

2008 report was network feature

Investigator reveals Cape Fear River case details

EDITOR'S NOTE: This North Carolina alien abduction case made headlines within the ufology collective in 2008 and its prominence heightened by the Discovery Channel's mini-series "UFOs over Earth" of which the first episode, "Fayetteville Incident" was centered upon this terrifying event. In this article, Norman Gagnon shares a few salient elements pertaining to this case that were not circulated outside the team of MUFON investigators or the "UFOs over Earth" production crew that took part in this investigation. Gagnon also includes a recent interview conducted with abductee Chris Bledsoe in March that reveals interesting outcomes to his extraordinary experience. Please note that Mr. Bledsoe waited a little more than 12 months before filling his report with MUFON.

by Norman Gagnon
STAR Team Field Investigator

MUFON case number: US10102007-0005. Primary Investigator: Steve McGee, MUFON FI, North Carolina.

On January 8, 2007, Chris Bledsoe, a well-respected businessman and pi-



lot, with his son "JR" and three adult friends were fishing on the banks of the Cape Fear River in Hope Mills, NC. Just before dark, JR wandered off into the woods to see deer feeding as Chris Bledsoe decided to walk up the access dirt road away from the river.

As Bledsoe exited the path out of the woods and into the open field that led to the main road, he noticed at a distance three large orbs hovering silently

close to the ground and then ascending over the trees and slowly moving towards his direction. He sensed that the orbs were aware of his presence. Frightened by this, Bledsoe quickly headed back down the road to meet his friends by river side and then he asked them whether they had seen his son. They replied, no. Bledsoe, in a panic,

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MUFON radio with Host Steve Hudgeons now on KGRA



Director of Investigations Steve Hudgeons is show host.

by Steve Hudgeons
Director of Investigations

The MUFON Radio Show is a monthly two-hour broadcast designed to showcase the latest MUFON information and is divided into segments.

The first 30-minute segment will always be Roger Marsh with a UFO Traffic Report. The next 30-minute

segment will consist of a rotation of different speakers such as Robert Powell, the President of the MUFON Scientific Review Board; Kathleen Marden, Director of Abductions; Chuck Zukowski, Director of Animal Mutilations; Fletcher Gray, Star Team Manager; Clifford

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the scientific study of UFOs
for the benefit of humanity.

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director's message

Where in the world is the Captain?

By David MacDonald



Executive Director David MacDonald at the National Atomic Testing Museum.

Several months ago I wrote to you about how important I thought it was to get out and meet the people of MUFON. Well, the results have been overwhelming. I have been asked to speak at so many functions it is hard to keep up. Some months have involved several presentations.

For example, last month we were in Flint, Michigan, giving a presentation to one of Bill Konkolesky's state meetings.

Bill put on quite a gathering, well attended and enthusiastically received. He had a great line-up of training and presentations and we picked up several new members.

That meeting came on the heels of Nashville and Arizona. But no matter where we present or how worn down I can become, the results are amazing. Actually being able to meet our members and potential members makes it all worthwhile.

Shaking hands, giving hugs, sharing dinners and making friends is one of my most important and rewarding duties.

This month we will place a monu-

mental feather in our cap as I travel to Las Vegas to give a presentation at the Smithsonian Institution's "Atomic Testing Museum." I am willing to bet that this is the first time anyone from MUFON was ever given such a unique and prestigious opportunity to "pitch" MUFON at one of this institution's museums.

Oh, by the way, MUFON also has an exhibit within that same museum!

The upshot of all this is that MUFON is now in a position of stature never before possessed in our history. We are sought after, consulted with, recognized and respected like never before.

Now, that does not mean that we don't have our detractors.

There will always be a few sniveling whiners who have not gotten the memo. And if they have, they could not read it.

There will always be those who just will not accept the fact that they have lost.

They will continue their childlike ranting in the face of the truth and the truth is that they are wrong and that MUFON is at the top of our game.

in this issue



Peter Davenport has a conundrum - reviewing multiple photos recently sent to him of rather suspicious looking creatures. His regular column begins on page 16.

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By Roger Marsh
Editor

editor's note

MUFON does radio

The monthly MUFON Radio show kicked off the first Friday in April with Robert Powell giving us some insight into the workings of the MUFON Science Review Board. After some rigorous filtering, Robert said there are about 5 to 10 "good" UFO reports each month - a list they are assembling with a goal of presenting the top cases for 2012 at the annual Symposium this year in Las Vegas.

Executive Director Dave MacDonald shared the microphone during the last hour with Host and Director of Investigations Steve Hudgeons to talk about MUFON growth and some extraordinary documentation that's being reviewed for authenticity - possibly another important addition to the annual Symposium this year. Have you purchased your ticket yet?

At the start of each show, I will be giving a UFO Traffic Report each month, based on my work published daily at Examiner.com. Read the story beginning on page 1 for a list of the rotational guests each month - it's quite a line-up. The show is broadcast on the Internet via KGRARadio.com with Producer Race Hobbs. The show is live the first Friday of each month beginning at 9 p.m. ET, for two hours, but past shows can be heard from the web site archives.

I will also be offering the latest MUFON news weekly at Huffington Post now as a Blogger with the potential that the news will be picked up by their sister news distributor, America Online at aol.com. All of my work there can be seen at huffingtonpost.com/roger-marsh.

One week Blogging for HuffPost and they asked me to join in on a 30-minute broadcast from Huffington Post Live, produced from their AOL California



studio with Host Jacob Soboroff. I was one of three guests with HuffPost UFO writer Lee Spiegel and SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute Senior Astronomer Seth Shostak.

The piece can be viewed at: <http://live.huffingtonpost.com/r/segment/seti-extraterrestrial-life/5159ee17fe344451e9000550>

I think I was kind to Seth by suggesting that SETI and MUFON might be searching for something very different - maybe it's an apples and oranges thing. With their annual budget of between \$1 million and \$2 million, they scan the distant star systems hoping for an intelligent signal. But I pointed out that we are researching a very real phenomena happening right here on the planet's surface - one we are quite certain is operating in an intelligent manner, but we just do not yet know the source of that intelligence.

Seth, by contrast, was rather nasty near the end of the segment basically suggesting that our search right here on Planet Earth has never turned over a single clue - not a single case - that suggests alien visitation. If we had, he said, that case would be in the Smithsonian Institution. Perhaps columnist Stanton Friedman can take on Mr. Shostak in an upcoming piece. He was too funny to respond to on the show.

The May *Journal* is packed with interesting stories and columns this month - but don't forget to head on back to page 9 for the first in a three-part series as the Leonard Stringfield notebooks are opened up for scholarly inspection.

Cape Fear River abduction case revisited

Continued from page 1

took off into the woods looking for him.

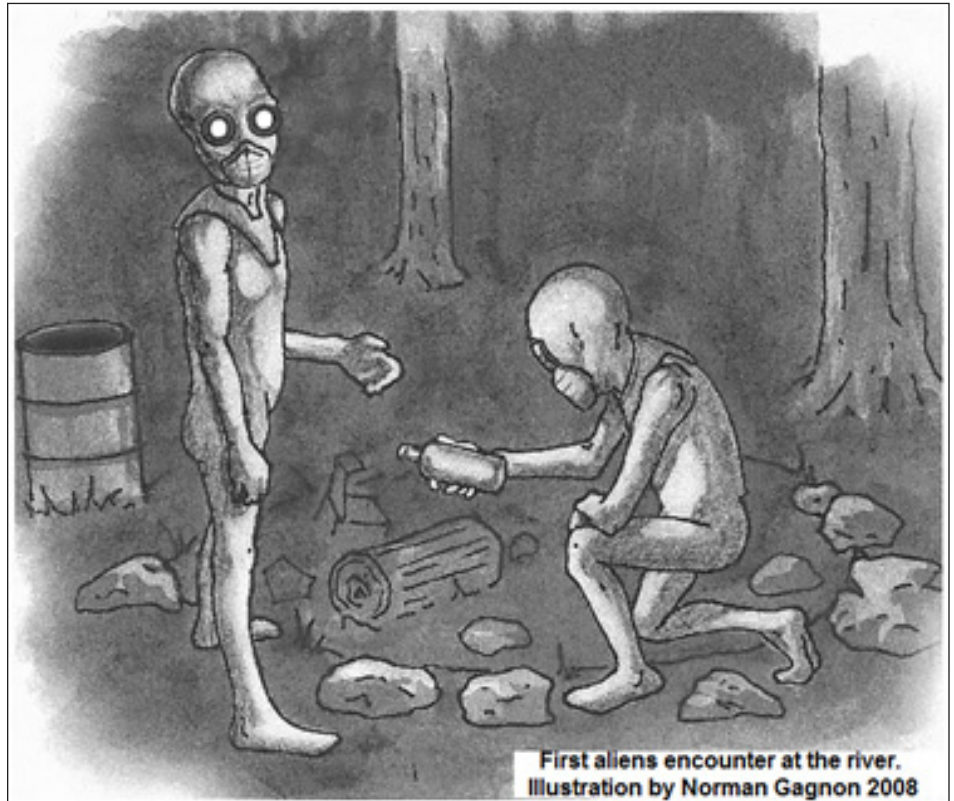
Soon JR reappeared, also in a panicked state, telling his father what he saw. He described two red orbs floating a few feet off of the ground at a distance. Then as he was walking back from the woods and to the treeless area next to the river, he saw two small humanoids at the fire pit apparently examining the debris as one picked up an empty bottle.

JR described these entities as small in stature, wearing some sort of chest plate and with strange goggles that were flashing red - scanning between both lenses. As both entities noticed him, they abruptly ran away. JR, frightened at what he saw, remained hidden at the edge of the woods until he heard his father calling him.

He met with his father and both hurried back to the river's edge to meet the others, and suddenly, they all witnessed about eight stars moving randomly in the night sky. Next, three large, white lights flew over them and converged across the river about 300 yards away and descended behind the trees. At this time, the three men dropped their fishing gear and they all ran back to Bledsoe's pickup truck and he quickly drove back up and out of the forest's entrance.

Within the same field where Bledsoe first saw the three orbs, they all encountered a large, brilliant, white object hovering in front of them about 200 yards away. Bledsoe's description of this UFO:

Oval shaped with multiple rotating protrusions radiating from all around its body, looking like a giant sea urchin. The UFO was hovering about 20 feet off of the ground and the size was approximately 40 feet. The UFO then suddenly rose over the trees and shot off at a distance. Shaken by all of this, Bledsoe then drove his friends back to their homes.



Landing circle in grass. Norman Gagnon image.

Upon returning home, father and son were pretty traumatized that night and were unable to sleep. About 1:30 a.m., they heard a strange vibrational tremor coming from above their house and Bledsoe walked out to inspect the area but did not see anything. After a half hour or so, the dogs from the outside kennel were reacting violently and barking wildly along with their household Chesapeake Bay retriever, Rose.

As Bledsoe opened the backdoor, Rose ran out and took chase into the darkened woods towards the southwest end of the yard, with Bledsoe not far behind her.

Shortly after, Bledsoe reached the edge of his property and came face to face with the entity! The entity stood still as Bledsoe, frozen in awe, stared back at it for a few seconds and then it disappeared.

Strike Team for Area Research (STAR) Investigation

The initial portion of this report is based on my first on-site investigation with Christopher Bledsoe and his son JR conducted on February 23-24, 2008. Additional findings are also disclosed that were centered on my June 18, 19, 20 inquiries of that same year. The purpose of my deployments, which were under the direction of then MUFON International Director James Carrion and Deputy Director of Investigations Jim DeManche, was to retrace the steps of the main witnesses, to collect potential evidence at both close encounter trace sites and to visit with local law enforcement agencies. Field Investigator McGee was unable to join me during the first phase of the investigation due to important family obligations. The evidentiary material that I exhibited during the June “Fayetteville Incident” production shoot was unfortunately edited out from the episode.

February 23-24, 2008

A visual survey and environmental readings of both alien encounter sites were conducted. No hot spots were detected with the TriField electromagnetic detector and the Geiger counter readings were within standard tolerances (low CPM clicks per minute).

I began my investigation at Chris Bledsoe’s 4-acre property of which the second alien encounter took place during the early morning hours of January 9, 2007. As Bledsoe escorted me through his backyard we approached the southwest corner of his property and he took a few steps into the woods and pointed at the exact spot where he saw the entity, right under a large branch.

Humanoid description

The entity was 4 feet tall with a human-like head but no neck was visible. Its head was dressed with what looked like a pair of goggles with glowing red lenses and a mouth piece that appeared to be some sort of mask resembling a breathing apparatus. The upper part of its chest had a dark, V-shaped chest plate pointing down to right above the



sternum area. The arms were straight down and close to its side but the legs were difficult to see. The entity seemed to have a glowing force field that surrounded it, a clear, shiny glass-like bubble that contoured closely to its body. A few seconds later, the entity simply disappeared. The entity’s description matched his son’s two humanoids that he witnessed at the river site about 6 hours earlier.

I noticed that approximately 7 feet above where the entity appeared, a large overhanging branch that was covered with bright orange flakes resembling *Xanthoria Elegans*, which is a lichenized species of fungus. This was the only branch (tree) on Bledsoe’s prop-

erty that had this orange fungus. This being anomalous, I decided to get an insight from Ted Phillips, Director of the Center for Physical Trace Research (CPTR), to ask him if a humanoid’s “presence” could have generated some sort of field or radiation within the immediate surroundings that would have caused an accelerated growth of this organic matter. Ted’s replied in part: “Norm, yes, not often but I have seen accelerated growth like this, generally mushroom growth. There certainly could be a connection.” I bagged and tagged a sample of the lichen with the bark and sent it to MUFON Headquar-

Continued on page 6

North Carolina abduction investigation follow-up

Continued from page 5

ters. A courtesy copy of my February 2008 field report was emailed to CPTR and it was issued trace/landing case number 3,396 by Mr. Phillips.

June 18, 2008, investigation

Backyard photos were taken of what appeared to be a circular trace of a pale brown, dehydrated grass impression that was approximately 16 feet in diameter. There were also other elongated lawn markings with similar grass discoloration. Bledsoe stated that these markings appeared in late summer of 2007 and he believed they were burnt onto the yard by a UFO. He also added that UFO activity over his property continued two weeks after the initial encounters.

On April 15, I emailed the team about what I believed to be a discrepancy between the father and his son's statements pertaining to the Cape Fear River incident and I suggested that there may have been "missing time" involving Bledsoe's account. With this new data, James Carrion emailed back the team and recommended seeking a professional therapist in North Carolina that would conduct hypnosis sessions on Mr. Bledsoe.

In May, we were contacted by senior producer Robert Wise of Creative Differences Productions. He was seeking compelling UFO reports for a new Discovery Channel series and the Bledsoe incident made the top of the list and as it was also believed to be a potential abduction case. During this time, Richard Lang (then State Director of North Carolina) took over the case as Lead Investigator – hitting the ground running. He scheduled the other three witness interviews, acquired the polygraph operator and was a local coordinator for the production crew. As what the episode showcased, Bledsoe's hypnosis results revealed that he was in fact abducted near the river! Segments of this episode are available on YouTube [UFOs over Earth: Fayetteville Incident].



Tree branch above the entity sighting area. This was the only tree branch on Bledsoe's property that had the orange fungus. Norman Gagnon image.

Update: March 2013 interview with Chris Bledsoe

Gagnon: We have last seen each other in 2008 during the production of "UFOs over Earth." Since then, I have read a few Internet pieces about your abduction case and how this incident has changed the perspective towards your life's journey. What do you believe was the purpose of your abduction today?

Bledsoe: For six years I have struggled with this question: why me? I have attended quite a few MUFON meetings, making new friends and sorting out everything that took place in 07, and the ongoing experiences that continue. During this time I have come to realize the importance of what I was shown.

In the past six years I have been completely transformed from the person I once was, which was the typical person—wasteful, not really caring for our fellow man or this wonderful world we live in, to someone totally different—caring about all life and our earth, the place we share as home. I have become Green. It dominates my life. I believe our planet—the world we share, is suffering from the abuse of mankind. I believe I have been given a message to share with all who have an ear to hear and those with open eyes.

Gagnon: During the time while your friends were fishing off the shore of Cape Fear River on January 8, 2007, why did you decide to walk away from the river bank and back up the road?

Bledsoe: I was not interested in fishing. I felt too bad for that, I just had to be on the move hoping to enjoy the forest and its wonders and I enjoy watching animals in their habitat.

During that time I was really sick and I can remember walking along earlier that evening trying to think of happy thoughts, talking to whoever was in heaven as I moved along to grant me another good day praying for my children and my wife.

I just simply wasn't into fishing I was enjoying the alone time and nature, meditating, trying to find peace... that is when it happened.

Gagnon: Have you experienced any



other types of contact or visitations since 2007?

Bledsoe: The answer to this is: Yes!

My wife and children, my mother and dad and myself witnessed a translucent craft appear in broad daylight this past fall, straight up overhead about 4,000 feet only to fly off and disappear. This is when my father knew I was telling the truth.

Another real good example: I was attending a MUFON meeting in Ashville, NC, last April and the night before I had this dream of the Guardians. They told me in my dream to tell everyone something, which is this: this September (2012) I believe the date was the 25th, that there will be an earthquake in Baja, California, and there will be a disruption in the elections in the fall. I told this in front of 50 or more people and on the very day, the earthquake happened! We all know the super storm that happened during the election. This is but a few examples that answer this question with: yes.

Gagnon: Do you believe that the entity message(s) contradicts or supports your religious faith?

Bledsoe: This is the question of

all questions, one that will be front and center in all of our lives soon.

The question is no longer "do they exist?" We have to move past this. Everywhere people see the UFOs, the question now is WHO ARE THEY?!!

More pertinently, I was born and raised a Christian and at one time I was even a deacon in the church. I have to say my faith was severely scrambled for the longest time, beginning from the first day of the abduction. But I can now say I believe in Christ now even more, but in a different way. The experience I had was I believe to be of a divine experience like Ezekiel's wheel within the wheel. I will say this: I was given a divine message that I intend to tell to all who will listen.

Gagnon: You seem to have also developed an unexpected talent since the extraordinary event. Could you share what you're working on these days?

Bledsoe: Immediately after the event, I wanted to tell the world and I found out that none cared or would believe me but a very few. I became depressed for a year. I basically locked myself into my room. I wanted to tell my story, so I starting drawing sketches of things I just could not explain.

The urge to paint has overtaken me. My obsession is of hummingbirds and flowers. The hummingbirds tend to Mother Nature's joy and are some of her prized possessions. They are messengers of the forest. I have never painted or been interested in art before the abduction, other than with crayons growing up as a child. I discovered the local art store shortly after the abduction and have become obsessed with buying paints of all types: oil, acrylic, water color and many canvasses. I even purchased an airbrush machine.

My art has to be happy and it has to be of nature or something. I have come to believe in the Natural Law. Flowers are happy and are nature's living way of showing that this earth is alive and all things communicate, except for humans - we are the ones with closed eyes.

Case Study Monaco: Strange lights baffle tourists

by Antoine Cousyn
IPACO

MUFON Case Testimony

“During a trip to Monaco last year with my mother, we took some pictures while touring the palace grounds and surrounding areas. Upon inspection, we noticed some strange lights in the pictures. I was using the sports mode in my camera then and it captured a series of pictures in one click. The lights in the pictures could be seen in different angles and at different times. We stayed at the Fairmont Hotel then and the hotel manager suggested that we send the pictures to the press which were later published on their Facebook page. We have many more of these pictures. We also showed these pictures while in Monaco to the police and they were equally puzzled. One of them pointed out that they could have been caused by the street lights (!). It has been a year since we took these pictures but have yet to receive a decent explanation. Any input is much appreciated.”

Camera

The camera model that was used is a Canon EOS 500D.

Data examination

The review of EXIF data with EXIF Tool does not tell us anything specific that can help in the understanding of this phenomenon. However, examination of the photographs shows the presence of many bright light sources in each one of them. Could it be that these lights are the cause of the presence of the “objects” in the sky?

Let’s take for example Photo 9912.

With IPACO, it is possible in a simple way to define it using several tools combined into one that allows you to:

1 - Create a figure “Flare” on these lights in two clicks: the center and radius of a circle that approximately delimits the lights in question. (“a” and “b” in the photo)



Witness photograph 9912.

2 – Finely reposition the center of this Flare figure by calculating the radiometric center of the chosen circle.

3 - Materialize the Flare, in the form of an asterisk with the same radius as the chosen circle.

4 - If there is not yet any figure “Center” in the graph displayed, it creates one (definition of the geometric center of the photograph).

5 - Draw a “diameter,” i.e., a straight line that passes through the flare and the geometrical thereby defining the geometric center of the photograph. It is found that the position of the lights in the sky is substantially coincident with that of the light sources, along a central axis of symmetry passing through the geometric center of the photograph.

The difference is the non-exact coincidence of optical and geometric centers. However, it can also be compensated with IPACO whose tool “Flare” allows us to change manually the geometric center by dragging it gradually until the optical center position and thus check the consistency of the flares and their light source (“a” and “b”).

We can also advantageously verify the existence of this alignment with other photographs taken.

Again, the alignment “flares/optical center/light sources” is perfect, confirming that these “objects” are just parasitic reflections created in the internal lens system of the camera. These reflections are always opposite to the light sources, through a central axis of symmetry materialized by the optical center of the picture.

It should be noted that it is possible to reduce or even completely eliminate these unwanted effects, either by using a better filter quality, using a smaller focal length, or by increasing the aperture (i.e., reduce the value of the f number, keyed on the photos here to 3.5 and 5.6). However, by far the most secure way to avoid this type of flare is to remove the filter altogether.

Given the objective data provided by the examination of the photographic record, we conclude that the different objects in this series of photographs are multiple light reflection parasites, also called “flare phenomenon factor” or simply “lens flare” caused by the presence of two strong light sources found in the field of photography.

Antoine Cousyn is a partner of François Louange and he is a keynote speaker at the upcoming 2013 MUFON symposium.

Cosmic crashes, corpses and cover-ups

Retrievals of the Third Kind : A re-examination of Stringfield's C.R. cases

by Michael Schratt

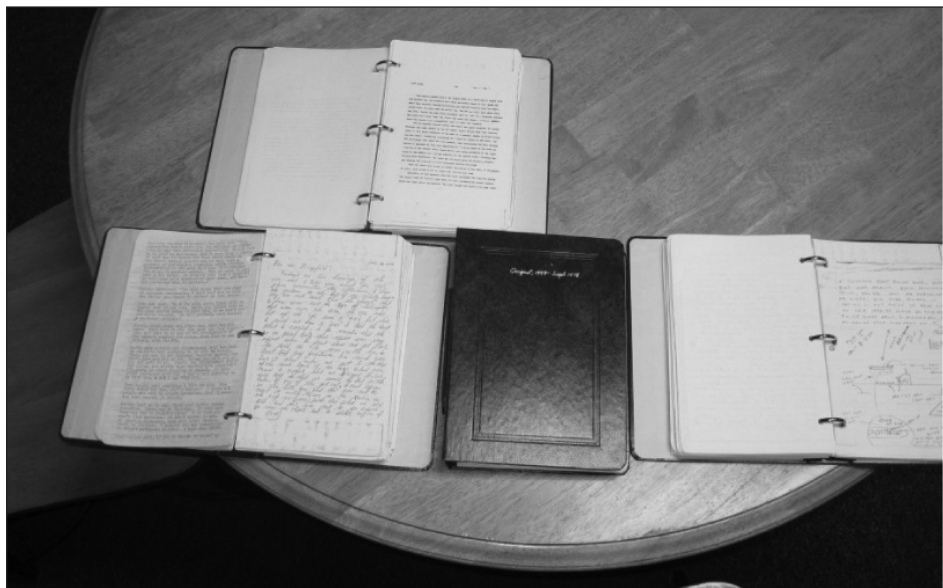
Special note: Students of ufology will recall that Leonard Stringfield was most well known for his research into so called UFO crash/retrievals. During the mid-1970s, Leonard collected reports from pilots, engineers and military personnel, who claimed they had first-hand knowledge of crashed saucers and bodies being recovered by elements of the United States government. This of course would constitute a "Cosmic Watergate" of the highest order.

These prized possessions were then quickly whisked away from their crash sites and sent to multiple military installations around the country for research and development applications. Due to the highly classified nature of these retrieval operations, Leonard never released the identities of his sources. This move on his part has frustrated UFO researchers for decades, but also proved Leonard to be a man of integrity. The references included in this multi-segment paper were derived directly from Leonard's day-to-day dictation notes (now on file at MUFON headquarters in Cincinnati). These are comprised of 65 small, three-ring binders which measure approximately 5" X 8".

This historian was granted unprecedented access to this rare collection on March 8 and 9 of 2013 by the MUFON board of directors including MUFON Executive Director David MacDonald.

Per Leonard Stringfield's original request, the identities of personnel directly involved in UFO crash/retrieval operations will NOT be divulged. However, in the interest of preserving an important part of our national history, the contents and specific details of these important files will now be revealed for the first time.

Reference #1: Throughout the Stringfield collection, there were multiple reports of a TOP SECRET motion picture film which allegedly depicted



Leonard Stringfield 3-ring binders.



Leonard Stringfield

deceased alien corpses which were placed on a slab.

Apparently, this particular film has "made the rounds" within military installations. As the legend states, the film was shown to groups of military pilots in a briefing room setting without any type of prior introduction. When the film was completed, the projector was immediately shut off and no questions were allowed. Strangely, those who showed the film quickly carried

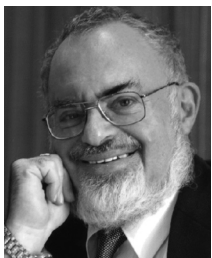
on as though "nothing had happened."

Was this an official attempt to "test the waters," in an effort to assess the reaction of military pilots to a possible extraterrestrial reality? One such military pilot, who apparently claimed to have seen this historic film in 1973, was former NASA astronaut Ellison Ozinuka.

In Leonard's addendum update for a report titled: "The chase for proof in a squirrel's cage," the claim is made that Ellison remembered uttering aloud, "Oh, my God" immediately after seeing the film. Unfortunately, Ellison Onizuka was killed in the Challenger explosion on January 28, 1986, before researchers could approach him for an official interview.

Reference #2: In the same report, Leonard's French research colleague Alain Boudier claims to have seen an official NASA film taken by astronaut Frank Borman during Apollo 8 in 1968. The film allegedly depicted six UFOs descending on the moon's surface. Special note: A subsequent follow up phone call to Apollo 8 Astronaut Frank Borman by this historian on March 17, 2013, yielded the following result: "That crap has been around for years."

Continued on page 22



perceptions

The science behind UFOs

By Stanton Friedman

Knowing that many people are interested in UFOs so long as they don't have to publicly admit it, *Astronomy* magazine for May 2013 touted an article on their cover. The provocative and totally misleading title was "The Science Behind UFOs." It was written by Dr. Phil Plait who has been writing a blog "Bad Astronomy" for some years.

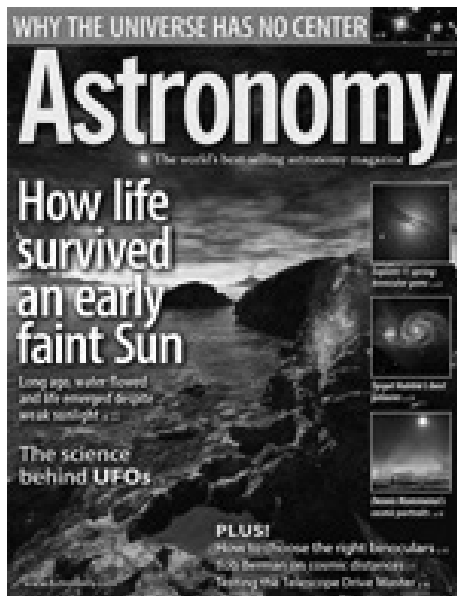
The trouble with the article title is that it is false advertising. There is very little science in it. Judging by its content, Plait knows almost nothing about UFOs and even less about the scientific side of the UFO story. He does use a number of charts and graphs from the work of Peter Davenport who operates the National UFO Reporting Center. Shapes reported are tabulated. There is a table of sightings by state (15 highest). He notes that 60 percent of the cases come from just 15 states and provinces.

Doesn't mention that almost all are the most heavily populated. California ranking number one for sightings and for population, etc. In big type Plait claims, "I am an astronomer, a scientist, a skeptic, a hardnosed realist."

I would say the article title and his description of himself are both false advertising. Especially noteworthy is what is missing from the article. He gives no references to large scale scientific studies. There is no mention of radar sightings or radar visual sightings or physical trace cases or abductions.

He gives the completely false impression that almost all sighting reports are of lights in the sky. His description of the Phoenix Lights of March 13, 1997, is woefully inaccurate and inadequate.

He states, "Thousands of people reported mysterious lights flying together across Nevada and Arizona while



those near Phoenix saw lights hovering above the city and winking out. The first event was likely jets flying in formation. They were seen over Phoenix as well. The human eye and brain connects dots when there are no physical links between them, making discrete objects look as if they are attached together by something solid when they are seen against a contrasting background." He accepts, as I and most other people do that the second batch of lights seen over a different portion of the city were National Guard planes dropping flares. The notion that the very large V-shaped craft represented jets flying in formation is ridiculous.

I have talked to witnesses. The key factor reported was the very large size object (half mile to a mile across) that blotted out the stars above it. It was, after all, a very clear night with many people out hoping to see an expected comet. The object moved steadily, slowly, and silently. Nobody mentioned red and green lights on the object. Jets are supposed to have them. Jets are notoriously noisy, and they don't blot out a big chunk of the sky.

One witness who belatedly came forth was the then Governor of Arizona, Fife Symington, who went public on a Larry King show that I was also on. Fife had been an Air Force officer and pilot and had witnessed the object, which was definitely not an airplane or group of them. Plait gives no basis other than proclamation for "jets flying in formation." I am sure some debunker must have put that out. One possibility would have been James Magaha, a former Air Force pilot. He is an active amateur astronomer with his own observatory in the Phoenix area. His comment in response to a few young women who described how the huge object took four minutes to pass over their heads slowly and silently: "They weren't trained observers." Surely one need not have training in astronomy to correctly describe a very large V-shaped craft moving slowly and silently and shutting off the view of the stars above it as it passed over. They were in view again after it went by.

Plait shows eight UFO pictures with brief labels such as "McMinnville, Oregon (1950) Paul Trent" and "Wallonia, Belgium (1990)." Surely he should have noted that Dr. Bruce Maccabee, a retired optical physicist, published a scientific article about the Trent photos (there were two). He carefully examined the original negatives, visited the site, talked to the witnesses and concluded that there was no fakery involved. Even the University of Colorado "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects"—usually called the Condon Report, (naturally not mentioned by PP) stated, "This is one of the few UFO reports in which all factors investigated, geometric, psychological, and physical appear to be consistent with the assertion that an extraordinary flying object, silvery, metallic, disk-shaped, tens of meters in

diameter and evidently artificial, flew within sight of two witnesses,” p.407. This was hardly judged to be a mere light in the sky. A great deal of useful information has also been published about the Belgium wave of sightings. Certainly the impression is given in Plait’s article is that all UFO reports can be turned into misidentified flying Objects (MFOs) if smart people like him work on them long enough. The fact is that all those large scale scientific studies, about which he seems to be totally unaware, show that 15-30 percent of the cases that are carefully investigated remain unidentified AF-TER investigation.

I realize that one expects an astronomer to be more concerned about things supposedly flying around than ones which actually are observed on the ground after having landed and before taking off. And there are physical changes produced in the ground and vegetation. These cases would seem to be much more useful than studying Venus and Jupiter and lights that turn out to be quacking ducks. No such luck with Phil Plait. Ted Phillips in more than 40 years has collected more than 5,000 physical trace cases from 95 countries. About 1/6th involve reports of beings (usually small) seen near the flying saucers.

I prefer that term since all flying saucers are UFOs, but most UFOs are not flying saucers. I have had soil tested showing that the soil in a ring more than 8 feet in outer diameter and down 14 inches had a much higher level of soluble minerals than nearby control samples.

It was right where the witness had observed the UFO just above the ground. It was no wonder that the ring soil couldn’t sustain plant growth...too salty (Delphos, Kansas) .

I do agree with Plait about the intriguing Norway blue spiral being a Russian rocket whirling because of a fuel leak...yes an MFO. But how about those 687 cases (from 3,201 studied) from Blue Book Special Report 14 that could not be identified? That is 21.5 percent of those cases investigated.

The four final report evaluators from

Battelle Memorial Institute had to all agree on the labeling of a sighting as UNKNOWN. These were completely separate from the 9.3 percent listed as Insufficient Information. How about the 35.1 percent of the 308 cases declared “excellent” that could not be identified? Plait implies that there are no cases that can’t be identified by smart astronomers like himself. The astronomical category was the largest including 25.5 percent.

Plait doesn’t think much of pilots as witnesses because that could be mistaken. He makes no mention of sightings by astronomers as if there were none that could not be explained. He doesn’t of course mention the 1973 book by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry*. Allen was only the Chairman of the Astronomy Department of Northwestern University and the USAF Scientific Consultant to Project Blue Book for more than 20 years. Allen also contributed to the Congressional Symposium on UFOs on July 29, 1968.

He was certainly convinced that there were good cases that could not be explained .

Three of the 12 scientists providing testimony were astronomers. Sightings by astronomers were mentioned in Dr. James E. McDonald’s testimony. Dr. Peter Sturrock, astrophysicist from Stanford, surveyed the membership of the American Astronomical Society and found a number of sightings that could not be explained. None of these serious investigators were especially concerned by lights in the sky.

An important case carefully investigated by Jim McDonald was the RB-47 case. This lasted for over an hour. There were six highly trained crew members who observed a craft fly around their aircraft visually and by radar.

It was also observed by ground radar and emitted electromagnetic signals. Blue Book couldn’t identify it either and Jim’s investigation, based on his interviews with all six of the witnesses, was published in a scientific journal. Shouldn’t Plait have looked carefully at it?

Some other topics that Plait ignores are alien abductions such as the Betty and Barney Hill case as described in great detail in Kathleen Marden’s and my, *Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience*. He doesn’t discuss the feasibility of travel to the stars, or crashed saucers, or the importance of the government in withholding data about UFOs especially as observed by the military and intelligence communities. Not many private groups have large systems for monitoring via radar and satellites, the skies both from the ground and from space... and the means to avoid releasing the data therein obtained. After all the first scientific journal article about the Betty Hill star map work of Marjorie Fish was also published in *Astronomy* by Terence Dickinson, then editor, way back in 1974. It got more reader response than anything they had published. The 32-page, full color booklet, “The Zeta Reticuli Incident,” which included the published responses, sold more than 10,000 copies before Carl Sagan’s lawyer threatened to sue them because his name was on the front with other commenters.

Because I had originally suggested the story, based on my earlier article in *SAGA* magazine, they made me an offer I couldn’t refuse and I wound up with 18,000 copies...long gone.

Interesting that Plait was for some time President of the James Randi Foundation. Randi, a debunker personified, had attacked the star map work in a totally unscientific fashion. Obviously I wouldn’t expect a serious study on interstellar travel using nuclear fusion in astronomy. It is a major irony that the astronomical and SETI communities, all of whose members are aware that the major source of energy production in all the stars is nuclear fusion, don’t look into fusion propulsion except in a totally foolish fashion as I discussed here a few months back.

In short, it is impossible to discover the SCIENCE behind UFOs in this article.

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UFOs and Nukes

UFO activity at the Hanford Plutonium Plant

By Robert Hastings

The Hanford Engineer Works, near Richland, Washington, was America's first full-scale plutonium production plant. During World War II, its reactors provided the fissile material used in the test of the world's first atomic device, code-named "Trinity," near Alamogordo, New Mexico, on July 16, 1945, and in the bomb that destroyed Nagasaki, Japan, on August 9th. (Hiroshima was wiped out by a uranium-based bomb on August 6th.)

That same year, Clarence R. "Bud" Clem was a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the U.S. Naval Reserves, serving as an F6F Hellcat fighter pilot assigned to Air Group 50 aboard the *U.S.S. Cowpens CVL-25*. In an April 2, 2009, email, Clem told me,

"Our group was deployed to [Naval Air Station] Pasco, Washington, for ground support training in March 1945. The Hanford Ordnance Works was just across the Columbia River from Pasco and designated Top Secret. We experienced an unknown object over the Hanford site in March/April, 1945. I did not fly after the object, as two members of our squadron did, but I did assist in trying to determine what was going on. I am 84 and I do not know if any other members of our squadron are still alive [who] could add more information. If you have any information about our experience, I would like to see what the official report stated."

I wrote to Clem, saying that I didn't have any official reports relating to the incident and asked for more details. He responded,

"One night, shortly after the evening meal, the officers were gathered at the Officers Club for relaxation when the duty officer at the tower called our commander with a request. Lt. Commander Richard Brown took the call, as



Highway sign on a road entering the Hanford Site. Wikipedia image.

the Captain was in conference. Ensign C.T. Neal and I were with Brown and he asked us if we would volunteer to go with him to the flight line for possible duty. We both agreed and a jeep was waiting at the door to take us to the flight line. We learned that an unknown 'bogey' was over the Hanford Ordnance Works, according to the radar operator located on an auxiliary field just across the Columbia River from Hanford reservation.

"We had been instructed upon arrival that the Hanford Ordnance Works was Top Secret and *no* flights over any part were permitted...We did not know about the radar, but the duty officer stated that something was in the sky over the area and wanted someone to investigate. A plane was [already] armed and warmed-up on the tarmac. Brown stated he would go and Neal was to stand-by in another plane, in case of trouble. I was to join the [controller] in the tower and communicate info from radar to the pilots.

"Brown quickly found the object, a bright ball of fire, and took chase. But he could not close, even with water injection that gave a quick boost in speed. The object headed out NW towards

Seattle and was quickly lost by radar. Brown returned to base and we three retired to the club, still shaking and wondering what we had encountered. Memory does not recall details of two similar experiences—I think Neal was to take the next chase—but the object disappeared before he got airborne. I was assigned to fly the entire [Hanford] reservation at low altitude (200 feet or so) to give the radar operator the blind spots [caused by the terrain]...

"I do not know if any other incidents occurred after we left Washington. None of the above information was mentioned in the 'history' of our squadron but I wonder what is on record at NAS Pasco."

I asked Clem, "During the first incident, how long did it take for the aircraft to get to Hanford?" He replied, "Not long. An aircraft was always ready to fly on short notice to intercept the Japanese incendiary balloons. If you've read the history of that project, and the concern the balloons caused, it would have been logical to intercept them before they could reach Hanford."

I asked Clem if the pilot on the first night, Lt. Commander Brown, had de-

scribed the object in detail, either over the radio or back at the Officers Club. Clem replied, "He just said it was so bright that you could hardly look directly at it. As he closed on it, it took off to the northwest at a high rate of speed. No maneuvers really, just a straight-line course."

Other questions to Clem added few details. He later sent me his military records which revealed that the fighter squadron was actually at Pasco from January 9 to February 15, 1945, not during March and April, as he had first indicated.

In any case, intermittent UFO activity at Hanford continued after the war. A now-declassified Air Force intelligence report confirms that on May 21, 1949, a "silvery, disc-shaped" object had been sighted hovering directly over the plant by Hanford personnel. Simultaneously, the UFO was being tracked on radar at nearby Moses Lake AFB, where an F-82 fighter had been scrambled to intercept it.

However, before the aircraft could get close enough, the UFO left the vicinity at a high rate of speed—faster than any aircraft—according to the report. Although this incident was publicly dismissed by the Air Force as the sighting of a conventional aircraft, the classified report on the case contained the investigating officer's written remark that the sighting involved "flying saucers." [sic]

Another documented UFO incursion at the Hanford plant occurred fourteen months later. A declassified but oddly-undated U.S. Army Memorandum For Record, whose subject was "Flying Discs," states, "The following information was furnished Major Carlen by Lt. Colonel Mildren on 4 August 1950: Since 30 July 1950 objects, round in form, have been sighted over the Hanford [Atomic Energy Commission] plant. These objects reportedly were above 15,000 feet in altitude. Air Force jets attempted interception with negative results. All units including the anti-aircraft battalion, radar units, Air Force fighter squadrons, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been alerted for further observation. The



Nuclear reactors line the riverbank at the Hanford Site along the Columbia River in January 1960. The N Reactor is in the foreground, with the twin KE and KW Reactors in the immediate background. The historic B Reactor, the world's first plutonium production reactor, is visible in the distance. Wikipedia image.

Atomic Energy Commission states that the investigation is continuing and complete details will be forwarded later." The memo was signed by Major U.G. Carlan, General Support Center, Survey Section.

Yet another UFO sighting at Hanford was reported by *The Miami Herald*: "On July 6, 1952, four non-scheduled airline pilots reported they saw a saucer hovering near the atomic energy plant at Richland, Washington. The four were Captain John Baldwin of Coral Gables, Captains George Robertson and D. D. Shenkel of Miami and Steven Summers of Hialeah—all of them veteran airmen."

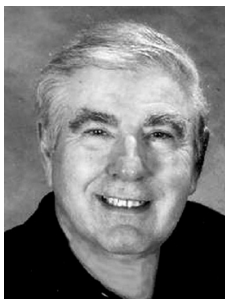
In his 1956 book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, former USAF Project Blue Book Chief Captain Edward Ruppelt wrote, "On the night of December 10, 1952, near another atomic installation, the Hanford plant in Washington, the pilot and radar observer of a patrolling F-94 spotted a light while flying at 26,000 feet. The crew called their ground control station and were told that no planes were known to be in the area. They closed on the object and saw a large, round, white 'thing' with a dim reddish light coming from two 'windows.' They lost visual contact but got a radar lock-on. They reported that when they attempted

to close on it again it would reverse direction and dive away. Several times the plane altered course itself because collision seemed imminent."

Hanford's plutonium production reactors were gradually decommissioned at the end of the Cold War, however, according to Wikipedia, "the decades of manufacturing left behind 53 million U.S. gallons (200,000 m³) of high-level radioactive waste, an additional 25 million cubic feet (710,000 m³) of solid radioactive waste, [and] 200 square miles (520 km²) of contaminated groundwater beneath the site. The Hanford site represents two-thirds of the nation's high-level radioactive waste by volume. Today, Hanford is the most contaminated nuclear site in the United States and is the focus of the nation's largest environmental cleanup."

Perhaps not surprisingly, UFO sightings relatively near the site continue to occur, reported by persons living in the Tri-Cities area (Richland, Kennewick, Pasco) located just southeast of the Hanford complex.

A review of the National UFO Reporting Center's database for Washington State (<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/ndxIWA.html>) yields eight separate reports between February 20 and August 21, 2012, and many other sightings in the area over the years.



filer's files

By George Filer

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This edited roundup of UFO sightings is presented to keep Journal readers informed about some of the vast number of sightings being reported. Unless otherwise noted, these cases have not officially been investigated.]

California Disc



ANA POINT -- My wife, her mother and her daughter were on a tour boat to see whales and dolphins on March 19, 2013.

My wife set her digital phone cam to burst mode to capture pictures of the whales and dolphins.

After she returned home we were reviewing the photos on her phone and noticed a disc-shaped object in one of the photos.

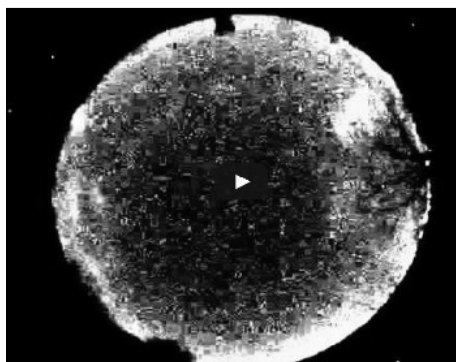
Apparently nobody noticed it at the time because they were all focused on the water.

I thought it was a joke and she had an app on her phone to insert UFOs in pictures, but it was no joke and my wife isn't technologically savvy enough to fake the picture, nor would she have any desire to do so.

The object did not show up in any of the other photos as far as I can tell. I'm sure it's not a seagull, airliner, Frisbee, or lenticular cloud. I have no idea what it is! Thanks to MUFON CMS.

Colorado Lights

MONTROSE — The witness called and reported his sighting on March 29, 2013. He was outside smoking a cigarette and noticed two large glowing orange orbs to the southwest on March 2, 2013, at 7 p.m. The orbs then started moving (or floating) slowly. Suddenly one of the orbs shot straight up and vanished. The other orb moved north and then suddenly streaked away and was no longer visible. The witness noticed a strange mist around one of the orbs when it moved near a cloud. A short video was taken of the orbs. Thanks to William Puckett, Director, UFOsnw.com.



HENDERSON -- This UFO was captured by a NASA All Sky camera on March 17, 2013, at 6:54:00.366 UTC.

This camera is located in Henderson, Colorado. These cameras are used to track meteorites.

Sometimes that is not all they catch on video.

Note: The video is not of a meteor or a satellite.

The time of the sighting was out of the window when satellites can be observed.

The fact that no lights were flashing means that it also was not an aircraft. This entry was posted in 2013.

Florida Orange Orbs



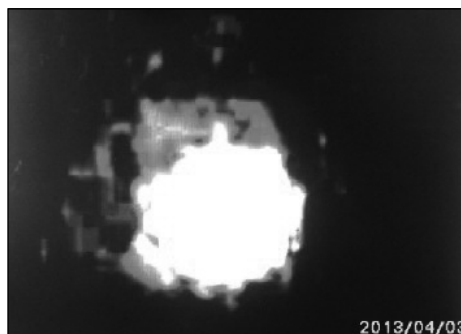
CORAL GABLES – On April 7, 2013, I was standing in the front of the house as my father was leaving when we both noticed an object about the same time and stated, "What is that?" I'm familiar with most aerial activity and this was not a normal sighting. It did not have the characteristics with respect to the orange glow and lack of sound. It moved west at normal flight speed. The oddity was the large glow aspect giving the object a round shape. When I realized it was something unusual, I called out to my son to bring his camera. We attempted some shots and watched it for three minutes until it was no longer in sight. Thanks to MUFON CMS

Illinois Lights



WASHINGTON -- We were in the backyard playing a lawn game at 9:45 p.m. on Saturday March 30, 2013. My teammate was getting ready to throw when he stopped and said, "What the

hell is that?" Three of us looked toward the northwest where we saw 16 to 20 lights that were slowly blinking. At first, I was thinking this was a very large airplane, but there was no sound. My husband yelled and grabbed his iPhone and proceeded to record. We yelled at another friend to go get his kids (ages 16, 11, and 10) to get them from inside the house as we wanted them to see this as well. The lights spanned the width of a football field moving east slowly. They randomly blinked and formed a variety of shapes, some in triangles. As they turned slowly towards the north they formed triangles before disappearing. Another friend kept saying, "What is this?" After they disappeared, we called the police and TV stations, but no one else had reported strange lights. We also thought maybe it was 16 to 20 prop planes but this seemed unlikely. Thanks to MUFON CMS



BLOOMINGTON -- I reported a UFO sighting recently and this was not my first time reporting a UFO. I reported one over Bloomington in 1999. I was caught in a green beam and had four hours of missing time. I sure hope my granddaughter has no more run-ins with UFOs. I did not send all the photos. My granddaughter zoomed in on some of the lights and got part of the craft. It is orange and very odd looking. It looks like some kind of contraption with monitor screen-like shape to it. Thank you for being there.

Massachusetts Saucer

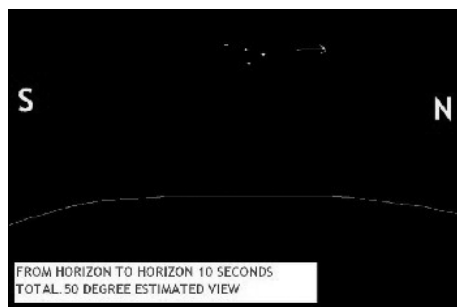
MEDFORD -- I was driving back from my doctor's appointment and saw a "saucer" type UFO about 4:10 p.m. on April 3, 2013. It was hovering about

500 feet up. I couldn't pull over to take a picture because of traffic. I saw this UFO for about 7 to 10 seconds when it moved slightly away from me and then just disappeared like it just flicked out. It was the size of an M&M candy about seven inches away from your eye (for size comparison), silver in color and was just hovering. Then poof it was gone. On April 4, 2013, I was watching CNN's video from Denver. One of the shots looked just like the craft that I saw, but mine was not moving around. It was just hovering until it just disappeared. It looked like a keg flattened and round like a typical "saucer shaped UFO." Thanks to William Puckett, Director, UFOsnw.com.

New Jersey Two Red Orange Lights on Wing

MILLVILLE -- My husband saw lights above the neighbor's shed on April 5, 2013, at 8:08 p.m. He went outside and witnessed orange-red lights in the sky. It passed over our house and looked like a wing. When it passed over, it covered the stars in the background behind it. Not sure what we saw, but by the time we got to the front of the house it was in the distance and disappeared. There was no sound. Thanks to MUFON CMS.

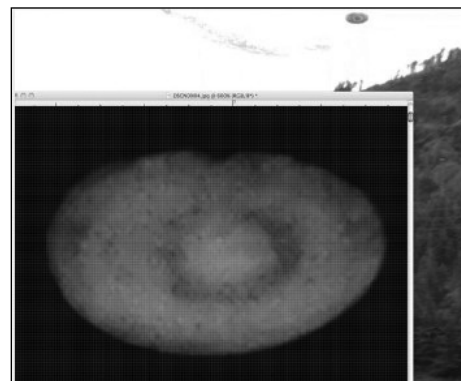
Pennsylvania Four Ovals



UPPER CHICHESTER -- It was a clear night for sky watching on April 7, 2013, and I was checking objects in the sky. I had been outside since sunset and the sighting occurred at 9:53 p.m. when I sighted a high flying jet and four definite oval-shaped objects flying south. They were traveling in a 'V' formation, equally spaced apart as in-

dictated on the rough sketch I have supplied. They were bright enough to see their shapes and too high to be geese and too rigid a formation. They moved much faster than geese in a straight line across the sky. The entire sighting only lasted 10 seconds from horizon to horizon. This is my third sighting of what I consider to be UFOs. I was using high powered Zhumell 20 X 80 power binoculars. Thanks to MUFON CMS.

Oregon Disc



BRIDAL VEIL -- While driving a film production truck eastbound on I-84 to a commercial shoot on Mt Hood, Eric noticed waterfalls ahead and stretched his arm toward the open passenger window to get a shot at 55 mph.

This picture was taken on I-84 at the waterfall above Wahkeena Rearing Lake on November 1, 2010.

Once back at the hotel, while looking through the pictures on the camera, we noticed the object and what looks like a vapor trail behind it and a change of direction.

The card remained in the camera until February 3, 2011, and was shown to a lot of people.

Finally it was downloaded and forwarded.

Keep in mind that the idea was to take a picture of a waterfall, not of something odd in the sky. It is on a frame less than a mile away.

That object had a dome, with an egg-shaped object.

Note: There is no way to prove that the above photo was not a hoax because the original photo was not received. Thanks to William Puckett, Director, UFOsnw.com.



National UFO Reporting Center

Anatomy of a hoax?

By Peter B. Davenport

PREFACE: One of the greatest burdens that UFO investigators have to bear, in the course of their collecting and investigating sighting reports submitted by members of the public, is the deluge of apparently false reports and cases of mistaken identity that have to be “waded” through, and eliminated from, the stream of incoming data. What prompts people to create and submit bogus reports is unclear to this author, save for the apparently widespread lack of self-discipline, and lack of concern for others, that seems all too common in mankind. However, the fact remains that such deception takes place constantly, and that it probably will continue in ufology, and elsewhere, until long after we have finally laid to rest the mystery of UFOs.

Over the course of the last two months, the National UFO Reporting Center has received five photographs, which we assume are part of a hoax, but a hoax that appears to us to be so well planned and orchestrated that I have elected to make it the subject of my column this month. In discussing this issue, I intend principally to share with the reader 1) the extent that some people will go to in order to mislead others, and 2) how new technology now permits the creation of rather convincing hoaxes, while avoiding detection. Also, in addressing this incident, it is my hope that one of our readers will be able to share insight into the presumed deception, and what the origin of this possible hoax may be.

I would like to emphasize that I do not wish to imply here that the indi-

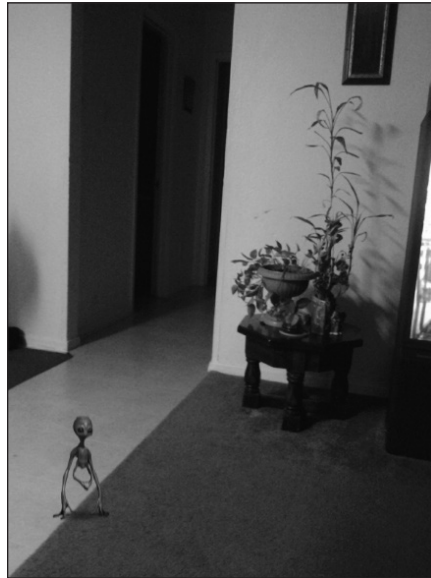


Photo # 1

viduals who submitted photos to our offices are intentional participants in a hoax. We have spoken with at least two of them, and exchanged email with all of them, and they seemed to us to be both sincere, and genuinely confused by how their photos could have recorded the creature’s images in question. If what I discuss here is a prank, the people who submitted the photos appear to us to be as much victims of the deception as NUFORC may be, and that they quite probably had nothing to do with the apparent prank.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPH: On February 7, 2013, NUFORC received a telephone call from a young woman in Austin, Texas, who stated that three days earlier, she had taken a photograph of her living room, and that when she later viewed the photo, she was shocked to see a small, strange-looking creature in the photo. (Please see Photo #1.) She emphasized that she had not been aware of the entity, at the time the photo was taken, and



Photo # 2

that she had no idea where the creature had come from. Her impression was that it had not been visible, even momentarily, at the time of the photo, but that she could not be certain of that fact.

We examined the photo, as best we were able, and we had two experienced photographers examine it. Both of them were of the opinion that the photo is a composite, created by the insertion of the creature’s image, after the photo had been taken. They based their opinions on the facts that 1) the shadow created by the creature appeared to be inconsistent with the shadows seen elsewhere in the frame, and 2) the pixilation of the creature’s image differed slightly from that in the rest of the photo. Other possible inconsistencies were cited by both photographers.

SECOND PHOTOGRAPH: Several days later, the source of the first photo submitted a second one, which apparently had been taken at night, and which showed a somewhat simi-

lar creature, although one that was demonstrably different from the one seen in the first photo. (Please see Photo #2.)

This second photo appeared to us to be even less convincing than the first, a suspicion that was reinforced by the opinions of the same two photographers whom we had commissioned to inspect both of them.

THIRD PHOTOGRAPH: NUFORC had all but laid to rest the issue of the peculiar photos, when on March 10, we received yet another photograph, taken of a young woman reclining on a couch, with the same creature evident in it. Although the photo appeared to have anomalies in it, it appeared to have come from a different source than that of the first two photos, although we are unable to certify its independence from the first person to submit her photos. (Please see Photo #3.)

However, seeming to undermine the authenticity of this third photo was the fact that its source never responded to our several requests for more information. From experience, we have come to recognize such unwillingness to respond to reasonable requests for documentation as a sign of probable intended deception.

Hence, as interesting as these first three photographs appeared to be, we abandoned any further efforts to recover more information about them, assuming that they were the product of an attempt to ensnare NUFORC into accepting, and disseminating, hoaxed data.

FOURTH REPORT (photo not received): On Tuesday, March 12, NUFORC received a telephone call from a woman in Florida, who asserted that her daughter had taken a sequence of, she thought, 15 photographs, and that a strange little creature was evident in two of the photos, in the middle of the sequence. When I asked her to describe the creature, her description indicated a creature quite similar to what the earlier photographs had shown.

However, the caller did not follow up on the report, and no photos were forwarded to NUFORC.

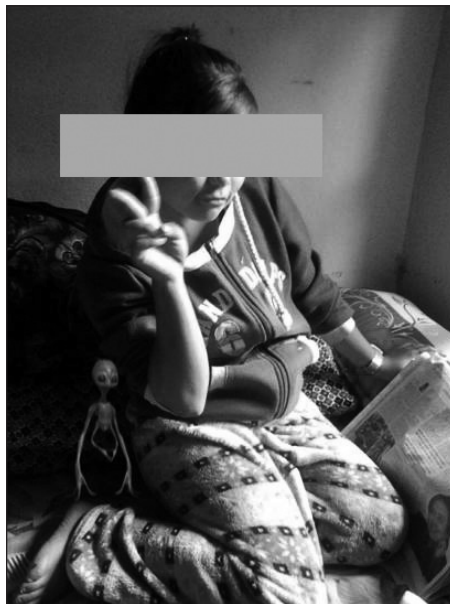


Photo # 3

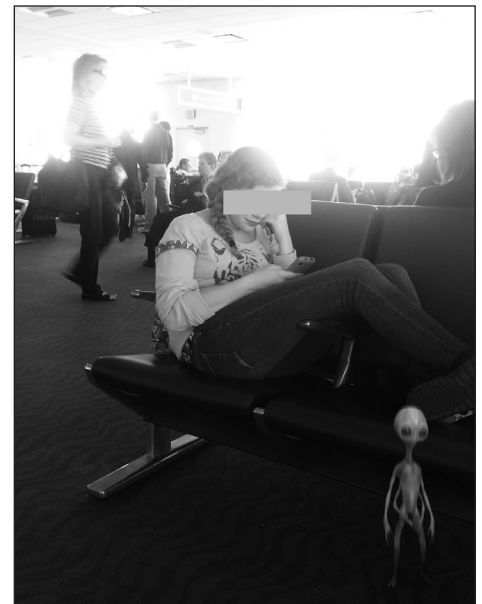


Photo # 5



Photo # 6

FIFTH PHOTOGRAPH: On April 4, NUFORC received a telephone call from a very eloquent sounding young woman, who asserted that she had just received a photograph from her fiancé, which exhibited the image of a very strange-looking creature. She claimed that, at 6 p.m. on March 21, 2013, the man had taken a photo of his daughter, who was sitting on a chair in the Fort Myers Airport terminal, at the time, and was shocked to see the creature in the photo. (Please see Photo #5.)

The young woman who called emphasized that her fiancé was a very serious-minded, and quite reliable, individual, and her strong impression was that he would not attempt to mislead her intentionally with a bogus photograph.

SIXTH PHOTOGRAPH: On April 5, NUFORC received a sixth, and final, photograph, from a source that chose not to include personal or contact information, save for his email address. (Please see Photo #6.)

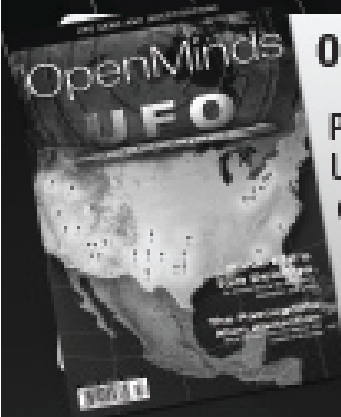
In a follow-up message, he apologized for having submitted the photo, stating that he had discovered that it was the product of an application for mobile devices, which allowed people to download photos of “aliens” into their photographs. He identified the application as “camera360,” with an “...alien effect, available to (owners of) Android devices.”

At the date of this writing, the author has not been able to confirm the exist-

Continued on page 22

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the night sky

By Gavin A.J. McLeod

Moon Phases:

Last Quarter April 3, New Moon April 10, First Quarter April 18, Full Moon April 25.

Bright Planets (Evening Sky)

Mars (magnitude 1.2): From Pisces into Aries.

For northern hemisphere observers Mars will begin the month standing very low above the western horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon about ½ hour later; Mars will rapidly descend into the glare of the Sun after the second week and will not be visible for the rest of the month.

For southern hemisphere observers Mars will begin the month standing very low above the western horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon about ¼ hour later.

Mars will rapidly descend into the glare of the Sun and will not be visible for the rest of the month.

Jupiter (magnitude -2.1): In Taurus.

For northern hemisphere observers Jupiter will begin the month standing very high above the west-southwest horizon and will set below the north-west horizon about 5 hours later.

By month's end Jupiter will be standing high above the western horizon at sunset and will set below the west-northwest horizon about 3 hours later.

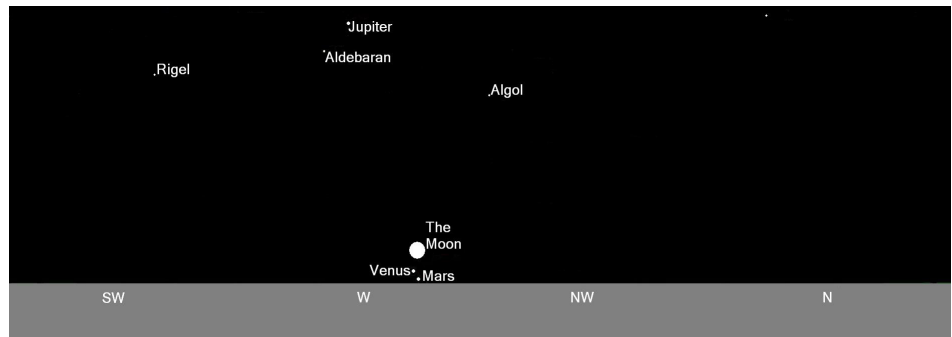
For southern hemisphere observers Jupiter will begin the month standing high above the north-northwest horizon at sunset and will be setting below the northwest horizon about 2 ½ hours later; by month's end Jupiter will be standing above the northwest horizon at sunset and will be setting below the northwest horizon about 2 hours later.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky)

Mercury (magnitude: 0.2 to -0.3): From Aquarius into Pisces.

For northern hemisphere observers Mercury will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon about 1 hour before sunrise and will be standing above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise.

By month's end Mercury will be ris-



Grouping Of Bright Planets and Stars: The Moon, Venus, Mars and Jupiter on April 17, 2013 just after sunset.

ing above the eastern horizon about ½ hour before sunrise and will be standing low above the eastern horizon at sunrise.

For southern hemisphere observers Mercury will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon about 2 ½ hours before sunrise and will be standing high above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise.

By month's end Mercury will be rising above the eastern horizon about 1 ¼ hours before sunrise and will be standing above the east-northeast horizon at sunrise.

Venus (magnitude -3.9): From Pisces into Aries.

For northern hemisphere observers Venus will be lost in the glare of the Sun for the month.

For southern hemisphere observers Venus will begin the lost in the glare of the rising Sun.

Saturn (magnitude: 0.2): In Libra.

For northern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon about 2 hours after sunset and will be standing above the southwest horizon at sunrise; by month's end Saturn will be rising

above the eastern horizon about 10 ½ hours before sunrise and will be standing very low above the west-southwest horizon at sunset.

For southern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month rising above the east-southeast horizon about 1 ¼ hours after sunset and will be standing high above the western horizon at sunrise.

By month's end Saturn will be rising above the east-southeast horizon just after sunset and will descend below the west-southwest horizon just before sunrise.

Other Celestial Phenomena

Partial Lunar Eclipse:

A partial lunar eclipse will take place on April 25, 2013, the first of three lunar eclipses in 2013. Only a tiny sliver of the Moon will be covered by the Earth's umbral shadow at maximum eclipse, but the entire northern half of the moon will be darkened. This is the second shortest partial eclipse of the moon for the 21st century. The eclipse will be visible in Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia.

MUFON Radio

Continued from page 1

Clift with the "Cliff Files"; and Stanton Friedman with comments. The final 60 minutes will consist of an interview with a special selected guest.

The show will broadcast on the Internet at KGRAradio.com the first Friday of each month beginning at 8 p.m. Central Time. Archived recordings of

the shows may be heard free of charge after 90 days. Once you are logged in at KGRAradio.com, please click on "CHAT." You will then be sent to a chat room to interact with others and ask the guest any questions or you may call into the show by phone or SKYPE. To hear the show, please click on one of the three boxes above the chat room window and a player will pop up.



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Go to mufon.com/reportufo.html

An investigator may contact you.

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Don't let your valuable research end up at a flea market or estate sale! Please remember MUFON in your will. Besides monetary bequests, you can donate UFO case files, periodicals, etc. Contact MUFON at 513-871-UFOS (8367) for more information.

Nominate a Volunteer of the Month

Do you know someone in the MUFON organization who deserves to be recognized in the Journal as a Volunteer of the Month?

Contact your state director, and e-mail editor@mufon.com (please include the words "volunteer nomination" in the subject line).

Contact the Editor of MUFON UFO Journal

Email Roger Marsh at editor@mufon.com

MUFON UFO Journal

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frequency	1 time	3 times	6 times
back cover	\$450	\$425 each	\$400 each
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full page inside	\$350	\$325 each	\$300 each
half page	\$250	\$225 each	\$200 each
quarter page	\$150	\$125 each	\$100 each
calling card	\$55	\$50 each	\$45 each

Contact Sharon McGee
Office Manager

513-871-UFOS (8367)
smcgee@mufon.com

CMS rankings

Here is April's CMS Ranking Report for all State Directors. Congratulations to Georgeanne Cifarelli (California), John Ventre (Pennsylvania), Cathy Richards (Ohio), Debbie A. Ziegelmeyer (Missouri), Douglas Wilson (Colorado), Cheryl Ann Gilmore (South Carolina), Eddie Middleton (Tennessee), Roberta Smith (Kentucky), Gregory Andersen (Iowa), Steve Winans (Kansas), Donald R. Burleson (New Mexico), Fred R. Saluga (West Virginia), Max Mitchell (Utah), John Ventre (Delaware), Richard Beckwith (Wyoming), Jim Klancnik (South Dakota), John Ventre (Vermont) for being at 100%!!! All State Directors who are at 100% are highlighted.

Understanding the Chart

This report is based on our two measures of UFO Investigation effectiveness. 1). Assigning reports within 72 hours of receipt, and 2). completing all investigations within 90 days of being assigned. The "Assigned" column is a three month running average of the number of cases assigned within 72 hours divided by the total number of cases received in that three month period.

The "Completed" column is the number of cases completed beginning ninety (90) days back and going back six months from there (for a total of nine months back) divided by the total number of cases reported in the same period. The "Weighted Rank" is just the average of the two columns expressed as a percent. To improve your score be sure to assign all cases within 72 hours, and follow-up with your Field Investigators to ensure all reports are completed within 90 days.

To be considered complete, a report must have been investigated and placed in one of the three completed status codes (Unknown, Hoax or IFO) by you or your Field Investigator closing the case.

Questions or help? Contact Steve Hudgeons at mike_mike27@yahoo.com.

	State	Director	Weighted Rank	Assigned	Completed
1	California	Georgeanne Cifarelli	100 %	218/218	252/252
2	Pennsylvania	John Ventre	100 %	116/116	186/186
3	Ohio	Cathy Richards	100 %	106/106	146/146
4	Missouri	Debbie A. Ziegelmeyer	100 %	65/65	124/124
5	Colorado	Douglas Wilson	100 %	74/74	96/96
6	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	100 %	53/53	57/57
7	Tennessee	Eddie Middleton	100 %	57/57	53/53
8	Kentucky	Roberta Smith	100 %	52/52	50/50
9	Iowa	Gregory Andersen	100 %	25/25	36/36
10	Kansas	Steve Winans	100 %	28/28	31/31
11	New Mexico	Donald R. Burleson	100 %	17/17	20/20
12	West Virginia	Fred R. Saluga	100 %	14/14	16/16
13	Utah	Max Mitchell	100 %	21/21	14/14
14	Delaware	John Ventre	100 %	3/3	8/8
15	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	100 %	7/7	7/7
16	South Dakota	Jim Klancnik	100 %	9/9	7/7
17	Vermont	John Ventre	100 %	3/3	3/3
18	Texas	Teresa Turner	99 %	219/219	234/235
19	Florida	Morgan A. Beall	99 %	229/229	198/201
20	Michigan	William J. Konkolesky	98 %	173/179	245/245
21	North Carolina	Lakita Adams	98 %	90/90	98/102
22	Alabama	Richard Hoffman	98 %	30/30	25/26
23	Indiana	Stewart I. Hill	96 %	76/78	89/94
24	Georgia	Ralph O. Howard, Jr.	96 %	72/78	81/81
25	New Jersey	George A. Filer, III	96 %	48/50	70/72
26	Connecticut	William Shakalis	96 %	29/29	35/38
27	Oklahoma	Richard Gardner	94 %	35/38	55/57
28	Rhode Island	John Ventre	93 %	15/16	24/26
29	California	Ruben J. Uriarte [Area 1]	92 %	132/143	175/187
30	Montana	William R. Puckett	92 %	11/13	19/19
31	New Hampshire	John Ventre	91 %	16/17	25/28
32	Wisconsin	Vicki LeBlanc	85 %	24/28	43/50
33	Nebraska	John C. Kashner	82 %	9/10	12/16
34	Alaska	David McManus	80 %	3/5	7/7
35	North Dakota	Dale Brown	80 %	2/2	3/5
36	Nevada	Marie C. Malzahn	77 %	26/36	35/42
37	Arkansas	Norman D. Walker	75 %	20/20	12/24
38	Minnesota	Craig R. Lang [Section 4]	72 %	29/31	28/55
39	Mississippi	Richard Hoffman	71 %	12/12	3/7
40	Maryland	Donald Borton	70 %	43/43	22/53
41	Arizona	James E. Mann	68 %	71/140	144/165
42	Maine	John Ventre	64 %	7/11	15/23
43	Massachusetts	Steve Hudgeons	64 %	30/32	15/43
44	Hawaii	David McManus	61 %	7/11	6/10
45	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	57 %	49/76	67/133
46	New York	Samuel A. Falvo	57 %	87/104	44/140
47	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	57 %	20/32	43/81
48	Virginia	Susan L. Swiatek	55 %	26/38	19/44
49	Washington	James E. Clarkson	45 %	0/0	78/86
50	Idaho	James Baker	41 %	4/13	10/19
51	Louisiana	Reginald Buck	33 %	4/8	4/25

Report UFOs to MUFON.com

A re-examination of Stringfield's C.R. cases

Continued from page 9

Reference #3: Leonard's report also states that his intermediary (Michael Johnstone), managed to arrange a one-on-one discussion with an ex-marine who claims to have stood guard in 1963 at a facility where specialists were working on a recovered craft. Special note: More details of this case will be revealed in Part 2 of this series.

Reference #4 (not associated with the Leonard Stringfield collection). New details emerge in an historic USO encounter on a cold and dark evening during the Navy's "operation Deepfreeze" (1955-1956), a startling encounter took place in Admiralty Bay (Antarctic region) which was witnessed by two crew members and a scientist aboard the icebreaker USCGC Eastwind (see illustration).

All of the other crew members were below deck at the time of the incident. At around 9 p.m., a "silvery colored bullet-shaped craft" was seen to break through 37 feet of solid ice approximately one-half mile from the ship and fly off into the sky at a high rate of speed. A Brazilian scientist by the name



Operation Deepfreeze USO encounter. Illustration by William McDonald.

of Dr. Rubens J. Villela was shocked as he saw the craft tear through the ice.

As it broke through, the strange craft hurled enormous blocks of ice high into the sky which fell back to the surface with a great roar. The craft left a circular-shaped hole in the ice immediately after it departed.

Two additional eyewitnesses (an officer and helmsman) also noted that

boiling water and steam were seen emanating out of the hole where the craft had broken through.

This particular UFO/USO case ranks among the most important in all of history due to the fact that the craft travelled through four different mediums: water, ice, air and space.

(Source: *Invisible Residence* by Ivan T. Sanderson)

Davenport

Continued from page 17

tence of such an application, although we have found an application for taking 360-degree panorama-style photos. That program, however, does not appear to have anything to do with caricatures of aliens, however.

CONCLUSION: As the author has implied above, we suspect that the photos may be part of a sophisticated, and well-orchestrated, hoax. However, if it is a hoax, it does not appear to be one that has been knowingly engaged in by the individuals who have submitted the photographs to our offices. Those individuals appear to be as sincerely mystified by the content of their photos as NUFORC is!

If the sources of the photos are not knowing and willing participants in some type of intentional deception, the principal remaining mystery is how the

images of the strange creature can be inserted into photographs taken with cell phones. Perhaps there is a virus-like piece of software that can be introduced into a cell phone's software, a possibility that we are unable to rule out definitively. However, both of the two photographers who inspected the photos are baffled by such a possibility. If the photos are the result of some type of deception, it is important, I believe, to call to the attention of the UFO community the fact that the technical capabilities of pranksters has taken a quantum leap forward!

There are other several other observations about the photos, and the manner in which they have been submitted to NUFORC, that I intentionally have not discussed here. The observations pertain to elements of the photos that might prove useful for future assessment of any photos which may be submitted for

future analysis. These observations do not pertain to the pixilation of the photos, which, without question, appears to be suspicious, but rather, to other aspects of the photos that we have received, to date.

If any of the readers have any comments about the peculiar phenomenon, or what might be the cause of it, we invite them to submit comments to Director@UFOCenter.com. NUFORC would like to resolve the mystery that seems to linger around this peculiar phenomenon!

(We express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Michael Bradtke, an experienced photographer from Deland, Florida, and to Mr. Ray-Paul Nielsen, of Ray Paul Photography, in Seattle, Washington, for their technical assistance in the preparation of this article. Mr. Nielsen has served as the official photographer for NUFORC for more than a decade.)

MUFON MINUTES

MUFON WELCOMES new Field Investigators: Louise Kizer, Florida; Guy Ruff Jr., Pennsylvania; Donna C. Gregory, Delaware; Josh Spagnola, New York; Allen Junior Epling, Kentucky; Dinah Lechner, Florida; Robert Swailes, Maryland; Rob Mercer, Ohio; Vincent Paccione, California; Matthew Vest, North Carolina; Kevin T. Kehl, Florida; Derrick Clark, Indiana; and Darlene Price, Kentucky.

RESEARCH – I am looking for people who have had alien abduction experiences in Oregon or the Pacific Northwest. I would like to tell your story in a published book. I am a MUFON Research Specialist and author of the upcoming book *Evolutionary Ufology*. I have confidence that my current publisher, Schiffer Books, would be very interested in such a volume. Proposed title would be either Oregon Alien Abductions or Alien Abductions in the Pacific Northwest. Total anonymity is assured unless otherwise desired. Please contact me, Jordan Hofer, at jordanhoferufo@gmail.com.

E-BLASTS – All MUFON members have been added to our e-newsletter to keep you up-to-date. Please check your spam boxes and mark our e-blasts from Constant Contact as receivable.

OHIO MUFON – The Fourth Annual MUFON of Ohio Conference – The Unexplained: UFOs, Crop Circles and Bigfoot, produced with the International Metaphysical University with speakers Jeffrey Wilson, Richard Dolan and Joedy Cook, June 8, 2013, 11 a.m. – 6

p.m. The Sheriff's Department Annex, 1205 E. Main Street, Ashland, Ohio. More information at mufonohio.com.

PHOENIX MUFON welcomes Craig Campobasso, Saturday, May 18, as he presents his feature film, "Stranger At The Pentagon," from the book by Dr. Frank E. Stranges.

University of Advancing Technology, 2-5 p.m.

Phoenixmufon.com for all details.

PHOENIX MUFON welcomes Mike Bara, Saturday, June 15, as he lectures on "Ancient Aliens On The Moon."

Mr. Bara is a co-star on History Channel's "Ancient Aliens" program. University of Advancing Technology, 2-5pm.

Phoenixmufon.com for all details.

MUFON-A-GRAMS – Terry Groff has created some very fun anagrams on UFO-Paranormal people. Can you solve these? The answers will appear in next month's *Journal* in this same location.

FAINT ADORNMENTS
BARBECUE MECCA
DRINK FENCER
KEN THE ALDERMAN
STILL HIPPED
KILL DAN RAVEN
LORD ARACHNID
I POP NECK
HARD HILL ARC
OLD CAVEMAN DAD
OVAL TWIN STAR
RASH OR GERM
CLERGY FATHER
EVE'S NUDE GHOST

PALE SKIN, GIANTS, AND THE GREAT TRANSITION

This book approaches the subject of possible early hybridization of the human race from a different perspective and with different evidence than has heretofore been offered. – Milton Brener, author



"Milton Brener is a scholar of great skill and courage, willing to question accepted beliefs and to follow his perceptions with unflinching research. He here tackles the advent of pale skin among early humans along with other human mysteries that began in the same time frame: the sudden appearances 30,000 years ago of stunningly beautiful cave paintings, the first musical instruments and first calendars.

"As analogous, he refers us to the "Greek miracle" that abruptly arose about 600 years BC; and their later elaboration during the European Renaissance. Brener attributes both episodes to preceding mixtures of populations. For the prehistoric episodes he proposes that the triggering mechanism could have been interbreeding with extraterrestrials over long periods. He cites evidence for his theory in ancient artifacts as well as current research. His novel theory, described in clear and elegant writing, is unique, mind-bending, and challenging. While I remain a skeptic, I loved reading this book, and I find that it opened my eyes to some compelling possibilities."

- Betty Edwards, Author of *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*



30 Years Ago

Two men have close encounter at Colusa

EDITOR'S NOTE: This piece was originally published in the May 1984 Journal and was written by Paul Cerny, Western Regional Director.

Reuben Genera, 32, and his brother, Carlos, 38, were fishing for striped bass on the bank of the Sacramento River about five miles north of Colusa, California, a little after 1 a.m. on May 25, 1979. It was a clear night and they were using a Coleman lantern to see by. Their poles were propped up on "Y" sticks stuck in the bank near the water's edge.

They had arrived for fishing about 9 o'clock. In the quiet, warm night, the brothers were standing facing one another talking and keeping an eye on their lines in the light of the lantern.

The location is only about four airline miles from the outstanding September 1976 sighting reported by Bill Pecha of Colusa and eight other local witnesses.

Colusa, a small farming community of about 3,500 people, is about 100 miles north of Sacramento.

Reuben was startled to suddenly see bright lights turn on behind Carlos and just over a large heavy stand of riverbank trees, about 700 to 800 feet away. He called Carlos' attention to the lights.

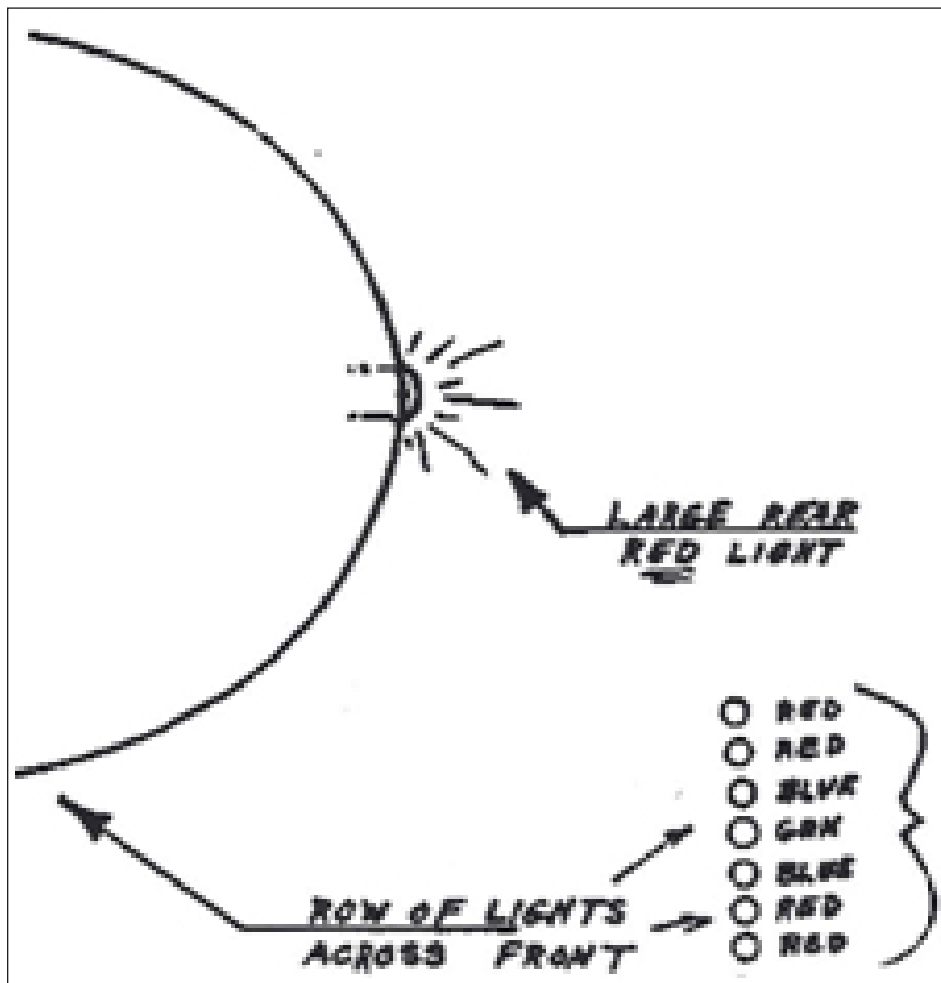
Carlos, whose home was in Colusa (Reuben lived in San Jose), was familiar with the Pecha sighting in 1976 and exclaimed, "My God, it's a UFO!" Reuben said, "Turn the light out."

Both scrambled to extinguish the Coleman lantern. Carlos quickly located his heavy duty "flashlight" lantern and checked for the hand gun which he always carried for protection when fishing at night.

The bright, white lights just stayed where they were, hovering silently about 50 to 100 feet over the trees. Reuben, a natural clock-watcher, noted the time.

It was 1:08 a.m. by Reuben's timing, the lights remained hovering in the same spot for about six minutes.

When the lights first turned on in their direction, they were quite blinding to the brothers, whose eyes had long become used to the darkness even though there was about two-thirds moon that night. The lights beamed outward toward them for about 600 feet, similar to car headlights, but much larger. They angled slightly downward and were spaced far apart on the flat, blunt front end of the strange craft.



As the UFO started to slowly move toward them, both were very apprehensive and Carlos was on the verge of panic. He hastily told Reuben he thought they might be picked up, as he had read about it somewhere. With that, Reuben, who had wanted to stay to see what the craft was going to do, was ready to get out of there too. They scrambled part way up the gradual sloping river bank and hid in some heavy brush, still watching the slowly approaching lights intently.

Strangely enough, they were quite aware of nearby animals, frogs and crickets, making a lot of excitable racket, especially a flock of peacocks across the river at a nearby ranch. Usually animal and insect life quiets down at a close approach. Reuben was even aware of his fish pole bobbing erratically from the bass biting his bait.

The huge ship passed slowly overhead about 100 feet above them.