

Betty Hill Comments

October 15, 2016

The analysis of the dress Betty Hill wore during her abduction is one of the most fascinating of my collection. This was literally a new dress that was reduced to a rag as a result of a bizarre event. The analysis did not confirm an alien presence, but it did support her story of the event. In no way did it provide evidence which would refute her account of the incident. DNA analysis was done after the report was written and is included after my analytical report. This and a deeper review of the data have subsequently allowed my speculations to become more crystallized.

A Brief Synopsis of the Event

The background of this event and dress history are repeated here (besides the analytical report) to highlight some clues, which along with the dress analysis, lead to plausible speculations at the end of these comments.

On September 19, 1961, Betty and Barney Hill, along with dachshund "Delsey", were returning home (Portsmouth, New Hampshire) from an extended weekend pleasure trip to Canada. Their itinerary took them to Niagara Falls, then to Montreal, and home. They were traveling south on US Route 3 in central New Hampshire. At approximately 10:45 p.m. they noted a "bright star" which appeared to move erratically. They continued to observe it as it apparently paced them and got closer and closer. Barney stopped to walk Delsey and observe the craft through binoculars. Fearing the possibility that there might be bears in the area, he retrieved a 0.22 pistol from the trunk. They stopped a second time at the "Old Man of the Mountain" in Franconia Notch and Betty and Barney looked at the object through binoculars, observing a spinning, flattened circular disk that appeared to be lighted on only one side.

About two miles north of North Woodstock, in North Lincoln, NH, the object "swooped down" and hovered about 100 feet in the air. No spinning was noted. A blue-white fluorescent glow shined through its windows. The object appeared to be the size of a four-engine aircraft. Barney stopped the car and got out. He could see several figures dressed in "shiny black uniforms" that he told NICAP investigator Walter Webb, were "somehow not human". Afraid that they were about to be abducted, he jumped in the car and raced down the road. Suddenly they heard "a series of short loud buzzes which they described as sounding like a dropped tuning fork. They reported they could feel these buzzing sounds in their auto." (Project Blue Book report quote) The Hills felt a tingling sensation and became drowsy. The next thing they remembered was a second series of beeps as they were driving in the area of Ashland, NH, about 35 miles south of their previous location. It took several more miles before they became fully awake. The craft was gone.

When they arrived home missing time was noted, but they were not fully aware that it amounted to a full two hours until November. They both felt **clammy and dirty**, and Barney's lower abdomen was bothering him. Their wristwatches had quit working, and there were unexplained shiny marks on their car that corresponded to the area of their

vehicle where the buzzing sounds seemed to originate. When they placed a compass over these spots, it would whirl, but stabilized on other areas of the vehicle. Both Barney and Betty sought therapy, and eventually hypnosis was utilized by Dr. Benjamin Simon, who had no knowledge of, or interest in, UFOs. Yet the hypnosis suggested that both Barney and Betty had been abducted and subjected to physical examinations.

The History of the Dress

Fast forward to 2001 when I became aware that the dress that Betty wore during the abduction existed. I read about it in the MUFON journal which was a 40th anniversary commemoration issue of the Betty Hill event. I contacted Kathleen Marden (Betty's niece) for swatches of the dress, and they soon arrived.

To my knowledge many details on the history of the dress worn during the abduction event are not documented, though some are. The dress Betty wore on that night **was new**. She had worn it only one other day during that weekend, but not the day before the abduction. Therefore, it had never been laundered. The weather on the night of the event was unusually warm for that time of year, and it was not exceptionally humid. When the abduction began, Betty recalls that two beings were on each side and escorted her to the craft with **their "hands" under her armpits**. Betty related she put up a "helluva fight" before she crossed the threshold of the craft. I asked whether she hit with her hands. She said, "No, I kicked like hell, because my arms were restricted." The dress **obviously suffered stresses**. While on the craft, she remembers that half way through the physical examination they decided to remove the dress. They had **difficulties with the zipper**. Once removed, the dress ended up on the **floor of the craft "in a heap"**.

After the event, when Betty and Barney arrived home, she undressed to go to bed. Betty related the following in a letter to me dated October 31, 2001. "When I returned home that morning, I put my dress, folded, in the bottom of my closet, where it remained for several days. When I removed it, it was covered **with a pink powder**. So I threw it in the trash, but quickly changed my mind. I decided to put it outdoors in the sun. The powder blew away, but leaving the stains." The pink stains were most prominent **where the aliens** purportedly **touched the dress**. Betty did not notice any odor emanating from the dress. Other damage to the dress was also noted. The lining on the right side of the dress was torn from the waist to the hem, and the **top of the zipper was ripped**. Because of the damage to the dress, it could never be worn again. The dress hung on a hanger in the Betty's closet for 40 years. It had not been enclosed in a protective bag. No disinfectants, moth repellent, or other chemicals were ever sprayed in the closet.

Occasionally, the dress would be taken out and shown to visitors. I might add that Barney immediately had his suit cleaned after the event, and it never "developed" a pink powder, nor was it discolored. There was no damage to his clothing.

Analytical Objective

The objective was to identify anything anomalous that would be evidence for the abduction. Many tests were done to search for foreign materials. DNA analysis was done after data from other testing were interpreted. This analysis was done because I felt the evidence I had found so far indicated there was a possibility that alien DNA may be on the dress. (Natural oils and protein substances seemed to be indicators.) However, judging from the dress history, I did not know if any intact DNA from the aliens would remain after this amount of time. But it was worth a shot.

Analysis Summary

The discolored pink/magenta stain areas of the dress have suffered chemical effects on both the dye and the fiber, that is, it has been biologically attacked. In fact, there is primarily a biologically derived material on the dress that appears to be mildew, and this has suffered some degradation over the years. (Chemically it has a protein-like structure.) The highest concentration of mildew was in the pink areas. Moreover, mildew was found to be mostly on the exterior of the dress not interior (except for the right underarm swatch which was totally permeated.) It was definitely not from body respiration or elimination products from Betty.

There are trace amounts a natural ester and common dust components typical of what you would find on a dress that has hung in the closet for four decades.

There's DNA from assorted sources such as soil bacteria (alpha proteobacterium), human, spider, and possibly mouse and bovine. There is no evidence for unidentified DNA which I had hoped for. If alien DNA were present, it would not match up to anything in our DNA data banks, because there would be no references.

Speculations

Betty told me there was a "most unpleasant", unidentifiable odor on the craft. She said the smell was similar to marigolds. I think that this odor emanated from the craft occupants and was the result of natural body elimination of oils/respiratory agents. These transferred to the dress on contact. The pink areas are most profound around the top of the dress, especially around the sleeves where the aliens had gripped Betty as they escorted her to and from the craft. The moist, damp biological components found on the dress were probably also on Betty's skin, causing her to feel clammy and dirty. It may also be an indication there was high humidity in the craft, i.e. above the human comfort zone.

I don't believe the original deposited substance on the dress directly caused the discoloration to pink. Betty found the discoloration days later when she took the dress out of the closet. The substance on the dress was probably moist, so the moisture was not allowed to dissipate because the dress was folded. This moist substance, probably slightly acidic, served as a nutrient for a natural biological growth (most likely mildew). This grew. Days later the dress finally dried, and a pink powdery residue from the growth remained. It

was this mildew-like material that probably caused the discoloration and possibly interacted with the dress fiber. The dress interior and lining, being drier, probably suffered at most minimal effects.

On the left sleeve DNA analysis identified alpha proteobacterium. This is bacteria found in soils and water. This soil bacteria could be picked up anywhere. If the dress was on the ground, some of the bacteria could have easily gotten there. I found this very interesting. This bacteria was located on the front of the left sleeve. If Betty was wearing the dress, she would have to be in a prone position flat on the ground at some point. This is highly unlikely. There is one time that we know the dress was "on the ground". This was when the dress was removed from Betty in the craft and thrown crumpled on the craft floor. Clearly some of this bacteria could easily have been from soil/dirt on the floor brought in on footwear worn by Betty and the aliens. The abduction took place down a dirt road! It has since been paved.

There is informative evidence regarding the altercation between the aliens and Betty as they escorted her to the craft. The alien on the right appears to have taken the brunt of her attack, because this is where the lining is ripped. **Also**, it is noted that the right sleeve swatch is totally permeated with the mildew-like material, which may indicate a tighter grip on her was necessary. The left sleeve, or any other of the stained swatches, are not totally permeated.

Acknowledgement

I thank Kathleen Marden for reviewing these comments and making the account of the "Event" much more accurate, detailed and polished.