up from 5:20 AM to 6:15 AM

Contacted Keyhoe

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Voluntary Statement

Det: It is May 18 1966. Please state your name and job.

Witness: My name is Betty Raymond, and I am a waitress at the Circle restaurant in Deerfield.

Det: Thanks. Please describe what happened to you in the early morning hours of April 17, 1966.

Witness: Well, I started my shift at midnight as usual, and it was a pretty regular night. Around 4:30 two deputies came in and got 5 coffees to go. They left and headed west on 224. About half an hour later I was taking a break out front when I noticed a very bright light in the sky, coming from the west and heading east along 224. At first it looked round, but as it got closer it looked more like one of those blimps that they keep in Suffield, only going very fast and making no noise.

Det: You mean the blimps at the Goodyear Airdock at Turkeyfoot Lake, or the big hanger in Akron?

Witness: I am not sure. They are both in the same direction. I think the one in Suffield is where most of them fly from. It was coming from the west though.

Det: Ok. Please go on

Witness: Like I said, it looked as large as a blimp, but was going too fast and besides, it did not make any noise at all. I yelled for Chuck to come out, he is the cook but we had no customers at that time, and he came out and saw it too. By now it was getting pretty close, and I started getting a little scared. I crouched down behind my new car, and tried to see what it was doing. Chuck stood there a while longer and said he could see a police car coming and that they must be chasing this light. This thing, this light went straight over the circle, and it was so bright it looked like daylight. It also made my skin feel very hot, and all of my hairs stood up, like static electricity. That is when Chuck jumped behind my car too. He was yelling that it felt like his skin and eyes were burning. A few moments after it passed, the police car, the sheriff's car, went around the circle going very fast. They were obviously following this thing. I then looked at Chuck to see if he was alright, and his eyes and nose seemed red, like a sunburn. But the rest of him looked very pale, and he went inside to sit and have some coffee. I looked at my car to see if it had been damaged or the paint burned, but it was ok. It was not until later that morning that I found out that the ignition cap and wires were all burnt and it would not start.

Det: Is there anything else you would like to add?

Witness: No, that is the story. The Air Force guys came by about 7 a.m. and took our names and addresses and asked us what we saw. I thought it strange that they got here so fast, even before you got here. They were not in uniforms, and their car seemed too beat up for a government car, and it had funny marks on the doors that did not look like Air Force symbols to me. So we gave them our names and told them that we had really only seen some strange lights in the sky.

Det: What did the marks on their car look like?

Witness: Well, it looked like an elongated diamond, with some symbols and what looked like lightning bolts on it. It also had some letters, but they did not spell anything, or at least no words that I understand. There were lots of antennas on it too, like a police car, only more. These guys wore dark suits, but they were not Air Force uniforms, my brother is in the Air Force and I know what they look like.

Det: This is very interesting. May I speak with you again after I go over all of the evidence?

Witness: Certainly. As long as it does not go into the newspapers, they would think that I was a waco like those folks in Akron a few weeks back.

Det: I promise no newspapers. And please call me if anyone else contacts you about this, or if you have any questions, OK?

Witness: OK. Thanks

Det: Thank you again for your cooperation. It is May 18 1966 at 6:40 p.m.. Call card #66-0621

SGN Det. Steve Smith #113

This has gone into the completely unbelievable at this point — a fiction story written by a guy who knows what the UFO weirdness characteristics are & crammed them all into one hoax.

[Redacted text]

the complete absence of
of this fact - being cited to
written by a few persons who
the 17th century character
of the 17th century
and other like manner
when

Portage County Sheriff's Office
Ross Dustman, Sheriff

Voluntary Statement

Det: It is May 22 1966. Please state your name and job.

Witness: my name is Charles Dodson, and I am the night cook at the Circle.

Det: Ok Charles, this is easy. Please just tell what happened to you and what you saw on the morning of April 17th. Oh, Betty called you Chuck, do you prefer that?

Witness: Yes, Chuck is what I am called.

Det: Ok Chuck, please go ahead.

Witness: Well, about a little after 5:00 a.m., Betty yelled for me to come out and see something. So I went out and there in the sky was this huge light. It looked like a football, with lights coming out the bottom. It was big, when it passed in front of the moon it covered it completely. You could see it was blocking the stars behind it. It was big. And silent, it made no noise. That is when I saw the deputies coming up the road.

Det: How did you know they were deputies?

Witness: They had been here earlier getting coffee for them and some road crews over by Suffield that were working.

Det: Uh huh

Witness: So Betty started getting very scared and sat down behind her new car. I was watching this object get closer and closer when I noticed that my face and eyes felt very warm, like when you stand too close to a fire. It went directly over the circle, following 224 to the east. It would move a little from side to side, and sometimes changed direction completely, but it generally was heading east. So I sat down behind the car too, trying to get out of the heat. After a few seconds I got back up, and felt very dizzy and weak. My hair was all raised and I felt terrible. So I went inside and had some strong coffee and put a cool washcloth on my face. Betty came in and said it looked like I had a sunburn. My eyes still hurt and my mouth and throat are very dry all the time since it happened. That is it.

Det: Betty mentioned some Air Force people?

Witness: They were no military people, they seemed more like the FBI or CIA or something like that. They had dark suits and a bad disposition.

Det: Did they threaten you?

Witness: Not directly, but they kind of implied it would be a good thing if all we said we saw were some lights. I asked them what about my burns? They replied that the effects would go away in a few days to weeks. I asked them if they were doctors, and they just laughed.

Det: What about their car?

Witness: It had several antennas on it, and lots of radio gear inside. They got upset when they saw me looking in there and told me to get away from the car. It had a set of initials on the door, like NASA, except only different letters, there was defiantly an A though.

Det: Anything else you want to add?

Witness: Nope. That is all I know and I just hope it is not a communist plot or something. It must have been a big deal, because they got here so fast – within an hour of when your radio man called us to stay here, probably about 6:30 or so.

Det: Betty thought it was more like 7 or so

Witness: No it was 6:30 as I looked at my watch as they pulled in.

Det: Thank you for your time. I will contact you if I have any further questions.

Witness: Just don't put it in the papers. Those government guys said we were not to talk to any reporters or anyone about this as it was a matter of national safety and we could get in big trouble for speaking about this. I figured it was ok to talk to you though.

Det: Yes, it is fine that you talked to me. Thank you again. It is May 22 at 10:40 a.m. and the Call Card number is 66-0621.

SGN Det. Steve Smith, #113

Mike,
Confirmation of
what we have
suspected,
unfortunately.

Mark

Mark Rodeghier

From: "James Carrion" <jcarrion@mntview.com>
To: "'Mark Rodeghier'" <markrod@xsite.net>; "'Jones, William E (Columbus)'" <jonesw@BATTELLE.ORG>; <jcarrion@mufon.com>
Cc: <phyllbud@yahoo.com>; "'Robert Powell'" <rpowell@austin.rr.com>; "John Schuessler" <schuessler@mho.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2007 2:38 PM
Subject: RE: Portage County Case etc

To all who have worked with Michael Nelson on the Portage Ohio Case.

First, this information is to be kept strictly confidential and is not to be forwarded to anyone else at this time.

Michael Nelson's recent behavior bothered me enough to prompt me to do some checking into his claims. Here are the disturbing things I have uncovered:

- He is a convicted felon – guilty of carrying a concealed weapon – per the online Portage County courthouse documents
- I contacted the Ohio Emergency Management Agency at 330-424-0152 and spoke with Rudy Sacchett who would have been the person who would have conducted the radiological analysis that Michael sent to Phyllis.
 - o Rudy asked that I fax in the report which I did. He then called me back and with two of his supervisors in the room standing next to him, informed me that the report was 100% forged and did not originate from their agency.
 - o Rudy also said that Michael Nelson was terminated from his position at the Columbiana County Emergency Management Agency in May of 2006 but would not reveal why.
 - o In a separate phone call with Rudy, he told me that it would probably be good to stay at arm's length from Michael. When I asked if Michael was dangerous, he told me to look up the online county records on Michael. (I had previously done this and is where I found the felony conviction).
 - o Rudy stated that this forged report was a serious breach and that both the county and state agencies will be taking some unspecified action and would get back with me.
- I contacted the Portage County Ohio Sherriff's office to check on Michael's alleged employment as a deputy there. I spoke with Ron Rost who had worked there for 14 years and had never heard of Michael Nelson. Since Michael claimed to have worked there in the early 80s it is possible that could be true. I left a message with Linda, the personnel manager to call me back and let me know if Michael was ever employed there as a deputy. I am still waiting for her call.

I will share more information with you as it becomes available.

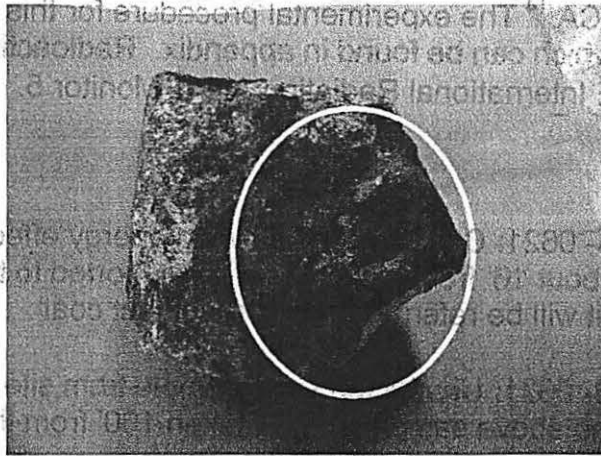
Best wishes,
 James

From: Mark Rodeghier [mailto:markrod@xsite.net]
Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2007 6:10 AM
To: James Carrion; 'Jones, William E (Columbus)'; jcarrion@mufon.com
Cc: phyllbud@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Portage County Case etc

James,

Yes, Mike contacted CUFOS first, but the fact he didn't mention that to you shouldn't worry you. We sent him a copy (gratis) of the Portage county case file, and put him in contact with Bill, and eventually Phyllis. That was the extent of our involvement, save a few emails between Mike and me. That he would not mention this to you is understandable, especially since Bill is officially involved with both MUFON and CUFOS.

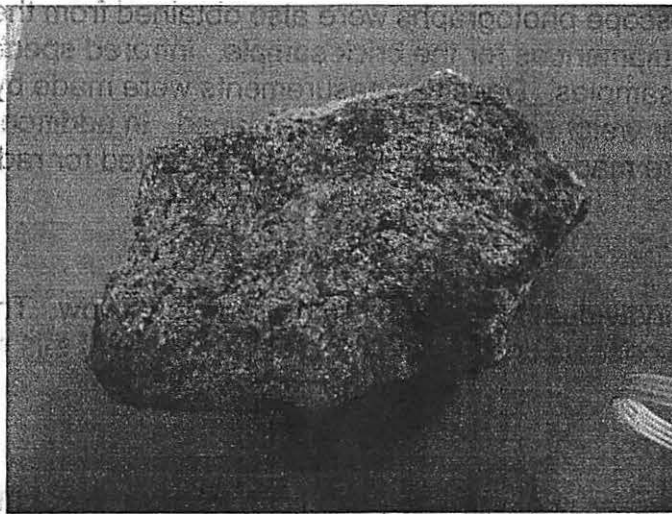
But be worried, as I am, about his not producing the original documents after all this time, about his claims about the



Brick Burn Side – Right Side Blackened



Brick Burn area – Close Up



Brick – Unburned Side

The microphotographs of the burn area (outer and inner surfaces) and an unburned area show additional information. The burn inner material clearly shows porosity, i.e. "bubbles" which appear to be glass-like, and there is glass formation in the area adjacent to the bubbles. The sample had to be exposed to high temperature for this effect to have occurred. The microphotographs follow.

Mark Rodeghier

From: "James Carrion" <jcarrion@mntview.com>
To: "'Mark Rodeghier'" <markrod@xsite.net>; "'Jones, William E (Columbus)'" <jonesw@BATTELLE.ORG>; <jcarrion@mufon.com>
Cc: <phyllbud@yahoo.com>; "'Robert Powell'" <rpowell@austin.rr.com>; "John Schuessler" <schuessler@mho.net>
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I will share more information with you as it becomes available.

Best wishes,
 James

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Sent: Saturday, November 10, 2007 6:10 AM
To: James Carrion; 'Jones, William E (Columbus)'; jcarrion@mufon.com
Cc: phyllbud@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Portage County Case etc

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But be worried, as I am, about his not producing the original documents after all this time, about his claims about the

metal, and his generally non-collegial behavior.

Mark

----- Original Message -----

From: James Carrion
To: 'Jones, William E (Columbus)' ; jcarrion@mufon.com
Cc: phyllbud@yahoo.com ; 'Mark Rodeghier'
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2007 4:37 AM
Subject: RE: Portage County Case etc

Hi Bill,

I am copying Mark on my response. Two things worry me. Mike's promises to send the metal fragment lab analysis that he did not deliver on (promised separately to Robert Powell, Phyllis Budinger, Sally Petersen and myself) and the fact that he contacted CUFOS prior to MUFON but never mentioned this to me and which I only found out about after the Symposium. Let's hope that his recent promise to send the lab results to Phyllis pans out.

The other thing that worries me is that at the Symposium he claimed that the Ohio radiological lab measured a high level of radioactivity in the sample but post Symposium now claims that the Smithsonian and Ken State labs did not measure the same radioactivity. What gives?

James

From: Jones, William E (Columbus) [mailto:jonesw@BATTELLE.ORG]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2007 3:18 PM
To: jcarrion@mufon.com
Cc: phyllbud@yahoo.com
Subject: Portage County Case etc

James:

As you will note below Phyllis is on the case, so we may know something by the end of the month.

I would like to keep Mark Rodeghier informed of how Mike replies to all of this. Mark was Mike's first contact within what I will call serious ufology and we wouldn't have had Mike's participation at our symposium without Mark's input. I want Mark to be aware of any concerns and progress so that he won't unknowingly mis-state something to others who know of CUFOS's initial involvement in getting Mike's story out. So please let me know if there are any confidentiality aspects to this that I am not aware of, beyond spreading the word out over the Internet or what have you. This is not the time for that. I have a feeling that Mike is a straight shooter, and will be very surprised if I turn out to be wrong.

Thanks, and I will be in touch.

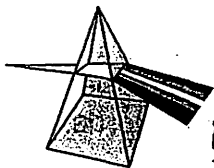
Bill

From: Phyllis Budinger [mailto:phyllbud@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2007 2:23 PM
To: Jones, William E (Columbus); Rick Hilberg; James Carrion
Subject: Fwd: Re: Portage County Case etc

I got a quick reply from Michael Nelson. It follows, along with my query to him.

I read the MUFON Journal article. I see he used my microphotographs and infrared spectra. I will try to get back to him on Thanksgiving. I think a phone call may be in order.

Phyllis



Frontier Analysis, Ltd

17100 Wood Acre Trall
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023
Phone/Fax: 440-708-2211
Email: phyllbud@yahoo.com

TECHNICAL SERVICE RESPONSE NO.: UT051

Subject: Analysis of Brick and Coal Samples Purportedly in Contact with an Unknown Object (Portage County, Ravenna, Ohio, April 16, 1966)

Date: January 25, 2007

Requested By: Michael Nelson
41 Walnut St.
Leetonia, Ohio 44431

Reported By: P. A. Budinger
Analytical Scientist

Background/Objective:

The Portage County Ohio UFO encounter of April 16, 1966 is one of ufology's best UFO cases. The details are well documented in many publications. For further information, a few of them are cited in the footnotes.^{1,2,3,4,5} A brief description of the event follows. Close to dawn on April 16, 1966 found sheriff's deputies Dale Spaur and Walter Neff checking out an abandoned car. Suddenly, a glowing disc-shaped object rose out of the woods. It stopped overhead and illuminated them and the surrounding area. The dispatcher was contacted, and a chase of the object ensued into Pennsylvania. Along the way, police from various jurisdictions witnessed the object and joined in the chase. The object appeared aware of the police vehicles presence, speeding up and slowing down until they could catch up again. In the end, it suddenly shot up and out of sight. The investigation was not a pleasant experience for witnesses, especially Dale Spaur, who suffered ridicule, insults, and humiliation primarily by government investigators.

¹ J. Allen Hynek, "The UFO Experience A Scientific Inquiry." Henry Regnery Company, Chicago 1972, pages 100-107.

² Jerome Clark, "The UFO Encyclopedia The Phenomenon from the Beginning," Volume 2: L-Z, Omnigraphics, Detroit, MI, 1998, pages 719-728.

³ Margaret Sachs, "The UFO Encyclopedia", Perigee Books, New York, New York 1980 pages 254-255.

⁴ Richard H. Hall, "The UFO Evidence A Thirty-Year Report", Volume II, Scarecrow Press Inc., Lanham, Maryland, 2000, Page 44.

⁵ "Strangers in the Night" On Line at <http://clevescene.com/issues/2004-03-31/feature.html/print.html>.

Years later Michael Nelson did an investigation for the primary purpose of exonerating the deputies, and in the process located physical traces from the event. His background and the samples' backgrounds follow in his own words.⁶

"I am Michael Nelson, and will give you a little background about myself and the materials. I am a historical archaeologist by trade, and am what I suppose you would call a skeptic. I received my BA from Skidmore College, my MA from Vermont College, and I just submitted my Dissertation to the committee for my Ph.D. at Vermont College. So I have never followed the UFO stories I heard from time-to-time. However, this case made me mad so I got involved and contacted several UFO organizations, and William (Jones) seemed the most creditable.

From 1984 - 1989 I was a deputy at the Portage County Sheriff's Office in Ravenna Ohio. I had never even heard of the Spaur case, or anything about a UFO chase in the 60s. I was involved with the road patrol, and was training to be a detective. I was helping move DB material from our old facility (in the courthouse) to the new one on Infirmity Road. We were moving the files that had not been inputted into the computer system - mostly old cases. As I was cleaning out an old oak desk - it was going to auction with a bunch of other office stuff from the old detective office - when I noticed an evidence case in the back of the file drawer. Inside, in paper evidence bags, were 3 brick samples, several lumps of coal, 30 or so photographs of what I thought was a crime scene, and some very heavy material inside a radiological container. There was a case number on them, so I went to the files we were moving & pulled the jacket. Inside was an OLD DB incident report, narratives, supplemental reports, voluntary witness statements and transcriptions from tape-recorded interviews. I asked the Chief Deputy if I could take this old case stuff home to look over, as I was interested in the history of the department. He checked to be sure the case number was not active and told me yes.

I took everything home and started reading. This is how I learned about the Spaur / Neff case and the 1966 chase. I also learned that Sheriff Dustman was told by the military that the matter was resolved, but that he had a detective work on the case without the government's knowledge! This was indeed unusual. I found that the deputies chased this object, along with officers from East Palestine, Conway PA (all which are in the published materials I have since read) and also Salem Ohio PD, another Portage County Deputy, an off-duty city of Kent police detective, 2 civilian witnesses, one of whom received a kind of burn to his face & eyes when the object passed overhead, and all of which were visited by people claiming to be in the government. But I digress.

The evidence was placed into the case box by the investigating deputy in 1966, and was kept locked up without being entered in the registry (due to the fact that Dustman ordered this investigation to be done without filing reports that would tip the government off) and remained in the desk until I found it in 1988. The evidence tape was still intact. The files were in the DB cold case file, and were not reviewed by the new cold case officer yet (he was waiting for us to complete the move). The hot material in the Rad container is now in a pig - a lead lined steel container. It registers about 40 Rads per hour - NOT millirads, but rads. It is a gamma source. I will be having a friend of mine with the NRC have their lab work on it - the State EMA Radiological Analyst for our area, Rudy Sacchett, will transport it. The other physical material is what I sent a portion of. The brick was taken from an old farm out-building foundation near the location the craft took off from. There was an area, roughly circular, about 22' diameter, where the grass (alfalfa) had been burnt and was dead. The foundation where the brick was at (several were so altered in the wall) was 38' from the nearest edge of the circular mark. There is a surface coal seam there (common in Portage County) and the "control" sample was taken 100' from the site. The subject sample was located 16' from the circular area. The photographs that were developed I have in my possession - the undeveloped rolls were all fogged.

⁶ Michael Nelson, Personal Email Communication September 4, 2006.

I hope that this helps in your analysis. You may, of course, email me if you need any further assistance. I am not a UFO "believer", but I do know this: 2 deputies careers and lives were ruined by a government cover-up, and that wrong needs to be rectified."

The objective is to analyze the brick and coal materials for anomalies which may provide additional support to the story told by deputies Dale Spaur and Walter Neff.

Conclusions:

- The brick has been exposed to intense heat in excess of 1470° C (2678° F). Normal brick is fired between 870°C and 1,100°C (1598°F to 2012°F), depending on the type of raw materials⁷; and normal minerals may include the ones found in this analysis, which are primarily quartz and some low temperature cristobalite and mullite.⁸ A second further exposure to very intense heat is proven by the unusual presence of high temperature tridymite, glass and high temperature cristobalite only in the blackened material, which also contains the original minerals in the brick. These materials are polymorphs from the normal brick minerals that form above 870°C (1598°F), 700-800°C (1292-1472°F) and 1470°C (2678°F), respectively.⁹

- The 'contact coal' sample also experienced excessive heat. The sample is completely porous, indicating a volatilization effect. This was supported by the lack of any organics in the sample as observed by infrared analysis, an ashing experiment (contact coal ca. 100 wt.% ash, control coal 58 wt.% or less) and specific gravity measurement (contact coal 0.8 cc/g, control coal 1.2 cc/g). The organics obviously boiled off. Carbon and some silicate mineral are all that are detected. (This would suggest that fixed carbon and residual silicate are fused together.¹⁰) The heat exposure had to be well in excess of 1000°C (1832°F), which is the normal temperature for coking of coal.¹¹ However, at this temperature coal coke still has heavy residual organics.¹² So, the fact that the sample had no organics indicates it has exceeded coking temperatures. This analyst suspects it was exposed to temperatures greater than 1470° C (2678° F),

⁷ "Brick and Tile: Firing and Cooling," Britannica Concise Encyclopedia on line at <http://www.britannica.com/ebc/article-76615>.

⁸ "The Geology of Bricks", on line at <http://geology.about.com/od/mineral-resources/a/bricks.htm>; Personal communication 1/19/2007 with Dr. Sam Iyengar.

⁹ "Silica Polymorphs" on line at <http://www.uwgb.edu/dutchs/PETROLOGY/Silica%20Poly.HTM>;

"Mineral Description: Cristobalite" on line at <http://www.geology.neab.net/minerals/cristoba.htm>;

"Cristobalite: on line at <http://mineral.galleries.com/minerals/silicate/cristoba.htm>; Richard J. Lewis Sr.,

"Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary," Fourteenth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 2001.

¹⁰ "Coke (fuel)", Wikipedia on line at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coke_\(fuel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coke_(fuel)).

¹¹ "Coke (fuel)", Wikipedia on line at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coke_\(fuel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coke_(fuel)); "Coal", Wikipedia on line at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal>.

¹² Frontier Analysis spectral data base containing coke references as well as knowledge from working on coking projects for a large petroleum company.

as was the brick. This might be expected because this sample was closer to the purported landing circle than the brick.

- An additional observation should be included concerning the 'contact coal'. This is for those who question that it is not from coal but an entirely different entity. Besides the above indications, there is additional strong evidence that the 'contact coal' originated from seam coal. This was provided by comparing infrared spectra of the ashed control coal and the (unashed) 'contact coal'. The spectra are nearly identical, showing carbon and silicate. The fixed carbon and silicate are fused together in both samples.
- No radiation above background was detected from either the brick or the 'contact coal'.
- Dr. Iyenger and myself have never seen anything like this in our combined 75 years of experience as a mineralogist and an analytical chemist. Truly perplexing, we cannot explain the cause. While lightning is a possibility, we do not think it was the source because of the wide dispersion of heat-affected samples in the area. All known sources appear to be ruled out. This leaves the unknown, and that would support the deputies' account of an unusual event.

Procedure:

The samples were received in plastic bags on September 8, 2006 with the following information.

The Brick:

- "17 April 1966, Material recovered by detective at SR-224 site CC# 66-0621." This is a brick with apparent burn markings. It was taken from a farm out-building foundation about 38' from a 22' diameter circular mark assumed to be the landing location of the UFO.

Photographs were taken of the brick using a Kodak EasyShare® CX7430 camera. Microscope photographs were obtained on the Leika GZ6 stereomicroscope using a Canon PowerShot® A520 digital camera. Infrared spectra were then acquired from the unburned surface material, and burned surface material (both outer and interior) using the Harrick SplitPea® accessory on the Avatar 360 spectrometer.¹³ Additionally XRD spectra were obtained by

¹³ Infrared spectroscopy is used for the molecular structure identification and quantification of solids, liquids, and gases. An infrared spectrum is the result of light (in the 2 to 25 micron wavelength range) interacting with the vibrations of molecules. The particular set of vibrations of a molecule gives rise to specific spectral absorption bands, often referred to as the 'fingerprint' spectrum.

Technology of Materials, Wildomer, CA.¹⁴ The experimental procedure for this technique is in the complete report which can be found in appendix. Radioactive measurements were made with a SE International Radiation Alert[®] Monitor 5.

The Coal Samples:

•"17 April 1966, SR 224 site CC# 66- 0621: Coal Sample showing energy effect from site." This sample was taken about 16' from a circular area purported to be the UFO landing site. In this report it will be referred to as the 'contact coal'.

•"17 April 1966, SR 224 site CC# 66- 0621: Unaffected Coal Sample from site." This is a control for comparison to the above sample. It was taken 100' from the circular area.

Regular and microscope photographs were also obtained from the coal samples using the same equipment as for the brick sample. Infrared spectra were acquired from the samples. Density measurements were made by determining the amount of water weighed coal samples displaced. In addition, ash measurements were made. The samples were also tested for radiation.

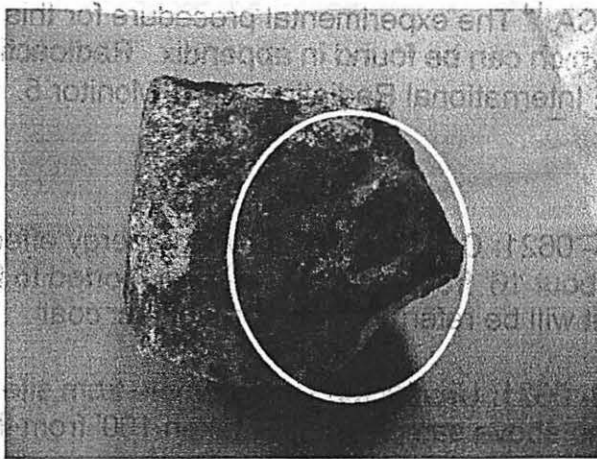
Results:

The results of the individual tests done on the samples follow. These results are summarized in the conclusions section on the page three of this report.

The Brick Analysis

Photographs: Regular photographs and microphotographs of the brick show different views of the burned area and unburned areas. Clearly there are differences. A section of the brick is blackened. The surface of this section, while smooth, appears to have bubbles underneath. The surface of the tan unburned area is coarse. Following are regular photographs of the brick showing these differences.

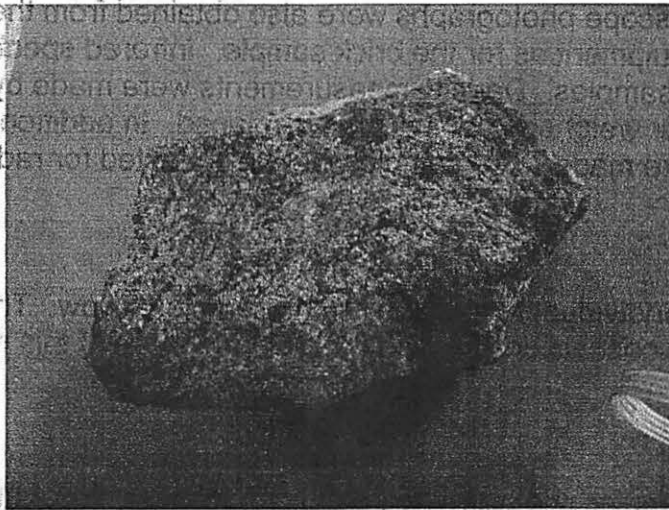
¹⁴X-ray Powder Diffraction is used for the identification and quantification of *crystalline* phases in solids and slurries. A diffraction pattern is obtained from a material by the interaction of very short wavelength light (X-rays) with the planes of atoms found in materials with long range order (crystalline matter). Constructive interference in three dimensions gives rise to the maxima found in diffractograms. Qualitative identifications can be made by computer matching the observed pattern with reference patterns in a database



Brick Burn Side – Right Side Blackened

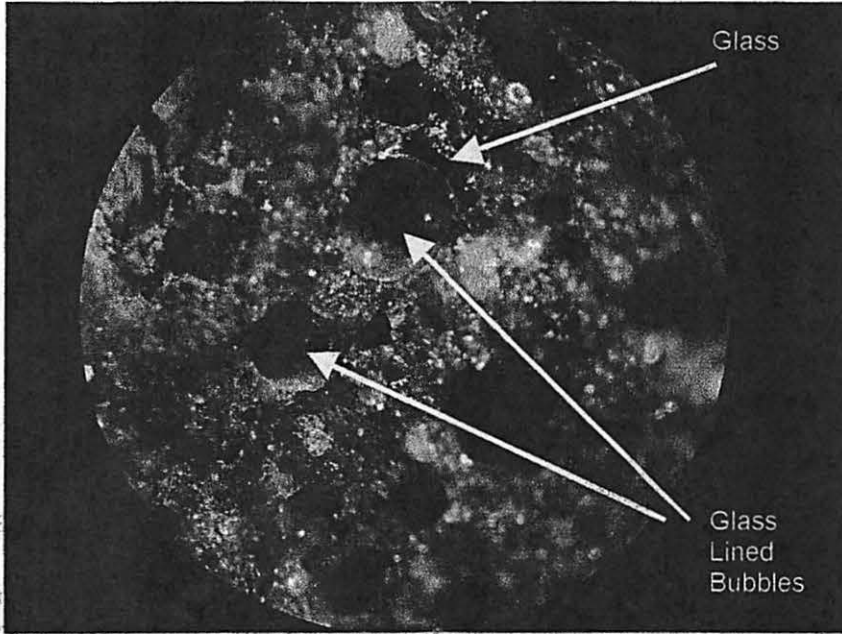


Brick Burn area – Close Up



Brick – Unburned Side

The microphotographs of the burn area (outer and inner surfaces) and an unburned area show additional information. The burn inner material clearly shows porosity, i.e. "bubbles" which appear to be glass-like, and there is glass formation in the area adjacent to the bubbles. The sample had to be exposed to high temperature for this effect to have occurred. The microphotographs follow.

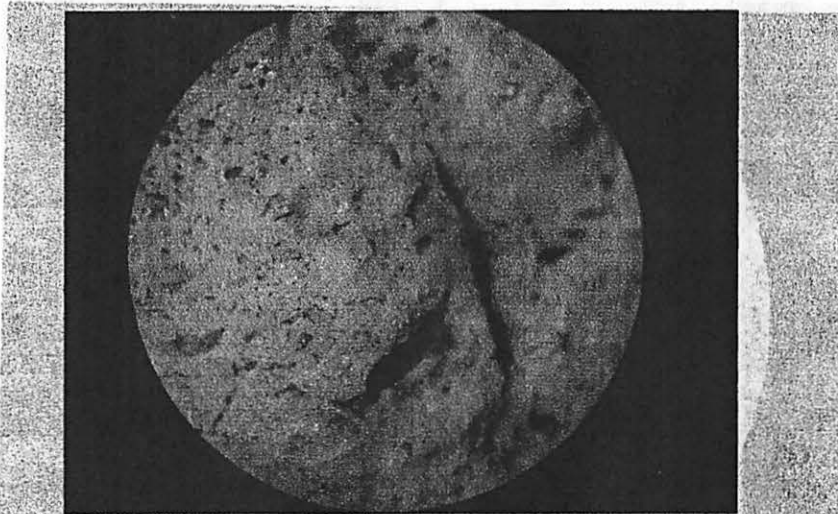


Brick Burn Material (Interior) - Note Glass formation and extreme porosity.



Brick Burn Material (Exterior) - Note smooth surface.

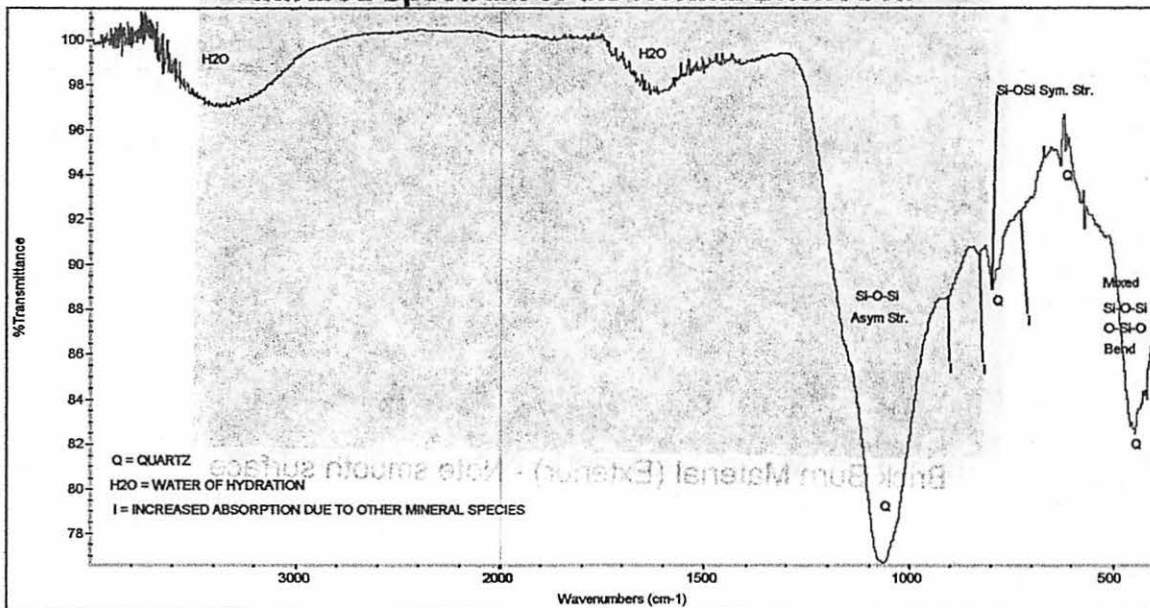
M. W. F. (1971) - Introduction of the brick burn material and its use in the production of brick burn material. The brick burn material is a porous material which is used in the production of brick burn material. The brick burn material is a porous material which is used in the production of brick burn material. The brick burn material is a porous material which is used in the production of brick burn material.



Brick Unburned Area - Note lighter color and slight porosity/coarseness.

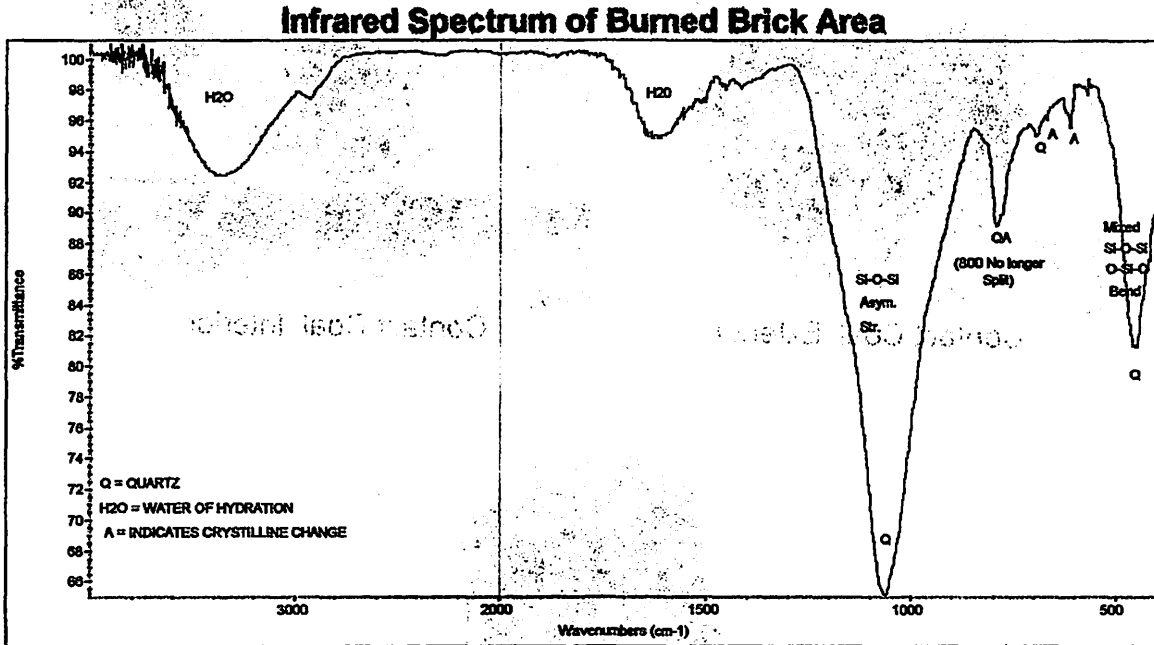
Infrared Analysis: An infrared spectrum shows the unburned light tan area of the brick is expectedly composed of mineral silicates. A quartz type silicate predominates. There are lesser amounts of other minerals, as indicated by weak, extraneous absorption not due to quartz. However, these minerals could not be identified because of the masking absorption of the quartz. (See XRD analysis for a more specific identification of the silicates below.) Following is the spectrum with pertinent bands labeled.¹⁵

Infrared Spectrum of the Normal Brick Area



¹⁵ N.B. Colthrup et al., "Introduction to Infrared and Raman Spectroscopy", Third Edition, Academic Press, Boston 1990; Jun Ojima, "Determining of Crystalline Silica in Respirable Dust Samples by Infrared Spectrophotometry in the Presence of Interferences", J. Occup. Health 2003; 45:94-103.

The spectrum of the burn material also shows quartz-type silicate, but the lack of resolution shows a change in crystalline species has occurred. As indicated by XRD below, this is due to conversion to a more amorphous, glass-like material and crystalline polymorphs such as tridymite, as well as high temperature cristobalite. The spectrum follows.



X-Ray Diffraction Analysis (XRD) analysis: (The detailed report is in the appendix.) This test more specifically identified the composition of the burned and unburned brick materials. These results are supported by the above infrared analysis. It was found that both the burned and unburned areas of the brick contain dominant amounts of quartz, and additionally smaller amounts of mullite and low temperature cristobalite were detected.

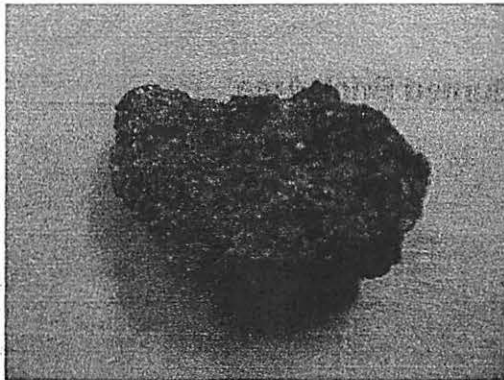
The burned brick also uniquely contains a high temperature SiO_2 polymorph phase identified as tridymite and high temperature cristobalite. There are also indications of amorphous or glassy material. This clearly shows that intense heat must have caused the formation of these materials. The detailed report from Technology of Materials can be found in the appendix.

Radiation Measurement: No radiation above background was detected.

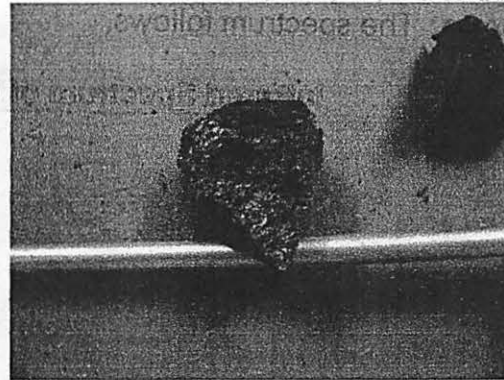
The Coal Analysis

Photographs: The photographs show the 'contact coal' has a very porous exterior and interior. That is, there are 'bubbles' throughout the sample indicating volatiles must have escaped due to high temperature. The sample reminds this analyst of coke produced from coal and crude oil distillation bottoms. Visually, it

is obvious that the sample appearance differs from that of the coal reference, which has a smooth surface and no apparent bubbles. Following are the photographs of the exterior and interior of the coal sample and the control coal.



'Contact Coal' Exterior



'Contact Coal' Interior

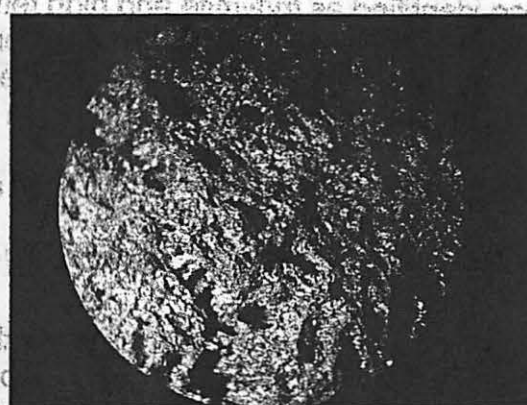


Control Coal from the area.

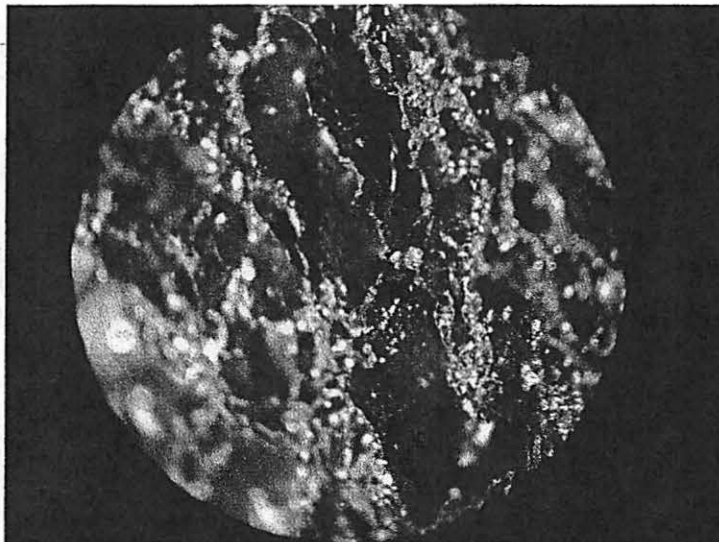
Microscope photographs more clearly show the observations cited above. The photographs show porosity throughout the 'contact coal' and non-porosity in the control coal.



Contact Coal Exterior (photograph 1)



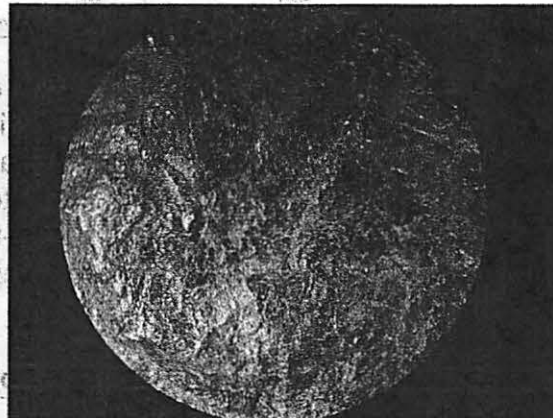
'Contact Coal' Exterior (photograph 2)



'Contact Coal' Coal Interior (higher magnification)



Control Coal (Photograph 1)

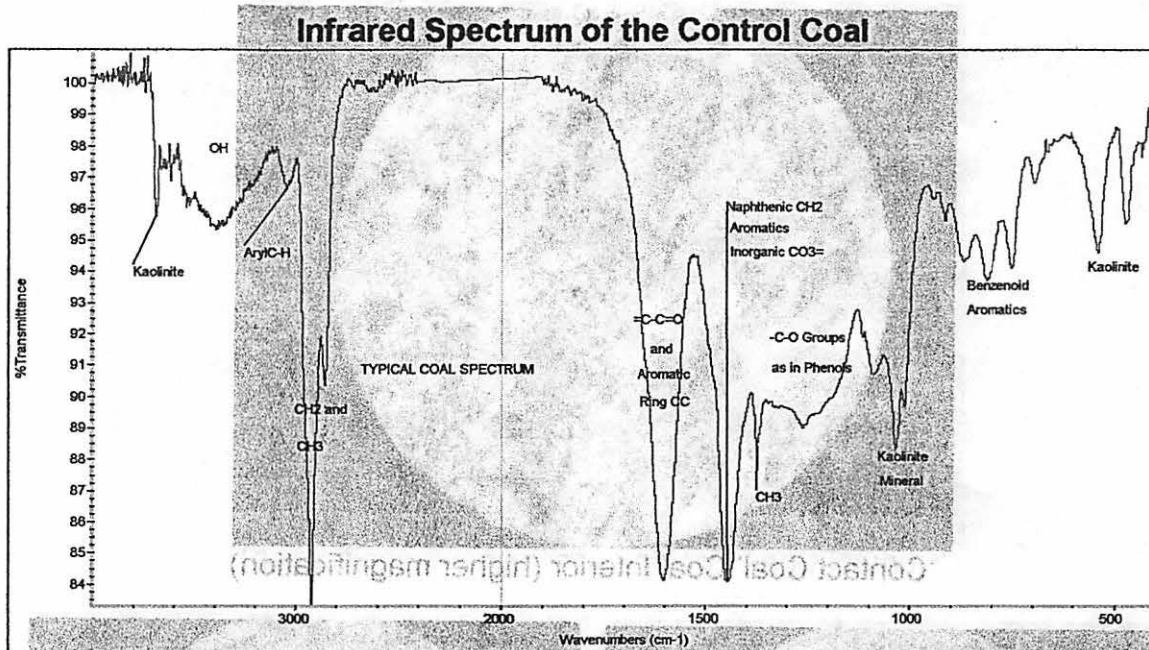


Control Coal (Photograph 2)

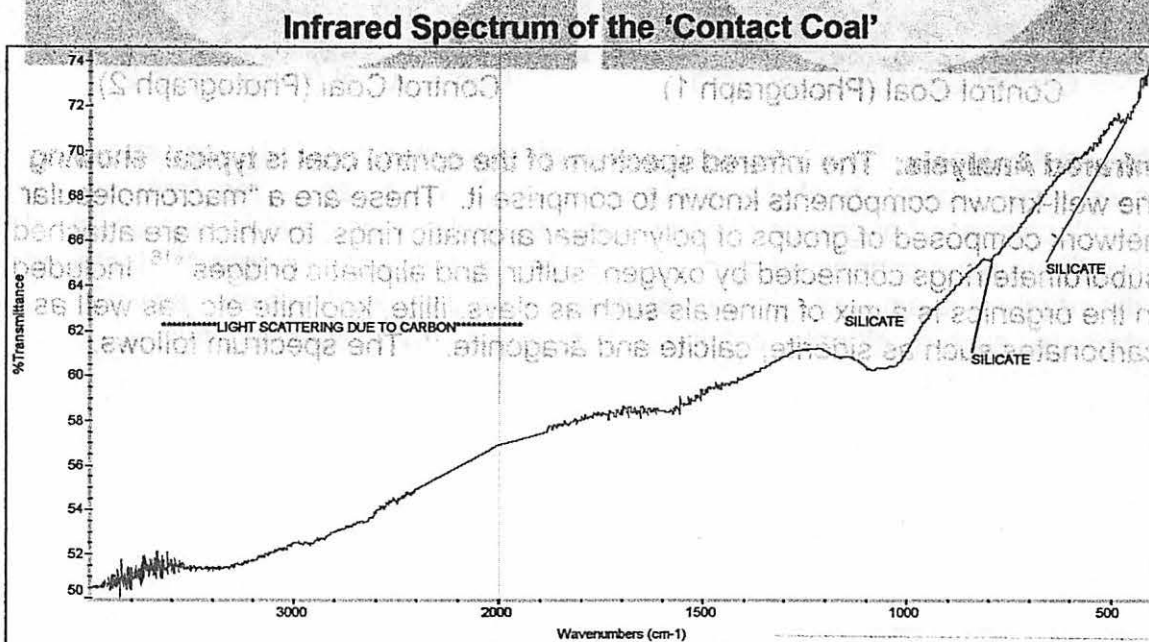
Infrared Analysis: The infrared spectrum of the control coal is typical, showing the well-known components known to comprise it. These are a "macromolecular network composed of groups of polynuclear aromatic rings, to which are attached subordinate rings connected by oxygen, sulfur, and aliphatic bridges."¹⁶ Included in the organics is a mix of minerals such as clays, illite, kaolinite etc., as well as carbonates such as siderite, calcite and aragonite.¹⁷ The spectrum follows.

¹⁶ R. A. Friedel, "Spectrometry of Fuels", Plenum Press, New York, 1970; Richard J. Lewis Sr., "Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary," Fourteenth Edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 2001.

¹⁷ "Coal", Wikipedia on line, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal>.



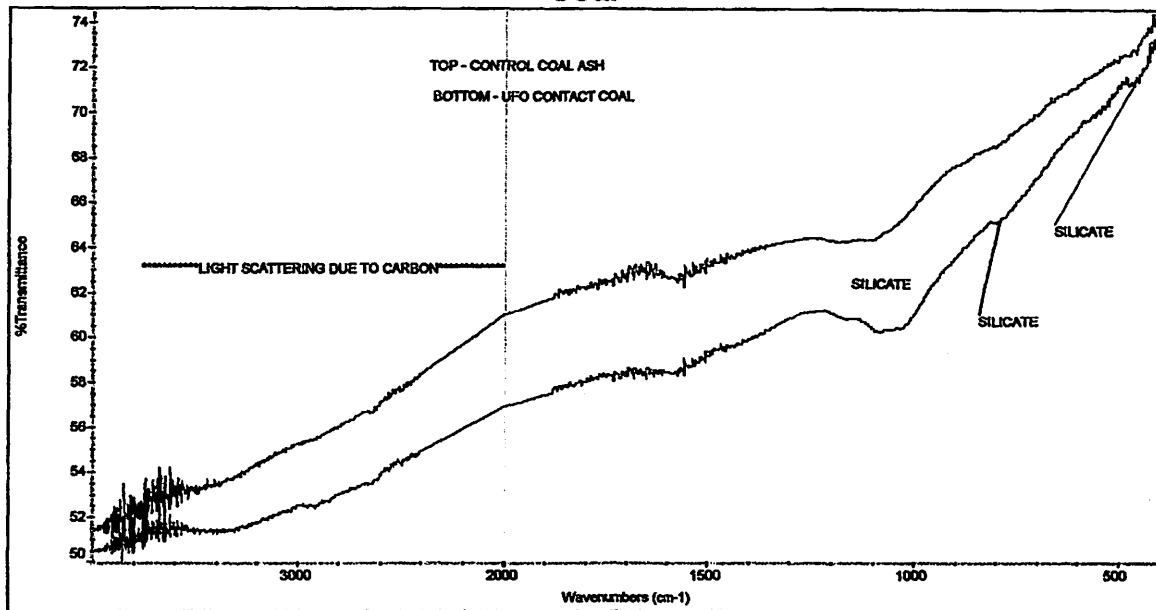
By contrast, the spectrum of the 'contact coal' is different from the above spectrum. It shows the sample is totally inorganic. Light scattering in the higher frequencies suggest carbonization. Broad unresolved absorption between 1100-1000 cm^{-1} , 800 cm^{-1} and 470 cm^{-1} indicates some silicate material. The silicate mineral appears to be primarily a quartz-type (SiO_2) or polymorph. There is no kaolinite (a clay type mineral). No organic materials are present. Following is the spectrum.



Ash: An idea of the amounts of any volatiles in the control and contact coals was determined by ashing the materials over a hot gas flame. The values are very ballpark because it was difficult to get a hot enough flame. However, it was found that the ash for the contact coal was 97 wt. % compared to the control coal 58 wt. %.¹⁸

The ashing experiment was quite revealing when an infrared spectrum of the ashed control coal was compared to the (unashed) 'contact coal'. They are quite similar and provide compelling evidence that the contact coal is probably the ashed remains of the coal in the area. The following spectra are of the contact coal and an ash of the control coal. They both indicate carbonization due to heating and some silicate.¹⁹

Infrared Spectra of the Ashed Control Coal and the (Unashed) 'Contact Coal'



Density: A crude density (specific gravity) measurement of the sample shows the 'contact coal' is significantly less (0.8 g/cc) than the control coal (1.2 g/cc). The 'contact coal' actually floats on water.

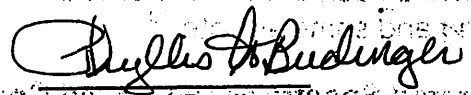
Radiation: No radiation above background was detected for either sample.

¹⁸ These were very crude measurements. The control ash is probably on the high side. A higher temperature would have been desirable for the ashing of the control coal, but was not achievable. However, the organic volatiles were effectively removed. Some very minimal spillage occurred to the 'contact coal' and no volatiles were noted to burn off. Essentially, this sample is considered to have 100 wt. % ash.

¹⁹ The silicate in the ashed 'control coal' appears different than the original kaolinite observed. The silicate is most likely a kaolinite polymorph. This would be expected because minerals may experience phase transitions at various temperatures. Certainly the ashing temperature of the control was enough to convert kaolinite to another form, e.g. perhaps mullite.

As a result of the analysis of the control and test samples, it was determined that the radiation dose to the control and test samples was approximately 0.8 Gy. This dose is significantly higher than the control dose of 0.1 Gy. The radiation dose to the control and test samples was determined by using the relationship between the radiation dose and the amount of DNA damage. It was found that the radiation dose to the control and test samples was approximately 0.8 Gy. This dose is significantly higher than the control dose of 0.1 Gy.

- William E. Jones (4)
- Mark Rodeghier
- Ted Phillips
- Rick Hilberg

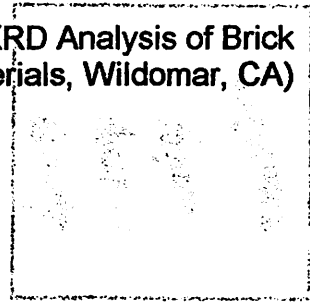

Phyllis A. Budinger



The radiation dose to the control and test samples was determined by using the relationship between the radiation dose and the amount of DNA damage. It was found that the radiation dose to the control and test samples was approximately 0.8 Gy. This dose is significantly higher than the control dose of 0.1 Gy. The radiation dose to the control and test samples was determined by using the relationship between the radiation dose and the amount of DNA damage. It was found that the radiation dose to the control and test samples was approximately 0.8 Gy. This dose is significantly higher than the control dose of 0.1 Gy.

APPENDIX

**XRD Analysis of Brick
(Technology of Materials, Wildomar, CA)**



TECHNOLOGY OF MATERIALS

11800 Old Vista Way
Wildomar, CA 95695

Sam Lyengar Ph.D.
Technical Director

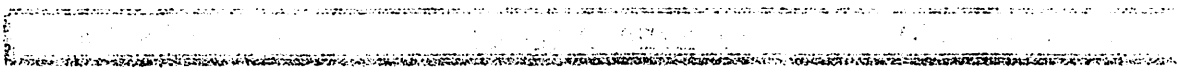
December 21, 2006

Mr. Phillip Ludwig
Technical Analyst
11700 Wood Acres Trail
Wildomar, CA 95695

Enclosed please find a report on the XRD analysis of a brick sample. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Lyengar





TECHNOLOGY OF MATERIALS

21090 Cielo Vista Way
Wildomar, CA 92595

Sam Iyengar Ph.D.
Technical Director

Ms. Phyllis Budinger
Frontier Analysis
17100 Wood Acre Trail
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

December 21, 2006

Phyllis:

Enclosed please find a report on the XRD analysis of a brick sample. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sam Iyengar

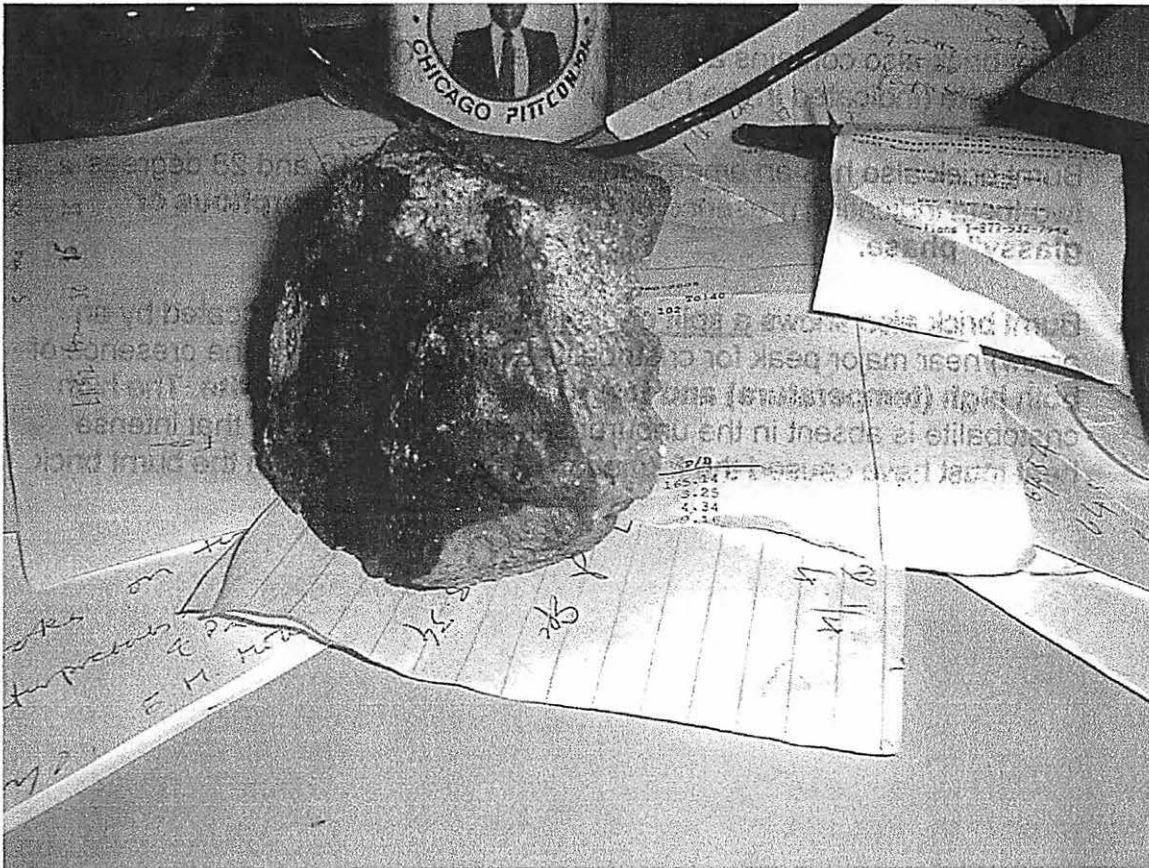
XRD Analysis of a Brick Sample

Summary:

A brick sample was received at the laboratory for characterization. The brick appears to have suffered heat effects from a UFO contact. The dark colored (burnt) as well as the light colored (unburnt) area were analyzed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) to determine their mineralogical composition. The following report summarizes the findings:

Introduction:

A photograph of brick sample is attached



Methods:

A small portion of dark and light side of the brick was removed and crushed into fine powder. The powders were packed in a holder for analysis

X-ray Diffraction (XRD)

Sample was then scanned from 5 to 55 degrees two-theta using Cu K-alpha radiation and a scintillation detector on a Phillips Diffractometer at 30 Kv and 30

ma. The resulting patterns collected on a computer were matched with the reference standards for various inorganic and organic materials stored in the JCPDS database.

Results and Discussion: XRD patterns are shown in the attached Figure. Also shown are stick patterns for reference quartz (SiO_2), cristobalite (SiO_2) and mullite ($3\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2\text{SiO}_2$) from the powder diffraction file database.

The following conclusions can be drawn:

- Both unburnt and burnt brick contains dominant amounts of **quartz**, followed by **mullite** and **cristobalite**
- Burnt brick also contains a high temperature SiO_2 polymorph phase – **Tridymite** (indicated in the Figure)
- Burnt brick also has an amorphous “halo” between 16 and 28 degrees two-theta indicating presence of significantly more “**amorphous or glassy**” phase.
- Burnt brick also shows a split or closely spaced peaks (indicated by an arrow) near major peak for cristobalite. This is because of the presence of both **high (temperature) and low (temperature) cristobalite**. The high cristobalite is absent in the unburnt sample. This suggests that intense heat must have caused the formation of high cristobalite in the burnt brick.

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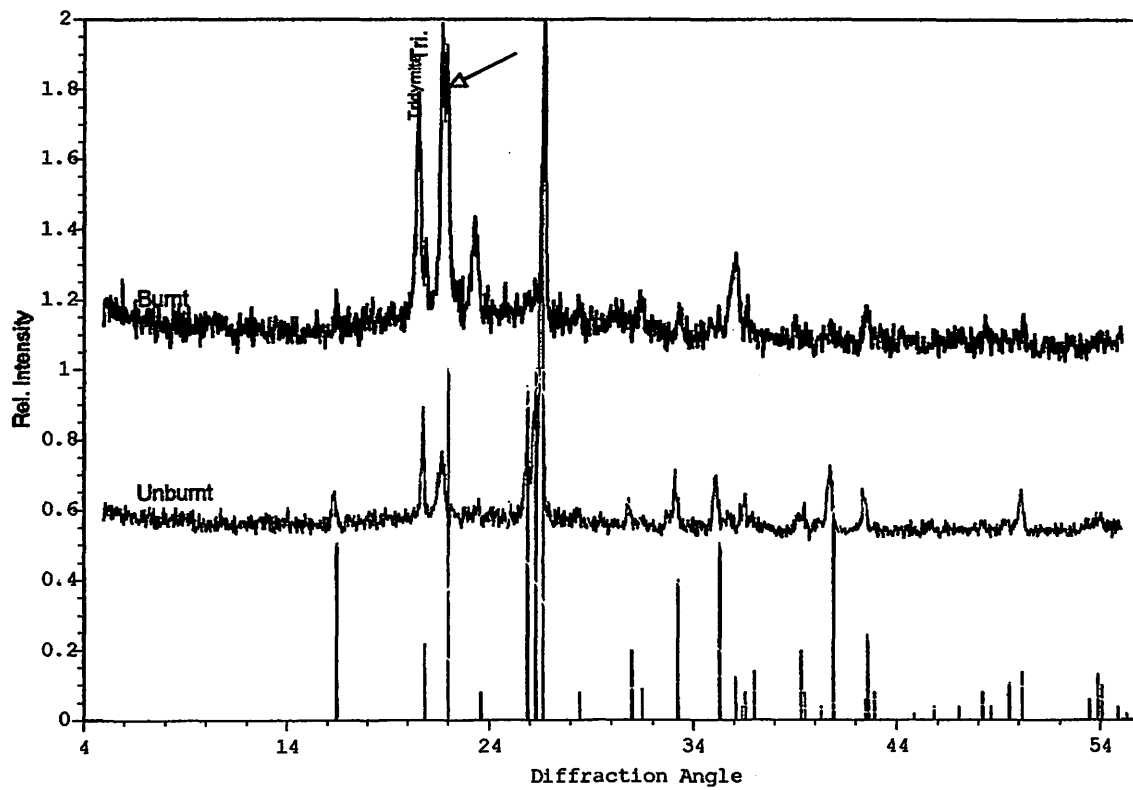
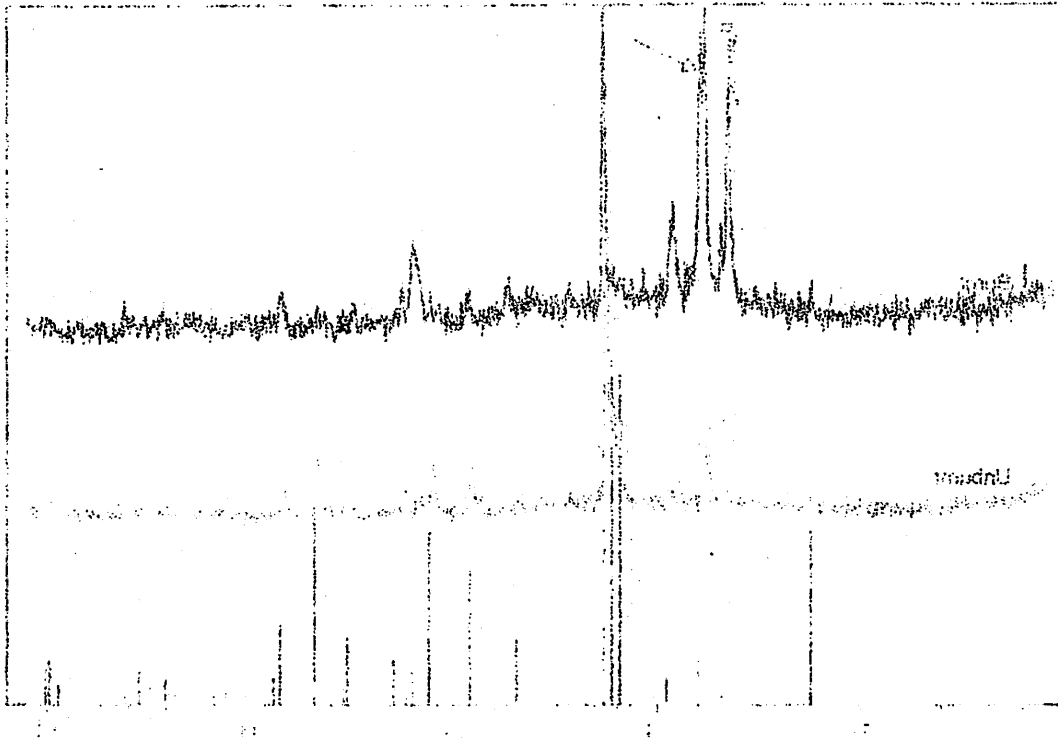


Figure 1: XRD patterns for Powdered samples with stick patterns for reference crystalline SiO₂ (red), cristobalite (green) and mullite (black)



Chromatogram showing the separation of components in a mixture. The x-axis represents Time (min) and the y-axis represents Abundance. The major peak is labeled with its retention time, approximately 5.5 minutes.