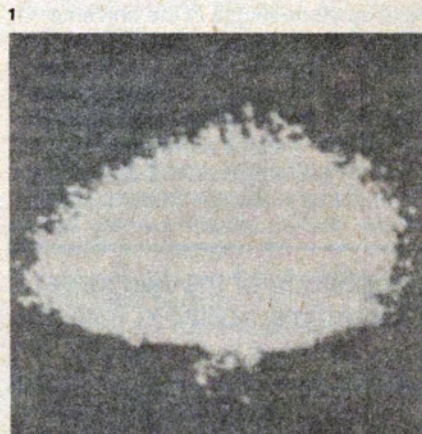
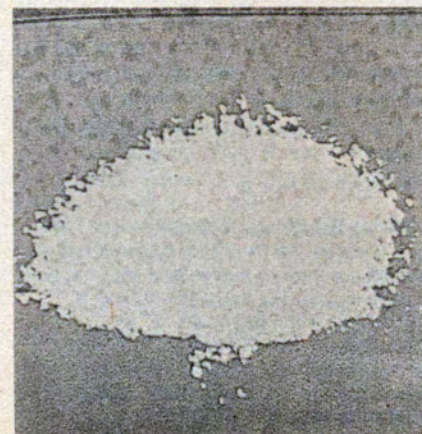


THE MAYHER-MIAMI MOVIE

UFO Photo file



The various computer modes that judged the Mayher movie to be authentic: (1) A frame from the original movie; (2) The digitized computer image; (3) Digitized reversal method; (4) The edge enhancement with cursor showing a disc profile; (5) Digitized trace program for edges (pixels); (6) Color contouring—note that the center is a darker shade indicating an image with substance; and (7) Color contouring. The gas envelope has been removed revealing the true disc shape.



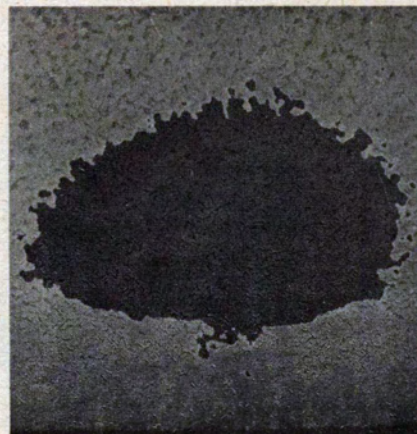
Of all the controversial aspects involving UFOs the authenticity of saucer photographs is one of the most debated. Over the past 30 years almost all UFO photographs presented to the public have been challenged as either an honest error (such as a flaw in processing or some rare natural phenomenon) or worse, a hoax.

Developments over the past two years in computer enhancement and analysis of UFO photographs, largely the work of William Spaulding of Ground Saucer Watch (GSW), now make it possible to identify the object photographed. These techniques were developed as part of the U.S. space program and NASA's need to enhance and analyze photographs sent back from American space probes.

GSW has been actively evaluating hundreds of UFO photographs to determine the exact nature of the image on film. In each case computer image enhancement testing was performed on the photograph that "passed" the preliminary analysis. The total analysis included: edge enhancement, color contouring, digitizing (computerizing), electronic densitometry, and pixel (picture cell) measurements for distance factoring.

This new monthly column will present UFO photographs representing, to date, the strongest evidence of extraordinary flying objects that are not considered to be lens anomalies, processing errors, montages, models (supported or thrown in front of the camera), or misinterpreted conventional objects.

A Computer Analysis



of UFO Movies Taken by Ralph Mayher—USMC

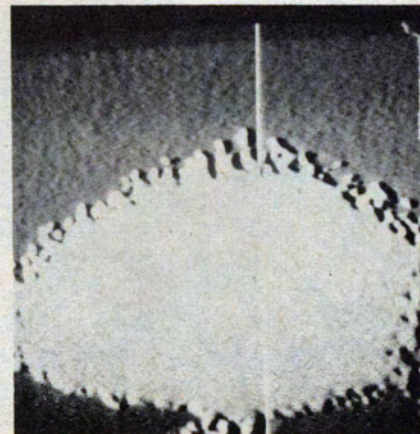
On July 29, 1952, Ralph Mayher was visiting some friends in Miami, Fla., a family named Goldstein. He was told that several members of the family observed what they believed to be an unidentified flying object the previous night. Mayher, being slightly interested in the phenomenon (possibly due to the "Flap of '52 and its widespread media coverage), rented a 16 mm movie camera in hopes he could photograph the mysterious aerial object if it should return.

At 9:30 p.m. a brilliant object was spotted, and Mayher, an experienced photographer, immediately unpacked his movie camera.

The UFO was flying parallel to the horizon, moving quickly over the ocean. Finally the object came into full view and Mayher photographed 40 frames of film. The UFO then disappeared in a tremendous burst of speed.

The Mayher incident, at this point, becomes quite intriguing. There is positive evidence that both the military and the intelligence agencies were involved in the case, and to such an extent that the complete Mayher film has never been released by these government agencies.

Because the Mayher-Miami UFO movie was taken in circumstances where the possibility of a hoax is nil (the presence of multiple witnesses, plus unusually clear photographic evidence) it was an obvious candidate for the computer enhancement evaluation technique. A total of three frames were





utilized, revealing a bright, roughly circular shaped object. Since the angular size increases in the three consecutive frames it is obvious the object was traveling at three times the speed of sound. Camera factor: 24 frames per second @ 1/45 second (exposure).

Edge Enhancement: (initial test):

The pictures were submitted to edge enhancement to determine details of the surface (face) and edges of the image. During a thorough scan of the object's surface, a bright, distinct shape was discerned within the total image. In two of the frames, a disc shape is observed in the center of the circular, seemingly gaseous mass. The edges around the entire periphery were tested, and it is the opinion of the photo technicians that this outer area represents a tenuous envelope.

The edge enhancement also proved there was no supporting linear structure above the image, which in some of the fraudulent film previously studied, showed the object dangling from wires or thread. There was a total lack of any other features on the film, therefore, no celestial bodies, landscaping, or reference points.

Color Contour with Profilers (mode two):

The same three frames were subjected to the coloring contouring technique. Analysis revealed that the center of the image was a different color than the periphery, indicative of an "object" with substance. For example an object that has a thicker center, such as a baseball, will display various bands of color. Conversely, a flat object, as in

the case of a book, will display a solid or single tone color across the image's surface.

The profiler cursor, an electronic line positioned "through" the subject area that interprets density, luminosity, illumination flux, and reflectivity, and then in turn converts this data to the image's shape, was applied to the Mayher movie, and the following data was obtained:

- a) The profiler revealed a disc-shaped object within the larger amorphous mass;
- b) The aspect ratio (ie, the diameter to thickness), was approximately six to one;
- c) The peak level of the profiler revealed that the image was extremely bright.

Pixel Testing: (a method of determining distance):

The edges of the UFO in each movie frame appear wavy and broken, with some smoother areas representing a circular image. Selected points on these edges were scanned, computerized, and then electronically enlarged to such a point that groups (squares) of individual pixels were observed. It is the placement and straightness, or lack of the same, that determines the distance of an image. The pixels, when electronically positioned, were wavy and extremely broken, indicative of a vast distance between the camera and the subject.

Digitizing (a resolution factor):

Each frame was digitized for image clarity. Each photograph was processed to reduce extraneous material,

background data, and enhance the image being analyzed.

Additional information was now available on the images as the resolution level increased with each stage of enhancement. The new data enabled technicians to perform an accurate densitometry evaluation, using digital methods, and a superior interpretation of the surface of the UFO.

Conclusions:

It is the consensus of the GSW photograph analyzers that the image contained in the three frames of the Mayher film represents an extraordinary flying craft. The following data was formulated after the analysis:

- The object was at a great distance from the camera and witnesses, close to one mile;
- The density of the UFO is greater than a full moon or the brightest planet photographed under the same environmental conditions. The brilliance is comparable to a first magnitude stars;
- A calculation of the angular size of the image, at a distance of more than 5,000 plus feet, establishes the actual size of the UFO at 50 feet in diameter;
- The speed of the object varied according to the visual estimates of the witnesses. Photometric data from the three frames reveal that the UFOs angular speed was extremely fast, more than 2,000 miles per hour;
- The true shape of the object is a disc. However, no other details of the object were detected (portholes, protrusions, etc.).

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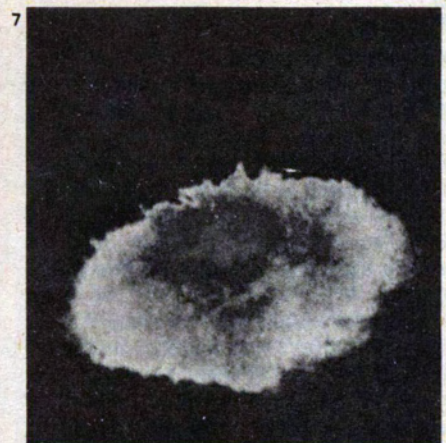
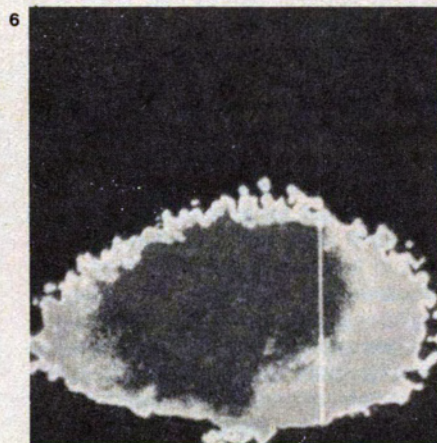
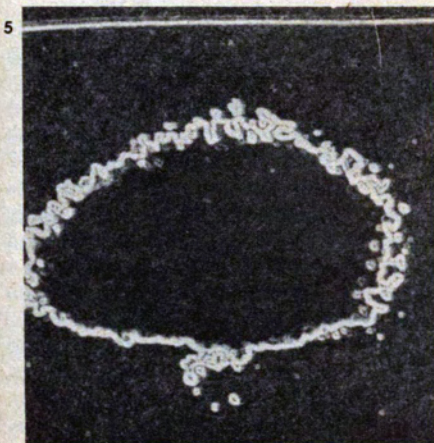


PHOTO FILE

(Continued from page 29)

William H. Spaulding, Director of GSW-Western Division said, "It is further concluded that if our organization could obtain the rest of the film from the government (or military), it would result in some of the strongest supportive data ever obtained on an unidentified flying object.

"The information extracted from the few frames in our possession has yielded sound evidence that the images represent an extraordinary flying craft, presently beyond our technology."

The controversy over UFO photographs continues to rage today. But with the new space age computer techniques now available to us, the truth about the reality of UFOs will slowly but surely be uncovered. Any reader interested in submitting UFO photographs for analysis is invited to write the author, care of *UFO Report*, 333 Johnson Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11206.

In the next issue another unusual photographic UFO incident will be examined in "The UFO Photo File" ★
