



6219 Palma Boulevard #210
St. Petersburg, Florida 33715
(813) 867-3533

July 10, 1990

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Letters to the Editor
The Tampa Tribune
P.O. Box 191
Tampa, FL 33601

Editor:

Your July 7 AP article on the Mutual UFO Network's news conference states that, regarding the allegedly hoaxed Gulf Breeze photographs, MUFON's Director, Walter Andrus, "made it clear the organization considers them authentic until proven otherwise."

Andrus and others are certainly entitled to the view that alien visitors, ESP, astrology, etc. are "authentic until proven otherwise". However, within the ground rules of science, novel claims (be they of UFOs or ^{cold} fusion power) are considered not to be authentic until proven so by the proponents and confirmed by independent, skeptical analysis.


People who believe in UFOs ought not be ridiculed. But self-styled "scientific" ufologists such as Andrus invite ridicule by their blatantly unscientific behavior.

The Tampa Tribune, Saturday
July 21, 1990 12-A

UFOs and Science

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GARY P. POSNER, M.D.
Founder, Tampa Bay Skeptics,
St. Petersburg

Sincerely,

Gary P. Posner, M.D.
Founder, Tampa Bay Skeptics