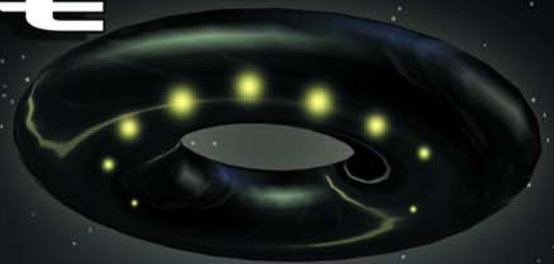


UFO DATA MAGAZINE

*Incorporating
UFO MONTHLY*

Jan/Feb 2008 £3.95 UK inc p&p



**US Pilot Ordered to
Open Fire at UFO
in UK Airspace...**

*The UK's favourite UFO Magazine Produced by researchers
for enthusiasts around the world...*

**May we take this opportunity to wish all our
readers old and new a very happy and eventful 2008
Happy New Year from all at UFO DATA**

From The Editors

As the new year unfolds, it is our pleasure to introduce a well known face to the editorial staff of *UFO DATA Magazine*.

Gary Heseltine joins us as Co-Editor and with his wealth of experience and dedicated research, we believe Gary will help the magazine grow from strength to strength. Welcome aboard, Gary.



'In August 2007, I was flattered to be offered the position of Co-Editor of *UFO DATA Magazine* by Russel and Michael. I had always dreamed of getting a magazine back into a glossy printed format and when they made their offer, I found it simply too tempting

to turn down. I am proud of the work I put in with UFO Monthly.com but it was the right time to merge and go forward as one magazine.

I will endeavour to make *UFO DATA Magazine* the leading publication in Britain and Europe and to keep up the pressure on the government to give full disclosure on the data they hold on UFOs. I'm excited for the future and am grateful to Russel and Michael for this opportunity to join them at the magazine.'

On behalf of all involved in the publication of *UFO DATA Magazine*, we extend a very warm welcome to the loyal readers of Gary's EZine UFO MONTHLY and hope you enjoy this printed record of Ufology...



**Welcome to 2008
The Year Of The Rat...**

In this issue...



'Engage Target'...

David Cayton reports on a little-advertised incident over UK skies back in 1957...

MoD release full archive

Who else but Nick Pope delivers the news behind the news that the MoD are to make all UFO files public...

NASA Do they have proof ?

Russel Callaghan talks with Martyn Stubbs about the importance of his video collection...

Alien Autopsy 'The End'

Philip Mantle puts the lid on events in an interview with the magical Spyros...

6th PRUFOS Report

Our new Co-Editor Gary Heseltine presents his 6th PRUFOS Police UFO Sightings Report...

News and Reports From Around The World...



UFO DATA MAGAZINE

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USAF PILOT ORDERED TO FIRE AT UFO IN UK AIRSPACE...

David Cayton reports

INTRODUCTION.

One night, at the height of the 'Cold War' in 1957, two USAF jet fighter aircraft which were on QRA stand-by (Quick Reaction Alert) at RAF Manston, were scrambled to intercept an 'intruder' which had flown into the U.K. airspace whilst being constantly monitored by ground based radar systems. Clearly, the 'intruder' was recognised as not being a Soviet aircraft of any description, presumably by its unusual flight manoeuvres and characteristics. In fact at one point it was actually stationary for a long period over the Ipswich area!

Normally, one would hope and expect that our defence systems would not allow an unfriendly aircraft to penetrate that far inland before being intercepted and 'escorted' back out of our territory!

I can verify that during my own past RAF experience while stationed in West Germany in the early 1960s, that at least once a month, one of our Canberra P.R. aircraft was stripped of all the camera fits and flew at low level and at high speed, over into the Soviet controlled, Eastern Zone of Germany. The idea was to probe and try to defeat the Soviet defence radar systems by flying low under their radar. The Soviets did exactly the same to us. Our squadron aircrew, on returning, used to joke that they had again waved at 'Ivan' going past in the opposite direction! This was a regular 'war game' acknowledged by both sides.

Nothing as serious as the subject of this report!

It is patently obvious that on this occasion in 1957, the 'intruder' was clearly identified as another intrusion by an 'unknown' (UFO) otherwise the 'order' to fire rockets at the object would never have been authorised!

Most certainly, we would have 'rules of engagement procedures' in place at that time; just in case the 'Cold War' turned into a hot one! (*And I expect we probably still have!*).

Initially, as our pilot was being vectored towards the 'unknown target' by GCI (Ground Control) he had assumed it to be a conventional unfriendly aircraft. Only when he was given the order to fire his weapons was he acutely aware of the gravity of the situation!

It was only later in the mission he realised that this 'target' was not a terrestrial aerial craft! (*The pilots own testimony will make this clear later on*). Nevertheless, he was shocked to be given this order to launch his rockets while flying within United Kingdom airspace. To fire at that time, upon a Soviet aircraft could have had grave repercussions, possibly leading to the outbreak of WW3 and any decision made to order aircrew to take offensive action by firing their weapons at an intruder would not have been taken lightly.

Highly placed British military officials would certainly have been aware of the situation.

The U.S Air Force were not permitted to independently authorise these actions over British territory. Just remember, by comparison, the international furore that followed the incident in the 60s when American pilot, Gary Powers, in his unarmed U2 'spy' plane, was 'brought down' by the Soviets when flying high over Russia!

I would like to record my thanks to friend and fellow researcher, Manchester based solicitor Harry Harris for his sterling work (*and good fortune*) in bringing this case to my notice back in 1994, and allowing me access to his files and correspondence and recently giving me permission to write up this report for publication.

UFODATA
MAGAZINE

Incorporating
UFO MONTHLY



David Cayton is a retired RAF and British Aerospace engineer. His lifelong interest in the UFO subject was born from a personal encounter. David also takes great interest in Strange Animal Deaths here in the UK...

We are now both especially indebted to one of the two pilots directly involved in this 'incident', Professor Milton Torres, USAF Major retired, for his co-operation and willingness to publicly come forward and recount in such great detail, his alarming experiences of that night, now some 50 years on!

Milton Torres, has a Doctorate of Industrial Engineering and lectured at The University of Florida for many years. He is now retired, is 77 years of age and resides with his wife in Miami, Florida.



Milton Torres
Colorado Sept 2007

CASE BACKGROUND.

I think it is worthy and necessary to explain how Harry Harris accidentally came to meet Milton Torres in London in 1988 and learned about his 'experience' of 1957 and his then subsequent 'dogged' diligence in following up with written questions to the MoD and the USAF.

He, as usual, received the typical 'stone-walling' answers in return.

At some unspecified date in 1988, as a practicing Solicitor Harry had to attend a Conveyance Refresher Course. Harry was in his London hotel, queuing for breakfast when he noticed that there were some American ladies in front of him. He got into conversation with them and learned that they were here in England with their husbands, who were attending a USAF veteran pilot's event at their old air base down in Kent.

It transpired that this was a reunion of the pilots old unit, the 406th Fighter Interceptor Wing at RAF Manston, near Margate.

Harry, naturally having the opportunity to quiz a pilot (*as every ufologist should do*) asked if her husband had ever seen a UFO? Upon hearing her reply, Harry said to me later, that he then realised, as a UFO investigator, he had 'struck gold'.

The lady he quizzed was Milton Torres' wife. Mrs Torres turned to Harry in the queue and said that not only had her husband chased a UFO, he was ordered to shoot one down.

This was even more startling when he introduced himself to Milton Torres himself at the breakfast table, and he learned that this exciting event occurred while he was serving at RAF Manston no less.

Following on from this chance encounter, Harry and his wife Susan Harris became good friends with Milton and Dorothy Torres. A few years later this friendship resulted in an invitation for the both of them to join the Torreses at RAF Manston for another reunion event.

THE USAF PRESENCE AT MANSTON.

I think it would be of interest to mention a few facts and the timescale of Milton's squadron operations at Manston.

(Extracted from Wikipedia).

RAF Manston was an RAF Station in the north-east of Kent, on the Isle of Thanet from 1916 until 1996. The site is now split between a continuing military use, as FSCTE Manston, the Central Fire Fighting School, following on from a long standing training facility for RAF firefighters at the Manston base, and a commercial airport Kent International Airport (KIA).

USAF Use: During the Cold War of the 1950's the United States Air Force used Manston as a Strategic Air Command base for its fighter and fighter-bomber units.

In 1955, SAC shifted its rotational deployments to RAF Fairford and Manston was turned over to the United States Air Forces in Europe.

In July 1952, the 406th Fighter-Bomber Wing was activated in place at Manston with the following Squadrons assigned: 512th, 513th, and the 514th, Milton's Unit in 1957. In April 1954, with the arrival of the new F86D's, their mission role changed from fighter-bomber to fighter-interceptor.

Finally, in May 1958, the 406th was deactivated in place, with the three air defence squadrons being assigned to continental Europe.

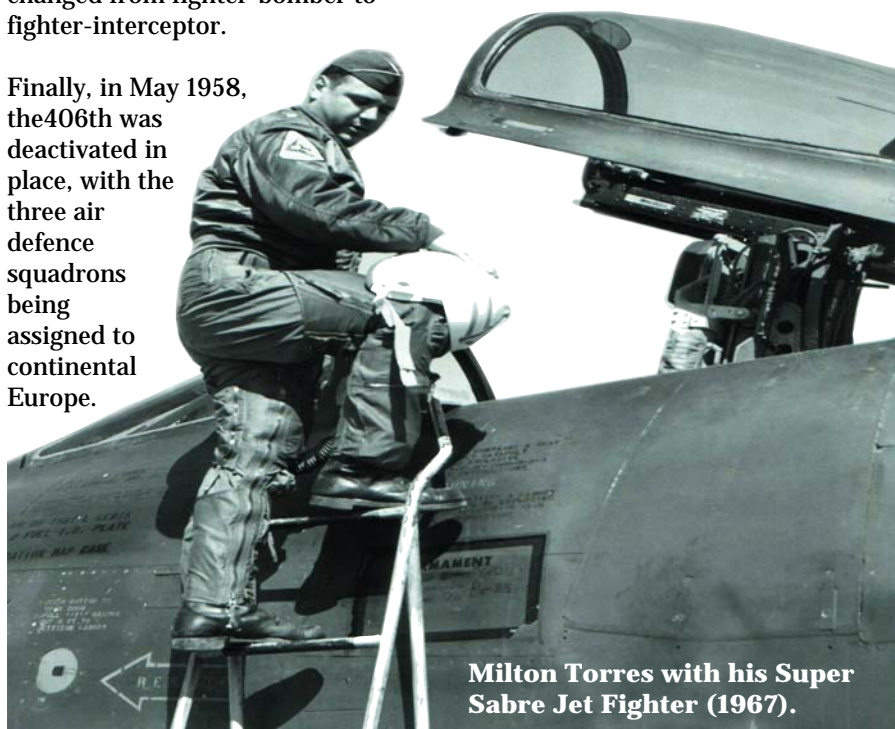
Milton's 514th Squadron was transferred to Ramstein Air Base, West Germany under the 86th Air Division (Defence). After the transfer of the USAF interceptors from Manston, the base was returned to RAF control.

THE WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF MAJOR MILTON TORRES (USAF Retired.)

I have transcribed Milton's story and personal recollections, exactly as he typed them up for Harry Harris in 1992. I have only added, in 'brackets', any points of clarification where necessary. Incidentally, around that time, one afternoon, I was sitting in Harry's office in Sale, Manchester, listening on a speakerphone system, to Milton giving his in-depth verbal account of the experience.

There's nothing like hearing it from the lips of the witness! Milton followed up the call to Harry with this written account.

I have only slightly modified Milton's words here and there, in view of his further comments to me. These address certain small personal details he has added in emails and during a recent telephone conversation. (Note: the 'bold' emphases and italics are mine!) DC.



Milton Torres with his Super Sabre Jet Fighter (1967).

*I was only a young Lieutenant at the time and very much aware of the gravity of the situation. To be candid, I almost s**t my pants!*

Milton Torres' Narrative:

It was a typical English night in Kent. The 406th Fighter Wing had been designated to a particular 'Sector' (RAF) and to have our F-86D's (Super Sabre jet fighters) stand alert (on QRA) as an operational requirement. The date was sometime in 1957 and our squadrons were considered combat qualified when they committed us to the operational requirement.

My recollection seems to indicate that this function was rotated about England between the various RAF and USAF units. On this particular night, the 514th Fighter Interceptor had the Alert Duty.

Two F-86D's were on a 5 minute alert at the south end of the runway at RAF Station Manston, awaiting a signal to scramble. We had a 'scramble shack' assembled on the grass next to the 'birds'. The hour was late as memory serves me and the weath-

er was IFR (Instrument Flight Rules). Looking back at the log book, a total of 30 minutes of Night Weather was logged on a 1 hour and 15 minute flight. Some details, such as exactly what hour the scramble occurred, or what we were doing just prior to scramble, totally escapes me, however the Auxiliary Power Units (APU) were on and the power was transmitted to the aircraft. (Note: This is normal practice for aircraft on QRA).

We were ready for an immediate call to scramble and eager for the flight time hours.

I can remember the call to scramble quite clearly and we were given a vector of 120 degrees and a flight level of Angel 32 (32,000 ft.altitude). We were airborne well within the 5 minutes allotted to us and we rapidly climbed upwards and levelled at FL320. Our vector took us out over the North Sea, just east of East Anglia. Normally my 'wingman', the other member of the set of two fighters, would be the lead ship. I can only suggest that I was now leading due to an 'in place' turn of some sort. I remember in quite specific terms, talking as lead ship to the GCI Site (who's call sign I cannot recall) I was advised of the situation quite clearly.

The initial briefing from the ground control (on radar) had been observing, for a considerable time, a blip that was orbiting the East Anglia

area. Apparently there was very little movement and, from my conversation with the GCI, all the normal (identifying) procedures of checking with all controlling agencies, revealed that this was an unidentified flying object with very unusual flight patterns.

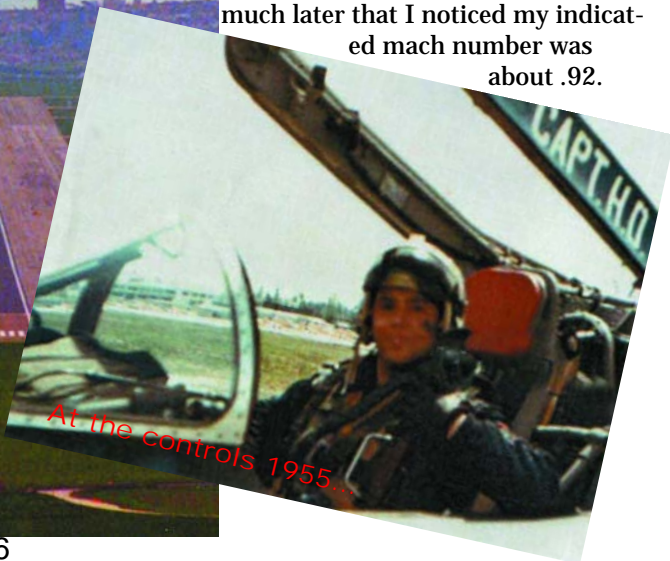
In the initial briefing, it was suggested that the 'bogey' was actually motionless for long intervals! (In fact, over the Ipswich area.)

The instructions came to go 'gate' to expedite the intercept. Gate was the term used to use maximum power, in the case of the F-86D, that meant full afterburner and proceed to an initial point keeping at around 32,000 feet. By this time my radar was on and I was looking prematurely for the 'bogey'.

The instruction came to report any visual observations, to which I replied, 'I'm in the soup and it is impossible to see anything!' The weather was probably high alto stratus but between over the North Sea and in the weather, no frame of reference was available, i.e. no stars, no lights, no silhouettes, in short nothing.

GCI continued the vectoring and their dialogue describing the strange antics of the UFO! The exact turns and manoeuvres they gave me were all predicted to reach some theoretical point for a lead collision course type, to enable any rocket release.

I can remember reaching the level off altitude and requested to come out of afterburner, only to be told to stay in afterburner! It wasn't very much later that I noticed my indicated mach number was about .92.



This is about as fast as the F-86D could fly straight and level. Our final vector was toward the North.

I then recieved the order to fire a full salvo of rockets at the UFO.

I was only a young lieutenant at the time (age 27) and very much aware of the gravity of the situation. To be candid, I almost shit my pants! At any rate, I had my hands full trying to fly, search for 'bogeys' and now selecting a hot load on the switches.

I asked for 'authentication' of the order to fire and I received it! This further complicated my difficulty, as the matrix of letters and numbers to find the correct (matching) authentication was on a piece of printed paper about 5 by 8 inches and with the print not much bigger than normal type.

It was totally black and the lights were down for night flying. I used my flashlight, still trying to fly and watch my radar. To put it quite candidly, I felt much like a one legged man in an ass kicking contest!

The authentication/verification to fire was valid. They weren't kidding! I then selected my 24 rockets to salvo. They further told me we were in a teardrop climb, to be positioned to fire at a UFO at 32,000 feet! I wasn't paying too much attention to my wingman, but I clearly remember

him giving a 'Roger' to all the transmissions. I can only suppose he was as busy as I was. My final turn was given and instructions passed to look 30 degrees to the port for my 'bogey'.

I did not have a hard time at all. There it was exactly where I was told it would be at 30 degrees and at 15 miles. The 'blip' was burning a hole in the radar scope with its incredible intensity. It was similar to a 'blip' I had received from B-52s and seemed to be a magnet of light. These things I remember quite very clearly. I ran the range gate marker over the blip and the jizzle band faded as the marker superimposed over the blip. I had a 'lock on' something that had the proportions of a flying aircraft carrier! By that, I mean the 'return' on the radar was so strong, that it could not be overlooked by the fire control system on the F-86D. I use in comparison other fighter aircraft and airliners. The airliner is easy to get a lock-on, while the fighter, not being a good 'return', is very difficult.

On smaller aircraft, a lock-on was only possible under a ten mile range. The larger the airplane, the easier the lock-on. This 'blip', almost locked itself! I cannot explain to the lay person exactly what I mean, save to say that it was the best target I could ever remember locking on to.

I had locked on in just a few seconds and I locked on at exactly 15 miles,

which was the maximum range for lock on. I then called to the GCI, 'Judy', which signifies that I would take all further steering information from my own radar computer.

Now back to the intercept of the UFO. As I said, I had an overtake of 800 knots and my radar was rock stable. The dot was centred and only the slightest corrections were necessary. This was a very fast intercept and the circle started to shrink. I called '20 seconds' and the GCI indicated he was standing by. The overtake was still indicating in the 7 or 8 o'clock position. At about 10 seconds to go (to fire), I noticed that the overtake position was changing its position on the scope.

It moved rapidly to the 6 o'clock, then 3 o'clock, then 12 o'clock and finally rested about the 11 o'clock position. This indicated a negative overtake of 200 knots (the maximum negative overtake displayed). There was no way of knowing what the actual speed of the UFO was, as he could be travelling at very high mach numbers and I could only see the 200 knot negative overtake.

The circle, which was down to about an inch and a half in diameter, started to open up rapidly.

Within seconds it was back to 3 inches in diameter and the 'blip' was visible in the blackened jizzle band, moving up the scope! This meant that it was going away from me fast! I reported this to the GCI site and they replied by asking, 'Do you have a 'Tally Ho'? I reported that I was still in the soup and could see nothing.

By this time the UFO had 'broke lock' and I saw him leaving my 30 mile range.

Again I reported that he was gone, only to be told that he was now off their scope as well. With the loss of the blip off their scope, the mission was over. We were vectored back to 'homeplate' (Manston) and secured our switches. My last instructions were that they would contact me on the ground by land line.

(Additional notes by David Cayton:





I have read of earlier reports that often describe in these situations, that the 'targeted UFO' craft seem to know that they are about to be fired upon and exit rapido! Cases have been recorded by pilots that their weapons systems have been temporarily disabled. There have also been worse scenarios!)

Back in the alert tent, I talked to Met sector. They advised me that the blip had gone off the scope in two sweeps at the GCI site and they had instructions to tell me that the mission was considered 'classified'. They also advised me that I would be contacted by some investigator. It was the next day before anyone showed up.

I had not the foggiest idea what had actually occurred, nor would anyone explain anything to me. In the Squadron Operations area, one of the sergeants came to me and brought me into the hallway around the side of the pilots' briefing room. He approached a civilian, who appeared from nowhere.

The civilian looked like a well-dressed IBM salesman, with a dark blue trenchcoat. I cannot remember his facial features, only to say he was in his thirties or early forties. He immediately jumped into asking questions about the previous day's mission. I got the impression that he operated out of the States, but I don't know for sure. After my debriefing of the events, he advised me that this would be considered highly classified and should not discuss it with anybody, not even my Commander!

He then threatened me with a national security breach if I breathed a word of it to anyone, he disappeared without so much as a goodbye and that was that as far as I was concerned. I must admit I was significantly impressed by the action of the

'cloak and dagger' people and I have not spoken of this to anyone until recent years.

My impression was that, whatever the aircraft or spacecraft was, it must have been travelling in 2 digit mach numbers to have done what I witnessed! My unit had been declared 'combat ready' about two months preceding this intercept. Therefore, we would have been under 'control' of the British GCI Centre for all such actions.

Perhaps the cloak of secrecy can be lifted in these days of enlightenment and all of us can have all the facts? This is my account to the best of my memory.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS.

We are indeed privileged to read of Milton's enthralling account and I am certain that his 'official' debriefing report, who he now believes was to an officer from the London branch of the NSA (National Security Agency), would not have passed across the public UFO desk of Air Staff 2a, MoD in Whitehall.

I am confident that there are many other military encounter reported incidents which have occurred in this country, which are buried away somewhere in the Public Records Office at Kew.

Historical records show that in the late 1940s, the U.S. President issued an executive order to his Air Force Chiefs of Staff, to the effect that all aggressive actions against UFO

intrusions must cease forthwith. They were losing far too many planes and pilots. The new dictum was to only permit observations and report.

Despite this top level 'order' in the United States, it would appear that our British military 'brass hats' were obviously willing in 1957, to play fast and loose with the lives of American aircrew in our airspace. One can imagine the Defence Chiefs in their frustration, echoing that they cannot shoot at the Soviets, so at least we will have a go at the UFOs penetrating our controlled regions. They may further have generously decreed that this 'shoot to kill policy' would only be authorised to our U.S. allies while based in England.

It is, of course, quite possible that our Defence Chiefs were not aware of this Presidential Order. As any who have served in the armed forces will know, the emphasis on information 'compartmentalisation' and 'The Need to Know' maxim, leads to the old problem of the left hand not knowing what the right is doing! That remaining 10 seconds to go for rocket launch could well have been their last action before oblivion.

Thankfully, we are very lucky that Milton and his wingman did not encounter any superior retaliatory firepower and, fortunately, safely returned from their mission and survived to tell us the tale!

David Cayton. October, 2007.

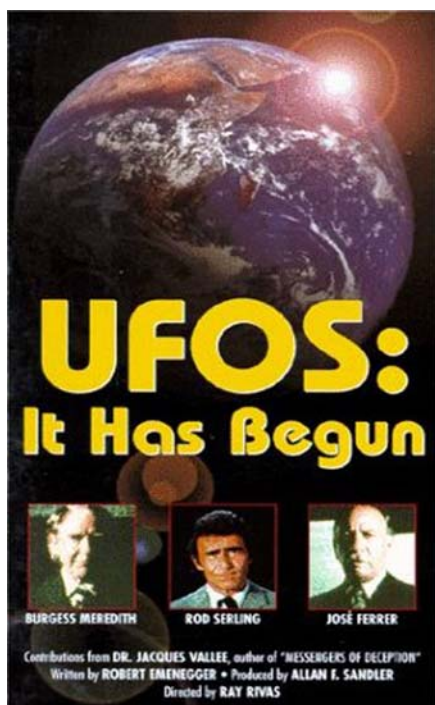


Do NASA Have Secrets?



During my time at *UFO Magazine*, I had quite a privileged opportunity to view photographs and video tapes from researchers and enthusiasts from all over the world.

Much of what was presented was very easy to identify, not wishing to sound big-headed or trying to taint the reputation of the witness, but many events were created by inexperienced operation of video cameras and relying on the 'auto' operation to 'guarantee' results. When Martyn Stubbs introduced himself to *UFO Magazine* the goalposts suddenly changed...



I have long been both inspired and intrigued by the subject of UFOs. Since the early black and white TV documentaries with their somewhat 'iffy' footage to modern, big budget History Channel presentations, all have had a mix of either 'Don't be ridiculous' or 'well that's quite interesting' feel about them, but year in, year out, we have had to put up with the intermingling of third-rate dross interspersed with some very hard to debunk material.

Much was made over the BBC's 'Warminster Mystery' from some forty years ago, but, on reflection, watching the documentary now, it was more about the people of Wiltshire and not the sometimes terrifying experiences of those residents of this small pocket of alien encounters.

Moving on, I suppose the big US production, *UFOs: It Has Begun*, was one of the most serious productions on the subject ever to be made. As Blue Book came to its washed-out conclusions, this programme introduced pilots, military and regular people in the street who had all experienced something very unusual to the viewer, leaving us with a very serious thought that governments across the world did indeed have both information and a definite interest in the phenomena.

When I first saw Nebraska

University's Dr Jack Kasher's scientific explanation of strange events surrounding NASA's filmed encounters during shuttle mission STS-48, I for one was lifted in my belief in the subject. It's understandable that individuals can make mistakes and believe they are observing something completely different to what is actually happening when it comes to reporting UFO encounters, however I do not believe for one minute that all the thousands of individuals who have reported such encounters are all mistaken. Some encounters appear to be the real thing...

But when these strange events are caught on cameras, cameras that are attached to multi-million dollar hardware, hardware belonging to NASA, and the images are freely broadcast for the world to see, then I have to take such material and evidence very seriously indeed.

It was after studying the Kasher documentary that I began to realise that if this scientist was reporting the facts accurately (and I have no reason to doubt that he would not do that), then the debunking community would have a hell of a job sweeping the evidence under the carpet.

After Jack Kasher's work had gotten into the public domain, it wasn't long before more unusual film was recorded by NASA. STS-80 is the mission that springs to mind. It showed an even more spectacular event emanating from inside the Earth's atmosphere.

The camera on board the shuttle was aimed at a specific area of the Earth and, in the film that was transmitted, we see the camera footage focused on an area of space for about a minute or so when suddenly, from nowhere, an object appears the break through the cloud cover. It is huge and appears to be rotating. The camera tracks the object as it makes an angular manoeuvre and then turns back on itself.

All very interesting, I'm sure you'll agree, but did this get a mention from outside the UFO community? It should have made the six o'clock news, but, you guessed it, not a mention. But, almost 20 years on, we, the Ufologists, still recall the sequence, but when researchers come to UFO Data's offices sourcing material, nine times out of ten, the researchers are totally oblivious of these clips existence.

The early STS clips spurred on a handful of diligent researchers who were now hungry for more of the same, but it would be some years before the UFO community at large would take delivery of what has to be the most controversial sequence of events ever caught on NASA's cameras.

I first met Martyn Stubbs in person back in 1999. Martyn had contacted *UFO Magazine* to say 'Hey, I've seen your magazines and read about NASA's secrets and think I have something here you might be interested in.' A couple of hours later and



a phone call to some Australian colleagues had yours truly despatched to Vancouver, Canada, with tripod and camera and a simple remit: Go see if this is for real...

I arrived in Vancouver after a long flight from Amsterdam and spent the night in small hotel in Downtown Vancouver. Martyn had arranged to collect me from the hotel early the next morning. Martyn Stubbs is a unique individual in many ways. He had shared with us the fact that he was suffering from a brain tumour, so only speaking with him on the phone and by email I really didn't know quite what to expect. He had given me his background of how he was now retired from his work as a cable TV station manager and I had an image of an older, perhaps frail, individual collecting me from the hotel. How wrong could one be?

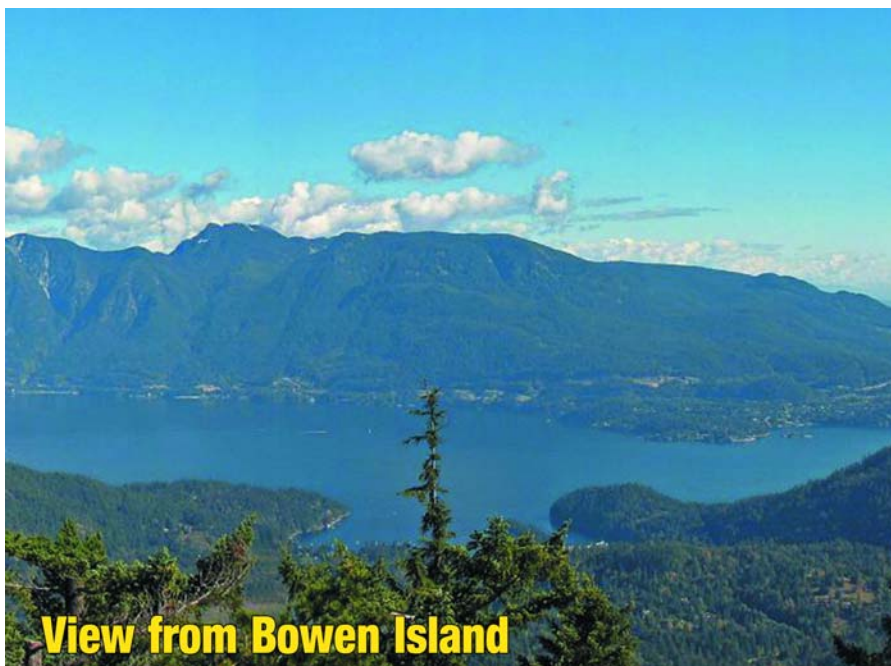
About 9:30AM on my second day in Canada, this 6ft 5in Pete Fonda type of guy walked into my hotel with a shock of long, blond hair and a baseball cap. He shook me firmly by the hand and from that moment his enthusiasm for his work was totally apparent. Martyn had arrived.

Now, Martyn lives on Bowen Island, a 3 mile wide chunk of rock situated in the North Pacific, some 20 minutes by ferry out of Horseshoe Bay in Vancouver. As he drove his car onto the ferry the adventure had begun.

Once we reached Bowen, it was a short, 5 minute drive to Martyn's beautiful hillside home with views across Horseshoe Bay, where we could see Vancouver Airport in the distance. It was a bit like a James Bond movie set, with boats and the odd seaplane crossing the view from the house. Martyn introduced his lovely wife, Lesley, and family dog, Walter, warning me that Walter had a nasal problem and to be cautious of his snorting and sneezing without warning.

I stayed at the island's only guest house, where I was the only resident, but spent most of the time at Martyn's home, where he enthusiastically took me through endless hours of recorded video.

Whilst working for the TV station,



Martyn sought permission from the company to record direct NASA TV feeds that the station took to redistribute across their own network. Martyn had started to record these transmissions after becoming aware of the STS-80 events in the early 90s.

His collection was impressive and it soon became apparent to me that Martyn had a unique collection of material, the importance of which would become more obvious in the following months.

Not only had Martyn recorded all NASA's broadcasts over a four year period, he had also scoured broadcast news and the local and national printed media. His natural ability to follow up a story was evident when he produced boxes of news clippings, all relevant in some way to his interest in NASA's material. Martyn was also quick to point out that the Canadian space program was indeed big business and had a long association with NASA in not only providing technology, such as the Canarm remote manipulator that was used in most space shuttle missions to deploy or retrieve hardware from space, but also the fact that Canada had a busy corps of astronauts attached to the US space program

One very controversial link to the Canadian Space Agency was the fact that Martyn had sequenced together a number of anomalous clips on a VHS video and, through a friend of a friend, made it available to members

of the Canadian team of astronauts. When a comment was made by Captain Mike McKay that 'This was the astronauts' favourite under-ground tape', Martyn realised he had struck a nerve somewhere, although as the adventure progressed, Captain McKay found himself dropped from his next mission at very short notice.

Such was the interest created by Martyn's inroads that dialogue with NASA personal was struck up and some very highly placed individuals started to chat about what Martyn was suggesting and much of this electronic chatter was in no way negative towards the cause.

Professors and other PhDs got involved and, after seeing some of the material Martyn had collected, it was easy to see why. Martyn labelled his tape as having two space phenomena on them. The first phenomenon, as he labelled it, was footage depicting objects that should not be there, the most famous being the STS-75 Tethered Satellite sequence of events. This sequence can be viewed on YouTube or many other video-based websites. You can view it at UFORUSS pages on YouTube, where I have uploaded several NASA sequences, but the one that was causing more intellectual interest was Martyn's second space phenomenon. This was something that happened in a split second, an event captured hundreds of times in the split fields of a video recording's single frame.



The USA and Canada use the ancient NTSC colour system as the national TV standard. This produces 30 frames per second (well, actually, it's just over 29, but for demonstration purposes 30 is just fine). Each frame is scanned 30 times a second by 2 fields of scanning electrons, each being half the vertical resolution of the other. When the two are viewed at 60th of a second intervals, the human eye sees a solid frame, however, when playing a tape back on an editing video machine, either field can be viewed separately and it was when the tapes were viewed in this manner, Martyn noticed bright, coloured streaks of energy that could be seen in one field only to be gone in the next.

The colours were not consistent. Blue, purple, red, yellow and green could all be seen, some long, some short. It was suggested that we were seeing cosmic rays caught by the camera, but research done by UK-based Mike Murray. He spoke to the camera CCD manufacturers and was told that the CCDs used in these cameras could not film cosmic or gamma rays in this way.

People at NASA told Martyn that whatever we saw on the film was space side of the camera. It was not a fault, it was real.

So why aren't scientists across the world jumping on this evidence?

You tell me. During my time at *UFO Magazine*, I produced the very successful *Secret NASA Transmissions*, a 90-minute video tape that told Martyn's story. We sent samples to news channels and documentary makers across all UK networks. Channel 4 in the UK committed several thousands of pounds into a fea-

ture documentary, only to pull the plug on the day Graham Birdsall and I were due to meet the crew in Laughlin, Nevada.

The film crew had flights and hotel reservations in Laughlin, but they pulled out by fax the morning they were due to arrive. It was as if they had been told not to attend at the last minute.

So why did, and still do, people avoid what is surely evidence of at least something not being as it seems in our planet's close space neighbourhood?

There have been several individuals who became synonymous with NASA footage. Les Willie started it off and Jeff Challender, who sadly passed away last year, built a website full of NASA material, but with respect to all involved, nobody had what Martyn Stubbs had and what's more, the recordings were all made on professional equipment and the quality was that of broadcast.

Now during a recent conversation with Martyn, he told me that the original material he released to *UFO Magazine* were second generation VHS recordings. He had put all his masters away for safe keeping and had dubbed the material he thought we would find interesting.

Let me tell you what I previewed with Martyn was an awful lot of video, so to find out some 7 years hence that there was a source of material of a quality I had not seen made my ears prick up.

It's fair to say that Martyn had been approached by and worked with TV researchers and film makers since the original work we did together on *The Secret NASA Transmissions*, but what Martyn had realised was that in the big world of broadcast television, the interest was not in the big story, but to be able to show highly impacting footage in a montage of other UFO related material and not to look at the in-depth research carried out by Martyn.

True to say Martyn's material has appeared on TV, but never in quite the way *Secret NASA* presented the evidence.

This led to Martyn talking with the producers of the work he had helped with and, testing the water, to their thoughts on working once again with me on an updated version of *Secret NASA*. All were favourable of the idea.

Martyn then made contact with me and suggested that we could spend some time on a project that would bring the story up-to-date.

I was very interested in doing this from the start. With modern state-of-the-art video editing and recording equipment, we can bring pristine copies of this very special material



0:02:06

Earlier Tether Experiment Seen in the night skies over Texas...

5:19 AM

into the public eye once again and, hopefully, introduce the evidence to a new generation of Ufologists and maybe catch the eyes of one or two men or women of science.

Martyn is very philosophical in his opinion as to what he has on those tapes. He has spent thousands of man hours not just viewing the tapes, but getting people interested and chasing the paper trail. In several cases scoring a few goals on the way.

What Martyn told me was that, after looking at the evidence presented by others, although there was some very eye-catching material, nobody had the stuff that he had. This was not meant to be derogatory.

Martyn pointed out that much of what these other researchers presented was acquired via NASA TV off the web. Internet TV is okay for a preview, but I'm sure avid viewers of YouTube will agree that the quality, although watchable, is still very much internet TV. Martyn's second space phenomena was only found by close, frame-by-frame examination of high-quality recordings. The very way that Internet TV is encoded puts a stop to this kind of examination and, of course, the low resolution of the images means that still frame analysis is also impossible to carry out.

Martyn's videos were recorded on professional SVHS machines, fed by a full bandwidth signal from the station's satellite array, so even compared with home video recordings, the quality of the films are two to

three times that of what you could achieve by recording your own broadcast feed. That, of course, was in the days you could do it.

It has been some years since NASA broadcast live images into people's front rooms via satellite or cable boxes. Now you can still watch live events, but only in low bandwidth, web streamed video. If you have ever logged on to NASA TV, you might have noticed that while things are quiet the streams run pretty much trouble-free, but if you try to log on during a launch or satellite deployment, NASA's bandwidth gets gobbled up by millions of viewers across the web all trying to log on at once.

There is also a very convenient delay produced by the technology used. What you see could be up to 2 minutes behind real time due to the signal being processed by many different servers across the world, ample time for NASA to flick the switch if anything unusual should happen.

What Martyn recorded was directly off the back of the shuttle and the delays involved were less than a second.

I believe Martyn and I have a job to do. It might take a while, but watch this space.

To close, many people have asked about Martyn's health. I am happy to report the tumour that Martyn had was benign and successfully removed a couple of years ago. Martyn, I can say, is fighting fit and ready to go.

Russel Callaghan.

Another Manned Mission Leaves The Cape...



NASA (C)

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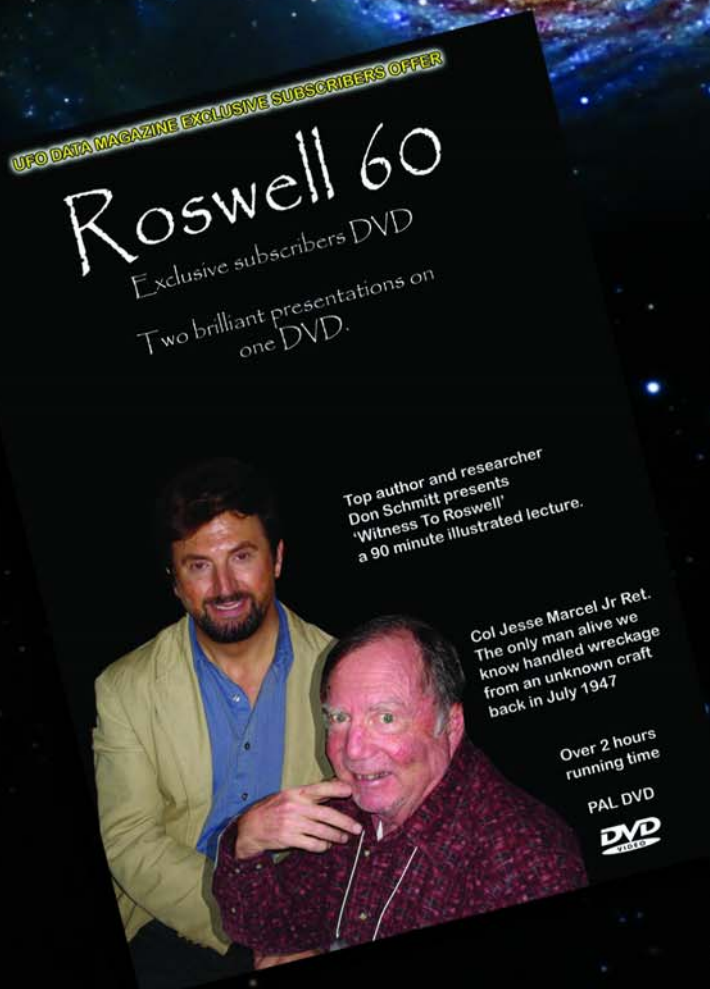
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ALIEN AUTOPSY 'GAME OVER' The devil is in the detail - The Spyros Melaris Story...

Philip Mantle

It was 1993 when I was first contacted by London businessman, Ray Santilli. It was 1995 when Santilli's controversial 'Alien Autopsy' film was released around the world. I have covered events surrounding this film in many publications around the world and in my book, *Alien Autopsy Inquest*, so forgive me if I don't cover old ground here.

On June 22nd, 2007, I travelled by train to London to meet up with Ray Santilli and his business partner, Gary Shoefield. We had a pleasant lunch together and Ray Santilli showed me some frames of film encased in a type of perspex material. Santilli claimed these were original, vintage, 1947 frames of film from the alien autopsy. As they came with no official seal of approval or had been authenticated by anyone they were useless.

Within a couple of days of this meeting, my friend and colleague, Russel Callaghan, editor of *UFO DATA magazine*, had a phone call from a man by the name of Spyros Melaris. This man claimed he had led the team that faked the whole alien autopsy film. He was a magician and filmmaker and he was now ready to spill the beans. He gave Russel a run down of the who, what, why and where of the whole affair. Because of my involvement in this affair, Russel was soon on the phone to me with the details. It wasn't long before I spoke to Spyros Melaris myself and he was telling me things in great detail. During the next few weeks I had several telephone conversations

with Spyros Melaris and also put him in contact with US TV producer, Robert (Bob) Kiviati at his request. Spyros was considering the best way to go public with his story. He had a book planned and thought that a TV documentary might also be a good idea.

Along with my colleagues, Russel Callaghan and Michael Buckley, I was one of the co-organisers of the UFO DATA annual conference. It just so happened that the 2007 conference had a loose Roswell theme to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Roswell Incident. My colleagues and I discussed the possibility of asking Spyros Melaris to make his first public statement on this whole thing at our conference and, eventually, he agreed. The conference itself was held over the weekend of October 20th & 21st, 2007, in Pontefract, West Yorkshire. A packed audience saw Spyros take the stage on Sunday October 21st. I had met him in person for the first time the night before at the hotel and I made loose arrangements to formally interview him at his home later in the year. As promised, Spyros took to the stage and told of his involvement in the making of the alien autopsy film. A small few members of the audience were rather upset to hear this but the vast majority were fascinated by what he had to say.

I made arrangements to visit the home of Spyros Melaris on November 16th, 2007, and I drove to his house in Hertfordshire with my partner, Christine. Before the formal

audio-taped interview began, we had lunch with Spyros and his lovely wife, Anne. Over lunch, Spyros showed us some of the documentary evidence he has to support his claims. This included his diary from 1995, hand drawn sketches of the alien, a full list of hand-painted storyboard images of the whole alien autopsy film, original fax messages from Kodak in the USA, providing copies of 1947 film canister labels, and a large portfolio of research material. This was mainly of vintage (1940's) US military vehicles and some vintage US military medical photographs. The interview itself lasted around two hours and we only touched the tip of the iceberg. The full interview can be located online at:

http://www.outtahear.com/beyond_updates/index.html (Alien Autopsy Information section). I would like to thank my colleague, Steve Johnson, for transcribing this interview in full. The following is based on that interview.



Who is Spyros Melaris ?

As the name might give it away, Spyros was originally born in Cyprus. As a boy, he was taught a magic trick by his grandfather and his love of magic was born. The other passion as a boy growing up in the UK was film making. At school he told his careers officer that he wanted to be an actor, but this was discouraged. A proper job was what he should have. So a proper job he took and, after leaving school, became an apprentice-trained motor mechanic. However, his love of magic and film making eventually won over and he eventually became a magician and a filmmaker. He now

owns his own TV studio in London and makes TV shows for all the major networks in the UK and independent production companies alike. In short, in his own words, we make programmes for "anyone who books us."



How Did he Meet Ray Santilli ?

In January, 1995, he was to attend the MIDEM music industry event in Cannes, France. He was taking a film crew there and had some spare time on his hands, so he sent fax messages to 4 production companies, picked at random from a media directory. He basically asked them if they wanted to hire him and his crew while in Cannes. One of these happened to be the Merlin Group, owned by Ray Santilli. Spyros and Ray Santilli had a few telephone conversations, but did not meet and arranged to meet in Cannes. By pure chance they bumped into each other at a restaurant in Cannes and it was here that Ray Santilli first told Spyros Melaris that he had obtained film footage of an alien. Holding back a smirk, Spyros asked Santilli if he was serious and he replied he was. Not only that, he wanted Spyros to make a documentary from this footage. They eventually agreed to meet at Ray Santilli's office back in London. A few days later, Spyros kept his appointment with Santilli at his office in London. Here he met an almost distraught

Ray Santilli, who told him he'd bought this film, but it had turned out to be very poor quality. Spyros was shown what has become known as the 'tent footage' and he immediately recognised it as being shot on video. The tape he was shown was on VHS format. Santilli seemed surprised that he had recognised it as being shot on video so quickly and he realised the game was up. Again in Spyros' own words, "If I can't get it past this guy, I'm not going to get it past anyone else." He realised it was game up. That's when the meeting ended. I thought the guy's mad. He's trying a fast one. I thought it was over at that point."

So How Did The Idea of a Fake Film Come About?

Melaris met up with his friend and colleague, John Humphreys. Humphreys is a Royal Academy trained sculptor whose work had sometimes overlapped into film and TV special effects. Melaris and Humphreys had known each other for a long time and had worked on a number of things together in the past. Melaris simply put the idea to Humphreys, "John, do you fancy sculpting an alien?" Melaris told Humphreys of his meeting with Santilli and basically came up with the idea of making it. They talked things over from a legal point of view and how it might help them break into other projects, even Hollywood. The idea was to make it, release it to the world and then make a second programme shortly after, showing how they did it. Humphreys agreed and Melaris pitched the idea to Santilli. Santilli almost looked like a man reborn and agreed. The budget put forward by Melaris was about £30,000 and it was Santilli's business partner and friend, Volker Spielberg, who put up the money. The funding was in place, contracts and a confidentiality agreement were signed and the ball was rolling.

The Team Behind The Making of The Film

First off, there was Spyros Melaris. He designed and directed the film, directed, instructed and paid the rest of the team, made the autopsy table along with many of the other props. He also made the 'contamination

suits' as well as obtain the props and cameras. The main researcher behind it all was Spyros' then girlfriend, 'Geraldine'. She was the one who checked the medical books, spoke with surgeons and pathologists and she even played the part of the nurse in the film. Geraldine is not her real name as she wishes to remain anonymous. John Humphreys, of course, made the alien bodies. The mould was actually made from John's ten year-old son, who was quite tall. As a trained sculptor, Humphreys had also studied anatomy, so he was the man who played the surgeon in the film. Another friend of Spyros' was Greg Simmons. He was seen occasionally in the film in one of the contamination suits and he also played the part of the soldier in the Debris Footage. Gareth Watson, a colleague of Santilli's and Shoefield's, was the man in the surgical mask behind the glass, and finally Spyros' brother, Peter, helped behind the scenes. The set was built in Geraldine's house in Camden in London. The property was in the process of being converted into three flats (apartments) at the time and was therefore empty. The props were obtained from someone Spyros knew in the USA. She was not told what they were for and were all ordered separately and delivered to different addresses so as not to arouse suspicion. The cameras were obtained by Spyros, one bought and one borrowed from a friend.

Why Are There Two Separate Autopsy Films?

According to Spyros, the first 'Alien Autopsy' film went pretty much as planned. However, upon completion, Geraldine noticed that a few of the medical procedures were not correct. They therefore had to make another creature and film another one. Apparently Santilli was ready for packing it all in at this point as there was no more money in the budget to film it again. They persevered and made another one, at Spyros' cost, the very next day. This too was not without problems. The foam latex used to fill the dummy had not worked right and an air bubble had left a hollow space in the creature's leg. Humphreys was despatched to the local butcher's by Spyros to get a leg joint of a sheep. This was inserted

into the hollow part in the alien's right leg, a few other things were added, the outside of the leg was gently burnt with a blowtorch and, hey presto, the leg wound. Some of the inner organs were manufactured by Melaris and animal organs were also used for the alien's innards, although altered with a scalpel and coated with latex. The alien's brain was actually made from three sheep's brains and part of a pig's brain cast in gelatine. This is how there came to be two separate autopsy films one of which was shown in its entirety, while the second one made, has only ever been released in part.

The Wreckage and I-beams.

These were all designed by Spyros himself. At the October 2007 UFO DATA conference, Spyros showed me how he had designed the 'writing' on them and what it said. The wreckage was then manufactured by John Humphreys, Spyros and his brother, Peter. He told me that he based it on Greek lettering, a bit of ancient Egyptian stylising and some artistic license. On the main large beam, if translated correctly, it reads 'FREEDOM'. Spyros thought this a fitting name for an alien spacecraft. While designing the letters which spell the word 'FREEDOM', Spyros noticed that if the word is turned upside down, the word 'VIDEO' could be seen. He adjusted some of the letters to better facilitate this, so the piece would throw a little red herring into the mix. The translation of the small-



er beam is being held back for Spyros' book.

The Cameraman's Home Video Interview

According to Melaris, Ray Santilli was put under a lot of pressure by

various parties to arrange an interview with the fictitious cameraman he allegedly bought the film from. Of course, according to Melaris, there was no such person, so he came up with the idea of creating this aspect of the whole affair as well. The basic scenario is that Melaris flew to Los Angeles and met up with Santilli's partner, Gary Shoefield. Melaris wanted to find an eighty year old tramp on the streets of L.A., pay him a few hundred dollars, put him in front of a camera and ask him to read from a script. Santilli and Shoefield were nervous and not sure this would work, but Spyros was confident he could pull this off and went ahead. He found an old guy living rough on the street, offered him \$500 and a night in the hotel and he duly agreed. Again by pure chance, the chap had been an actor many years ago. Melaris took his name and the name of a movie he had appeared in. These details will be released in his book. He cleaned him up, gave him a shave, added a bit of make up and a false prosthetic nose and chin and the job was done. The man himself did not know what he was reading or where it was going to be used. There was little chance that he would see the broadcast either. No one would recognise him in a thousand years. And they never did. This film was delivered in person in New York to US TV producer, Bob Kiviat, by Gary Shoefield and a man claiming to be the cameraman's son. Eventually the film in question was broadcast on TV in Japan only and from there it was copied and distributed to UFO researchers around the world. The trick worked, no one has identified the man in question and Melaris claims he is the only one who can do this.

The Crash Site

There are a number of people who believe the alien autopsy film is authentic, not because of the film itself, but because of the crash site. Ray Santilli released details, supposedly from his cameraman, as to where the incident took place in the desert. How did this come about? Well, according to Spyros this was quite simple. In 1995, he flew to Roswell. Here he interviewed many local people, including Loretta Proctor. Mrs. Proctor was the neigh-

bour of rancher, Mac Brazel, and it was she who suggested that Mac take some of the UFO debris into town after he found it. Spyros also met and hired private pilot, Rodney Corn. He asked Corn to fly him over the UFO crash site, to which he replied "Which one?" There are, in fact, at least three such sites. So, Spyros flew over all three of them, filming as he went. Rodney Corn was able to show Spyros a great deal from the air, far better than would have been possible on foot. This included small dirt roads and long-forgotten landmarks. Before the interview took place, Spyros also informed me that he obtained both old and new maps of the area. All of this information was handed to Ray Santilli and it was Santilli, not Spyros, who then put it all together to make a location for a nonexistent crash site.

The Grand Plan

I asked Spyros what was the grand plan. The research was done, the film was made, so what next? Apparently it was a rather simple plan. To release the film to a broadcaster, ask them to investigate and see what happens. They were confident that it would not be exposed as a fake. Then, after a few months, the plan was to hold up their hands and tell all. The reason this didn't happen was money. Spyros had signed a confidentiality agreement with Ray Santilli and Santilli was still adamant that he needed to recoup his initial investment, allegedly paid for the tent footage. Santilli told Melaris that he had invested a lot of money on this film and he must recoup that before they were to go public. Santilli reminded Spyros that he was bound by the confidentiality agreement and he was not to say or do anything until Santilli said so. Apart from a cheque for about £10,000, which Spyros split with his team, no royalties were ever paid. Santilli told him that due to the fact that he had stated publicly that it was a military film, that it had simply been copied by third parties without permission and used without payment as the people who were using the film believed that the copyright was vested with the US Military and not with Santilli. Eventually time went on and Spyros just got on with life. He was constantly working on other projects with

Santilli and earning a living and the alien autopsy film was all but forgotten.

Going Public

The one thing that I first asked Spyros was why was it that he had decided to go public with this information now. It was twelve years since the alien autopsy film hit the headlines. Melaris stuck to his confidentiality agreement. From a legal point of view if he broke it he could have been sued. However, in 2005 he was approached by Santilli and Shoefield to be involved in the movie version of this whole affair. He asked both if they would now tell the true story and reveal that it was all a fake, but they said no, they were going to maintain that they really did have original film. Again Santilli and Shoefield stated that there was no money in it and that they were doing it for "a bit of fun". When pressed, they admitted that both Santilli and Shoefield would get paid a percentage of the profits. There was no such offer for Melaris and he declined their offer. He left that meeting under the impression that the movie was not going to be made. However, the movie was made and distributed by Warner Bros and so Melaris felt that he was now able to speak as the story was now in the public domain.

The Doubters

To round off the interview, I asked Spyros Melaris what he had to say to the doubters out there, those that believe the alien autopsy film is the genuine article. I'm not going to paraphrase this; instead I will use his words in full:

PM: Time's against us, Spyros. I'll ask one last question. There are those out there who believe in this film and Santilli 100% and they think that you're some kind of pathological liar, playing devil's advocate here, so please don't be offended.

SM: No. Go ahead.

PM: What would you say if you could say one thing to the doubters out there? Is there any one thing that you can say that would say to them Spyros Melaris is who he says he is and has made this film?

SM: I don't think that there's any doubt that somebody made it today. That's fair to say that somebody made the film and even Santilli said it's a fake, but it was made from original film. I think that's really the question. The question isn't whether I made it because I can prove I made it. John Humphreys will tell you I made it. Ray would probably tell you I made it! He couldn't deny it. There's too much evidence. The question is did I make it from original film? And the simple answer to that is no. There was never any original film other than the tent footage. I've never seen any other film. Ray maintains that he's got original film. My question to Ray is how would that film marry with what I made? It can't. I haven't actually seen the film. Now you may say, "Maybe you're lying and you did see the film and you made it."

The story's a bigger story if there was a real film. There would be more money in it. There wouldn't be a reason for me and Ray to be parted. Why would we fall out? The common sense has got to come into the argument. I'm part of something as big as real film of a real alien. Why would I jeopardise being part of that and go off on my own? There's no reason to. That's the first thing.

The second thing. I promise you, something happened in Roswell. I'm not an easy person... I'm a sceptic. I'm not an easy person to convince. Thirty people that I talked to out there, clever people, doctors, lecturers, all sorts of people tell me they saw something. And I believe them. Something happened. A lot of ordinary people. Something happened. So, I don't think there's dispute about whether or not something happened in Roswell or other sightings or whether or not everything's fake. No, I don't think everything's fake. I do know this is. I also know that if Ray had original film, he'd be jumping through hoops to let you test it. I'm sorry, but that's what you would do. You would say, "Give me billions of pounds for this." That's what you would say. You would say, "I've got nothing to worry about. The cameraman doesn't want to speak, but look at the film." That's what you'd do! That's what you would do.

PM: Say no more.

[END OF INTERVIEW]

Once again I would like to reiterate that this is only part of what Spyros Melaris had to tell me. The full-unedited interview can be found in the alien autopsy section of our web site at:
http://www.outtahear.com/beyond_updates/index.html

Checking The Facts

So how do we check that what Spyros Melaris is telling us is correct? It is no easy task I can assure you. The documentary material shown to me by Spyros is intriguing, but not proof positive. My colleague, Mark Center, in the USA, checked the private pilot Rodney Corn for me and he does exist. Mark spoke to him on the phone, but he has no recollection of being hired by Spyros Melaris. This could be because he was hired by Geraldine and we are talking about an event which happened over 12 years ago.

At the UFO DATA conference in October, 2007, was German researcher, Michael Hesemann. Michael was also one of the speakers that weekend. Michael investigated the alien autopsy film from 1995 through to 1997 and believes it to be authentic. After the conference, when Michael was back home in Germany, he sent me an email that quite frankly left me stunned. He admitted for the first time that in 1996 someone sent Michael an email telling him that Spyros Melaris was the hoaxter. Hesemann had never shared this information with anyone. I asked him what he did with it and he simply told me that he phoned Ray Santilli and asked him if he knew this man, to which Santilli replied he did not. Michael told me he left it at that. However, Spyros Melaris independently informed me that in 1996 he had received a phone call from someone with a German accent asking him if he was the hoaxter and he of course denied it. He did not know who the caller was until he met Hesemann at our conference. I pressed Michael about this and eventually he admitted he did phone Spyros back in 1996. Why Michael Hesemann never shared this infor-

mation with anyone else is beyond me. In his defence, Michael has stated that there were others mentioned at the time and he did not want to spread false rumours, but these other names were circulated and eliminated. I have to be honest and say here and now that I cannot understand why Hesemann sat on this information and never told anyone. I leave it to you to make up your own mind. A colleague of mine who is a veteran TV and movie special effects artist also took a look at the interview with Spyros. In his considered opinion, the techniques and materials used by Melaris and his team to make the fake alien creature are 100% correct. There is no question in his mind that the dummies were made in the way described. He does have a few questions he'd like to ask, but these are purely little points of clarification and there is nothing wrong with what Melaris has had to say.

The other main person involved in all of this is of course US TV producer, Bob Kiviat. Several years back, my colleague, Tim Mathews, and I were tipped off about John Humphreys. Humphreys was part of the team and he made the dummies. Bob tried for years to get Humphreys on camera and make a TV documentary but all to no avail. Eventually Bob did make a TV show for Channel 5, but without Humphreys in it. This was never broadcast. Both Humphreys and Melaris have spoken at length to Bob Kiviat about their involvement in this whole affair, so I took the opportunity to ask Bob a few questions on December 4th, 2007. This mini question and answer session is reproduced here in full:

Q: How many times did you speak with UK sculptor, John Humphreys?

A: Once before the Ant & Dec movie came out. In approximately 2003. Once after that.

Q: Did Humphreys tell you on what he based the design for his alien creatures?

A: Yes, just on his own research, books and such. No other help.

Q: Did Humphreys ever see any original film, stills or otherwise?

A: No, never. He claimed it all came from his creative efforts and book research.

Q: During your conversations with Humphreys did he ever mention the name Spyros Melaris?

A: Yes. He said Spyros was the one who hired him for Santilli, who he met perhaps twice and came to the set once. All the money came through Spyros. Also, Spyros was the cameraman.

Q: Did Humphreys provide the names of anyone else involved. If yes what are those names?

A: No other names.

Q: Why was Humphreys looking to work with you on a documentary?

A: Yes, Humphreys wanted me to get him a network TV show based on his revelations that he made the autopsy footage, with Spyros acting as money man and cameraman, who he believed was working for Santilli.

Q: Was Humphreys going to tell all and sink the stories put out by Ray Santilli?

A: Yes, but until I got a commitment from a TV network and guaranteed money for his exclusive he kept much close to his chest.

Q: Did you speak to Humphreys' agent/advisor?

A: Yes, his business manager was my main contact for all of 2003 and 2004 and it was he who informed me John was going to do the Ant & Dec movie, without giving me the details. There would also be a companion documentary "that would be my worst nightmare," he said.

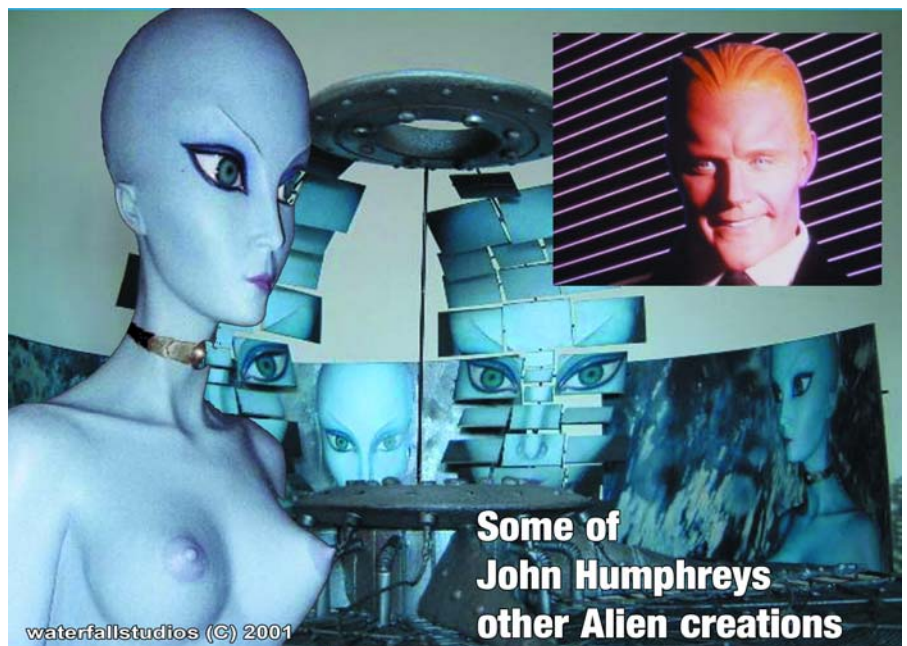
Q: If you did, what did he tell you about Humphreys' involvement and reasons for wanting to spill the beans?

A: Instead of Humphreys spilling the beans to me, his manager clearly implied John had lost patience and saw a payday elsewhere - the movie, etc.

Q: You made a TV documentary for Channel 5 in 2006 in which I appeared, could you tell us why it was never broadcast?

A: Channel 5 was rushing instructions to my production offices in L.A. from England telling me how the show needed to be styled, and they also wanted to move the airdate up to an almost impossible deadline. We were working around the clock already to appease the Channel 5 executive in charge when one of the top people at Channel 5 actually listed the show in a TV guide of some sort.

That's when Gary Shoefield contacted Channel 5 and falsely claimed Ray Santilli was involved in the ownership of my original Fox show, which the new C5 show was jumping off



from. It was an outright fabrication, for my company owns the only US copyright to the show, including *THE ALIEN AUTOPSY FOOTAGE*.

While we were sorting through this false claim, we interviewed you. When the FIVE executives saw you naming Humphreys as the guy who made the dummy and who was the key pro behind the footage, they wanted confirmation so they ILLEGALLY contacted Humphreys through a consulting producer. Humphreys freaked out, told them he wanted nothing to do with the FIVE show and said he had to contact Warner Bros. Ultimately FIVE reneged on their agreement with my distributor, my distributor did not fight for the airing, and this is how things were left. I'm still debating what course of action I can take to recover my substantial losses and damage.

Q: You have spoken on the telephone at length with Spyros Melaris. Are you convinced he is telling the truth?

A: For the most part, I can't find any outlandish things that make his story unbelievable. But I do wonder how he could have been so naïve about the amount of money Santilli was making around the world. This part seems odd, as if he was playing dumb. On the contrary, he seems very bright. And if Ray gave him just enough work to keep him quiet afterward, I still wonder why he let all the other money go into Ray's pocket without him demanding his share. This doesn't add up, literally, pound for pound.

Q: You have been involved with the Alien Autopsy film since 1995, you have interviewed or spoken to most if not all the main players in it all, so what now is your conclusion?

A: I'm going to need more time to answer that question. Spyros' actions or non actions in court will have a lot to do with this, and I'm looking into another intriguing angle that could impact my conclusions.

Robert Kiviat. End of interview.

It is clear from this brief interview with Bob Kiviat that there are slight differences between what John

Humphreys says about his role in the faking of the film and what Melaris says. However, Humphreys does state quite clearly that it was Spyros Melaris who was the money man, it was Melaris who hired him on behalf of Santilli. Humphreys also confirms without any doubt that there never was any original film. It was a complete and utter fabrication.

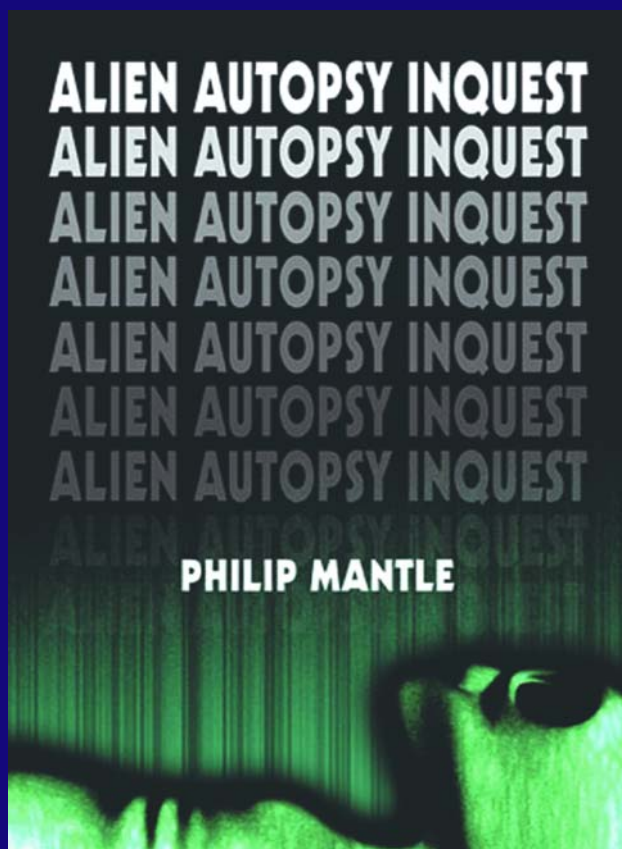
I could go on but I think I've made my point. In 1996, Spyros Melaris was outlined as the hoaxer to German researcher, Michael Hese-mann. In 2003 US TV producer, Bob Kiviat, spoke with UK sculptor, John Humphreys, who confirmed that Spyros was the man in charge and that there was no original film.

In 2007, Spyros Melaris goes on the record for the first time and tells how

it was all made. Well, perhaps not all. Spyros is holding back certain things for his book, which will be available in early 2008. And as for Ray Santilli, well he's pretty quiet at the moment, but I doubt if he will ever own up as he is quite simply in it too deep.

The long awaited book by Spyros Melaris '*ALIEN AUTOPSY: The True Story*' comes with an accompanying DVD and is priced at £37.50 plus p&p

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the book, it is available February, 2008. Advanced orders can be placed with DIGInet UK Publications, P.O. Box 60908, London W12 7UT or from Amazon. E-mail orders should be sent to AATrueStory@DIGInetUK.com



About the author:

Philip Mantle is an international author, researcher, lecturer and broadcaster on the UFO subject.

His book *Alien Autopsy Inquest* is available now via Amazon. He can be contacted by email at:

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NEWS SHORTS



Triangular UFO Observed over Midlands...

Mystery 'arrowhead' UFO spotted

A mysterious "flying Dorito-shaped" object which was seen by dozens of people just before Christmas has been spotted again - this time in the skies above Lower Gornal.

The strange unexplained flying object was seen by residents in Wallows Wood, off The Straits, at around 6.15pm on Tuesday. Householders described the object as looking like an "arrowhead" with three orange lights arranged in the shape of an isosceles triangle. Residents watched it move slowly across the sky before it disappeared from view in the direction of Wolverhampton.

It is the second time the triangular object has been spotted flying over the Black Country in recent weeks. scores of people contacted the Express & Star after seeing a UFO in the skies above Wednesfield and Dudley in December and Stourbridge-based UFO Research Midlands was deluged with calls and emails from onlookers who witnessed the object.

Lower Gornal resident Peter Wasdell, aged 57, said he could not believe his eyes when he saw the object. "The dog started barking and

when my wife went outside to find out what was going on she saw the object in the sky and called me out to have a look," he said.

"There were three orangey lights in a triangle formation. They weren't shaped like an equilateral triangle, more like an isosceles triangle, and shaped like an old fashioned arrow head. I don't think it was a plane because we didn't hear any noise. "My daughter and her boyfriend and the next door neighbours all saw them and we watched them for about 15 minutes before they disappeared behind the trees."

Paranormal enthusiast Craig Lowe, who is a member of the Birmingham UFO group, said the area was a "hotspot" for unexplained activity. Mr Lowe, who captured December's sighting on videotape, said he believed the object could be some sort of military aircraft. Birmingham International Airport spokesman John Morris said the airport took all reports of UFOs seriously. "We had a couple of inquiries before Christmas following the first sightings over Halesowen," he revealed.

(Source)
City Final, Edition - Dudley, Funny Old World, News.



Based in the Midlands, The Birmingham UFO Group have a busy website that is kept up-to-date with UFO reports.

Here is a selection from their site:



This stunning photo of a UFO over Cornwall was last night hailed by experts as one of the best ever taken in Britain.

The classic flying saucer shape is seen above two ships. And UFO watchers believe it could be proof we are NOT alone.

Kelvin Barber snapped the mystery object from a coastal path between Swanpool and Maenporth, near Falmouth.

In a weird twist, Kelvin, 55, did not even see the UFO at the time.

He thought he was just taking a sea view but when he loaded the digital camera card on to his computer, the round metallic "craft" was in the centre of the shot, about two miles away. Kelvin, a facilities manager for schools, said: "There were a couple of tankers out in the bay and I thought that it made a nice shot.

"There was nothing in view and certainly no fault on the camera.

"When I got home I couldn't believe



what I had. I thought, 'Wow, where did that come from?' I'm not the sort to believe in UFOs - now I'm not so sure."

Nick Pope, one of Britain's foremost UFO experts, said the photo was one of the best he had seen.

Nick, formerly the official Ministry of Defence UFO analyst, said: "If I was still there I'd be looking at this very closely. The object looks structured, symmetrical and metallic. This man has caught something very interesting indeed."

Michael Soper, of the Contact International UFO group, agreed: "This does appear genuine. Digital photos can be doctored but everything about it appears consistent."

KELVIN took his picture at 3.31pm on December 29, with a Nikon D80 Digital SLR on automatic. 1`

Source: The Sun newspaper

The Flintshire Standard
Date: 31 December 2007
Location: Wrexham
Mystery over UFO sighting



Mr Hughes says the objects were like those captured on camera near Wrexham earlier this year.

"They were travelling quite fast, about 10-12 seconds apart and were revolving. They were travelling too fast to be aircraft and they were completely silent."

Harry Hughes

Mr Hughes says the objects were like those captured on camera near Wrexham earlier this year.

"They were travelling quite fast,

about 10-12 seconds apart and were revolving. They were travelling too fast to be aircraft and they were completely silent."

A Flintshire man is looking for answers after seeing five unexplained lights in the sky on Christmas Day. Harry Hughes, of Grays Road, Mynydd Isa, was returning some extra chairs to the shed after enjoying Christmas dinner with his family at about 7.20pm. He said: "I looked up and saw what looked like five bright orangey-red fireballs flying through the sky, coming from the Bodfari direction.

"They were travelling quite fast, about 10-12 seconds apart and were revolving. They were travelling too fast to be aircraft and they were completely silent. "Harry called to his wife Pam to look at the strange objects before they disappeared and as she followed him out to the garden, they began to change direction. Harry said: "They had been travelling west, but then they began to change direction one by one and started heading north. They were travelling at a high speed when they began to go north and were slanting upwards.

"My wife saw the last two and she looked at them through binoculars. The last one, which was bigger than all the rest, stopped momentarily then shot upwards, following the others north." The police helicopter travelled past our house about 10 minutes later. If it had been a bit earlier, then I'm sure police would have noticed these objects. "Harry's description of the mysterious fireballs matches that of Leigh and Lynn Williams, of Borras, Wrexham, who caught sight of several strange orange orbs in the sky in July, and he said he believed they were similar.

The couple also managed to take a video of the strange sighting, which was posted on the Evening Leader website and was the subject of much public debate. Some posters, and UFO experts who spoke to the Leader, felt the incident merited further investigation, while others dismissed the sighting as being the result of Chinese lanterns. Speaking at the time, Lynn said: "There were seven lights flying fast over the

house. Two of them were flying round each other.

They were flying very close together, closer than planes. They were going so fast we couldn't focus on them. Leigh added: "There was no noise whatsoever. Surely if they were aircraft there would have been lots of noise. My wife was panicking. We just want to know what it was. When they went over it happened so quick.

They moved very smoothly and were glowing." Harry said: "I have no idea what these lights were, but I am really glad that I have seen something like this and I am glad my wife is able to verify that they were totally unexplained.

I'll be looking out for more over the next few days. "I'm just sorry we weren't able to get a picture or a video of them, but there wasn't enough time."

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'DRONE' FOOTAGE



Although this footage is spectacular enough to make a total debunk impossible, as Sam rightly points out, we should not simply accept this as hard evidence.

The image goes in and out of focus far more than I would expect when zooming in, but it's the fact that it goes out of focus when zooming out that worries me. That should not really happen, as the lens is focused at infinity when fully zoomed in on a distant object so when you pull back you should stay in focus.

There are however de-focusing filters in most video editing packages and a skilled user could create such an effect on a basic home PC! Russel Callaghan UFODATA

The drones arrived in the summer of 2007 and since then, the "drone factor" certainly has rocked the UFO world, with many reported sightings and, in some cases, photographic evidence being brought forward to prove the existence of these bizarre objects.

But when you sit down and examine each alleged photograph taken of the drone, you can't help but feel that the entire scenario is a little too good to be true.

Those keen researchers out there, including myself here at Alienationsam.com, will know and be used to the common image of a UFO being blurred and out of focus. The drone photographs however are perfect, crystal clear images. It's like the drone was stopping by for a photo shoot, not an intelligence gathering mission. You must understand by now that I am far from convinced of this drone mania, especially considering CGI experts have labelled many, if not all, drone photographs as being very good fabrications.

When hoaxed photographs relating to a UFO case are revealed, you can't help but place a grey cloud over the entire incident and simply move on to something else. But the drone enigma wasn't going away with the appearance of the one and only Isaac, an engineer allegedly responsible for helping the creation of these drones during a program entitled "CARET" back in the 80s. But Isaac didn't only come with testimony, he also brought documents along for a ride which seemed to display plans for the strange drone mechanism.

Isaac cannot confirm who he is and this detail really makes his testimony of drones being created using alien technology a difficult one to believe, coming from an unknown source. With all the details in mind, this drone story is extremely sketchy and I advise those who believe this entire episode to walk with caution along an already bumpy road.

So now here we are in 2008 - a fresh start, a time for new and more credible information to surface. But wait a minute, what do we have here? It seems the drones have spilled over into 2008 with the latest chapter into the drone saga fresh off the presses.

During earlier portions of this report, I have displayed my sceptical thoughts towards the drone events but I must say the latest chapter shines compared to the previous ones. A possibly authentic piece of video footage of the alleged drones has surfaced from the south-eastern state of Minas Gerais in Brazil which seems to show a strange, black object off in the distance.

The video displays a family of young children in a state of pure excitement over the visitation. The video is shaky and blurry, but that does not dismiss the fact that it shows some sort of solid, flying object putting on an air show over Brazil.

The footage is by no means the best, but it certainly casts light upon the drone saga and has me thinking that these drones could in fact be real and not a complete myth as initial reports did indicate to me. Watch the skies because a drone may be coming your way!

By Sam Willey
www.alienationsam.com
www.blogtalkradio.com/alienationsam

The truth is out: X-Files go public

British UFO 'sightings' investigated by a secret branch of the MoD are soon to be revealed and officials are braced for a torrent of inquiries

Mark Townsend,
Defence Correspondent
Sunday January 6, 2008

Without warning, the orange UFO swooped toward them. The crew of the RAF Vulcan bomber banked hard and radioed they were being chased across the Atlantic by a large mysterious object. The incident was classified as a UFO sighting and the details were immediately locked away. Now, 30 years later, the extraordinary encounter is among thousands of previously secret cases contained in the government's 'X-Files' that officials are to release in their entirety.

The cases, many from a little-known defence intelligence branch tasked with investigating UFO claims, will be published by the Ministry of Defence to counter what officials say is 'the maze of rumour and frequently ill-informed speculation' surrounding Whitehall and its alleged involvement with Unidentified Flying Objects.

The public opening of the MoD archive will expose the once highly classified work of the intelligence branch DI55, whose mission was to investigate UFO reports and whose existence was denied by the government until recently. Reports into about 7,000 UFO sightings investigated by defence officials - every single claim lodged over the past 30 years - are included in the files, whose staged release will begin in spring.

The decision to release Whitehall's full back-catalogue of UFO investigations was taken last month after the Directorate of Air Space Policy, the government agency responsible for filtering sensitive reports, gave its permission to publish the biggest single release of documents in MoD history. Now the government fears a repeat of the unprecedented demand and the website crash experienced by the French national space agency in March when it released its own UFO files. Government IT experts are believed to have drawn up contingency plans to avoid a repeat scenario when Britain's dossiers are finally made public.

Among the first tranche of UK cases will be the official government files into the famous Rendlesham incident, dubbed 'Britain's Roswell' after the US incident when a flying saucer

is said to have crash-landed in the New Mexico desert 60 years ago. On a foggy night in 1980 several witnesses reported a UFO apparently landing in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk. Statements claimed the craft was covered in markings similar to Egyptian hieroglyphics and aliens emerged from it. Although a man later confessed to having staged the incident as a hoax, the files will clear up continuing speculation as to whether radiation was detected at the site after the event.

Another case reported to the intelligence branch DI55 - Britain's version of the 'Men In Black' - chronicles a series of reports sent to RAF Scampton, Lincolnshire, by the crew of a Vulcan bomber on exercise over the Bay of Biscay early on 26 May 1977. According to documents seen by *The Observer*, five crewmen, including the captain, co-pilot and navigators, watched 'an object' approach their aircraft at 43,000ft above the Atlantic. The mysterious craft then appeared to turn and follow their precise course from a distance of four miles.

Initially, the crew said the object resembled landing lights 'with a long pencil beam of light ahead' but as it turned towards them the lights suddenly went out leaving a diffuse orange glow with a bright fluorescent green spot in its bottom right-hand corner. Then, according to signals sent back to Scampton, the crew noted a mystery object 'leaving from the middle of the glow on a westerly track... climbing at very high speed at an angle of 45 degrees'.

The Vulcan's navigator recorded interference on his radar screen from the direction of the UFO which continued for 45 minutes as the plane headed back to Britain. On return to the UK, the camera film from the aircraft's radar was examined by RAF intelligence. They found a 'strong response' from the direction of the sighting. The UFO was captured as 'an elongated shadow' of a 'large-sized' object travelling at a similar



height to the Vulcan. An intelligence report sent to the MoD the same day says the crew 'were unable to offer a logical explanation for the sighting'. Although hailed as the complete disclosure of the UK's UFO files, questions are likely to remain over whether all available information will be made public. Despite the Vulcan sighting being investigated by DI55, no details remain in the file indicating what they found or what became of the radar film.

The disclosures are more likely, claim some experts, to lend credence to the theory that such UFO incidents were, rather than alien visitations, military activities such as missile launches, testing of prototype aircraft and other activities during the Cold War.

David Clarke, a lecturer in journalism at Sheffield Hallam University and author of *Flying Saucers: A Social History of UFOlogy*, said: 'Something was definitely going on, but really these files show that the government did not know either. This release will be a source of disappointment or vindication for some, and embarrassment for others. 'Conspiracy theorists who believe that the various governments of the world are hiding secrets about the "reality" of aliens will see this as another whitewash effort by the MoD and will probably continue their self-sustaining "campaign for the truth", when the truth will in fact now be "out there".'

UFO researcher Joe McGonagle said: 'There will always be a hard core who believe these files were prepared for release and that there is a secret department within the military who has a separate stash of files that have not been disclosed.'

UFOs remain one of the most popular subjects for Freedom of Information requests and the release is certain to generate a massive response from the public when the files are placed in the National Archives. Clarke, who has lodged hundreds of FoI requests, recently discovered that the government was considering destroying the 24 files created by DI55 because they were contaminated by asbestos. Not only were the UFO records polluted, but a total of 63,000 files estimated at

between six to 12 million pages - most of them classified as secret - were facing the same fate.

Having admitted the existence of the problem to Clarke, the MoD opted to instigate a £3m project to digitally scan the files before they were destroyed. Scanning of the 24 contaminated UFO files owned by DI55 was completed last year, although it is understood that names of officials in the reports will be removed. Although the government remains reticent to discuss its intelligence work on UFOs, it is known that DI55 has been hot on the trail of flying saucers since the Sixties. Experts admit that they work closely with the security services MI5, MI6 and GCHQ to collect and assess evidence of potential threats to Britain.

The decision by the UK to open its files could lead to the US government following suit. A group of former pilots and government officials recently urged the Pentagon to reopen investigations into claims of UFO sightings.

UFO claims

1980 Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk. US servicemen claim to have seen an alien craft and its landing site.

1984 Minsk, USSR. Aeroflot pilots say they are pursued by a glowing shape.

1989 Bonnybridge, Scotland. Fire crew report objects rushing towards them before veering away at the last moment.

1990 Brussels, Belgium. Two F-16 fighter pilots recount being engaged in 75-minute mid-air chase with a UFO.



Image of Belgian UFO

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**Gary Anthony
Dr. David Clarke
Joe McGonagle**

There are few researchers who have done more than the team behind www.uk-ufo.org when it comes to searching archive documents and Freedom Of Information Requests than these three.

To follow up on The Observer Article we have published the teams statement released in December last year...

Source: UK-UFO.Org

<http://www.uk-ufo.org/condign/di55docs.html>

December 21, 2007

MoD To Release 160 UFO Files

Following sustained pressure by a small number of UFO researchers during the last 8 years, the British Ministry of Defence have decided to release all of their UFO files.

Gary Anthony, Dave Clarke, and Joe McGonagle have been making full use of the Freedom of Information Act and it's precursor, the Code of Practice on access to Government information.

At considerable personal expense, effort, and investment of time the three of us have submitted a steady stream of requests. As well as making requests ourselves, we actively encouraged and assisted other ufologists to make their own requests.

Dave Clarke obtained a listing of files held by the MoD on the topic of Unidentified Flying Objects during 2003.

In the course of requesting the contents of some of those files, we discovered that 24 files created by DI55 (the Defence Intelligence Branch charged with the investigation of UFO reports) were contaminated by asbestos, and their destruction was being considered. Not only were the UFO records con-

taminated, but a total of 63,000 files estimated at between 6 to 12 million pages, most of them classified above Secret were facing the same fate. The files covered a wide range of topics from a key period of military and political history.

We campaigned to ensure the salvage of the file contents by gaining the active support of MPs, academics, the media, and ufologists. It didn't take long for the MoD to realise that destruction of the files would be inexcusable and they instigated a project to digitally scan the files before they were destroyed at an estimated cost of 3 million pounds.

We continued to monitor the progress of the project, requesting periodic updates from the Departmental Records Officer at the MoD.

Another significant achievement in the course of our activity was identifying the existence of the 'Condign report' in 2005 and securing its release in 2006. This was the first document obtained under the FoIA with a 'SECRET' classification.

Scanning of the 24 contaminated UFO files owned by DI55 was completed in the early part of 2007, and this prompted a dialogue within the MoD as to the future release of files. Due to the volume of requests about UFOs received by Defence Intelligence, they discussed the viability of a staged, wholesale release, and concluded in April 2007 that this was the preferred way forward. This encouraged the Directorate of Air Space (DAS, the MoD agency

charged with filtering reports before passing those thought to be of defence interest to other MoD branches including DI55) to make a similar evaluation and they have now also reached a decision for a staged release of all of their UFO records.

Our enquires have established the following details about the intended release;

1. There are a total of 160 files managed by DAS and DI55 which will be released. These cover a period from the late 1970s up to 2007, including a series of files containing FoIA requests and their responses on the subject of UFOs from 2005 to present.

[Link to a pdf file of the list of files scheduled for release. There is a pagination error in the file, but most of the information is visible.]

<http://www.uk-ufo.org/downloads/filelist.pdf>

2. It is expected to take 3 years to review, redact, and release the files, but release will occur in batches as they become available. It is currently intended to process the files in chronological order.

3. Personal details of officials and members of the public will be redacted, but the unredacted versions will be released under the terms of the Public Records Act, normally after 30 years.

4. The files will not be generally published on the MoD website, but will be released to the National Archives in both paper and digital form. TNA will publish them on-line, but there will probably be a fee charged for their download in accordance with existing TNA policy.

5. It is likely that the MoD will respond to many future FoIA requests about UFOs along the lines that publication is scheduled via TNA, and the requester will have to wait until the information is available from TNA (covered by section 22 of the FoIA, "Information intended for Future Publication").

6. The first tranche of documents are expected to be released during

spring 2008.

The following is a direct quote from an FoIA response from the MoD explaining the rationale behind the release. Elsewhere in the response, the release was described as "a major exercise, which I believe is unique in MoD history".

"The subject of UFOs is one of the most popular subjects for FOI requests. Answering requests takes a considerable amount of time and resources and can involve officials in days of work, which frequently means trawling through old files to find the information requested. By placing the UFO files on-line at the National Archive in a structured manner, the MoD is able to follow its remit for more open government and, by re-directing applicants to the National Archive site, reduce the amount of time it spends answering requests.

By opening our files in this way, we may also help to counter the maze of rumour and frequently ill informed speculation that surrounds the role of the MoD in the UFO phenomena."

Within the next three years, everyone will be able to see the true level of interest and effectiveness demonstrated by the MoD on the topic of UFOs for themselves. This release will be a source of disappointment or vindication for some, and embarrassment for others.

Conspiracy theorists who believe that the various governments of the world are hiding secrets about the 'reality' of alien visitation will see this move as another whitewash effort by the MoD and will probably continue their self-sustaining 'campaign for the truth', when the 'truth' really will be 'out there' - just that they don't believe it!

Gary Anthony
Dave Clarke
Joe McGonagle

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 **defence** freedom of information

UFO Reports 1998-2006 in the UK

UFO Reports 1998-2006 in the UK, showing dates and times, location and a brief description of sighting.

- UFO Report 2006 PDF [14.0 KB]
- UFO Report 2005 PDF [18.0 KB]
- UFO Report 2004 PDF [13.4 KB]
- UFO Report 2003 PDF [16.5 KB]
- UFO Report 2002 PDF [15.0 KB]
- UFO Report 2001 PDF [24.9 KB] (added 25 Apr 07)
- UFO Report 2000 PDF [33.8 KB] (added 04 Jun 07)
- UFO Report 1999 PDF [37.2 KB] (added 04 Jun 07)
- UFO Report 1998 PDF [37.7 KB] (added 29 Jun 07)
- UFO Report 1997 PDF [54.2 KB] (added 04 Dec 07)

Freedom of Information
in this section:

- Disclosure Log
- How to make an official request under FOI
- Publication Scheme

Author: DAS
Owner: Ministry of Defence
Date document created: 16 Feb 06
Date released proactively: 16 Feb 06
Date last updated: 7 Jan 08
Freedom of Information Information class: Unidentified Flying Objects
Freedom of Information Organisation area: Directorate of Air Staff

Go online and see for yourself...

The 6th Annual PRUFOS Report 2007



The 6th Annual PRUFOS Police Database Report is somewhat different in its make up to the previous ones in as much that the bulk of the new information is a direct result of documents received as a response to several Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to the MoD. Those requests have resulted in a bundle of new documents that represent bona fide police reports. The only absence from the documents are the actual names of the officers involved which have been deleted in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

The 6th report contains 43 new cases involving 108 officers. As in other years for every year of the Database's existence there has been a steady growth of around 100 officers every twelve months.

NEW CASES

1966

0300 hours. Between Potters Hill and Bristol Lulsgate Airport, Avon and Somerset. PC LESTER STENNER and a colleague were driving along a quiet road when suddenly they saw an oval-shaped UFO approximately 100 feet off the ground above the road ahead. At the same time the object appeared the engine of the police vehicle died as did the headlights. Also the streetlamps lining the road went out. The object just appeared and remained motionless for about 10 seconds when it disappeared. As soon as the object had gone, the headlights, street lighting and engine came on. The officers described the object as being around 100 yards wide by 50 feet and made no noise whatsoever. The officers did not report the incident fearing ridicule.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

1975

Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire. On duty uniformed officer PC GARY MILBURN saw a missile/fuselage type object fly low over the town centre in complete silence. He described the object as being the size of a small plane but without wings and no noise whatsoever.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

1976

0215 hours. Winter. Crofton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire. PC PATRICK TUNNEY was checking on a couple of shops during the early hours of a winter's morning when he noticed three green lights approaching from around a mile away. His first thoughts were that it was a low flying aircraft. Then he became conscious that there was absolutely no sound. The lights were horizontal as they flew toward him at an altitude of only 200 feet. When the lights were approximately 200 yards from his position they suddenly banked to the left in total silence and sped off an amazing burst of acceleration. At their closest point the officers described the lights as green spheres, each the size of a car.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

1987

0300 hours. 21/06/1987. Stonehenge, Wiltshire. 12 uniformed officers including PC PHIL HUTCHINGS were guarding the monument for the Summer Solstice observed a bright white UFO that crossed the sky making a large number of right angled turns.

On Duty sighting. 12 officers. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

0310 hours. 23/10/1987. Ford End near Chelmsford. Two uniformed officers observed 2 bright lights in the clear night sky. There was no sound and they made erratic vertical and horizontal movements. There was no discernable shape or structure seen as they moved in a south-westerly direction. The officers observed the UFOs for approximately five minutes.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI documentation.

1988

1845-1940 hours. 29/01/1988. Alton. A uniformed officer observed a bright conical shaped UFO above Alton. The object had a tail and was seen for 55 minutes.

Off Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI documentation.

0620 hours. 31/01/1988. Manchester, Greater Manchester.
A uniform police officer observed a bright stationary UFO over the beach at Manchester Airport.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

1845 hours. 06/02/1988. Telford. Following a report by a member of the public five uniformed police officers observed a UFO over Telford town centre. The object had green, yellow and blue lights and initially moved fast across the sky before it become stationary over the town centre.

On Duty sighting. 5 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

1930 hours. 18/02/1988. Bradford, West Yorkshire. An off duty police officer and his wife and children were travelling along Toller Lane, Bradford towards Bingley when they observed several white lights in the sky travelling in the same direction. The object was described as being the size of a small light aircraft. The UFO was then seen to make and abrupt turn and accelerate at high speed away from them. They could not discern any noise above that of the vehicle they were travelling in.

Off Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

0003 hours. 19/05/1988. Cramond Island. Pentland Hills, Scotland. An on duty uniformed officer observed one static white light and four occulting yellow lights above the ski slopes above Pentland Hills. This sighting followed observations of three objects by two members of the public. There was good visibility and no low cloud.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

0125 hours. 26/07/1988. Harden Moor near Keighley, West Yorkshire. Two uniformed police officers observed a single bright white light for 3-4 seconds on Harden Moor initially at ground level approximately 400-800 yards from their vehicle. It was seen near some high voltage power lines. The object was seen to drop below the officers vision when it entered a valley.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2305 hours. 14/08/1988. Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. Four white lights with red at their centre were seen by at least five officers a mile south-east of Mansfield town centre. The weather was clear at the time of the sighting that lasted 15-30 seconds.

On Duty sighting. 5 Officers. FOI Documentation.

1100 hours. 16/08/1988. Toomebridge, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland. A Constable saw a silver coloured UFO from the police station in Toomebridge. He observed the object for an hour visually and with the aid of binoculars. Several other constables in different areas nearby also observed the UFO.

On Duty sighting. 3 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

1800 hours. 17/08/1988. Warrington, Cheshire. Two uniformed officers from the Knutsford Motorway unit observed a round object approximately 15 feet in diameter. On each quarter of the sphere was a protruding leg. The UFO was black in colour with light grey flashes or windows on the top. No noise could be heard above the road traffic. The object passed directly over the police car. It was observed for 10 minutes.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2330 hours. 24/09/1988. Bordaduabh near Campbeltown, Scotland. Several members of the public and a Special Constable observed three to four stationary objects over Kildranna Sound, north of Loch Luca, nine miles north of Campbeltown for 40 minutes. The objects were generally stationary and then would move slowly.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. FOI Documentation.

0345 hours. 27/10/1988. Ramsgate, Kent. At least three police officers observed a single bright light over Ramsgate as it moved west to east. The weather at the time of the sighting was overcast. The officers saw the object from the locations of Ramsgate and Deal.

On Duty sighting. 3 Officers. FOI Documentation.

2235-2240 hours. 31/10/1988. East Grinstead, Sussex. Four police officers observed two objects that were flying in formation as they travelled east to west over East Grinstead. The UFOs were seen for five minutes.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. FOI Documentation.

0745 hours. 10/12/1988. Hessle near Hull, Humberside. A total of five police officers and several civilians observed a glowing cloud shaped UFO as it crossed the sky above Hessle. The object was first through binoculars and appeared totally silent. On Duty sighting.

On Duty sighting. 5 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

0635 hours. 17/12/1988. Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. Initially reported by a member of the public a number of police officers on the early turn observed circular bright light that at times flashed red and blue.

On Duty sighting. 6 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

1135 hours. 20/12/1988. Bishop Auckland. Two uniformed officers in different parts of Bishop Auckland observed a UFO above the town.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI documentation.

2355 hours. 20/12/1988. Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. A police officer observed a very bright star-like object with a black dot at its front that was seen low on the horizon against a clear sky. The UFO was seen for approximately 20 seconds.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

2350-2358 hours. 20/12/88. Harrogate, Barton and Richmond. Over this short period five uniformed officers in different geographical areas of the North (Harrogate, Barton and Richmond) reported seeing a bright UFO for several seconds at a time.

On Duty sighting. 7 Officers. Source: FOI documentation.

1989

2048-2330 hours. 20/10/1989. Hapton near Accrington. 38 members of the public and 4 uniformed police officers observed a round shaped UFO that had nine lights around its circumference. In the middle of the object was a single orange light. A mist surrounded the object that was seen against a clear sky. It moved slowly and erratically across the sky.

On Duty sighting. 4 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2230 hours. 30/06/1989. Tottenham Lane, London. Two police officers observed 12 lights directly above Hornsey police station. The lights were described as being quite large but not too bright. They made repeatedly circular patterns in the sky above them for approximately 15 minutes.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. FOI Documentation.

0145 hours. 02/08/1989. Kings Lynn, Norfolk. Two uniformed police officers observed four small white lights as they moved across an almost clear sky above Kings Lynn. The lights were moving in an erratic manner and constantly fading and brightening.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

1830 hours. 31/10/1989. Ashington, Northumberland. Initially reported by a member of the public a police constable also observed two objects that were approximately 40 feet apart that were bright white in colour. They were seen against a clear sky.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

1990

0244 hours. 08/04/1990. Madeley near Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. Two uniformed police officers observed a round blue flashing UFO on the M6 motorway hovering over Waltons Wood, Madeley at an altitude of 500 feet. Seen moving in a steady motion in a circular pattern around the wood.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2000 hours. 12/07/1990. Trafalgar Square, London. Several police officers observed a shimmering round shaped UFO above Trafalgar Square, London. They estimated that the object was 5-10 feet in diameter. Initially reported by a member of the public who apparently took photos of the object using a 200 metre lens.

On Duty sighting. 4 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2100-2200 hours. 02/08/1990. Hevingham, Norfolk. A green/white light with a redish glow underneath. It was seen low on the horizon moving slowly across the sky left to right for an hour. It was seen by a member of the public and the local village police constable.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

2010 hours. 02/09/1990. Edmonton. An off duty special constable was in his garden when he observed steel grey spherical shaped UFO in the distance. The object moved smoothly across the sky and then accelerated away at speed. Seen for 20 seconds in a clear sky.

Off Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

2305-2330 hours. 03/11/1990. Carlisle, Cumbria. Two uniformed police officers observed three objects seen in a 'V' formation that were bright white in colour and moved in an erratic manner as they moved across the sky. There was no noise associated with the lights. The sky was clear with moving cloud. The police were initially alerted to the sighting by a member of the public.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

2100 hours. 07/11/1990. Perton, Wolverhampton. A West Bromwich police officer observed two large delta shaped UFOs each with 3-5 lights. He was able to see the objects through binoculars. They were seen against clear skies holding a steady movement across the sky.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

2156-2230 hours. 23/12/1990. Tamworth and Coventry. Following a number of reports by members of the public two police officers including an Inspector observed in different areas a large luminous orange UFO in the skies above Tamworth and Coventry. There was good visibility as the object travelled in a north-east to south-west direction.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Documentation.

1991

0210-0250 hours. 08/01/1991. Seavington St Mary near Yeovil, Somerset. A uniformed police officer saw a single bright object that flashed white, red and blue that was stationary above Seavington St Mary. The object was observed for 40 minutes.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. FOI Documentation.

2010 hours. 27/03/1991. Shoeburyness, Southend, Essex. Two on duty officers in a stationary police vehicle observed a single circular bright white light above Shoeburyness for 90 minutes. The object was seen slowly moving across the sky westwards with no noise heard. They reported the sighting to Southend police control and to Southend Airport. There several members in the Control Tower also observed the UFO.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. FOI Documentation.

0322 hours. 24/09/1991. Hull, Humberside. Three uniformed police officers observed a bright hovering over Howdale Road and the junction of Linnet Drive. There was excellent visibility at the time of the sighting. The UFO then began to move off in a south-east direction.

On Duty sighting. 3 Officers. FOI Documentation.

0719 hours. 21/12/1991. Dagenham, London. A bright green ball shaped object was seen briefly as it passed over Dagenham. The sky was clear where the UFO was seen and was initially seen by a member of the public before a police constable at Enfield police station saw the same thing.

On Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Documentation.

2001

0635 hours. 11/08/2001. South Shields, Tyneside. Ex RAF airman PC R CAMPBELL observed a cigar shaped UFO over the town.

On Duty Sighting. 1 Officer. Source: FOI Document.

2002

0254 hours. 17/10/2002. Hull, Humberside. An on duty officer based at Hessle Police Station saw a UFO over the town. A further officer in the police helicopter also observed the object.

On Duty sighting. 4 Officers. Source: FOI Document.

2003

0220 hours. 17/11/2003. Bromley, Kent. Following a report by members of the public a uniformed police confirmed the sighting of 20-30 lights in the sky. The police helicopter was asked if they could see the lights and they confirmed they could.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Document.

2005

2130 hours. 07/08/2005. Kirby, Merseyside. A traffic crew observed four rectangles equally spaced out that looked like bright lights. One of the officers filmed the objects on his mobile phone however only one black square could be seen moving in the shot.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: FOI Document.

2007

2153-2157 hours. 15/09/2007. Yeovil, Somerset. An off duty sighting by Special Constable PC STEPHEN MAINS. Having gone outside his home to have a cigarette he noticed a bright orange object moving slowly across the sky to the east. As it did so he then saw that there were two other orange lights that appeared to be moving in formation nearby. All three objects then passed directly over his home at which point the officer called his wife to observe the objects who corroborated the sighting.

Off Duty sighting. 1 Officer. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

18/10/2007. Yeovil, Somerset. A Special Constable, PC STEPHEN MAINS and a regular PC observed a single bright orange light moving over the town centre. The object then stopped and began to become brighter and then began to climb higher into the sky until it disappeared from view. There appeared to be no noise associated with the object. The duration of the sighting was approximately 3 minutes.

On Duty sighting. 2 Officers. Source: The PRUFOS Police Database.

That concludes the 6th Annual PRUFOS Police Database report for 2007. When this year's totals are added to last year's tally the result is 256 cases between 1901-2007 involving 608 British police officers.

Interestingly, despite writing to leading publishers and the national papers in England, no-one appears the slightest bit interested in bringing these startling reports to a wider audience. It does beg the question 'Why?'

There isn't a similar database of police officer sightings anywhere in the world.

My only conclusion to the lack of press and publisher attention is that at high level there is a deliberate policy to 'downplay' the subject. What other logical conclusion can you draw from such an absence of interest in these often extraordinary reports. It seems the more officers I find, the less the national media appear to be interested in reporting the results.

In the next issue I will bring you the amended statistical analysis for the entire number of reports.



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Asking Gary to join UFO DATA as Co-Editor was an easy decision. For the last four years, Gary has worked tirelessly, producing the monthly EZine, UFO MONTHLY. Not an easy task to say the least. But in joining UFO DATA, Gary published his last issue with the December 2007 issue and we have joined the titles in an effort to give both our sets of readers the opportunity to enjoy UFO news and information in a printed form.

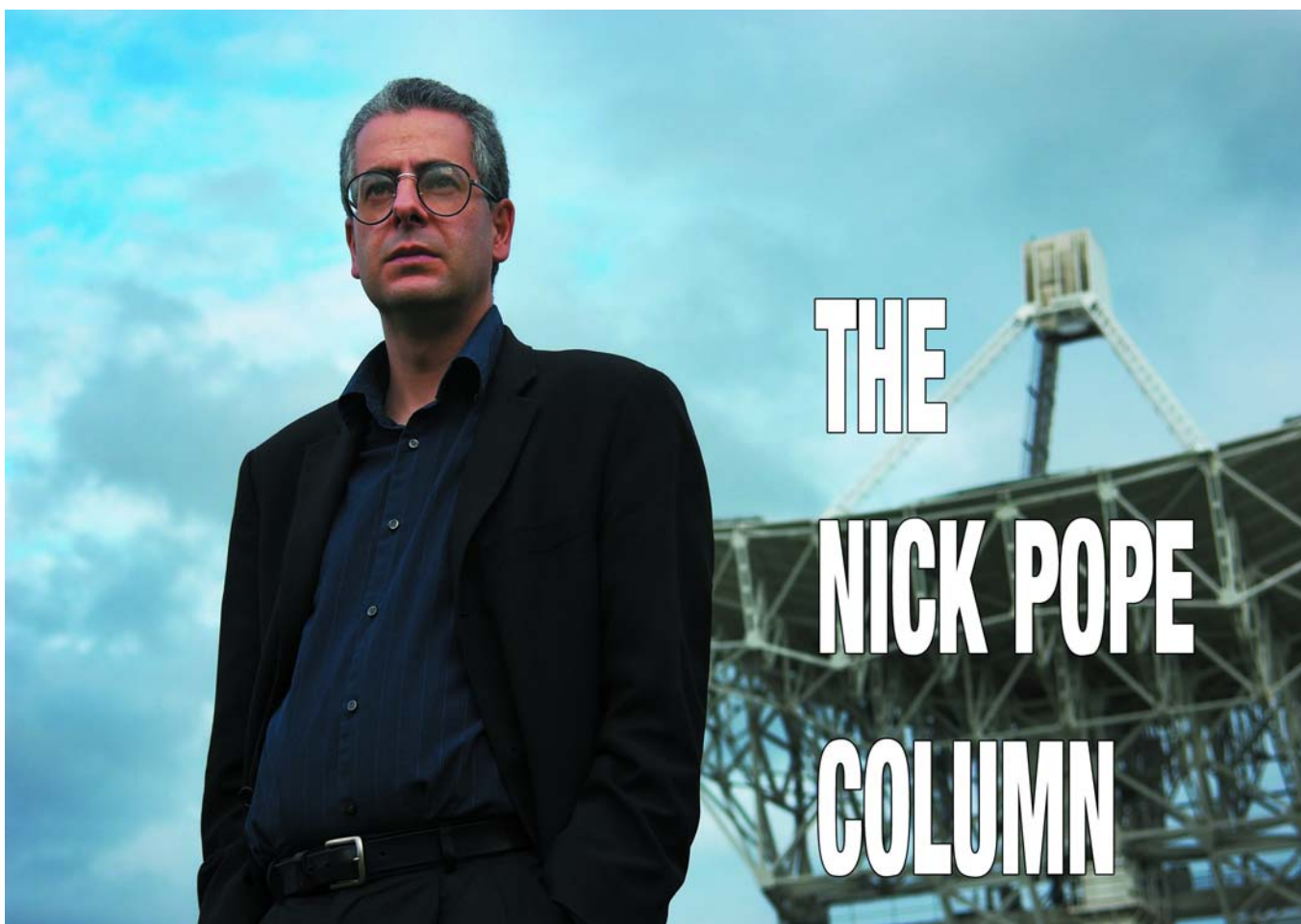
As you can see from this year's PRUFOS Report, Gary is a diligent and forthright researcher in his own right and an absolute asset to the editorial staff at UFO DATA.

Gary has compiled a complete archive of every single issue of UFO Monthly onto one CD Rom.

The magazines are in the user friendly and international standard PDF format so you can easily read them on your PC or MAC or print them off for a conventional read.

Gary has recently worked with the History Channel on a couple of episodes of their quality series The UFO FILES and will be reporting on his participation in coming issues.

To get the CD see insert left...



If Roswell Happened Today (Part 2)

By Nick Pope

Introduction

In my last column I addressed the issue of what the government would do if a UFO crashed (or landed) in the UK. Is there a plan? Who would be involved? Would the authorities try to cover it up? I gave a presentation on this at the UFO DATA conference last year and this two-part article sets out the issues and works through some possible scenarios. In the first part of the article I dealt with the issue of first response and established that while the police would have a key tactical role, at the strategic level the Cabinet Office and COBRA would take a co-ordinating role, with MoD quickly emerging as the lead department.

The next questions that would need to be handled range from what to tell Ministers, through to how to handle the media. What would Parliament be told and would there be any attempt to cover up such an incident?

COMETA

Before addressing these issues, it was remiss of me in Part 1 of this article not to mention the COMETA Report.

I had given examples of where officialdom had given some thought to the consequences of detecting an extraterrestrial radio signal or of a UFO crashing or landing and where some sort of contingency plan had been drafted. I mentioned the paper "*UFO Hypothesis and Survival Questions*" from the NSA's website and also the "*Post-Detection SETI Protocol*" drafted by the International Academy of Astronautics. I also mentioned the second edition of "*Fire Officer's Guide to Disaster Control*" by William M. Kramer and Charles W. Bahme.

I should also have mentioned the COMETA Report. This 3-year study was undertaken by the French Institute for Higher Studies of Defence, a government-funded 'think tank' staffed by people whose backgrounds are generally government and military. The findings of their study were set out in a 90 page

report entitled "*UFOs and Defense: What Should We Prepare For?*". An English language version of this report is available on the internet, but when searching for it, remember that Defence is spelled the US way, i.e. Defense.

Informing Ministers

Ministers are, of course, politicians. Defence Ministers (i.e. the Secretary of State for Defence and the various 'junior' Ministers) and the MoD more generally aspire to a culture of "no surprises". In other words, Ministers want to be told as quickly as possible of any major or controversial development. They certainly don't want to find out something only when asked about it by a journalist or by an MP in Parliament. This is why briefing is so central to the MoD culture and indeed to the civil service as a whole.

Civil Servants must ensure that Ministers and senior staff are briefed quickly and accurately on important issues. In our scenario of a UFO crash, an early action would be to brief Ministers. This would probably be done by telephone in the first

instance (with calls to one of the Minister's Private Office staff) and then followed up with a Ministerial submission. The Ministerial submission is a written brief in a set format, setting out the issue, making recommendations and discussing the presentational issues. A few examples of the template for a Ministerial submission can be found on the internet, but few actual submissions have been released, as they tend to be covered by Section 35 (Formulation of Government Policy) of the Freedom of Information Act.

This exemption applies where information relates to the formulation or development of government policy. The thinking is that if the advice and debate behind policy-making is routinely made public, there is a risk that officials would be less willing to offer frank advice and challenge the status quo. Accordingly, this is an area where I can say little more. However, it's worth noting that for any major incident (and this would certainly apply to our scenario of a UFO crash) the briefing process would have to include the Prime Minister and HM The Queen.

Decision Making

The next step would be to call a meeting. Meetings are central to the culture of the civil service and I attended hundreds in the course of my 21-year MoD career. Some meetings are minuted and some aren't and as I've said before, the paper trail never tells the whole story.

In the scenario of a UFO crash there is likely to be an initial MoD meeting chaired by the Secretary of State for Defence. Attendees would probably include the Chief of the Defence Staff, the Chief Scientific Adviser, the Chief Press Officer, the Head of Directorate of Air Staff, staff from the Defence Intelligence Staff and other senior officials. The UFO desk officer would probably not sit at the main table but (as subject matter expert) might be 'in attendance, alongside other experts who might be called on for specialist advice. But generally speaking, such a meeting would be at director level and it would be expected that the respective heads of division would have been fully briefed by their subject matter

experts. After this meeting there would inevitably be a meeting chaired by the Prime Minister, attended by Ministers and officials from other government departments.

While the decisions that would need to be taken would vary according to the specifics of the crash, issues that would arise would include the following: is there a threat and if so, should alert levels be raised? Is there a bio-hazard (this was covered in Part 1 of this article) and if so, what measures should be taken? What - if anything - should parliament, the media and the public be told? What - if anything - should other countries be told?

Presentational Issues

We have all heard of the 'dodgy dossier' and 'spin', while the post 9/11 phrase "a good day to bury bad news" - even though it's a slight misquotation - has also become firmly embedded in the public consciousness. What's the truth behind these soundbites and how would this play out in our hypothetical scenario? There's no doubt that presentational issues and news management are hugely important to the MoD and indeed to government as a whole.

Type "Defence Press Office" into the search box on the MoD website for some basic details on the role and structure of this organisation. Additionally, the evidence from the Director of News on the Hutton Inquiry website gives an interesting insight into the working of the MoD's press office. Assuming the event was to be made public, a news brief would be drawn up. Again, there's a set format to this, which generally involves the key message and subsidiary Q & A material, posing the questions the MoD is most likely to be asked and giving the lines to take on them.

Self-evidently, the key message would be something positive and in this case it might be something along the lines of "MoD scientists are currently examining the object and we will make a further statement when they have completed their investigations. There is no evidence of any danger to the public". As with all material from government, while it

can put a positive spin on matters, downplay negative issues and omit some material, it must be fundamentally truthful. I realise many people think governments lie all the time, but for a minister, lying is still a resignation issue and for a civil servant it is a serious disciplinary offence.

Secrecy

Assuming the media hadn't already found out about the event and put out the story, the question would inevitably arise as to whether to try to keep the matter secret.

Procedurally, this would be relatively straightforward. Essentially, the matter would be given a classification (probably Top Secret - UK Eyes Only) and any questions would be met with a "no comment". As to why this move might be considered, the reason has little or nothing to do with the usual ideas about destabilising the economy, undermining religions and causing panic. It would reflect the fact that any nation that exclusively acquired extraterrestrial technology it was able to use (the most obvious example being a propulsion system that allows viable interstellar travel) would become the dominant force on the planet.

If the technology was to be acquired exclusively by the British government and passed exclusively to British companies, politically, militarily and economically the UK would once more lead the world. This would be the temptation and with the stakes that high, it's easy to see how such a course of action would be attractive.

Of course, this is exactly what many people believe happened at Roswell and despite the controversy, the central idea (whether or not it actually happened) behind Philip Corso's book *"The Day After Roswell"* is sound. This is the one reason for a cover-up that does make sense in terms of the way government and the military actually think.

Search and Rescue

A final observation needs to be made about the scenario of a UFO crash. While we can make few assumptions about extraterrestrials (which is why

I instantly distrust anyone who authoritatively makes a statement that begins with a phrase along the lines of "aliens wouldn't do that because") it's a fair assumption that the loss of the craft would be noticed and the location it had been in would be known.

Therefore, just as happens when an aircraft crashes, it's reasonable to suppose that a search and rescue mission would be attempted. So any UFO crash is very likely to be followed by a UFO landing. Though it's often overlooked, this rather obvious point is one more indication that the alien autopsy video was a hoax. First contact is unlikely to go well if the first revelation from the military is that they have just dissected an extraterrestrial body. Ufologists and government officials think in fundamentally different ways.

Nobody in the government and the military, when confronted with a UFO crash, would view the event as an isolated incident. It would be seen as an event with consequences and the mindset would be "Others may come to recover the craft. What should we do to prepare for this?".

The Need for a Plan

All of this brings us back to where this article started, in Part 1, when I

said that one of the most frequent questions I'm asked is what the MoD would do if confronted by a UFO crash and whether there's a plan for this contingency.

In the course of these two articles I think I've answered much of the first part of the question. But the second part of the question can be dealt with very simply: the UK has no official plan for such an eventuality. There are bits of other plans that could doubtless be adapted (e.g. the procedures for dealing with an aircraft accident and the plans for dealing with a suspected chemical or biological terror attack) but there's no discrete plan for a UFO crash, a UFO landing or any other form of 'first contact', including the detection of a radio signal of extraterrestrial origin. This is partly because officials are naturally conservative and the possibility lies outside many people's belief systems.

"There's no contingency plan should the Loch Ness Monster turn out to be real, so why should we have one for UFOs?", the reasoning goes.

However, given the cumulative evidence in relation to UFOs and given the issues at stake, such reasoning is arguably flawed. We are back to the issue of this being a "Low Probability/High Consequence" event. There's an old adage "train

hard, fight easy". Having a plan, training people and then testing the people and the plan through realistic exercises is central to the ethos of the MoD and the military.

The lack of a plan means that if the event does occur, the response will be less effective and less speedy than would otherwise be the case. Given the magnitude of some of the issues here (e.g. the potential biohazard) this is unfortunate, to say the least.

Conclusion

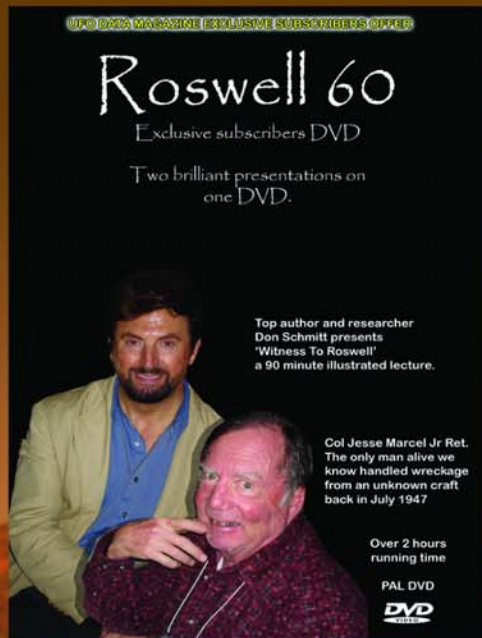
This 2-part article has been one of the most speculative that I've ever written, because of the huge number of variables and unknowns in our scenario. But in the absence of a plan, all we can do is speculate. I may be wide of the mark in some areas, but having served for 21 years in a wide range of MoD jobs, I understand the culture.

So I may be wrong about what decisions would be taken, but I'm pretty sure I'm right about the way in which those decisions would be reached. I hope readers have enjoyed these two articles and that they've offered some food for thought. If nothing else, I hope it's offered an intriguing glimpse into contingency planning and crisis management in government.



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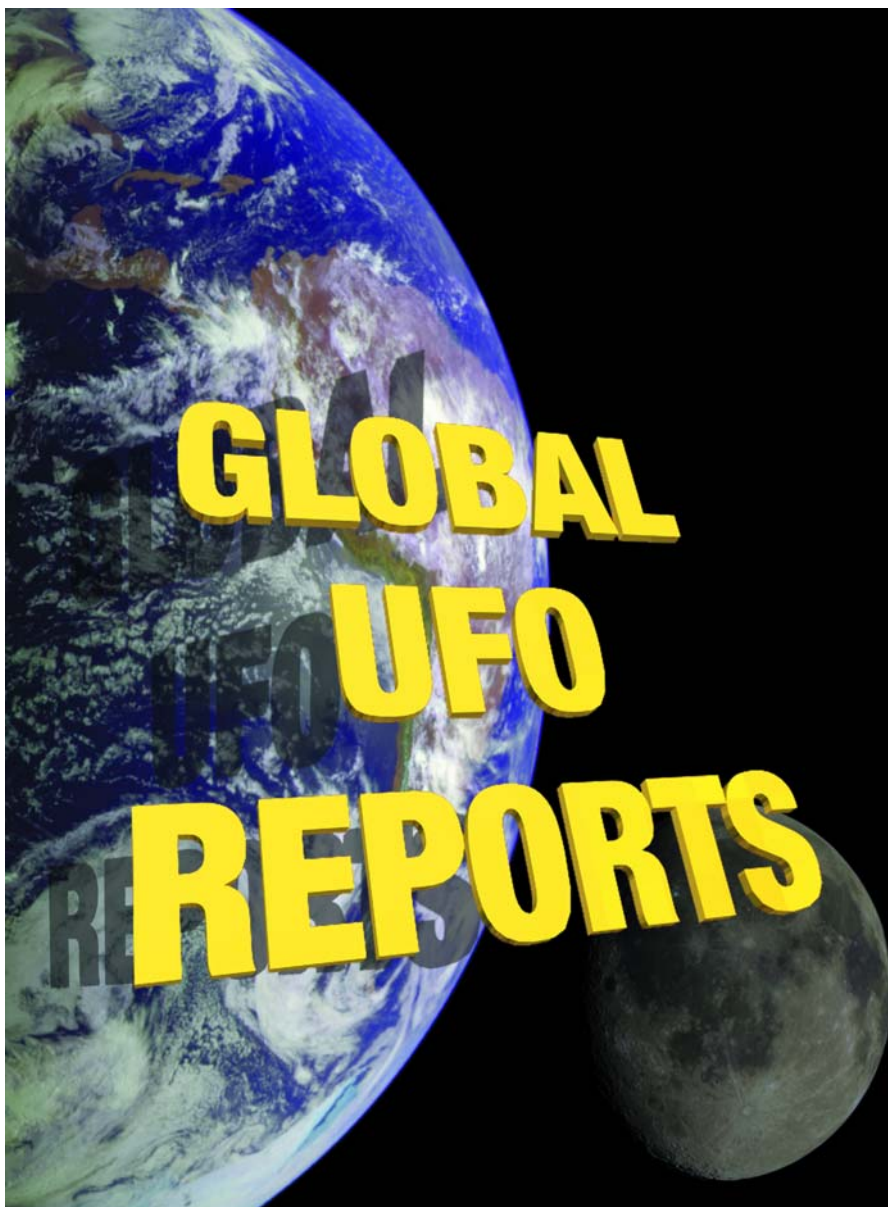
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WORLD SIGHTING REPORTS

By Gary Heseltine

CANADA

November 10th 2007 : Between Cookstown And Barrie, Ontario

Time: Approx: 5:00 a.m.

HBCC UFO Research Note:

Permission was granted to leave the names in the report, and on the photos.

Hello Brian, We approve you to publish this info in your website. Thank you.

The info you requested:

The place of event : HWY89 between Cookstown and Barrie.

Time: Around 5:00 a.m.

The photo taken by Nokia phone Camera.

Witnesses: 2.

Names: Ali Karami & Payam Kash.

We do a lot of research on stars and planets. We were coming back from Barrie where we wanted to relax and view the clear sky with many stars that can't be found in the City.

I fell asleep and my friend Ali woke me up telling me a bright object in the sky that seems to be UFO. The bright object was in green colour with blue flames coming out of it from above and under. It would change its colour. Very quiet and fast.

It could move in any direction. It would drop itself and stop close to earth then would

move in vertical direction and then horizontal.

The object was there for two hours, I believe hovering over lake. We were able to take a couple of pictures and as we took the first picture the object started moving down and after the second picture our camera, phone and video camera would not function. I think the object noticed our presence.

It went crazy and started moving fast in all directions and continued on its research and disappeared. The interesting part the photos got downloaded to the phone after 9 hours.



This can be the result of interruption in the frequency. They can effect and dismantle our radios, any electronic equipment and no radar can catch them.

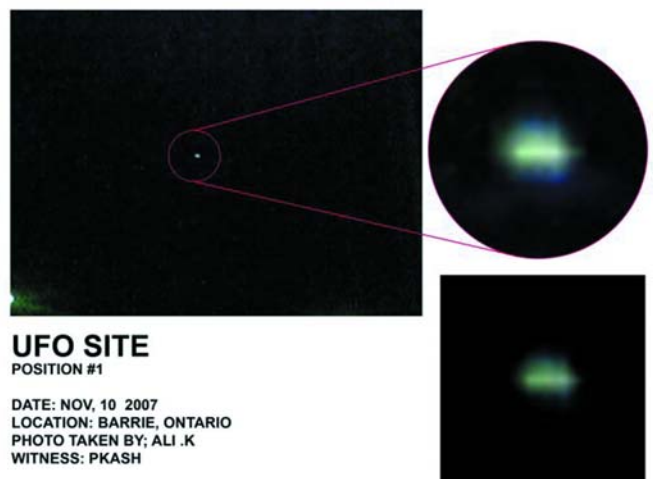
This was a fascinating night of our lives and we never saw anything like this before. Regards.

November 17th 2007 : North York

Ontario

Time: Approx: Midnight.

The following was taken by myself at around midnight on Nov.17th in





North York a part of Metropolitan Toronto. As witnessed by several witnesses including (names removed by HBCC UFO Research) and a few others. It looked like a star, but was bigger and brighter than a star.

It was flashing lights in this order, red, green, blue and yellow. It was a triangle UFO anomaly. We watched it for at least 30 minutes or longer. It did move and but slowly over this period of time. At one point a plane flying did a L shaped turn and headed right for it.

It was a commercial plane. I wish I was only in that cockpit with my camera in hand. It was southeast in direction.

INDIA

November 27th 2007 : Karnataka
Time: 10:00 p.m.
Location of Sighting: 13.09N 78.11E
Number of witnesses: 10
Number of objects: 3
Shape of objects:
Not able to distinguish.

Full Description of event/sighting:
One big star like object showing different colors and two smaller ones, They are even changing colors. First we thought it as a airplane but it was not moving and it was still there after half an hour. It shifted to another place.

EIRE

December 25th 2007 : Red Cow Roundabout, M50, Dublin
Cork, Clondalkin Dublin A Small Black Oval Shaped Flying Object
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Location of Sighting: Clondalkin.
Number of witnesses: 1.
Number of objects: 1.
Shape of objects: Oval.

Full Description of event/sighting:
Hi, staying with friends in yellow apartment building at Red Cow roundabout, looking out facing M50 around 12:30 PM on Christmas Day 2007. I noticed a small black oval shaped flying object with a flashing red light taking off slowly from Clondalkin area, generating more speed towards Dublin city centre and eventually disappearing towards the Irish sea, all in a straight line. Anyone else noticed this, any explanation?

MEXICO

November 16th 2007 :
Mexico City
International Airport
The Journal of
Hispanic Ufology
November 18, 2007
Source: Ana Luisa Cid
Date: November 17,
2007

MEXICO: Spherical
Object Reported over

Mexico City International Airport. According to a report from Alfonso Salazar, a sighting took place over MCIA between 13:00 and 13:15 hours on Friday, November 16, 2007. Airport personnel particularly those at the Aviacsa PGR hangar and others near Runway 6 witnessed a white flying object that remained static at 8000 meters toward the south of the Mexican capital.

The witnesses report that at approximately 13:10 hours a Boeing 737-800 passed near the object as it flew from west to east at an altitude similar to that of the possible UFO.

Weather was good, with sunlight and blue skies. The object began to rise into the air toward 13:15 until it lost itself from sight. Researcher Salazar believes that it could not be a weather balloon, as these are launched at 5 am and 5 pm (during winter hours). (Translation (c) 2007. S. Corrales, IHU. Special thanks to Ana Luisa Cid)

Mexico: UFO Over Tepexpan

A Report From Prof. Ana Luisa Cid
A luminous, multicolored object was recorded by Mr. Victor Gabriel Gonzalez over the town of Tepexpan (State of Mexico).
The sighting took place on November 26, 2007 at 11:30 a.m.
The witness says that he was outside his workshop engaged in car repairs when he saw a flash in the sky toward the west. He realized that the glow came from a static object in the sky, so it gave him time to get his Sony 108 Mini-DVD camera ready. "When I started recording," says González, "the UFO began to move slowly. It flew over the electric lines



and then remained static at another point toward the east. It was at that time that I switched camera modes to take some photos. For that reason I have both video and photos, estimating that the sighting had a duration of 10 minutes."

"I stopped seeing the object because it literally dissolved into the sky. It became progressively weaker, although it returned to the same place half an hour later. It should be noted that I had already seen it and videotaped on an earlier occasion, but the best images I've taken are the ones from today. I found out that there was a strong tremor in Mexico City, and without saying that there's a connection between both events, they would appear to coincide."

USA

November 21st 2007 :
Salem, Oregon

Salem, Oregon On I-5 Interstate Low Flying Craft Approached Their Car
Date: November 21, 2007

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Location of Sighting: I-5 interstate Highway around Salem, Oregon.

Number of witnesses: 3

Number of objects: 3

Shape of objects: Grouping of lights, could not see outline.

Full Description of event/sighting: I had a experience on November 21, 2007 near Salem, Oregon. I was riding north from Ashland Oregon to Portland for thanksgiving when I spotted an object in the distance. I sat watching it for a while as it travelled from the left to the right, than back to the left. I found it very strange, and being a firm believer that extraterrestrials are visiting us I concluded there was a distinct possibility that it was a UFO.

A second object materialized below the first and they then went in separate directions. At this time I went into a meditation sending feelings of love to these crafts, and asked them in my mind to make their presence known to me closer. About ten minutes later a very low flying craft approached our car from the north-west moving very slow. it had two rows of three bright white lights in what I presume was the front of the craft a yellow light in the centre, and

a row of three white lights at the rear. it passed over our car moving a 70 mph, and matched our speed and hovered directly above our car.

It then turned off all its white lights but kept its single yellow light on. it stayed in a constant position in proportion to our moving car for about three minutes, then turned on its lights and swooped forward and to the east. It was very neat I think I may have had my first CE5 experience.

North Hollywood, California

November 23rd 2007 :

Triangular Object And Red Ball

Date: November 23, 2007

Time: 5:00 a.m.

Location of Sighting: North Hollywood, CA.

Number of witnesses: 2

Number of objects: 2

Shape of objects:

Triangular but brilliant like a star.

Full Description of event/sighting: As I lay on the couch looking thought the window I observed an extremely brilliant light in the southeast sky above the Hollywood Hills toward Burbank, CA. It was too bright to be a star and too far to be a commercial aircraft. I yelled at my sister to look also.

She told me she had seen it there before so we looked at this for about an hour and noticed red, green and yellow lights on the end of a triangular shaped object, very, very bright. It did not move and had been there for about 2 hours. About 45 minutes into the observation I noticed a red ball come cross the sky from west to east really fast as if it was in orbit. I watched it as it appeared until it disappeared. This really blew my mind because I never, ever thought I would see something like this. The triangular shaped object appeared again 2 nights later.

Victorville, California

November 29th 2007 : Victorville, California Lights Twirling In Formation

Date: November 29, 2007

Time: 7:30 p.m.

HBCC UFO Research Note: When I

received the sighting report which was on November 29, 2007 at 9:19 p.m. I checked my time here in B.C. and the report was only 10 minutes old.

I immediately picked up the telephone and called the witness and spoke to them. The lights were still visible in the sky at 9:45 p.m. and still going on when I hung the phone up. If anyone in Victorville, California or surrounding areas witnessed this light display or has any information on this event, would you please contact me, Brian Vike Director of HBCC UFO Research at hbccufo@telus.net

Location of Sighting: In the sky.

Number of witnesses: 2

Number of objects: 4

Shape of objects: Round and bright.

Full Description of event/sighting:

My husband went outside and said, look there are circles above the clouds. Four of them twirling in formation going around and around, connecting and stretching out and back in since 7:30 pm. and still circling now as I speak at 9:45 pm. on the block of 16980 Nisqualli Road in the sky.

There are no beams indicating it is strobe light. The only light we see is in the sky above the clouds. The formations seem to almost collide. But doesn't, then they circle outward and swoop back in over and over with no change.

If you have anything to report you can email your sighting to info@ufodata.co.uk or pick up the phone Tel 0113 2865566.

Some have passed comment that there are few sightings reported these days. This is not the case.

Almost every day, somebody somewhere experiences the unusual. The brave report it. Keep watching the skies...

ADVERTISEMENT

PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION

The Paranormal Activity Research Team Invite you to join an evening of Paranormal Investigation at The National Railway Museum in York.

23rd February 2008

EVENT INCLUDES
Exclusive Access
Exclusive Tour
Mediumship
Workshop
Use of equipment
Refreshments
and much more...

PRICE
£50.00
Per Person

See page opposite for full details

NRM YORK
NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM

been spotted walking round the empty carriages..

When staff go to investigate they simply disappear.

Recently the popular Most Haunted TV Research programme visited the museum where their staff heard strange footsteps and voices. Some of the crew even felt uneasy in some of the empty carriages!

Who knows what we'll discover when we investigate at the National Railway Museum.

Our own investigation team have visited the museum on several occasions and have documented a substantial amount of paranormal activity on video, audio and photographs.

The cost of this event is currently been offered to UFODATA Magazine readers at a discounted rate of £50.

The group is a not for profit organization and the ticket revenue covers only our basic costs for the event.

All places are available on a strictly first come first served basis, so if you wish to attend, please send a reply email to your meetup organiser: Duane Ellis,

(Duaneellis83@aol.com) A.S.A.P to express your interest in joining us. You will then receive an email detailing the methods of payment for this event.

Dear Reader.

We are pleased to offer a rare opportunity to join The Paranormal Activity Research Team on an investigation at the National Railway Museum in York on the 23rd February 2008.

The National Railway Museum in York has recently featured on Ghost Hunting with the Dingles, it boasts a collection of over 100 locomotives and 200 other items of rolling stock, alongside the huge national archive of UK railways.

There are approximately 260 rail vehicles in the National Collection, with 100 being at York at any time, the remainder is divided between Shildon and other museums and heritage railways, with the earliest exhibits being wagonway vehicles from around 1815.

Brief Paranormal History

There have been many reports of strange activity within and around the locomotives. A ghostly figure has

This Event Includes:

Exclusive access to the building and some of the carriages.

Exclusive tour of the building, portraying real life paranormal and historical facts.

Medium Workshop with our Resident Medium.

Experienced paranormal investigators to lead you in your investigation.

Use of Ghost Hunting and Psychic Equipment.

Light refreshments served throughout the night.

This event may be filmed, and a DVD highlighting the investigation may become available at a later date.

Over 18s only.

No food is served on this event but refreshments and snacks will be provided. You are also advised to bring along a packed lunch.

Duane Ellis
Meetup organiser
Paranormal Activity Research Team
Founder

UFO DATA has sponsored The Paranormal Activity Research Team's promotion of this event.

We know the team and are happy to recommend this event.

The team carry out professional investigations with professional people and we are sure anyone joining the team in February will enjoy a fascinating night of real investigation.

Of course there are no guarantees for results, but the venue is full of physical history, so you never know...

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NRM YORK
NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM

UFO OVER MEXBOROUGH SOUTH YORKSHIRE

UFO OVER MEXBOROUGH : SOUTH YORKSHIRE

7th September 2007

By Philip Mantle

Special thanks go to Jan Patience, the editor of the newsstand publication *BEYOND*. The following was a 'letter to the editor' of *BEYOND* but as the magazine does not have a letters section, Jan kindly asked me if I could respond to it. I have contributed several articles to *BEYOND* on the UFO subject and don't live too far away from where the sighting took place.

I have withheld the real names of the witnesses to this sighting, but do have them on file. Mr Christopher Stevenson (pseudonym) wrote to the editor of *BEYOND* on October 9th 2007. He stated:

"Dear Editor,

I have spoken over the phone to one of your male colleagues informing him of the problems that my wife and I have encountered in trying to get in touch with a UFO investigator to report a UFO sighting (7th Sep 2007).

We did report the ufo sighting the next day via the internet to BUFORA, the British UFO Research

Association, who simply said 'thank you for reporting your sighting and sending the photo via email', but I haven't heard anything since. We have not met with an investigator to date.

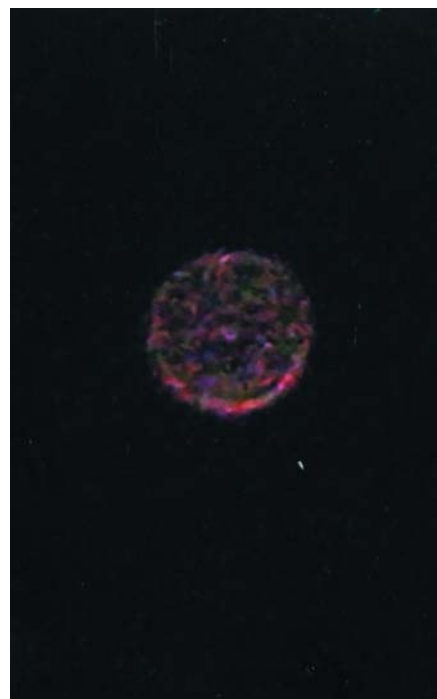
It is as if no one is particularly interested in UFOs anymore.

I had tried to contact some addresses from the internet for the old UFO investigators agencies that are still on the internet, but to my dismay they had all closed down or were doing other things like investigating 'big cats' etc.

I really have given up trying to give our report of the UFO sighting with photograph to an investigator, and have decided to go public on this through your magazine, on the basis that you please respect our privacy by not publishing our names or address.

I don't know whether you pay for UFO stories or photographs, but I would really would appreciate a complimentary copy of the magazine when/if you publish our report. Please find our report and photographs enclosed with this letter and please reply soon.

Thank you. Yours Sincerely C. Stevenson.



UFO over Mexborough.

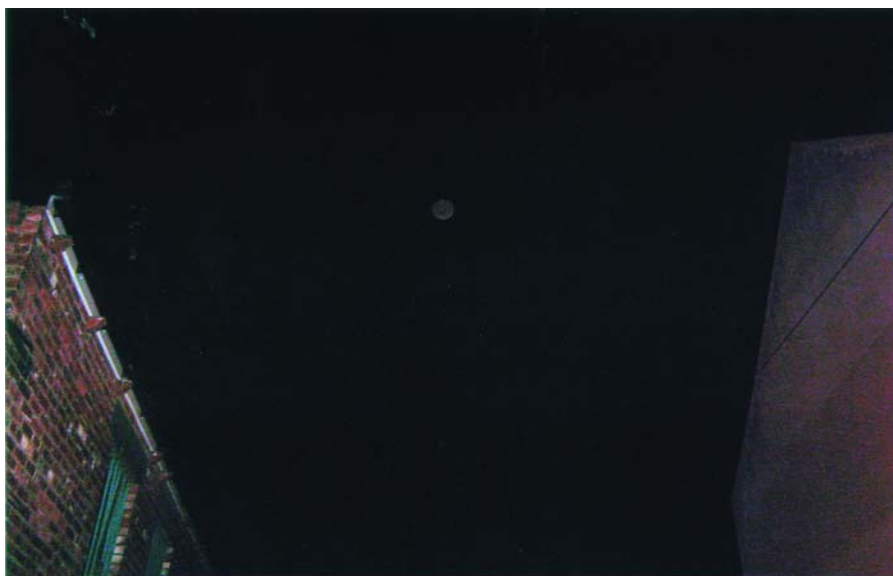
This is our personal witness statement from the start to finish of what my wife and I observed on the evening of Friday 7th September 2007.

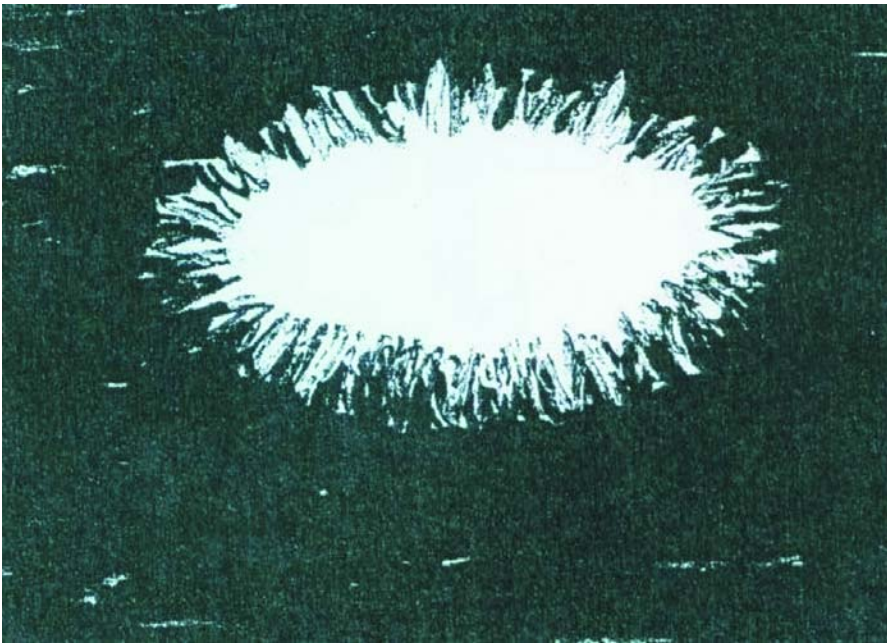
It was shortly before 23:00 hours. My wife and I had been out walking our dog and we were heading on our way back home. When we got close to the end of our road near the bus stop my wife pointed out to be a very bright luminous piercing light in the sky to the south of us, giving the appearance that it was shooting sprays of light out from it.

There were no clouds that evening and no moon in the sky.

The light remained stationary for a while, roughly two miles away above the fields and to the right of a local farm, which stands on a wooded hill-top overlooking the village of Old Denaby. We crossed over the road just as this light began to move north toward Mexborough on a flight path that would take it over the rear of our house.

We went into the house and I got my digital camera out of the display unit. I then immediately went outside the back kitchen door into the garden, where I stood on the garden's bench seat for a better vantage point to view and to capture this light on





camera as it passed overhead.

Unfortunately the glow went out but I still managed to get a single photograph of the underside of a strange circular object passing overhead.

The object was a greenish-orange colour with a number of small lights on its outer rim. My dog was barking frantically and running up and down the back yard, setting off our security light obscuring my view. When the security light went out again the object had gone. The time was now exactly 2300 hours by my wrist-watch.

However, it is interesting to note that shortly after the object had gone overhead, a large heavy-sounding aircraft followed in that same direction, north toward Adwick upon Dearne. The plane was undercover of darkness with only its flight lights on, but no cabin or passenger windows lit or visible.

The details of my digital camera are: Samsung with SHD lens zoom 7.4,22. - 2mm (Digimax S800).

The object bears a remarkable similarity to a reported sighting by the Chinese Air Force pilots over the north China military frontier in June 1982 (enclosed clipping from Chinese UFO journal showing picture of this sighting).

I will stop here as I wish to add that my wife and I do not wish to publicise our names with this story

because we really do value our privacy and we would like to remain anonymous for private and personal reasons please (can we do this ?).

Please do keep us informed, yours,

Mrs & Mrs Stevenson
(*real name and address on file*).

Mr. Stevenson has supplied three photographs all of which are shown here for your attention. They are 'interesting', but like a lot of such photographs, they lack any real detail. It is therefore almost impossible to reach any definitive conclusion concerning the sighting in question.

There is no reason to doubt the sincerity of the witnesses and it is a great shame that a once fine UFO research and investigation organisation such as BUFORA are unable to respond. I was at one time the Director of Investigations for BUFORA and it saddens me to hear this.

It would seem to me by reading between the lines that the witnesses are looking for feedback on this sighting. If you have any comments or have seen something similar yourself then I will gladly pass it on to the witnesses direct. You can contact me via the magazines editorial address or via email at: philip@mantle8353.fsworld.co.uk

Special thanks to Jan Patience the editor of BEYOND magazine for forwarding this letter on to me.

UFO DATA

Firstly I would like to address the reporting problems encountered by the witness regarding this report.

UFO DATA will always look at any evidence presented regarding the UFO phenomena. We believe that any group or organization advertising an interest in the subject should at least respond by a matter of courtesy to the individuals who have taken the time to contact them or, like the staff at *Beyond*, put the witness in touch, where possible, with somebody who can address the report.

The problem here is the witness describes far more detail about this sighting than the evidence actually portrays. This is a common occurrence in UFO reports. The witness is captivated by what they see and, as a secondary thought, go and grab a camera, only to find the event has diminished to a more mundane event.

What the photographic evidence shows is an 'orb' effect, created when a bright light source is photographed against a dark background. The image shows an out of focus light source that appears to be reflecting light from the surrounding buildings as the colours of the orb and the colours of the building are the same.

As evidence goes, this image shows little proof that there was anything more in the shot other than a star or even a dust particle caught in the camera lens.

What the witness describes sounds far more exciting though.

Don't forget UFODATA are happy to receive your reports, images and videos. You can send by traditional mail to:

UFO DATA
PO BOX 280
Leeds
LS26 1AN

or email to
reports@ufodata.co.uk

Alien Abduction

The need for healing...

Alien Abduction: The Need for Healing

By Rick Nielsen,

<http://alienabductionaccounts.blogspot.com/>

My preface

I don't consider myself a mental health professional. However, so far I have sixteen years of paid, professional experience as an agent of the state, counselling all kinds of people from backgrounds whose diversity stems from ethnicity, age, gender, belief system and mental state.

This experience includes twelve years as a full-time state employee in positions titled "Counsellor", in the adult corrections field.

If value is found in this article, let this be an introduction to the topic only. I readily acknowledge those more qualified than me.

Let the healing begin.

Should I see a counsellor about this? The appropriate answer is, "Maybe

you should." If your experiences are preventing you from feeling capable and effective, or if remembering them is preventing you from enjoying life, maybe you should but choose a competent and qualified mental health professional, you can start by asking your doctor.

If it's not interfering with your life, but you want to deal with it anyway, what should you do? When faced with events that one cannot control, what can be done?

There are general tactics one can use, as well as specific techniques available to help one through this.

Generally speaking we are each responsible for those acts we commit when conscious. We are not responsible for things we do when unconscious or semi-conscious or when forced by someone else. Likewise, harmful acts against us, perpetrated by others, are not our responsibility.

For acts committed against others by our own bodies, for example vehicular assaults and homicides committed while "under the

influence", we can expect to be held responsible. The assumption in this case is that we chose to ingest those substances that incapacitated us and led to our criminal behaviours.

But how do we deal with those harmful acts against us? Viktor Frankl suggested an approach that seems most appropriate: we can choose our response. In his book "*Man's Search for Meaning*" he said:

"We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. They may have been few in number, but they offer sufficient proof that everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms-to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way." "*Man's Search for Meaning*", page 104

I highly recommend all of his books, audio and video productions of every one, whether they have been victimized themselves or whether they want to understand those who have

been victimized.

Dr. Frankl's works help the healing, and the personal empowerment, begin.

Specifically, we can look at two anxiety disorders to gain treatment techniques that help move us back into productive, healthy lives. They are post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and post-abduction syndrome (PAS). PTSD is recognized by professional mental health classification and treatment organizations, while PAS is not, as yet.

Neither of these, PTSD or PAS, has been proven to completely deal with our current topic. These are presented as only possible avenues for research and use. Also, PAS is presented here without reference to treatment, because no methods were found, in the research for this article.

On the other hand, PTSD is presented with its most effective treatments. It is hoped that until a specific treatment is available for PAS, the methods used for PTSD and other anxiety disorders will help.

Post-abduction Syndrome (PAS)
The word "abduction" in PAS refers to alien abduction. PAS does not refer to humans abducting humans, (i.e., kidnapping), but only to alien abductions. PAS shares many symptoms with PTSD. But it is not the same.

PAS is based on those symptoms originally listed by alien abduction researcher Budd Hopkins and described in his books "*Missing Time*" and "*Intruders*".

PAS symptoms include: Persistent re-experiencing of the traumatic event characterized by flashbacks- Persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma- Denial of the event- Labelling the event something else- Phobic avoidance of areas or situations where contact occurred- Refraining from sleep at the time contact occurred- Emotional reaction to literature, pictures, or videos about alien entities- Numbing of emotions characterized by inability to feel intimacy, pleasure, or to express emotions-

Diminished interest previously enjoyed activities- May have no expectation of normal life events or normal life span- May fear abduction with no return or lengthy abduction- Hyper-vigilance, exaggerated startle response, irritability and or panic attacks

As mentioned earlier, there is no treatment or cure listed with PAS, as presently proposed. It is hoped that the treatments used for authenticated anxiety disorders, like PTSD, are helpful to those experiencing PAS.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and treatment PTSD refers to stressful events that the person experiences as highly traumatic. Like PAS, PTSD has everything to do with not being able to trust your environment anymore. It's very serious and debilitating.

It is possible for individuals to experience traumatic stress without manifesting Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. But PTSD is an anxiety disorder and not to be confused with normal grief and adjustment after traumatic events. For most people, the emotional effects of traumatic events will tend to subside after several months. If they last longer, then a psychiatric disorder may be diagnosed.

It is also possible to suffer other psychiatric disorders in addition to PTSD. These disorders often include depression, anxiety disorders and addictions. PTSD may have a delayed onset of months, years or even decades and may be triggered by an external factor or factors.

Treatment

There are dozens of treatments suggested for PTSD. PTSD is commonly treated using a combination of psychotherapy and psychotropic drug therapy.

The most effective psychotherapeutic treatment for PTSD is Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR).

Extremely briefly, EMDR is an eight-phase treatment that includes the following actions occurring simulta-

neously and under supervision: Patient focuses inwardly on a most traumatic scene from her past.

Patient focuses outwardly on their doctor's finger, following it back and forth with their eyes.

Patient visualizes a pre-chosen positive picture.

A more detailed explanation of the treatment can be found at the EMDR website listed in the references at the end of this article. Parenthetically, it is interesting that the eyes are the focus of the PTSD therapy EMDR.

Conclusion:

Whether alien abductions occur in our physical world or not, their effects can be real, and real devastating, to their victims. It should be encouraging to know that help is available.

It should be hopeful to know there are ways to manage our responses to these intrusions. It should be better still to go on living our lives with purpose.

A short list of references

Viktor Frankl:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viktor_Frankl

PAS:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Post-abduction_syndrome

PTSD:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PTSD>
[EMDR: http://www.emdr.com/](http://www.emdr.com/)

Rick Nielsen

<http://alienabductionaccounts.blogspot.com/>

UFO DATA

Rick's website is full of detailed accounts from abductees and is well worth a visit.

Anyone who feels they might have being involved in the alien abduction phenomenon can contact Rick via his website.



ALIEN ROCK IN ROSWELL (*The Band That Rocked Roswell*).

An interview with Michael from the UFO rock band, Element 115

By Philip Mantle

The UFO subject made its way into popular culture many years ago. It has been used extensively in advertising, movies and of course music. We had the rock band UFO and today there is the Foo Fighters. David Bowie sang about his *Starman*, The Carpenters and their *'Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft'*, to name but a few. The list of UFO-themed songs in popular music is quite extensive.

While visiting Roswell, New Mexico, as part of the 60th anniversary celebrations, I met with Michael from the rock band, Element 115. They had performed in Roswell on Thursday July 5th, the day before I had arrived, so I missed their concert. I met with Michael in the Cover-up Café while I was taking part in a radio interview for the Jerry Pippin Show. Element 115 is no ordinary rock band and they even have an alien drummer.

Michael simply likes to be known as Michael. As he explained, if the angels can simply have one name then that's good enough for him.

I took the opportunity to get an interview with Michael to try and learn more about Element 115. That interview is reproduced here in full.

All photographs are courtesy of Michael and are copyright Rivera Photography, Roswell, and used by permission.

Michael, could you tell me from where you got the name for the band?

A brave man by the name of Robert Lazar claims to have worked at Area 51, Groom Lake, in Nevada on reverse-engineering alien spacecraft obtained by the US government. He reported that he discovered the fuel source the captured craft used and utilized at its core, *Element 115*.

He claims that Element 115 is unique in that the strong gravitational force of the atom extends beyond the nucleus and is detectable. Any electromagnetic force which is detectable can also be amplified and directed. It basically enables the craft to create a strong gravity force which can bend the space-time fabric. That's powerful and so are we.

How did the band get together in the first place?

The first iteration of the band formed in 1995 and put one record together. Personal differences broke the band up before the CD could even go to market and since I came up with the name, I kept it for further iterations to come. The initial meeting of the current line-up happened at a friend's birthday party in 2002. I met Kevin, the former keyboard player there, and Carla, whom I already

knew, but was not playing bass yet, was there as well. We started practicing together and went through a couple of bass players before I asked Carla if she'd like to really learn bass and play in the band. In 2004 she joined and in January of this year, Jess became a full member.

How did the alien drummer idea evolve?

We had a hard time finding a guy with a digital drum set (for volume control) who knew the classic rock material we wanted to play. I made a joke that maybe we'd have better luck finding an alien to play drums. Kevin said, "Well, why don't you just make one?" and then laughed. I sat for about 10 seconds and said, "I could do that." Then came the infamous phrase from Kevin: "If you can pull that off..." Two weeks later "AL" made his first appearance.

How is the drummer put together and operated?

I purchased a 3-D model of an alien and a cheap drum set model. I then modified what was purchased and built a nice fireplace for a cosy effect, which also provides movement even when "AL" is sitting still. Then, I settled on a camera angle which would allow for all of his drums and cymbals to be seen, and revealed a little of his legs so that movement can be detected by the viewer when he operates the kick drums and hi-hat. AL performs on a plasma video wall behind the band.

The first version of "AL" (called AL 1.0) used his long fingers as drum sticks, and had a single kick set. I animated every drum hit and roll for each song, one frame at a time. It was a long and tedious process which took over 1,000 hours of animation time to do the first 30 songs we played. Seeing this as an unbearable inefficiency for adding new material, I came up with the idea of making a MIDI (*a computer interface from instrument to computer*) to animation converter. That was the beginning of AL 2.0.

The 2nd version of AL is a (Macromedia) Director program I wrote with each drum hit as a callable sequence. When I write a

new drum track, I play it into a program called Metro in MIDI, then massage the MIDI file to throw out things I don't need, and keep just the start time, note information, and the volume of each hit. I feed that file to my Director program with the MIDI to animation converter embedded in it, and AL plays the file in real time.

I capture that on the computer screen at 832 x 624 (the resolution of the video wall) and save it as a QuickTime video file.

I then take the MIDI file into Pro-Tools and make the drums more real with compressors, reverbs, flangers, etc. That digital audio file is synchronized with the video animation in Final Cut Pro and I create a movie file for each song. All the song files (movies) reside on my Mac laptop.

A second program I wrote, which is the one that operates live on stage, calls up the proper movie file when I click on the name of the song we want to play next. When that name is clicked, the program loads the timing data for the light show, tells all of the processors (guitar, vocal, etc) what patch to use and then waits for me to press "PLAY." It's really that simple (he says with a sly grin).

No MIDI is played live. The only thing not played live on stage is the drums, and since I played those tracks originally, I don't consider that to be cheating.
Would you like to introduce us to the other band members? Who's who?

On bass and vocals (and sometimes piano) is Carla Darin. She has only been playing for about 3 years. She's awesome. She's about 100 pounds and carries as much gear as any of us guys.

On rhythm guitar, keyboards, and now vocals (he hits A above hi C) is Jess D. He's 15. He's been playing seriously for about a year. He's also awesome. He's home-schooled, and generally beyond his contemporaries whether we're talking music, philosophy, or even politics.

You've played quite a few gigs, so how was it playing live in Roswell for the 60th anniversary events?

We weren't in town 10 minutes before we stopped at Applebees (the restaurant chain that we should own since we almost always eat there or at IHOP) and were recognized by customers there. The second day, the day of the show, we were asked to do an interview on the radio and they started playing our music right then. Roswell is a great town. When they make the alien theme park, we want to move there and be the "house band."

The night of the show, winds kicked up in the football stadium venue and almost toppled part of our video wall. The crew which set up the stage saved one stack from falling over and secured it. We're thankful. That one stack alone cost over \$5,000 (there are 3 of them) and that show would have been irreparably damaged if they hadn't saved it.



Jess, Carla and Al



Carla on bass

They are anxiously awaiting the release of our album, which is due September 1st. I think AL had a marriage proposal or two.

Do you see the band breaking into the mainstream rock scene or are you content to stay as you are?

The band will break into the mainstream for a few reasons.

1. We have something no one else has. Even the Gorillaz don't have the kind of music we do and don't normally have a lot of interaction between humans and the characters on stage.
2. Classic rock is like the cliffs of Dover. It'll *always* be standing as other music fads come and go. Even though we're writing new songs, they have that great classic-rock feel and sound. Harmony leads, harmony vocals and musical integrity are mainstays of our songs and people love that.
3. Our message is one of personal growth, responsibility, and positive change. We understand that action must be taken to realize the changes we all know we need. The songs we write often call for that action.
4. We're a family show. Unless one is in favour of pre-emptive wars, poisoning oneself with chemicals, implanting chips in humans, or averse to the ultimate in diversity (an alien drummer) they won't be offended by an Element 115 show.

The show was great, and as you can see from the pictures, the stage was awesome.

What was the crowd's reaction to you in Roswell?

We are a phenomenon there from what our MySpace friends tell us.



Is there any one song that you have written that is linked to a specific UFO event?

No. We do have a song on this upcoming album called "People of the Planet Blue" which is about a race coming here to share our planet with us. Their planet was destroyed, and they need to live here for a while. We aren't the cheesy tin-foil-collared typical UFO band. We're a serious act that just happens to have an alien on drums.

Are all the band members interested in UFOs?

Absolutely. We understand that the last several risings of man were spawned by extraterrestrials and such a conclusion is reached through all ancient writings, including Hopi, Hammurabi and the Bible (the sons of God mated with the daughters of man, the Nephilim, etc.).

We'd like to see the ETs come out of the closet. It seems that the humans need to have a one-world government before that happens.

Unfortunately, the one-world system that seems to be gaining ground is the one which enslaves 99.99% of the world for the benefit of the remaining .01%. That is an unsatisfactory situation for those of us who respect and appreciate the sovereignty of the individual. Therefore, the struggle for a unified government with the ideals of the individual's right to life, liberty, property, and pursuit of happiness is far from over.

Have you or any of the band members had their own UFO sighting?
I've seen a UFO in Phoenix, and I'm on a "ready-team" who gets called whenever anything is spotted by any

member of the team, which includes Jeff Willes among others. We are armed with cameras, night-vision and video processing gear.

I was also visited in my own house. I was summonsed, as it were, out of bed while my wife was immobilized and they chatted with me in my kitchen. What

was most interesting is that, for once, I felt like an intellectual insignificant. You see, I had straight As all through school, got my Bachelor's degree in 18 months (summa cum laude) in computer science, have written over 250 CD-ROMs, 50 CD-Is and 100 DVDs on education and training for corporate topics from martial arts to dental procedures to engineering projects and have a photographic memory, so I remember every detail of every disc that I've made. I worked through the '80s on missile systems test equipment doing hardware and software design. Next to these four 8-foot tall beings, I was a little kid both in mental acuity and stature. They did communicate to me that they appreciated my sense of humour, though. Ironically, I can't remember any details of the conversation we had that night.

Carla has seen and heard unexplained things, but can't definitively tie them to a UFO or alien source.

And what of the future, what are your plans?

The band is what I work on at least 14 hours a day, 6 days a week. I'm marketing, writing songs, recording, working on animation, giving AL more things to do on stage and whatever I can do to make our show more entertaining and enlightening for our audience.

We plan on taking this project global with emphasis on Europe and Asia. We're starting to get offers for sponsorships, though I haven't heard back from DW whom I'd like to have for AL's drums. All we need is the right person to see the potential with

merchandising (with an alien drummer? come on!) and someone who has the foresight to see the resurgence of classic rock with the next generation of music consumers and we'll be a household name world-wide!

For those who are interested in learning more about the band or perhaps even booking you for a gig, how can they find out more information?

We are all over the web. You can type "Element 115 band" into any browser and we're #1. Our website is www.Element115theBand.com and we can also be reached at our theBand@Element115theBand.com email address.

Space prevents a longer interview with Michael, but this interview does give us an insight into the band, their origins and where they are heading. Keep an eye on their website for further details. It goes to show again just how far the UFO subject has been integrated into popular culture. It also further emphasises that the festival in Roswell is exactly that, a festival. It has had its critics, but having been there and experienced it myself, I found the criticism completely unjust. The Roswell festival has something to offer for all.

It would not surprise me in the least to learn that Element 115 has hit the big time complete with AL, the alien drummer. I wish them well and would like to thank Michael for this interview. I for one look forward to their new CD (available now).



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Much has been reported and much has been said of the UFO situation in Central and Southern America.

Some of the best ever footage was recorded in this part of the world. Let's not forget the size of the area. This isn't a small pocket of activity as one might think. We are referring to a continent's worth of countries with cities bursting at the seams, none more than Mexico City itself. One city with an official 24million people that unofficially is probably nearer the 30 million population mark. That alone is an amazing number of possible witnesses to unusual events.

A lot of what comes out of this part of the world evokes fakery or mistaken identity of aircraft or other known technology but sometimes we see evidence of something a bit different.

Below is a selection of recent sightings and photographic evidence of encounters in the southern part of the American continent.

One thing that does happen here is the reports do make the news and it is a case of factual reporting, telling it like it is and letting the viewer decide what they are seeing...

Mexico

Fleet Caught on camera.

A video taken by Jose Alonso Galicia Fabala on December 4, 2007 at 16:32 hours. It was taken when Alonso left the camera recording on the tripod over his house before going downstairs for lunch.

After reviewing the tape, he found what he described as a "line of silver orbs".

It should be noted that this is not the first time that he has left his camera running and unattended while he engages in other activities. He has previously sent Ana Luisa Cid video material that was gleaned in the same manner.



To the extent visible in the video, the objects do not travel together, and for this reason we dismiss the possibility that they could be a cluster of balloons, although other possibilities have yet to be examined.

Costa Rica

Malvin Badilla, a Costa Rican construction worker, managed to record a very compelling video of a possible disc-shaped unidentified flying object. The object appears to spin on its own axis and makes manoeuvres in a matter of seconds. The witness states that its apparent size was slightly larger than that of a tractor tire, adding that the time was 3:49 in the afternoon.

Luis Carlos Monge elaborated on this report for Telenoticias, which was broadcast over the three separate editions.

Some aspects of the video: Recorded on a Motorola cell phone in 3GP format.

Duration of 15:06 seconds.

There is a break at 3:19, when the zoom is applied, a situation that can be normal in some cell phone models when the zoom is used. This information must be checked against a similar phone.

The object remains static and later changes position, tilting toward the left and the right in fractions of a second, showing other aspects such as: the upper, lateral and lower view,

respectively.

This copy of the video is from researcher Richard Sandi. The file was labelled "2211071550", leading me to suppose it is 22 November 2007. In Luis Carlos's report, dated 30 November, the witness claims to have recorded it "some days ago", therefore, the label could match the date of the sighting.

Mr. Badillo mentions being in the company of another person, his coworker, William Rivera, who pointed the flying object out to him. Badillo couldn't hear him at first due to the noise of the drill he was using on the job.

Regarding audio, it should be noted that the copy I received appears not to have any. So I asked reporter Monge about it, and he replied verbatim: "Yes it does, but it is very low. You can hear the boy shouting 'William, William', then the drill sound. According to him, the object made no sound whatsoever.

Ana Luisa Cid's Opinion

After reviewing the video several times, in slow motion and frame by frame, I believe that this could be genuine material and while it is true that "UFOs" can be created on the computer, it is nonetheless true that many people around the world have reported and documented artefacts of this sort.

The witness seems sincere and I find it feasible that he should have experienced a sighting.

I extend this opinion in a preliminary capacity, as we still need to see the research of Costa Rican ufologists, who will doubtless have a more qualified opinion by virtue of interviewing the witnesses and visiting the site to conduct field work.

The video shall be transmitted as an exclusive in Mexico on 7 December on the "Con Claridad" program on Channel 3 of Pachuca Television.

It should be noted that the images are the property of Teletica Canal 7 Costa Rica. (*translator's note Prof. Ana Luisa Cid requests that this be honoured*).

My thanks to: Pilar Cisneros (Asst. Dir. for Telenoticias), Reporter Luis Carlos Monge, researcher Richard Sandi.

Police film UFO

On October 25, El Diario de Yucatan reported the sighting of a luminous object over the Mexican town of Hunucmá, which was witnessed by officers of the municipal police.

As was reported at the time, some officers took video images with the cell phones, and while the police director considered that the object could have been a star or satellite, the case drew the attention of researchers from the OVNI MERIDA group who travelled to Hunucma and secured a copy of the video.

Researchers Emilio Cetz and Valentin Cervantes interviewed witnesses and produced a preliminary investigation:

"According to their report, they describe the object as "small ball" from which a potent beam of light emerged, apparently trying to search for something. This light rotated, that is to say, it could light from top to bottom, to the front, and in every direction in a matter of seconds. The light almost hit us in one of those sweeps, said the officers.

They also reported that luminous spheres have often been reported in



Investigación grupo Ovni Mérida



Hunucmá, Yuc.

the Yucatan highways, and they appear to follow the squad cars. They added that policemen tend to point their flashlights skyward, and this perhaps attracts the unidentified objects.

With regard to the images, it is evident in some of them that the beam of light appears to be cut off at its end. Emilio Cetz has this to say: "The original video is low quality, but when I checked it in the policeman's cell phone, the frame was not visible. I noticed the square when I got home and changed formats from 3gp to AVI. Valentin Cervantes, who accompanied me to get the video, is going to make some tests with his cell phone to ascertain if the frames are lens flares, as he owns the same model phone. We have not been able to carry out an investigation to our satisfaction, but we will do so in the future."

Argentina

The photos were taken by a young woman while she focussed on lights on the horizon. The next day, while playing the Digicam's zoom, her father ascertained that they were vehicles similar to the Unidentified Flying Objects seen on the Internet.

A girl from Tres Arroyos photographed a group of UFOs while she spent a weekend fishing with her family at a lagoon near Oriente. The sighting took place on Wednesday, October 17. However, her father detected the vehicles in the image the next day, while playing with the zoom on his daughter's camera.

Yesterday afternoon, Carlos Fabian Sapag approached La Voz del Pueblo with his wife Marta Daniela Arias and his daughter Carla, 12, to share the images and his experience with our readers.

"It took place on October 17 at the Norrild Lagoon, some 30 kilometres from Oriente heading toward Irene, where the police officers had their experience on Wednesday," Carlos recalled as he thought back to an episode that he is certain he will never again see in his life.

"We were fishing, stopped doing it, and started to boil water while the girl took photos of the horizon. She likes photography a lot and snaps the shutter at everything that moves," explained her dad, whose own experience took place the next day, when he reviewed the images taken by Carla. "The next day, toying with the camera's zoom, we saw there was an airplane in one of the photos. In the measure that I enlarged it, I saw a bunch of little things that were unknown to me. We checked on the Internet and were able to see that they were all lights of the same kind."

Their curiosity ended there. Several days went by without the photo being deleted from the camera's memory until a family friend suggested that they share the image with the press. "We decided to approach the press at a friend's recommendation. Besides, we didn't want this to end up in limbo," he remarked.

Displaying the detail of his images on a computer, Sapag discussed what he felt after the experience. "I don't know what I would do if I experienced something like [what happened] to these policemen. I can't imagine. I believe in life in other planets, since there's life

here, there must be life elsewhere." He also stated that he had informed himself about the presence of UFOs in the region. "All of the UFOs seen around here appear in bodies of water like lagoons, such as the one at Sierras de los Padres in Mar del Plata. That's where they're usually seen."

Meanwhile, his daughter Carla, who took the images, acknowledged having done it by sheer chance and that when she did so, she did not pick up any noises or strange odours, unlike what was described by the police officers from the Oriente station. "I didn't see anything moving. I took [the photo] because I like the combination of colours, and I like photography," she said.

Before saying farewell, Carlos referred to the way that this experience will influence his life. "I didn't feel like fishing again. I felt fear and the sensation that something's watching one. Yesterday (Sunday) I was going to go, but changed my mind in the end."

The sighting reported by the Sapag family to the newspaper took place 4 weeks before the contact experience reported by the police officers from the Aparicio station. The difference with this latter case consists in the chance to see the occupants of the strange vessels."

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diario La Voz del Pueblo de Tres Arroyos http://www.lavozdelpueblo.com.ar/diario/2007-11-13/La_Ciudad/24407.htm

(Translation (c)2007, Scott Corrales, IHU. Special thanks to Guillermo Gimenez)



The Quantum Conundrum

Mention Quantum Physics to most people and their eyes will glaze over or they'll just admit to knowing nothing about it - or both! Generally considered as a 'new' science, Quantum Theory actually has its roots going back almost two hundred years to the experiments of Michael Faraday. In the 1900s, Max Planck and Albert Einstein made further advances in understanding Quantum Mechanics. Quantum Physics, Quantum Mechanics, Quantum Theory - there's confusion right off the bat! What the heck are we talking about? For the rest of this article, we'll use the term Quantum Theory and abbreviate it down to QT (which, for some reason brings forth an image [perhaps a quantum image?] of Quentin Tarantino, but never mind).

QT is often said to be the theory of very small objects, particles much smaller than atoms. This is true for the most part, except that quantum particles don't always behave like particles. Sometimes they behave like waves. No wonder we can't get to grips with QT when things in that realm don't even know what they are themselves!

Probably the most well-known quantum particle is the photon. A photon is a particle of light and, like all quantum particles (quanta), it can also display the properties of a wave. A wave can be refracted or bent while a particle cannot, being limited to transferring energy when coming into contact with matter. There are also many other types of quantum particles such as quarks, neutrinos, leptons and a hatful of others.

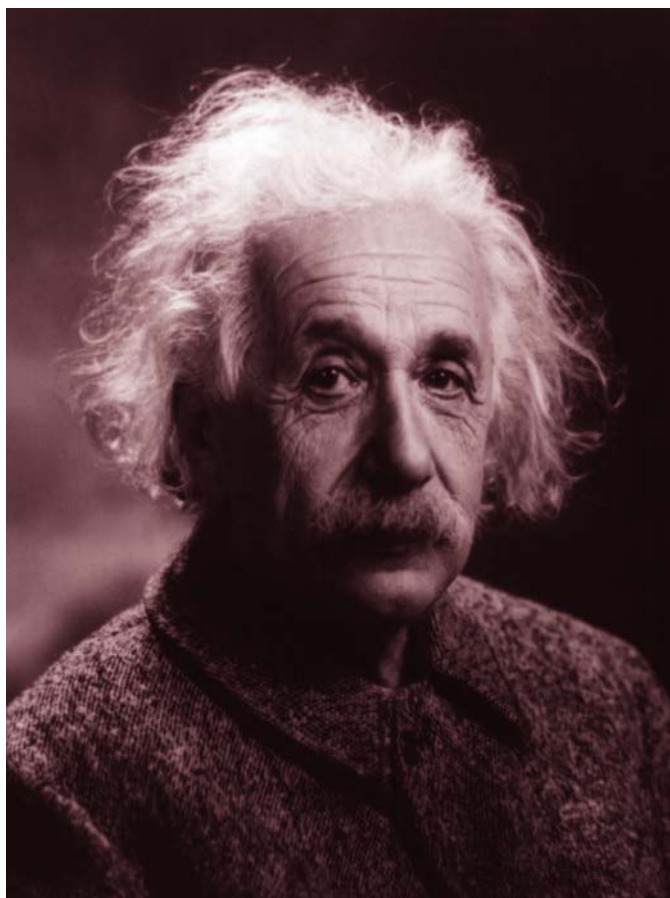
One of the things that differentiates

quanta from atomic matter (i.e. you and me or that rose bush in the garden) is its 'spooky' qualities. Quanta can seemingly appear from nowhere, they can be in two places at once and an effect on one quantum particle can transfer to other, identical quanta that are totally isolated. For instance, a quantum particle can be made to spin in the opposite direction to its normal state and identical particles completely separate will do likewise. This is what has become known as quantum entanglement. It should also be noted that because of the uncertain nature of quanta (as postulated by Werner Heisenberg in his famous Uncertainty Principle), they are not measured in definite terms, but as measures of probability. This also links in with the so-called Observer Effect (although they are separate theories), where the mere act of observing an object affects the nature or actions of the object.

A famous experiment, known as the Double-Slit Experiment, suggested that quanta can exist in two places at once. Two slits were set in a solid plate. When one slit was opened, and photons were fired through only a narrow diffraction pattern was seen. When both slits were opened and

photons passed through, as expected, they created a wider interference pattern on the photographic plate beyond the slits.

Now here comes the spooky bit. When only a single photon was fired towards the slits, an interference pattern was seen on the photo-

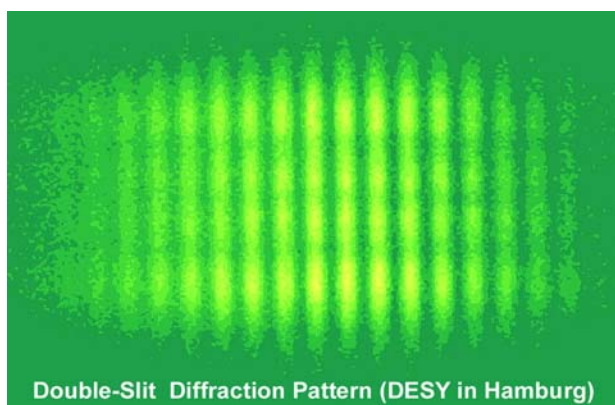


graphic plate. This means that, somehow, this single photon had to be in two places at the same time to pass through both slits. Further experiments have led to the theory that the single photon must pass through every point in space-time to get to the photographic plate.

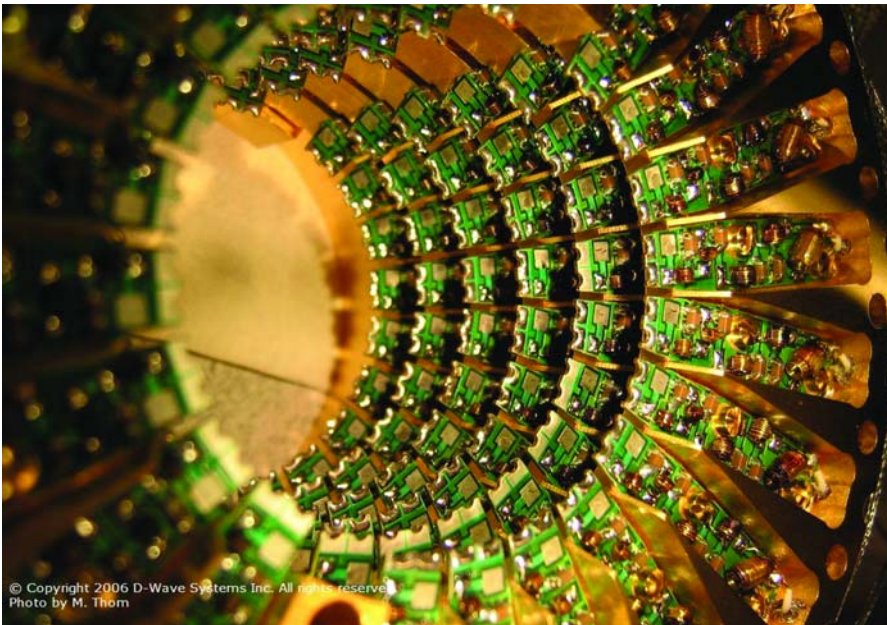
Recently, experiments with larger molecules (fullerenes) have resulted in quantum interference patterns when just one molecule has been utilised. Further experiments are to be attempted (or may already have been attempted) with viruses, which are twenty to three hundred times the size of a molecule. This has led to the notion that QT is not just the theory of very, very small things, but it is also a theory of isolated things. Basically, if you could isolate yourself from the rest of the universe, you could appear in two places at the same time. If Dr Richard Feynman's calculations are correct, you could actually exist in all of space and all of time simultaneously!

Okay, so how does this affect the study of UFOs?

UFOs and the beings that travel inside them have often been reported as winking out and appearing some-



Double-Slit Diffraction Pattern (DESY in Hamburg)



where else almost simultaneously. The so-called Greys and other entities have been reported as appearing out of nowhere in abductees/contactees houses, often passing through seemingly solid objects. Often the passage of time has been interrupted or affected in some way. All of these effects suggest some kind of manipulation of what we call Quantum Theory. More advanced extra-terrestrial (or perhaps extra-dimensional) species may have gone beyond theory and made practical use of the quantum realm. Heck, given that the laws of space-time as we know them appear to have little or no effect in quantum mechanics, could these aliens exist outside of space-time? Are they from everywhere and nowhere? Are they from the past, the present, the future, or do they exist in all times? If so, what effect would this have on us plebs stuck in a linear timeline? Have they affected our history and, if so, would we know about it anyway?

While this all seems pretty far-fetched and fantastic, it is all very possible within the contexts of QT. Will humanity ever be able to adapt quantum theory into our technology? We already do to a certain extent, with many of our electronic devices displaying quantum mechanics in their operation, such as the laser and the magnetic resonance image (MRI) scanner. Can we go further, though?

There are efforts to create quantum computers, which would be able to perform calculations much, much faster than today's machines, perhaps being able to give an answer to a question, no matter how complex, as soon as it is submitted.

Looking farther ahead, might QT be able to allow us to travel to other planets? This may be possible. If you can isolate a person from the outside universe, it may be possible to transport them to any place in space and

any point in time you desire. In a quantum state, the person would exist in all of space-time simultaneously, getting them to appear where they wanted to go may only be a matter of

fine-tuning.

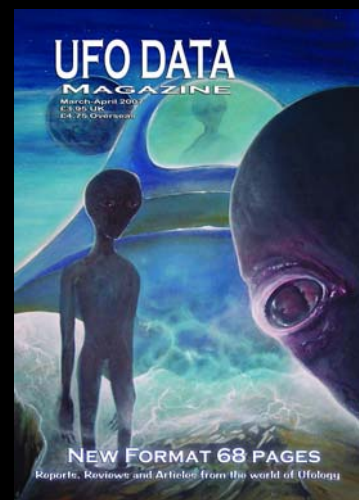
I know, I know, this all sounds like the science fiction of Star Trek, but recall the words of Arthur C Clarke: "Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic."

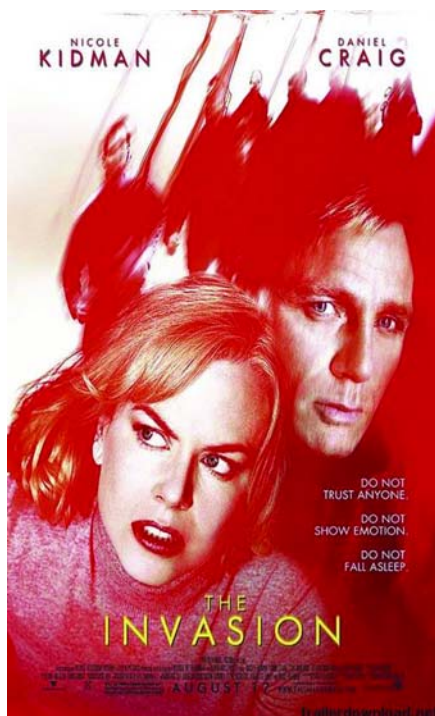
Or perhaps Einstein got closer to the truth with, "reality is an illusion, albeit a persistent one."

SJ

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The Invasion

In 1956, a movie based on the novel by Jack Finney was released and became a classic of the science fiction genre. *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* told the tale of an alien incursion onto our planet, not by overt military action, but by the aliens replicating human beings. Emerging from plant-like pods, these facsimiles were only distinguishable from their human counterparts by their complete lack of emotion. The copies then somehow disposed of their sleeping originals and took over their lives.

Critics have lauded the film as intelligent sci-fi, pointing out that it echoes the dangers of the period, of the spread of communism and the backlash it caused in the United States - the McCarthy era.

Coincidentally monikered lead actor, Kevin McCarthy has said that this was not the intention of the movie, but this did little to change people's minds: *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* was a grim allegory of 1950s America.

Remade twice, in 1978 and 1993, both newer versions were solid works

with the former evoking the mistrust of authority, gleaned from the post-Watergate era, and the latter going for a more familial approach and setting it around a family on a military base.

The ABC television series, *Invasion*, and the CBS series, *Threshold*, both produced in 2005 and both cancelled after 22 and 13 episodes respectively, also explored this theme of the loss of identity and the alien hive mind.

October 2007 saw the UK release of *The Invasion*, the latest update of Jack Finney's novel and starring Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig. The production was troubled, with the original release put back for a year for rewrites and reshoots. More about these a little later.

Kidman plays Carol Bennell, a psychiatrist in Washington DC, who notices people changing after a space shuttle crash brings an alien virus to Earth. This virus is intelligent and attacks its victims while they sleep, transforming them into emotionless automatons. Doing away with the pods of previous versions, those converted spread the infection by regurgitating slime into the mouths of their victims, a method that reminded me of the Ganglion aliens in the TV series, *Dark Skies*.



Carol's ex-husband is one of the first to change and he tries to convert their young son. Thankfully, he appears to be immune to the virus due to a rare strain of chickenpox he contracted a couple of years earlier. Aided by her colleague, Ben (Craig), she must rescue her son from the invaders.

The movie has a terrific sense of

dread that, set against the backdrop of the heart of American government, really gnaws at one's stomach. Written to parallel these current times of fear of the threat of terrorism and the rise of the surveillance society, *The Invasion* ably conveys the notion that those we seek to protect us can easily become the ones we need protection from.

The original version of this film, directed by Oliver Hirschbiegel, left the studio bosses feeling unhappy, so they hired the Wachowski Brothers, of *The Matrix* and *V for Vendetta* fame to rewrite parts of the script, adding some action scenes and a new ending. New scenes were filmed by director, James McTeigue, who remained uncredited.

While *The Invasion* garnered less than favourable reviews and, so far, has only made \$22 million dollars worldwide for its \$65 million budget, I quite enjoyed it. The notion that our society can quickly become something to fear is prevalent these days and this movie captures that sense of foreboding. Those that have been taken over by the alien organism walk around in an impassive daze, not reacting to events around them, reminding the viewer of our current climate of being unwilling or afraid to help those around us. In the film, some of those who have not been affected try to blend in by adopting the emotionless affectations of the invaders, some finding it easier than others. It is a clear indication that many, if not most, in society would rather attempt to fit in to an unsavoury cultural norm, even one that has been artificially created, than struggle against it.

One line from the film struck me. It is uttered by a Russian character, who later dies when he is infected and the transformation goes awry. He said: "Civilisation crumbles whenever we need it most." A stirring comment for these troubled days.

SJ

(All Images Property of Warner Bros. Pictures)



The area next to the offices is lit by a number of "night lights" which are not particularly bright, but the light was sufficient to illuminate the objects and make them visible.

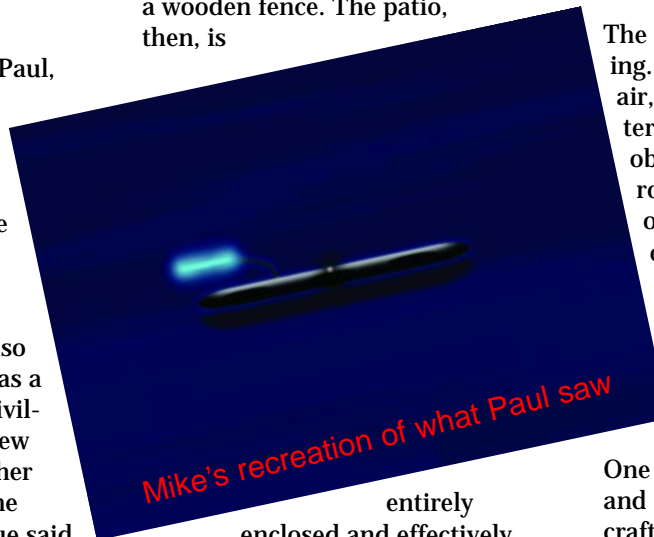
When I interviewed Paul, he had difficulty describing the shape of the objects concerned. He could "see them in his mind", he stated, but for some reason had difficulty articulating what he could see. The objects were solid, but he said there was something about them that was "strange". Bluntly, he just couldn't find the words to do justice to what he'd seen. Nevertheless, after some coaxing, I managed to elicit from him a reasonably accurate description.

On 16 November, 2007, I received a call from an associate who lives in the Peterborough area. Normally extremely calm and not one given to flights of fancy, I was rather taken aback by his excited manner. He sounded genuinely perturbed, frightened even. He related to me an event which had taken place at around 0130hrs that same morning, and at the outset I have to say that I am convinced that he is telling the truth about what transpired.

The room that Paul was in led onto a patio and contained a set of conventional patio doors made from double-glazing and PVC frames. He opened one of the doors and stepped out onto the patio itself. Paul told me that his vision was restricted as the two sides of the patio to his left and right were surrounded by two large brick walls which form part of the structure of two adjacent offices. The distal end of the patio is bordered by a wooden fence. The patio, then, is

The objects all appeared to be identical in size and shape. Paul estimated that they were approximately 3 feet in length and 7 inches in thickness. The overall width of each object was roughly 18 inches. He described them as black in colour, but neither shiny nor matt. Their surface was something in-between, and "slightly reflective".

The witness - we'll call him Paul, although that's not his real name - is sometimes required to work shifts in an office block. He told me that he was in a room on the ground floor when he heard a "distant roar" which he immediately knew to be the sound of a jet aircraft. He also knew by the sound that it was a military aircraft and not a civilian passenger airline. He drew this to the attention of another staff member, who was in the same room, and his colleague said, "Oh, it's probably the police helicopter or something."



The shape of the objects was intriguing. As they travelled through the air, Paul could see what might be termed the "undercarriage". Each object seemed to comprise of two roughly circular "plates" which overlapped, giving the impression of a cell in the process of dividing.

"I suppose you could say that they were roughly shaped like a figure eight," he added.

Paul knew that it wasn't a police helicopter at all and, as the noise of the jet engines grew louder, he decided to go out and investigate. When I questioned him about his motive for investigating - it seemed a little odd to become so perturbed merely by the sound of one aircraft flying nearby - he said that he was overcome by a strange feeling that "something was the matter", although rationally he did not know why.

entirely enclosed and effectively built within a recess between the two adjoining offices.

Paul looked up into the sky, which was reasonably cloudless, and was amazed to see approximately eight objects moving through the air at a speed of roughly 40mph. The objects were not all travelling in unison, however. They were moving back and forth, continually altering both their direction and altitude. Paul said that this made it extremely difficult to count the number of objects exactly.

One of the objects flew low overhead and Paul noticed that the edge of the craft seemed to be undulating. It reminded him of the soft-tissue edge or "frill" of a slug or snail.

After observing these bizarre craft for thirty seconds or so, Paul ran inside and closed the patio doors. He admitted to feeling quite scared and shouted for the other member of staff to come into the room. He joined Paul at the window and both witnesses continued to watch this dazzling aerial display for a minute or so. Paul said that he was then overcome by another "feeling" or "sensation":

"For some reason I just knew - don't ask me how - that these things were working. I could sense that they were trying to achieve something, although I don't know what. Every time they moved, it was as if they knew exactly where they were going... to be honest I thought they were looking for something; in fact I knew they were."

Paul said that the objects would sometimes come to a halt and hover in mid-air.

"When they did, they were entirely motionless, as if they were sitting upon a shelf. They didn't seem to move as much as a millimetre - they were perfectly still."

At this juncture Paul said that the entire room they were standing in seemed to become filled with "static", as he called it. The hairs on his arms stood on end and the "charged" atmosphere was palpable. His colleague, who was standing beside him, just stared out of the window and said, "Mmmm...it's a bit weird..."

Paul said that he was amazed at his friend's reaction. He looked at him and said, "A bit weird? What do you mean a bit weird?"

"I couldn't believe it. His tone of voice was so blasé, as if he was only moderately interested. He just stared out of the window, as if he really couldn't care less".

Just then Paul's attention was drawn to the sound of the jet engine he'd heard minutes previously. He looked into the sky and saw not one fighter, but several. As they came into view they immediately began to circle overhead and Paul became aware that they were at an exceedingly low altitude. Moments later they were joined by more aircraft and, although

Paul can't recall exactly how many, he said there could have been as many as ten.

"As soon as the jets arrived, the objects started to behave differently. Whereas before, their movements had seemed orderly and purposeful, now they just seemed to whiz around randomly at a much faster speed. To be honest it was as if the arrival of the jets had frightened them... I honestly thought that."

Without warning, one of the objects suddenly plummeted earthwards and, to Paul's amazement, stopped directly outside the patio doors.

"It was no more than 6 feet away and I got a really good look at it. It was perfectly motionless and in view for at least thirty seconds."

Paul's colleague, throughout this entire episode, simply stood motionless and speechless, staring out of the window.

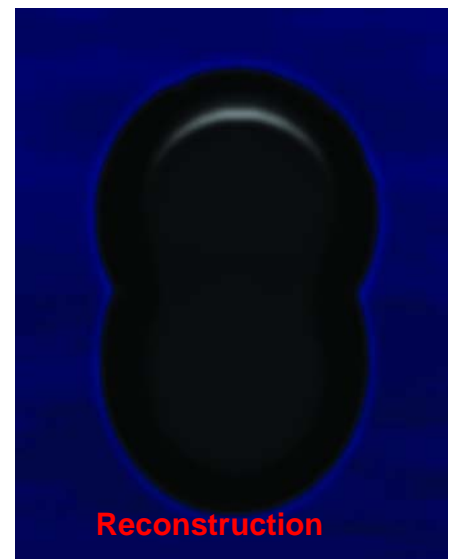
"The first thing I noticed was that the undulating edge of the object was made up of squares, like a chain, and it was spinning around. It reminded me of a chain saw. I also noticed that there was an antenna on the top, which bent at not quite a 45° angle. It was pointing directly at me and I got the distinct impression it was looking at me."

At this juncture Paul spoke to his colleague and said, "My God, what is that?"

"My friend seemed to be in a daze, almost a trance. He said, 'I don't know. It must be a helicopter...'"

Paul couldn't believe this response and retorted, "What do you mean, a helicopter? Look at it! That's not a helicopter - it's nothing like a helicopter! For God's sake look at it!"

Then, without another word, his fellow employee simply shrugged his shoulders, turned around and walked



away.

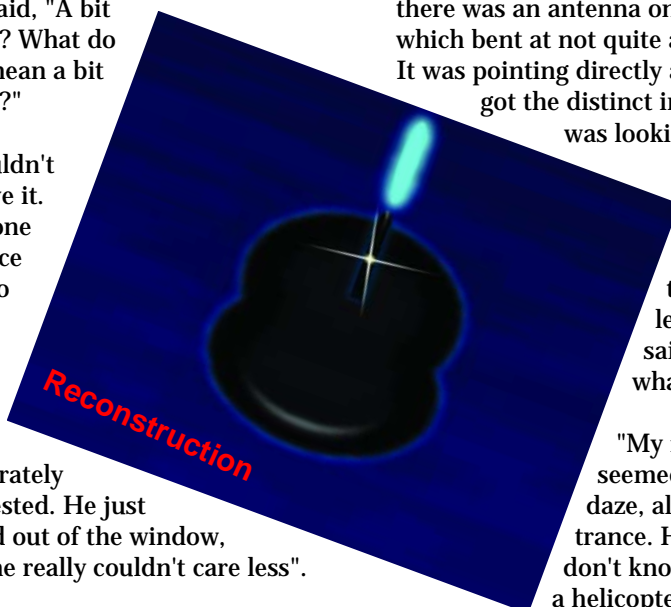
"Honestly," said Paul, "I couldn't believe it. It was as if he was looking at something entirely different to me. He seemed almost drugged. It was weird."

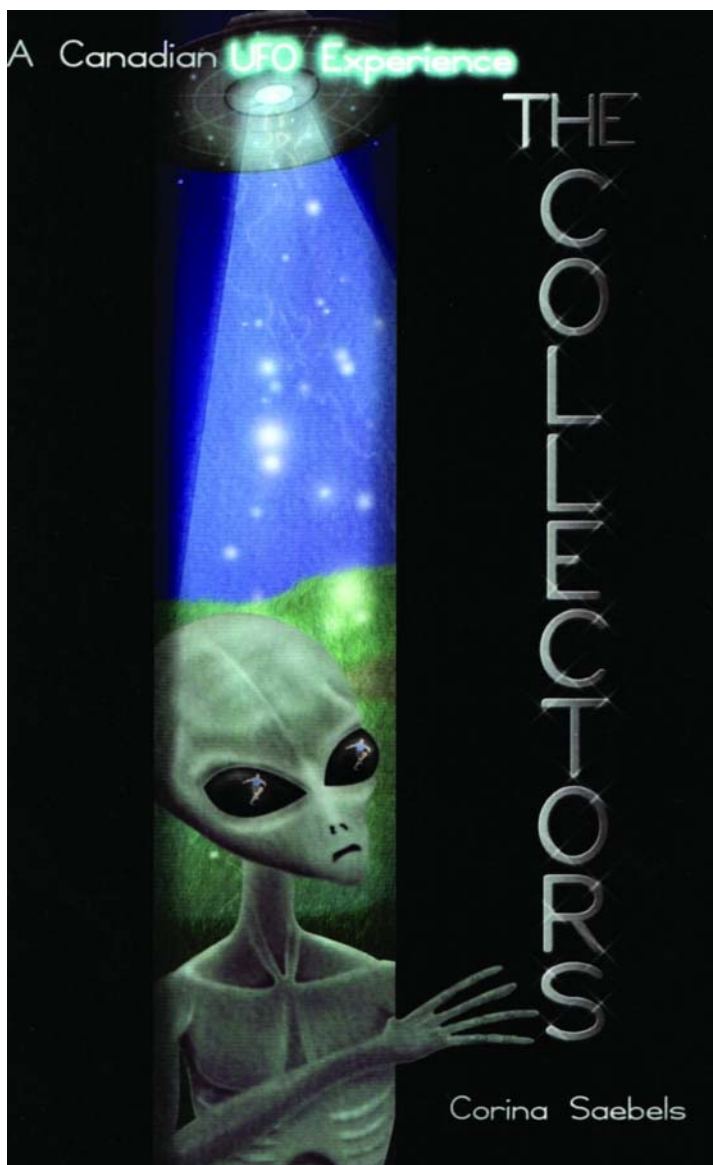
At this point one of the jets swooped down really low - Paul said the room shook - and the object shot into space at a high velocity. However, just before it did so, it ejected two bursts of light from the end of the antenna on the upper surface. Paul said that the light bursts still remained visible after they left the end of the antenna and had a strange, watery quality to them:

"It looked like a spurt of urine being discharged. I know that sounds crazy, but that's just what it looked like. It was a burst of light, but it was also like a stream of liquid."

The "wet-light bursts" went over the roof of the building Paul was in and he has no idea what happened to them. After the object departed, within seconds all of the other objects followed suit and the planes quickly departed too. Paul questioned his other colleagues and asked them if they too had seen what he had witnessed.

"Some said no, some said yes. The ones who had seen it just didn't seem to care... it was as if something was preventing them from realising the enormity of what they had just seen. I couldn't believe it. I just got on with my job, as did they, and I didn't mention it again. There was no point..."





The Collectors

by Corina Saebels

Trafford Publishing
176 pages
ISBN 978-1-4251-1996-6

The Collectors is a very personal account of the alien abductions experienced by one woman and her family. Corina Saebels was raised in Quebec, Canada, and began having strange experiences as a young child. She would see strange beings in her room and her toys would move around by themselves, much like the early scene in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. She saw UFOs and found strange marks on her body that may have been scoop marks, areas where tissue samples have been taken. She also began having medical problems, many requiring

serious surgery, that would remain with her to this day.

As she grew older, Corina left home and moved from city to city in an effort to escape 'the visitors'. She ended up in British Columbia, where she met her first husband. Corina's first child was born during her second marriage. She conceived twins, but lost one during a very difficult pregnancy. A couple of years later, they were blessed with another baby boy, Christopher. A few months

after her second son's birth, she divorced her husband. He gained custody of the elder child, while Corina kept Christopher. A few years

later, her daughter, Nicky (short for Nicole), was born, but the child's father left, leaving Corina with two children to raise by herself.

For the next few years, the whole family had abduction experiences, despite moving to different towns. Her children would wake up with scoop marks or bizarre sunburns and any number of trips to the hospital could not find a logical reason for what was happening to them. Eventually, Christopher could take no more and he went to live with his father in Vancouver. His abductions ended then, but when he would visit his mother, they would start again!

What is clear from the book is that these events are terrifying to the family. This is no contactee experience, with benevolent aliens preaching love and universal harmony. This family believes they are being violated for some unknown purpose.

The Collectors is written almost like a diary, with Corina taking us through her family's experiences in a very personal way. She pulls no punches and goes into graphic detail about her own medical problems. It is also clear that they are still being visited by these beings.

I highly recommend this book as it gives the subject of alien abduction a personal and emotional aspect that is sometimes not projected by others.

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National Press Club Conference: Pilots Speak Out About UFOs

On November 12th, 2007, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, perhaps the most important public event in ufology took place since Dr Steven Greer's Disclosure presentation in 2001. Moderated by former governor of Arizona, Fife Symington III, the conference, which was covered by many major media outlets, allowed several international military and civilian pilots, along with intelligence officials and scientists, the chance to speak about their UFO encounters. It was organised by *Out of the Blue* director, James Fox and Leslie Kean of the Coalition for Freedom of Information.

In all, fourteen men spoke at the press conference, some of them very well known in UFO circles, some not so well known. All of them, though, shared the same goal - to let the public know that UFOs exist and are not only seen by hillbillies out in the boondocks.

First to speak was **Wilfried De Brower**. Now retired, Major-General De Brower was a leading colonel in the Belgian air force in 1990 when a famous wave of UFO sightings took place. General De Brower said:

"I was Chief Operations in the Air Staff when an exceptional UFO wave took place over Belgium. Indeed, during the evening of 29 November 1989, in a small area in Eastern Belgium, approximately 140 UFO sightings were reported. Hundreds of people saw a majestic triangular craft with a span of approximately 120 feet, powerful beaming spot lights, moving very slowly without making any significant noise but, in several cases, accelerating to very high speeds."

He concluded: "The Belgian Air Force tried to identify the alleged intruder(s) and, on three occasions,



The 14 members of the panel with James Fox and Leslie Kean, after the press conference on November 12th, 2007

launched F 16 aircraft. On one occasion, two F 16 registered rapid changes in speed and altitude which were well outside of the performance envelope of existing aircraft. Nevertheless, the pilots could not establish visual contact and the

investigation revealed that specific weather conditions may have caused electromagnetic interferences and false returns on the radar screens. The technical evidence was insufficient to conclude that abnormal air activities took place during that evening.

"In short, the Belgian UFO wave was exceptional and the Air Force could not identify the nature, origin and intentions of the reported phenomena."

Dr Claude Poher is a retired astrophysicist and worked with GEPAN, the French study on UFOs, often described as France's Blue Book. His statement included one notable incident that the group investigated:

"[In] August 1967, two young witnesses were alerted by the agitation of dozens of frightened farm animals at around noon. The witnesses then observed a landed spherical UFO at a distance of 80 yards, with four occupants near it.

"Very high luminosity was reported

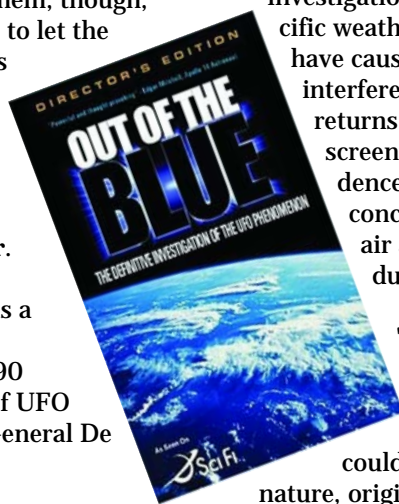
after slow takeoff, leaving physiological effects on the witnesses' eyes that were confirmed by the village mayor. The hiss noise described by the two witnesses was also heard by the hunting guard of the village. The UFO acceleration after vertical take-off was estimated to be about a hundred g's by GEPAN experts. The occupants were seen floating in the air while entering the craft, from its top, in a hurry.

"Physical traces on the ground from the craft were confirmed by the local police, as well as a sulphur oxide odour. CNES experts in meteorology and space debris worked in the field with the witnesses, along with a judge, a psychologist, an optical engineer and aeronautical engineer. They had full measuring equipment and worked with the police as well.

"The official conclusion of GEPAN in 1979, was that about 15% of cases remained unidentified after careful analysis by our experts. We concluded that the objects, in most of these cases, were compatible with flying machines whose flight physics were foreign to the experts' knowledge."

Another French contribution came from **Jean-Charles Duboc**, a retired Air France captain. He described what he saw in 1994 at 1PM:

"During Air France Flight 3532 from Nice to London, on 28 January 1994, I observed, with my crew, a daylight



UFO near Paris. We had few passengers on board and none of them had reported that observation to the crew.

"That object had been identified initially by a steward who was in the cockpit and by the co-pilot as a weather balloon, but when I identified it, it looked quite different.

"It seemed to be a huge flying disc.

"This large object was below us at the altitude of 35,000 ft (we were at 39,000 ft), at a distance of about 25 nautical miles.

"The colour was red-brown with blurred outlines.

"The apparent diameter of this object could be compared to the diameter of the moon, or the sun. That means that it was about 1000 feet wide.

"The most incredible aspect is that it became transparent and disappeared in about 10 to 20 seconds.

"My co-pilot, chief steward and I quickly realized that what we were seeing did not resemble anything known to us, and we reported our sighting to Reims traffic control. Simultaneously, the radar of the Operational Centre of the Air Defence (the CODA), registered a one minute spot crossing the track of our plane."

The final statement from France came from **Dr Jean-Claude Ribes**, a radio astronomer and associate director of National Institute for Astronomy and Geophysics. He was asked to represent GEIPAN at the press conference. GEIPAN is the current body studying UFO cases for the French space agency, CNES. He also contributed to the famous COMETA report. He said:

"The COMETA report was written mainly by high ranking military people from the French High Studies Institute for National Defence. It analyzes the possible explanations for UFOs and their implications in

terms of Defence, with the extraterrestrial hypothesis presented as the most logical one, even if not formally proven. Some recommendations are made, including that all managers of the Army, Police, Politics, and pilots be informed about UFOs; that detection systems be modified to take UFOs into account; and that the French government contact the United States and other allied countries to initiate cooperative action on the subject. So far, these recommen-

trial hypothesis would probably be the most likely explanation for these advanced craft. Admittedly, it is a fantastic possibility, but not an irrational one, given the data that we have."

Parvez Jafari is a retired general, formerly with the Iranian air force. In 1976, he was a major and squadron commander and encountered something in the skies above Tehran:



"At about 11 pm on the evening of 18th September, 1976, citizens were frightened by the circling of an unknown object over Tehran, the capital city of Iran, at a low altitude. It looked similar to a star, but bigger and brighter.

dations have not been implemented.

"However, last March, my country took a big step forward. Jacques Patenet, current director of GEIPAN, released the French UFO files to the public. They were posted on a website - more than 1,600 sightings spanning five decades. Some cases involved multiple sightings and physical evidence such as burn marks and radar trackings. Others documented UFOs with flight patterns or accelerations defying the laws of physics. M. Patenet told the press at the time that "We do not have any proof at all that extraterrestrials are behind the unexplained phenomena. Nor do we have any proof at all that they aren't."

"My personal opinion is that UFOs should be taken seriously and studied without prejudice. There may be several possible explanations, such as rare atmospheric phenomena, but some cases strongly suggest actual flying machines with characteristics well beyond our terrestrial capacities. If these cases could be completely proven as such, then the extraterres-

"They reported it to the tower and it was seen by the tower man too. He alerted the Air Force command post and Deputy General Yousefi decided to scramble an F-4 jet to investigate.

"The pilot in the first jet lost instrumentation and communications when he got too close to the brilliant object, so he headed back. About 10 minutes later, they scrambled a second jet, which I was piloting. At the time I was squadron commander.

"I approached the object, which was flashing with intense red, green, orange and blue light so bright that I was not able to see its body. The sequence of flashes was extremely fast, like a strobe light.

"We locked on it with radar; it was at 30° left, at a range of 25 miles. The size on the radar scope was comparable to that of a 707 tanker.

"Four other objects with different shapes separated from the main one, at different times during this close encounter.

"Whenever they were close to me, my weapons were jammed and my radio communications were garbled.

"One of the objects headed toward me. I thought it was a missile. I tried to launch a heat seeking missile to it, but my missile panel went out. Another followed me when I was descending on the way back.

"One of the separated objects landed in an open area radiating a high bright light, in which the sands on the ground were visible.

"During my interview at H.Q. after the incident, an American colonel took notes, but after it was over I could not find him to talk with.

"Later, a once-classified document was released here in America through the Freedom of Information Act. The Defence Intelligence Agency documented the event in great detail, and it was sent to NSA, The White House and the CIA. The DIA assessment said "this case is a classic that meets all necessary conditions for a legitimate study of the UFO phenomenon."

Captain Rodrigo Bravo Garrido is a pilot for the Chilean army. He spoke of his country's efforts to get a handle on the UFO phenomenon:

"Since the beginning of Chilean history, there have been reports of unidentified phenomena, sometimes called UFOs, observed in our skies.

"Over the years, we have increased

our capacity to explain many of the sightings, but some continue to remain without a scientific or logical explanation.

"For that reason, in October of 1997, the Department of Civil Aeronautics, the Chilean equivalent of the American FAA, set up the Committee for the Study of Anomalous Aerial Phenomena, known as the CEFAA. This agency handles the best reports of unidentified aerial phenomena in cooperation with aeronautic specialists.

"In 2000, the Aviation branch of the Army of Chile assigned me to research anomalous aerial phenomena, which they knew were real, and their effect on aerospace security. I then graduated to become a military pilot, and learned that the Aviation Army had in its files many reports of UFO incidents from military pilots.

"A link was then established between our Army office and the CEFAA, and as a result, nine official cases have been documented. This has helped to create awareness among the flight crews about UFOs, and they now cooperate with flight security to report any abnormal situation.

"One of our most important civil aviation cases occurred in 1988, showing that unidentified flying objects can be a danger for air operations. A Boeing 737 pilot, on a final approach to the runway at "The Tepual" Airport in Puerto Montt City, suddenly encountered a large white light surrounded by green and red. The

light was moving in the opposite direction of the airplane, coming straight at it. The pilot had to make a steep turn to the left in order to avoid a collision. The phenomenon was observed by the control tower personnel.

"In 2000, the crew of a Chilean plane from the Aviation branch of the Army, flying South of Santiago, observed a long cigar-shaped object, a brilliant grey. It flew parallel to the right side of the aircraft for two minutes and then disappeared at a very high speed. This object was detected by the radar of the Control Centre of Santiago which notified the crew minutes before the incident.

"New cases are being documented by pilots, traffic controllers, operations staff at the world's airports, and by many others with the proper training to determine if a flying object is something unusual.

"The true origin of these UFOs is unknown, yet they do affect aviation all around the planet, and this must be addressed."

Now retired, **Oscar Alfonso Santa Maria Huertas** was a commander in the Peruvian air force. In 1980, he witnessed something inexplicable:

"On April 11, 1980, at 7:15 in the morning, 1800 men were in formation at the Air Base of La Joya, Arequipa.

"They all observed a stationary object in the sky which looked like a balloon, at about three miles distance, and approximately 1,800 feet altitude. It was luminous because it reflected the sun.

"My unit commander ordered me to takeoff in my Sukoi -22 jet to shoot down the spherical object. It was in restricted airspace, without clearance, and we were concerned about espionage.

"I approached the object and strafed sixty-four 30mm shells at it. Some projectiles went towards the ground, and others hit the object fully, but they had no effect at all. The projectiles didn't bounce off; probably they were absorbed. The cone-shaped "wall of fire" that I sent out would



normally obliterate anything in its path.

"The object then began to ascend, and move farther away from the base. When I was at about 36,000 ft., it made a sudden stop, forcing me to veer to the side since I was only 1500 feet away. I flew up higher to attack it from above, but just as I had locked on to the target and was ready to shoot, the object made a straight vertical climb evading the attack.

"Two more times I had the object on target, when the object was stationary. Each time, it moved away at the very last minute, when I was just about to fire, always eluding my attack.

"I decided to climb at full thrust to get above the object, but it began to ascend almost parallel to my plane, and when I reached 63,000 ft., it stopped.

"At this point, I came to within about 300 feet of the UFO. It was about 30 feet in diameter. It was an enamelled, cream-colored dome, with a wide, circular, metallic base. It had no engines, no exhausts, no windows, no wings or antennae. It lacked all the typical aircraft components, with no visible propulsion system.

"It was at that moment that I realized this it was not a spying device, but that it was a UFO, something totally unknown. I was almost out of fuel, so I couldn't attack or manoeuvre my plane, or make a high speed escape. I was afraid. I thought I might be finished.

"When I had calmed down, I radioed for another plane to come and have a look, trying to hide my fear. They said no, it's too high, just come back. I had to glide part way down due to lack of fuel, zigzagging to make my plane harder to hit, always with my eyes on the rear-view mirrors hoping it wouldn't chase me. It didn't.

"I had spent 22 minutes manoeuvring with this object. After I landed, the object remained stationary in the sky for two hours, for everyone at the base to see."

Dr Anthony Choy is a founding

member of the Peruvian air force's official study into UFOs, the Office of Investigations of Anomalous Aerial Phenomena (OIFAA), set up in 2001. He said:

"I am the author of Project 33, the first integral study on the UFO phenomenon in Peru. I travelled all over my country for about three years, speaking with witnesses, obtaining audio-visual information such as photographs and videos, and collecting data for this study.

"On October 13, 2001, in the northern city of Chulucanas, and before hundreds of people, eight spheres of light, of an intense red-orange colour, were recorded on video. We were the first ones to obtain this video and we gave it to the air force. These objects were suspended in the air for over five hours, moving in an apparently intelligent manner, and in absolute silence until they disappeared.

"A few days later, on October 25th, the luminous tear-shaped object of some 25 meters diameter (approx. 80 feet), was recorded over the countryside near the city. Within a few minutes, the apparent "landing" of light spheres in the woods was also recorded."

Officially tasked with investigating the case, Choy said:

"The preliminary conclusion was that the sightings, although being physically real, had no explanation. The case remains open, and the investigation continues independently."

Captain Ray Bowyer is a pilot with Guernsey-based airline, Aurigny. *UFO DATA Magazine* reported his sighting last year. Here is some of what he said at the conference:

"I have been invited here due to my sighting last April of multiple as yet unidentified objects over the Channel Islands region of the English Channel. This encounter lasted for 15 minutes with the first object being visible from 55 miles distant.

"On nearing the object a second identical shape appeared beyond the first. Both objects were of a flattened

disk shape with a dark area to the right side. They were brilliant yellow with light emanating from them. I estimated them to be up to a mile across.

"I found myself astounded but curious. But at 12 miles distant these objects were becoming uncomfortably large, and I was glad to descend and land the aircraft.

"Many of my passengers saw the objects as did the pilot of another aircraft 25 miles further south. There is also possible radar information still being investigated.

"I have taken note of the differences between the British and U.S. reporting system. It appears that attitudes on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean are very different when it comes to the required reporting and recording of this type of event.

"Air Law stipulates quite clearly that if an operating crew of an aircraft see another aircraft in a place that it should not be, then at the earliest opportunity the whole scenario is to be reported to the relevant authority. In my case the British Civil Aviation Authority knew within 20 minutes of the sighting what was seen, as described in the flight log faxed directly to the relevant CAA office. The military were informed by Jersey Air Traffic Control at the same time. This is not an option; it is an obligation that crews react in this manner."

He notes that US pilots and airline staff are often afraid to come forward for fear of ridicule or job security. He went on:

"I would have been shocked if I was told that the CAA would obstruct an investigation, or if the CAA told me that what I had seen was something entirely different. But it seems that pilots in America are used to this kind of thing, as far as I can tell.

"I would urge all aircrew to report whatever they see as soon as possible, and to stand up and be counted. It is only when crucial witnesses, such as professional pilots, make reports that the authorities will be kick-started into a broader investigation of these phenomena." *UFO DATA Magazine* contributor,

Nick Pope, was next. We all know Nick as 'the Man from the Ministry' and he spoke of his experiences while working there:

"Since 1950 the British Government has received over 10,000 UFO reports. Responsibility for this subject rests with the Ministry of Defence, whose remit is to look for evidence of any potential threat to the UK, or anything else of any "defence significance". From 1991 to 1994 I was the desk officer responsible for these investigations.

"Most UFO sightings turned out to be misidentifications of things such as aircraft, satellites and meteors, but in around 5 per cent of cases no explanation could be found. These cases include incidents where reliable witnesses such as police officers and pilots reported structured craft performing speeds and manoeuvres significantly in excess of anything they had seen military jet aircraft perform. Other cases included in this category involved UFOs tracked on radar and incidents where photos or videos were produced and where the MoD's technical experts found no evidence of fakery.

"The MoD takes no position on the nature of the UFO phenomenon but I and some of my colleagues were privately convinced that whatever was going on, there were important defence, national security and flight safety issues involved.

In March 1993 I investigated a case where a UFO was seen by about 60 witnesses, including military personnel at two air force bases. Witnesses included a patrol of air force police, together with a meteorological officer with 8 years experience. This latter witness described a triangular-shaped craft midway in size between a C-130 and a Boeing 747. He said that it was emitting a low frequency humming sound and he said it moved slowly at first, before accelerating away many times faster than a military jet. My Head of Division's brief to the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff concluded: "In summary, there would seem to be some evidence on this occasion that an unidentified object (or objects) of unknown origin was operating over the UK". The case file - published on the MoD website -

also mentions related enquiries from the US authorities, asking if the UK had a black programme that might explain some UFO sightings involving large triangular-shaped craft. That's interesting, given the US government's public position that UFOs are no longer investigated."

Jim Penniston was the senior security officer at the US air base, RAF Woodbridge in 1980:

"Shortly after midnight on the 26th of December, 1980, Staff Sergeant Steffens briefed me that some lights were seen in Rendlesham Forest, just outside the base. He informed me that whatever it was didn't crash... it landed. I discounted what he said and reported to the control centre back at the base that we had a possible downed aircraft. I then ordered Airman Cabansag [and] AIC Burroughs to respond with me.

"When we arrived near the suspected crash site it quickly became apparent that we were not dealing with a plane crash or anything else we'd ever responded to. There was a bright light emanating from an object on the forest floor. As we approached it

sions back to the control centre. Burroughs and I proceeded towards the craft.

"When we came up on the triangular shaped craft there were blue and yellow lights swirling around the exterior as though part of the surface and the air around us was electrically charged. We could feel it on our cloths, skin and hair. Nothing in my training prepared me for what we were witnessing.

"After ten minutes without any apparent aggression, I determined the craft was non hostile to my team or to the base. Following security protocol, we completed a thorough on-site investigation, including a full physical examination of the craft. This included photographs, notebook entries, and radio relays through airman Cabansag to the control centre as required. On one side of the craft were symbols that measured about 3 inches high and two and a half feet across.

"These symbols were pictorial in design; the largest symbol was a triangle, which was centred in the middle of the others. These symbols were



on foot, a silhouetted triangular craft about 9 feet long by 6.5 feet high came into view. The craft was fully intact sitting in a small clearing inside the woods.

"As the three of us got closer to the craft we started experiencing problems with our radios. I then asked Cabansag to relay radio transmis-

etched into the surface of the craft, which was warm to the touch and felt like metal.

"After roughly 45 minutes the light from the craft began to intensify. Burroughs and I then took a defensive position away from the craft as it lifted off the ground without any noise or air disturbance. It manoeu-

vred through the trees and shot off at an unbelievable rate of speed. It was gone in the blink of an eye."

In 1980, Lieutenant-Colonel **Charles Halt** was deputy base commander at RAF Bentwaters in Suffolk. He described what he saw in December, 1980:

"In late December 1980 I was called upon to investigate a strange event that was distracting our Security Police from their primary duties. Early on the morning of December 26, 1980 our police patrolmen discovered strange lights in the forest east of the back gate of RAF Woodbridge. Three patrolmen were dispatched into the forest to investigate. They reported discovering a strange triangular craft sitting on three legs. The craft was approximately 3 meters on a side. The craft had multiple lights. It rapidly manoeuvred and quickly left the area. I was not immediately aware of the details only being told of strange lights and assumed there was a reasonable explanation.

"Two nights later the family Christmas party was interrupted by the on duty police commander. He told of strange events and claimed "it" was back. Since my boss had to present awards I was tasked to go out and investigate. I fully expected to find an explanation. I took two senior Security Police, a Disaster Preparedness expert and the reporting On Duty Police Commander. At the site we found the three 1 ½" indentations in the ground in a triangular pattern.

"We discovered mild radiation, and evidence including broken branches. We suddenly observed a bright red/orange oval object with a black center. It reminded me of an eye and appeared as though blinking. It maneuvered horizontally through the trees with occasionally vertical movement. When approached it receded and silently broke into five white lights which quickly vanished. We moved out of the forest into a pasture and observed several objects with multiple lights in the Northern sky. They changed in shape from elliptical to round.

"Several other objects were seen to the South. One approached at high

speed and sent down a concentrated beam near our feet. Another object sent down beams into the weapons storage area. The whole time we had difficulty communicating with the base as all three radio frequencies kept breaking up. This activity continued for about an hour.

"During this entire event I had my pocket recorder and taped the event as it unfolded. A copy of the tape was released without my knowledge. This is the original recorder and tape. I have no idea what we saw but do know whatever we saw was under intelligent control."

John Callahan was Division Chief for the Federal Aviation Authority's (FAA) Accident and Investigation Branch in Washington DC in the 1980s. His testimony follows:

"In early January of 1987, I received a call from the Air Traffic Quality Control Branch in FAA's Alaskan regional office, requesting guidance on what to tell the media personnel who were overflowing their office. The media was requesting information about the UFO that chased a Japanese 747 across the Alaskan sky for some 3 minutes at flight levels between 3,000 and 35,000 ft. on November 7, 1986.

"Japan Air Lines flight 628, a cargo jet with a pilot, co-pilot and one crew member, was just north of Anchorage, and it was about pm when the pilot first reported the UFO. He described it as a huge ball with lights running around it. He said it was about 4 times bigger than a 747, and he saw it with his own eyes. So did the other two crew members.

"Over the course of 3 minutes, the UFO jumped miles in a few seconds, changing places to different spots around the 747, in one sweep of the radar scope.

"After receiving the data from Alaska almost two months later, I briefed my boss Harvey Safer and the FAA Administrator Admiral Engen, and Safer and I went to the FAA Tech Centre to observe the playback. The FAA had developed a program capable of recreating the traffic on the controllers' scope, or plan view dis-

play. I instructed the FAA specialist to synchronize the voice tapes with the radar data so we could hear everything the controller and pilot said. I video taped the radar display. Later that day, I requested that the FAA automation specialists plot the radar targets along the route of flight and explain what each target was doing. I videotaped the resulting chart.

"The print out and radar play back displayed primary targets in the vicinity of the 747. These target returns were displayed about the same time and place as the pilot advised viewing the UFO. Both the radar and manual controller observed the primary target. The military controllers also viewed the primary target on their radar and identified it as a "double primary". The pilot and crew viewed the target on their radar and were able to see the huge UFO at the same time as it approached their aircraft.

"If this craft had been a Learjet or military aircraft at the wrong altitude, that would have been clear. The FAA has procedures that cover tracking unidentified aircraft violating another's airspace - but it has no procedures for UFOs.

"Back at FAA headquarters, I gave Administrator Engen a quick briefing and showed him the video. He set up a briefing with President Reagan's scientific staff, and told me my function was to give them a dog and pony show and hand this event off to them, "since the FAA does not deal with UFO's." I brought along a copy of the video and all the data print outs available at the time. One of the scientists asked a number of questions, such as, what is the range of the radar, what is the frequency of the radar, what is the band width, what is the formula for the height equipment, etc.

"I was impressed with the response from the FAA experts. At the end, one of the three people from the CIA said, "This event never happened. We were never here. We're confiscating all this data and you are all sworn to secrecy."

"Some time after the briefing, the detailed FAA report which included



extensive interviews with the pilot and crew, the chart prepared at the Tech Centre; and facility voice tapes arrived at my office and were placed on a small table waiting for the CIA to request more data. The material stayed there until I retired 2 years later, and I've had it ever since. Most people including FAA controllers really aren't familiar with how the FAA radar system works and why all aircraft travelling through our airspace are not caught on radar or displayed on the controllers PVD. But I am. The system and organization of the FAA is not configured to identify and track these types of performances."

Conference moderator, **Fife Symington**, then gave his own statement:

"In 1997, during my second term as Governor of Arizona, I saw something that defied logic and challenged my reality. I witnessed a massive delta-shaped craft silently navigating over the Squaw Peak, Mountain Preserve in Phoenix, Arizona. It was truly breathtaking.

"To my astonishment this apparition appeared, and it was a solid structure; dramatically large with a very distinctive leading edge including embedded lights. It was travelling through the Arizona sky. I still don't know what it was. As a pilot and a former Air Force Officer, I can definitively say that this craft did not resemble any man made object I'd ever seen. And it was certainly not

high-altitude flares because flares don't fly in formation. The incident was witnessed by hundreds, if not thousands of people in Arizona and my office was besieged with phone calls from very concerned Arizonians. The growing hysteria intensified when the story broke nationally. I decided to lighten the mood of the state by calling a press conference where my chief of staff arrived in an alien costume. We managed to lessen the sense of panic but at the same time, upset many of my constituents. I would now like to set the record straight. I never meant to ridicule anyone. My office did make inquiries as to the origin of the craft, but to this day, they remain unanswered. Eventually the Air National Guard claimed responsibility stating that their pilots were dropping flares. This is indicative of the attitude from official channels. We get explanations that fly in the face of the facts. Explanations like weather balloons, swamp gas and military flares. I was never happy with this silly explanation. There might very well have been military flares in the sky later that evening, but what I and hundreds of others saw had nothing to do with that.

"I now know that I am not alone in witnessing something extraordinary. There are many high ranking military, aviation and government officials who share my concerns; some of them have joined me here today. There is absolutely no doubt as to the veracity of what these men have told you. They have fought in wars,

guarded top secret weapons arsenals and flown countless passengers throughout the world's skies.

"Incidents like these are not going away. One year ago, Chicago's O'Hare airport experienced a UFO event that made national and international headlines. Pilots and many other airline employees observed a metallic disc hovering over the United Airlines terminal for several minutes. It then shot straight up and cut a hole in the clouds. The FAA did not investigate, dismissing the sighting as "weather."

"We want the US government to stop perpetuating the myth that ALL UFOs can be explained away in down-to-earth, conventional terms. Instead, our country needs to re-open its official investigation that it shut down in 1969. The US government can no longer shun an international dialogue about this, and we invite the government to work in cooperation with the countries represented at this table.

"When it comes to events of this nature dealing with the great unknown, we deserve more openness and a serious pursuit of the facts by our government."

Despite a lot of press coverage (for what is basically a UFO story), with pieces appearing on the BBC, CNN, MSNBC and Fox News to name but a few, there has been little reaction to this event. Much the same happened with the Disclosure Project Press Conference in 2001, but that event was soon overshadowed by 9/11.

If a group of highly credible individuals cannot stir up some interest among the general public and mainstream media with their experiences, what is it going to take to push ufology from the 'loony pages' to the headlines? Would even a flying saucer landing on the White House lawn be enough, I wonder?

The full transcripts of the witness statements can be read at www.freedomofinfo.org/national_press.htm



Dark Mission: The Secret History of NASA

by Richard C Hoagland & Mike Bara

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Love him or hate him, Richard C Hoagland isn't going anywhere. As one of the most outspoken members of the conspiracy/UFO/Alternative History community for many, many years, he has managed to ruffle the feathers of almost everybody both within and without the subject. His book, *The Monuments of Mars*, caused a huge stir when he proposed that the so-called Cydonia Face and other features on the Red Planet were artefacts left by a long-gone civilisation.

A former science advisor to CBS anchorman, Walter Cronkite, Hoagland claims to have friends inside NASA and its ancillary organisations and is privy to 'inside information' about what really goes on in America's space program. *Dark Mission*, written with his Enterprise Mission comrade, Mike Bara, claims to blow the lid off the space agency, explaining how the organisation really came into being, what its goals are and what it really knows about the true history of our planet. It's shocking stuff, if true.

According to the authors' research, NASA was formed by a group of Nazis (brought to the US during Project Paperclip), high-level Freemasons and occultists with deep-rooted scientific and political connections. Using their beliefs as a guide, this cabal ensured that major mission launches, mission parameters and even press releases occurred at specific, ritual times. This went right through Apollo up to the present day. There is more than science and politics behind NASA's missions, according to the book. Ancient knowledge, reaching back thousands of years is the key factor behind the rockets that are sent to explore our Solar System. What is being sought is the 'lost power of the gods'.

Right from its inception, NASA was constrained by the infamous Brookings Report. This document required that the Agency kept the lid on any evidence they might find of extraterrestrial intelligence. According to *Dark Mission*, this evidence has long been in the hands of NASA and has shaped their mission goals for decades.

Moving on to the missions, Hoagland and Bara document how artificial structures were found on the Moon by both Soviet probes and the American manned landings. They produce images that they maintain are clear evidence that somebody was up there long before Armstrong and Aldrin stepped onto the Sea of Tranquillity in 1969. While the images (both colour and black and white) are intriguing, some have been so highly enhanced that it is difficult to decide whether they are real objects or artefacts of the enhancement process.

For instance, *Dark Mission* maintains that huge, shattered domes of glass are dotted about the lunar surface, some arcing fifty thousand feet into space. The images of the support beams could prove this, or they could be scratches on the photograph or negative that have been brought forward in enhancement. I like the idea, though, so I'm going to give them the benefit of the doubt! Hoagland often says that 'the devil is in the detail', but I think too much detail can make an image or a subject less defined. I read the book, often thinking that the

authors were over-analysing their subjects rather than taking a step back and seeing the big picture. Of course, that is just my opinion and quite possibly the wrong one...

Of course, the 'Monuments of Mars' also play a major role in the book, with Cydonia featuring heavily. From the Viking photo of 1976 right up to the current missions, the authors maintain that the evidence of artificial structures on the Red Planet is overwhelming. The Face, pyramids, the infamous 'glass tubes', Arthur C Clarke's 'banyan trees' all get mentions and rightly so. Hoagland's mission to publicise and investigate the alluring structures is also deeply covered.

It is difficult to condense a 550-page book into one, small review (and I wouldn't even attempt it), but I came away from *Dark Mission* with more questions than answers. Perhaps that is what the authors intended. Are these structures on our solar neighbours truly artificial? Were they built by aliens or has humanity or some other, long-lost species from Earth stepped into the cosmos aeons before we managed it? Because of this book, I find myself looking at NASA in a different way. Sure, there are a lot of brilliant, dedicated and honest people working for the Agency, but are they truly just puppets of some high-level cabal, performing bizarre rituals in space in honour of ancient deities? It's mind-blowing stuff when you think about it.

Despite its faults (and there are some), *Dark Mission* is a fascinating book. It has hundreds of photographs, mostly in black and white, but with a nice colour section in the middle and you can't help reading the book and quickly flipping to an image to check what was being written is truly there. Sometimes it's obvious, sometimes less so.

Overall, however, I give the book a thumbs up and recommend it to anybody interested in space, spaceflight, conspiracies and ancient astronauts - and who isn't interested in all those things?

SJ

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