

UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

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UFO Updates

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 1](#)

Re: Skeptics Debunkers And Believers

From: **Franklin D. Fields** <fields.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 10:34:04 -0400 (EDT)
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 08:00:28 -0400
Subject: Re: Skeptics Debunkers And Believers

>Source: AboutSeti.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico

><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/skeptics-debunkers-and-believers>

>Thursday, October 30, 2008

>Skeptics, Debunkers And Believers
>by Mac Tonnies

>Followers of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence --
>whether 'mainstream' exobiology or the marginal exploits of
>'ufology' - are routinely confronted with three terms that
>quietly challenge assumptions of reality: "skeptic", "debunker"
>and "believer". In the storm of claims, hypotheses and
>accusations that define esoteric research, these labels are
>routinely misused. I'd like to take this opportunity to look a
>bit closer at these emotionally charged words in order to see
>what they really mean, and how they sculpt the epistemological
>landscape. (I suspect that most readers versed in 'forbidden
>science' secretly know all of this already, but the public arena
>incessantly distorts definitions to suit its own politics;
>consequently, one rarely sees 'skeptic', 'debunker' or
>'believer' used in proper context.)

>1.) Skeptics

>Skeptics are thinkers. Skeptics neither debunk nor believe -
>unless they are able to establish that a given phenomenon
>deserves to be debunked. 'Belief' is not a luxury the true
>skeptic can afford; the mechanics of skeptical thought are
>rooted in probability and open-mindedness. Being a skeptic
>requires courage and intellectual flexibility. What looks like a
>neat idea may turn out to be unsubstantiated nonsense;
>conversely, it might be the real thing.

>2.) Debunkers

>Debunkers comprise the most virulent of contemporary self-
>described "skeptics". There is nothing inherently unsound about
>debunking, contrary to the many appeals on behalf of the 'pro'
>side of any given paranormal controversy. But in order to
>debunk, the subject being debunked must be bunk.

>The term 'debunker' is often taken as a negative word, perhaps
>best personified by orangutan scientist-theologian Dr. Zaius in
>Planet Of The Apes. But there's nothing wrong with being a
>debunker as long as the debunker can back up his or her claims.
>Of course, this doesn't mean that some commentators won't abuse
>the urge to debunk - usually in the name of 'skepticism'. For
>example, astronomer Donald Menzel 'debunked' countless UFO
>sightings based on his scientifically baseless conviction that
>there could be no such thing as an alien craft in Earth's
>airspace. Veteran ufologist Philip Klass continued in Menzel's
>role, correctly debunking many spurious UFO reports but
>erroneously 'debunking' others. This is inevitable, as Klass'
>self-stated maxim was that all UFO reports can be attributed to
>prosaic causes.

>3.) Believers

>Along with faux-debunkers, believers are the most significant
>fetter to open-minded inquiry. Believers have no pressing need
>for facts; a few vague correlations or anonymous 'insider'
>remarks will suffice. Believers typically revolve around the
>notion that great shifts in scientific thought are usually
>initiated by lone eccentrics whose genius is often recognized
>only posthumously. Thus, their being branded as "cranks" by the
>mainstream is flaunted as a badge of honor, as if identifying
>them as architects of the Next Great Paradigm.

>While genuine pioneers are indeed often derided in their time,
>this is no promise that today's 'crackpot' theory will be
>vindicated. However, this doesn't faze believers. Nothing fazes
>believers. True believers will weave contradictory evidence into
>their own models of reality, rationalizing it with arcane
>philosophical acrobatics. (Try wrapping your mind around the
>schizophrenic cosmos conceived by Christian Fundamentalists and
>'Creation Scientists'.)

>We should all strive to be skeptics. But that means taking a
>hard look at the principles of skepticism as relayed by the
>mainstream skeptical community (whose output is as flawed by
>what it doesn't present as believer-oriented media is flawed by
>its credulity).

I would add at least three more terms.

Experiencers - Those that have experienced a UFO or ET and know
first hand the phenomena is real.

Understanders -- Those that were skeptics but through careful
research have concluded that the phenomena is real.

Debunker Operators - This category may correctly be a sub-
category under Debunker. These are the people that are either
Experiencers or Understanders but for some reason work to keep
the true reality of the phenomena secret by purposefully
manipulating data or using other means to deceive the public.

Frank

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See:

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Strange Object Photographed Over Parque Urquiza

From: **Scott Corrales** <lornis1.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 11:09:00 -0400 (GMT-04:00)
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 08:03:54 -0400
Subject: Strange Object Photographed Over Parque Urquiza

Source: Compacto de Noticias

<http://www.compactodenoticias.com.ar/>

Date: October 31, 2008

Argentina: Strange Object Photographed over Parque Urquiza,
Parana=A1

A resident of Parana=A1 photographed his daughter near Danza de la Flecha. Imagine his surprise when upon enlarging the

photo, he saw a strange object in it. Sources from the Oro Verde Observatory say that they will look into the case.

Only days ago, Miguel Angel Osuna went to Parana=A1's Parque Urquiza to take a picture of his daughter, who will be turning 15, in order use the mural as an image upon which party guests can leave their signatures and best wishes for the birthday girl.

The family chose the rock quarries located near Danza de la Flecha as a background, using the modern architecture of the Maran Suites & Towers Hotel as a backdrop.

They were astonished to learn, upon enlarging the image at a photo shop, that they had taken a picture of an unidentified flying object (UFO). In the image's background, to the right, it is possible to see a small point that raises suspicions upon being enlarged.

In an interview with Elonce TV, Osuna said that "the fellow [at the photo shop] told us there was a strange object in the photograph that was neither a helicopter nor an airplane." The photo was taken on October 21 around 17:00 hours.

Osuna used a digital camera and his father a professional one; the UFO appears in the photograph taken with the first device.

When consulted, Mariano Peter, with the Oro Grande Observatory, pointed out that "whenever strange things are seen in the sky, people ask us. We haven't received any queries up to now." Nonetheless, he stated that the original image should be analyzed to ascertain that it was indeed a physical object, and its type. In this regard, he noted that if anyone saw something unusual on the date that the photo was taken, they should approach the observatory to discuss it.

Translation (c) 2008. Scott Corrales, IHU
Special thanks to Planeta UFO

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Argentine Witness Suffers Facial Paralysis

From: **Scott Corrales** <lornis1.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 11:09:34 -0400 (GMT-04:00)
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 08:07:50 -0400
Subject: Argentine Witness Suffers Facial Paralysis

Source: Diario El Dia

<http://www.eldia.com.ar/edis/20081029/2008102922220.htm>

Date: October 29, 2008

Argentina: La Rioja UFO Witness Suffers Facial Paralysis

Man reports seeing three UFOs in La Rioja and experienced facial paralysis; says that event "changed his life" affecting him not only psychologically but also physically.

Witness claims seeing three UFOs over the locality of Villa Castelli; experience left him with "facial paralysis".

Fernando Guerrero, who was intensely sought after by news media throughout Argentina, stated on radio that he has been feeling "very strange" since he saw the strange phenomenon.

The event took place on Saturday, October 25, when Guerrero, who drives the only ambulance owned by that community of La Rioja, reached his place of work in fear and told his co-workers what he had seen.

As he drove the ambulance from Villa Union toward neighboring Villa Castelli, he became aware of a significant increase in the light coming from the cell phone he was using at the moment.

"It's going to burn up." That was the first thought that crossed his mind, adding that the CD he was listening to at the time "suddenly stopped, and a loud squealing sound could be heard."

At that moment three objects moved along in the sky. The privileged witness did not doubt to use his cellphone to capture the image.

"I immediately used my phone to take a picture of them, it was lovely, a real spectacle," the driver told his co-workers, who ultimately chose to report it to the local print media.

Now, Guerrero decided to speak to the press for the first time, insisting over and over that he feels "different" and explains that since the dramatic close encounter, half of his face is numb, exactly in the parietal region where he was struck by the "powerful light" by the Unidentified Flying Object.

"The part of my head that was exposed to the light when the UFO appeared now feels numb and hot," said the man, who refused to say if he received phone calls from scientists and researchers.

It emerged that researchers had tried to get in touch with the witness to the phenomenon to glean details of the sightings as part of the search for new eyewitness accounts for UFO events in this region.

The two latest cases occurred on April 14 and 15, when tourists visiting Quebrada Condor in Tupungato, Mendoza, and residents of the Riojan department of Arauco, respectively, claimed seeing strange objects in the sky.

Translation (c) 2008 S. Corrales, IHU
Special thanks to Guillermo Gimenez, Planeta UFO

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UFO Over Tamaulipas Mexico

From: **Scott Corrales** <lornis1.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 11:10:57 -0400 (GMT-04:00)
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 08:12:14 -0400
Subject: UFO Over Tamaulipas Mexico

Source: www.analuisacid.com

Date: October 30, 2008

Mexico: UFOs Over Tamaulipas
By Ana Luisa Cid

Since October 22, 2008 to date there have been numerous UFO sighting reports emerging from the Mexican state of Tamaulipas. The most significant of these are the ones recorded in Ciudad Madero, Tampico and Rio Bravo.

The state's Direccion de Proteccion Civil (Civil Defense) has received phone calls from witnesses that are now exceed 50 reports.

The Hechos news program on Television Azteca made the first images known, corresponding to a video recorded by Mrs. Liliana Vazquez

According to the news report, on October 24, 2008, during a ceremony commemorating United Nations Day, students and teachers of the Venustiano Carranza school in Tampico saw three white spheres in the sky. They argued over whether they were balloons or UFOs, although one student said that the objects resembled two joined plates. Parents were also present during the event, and it was one of them Mrs. Vazquez who videotaped the event.

The same newscast reported that it would conduct an investigation to find out if a private company had launched helium balloons that morning.

Moreover, Mr. Jose Alonso Galicia Fabela, a resident of Rio Bravo, documented the transti of a sphere that appeared to be on a helicopter's flight path. This recording is dated October 27, 13:30 hours.

The witness says that he was following the helicopter with his camcorder when he suddenly saw the spherical object, which moved from south to north.

While both videos appear to show the same thing, it should be noted that the cities where they were recorded are quite distant from each other. Rio Bravo is in northeastern Tamaulipas, while Tampico is toward the southeast.

Video from TV Azteca (Tampico):

<http://www.info7.com.mx/noticia.php?id=3D59321&secc=3D19>

Video from Jose Alonso Galicia (Ra--o Bravo):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DITOnXdFd5iY>

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Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:55:25 EDT
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:31:25 -0400
Subject: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

<http://www.lohud.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?category=special16>

Nice to see others who've witnessed these objects coming forward to speak up about them.

Took me years to get a grip on them because what I know about the situation was just too unbelievable.

I'm working on a book about them but everytime I get to the end, more information comes through.

I think we'll get a public answer soon.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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How To Tell If A UFO Video Is Bogus?

From: **Greg Boone** <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 21:51:11 EDT
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:35:46 -0400
Subject: How To Tell If A UFO Video Is Bogus?

I was sent me this video-link today - it's quite popular on the InterNet. Its of a pilot whose plane loses a wing and he miraculously survives the landing.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRCbkBfdBrQ>

Somehow while watching this video something didn't click right with me. I call it fake as did many of the viewers. Can you tell when and where and why we all came to this conclusion?

With the number of fakes that pop up occasionally in ufology, how do we separate the chaff from the wheat?

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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As November 4th Nears

From: **John Greenewald** <john.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:32:43 -0500
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:38:45 -0400
Subject: As November 4th Nears

To my friends here at The Black Vault,

As the US election day rapidly approaches early next week, I came across a message that I believe strongly in, and would like to pass on.

No matter who you support, it is worth the 2 minutes from your day to listen. I know there are many issues to consider before we cast our vote, but I feel strongly that the message conveyed in this video, is both strong, important, and overlooked by many.

I am not trying to 'sway' anyone's vote with this e-mail, rather, I hope to bring attention to something that has been largely ignored and forgotten by too many as they decide their 2008 Presidential pick.

Please check out:

<http://www.theblackvault.tv/view/62/dear-mr.-obama/>

Thank you all for your time, and please pass this to everyone you know... no matter what country they live in.

Very Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

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UFO Buzzes Plane Over Chesire UK 2008

From: **Greg Boone** <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 03:46:35 EDT
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:41:43 -0400
Subject: UFO Buzzes Plane Over Chesire UK 2008

Now this is indeed an interesting video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYsn2f-7axA>

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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6th Annual 2008 UFO Crash Retrieval Conference

From: Ryan Wood <rswood.nul>
Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:16:54 -0400 (EDT)
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 09:50:10 -0400
Subject: 6th Annual 2008 UFO Crash Retrieval Conference

6th Annual 2008 UFO Crash Retrieval Conference

November 7th-9th, 2008

Speakers:

<http://www.ufoconference.com/speaker-topics>

Gala Keynote Speaker George Knapp to Deliver Banquet Keynote -
Needles UFO Crash Update

CBS News investigative reporter George Knapp will present this year's UFO Crash Conference Keynote Speech about the May 14, 2008 Needles, CA UFO Crash and subsequent Military Retrieval. New information will be disclosed. Register today and secure your chance to hear about this highly credible UFO crash event.

Join us Saturday, November 8th at the Tuscany Suites & Casino where George Knapp will be the keynote speaker at our annual UFO Conference Banquet Dinner.

On May 14, 2008, a large cylindrical, glowing object streaked out of the sky and fell to the earth just south of Needles California. It landed with a loud thump in impenetrable thickets of salt cedar just west of the Colorado River. Within minutes, a phalanx of helicopters arrived at the scene, including a large sky crane. The still-glowing object was lifted into the air and flown away to an unknown location. Hours later, residents of Needles and the surrounding area reported seeing unusual vehicles sporting government license plates and blacked out windows, manned by personnel in civilian clothing but with military bearings.

Several eyewitnesses saw the object and report while it was in the sky and say it appeared to slow down, then accelerate during its descent. The witness closest to the impact point, a fisherman known as "Bob on the River", reported his sighting to a local radio station but then vanished. Residents of the area reported intrusions by strange men in strange vehicles, some of whom asked penetrating questions about the UFO and about the key witnesses.

Investigative reporter George Knapp has located and questioned more than a dozen eyewitnesses, including Bob on the River and has pinpointed the area where the object crashed. In addition, he tracked down the suspected Men In Black described by Needles residents and confirmed these personnel do work for a highly-secretive national security agency whose existence is not widely known.

This presentation will examine the relevant eyewitness testimony, will transport the audience to the approximate location of the crash, and will examine possible explanations for what kind of object fell from the sky. It will also reveal the existence of the classified operation underway in that area. Included in the presentation will be several video clips, news reports, and interview segments.

In the Spotlight: Investigative Reporter George Knapp

George Knapp graduated from high school in Stockton, Calif.; earned a bachelor's degree in communications from West Georgia College; and later earned a master's degree in communications from the University of the Pacific, where he also taught speech and debate and served as director of forensics. George also taught speech at California Polytechnic University, coached the debate team at the University of California at Berkeley and taught broadcast journalism at UNLV. Later, he worked at KLVX-TV Channel 10 as a part-time studio cameraman and production assistant. KLAS-TV hired him in 1981 as a general assignment reporter. George also has co-anchored various newscasts for Eyewitness News. Since 1995, George has been the chief reporter on Channel 8's I-Team investigative unit. In that capacity, he has earned two regional Edward R. Murrow awards and a national Edward R. Murrow award for his investigative stories on the voter registration fraud in the Clark County election of 2004. Knapp has won 14 Emmy Awards. Several were for his "Street Talk" commentaries and others were for his investigative stories. Nine times, he has won the Mark Twain Award for best news writing from the Associated Press. And in 1990, his series about UFOs was selected by United Press International as best in the nation for Individual Achievement by a Journalist.

Register for the 2008 Crash Retrieval Conference In LAS VEGAS now!

Registration for the UFO Conference is \$189

The price of the banquet is \$69.
Last year's banquet sold out so please register early.

UFO Conference Registration

Visit:

<http://www.ufoconference.com/registration>

to Register Online

Book Your Hotel Reservation at the
Tuscany Suites Hotel
Las Vegas Today!

Did you miss last year's conference? Would you like to see it in the comfort of your own home? Visit our Online Store now to order Proceedings, DVDs, and Documentaries affiliated with all five previous conferences!

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Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 10:20:47 -0400
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 11:18:10 -0400
Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>From: Kathy Kasten <catraja.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 30 Oct 2008 20:03:03 +0000
>Subject: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>Confession regarding the November 22, 1992 Brookhaven, NY
>incident.

>I was there, just a mile or so away, when something crashed. We
>were out looking for my friend's runaway dog. I was staying
>with this friend for the Thanksgiving holiday. It was very cold
>and we were concerned the dog would be out all night.

>Suddenly, there was a flash over to our left as we were headed
>down one of the back roads going towards Southaven Park. We
>joked that it was probably a "UFO". It was an insider's comment
>because no local believed the Grumman facility had really shut
>down. People were still seeing exotic aircraft flying in their
>skies.

>We came up to the entrance to the park, but were blocked from
>entering by at least two fire trucks - without any lights on,
>flashing or otherwise. The only lights on were our car lights.
>We were being waved off by a fireman in full dress. I wanted to
>stop and ask what was going on, but the fireman was adamant that
>we move on.

>A year or so later, a co-worker was sharing with me that someone
>he had graduated with from a Stockton, CA high school had died
>in an experimental plane crash in New York over the 1992
>Thanksgiving holiday. He was pissed over the fact that his
>friend was killed but news of the first African-American test
>pilot would have to remain secret because the test was top-
>secret. The only way this information got out was because the
>co-worker knew members of the pilot's family. My co-worker
>thought it was interesting that I had quite probably witnessed
>the craft going into its crash mode.

Kathy,

I thought experimental aircraft are prohibited from being tested
over populated areas.

Not only that, but I question the credibility of your friend and
yourself, as well. Ever since you claimed that you didn't post
to UFO Updates to me in an e-mail over a year ago, your
credibility rating with me has gone way down. Let's not muddy
the waters. It's murky enough.

Alot of fact checking to be done on your story.

Kelly

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Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 11:38:26 -0400
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 12:12:52 -0400
Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 10:20:47 -0400
>Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

<snip>

>I thought experimental aircraft are prohibited from being tested
>over populated areas.

>Not only that, but I question the credibility of your friend and
>yourself, as well. Ever since you claimed that you didn't post
>to UFO Updates to me in an e-mail over a year ago, your
>credibility rating with me has gone way down. Let's not muddy
>the waters. It's murky enough.

>A lot of fact checking to be done on your story.

Hi Kelly,

Yes, fact checking is always good.

The V-22 Osprey was an "Experimental" craft in 1992, but fully utilized by the US Marines, so we may get down to a question of how you define an experimental craft. I always assumed that the Ultralight craft were considered to be 'Hobby' or 'Experimental' craft, but recently was corrected in that the FAA has no licensing requirement for them.

As far as where "Experimental" craft can be tested, I think that general guidelines can be modified as needed by some agencies in performing those "tests". Some others who monitor this list will likely have a better understanding of current regulations regarding such testing.

Steve

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Re: UFO Buzzes Plane Over Chesire UK 2008

From: Robert Powell <rpowell.nul>
Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 11:03:50 -0500
Archived: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 12:14:52 -0400
Subject: Re: UFO Buzzes Plane Over Chesire UK 2008

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul,
>Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 03:46:35 EDT
>Subject: UFO Buzzes Plane Over Chesire UK 2008

>Now this is indeed an interesting video:

><http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYsn2f-7axA>

Two questions about this video. First, it begins looking at a plane far away with nothing else in the frame. Why would someone be videoing a far off plane? Second, if you slowly scroll through the video, some of the same cloud formations appear at the 19 and 40 second frames.

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Re: How To Tell If A UFO Video Is Bogus?

From: **Brad Sparks** <RB47x.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 15:23:42 EDT
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 06:01:32 -0400
Subject: Re: How To Tell If A UFO Video Is Bogus?

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 21:51:11 EDT
>Subject: How To Tell If A UFO Video Is Bogus?

<snip>

>With the number of fakes that pop up occasionally in ufology,
>how do we separate the chaff from the wheat?

Don't go looking for chaff, accept only proven wheat, and when
in doubt throw out! Don't poison our food supply with unproven
possibly deadly stuff. Don't pass it around or speculate on how
it might be good after all and might not poison you.

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Re: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

From: Eleanor White <ewraven1.nul>
Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 15:30:06 -0400
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 06:02:35 -0400
Subject: Re: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:55:25 EDT
>Subject: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

<snip>

>I think we'll get a public answer soon.

Thought you already had the answer which you can't tell us, good buddy! (We're still waiting!)

Eleanor White

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UFOs & CGI Wizards Coming Humiliation

From: Vince White <Vinceomni.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 16:23:03 EDT
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 06:08:27 -0400
Subject: UFOs & CGI Wizards Coming Humiliation

CGI Its Coming Ignominy

It now is evident, the video imagery from around the world is becoming increasingly spectacular, it shows more and more detail, with closer and closer objects, with better and better resolution, sharper features, and intricate details of lights and windows, thorough which, even what appear to be, figures of occupant pilots or passengers.

This a logical consequence of the proliferation of better and better, cheaper video cams and telephoto zoom lens etc., higher definition. across the planet.

These images include performance stunts, as sharp turns and incredible accelerations, winding flights in mountains or past commercial aircraft, wat appear to be laser lights and beams sweeping over 150 degrees or more. Truly exceptional images, the so-called drones sighted in multiple states with a number of witnesses, which CGI mavens state are all faked, scripted, as well as detailed docs, again more fakery.

At this rate, soon claims of CGI spectacular video, possibly from Ireland, will precede the release of the video, and report how it was faked, before it is released, how a hundred witnesses were all bribed with a pint or two of Guinness, and will get and free copies of the photo shop steps and methodology.

The CGI Alacrity knows no limit to pride and bragging rights, the Turkey footage is fake, the Irish video of a triangle with the beam emitted was claimed by CGI workshops, that cottage industry of bored and thoughtless, who duplicate and invent with out a twinge of conscience as they pour mud and poison into the well of empirical water - that we all drink out of.

So the Uruguay video, the Shanghai teleporting saucer, the BBC broadcast from the US Capital, the UK reports are all Chinese Lanterns or CGI of candle fed lanterns, as imitation copies the fake and counterfeit imitates the fake follows the bogus,

Is there a limit to claims, just better CGI, the past time of idle folk sans ethics, hs led to a situation that is a set up to a coming humiliation and recriminations.

Now any image, is neutralized why doesn't the CGI fun house just issue a annual report of what fake video will be released this year?

They will however be stunned when real recon pod footage from interceptors is finally released. Many will shout the images I just saw on CBS, ABC, CNN, FOX, MSNBC are real!

CGI wonder workers will have to deal with shock of true acceptance of reality of these mystery objects in the skies of our world.

Vince White

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From: Steve Sawyer <stevesaw.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 16:30:52 -0700
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 06:12:31 -0400
Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>From: John Greenewald <john.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:32:43 -0500
>Subject: As November 4th Nears

>To my friends here at The Black Vault,

>As the US election day rapidly approaches early next week, I
>came across a message that I believe strongly in, and would like
>to pass on.

>No matter who you support, it is worth the 2 minutes from your
>day to listen. I know there are many issues to consider before
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>Please check out:

><http://www.theblackvault.tv/view/62/dear-mr.-obama/>

>Thank you all for your time, and please pass this to everyone
>you know... no matter what country they live in.

Hi, John/List

I am very disappointed in the above noted video being presented on the UFO UpDates list, and in Mr. Greenewald specifically, as the video he cites, carried on his site, is an obvious pro-McCain political hit piece. The UpDates list is not the place for political advocacy for either candidate in the upcoming vote for President, but since it has occurred, I would like to register my particular concerns and complaints about this list post, in the spirit of equal balance, fairness, and to correct the misleading and untrue statements made by the speaker on this video.

Make no mistake - this is a pro-McCain endorsement for President that makes a false, intentionally distorted, and quite misleading presentation of the facts about Senator Obama's on the record statements and viewpoints concerning the ongoing war in Iraq. Let me quote the passage from the video that most concerns me:

"Dear Mr. Obama... When you call the Iraqi war a mistake, you disrespect the service and the sacrifice of everyone who has died promoting freedom. Freedom carries with it a price. Because you do not understand nor appreciate these principles, sir, I am supporting Senator John McCain for President. He too made a huge sacrifice promoting freedom because he understands a fundamental truth - freedom is always worth the price."

The piece ends with the speaker, apparently an Iraq war veteran,

walking away from the camera, showing that he has lost a leg. This is a base appeal to emotion and a false message that Senator Obama is somehow a disloyal, pro-terrorist, freedom-hating opportunist who cannot be trusted (as has been previously suggested and implied innumerable times now by both the Republican party and John McCain in their campaign to regain and stay in the White House).

This is completely and factually untrue, and despite the puerile use of such deceptive propaganda as presented in the video.

It completely ignores the factual history of how and why we became involved in initiating the war in Iraq, which, if you may recall, was based on the false intelligence regarding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, which were never found, and allegations by Bush, Cheney, and others within the administration that a link between Al Qaeda and Saddam Hussein existed, which has also been proven to have been factually untrue.

Even before 9/11, there is strong, documented evidence that the Bush administration was planning an invasion of Iraq within the first few months of the current administration, in a cynical ploy to take revenge on Hussein for his intelligence apparatus's involvement in an assassination attempt on Bush, Sr., during a visit to Kuwait after the first Gulf War, and more broadly, as a misbegotten effort to secure access to Iraqi oil and establish permanent U.S. military bases in Iraq for that purpose. We have traded blood, democratic ideals, and treasure, for oil. All while virtually no effort has been made within the current administration to reduce foreign oil dependency, and consequent global warming, both of which are crucial threats to both our economy, way of life, and even long-term human sustainability.

In the process, over the last six years, thousands of our brave soldiers have died, tens of thousands maimed, and hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilians have been either killed or wounded. Hundreds of billions of taxpayer money has been spent, America's reputation worldwide has been negated, and laws in the U.S. have been passed in panic and fear that reduce and restrict our rights and constitutionally guaranteed freedoms. All for a misbegotten, ruinous war exploited by neo-conservative interests via lies and intentional misdirection for dubious reasons and purposes, and in an attempt to consolidate their waning power and authority.

Don't get me wrong - Saddam Hussein was a brutal dictator whose fascistic Baath party dominated and deeply harmed the best interests of the Iraqi people. I am glad he was finally made to pay the price for the genocidal crimes he and his government perpetrated. But consider the fact that, especially after 9/11, it was Osama Bin Laden, and Al Qaeda, that were responsible for the terrorist acts which resulted in the initial war in Afghanistan, against the equally brutal and dictatorial Taliban, and Bin Laden's support for that regime, not the Iraqi government. In focusing our military efforts on Iraq, we dropped the ball in pursuing Bin Laden, who escaped at the battle of Tora Bora into the tribal regions of Pakistan due to inadequate U.S. military involvement and bad political decisions made by the Bush administration at that critical time. Bin Laden is still alive, as is his Al Qaeda-orchestrated radical Muslim fundamentalist and dictatorial agenda.

So, when John Greenwald states, "I am not trying to 'sway' anyone's vote with this e-mail, rather, I hope to bring attention to something that has been largely ignored and forgotten by too many as they decide their 2008 Presidential pick," that, too, is untrue, and intentionally deceptive. Informed, intelligent voters have not ignored or forgotten the issues and facts of the origins, costs, and history of the Iraq war.

Obama's opposition to the war in Iraq was prescient, justified, and based on principle, as we should all know by now, given the facts about how the Bush administration deceived the public, and manipulated the intelligence and military communities, as to the reasons and basis for initiating the war. Obama has made it clear countless times that while he was against the war, he has supported our military troops from the beginning of the conflict.

You can be against a war, and still support your military, who were directed by the commander in chief, President Bush, based on political falsehoods and manipulation of intelligence, to conduct the war. They act at the initial discretion of the executive branch. Their sacrifice for political ends is the real crime of this war.

So to say that Obama disrespects the service and sacrifice of the military, or that he does not understand or appreciate the principles involved, is a blatant lie. When politicians and their party supporters resort to lies, they impugn their own credibility and supposed principles, and thus deserve to lose, as preying on people's fears and making false statements is both unprincipled and exploitative.

And the American people know that - which is why, on Nov. 5th, Barack Obama both deserves and in fact will be our next President. He represents our best hope to begin to unite, not further divide, the best interests of the nation, and to reach across the political divide to reduce the gridlock of our country and to begin to move us forward, as a President should, in order to both face and deal with the crucial problems our nation is confronted with now and in the foreseeable future.

For further actual statements by Senator Obama about his position on the Iraq war, see the following:

http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Barack_Obama's_Iraq_Speech

<http://tinyurl.com/6frtrl>

Now, with that counter-opinion given, can we get back to further discussion of this List's primary purpose, which is the UFO phenomenon and its significance?

Most sincerely,

Steve Sawyer

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 2](#)

Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 19:38:34 -0400
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 07:15:00 -0400
Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 11:38:26 -0400
>Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

<snip>

>Yes, fact checking is always good.

>The V-22 Osprey was an "Experimental" craft in 1992, but fully
>utilized by the US Marines, so we may get down to a question of
>how you define an experimental craft. I always assumed that the
>Ultralight craft were considered to be 'Hobby' or 'Experimental'
>craft, but recently was corrected in that the FAA has no
>licensing requirement for them.

>As far as where "Experimental" craft can be tested, I think that
>general guidelines can be modified as needed by some agencies in
>performing those "tests". Some others who monitor this list will
>likely have a better understanding of current regulations
>regarding such testing.

Hello Steven,

Yeah, I guess there must be a difference between how the
term "experimental" is used.

Perhaps there's a testing phase that determines the flight
capability of an aircraft, and then a phase where it is used
experimentally to find out how it performs under certain
conditions.

The former phase probably prohibits its use over a populated
area, and maybe, the latter determines its overall capability as
a functional aircraft.

I don't know.

Also, could there be regulations for different type of aircraft?

I remember Don Ecker mentioning something about the alleged
crash being of some sort of experimental craft, also. But, I
maybe wrong. Anyway, this angle of the story needs to be
explored a little more.

If it was a domestic aircraft of some sort, why the so called
cover-up? What kind of aircraft was it?

I don't buy the "first black guy" excuse. Somebody please
enlighten me.

Kelly

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 2](#)

Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 22:42:44 -0500
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 07:16:00 -0400
Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 01 Nov 2008 10:20:47 -0400
>Subject: Re: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

>>From: Kathy Kasten <catraja.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Thu, 30 Oct 2008 20:03:03 +0000
>>Subject: Brookhaven/Southaven Park Incident

<snip>

>>A year or so later, a co-worker was sharing with me that someone
>>he had graduated with from a Stockton, CA high school had died
>>in an experimental plane crash in New York over the 1992
>>Thanksgiving holiday. He was pissed over the fact that his
>>friend was killed but news of the first African-American test
>>pilot would have to remain secret because the test was top-
>>secret. The only way this information got out was because the
>>co-worker knew members of the pilot's family. My co-worker
>>thought it was interesting that I had quite probably witnessed
>>the craft going into its crash mode.

>Kathy,

>I thought experimental aircraft are prohibited from being tested
>over populated areas.

>Not only that, but I question the credibility of your friend and
>yourself, as well. Ever since you claimed that you didn't post
>to UFO Updates to me in an e-mail over a year ago, your
>credibility rating with me has gone way down. Let's not muddy
>the waters. It's murky enough.

>A lot of fact checking to be done on your story.

Perhaps George Knapp might be able to help with the factchecking,
as he too is a graduate of a Stockton, California high school.

<http://www.ufoconference.com/speaker-bios#knapp>

Carol

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 2](#)

Re: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 23:30:03 -0500
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 07:17:00 -0400
Subject: Re: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:55:25 EDT
>Subject: Hudson Valley UFO Sightings In The News

><http://www.lohud.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?category=special16>

>Nice to see others who've witnessed these objects coming forward
>to speak up about them.

Sightings around 8/17/08 in the Walden and Newburgh, NY area
(about 35 miles south of Kingston) have been reported to NUFORC.

The person reporting says that what he saw seems similar to the
8/1/08 sighting at the Kingston/Rhinecliff Bridge (erroneously
noted as being 8/8 in his report).

<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/065/S65279.html>

There's a recent UFO sighting reported locally in West Shokan,
NY (about 20 miles west of the bridge). I'll see if I can get
them to report it to NUFORC, and get an online copy of the
write-up that was in a local paper.

Carol

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 2](#)

Re: As November 4th Nears

From: John Velez <jvelez49.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 01:01:17 -0400
Archived: Sun, 02 Nov 2008 07:18:00 -0400
Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>From: John Greenewald <john.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:32:43 -0500
>Subject: As November 4th Nears

>To my friends here at The Black Vault,

>As the US election day rapidly approaches early next week, I
>came across a message that I believe strongly in, and would like
>to pass on.

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>Thank you all for your time, and please pass this to everyone
>you know... no matter what country they live in.

John, John, John...

Let me preface my remarks by stating how much respect I have for
the incredible archive you've created and the years of work
you've dedicated to providing a truly invaluable public service.
That said...

I am offended by your post in two ways:

A. As a member of UFO UpDates who thinks you've taken unfair
advantage of the venue by posting a purely political post to
what is a UFO related discussion List. Who you favor for
president and your reasons why are basically "off-topic" here.
There's a time and a place for everything. Political recruiting
is just a bad fit for UFO UpDates.

B. I'm even more offended by your post as a strong and active
supporter of Barack Obama. I have worked as a campaign volunteer
locally. I would love to post political ads for him everywhere,
UFO UpDates included. I just have way too much respect for this
List and its stated purpose of spreading info related to UFOs to
use the List to recruit new supporters for my candidate.

John, if it wasn't for the fact that you and all your neo-con,
fear mongering friends are about to have your collective clocks
cleaned on Tuesday, I would say more regarding your post. I just
don't believe in kicking a guy when he's down. So nuff said.

We'll talk politics again in say, ooh, about 8 years, John.

Re: As November 4th Nears

Hopefully in a saner society. And not here! ;)

Sincerely,

John Velez
OBAMA 08 & 2012!

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 3](#)

Re: UFOs & CGI Wizards Coming Humiliation

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 09:15:45 -0500
Archived: Mon, 03 Nov 2008 20:41:06 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & CGI Wizards Coming Humiliation

>From: Vince White <Vinceomni.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 16:23:03 EDT
>Subject: UFOs & CGI Wizards Coming Humiliation

>CGI Its Coming Ignominy

Vince,

You make a number of claims that particular images are faked, with some fleeting references to proof. How is that different from those to allege the images are real, unless you outline each claim?

Of course these images could probably be faked, and with enough resources they could be analyzed and vetted. But of their provenance is limited by the press reports that become the only source material, and the demand for immediate answers from the public and press don't leave proper time for investigation. But the problem is that even low tech fakes can convince those who want to believe, and often those are harder to detect without the telltale digital trail to follow... not to mention the lack of resources to actually investigate sightings properly in a timely fashion.

Steve

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 3](#)

Re: As November 4th Nears

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 13:13:21 EST
Archived: Mon, 03 Nov 2008 20:44:35 -0500
Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>From: Steve Sawyer <stevesaw.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 1 Nov 2008 16:30:52 -0700
>Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>>From: John Greenewald <john.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:32:43 -0500
>>Subject: As November 4th Nears

>>To my friends here at The Black Vault,

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>Hi, John/List

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>on the UFO UpDates list, and in Mr. Greenewald specifically, as
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>video.

>Make no mistake - this is a pro-McCain endorsement for President
>that makes a false, intentionally distorted, and quite
>misleading presentation of the facts about Senator Obama's on
>the record statements and viewpoints concerning the ongoing war
>in Iraq.

<snip>

>Most sincerely,

>Steve Sawyer

I was so disappointed in John sending out this email which is nothing more than the lowest common denominator of what we call bait and switch.

I've emailed John off-List as I got the email off-List and just noticed he'd posted it here. Thanks Steve Sawyer for laying out the facts.

This election is touchy and John's got his right to speak his piece but the way he did it showed bad judgement and makes me very wary of his true motivations.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 3](#)

'Magnetic Portals'

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 19:03:49 -0000
Archived: Mon, 03 Nov 2008 20:55:39 -0500
Subject: 'Magnetic Portals'

Portals in the sky are now scientific. It's official. NASA says so ; -)

An interesting story which is being widely discussed on the net.

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/30oct_ftes.htm

[Begin Quote]

Magnetic Portals Connect Sun and Earth

During the time it takes you to read this article, something will happen high overhead that until recently many scientists didn't believe in. A magnetic portal will open, linking Earth to the sun 93 million miles away. Tons of high-energy particles may flow through the opening before it closes again, around the time you reach the end of the page.

"It's called a flux transfer event or 'FTE,'" says space physicist David Sibeck of the Goddard Space Flight Center. "Ten years ago I was pretty sure they didn't exist, but now the evidence is incontrovertible."

Indeed, today Sibeck is telling an international assembly of space physicists at the 2008 Plasma Workshop in Huntsville, Alabama, that FTEs are not just common, but possibly twice as common as anyone had ever imagined.

Researchers have long known that the Earth and sun must be connected. Earth's magnetosphere (the magnetic bubble that surrounds our planet) is filled with particles from the sun that arrive via the solar wind and penetrate the planet's magnetic defenses. They enter by following magnetic field lines that can be traced from terra firma all the way back to the sun's atmosphere.

"We used to think the connection was permanent and that solar wind could trickle into the near-Earth environment anytime the wind was active," says Sibeck. "We were wrong. The connections are not steady at all. They are often brief, bursty and very dynamic."

Several speakers at the Workshop have outlined how FTEs form: On the dayside of Earth (the side closest to the sun), Earth's magnetic field presses against the sun's magnetic field. Approximately every eight minutes, the two fields briefly merge or "reconnect," forming a portal through which particles can flow. The portal takes the form of a magnetic cylinder about as wide as Earth. The European Space Agency's fleet of four Cluster spacecraft and NASA's five THEMIS probes have flown through and surrounded these cylinders, measuring their dimensions and sensing the particles that shoot through. "They're real," says Sibeck.

Now that Cluster and THEMIS have directly sampled FTEs, theorists can use those measurements to simulate FTEs in their computers and predict how they might behave. Space physicist Jimmy Raeder of the University of New Hampshire presented one such simulation at the Workshop. He told his colleagues that the cylindrical

portals tend to form above Earth's equator and then roll over Earth's winter pole. In December, FTEs roll over the north pole; in July they roll over the south pole.....

There are many unanswered questions: Why do the portals form every 8 minutes? How do magnetic fields inside the cylinder twist and coil? "We're doing some heavy thinking about this at the Workshop," says Sibeck.

Meanwhile, high above your head, a new portal is opening, connecting your planet to the sun.

[End Quote]

A discussion relating this to so-called "electric universe" ideas here

<http://tinyurl.com/64fz7h>

is also quite interesting, suggesting that the so-called "magnetic portals" should be better thought of in terms of what must *cause* magnetic field, i.e. an electric current flowing between sun and earth, and that earth's ionosphere and surface - separated by an insulating atmosphere - behaves like a leaky capacitor that regularly charges up from the sun and breaks down. They make the connection to phenomena like sprites and elves, poorly understood plasma phenomena occurring high in the atmosphere.

Much more here about NASA's CLUSTER "magnetic reconnection" data and the above ideas:

<http://thunderbolts.info/thunderblogs/mgmirkin.htm>

It's fun to speculate that such processes could also be related to certain types of UAPs in the lower troposphere that might give rise to UFO reports. No doubt the CONDIGN author would have added a section on it had he been writing today. It would certainly be interesting if those periodicities (8-minute* and seasonal) could be discovered in some class of UAP observations, although I admit it's a very long shot.

Just another area to keep an eye on perhaps? It's certainly more evidence that we really don't understand earth's electromagnetic environment half as well as we think.

Martin Shough

*BTW, the sun-earth light travel time of ~8 mins seems too close to be coincidence.

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Location: UFOUpDatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 5](#)

Lack Of Posts

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:10:38 -0500
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:10:38 -0500
Subject: Lack Of Posts

I spent the past four days out of town. The combination of a very slow and intermittent satellite connection and my neglecting to take the AC adapter for my lap-top with me resulted in the paucity of List-posts.

Normal service resumes as of now...

ebk

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 5](#)

Re: As November 4th Nears

From: John Greenewald, Jr. <john.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 13:23:01 -0800
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:42:07 -0500
Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>From: Steve Sawyer [mailto:stevesaw.nul]
>Sent: Saturday, November 01, 2008 4:31 PM
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: As November 4th Nears

>>From: John Greenewald <john.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
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>specifically, as the video he cites, carried on his site, is an
>obvious pro-McCain political hit piece. The UpDates list is
>not the place for political advocacy for either candidate in
>the upcoming vote for President, but since it has occurred,
>I would like to register my particular concerns and complaints
>about this list post, in the spirit of equal balance, fairness, and
>to correct the misleading and untrue statements made by the

<snip>

>Now, with that counter-opinion given, can we get back to
>further discussion of this list's primary purpose, which is
>the UFO phenomenon and its significance?

Dear Steve, and the entire UFO Updates List,

I hope this makes its way to the List - as I am not entirely sure how to post. First and foremost, I did not send my letter to UFO UpDates, at least, not intentionally. I only sent it to those who subscribed to The Black Vault mailing List - where it goes from there is out of my control.

That being said, I am happy it got forwarded. To reiterate, I was not trying to 'sway' anyone's votes - believe it or not. Yes, it had a statement at the end to vote for McCain, but come on everyone, do you really think that right there would 'sway' anyone. The point was the video itself. If you have your mind made up... little ol' measly me is not going to change your mind no matter what I throw your direction.

Rather, I sent the video for thought and to share a message. For those who were offended or angry I am deeply sorry as that was not my intent.

I will even apologize to those idiots who sent me physical threats in response to my message... which shows me some of you are so passionate, you will resort to name calling, and physical violence as a response. Steve, that is not directed at you...

So, as some of you have pointed out, UFO UpDates is not the forum for this, and to an extent, I agree. Not to reiterate I never posted my letter in the first place, I received direct responses from some of you on this List who were touched and understood the true meaning of the post... regardless of political preference. For that, I am happy it got forwarded to you all.

Lets face it - the UFO problem is highly related to the person in the oval office - like it or not. So if political themes leak through to the List - I would expect some people understand why.

That being said, I am responding to many of your points, praises, and even threats that I have received LIVE on the air tomorrow. I welcome everyone to join me!

In lieu of posting the message here, I invite you over to the "Why" and "How" of the broadcast here:

<http://www.theblackvault.com/ftopicp-614416.html>

I hope those who are passionate, curious, or want to join in will tune in!

Sincerely,

John Greenewald, Jr.

Listen to 'Strange Days... Indeed' - The PodCast

See:

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/sdi/program/subscribers/>

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 5](#)

Re: 'Magnetic Portals'

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Mon, 3 Nov 2008 21:15:43 EST
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:57:05 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Magnetic Portals'

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>,
>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 19:03:49 -0000
>Subject: 'Magnetic Portals'

>Portals in the sky are now scientific. It's official. NASA says
>so ;-)

>An interesting story which is being widely discussed on the net.

>http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/30oct_ftes.htm

>[Begin Quote]

>Magnetic Portals Connect Sun and Earth

>During the time it takes you to read this article, something will
>happen high overhead that until recently many scientists didn't
>believe in. A magnetic portal will open, linking Earth to the sun
>93 million miles away. Tons of high-energy particles may flow
>through the opening before it closes again, around the time you
>reach the end of the page.

>"It's called a flux transfer event or 'FTE,'" says space
>physicist David Sibeck of the Goddard Space Flight Center. "Ten
>years ago I was pretty sure they didn't exist, but now the
>evidence is incontrovertible."

>Indeed, today Sibeck is telling an international assembly of
>space physicists at the 2008 Plasma Workshop in Huntsville,
>Alabama, that FTEs are not just common, but possibly twice as
>common as anyone had ever imagined.

Say, what gives with our astrophysicists not knowing everything?

Why I oughtta give em' a piece of my mind about them not knowing
everything about everything like all our other scientists who
used to know man would never attain powered flight nor reach the
Moon.

I don't know what's in these scientists running around here
making all these new discoveries and such. Why it's enough to
give a guy headache.

I guess this means some scientists can still theorize about
things without being called nut cases or idiots.

Ya' just never know.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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The Triumph Of Ostriches

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:57:23 -0500
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 08:57:23 -0500
Subject: The Triumph Of Ostriches

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/6bwq5d>

Friday, October 31, 2008

The Triumph Of Ostriches

By Billy Cox

Published: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 12:57 p.m.
Last Modified: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 1:04 p.m.

What a difference 55 years makes, ay?

UFOs evidently continue to troll the skies near Stephenville, Tex., people on the ground continue to see them and even take photos, and jet fighters continue to keep a wary tab on events:

see:

<http://tinyurl.com/5tsh86>

And the military continues to maintain its rigid silence because to do otherwise would be an admission that we've blown hundreds of billions of dollars on a leaky roof.

But once upon a time, back before the Pentagon knew how hopeless its situation really was, the Air Force actually encouraged Americans to help collect UFO data. Check out David Duncan's little gem at:

<http://www.thekeyhoereport.com/uncategorized/retro-ufology-from-1953>

It's a 1953 Popular Science article detailing how the USAF distributed 35mm cameras to "detectives on the trail of the flying saucers". If that seems a little exotic, remember that in 1952, UFOs weren't just buzzing the capitol, the Pentagon was holding press conferences about it and telling Americans not to freak.

Anyhow, fitted with special diffraction grating plates, these Videon Stereo cameras were designed to bend light in a way that would identify their source as a solid or a gas. But writer Ralph Steiner assured readers who wanted to photograph UFOs that custom cameras weren't necessary.

"Any stereo camera will do." he wrote. "In fact, when I phoned the Pentagon to inquire whether the Air Force would be interested in photos taken with single-lens cameras, I was assured that any shot of a flying saucer made through a diffraction grating - even with a box Brownie - would be more than welcome".

Steiner included beaucoup photo tips and a USAF address for sending undeveloped film. Can you imagine the military soliciting the public for that sort of evidence today?

"Uh, folks, we're really having trouble keeping UFOs out of restricted airspace over President Bush's ranch in Crawford lately, so we'd like you to try to photograph the suckers with these special cameras so we can take the evidence to Congress and lobby for countermeasure funding in a more open and accountable fashion".

The same month the Popular Science piece ran, the CIA secretly convened a panel of scientists - later known as the Robertson Committee - to figure out how to manage the UFO problem. The consensus was to sweep the subject off the front pages by debunking the phenomenon. See:

http://www.cufos.org/IUR_article3.html

It's one of the Agency's few legacies where the cliché successfully applies today: Mission Accomplished.

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UFO Believers Choose Silence Over Skepticism

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 10:00:00 -0500
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 10:00:00 -0500
Subject: UFO Believers Choose Silence Over Skepticism

Source: The Columbian, Vancouver, Washington, USA

<http://www.individual.com/story.php?story=91153832>

Nov 03, 2008

UFO Believers Choose Silence Over Skepticism: Meeting In Battle Ground Aimed At Sharing Stories Of Sightings

Scott Hewitt
360-735-4529
or
scott.hewitt.nul

Battle Ground--When it comes to unidentified flying objects, there are more questions than answers. And there's more silence than sharing.

The 30 or so people who turned out at Rocky's Pizza on Saturday to share UFO stories said talking about their experiences was something of a novelty - since confessing such things tends to result in skeptical stares and unflattering judgments about their sanity.

"I don't really talk about it. People aren't going to believe it," said one woman who had driven away from a Dairy Queen in Utah in the mid-1970s with a couple of friends when a bright light came to rest directly over their car.

"We better not tell anybody," another man remembered deciding with a friend after they saw zigzagging white lights in the sky. "They wouldn't believe us anyway."

Joy French of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, convened the meeting. She's been on a swing through the Pacific Northwest to locate fellow UFO believers.

She wasn't disappointed - there was plenty of belief in the room, if not too much hard information.

Many said they'd seen impossibly fast-moving, utterly silent lights, or saucer-shaped craft zooming in formation, or mysterious orange balls. Nobody had an explanation - and nobody had a tale to equal French's.

In the early 1980s, she said, she was staying near Lake Merwin and driving downhill to visit a friend when suddenly she discovered it was her friend driving, not her. She couldn't remember what had happened.

Then there was a bright flash of light and the car stopped dead. Her friend went out to open the hood and determined there was nothing wrong with the car.

Another memory blank. The next day, French and her friend got

together - and each confessed to believing they'd been abducted by a UFO.

"We made a pact we'd never talk about it," she said.

But these days French, 84, has changed her mind. She believes the U.S. government knows more than it's telling about UFO visits, and the way to make it fess up is to start talking. If you tell what happened to you, she said, you just might find your neighbor has been sitting on a similarly strange experience.

French believes she was taken aboard a UFO - but "they probably threw me back because I had a complete hysterectomy, so I'm no use to them."

"I want to get hypnotized one of these days," she said, to dig out exactly what did happen to her. She would have done it Saturday before the group, she said, but she wasn't feeling well enough.

Why is the government hiding the truth about UFOs? Because it wants to keep the advanced technology it took from crashed alien spacecraft to itself - to retain the upper hand.

That's one theory, anyway. Many other theories were discussed, including these: Extraterrestrials are visitors from the future, or from another galaxy, or another dimension. Some think they're benevolent overseers who're making sure we don't destroy ourselves. Others think we're just a science experiment set in motion by curious alien youngsters.

And a couple believers described cosmic vibrations, mystery voices, flying pyramids and golden light that healed what ailed them.

"I'm not scared of them. I don't think they're here to hurt us," French said. "I think they're here to rescue us because we are destroying our planet."

French and her audience cited The History Channel and other television fare as the primary source of their theories.

Still, it's hard to completely dismiss all UFO stories. Twice this year - once in January and once late last month - there were flurries of sightings in Texas. Also last month, the British defense ministry released thousands of documents about UFO reports.

The United States Air Force investigated more than 12,000 UFO sightings between 1952 and 1969, and concluded that the vast majority were misidentified aircraft or atmospheric or space phenomena.

UFO believers, of course, are skeptical about that.

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The Ventura UFO Festival

From: **Preston Dennett** <prestone.nul>
Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 15:52:45 -0500
Subject: The Ventura UFO Festival

Greetings

You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual
Ventura County UFO Festival

Location:

ZanZilla
2750 E. Main St.

Underground below Crystal Cleaners

805-890-4863

For detailed directions:

www.myspace.com/venturacountyufofestival

Saturday Nov. 22nd:

4pm Ann Druffel

UFO's Over Tujunga Canyon

6pm Preston Dennett

Recent UFO events

8:30pm UFOetry

The band that performed at Roswell!

Sunday November 23rd

4pm Preston Dennett

UFO's: A Presentation for Kids!

6pm Phillip Krapf

Angel or ET? A Personal Contact

8:30pm Movie

The Phoenix Lights (Documentary)

The Ventura UFO Festival

\$10 per lecture

\$15 for an entire day

\$25 for the weekend

RSVP in advance

Seating is LIMITED this year

No mid-lecture arrivals, please

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Robert L. Hastings On Bentwaters UFO Incident

From: **Robert Morningstar** <robert_morningstar.nul>
Date: Wed, 5 Nov 2008 07:33:50 -0800 (PST)
Archived: Wed, 05 Nov 2008 15:54:21 -0500
Subject: Robert L. Hastings On Bentwaters UFO Incident

Below is a link to Robert L. Hastings' excellent chronical of the Bentwaters-Rendlesham UFO Incident, published at UFO Digest:

<http://www.ufodigest.com/news/1008/bentwaters.html>

Enjoy,

Robert M*
Editor
UFO Digest

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<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/sdi/program/subscribers/>

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 6](#)

Jarring Revival Of Interest In UFOs

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 06:41:03 -0500
Archived: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 06:41:03 -0500
Subject: Jarring Revival Of Interest In UFOs

Source: PhilStar.Com - Herndon, Virginia, USA

<http://www.philstar.com/archives.php?&aid081105123&type=2>

Thursday, November 6, 2008

Jarring Revival Of Interest In UFOs
The Southern Beat By Rolly Espina

Recently, I found myself stupefied by a series of television footages of sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). But I thought it was just a revival of a fad and dismissed them as an obsession by a group of dedicated believers in extra-terrestrials.

But it seems that is not the case. I was jarred recently by a letter received from a long-lost godson, Edwin Gatia, an amateur astronomer who is now living in Philadelphia City in the United States.

The letter struck me because Gatia, whom I have not seen for decades, suddenly recalled to me the story that I had written in the Iwag, the provincial newsletter during martial law in Negros Occidental.

That was 30 years ago. But Gatia was insistent on asking for more details on that alleged "landing" in the Talisay City area by a UFO which was witnessed by several people in a small village beside the First Farmers Milling Co.

And he also mentioned about having interviewed my late father, Sir Knight Fulgencio R. Espina, on another UFO spotting which the latter had erringly described to me.

I would have dismissed that request for additional information had not Gatia told me that he was gathering additional data on a possible book project "Unidentified and Unknown: The Philippine UFO Experience" he is preparing to publish before the International UFO Congress in Nevada in February next year.

"The book covers other sightings reported in the country that date back to the late 40s and the early 50s as well as the recent ones reported in the 1980s," Gatia said.

Well, for one, although I had forgotten about that incident, I remember that the US Enquirer Magazine sent down to Bacolod a writer who stayed for sometime in the area taking photos and interviewing alleged witnesses.

I also know that (ret.) Col. Patricio Lomongo was the then PC provincial commander. He had ordered the incident investigated, although I did not hear about the findings by the investigators nor did I get a copy of that report.

Incidentally, Gatia told me that he had interviewed my father whose sighting report was provided as Case No. "MRS": 9790s418; N

1055N12320E Fabrica, Negros del Norte."

In short, there are a lot of serious people in the world whose focus remain targeted on the UFOs. And that international conference in Nevada, USA, is expected to renew keen interest in this unexplained sightings which, just today, remain unsolved or cloaked in controversies.

At least, Gatia is one person who is convinced that there must be something to it. Unfortunately, I have always believed that he is a serious astronomy student and must have reasons for his dedicated focus on UFO.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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What's Zap?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 06:42:03 -0500
Archived: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 06:42:03 -0500
Subject: What's Zap?

Source: The Sun - London, UK

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/article1898597.ece>

November 6th, 2008

[Stills, video & map at site]

What's Zap?
By JOHN COLES

A red beam of light shoots to the ground from what is believed to be a UFO.

The Sun was yesterday handed dramatic footage of the mysterious craft hovering over Bristol.

Shellie Williams, 20, and her mum Betty, 53, filmed it on their mobile phones.

When they zoomed in, they also caught red and white vertical beams not visible to the naked eye.

Care worker Shellie, who watched from outside her home in nearby Hartcliffe, said: "It was bizarre and I was quite frightened."

Betty said: "Through binoculars you could see clusters of lights.

"They seemed to form a circle and were attached to something. It freaked us out."

Neighbour Tony Jefferies said he had seen the lights on and off for two weeks.

Advertisement

In daylight yesterday, Shellie and Betty pinpointed the lights as being close to a radio mast on Dundry Hill.

Air traffic control at Bristol International Airport said it had no reports of "unusual activity".

Avon & Somerset police said their helicopter was not out and they had not had UFO reports.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Fate Magazine 60 Years 400 Issues

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 07:07:12 -0500
Archived: Thu, 06 Nov 2008 07:07:12 -0500
Subject: Fate Magazine 60 Years 400 Issues

Source: Fate Magazine - Lakeville Minnesota

www.fatemag.com

September-October 2008

Magazine Commemorates Noteworthy Milestone

FATE celebrates 60 years of covering the strange and unknown

(Lakeville MN) - Six decades before the History Channel's Monster Quest, A&E's Paranormal State, late-night radio's Coast to Coast AM, and countless websites, blogs, books, and movies began captivating audiences with true tales of the paranormal - there was FATE - a first-of-its-kind publication dedicated to in-depth coverage of mysterious and unexplained phenomena. FATE was a true journalistic pioneer, covering issues like electronic voice phenomena, cattle mutilations, life on Mars, telepathic communication with animals, and UFOs at a time when discussing such things was neither hip nor trendy like it is today. This month, FATE celebrates the 60th anniversary of its founding and the publication of its 700th issue, a rare feat of longevity achieved by only a select few U.S. periodicals.

The year was 1948. President Harry Truman was in a tight race for reelection with Thomas Dewey. New nations emerged in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Ex-GIs moved their growing families into new American suburbs. The Cold War was in its infancy, and the Space Age was still a dream—but across the nation and around the world, people observed strange objects flying through the skies.

Two Chicago-based magazine editors, Raymond A. Palmer and Curtis B. Fuller, took a close look at the public's fascination with flying saucers and saw the opportunity of a lifetime. With help from connections in the worlds of science fiction and alternative spirituality, they launched a new magazine dedicated to the objective exploration of the world's mysteries. They gave their "cosmic reporter" the name FATE.

FATE's first issue, published in Spring 1948, featured as its cover story the first-hand report of pilot Kenneth Arnold on his UFO sighting of the previous year, an event widely recognized by UFO historians as the birth of the modern UFO era.

Other topics covered in this and subsequent issues included vanished civilizations, communication with spirits, synchronicity, exotic religions, monsters and giants, out-of-place artifacts, and phenomena too bizarre for categorization. This mix of subjects set a template that the magazine would follow for six decades and counting. In many ways, FATE magazine created the genre that is now known as "the paranormal".

Palmer and Fuller's judgment of FATE's potential proved correct, and as demand for the magazine grew its publication frequency increased quickly from quarterly to bimonthly to monthly. Palmer sold his share of the magazine in the late 1950s, and Fuller

brought his wife Mary aboard to help run the growing business. FATE's success spawned scores of imitators over the years, but none lasted very long. Through the decades FATE kept going, doggedly promoting the validity of paranormal studies but unafraid to reveal major events as hoaxes or frauds when it was warranted. Among the famous cases debunked by FATE were the Philadelphia Experiment and the Amityville Horror.

So how does FATE still stay relevant after all this time? Especially in a fast-paced, high-tech world that is often short on attention span and long on cynicism, how does a magazine like FATE continue to thrive? Editor-in-Chief Phyllis Galde says, "FATE allows readers to think for themselves by providing them with stories that mainstream publications don't dare touch. The truth is, reality does not conform to the neat and tidy box that many people would like to wedge it into. Our world is a bizarre and wondrous place and our universe is filled with mystery - it is teeming with the unknown. People are longing for something more than the mundane transactions of everyday existence. FATE feeds the soul's appetite for the enigmatic, the esoteric, and the extraordinary."

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The SIU Is Returning To Slovakia

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:43:59 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:43:59 -0500
Subject: The SIU Is Returning To Slovakia

Source: The Centre for Physical Trace Research

<http://tinyurl.com/6hfmng>

11-0-08

"To The Moonshaft!"
The SIU Is Returning To Slovakia

After a substantial donation the SIU is making plans to return to Slovakia in an attempt to find and explore the Moonshaft cavern and artifact.

This project was initiated 39 years ago by Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Ted Phillips and after two expeditions we will begin expedition 3 as weather conditions in the area makes a several week trip practical.

The expedition still requires additional funding for supplies and equipment to obtain samples of the structure and fully document the authenticity of the Moonshaft. Full documentation and samples are necessary to convince a small number of scientists to then return with us for a scientific study of the artifact/structure.

A new website is being created by SIU member and webmaster, Adam Johnson, and will provide new information and documentation. When completed the website will be Moonshaft.org and will provide a number of new connections such as the WWII Nazi search for the cave and this ancient structure. Our plan is to "take website viewers along" through reports, images and video posted at the end of each day.

Please consider donating any amount, however small, so this project can be completed. Your help is needed and vastly appreciated!

Thanks,

Ted R. Phillips
CPTR Director

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Tired Of Givin' It Away

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:48:36 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:48:36 -0500
Subject: Tired Of Givin' It Away

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/55dvwd>

Friday, October 31, 2008

Tired Of Givin' It Away

By Billy Cox

Published: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 3:02 p.m.
Last Modified: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 3:18 p.m.

"I'm sorry to be so agitated," says Peter Davenport from Harrington, Wash. "I'm at the end of my rope. With the government, with the press, with the American people. You've caught me at a strange time."

This week, on his National UFO Reporting Center Web page, the man who runs one of the world's busiest eyewitness databases announced he was on the brink of shutting down his live telephone Hotline.

"Typically," he wrote at <http://www.nuforc.org/>, "between 20 and 80 percent of the calls we receive on any given day, I estimate, are prank calls, many of them grossly obscene and abusive. This rude behavior on the part of callers has had a significant, and adverse, effect on my desire to continue running NUFORC in the manner that we have done it in the past."

But Davenport wasn't just torqued about idiot kids clogging his line with garbage. It was also about the inability of many eyewitnesses to follow basic instructions when filing their reports online or =97 for those who do figure it out =97 their horrid grammar, spelling and coherence.

NUFORC has received roughly 25 calls a day, 24/7, since Davenport began running the show in 1994. With no salary. Plus minimum monthly expenses of \$500, drawing largely upon the dwindling fortune he acquired by selling biotech stock from a business he founded.

And then you've got all the leeches and parasites from the, ahem, MSM.

"So you're asking me for information you can put on your blog, which you get paid for," Davenport tells De Void. "You know, I get calls like these all the time, from journalists who want to write articles, or radio shows that say, =91Come on our show for free. For free!"

It's thankless work. No wonder the Air Force quit the public gig in =9169. At least they got paid.

"What's wrong with the American people? They've become a bunch of lazy do-nothings," Davenport goes on. "They call and tell me what

they saw, and I ask, look, can you write all this down and file a report? They say no. No =97 they can't take five minutes to write a report, but they have enough time to tell me about it."

Americans. Sheesh.

"I've been to 40 countries and I've never encountered less common sense than I find in this country. Americans pay king's ransoms to send their kids to school and all they learn is how to put on cheerleader outfits or football uniforms."

Davenport takes a whack at all the preening egos using UFOs to peddle snake oil. He rattles off a list of con artists De Void recognizes. He says, "Ninety percent of the people in this field are charlatans."

Then he cuts it short. "I've sort of rounded the corner with UFOlogy," he says. "I'm fed up with doing this for free."

De Void recognizes UFO fatigue when he sees it. But Davenport's current dilemma was probably forged some 54 years ago, at age 6. That's when he saw a UFO hover and zip away near a drive-in movie outside St. Louis. Maybe the real curse here isn't the fatigue, but the perpetual second wind embodied by hobos in a Beckett farce.

Estragon: "I can't go on like this."

Vladimir: "That's what you think."

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:53:11 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:53:11 -0500
Subject: NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

Source: ITN News - London, England, UK

6th November 2008

[Picture]

NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

The US space agency were filming from a shuttle outside the earth's orbit in April this year when the cameras picked up four objects that have never been identified.

The footage came after two similarly eerie sightings a few days apart on different sides of the world.

In January this year an amateur cameraman was one of a crowd who gathered to look at a mysterious light in the sky above Mexico.

He captured images of a trail dragging behind a very slow-moving object in the sky, before another light appeared on the horizon.

In the same week, a group of teenagers in India stopped by the side of the road and captured a group of glowing objects moving in patterns in the sky.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Mars Phoenix Probe in 'Hospice' Mode

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:58:45 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 06:58:45 -0500
Subject: Mars Phoenix Probe in 'Hospice' Mode

Source: The Discovery Channel - Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

<http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2008/11/05/mars-phoenix-hospice.html>

Nov. 5, 2008

Mars Phoenix Probe in 'Hospice' Mode
Irene Klotz, Discovery News

Compared to NASA's long-lived Mars rovers, still scurrying around the red planet five years past warranty, the ice-sampling Phoenix lander, now in a communications coma five months after touchdown, may appear to be a bit of a dud.

But there is nothing engineers could have done to fix the fundamental problem. Phoenix, which is stationed near the planet's northern pole, is running out of sunlight, a death knell for a solar-powered probe.

When Phoenix landed on May 25, it was the start of summer on the Martian arctic circle, land of the midnight sun.

The probe worked well enough for NASA to extend its planned 90-day mission until the end of the September, and later to mid-November. But with summer slipping into autumn and the sun dipping below the horizon for longer and longer periods of time, Phoenix has been struggling to generate enough power from its solar cells to keep functioning. It is dark now for more than seven hours a day.

"We're in hospice mode," Phoenix principal investigator Peter Smith, with the University of Arizona in Tucson, told Discovery News.

At best, NASA hopes to eke out a week's more monitoring of the changing conditions on Mars. The probe, whose prime mission was to chemically analyze ice and soil samples so scientists can determine if Mars was ever suitable to host life, is also equipped with meteorological instruments and cameras.

There will be no more data coming back from Phoenix's miniature ovens and wet chemistry sets, which were used to assess ice and soil near the landing site.

"We have all the data we're going to get," Smith said.

Analysis is underway, and Smith said the team's goal is to announce results at a scientific meeting in December.

"We didn't get every single thing we could have because of the complexity of delivering soil up there into the chambers," Smith added.

The Martian soil turned out to be unexpectedly clumpy so that it clogged filters and complicated efforts to place samples into Phoenix's science chambers for processing.

The impediments, however, did not compromise the goals of the mission.

Smith said he's not yet ready to state if Mars was suited for life, but he added, "I think there is going to be enough data to make a final pronouncement."

Some of the Phoenix team's findings already have been announced. They include:

- * Confirmation of water ice on the planet's surface. Water is considered to be a key ingredient for supporting life.
- * An alkaline, rather than acidic, soil. On Earth, the pH of soil is important. Food plants, for example, thrive in acidic or neutral soil. So do bacteria. The finding does not necessarily nix the chances for life on Mars. "Life is very adaptable and can exist in many extreme environments," said Phoenix deputy project scientist Deborah Bass, at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.
- * A lack of sulfur compounds, or sulfates, in the soils near the Phoenix landing site. The Mars rovers Spirit and Opportunity found sulfates around their landing sites on the planet's equatorial region.
- * Soil grains show signs of weathering and varying chemical compositions.
- * A chemical in the soil called perchlorate, which on Earth exists in places with very little rainfall. Scientists are trying to determine what effect perchlorates could have on the prospect for life on Mars.

"It's been a very successful mission," Smith said.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 08:02:00 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 08:02:00 -0500
Subject: UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

Source: LoHud.Com - Lower Hudson, New York, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/5bdy5w>

November 6, 2008

UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

It is understandable that eyewitnesses to the Hudson Valley UFO sightings of 25 years ago would stick to their stories all these years (Oct. 31 story). It is very likely that their reports accurately reflected what they saw in the night skies back then. The crucial point is that what they perceived did not accurately reflect what was actually present in the night skies. It is well-known that at night, where there is relatively little information about what an object is, people's perceptions wildly exaggerate the detail in what they see. That is, they really perceive details that are not really there.

In dozens of so-called UFO sightings, it has turned out that credible witnesses perceived and reported much more detail than was present. These details made the perception much larger and more like a flying saucer than the object that was perceived - often just the lights of an aircraft at night. Eyewitness reports of flying saucers are totally unconvincing evidence for the reality of such things. The actual cause of the Hudson Valley UFO sightings was a group of private pilots who got up to hoaxing by flying around in the night sky turning their aircraft lights on and off. There is a complete lack of credible photographic or physical evidence (but lots of fakes, hoaxes and well-intentioned photos of little lights on a dark background) for flying saucers. Visitors from outer space are not whizzing around Earth looking to do mischief, bring us peace and love, or better recipes for lasagna.

Terence Hines

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 11:02:27 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 11:02:27 -0500
Subject: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

Source: Frank Warren's The UFO Chronicles Blog

<http://tinyurl.com/68ahl5>

11-5-08

Thursday, November 06, 2008

My UFO Experience: Witness Recounts The Night A UFO Crashed Near Roswell, New Mexico

Reader Submitted Report

I am a 70 year old retired psychotherapist. I grew up in Santa Rosa, New Mexico, which is around 90 miles or less north from Roswell, New Mexico, where the UFO's crashed. I was 9 years old on that 7/47 night in question I vividly remember around 10:30 pm or so, looking into the sky and seeing a V-shaped line of about eleven lights streaking across the sky, first from one area, then from another, then another. They were streaking across the sky at a rate of speed that was quite clearly faster than anything made on earth in 1947. After about five minutes the V-shape changed to a diagonal line and continued the same pattern of streaking across the clear sky for a few more minutes.

Needless to say I was stunned. In the morning I dashed down the street to tell Mr. Hoy what I had seen. He was the editor of the small newspaper, put out once a week. He shared with me that the Deputy Sheriff, Joe Pat Downing, was on patrol the night before and had told him he had seen the same thing.

The vividness of that memory has stayed with me and it wasn't until thirty years later that I started hearing about the UFO crash in Roswell. That was when I connected my experience that night seeing those strange lights with what was taking place 90 miles south of my hometown. It is also my understanding that "weather balloons" don't do that....

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Re: As November 4th Nears

From: Steve Sawyer <stevesaw.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 05:08:56 -0800
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 11:03:02 -0500
Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>From: John Greenewald, Jr. <john.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 13:23:01 -0800
>Subject: Re: As November 4th Nears

>>From: Steve Sawyer [mailto:stevesaw.nul]
>>Sent: Saturday, November 01, 2008 4:31 PM
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: As November 4th Nears

>>>From: John Greenewald <john.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Fri, 31 Oct 2008 18:32:43 -0500
>>>Subject: As November 4th Nears

><snip>

>>>Please check out:

>>><http://www.theblackvault.tv/view/62/dear-mr.-obama/>

><snip>

>>I am very disappointed in the above noted video being
>>presented on the UFO UpDates list, and in Mr. Greenewald
>>specifically, as the video he cites, carried on his site, is an
>>obvious pro-McCain political hit piece. The UpDates list is
>>not the place for political advocacy for either candidate in
>>the upcoming vote for President, but since it has occurred,
>>I would like to register my particular concerns and complaints
>>about this list post, in the spirit of equal balance, fairness, and
>>to correct the misleading and untrue statements made by the

><snip>

>>Now, with that counter-opinion given, can we get back to
>>further discussion of this list's primary purpose, which is
>>the UFO phenomenon and its significance?

>Dear Steve, and the entire UFO Updates List,

>I hope this makes its way to the List - as I am not entirely sure
>how to post. First and foremost, I did not send my letter to UFO
>UpDates, at least, not intentionally. I only sent it to those who
>subscribed to The Black Vault mailing List - where it goes from
>there is out of my control.

>That being said, I am happy it got forwarded. To reiterate, I was
>not trying to 'sway' anyone's votes - believe it or not. Yes, it
>had a statement at the end to vote for McCain, but come on
>everyone, do you really think that right there would 'sway'
>anyone. The point was the video itself. If you have your mind
>made up... little ol' measly me is not going to change your mind
>no matter what I throw your direction.

>Rather, I sent the video for thought and to share a message. For
>those who were offended or angry I am deeply sorry as that was
>not my intent.

>I will even apologize to those idiots who sent me physical
>threats in response to my message... which shows me some of you
>are so passionate, you will resort to name calling, and physical
>violence as a response. Steve, that is not directed at you...

>So, as some of you have pointed out, UFO UpDates is not the forum
>for this, and to an extent, I agree. Not to reiterate I never
>posted my letter in the first place, I received direct
>responses from some of you on this List who were touched and
>understood the true meaning of the post... regardless of
>political preference. For that, I am happy it got forwarded to
>you all.

>Lets face it - the UFO problem is highly related to the person in
>the oval office - like it or not. So if political themes leak
>through to the List - I would expect some people understand why.

>That being said, I am responding to many of your points, praises,
>and even threats that I have received LIVE on the air tomorrow. I
>welcome everyone to join me!

>In lieu of posting the message here, I invite you over to the
>"Why" and "How" of the broadcast here:

><http://www.theblackvault.com/ftopicp-614416.html>

>I hope those who are passionate, curious, or want to join in will
>tune in!

Hi, John/List members,

While I had responded to the above comments by John G. in an off-List
email, I think it should, somewhat belatedly, be repeated:

[Previous offlist response]:

First, let me say that I did not intend to exacerbate any more of
an unnecessary political imbroglio on the list than had already
been started by the posting of your Black Vault post and the
associated video I objected to; my reaction to that post, which
appeared, interestingly, as if it came directly from you for
posting on the UpDates list (normally, if a comment from
elsewhere is posted to UpDates, a note is appended at the end
indicating attribution or original source, which was not the case
with what did appear as if you had directly submitted it for
posting on the UpDates list, btw), was based on the fact that the
speaker on the video was not telling the truth about Obama's on
the record comments and position regarding the Iraq war. That was
my main point.

Review the quote I included from the video in my initial counter-
point comments on list. Such hyperbole on the part of the
speaker, in this case, amounted to nothing more than an obvious
smear and mischaracterization of the facts regarding Obama's
viewpoints about both the reasons why he is against the war and
how we got into it in the first place. I noted documented,
historical facts, while the speaker on the video certainly did
not, and that was what I felt I had to refute. Nothing more than
correcting the record with fact.

Thus, when you state, "To reiterate, I was not trying to 'sway'
anyones votes - believe it or not," I don't believe you can claim
that is factual, given that the message and your initial comments
were certainly not non-partisan. Additionally, where you say,
"Yes, it had a statement at the end to vote for McCain, but come
on everyone, do you really think that right there would 'sway'
anyone. The point was the video itself," you seem remarkably
oblivious to, again, the fact that it was the content of the
speaker's words, and your seeming endorsement of what he said,
which were a false characterization of Obama's opinions, is the
real point of why such partisan commentary, particularly on the
Up- Dates list, is both inappropriate and misleading. Let's put
it this way - do you endorse what the speaker on the video said
about Obama both "...disrespect[ing] the service and the
sacrifice of everyone who has died promoting freedom..." and
further, "...do[es] not understand nor appreciate these
principles..." (referencing the price of freedom)?

[Added note: I never received a reply to this latter question to
John, and even after my repeated offlist response, as noted again

here, and he still has not replied to my primary objection to both the content of the speaker's video, and J.G.'s blase characterization of it, or rather non-response. Telling, that. /sgs]

If so, then to put it most simply, you are wrong, as is the speaker on the video. The charges the speaker laid against Obama are both untrue and a deceptive and fairly obvious false mischaracterization that is, indeed, meant to sway or influence the vote of anyone susceptible to such an emotionally-tinged and base appeal to a sense of false patriotism. I don't see how you cannot, apparently, see that, and reiterating that the video content, and your comments, are not an attempt to manipulate and distort Obama's positions and thus sway viewer and reader votes is essentially also transparently plainly incorrect, to say the least.

So, when such dubious efforts are made, you should expect to get a reaction, and rational counter-opinions, to such a blatant distortion and false appeal to emotion, although I agree completely with you that anyone making threats of violence, or as you say, "I will even apologize to those idiots who sent me physical threats in response to my message... which shows me some of you are so passionate, you will resort to name calling, and physical violence as a response," such threats are totally irresponsible and anyone making such a threat is even more than just an idiot, they could be fairly considered psychologically disturbed, and thus, also, do not deserve or require any kind of apology on your part - they should be recommended to seek counseling or therapy, instead. And yes, I know those comments, as you say, were not directed at me.

That's what's great about America; even though I may disagree with you, or your political perspectives and orientation, we can and should be, as they say, gentlemen about it and I believe we can in turn "agree to disagree." This is the basis for most of my own prior comments - in a democracy, not only should speech be free, but it also, hopefully, should also be honest and factual.

And even when it is not, as was the case here that I objected to, the best remedy is simply more free speech, and the "consumer" can then better decide for themselves, after being informed of countervailing opinions and facts, who they choose to believe, and act accordingly, such as by who they decide to vote for.

The only other comment I would make, in response to where you state, "Lets face it - the UFO problem is highly related to the person in the oval office - like it or not. So if political themes leak through to the list - I would expect some people understand why," I would argue, ref. your first point, that many would suggest that historically, at least perhaps after the Truman, or possibly Eisenhower, administrations, the role and position of the President in terms of the "UFO problem" is questionable, since many suspect the President himself is not really in the loop regarding evidence of the ongoing UFO phenomenon to the degree most would think appropriate, considering his role as the top civilian authority in terms of commander-in-chief of the military, which, if true, is itself a tragedy and raises serious political questions about the rule of law, and authorized civilian control via the head of government, over issues of crucial national security. So, ref. your second point, I personally have no problems noting or debating "political themes" and issues on the UpDates list, or elsewhere, as far as they relate to and are relevant to the UFO phenomenon and it's significance.

It's pretty obvious by now just how extraordinarily important, and potentially impactful, the UFO phenomenon truly is, in both political and many other ways, to the democratic issues of both freedom of information and speech, and right of citizenry to be informed, particularly if any element of the military, intelligence, or government has or is involved in covering up the nature of or facts regarding the UFO phenomenon itself, which I suspect is the case. The cover-up (unless there are critical issues unknown to the public that should be kept secret, for now, if they would disrupt or relate to potential human survival or societal sustain- ability, if revealed), is not just a political and institutionally mis- guided travesty, it is a matter of both basic human rights of freedom, speech, and thought, and an issue that needs to be, if so, returned to the open, free, and civilian domain and authority, as our Constitution and Bill of Rights are

supposed to guarantee under law and should be at least _one_ primary focus of govern- ment funding for a serious and scientific multi-disciplinary long- term public research and investigation program, in my humble opinion. Nothing less in legal, ethical, and moral terms, is acceptable in a free, democratic society.

Sincerely,

Steve

[P.S. - And now that the election is over, and as Obama has prevailed, I would again suggest we return to discussion of the UFO problem and perplex. I forgive you, John, for your off- topic "trespasses," as long as you forgive my own "rhetoric" - I do admire and congratulate you on your efforts re: The Black Vault website and expansive data collection you provide. 8^)]

Later

Steve

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

Re: UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

From: Steve Sawyer <stevesaw.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 05:30:11 -0800
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 11:07:12 -0500
Subject: Re: UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

>Source: LoHud.Com - Lower Hudson, New York, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/5bdy5w>

>November 6, 2008

>UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

>It is understandable that eyewitnesses to the Hudson Valley UFO
>sightings of 25 years ago would stick to their stories all these
>years (Oct. 31 story). It is very likely that their reports
>accurately reflected what they saw in the night skies back then.
>The crucial point is that what they perceived did not accurately
>reflect what was actually present in the night skies. It is well-
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>In dozens of so-called UFO sightings, it has turned out that
>credible witnesses perceived and reported much more detail than
>was present. These details made the perception much larger and
>more like a flying saucer than the object that was perceived -
>often just the lights of an aircraft at night. Eyewitness
>reports of flying saucers are totally unconvincing evidence for
>the reality of such things. The actual cause of the Hudson Valley
>UFO sightings was a group of private pilots who got up to hoaxing
>by flying around in the night sky turning their aircraft lights
>on and off. There is a complete lack of credible photographic or
>physical evidence (but lots of fakes, hoaxes and well-intentioned
>photos of little lights on a dark background) for flying saucers.
>Visitors from outer space are not whizzing around Earth looking
>to do mischief, bring us peace and love, or better recipes for
>lasagna.

>Terence Hines

Hi List,

Well, that's an interesting, safe comment for a blogger/journo to make, but where Hines says, "The actual cause of the Hudson Valley UFO sightings was a group of private pilots who got up to hoaxing by flying around in the night sky turning their aircraft lights on and off," and "There is a complete lack of credible photographic or physical evidence (but lots of fakes, hoaxes and well-intentioned photos of little lights on a dark background) for flying saucers," I am both reminded of the Phoenix lights, both at 8:30 to 9:00 pm vs. the A-10 aerial flare sequence at the later, 10 pm timeframe, and further, there have been several mentions of more than one video, especially the one allegedly taken at the Indian Point nuclear plant, and others, plus supposedly dozens if not hundreds of photos alleged to have been taken in the two year main period of the Hudson Valley sightings, reports of which were pretty consistent to have involved either an elongated triangular, or boomerang-shaped, and rather immense "craft" of some sort, including mentions of same by some on this list who are supposed to have access to at least many photos, which of course I'm quite sure many of us would like to have the chance to someday examine ourselves (hint, hint).

Additionally, and based on the majority of close-up sightings that seem to have occurred, I find it less than logical to explain the two year (and more) period of such sightings away by using the tired, old "it was just mischievious group of ultra-light pilots flying in formation, against all FAA regulations, high in the sky at night" rubric - must have been some awful busy, dedicated, long-term flight formations going on while the FAA, feds, police, and all other responsible authorities looked away and elsewhere for, oh, over two years? That may have occurred at some, certain times, but cannot exclude the majority of reports. The author is correct, however, in stating in lieu of evidence, like photos or video, we cannot accept the legitimacy of the Hudson Valley "flap" just on anecdotal evidence alone, even in multiple-witness incidents.

We need some better forms of evidence to provide some degree of proof, and for some reason those photos and videos are, apparently, simply unavailable to the general public or online, in both the Hudson Valley and Phoenix Lights cases. And that is a shame.

Steve

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Re: Tired Of Givin' It Away

From: Steve Sawyer <stevesaw.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 05:41:14 -0800
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 11:11:11 -0500
Subject: Re: Tired Of Givin' It Away

>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/55dvwd>

>Friday, October 31, 2008

>Tired Of Givin' It Away

>By Billy Cox

>Published: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 3:02 p.m.

>Last Modified: Friday, October 31, 2008 at 3:18 p.m.

>"I'm sorry to be so agitated," says Peter Davenport from
>Harrington, Wash. "I'm at the end of my rope. With the
>government, with the press, with the American people. You've
>caught me at a strange time."

>This week, on his National UFO Reporting Center Web page, the man
>who runs one of the world's busiest eyewitness databases
>announced he was on the brink of shutting down his live telephone
>Hotline.

>"Typically," he wrote at <http://www.nuforc.org/>, "between 20 and
>80 percent of the calls we receive on any given day, I estimate,
>are prank calls, many of them grossly obscene and abusive. This
>rude behavior on the part of callers has had a significant, and
>adverse, effect on my desire to continue running NUFORC in the
>manner that we have done it in the past."

<snip>

Hi List,

This from a comment I made about this story on a blog that posted it:

While this is kind of a sad, disheartening story, I think perhaps, if Davenport and his few associates cannot better develop some methods of screening out the, according to article, 20% to 80% of bogus, prank calls and false reports NUFORC has been increasingly receiving over the past year or more, it may be inevitable that his center's current activities cannot be sustained.

This would be unfortunate, as the mass of centralized reports and continuity of effort Davenport via NUFORC has been able to establish will, over time, be dissipated and dispersed to less organized or coherent venues.

On the other hand, this may also present an opportunity to change and rethink the problem of how difficult and inefficient a manner of gathering reliable reports and data on contemporaneous ufo sightings has increasingly been for NUFORC, and consider more practical means of better collecting and filtering such reports, and even more importantly, providing legit researchers more of an ability and avenue to further, more practically investigate

serious and significant reports than NUFORC is either capable or willing to provide currently.

For example, one of NUFORC's long-standing problems and deficiencies, imho, and based on analytical observation, has been that, while brief synopses of reports are collected on his website database, the comprehensive details and raw data of collected reports have been quite restricted by and who Davenport thinks should be involved in further investigation of same. I don't believe he has a very good system of providing access to or computerized tools for analyzing the data patterns within the reports he has collected over the past couple decades, but being almost completely a one-man operation, with inadequate, self-funded support, who can blame him?

His main problem, at the moment, is how better to screen out the bogus, and nastily prankish calls of "reports" NUFORC has been receiving, and perhaps an automated telephone response, involving a recording, should be used, indicating caller ID or other identification trace-back tech, should be used and to notify callers that only serious reports are accepted. Of course, that might make the idiots even more motivated to prank or hack such a system, so it's quite a dilemma.

He may have to resort to not taking direct calls in real time, and be reduced to only recording or taking of such reports (as are legit) to witnesses filing reports even more than now by filling out the report form he maintains on his website. Still, the process of appropriate, effective filtration will remain there, also.

Perhaps a "caller ID" or "warning" recording that requires a call-back number, and/or taking reports by message machine or voicemail initially, and a time-delayed review by a person who listens to initial reports called in to determine if follow-up is needed. Problem there is, however, the same as noted in the article - how do you reduce or screen out the idiot calls, or separate the wheat from the nasty chaff, and also without reducing the efforts of legit reporters from either wanting or being able to make their own reports? I really don't know how you do this on a limited budget with relatively few people.

Anyone got any better ideas about how NUFORC might handle this problem?

Steve

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

Re: NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

From: **Steve Sawyer** <stevesaw.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 05:37:43 -0800
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 12:15:00 -0500
Subject: Re: NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

>Source: ITN News - London, England, UK

>6th November 2008

>[Picture]

>NASA Joins UFO Sighting Craze

>The US space agency were filming from a shuttle outside the
>earth's orbit in April this year when the cameras picked up four
>objects that have never been identified.

>The footage came after two similarly eerie sightings a few days
>apart on different sides of the world.

>In January this year an amateur cameraman was one of a crowd who
>gathered to look at a mysterious light in the sky above Mexico.

>He captured images of a trail dragging behind a very slow-moving
>object in the sky, before another light appeared on the horizon.

>In the same week, a group of teenagers in India stopped by the
>side of the road and captured a group of glowing objects moving
>in patterns in the sky.

See: <http://tinyurl.com/5u8e64> for _video_ at the ITN News site.

---Steve

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

UK Black Boxes To 'Collect Every Email'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 12:17:00 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 12:17:00 -0500
Subject: UK Black Boxes To 'Collect Every Email'

Source: The Independent - London, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/6q8dfv>

Wednesday, 5 November 2008

Government Black Boxes Will 'Collect Every Email'

Home Office says all data from web could be stored in giant government database

By Robert Verkaik, Law Editor

Internet "black boxes" will be used to collect every email and web visit in the UK under the Government's plans for a giant "big brother" database, The Independent has learnt.

Home Office officials have told senior figures from the internet and telecommunications industries that the "black box" technology could automatically retain and store raw data from the web before transferring it to a giant central database controlled by the Government.

Plans to create a database holding information about every phone call, email and internet visit made in the UK have provoked a huge public outcry. Richard Thomas, the Information Commissioner, described it as "step too far" and the Government's own terrorism watchdog said that as a "raw idea" it was "awful".

Nevertheless, ministers have said they are committed to consulting on the new Communications Data Bill early in the new year. News that the Government is already preparing the ground by trying to allay the concerns of the internet industry is bound to raise suspicions about ministers' true intentions. Further details of the database emerged on Monday at a meeting of internet service providers (ISPs) in London where representatives from BT, AOL Europe, O2 and BSkyB were given a PowerPoint presentation of the issues and the technology surrounding the Government's Interception Modernisation Programme (IMP), the name given by the Home Office to the database proposal.

Whitehall experts working on the IMP unit told the meeting the security and intelligence agencies wanted to use the stored data to help fight serious crime and terrorism, and said the technology would allow them to create greater "capacity" to monitor all communication traffic on the internet. The "black boxes" are an attractive option for the internet industry because they would be secure and not require any direct input from the ISPs.

During the meeting Whitehall officials also tried to reassure the industry by suggesting that many smaller ISPs would be unaffected by the "black boxes" as these would be installed upstream on the network and hinted that all costs would be met by the Government.

"It was clear the 'black box' is the technology the Government

will use to hold all the data. But what isn't clear is what the Home Secretary, GCHQ and the security services intend to do with all this information in the future," said a source close to the meeting.

He added: "They said they only wanted to return to a position they were in before the emergence of internet communication, when they were able to monitor all correspondence with a police suspect. The difference here is they will be in a much better position to spy on many more people on the basis of their internet behaviour. Also there's a grey area between what is content and what is traffic. Is what is said in a chat room content or just traffic?"

Ministers say plans for the database have not been confirmed, and that it is not their intention to introduce monitoring or storage equipment that will check or hold the content of emails or phonecalls on the traffic.

A spokesman for the Home Office said that Monday's meeting provided a "chance to engage with small communication service providers" ahead of the formal public consultation next year. He added: "We need to work closely with the internet service providers and the communication service providers. The meeting was to show the top-line challenges faced in the future. We are public about the IMP, but we are still working out the detail. There will a consultation on the Communications Data Bill early next year."

A spokesman for the Internet Service Providers Association said the organisation was pleased the Home Office had addressed its members and was keen to continue dialogue while awaiting a formal consultation.

Database plans were first announced by the Prime Minister in February. It is not clear where the records will be held but GCHQ may eventually be the project's home.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 12:00:22 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 13:53:26 -0500
Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA
><http://tinyurl.com/6bwq5d>
>Friday, October 31, 2008

>The Triumph Of Ostriches

>It's a 1953 Popular Science article detailing how the USAF
>distributed 35mm cameras to "detectives on the trail of the
>flying saucers". If that seems a little exotic, remember that in
>1952, UFOs weren't just buzzing the capitol, the Pentagon was
>holding press conferences about it and telling Americans not to
>freak.

>Anyhow, fitted with special diffraction grating plates, these
>Videon Stereo cameras were designed to bend light in a way that
>would identify their source as a solid or a gas. But writer Ralph
>Steiner assured readers who wanted to photograph UFOs that custom
>cameras weren't necessary.

>"Any stereo camera will do." he wrote. "In fact, when I phoned
>the Pentagon to inquire whether the Air Force would be interested
>in photos taken with single-lens cameras, I was assured that any
>shot of a flying saucer made through a diffraction grating - even
>with a box Brownie - would be more than welcome".

>Steiner included beaucoup photo tips and a USAF address for
>sending undeveloped film. Can you imagine the military soliciting
>the public for that sort of evidence today?

Are there any publicly available stereoscopic UFO images
available?

While I've never seen a UFO, and haven't tried to shoot any kind
of craft in the sky, I've enjoyed taking stereoscopic pictures
over the years. First it was stereo slides with an old Stereo
Realist from the fifties, now held together with duct tape. You'd
need to do special mounting of the half-frame slides. Now I use a
Loreo, which can be processed at any consumer photo processing
place, both images printing onto a standard 4x6" print. Don't
know if it would be any good for night-time shots, probably
wouldn't be good for much of a distance. I've not tried using a
diffraction grating. While the consumer-level 3D camera devices
are going to provide documentation of a UFO at the level we'd
like, they may provide some information that would be missing
from single lens photos.

I see that Loreo now make a "3D Lens-In-A-Cap." The blurb on it
says,

"Not since the mid-1960s has there been an affordable and easy
way to take 3D stereo images with your regular 2D camera. Now
there is 3D Lens-In-A-Cap, the stereo beam-split attachment that
fits right in place of your standard lens on your camera. " It
can be mounted on your camera in mid-roll if needed, as it
replaces your usual lens.

The basic Loreo and the 3D Lens in a Cap attachment (versions are
available for most of the major camera brands) are around \$100
each. Might be worth having around if you are in an area with

ongoing sightings.

Around the same price is a rather ingenious mechanism to take stereoscopic images with any consumer digital camera that has a standard tripod mounting socket on the bottom. You attach the Photo3-D attachment (about the size of a cell phone) to the bottom of your camera, snap one frame, and then slide the camera over to the other end to take the other frame to get the proper separation. With its PC or Mac software, you can print out images on your own printer.

If you are caught without a proper stereo camera, David Lee describes the freehand technique called the "Astronaut shuffle" (AKA the "Side-step" or "Cha-cha"). This would not be useful for moving objects, however. The aim is to get the two shots taken from positions that are the equivalent of the separation between your own two pupils.

"If you're not sure if you want to get into stereo photography, but want to see if you can make a stereo image, the easiest way is to use your regular camera and take two photographs using the side-step method (also known as the astronaut shuffle because the astronauts used this method on the moon to make stereo images with a Hasselblad). All you have to do is compose the image in your viewfinder, then shift your weight onto your left foot and make the first exposure, then shift your weight over to your right foot and make the second exposure."

Some stereoscopy resources:

<http://www.3dstereo.com/viewmaster/sca-lic.html>

<http://www.photo3-d.com/?stereo>

<http://www.stereoscopy.com/>

Carol

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 12:01:03 -0800
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 15:24:25 -0500
Subject: Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

>Source: Frank Warren's The UFO Chronicles Blog

><http://tinyurl.com/68ahl5>

>11-5-08

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>My UFO Experience: Witness Recounts The Night A UFO Crashed
>Near Roswell, New Mexico

>Reader Submitted Report

>I am a 70 year old retired psychotherapist. I grew up in Santa
>Rosa, New Mexico, which is around 90 miles or less north from
>Roswell, New Mexico, where the UFO's crashed. I was 9 years old
>on that 7/47 night in question I vividly remember around 10:30 pm
>or so, looking into the sky and seeing a V-shaped line of about
>eleven lights streaking across the sky, first from one area, then
>from another, then another. They were streaking across the sky at
>a rate of speed that was quite clearly faster than anything made
>on earth in 1947. After about five minutes the V-shape changed to
>a diagonal line and continued the same pattern of streaking
>across the clear sky for a few more minutes.

>Needless to say I was stunned. In the morning I dashed down the
>street to tell Mr. Hoy what I had seen. He was the editor of the
>small newspaper, put out once a week. He shared with me that the
>Deputy Sheriff, Joe Pat Downing, was on patrol the night before
>and had told him he had seen the same thing.

Interesting report. The rapidly moving V-shaped formation of
lights is very similar to what Jesse Marcel reported personally
seeing in the days before the Roswell Incident. From my website:

http://www.roswellproof.com/NM_UFO_reports.html

"In interviews in 1979 and 1981, Lt. Col. Jesse Marcel, Roswell
AAF chief of intelligence in 1947, said that there had been many
reports of flying saucers in the area just before his involvement
in the Roswell Incident starting July 6 or July 7. One night,
about 11:30, the base provost marshal, Major Edwin Easley, called
him up and told him to get out to the base in a hurry. On his
way, south of town, he saw six bright lights in a perfect V-
formation flying north to south, from overhead to the horizon in
maybe 3 or 4 seconds, much faster than any plane. When he got to
the base, Easley told him he had just seen them too. Marcel said
a GI also told him 2 or 3 days later that he had seen the same
thing. (Interviews with Linda Corley and with Bob Pratt, Pratt
interview reprinted by Karl Pflock in Roswell: Inconvenient Facts
and the Will to Believe)"

One potential problem with the Santa Rosa witness report is the
statement that he reported his sighting to the Santa Rosa News
editor, who also related that the Deputy Sheriff had seen the
same thing. Yet nothing about this appears in the newspaper from
late June or July 1947, which I have reviewed (though several
other sightings are reported). It is possible that the witness is
a little off in when the sighting occurred, or the editor, for

unknown reasons, decided not to publish these particular reports. Maybe a more thorough review of the Santa Rosa newspaper would turn up the actual report and corroborate the story.

David Rudiak

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Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 20:29:01 -0000
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 15:43:56 -0500
Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 12:00:22 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>While I've never seen a UFO, and haven't tried to shoot any kind
>of craft in the sky, I've enjoyed taking stereoscopic pictures
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>wouldn't be good for much of a distance. I've not tried using a
>diffraction grating. While the consumer-level 3D camera devices
>are going to provide documentation of a UFO at the level we'd
>like, they may provide some information that would be missing
>from single lens photos.

Hi Carol

I recall that the USAF Videon scheme was scrapped because
brightness levels of lights in the sky were just too low to get a
useful spectrum through the grating. Nice idea but it didn't work
out in practice. In fact the idea was probably always a non-
starter.

It was useless for any daylight observation, when the cameras
would have been more useful without the gratings - at least then
you'd get stereo information (if the objects in the visual field
are near enough). But even at night they'd need not only a very
bright UFO, but a very bright near point-source UFO, and a steady
long exposure too (but they were hand-held!) in order to get a
useful spectrum.

It's hard to believe this programme was ever a serious one
really.

Martin Shough

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Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 16:38:53 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 16:38:53 -0500
Subject: Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'

Source: National Geographic - Washington, DC, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/5nhk6s>

November 6, 2008

Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'
Rebecca Carroll
for National Geographic News

The existence of a massive Antarctic mountain range buried under miles of ice has become an even deeper mystery, a new study says.

The little-researched Gamburtsev Mountains seem to challenge geologic patterns seen in other mountain ranges on Earth.

For one, the range is situated in the middle of the continent instead of on the edge—at the plate-tectonic boundaries like most other mountains. See a high-resolution map of Antarctica:

<http://tinyurl.com/2eq4sr>

The range's high peaks reach an elevation of about 10,000 feet (more than 3,000 meters)—heights typical of relatively young mountain ranges, such as the spiky Rockies and the European Alps.

New findings based on river sediments, which suggest the range is more than 500 million years old, are intriguing, experts say.

Older mountains, such as the Appalachian range in the eastern U.S., are thought to be shorter and less rugged after hundreds of millions of years of erosion.

Because the Gamburtsev range is tall, some scientists have argued it must have formed relatively recently—within the last 60 million years or so.

And because it's not near a tectonic boundary, some have suggested the range rose up as the result of magma buildup around a theoretical volcanic hot spot.

(Related: "Under-Ice Volcano Eruption Spewed Ash Over Antarctica" [January 21, 2008].)

"The hypothesis that the mountains are derived from young volcanic activity is hard to reconcile with our data," said study lead author Tina van de Flierdt of the Imperial College London.

Hard to Reconcile

Scientists examined sediments collected from a coastal area that would have been a vast delta about 35 million years ago, when Antarctica's rivers carried flowing water instead of glacier ice.

If the mountains were made of relatively recent volcanic material, some of it should have been in the sediment as

Gamburtsev runoff passed through the delta.

Instead, all mineral grains the researchers dated=97such as zircon and hornblende=97were more than 500 million years old.

"Volcanic activity of the extent to form a mountain range bigger than the European Alps would leave a 'geochemical fingerprint' in the preglacial to present-day sediments=97we simply can't see this fingerprint," van de Flierdt said.

The study, which is based in part on van de Flierdt's work at Columbia University, was published online this week by Geophysical Research Letters.

Missing Erosion

A remaining mystery, according to study co-author Sidney Hemming, is why the mountains have not eroded more.

"The new data we're collecting makes it look like the erosion rates are so extremely low," said the Columbia University geochemist.

Hemming cautioned that researchers can't be certain the sediments are from the mountain.

It's possible, she added, that the ice has helped keep the rocks in place, but that does not explain the lack of erosion from ancient periods when the ice was not there.

"We can say that they're either not hot spot volcanic [mountains] or that they formed after the ice basically capped them off," Hemming said.

But, she said, later formation is highly unlikely: "It would be hard to imagine that it wouldn't leave some evidence in the ice or sediments."

Not Volcanic

The study makes a good case for the theory that the mountains were not formed by recent volcanic activity, said University of Arizona geochemist Peter Reiners, who was not involved with the research.

"If the mountains themselves are anywhere close to the same age as the rocks, then the Gamburtsevs are trying to tell us something about how really old topography can persist for hundreds of millions of years without being worn down by water, wind, and glaciers," said Reiners, who also studies the range.

Norm Sleep, a Stanford University geophysicist who also studies the Gamburtsev Mountains but wasn't involved with this study, agreed with the data but not the interpretation.

Sleep worried that "550-million-year-old highlands would have long since eroded away."

Instead, he suggests a gooey, semi-solid plume of material could have formed a pond deep under Earth's cooler outer lid of rock. This would have caused the mountains to rise without spewing magma all over the surface.

Such an event may have happened within the last 50 million years, he said.

[See The UFO Updates Archive on the Piri Reis Map:

<http://tinyurl.com/5vzkdc>]

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 7](#)

Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

From: William Treurniet <wtreurniet.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 16:49:15 -0500
Archived: Fri, 07 Nov 2008 17:04:57 -0500
Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 12:00:22 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

>><http://tinyurl.com/6bwq5d>

>>Friday, October 31, 2008

>>The Triumph Of Ostriches

<snip>

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>"If you're not sure if you want to get into stereo photography,
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>with a Hasselblad). All you have to do is compose the image in
>your viewfinder, then shift your weight onto your left foot and
>make the first exposure, then shift your weight over to your
>right foot and make the second exposure."

I've been using the "Astronaut shuffle" method for some time,
never realizing that it had such a cute name. Some samples made
using this simple method may be seen at

<http://www.treurniet.ca/art/HawaiiStereo/album/>.

Although there are no UFOs in the pictures, they show what can be
achieved with an inexpensive camera and software to make one
image out of the left and right views. I use an antique stereo
viewer picked up at a flea market to view the pictures right on
the computer screen.

So the next time you see a UFO hanging motionless overhead, take
two pictures instead of one.

William

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 8](#)

Re: Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 17:34:19 -0500
Archived: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 05:25:47 -0500
Subject: Re: Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'

>Source: National Geographic - Washington, DC, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/5nhk6s>

>November 6, 2008

>Mystery Deepens Over Unseen Antarctic 'Alps'
>Rebecca Carroll
>for National Geographic News

>The existence of a massive Antarctic mountain range buried under
>miles of ice has become an even deeper mystery, a new study says.

<snip>

Interesting article, but the Rockies aren't exactly on the Coast
and tectonic activity has been attributed with opening up
fissures in what is now New Mexico that allowed magma to rise to
the surface and flow like a river across the flat landscape.

With regard to volcanic activity in Antarctica, I believe that it
has been known for many years that there were volcanoes buried
under the ice. That volcanic activity is attributed at one of
the factors that is allowing the ice to flow out onto the
surrounding ocean, creating ice shelves. Some of those, of
course, are beginning to break off in large chunks due to global
warming.

Maybe we'll have a chance to check out the Piri Reis map for real
- once we find a place for all the people along the coast and in
Florida to move to.

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Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 22:04:53 -0500
Archived: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 05:28:46 -0500
Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>From: William Treurniet <wtreurniet.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 16:49:15 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Triumph Of Ostriches

>I've been using the "Astronaut shuffle" method for some time,
>never realizing that it had such a cute name. Some samples made
>using this simple method may be seen at

><http://www.treurniet.ca/art/HawaiiStereo/album/>.

>Although there are no UFOs in the pictures, they show what can be
>achieved with an inexpensive camera and software to make one
>image out of the left and right views. I use an antique stereo
>viewer picked up at a flea market to view the pictures right on
>the computer screen.

>So the next time you see a UFO hanging motionless overhead, take
>two pictures instead of one.

Never mind earnest exposition, and rottweiler FOIA requests. What we need is a great song to go with what will be the newest dance craze, the Astronaut Shuffle.

The dance is pretty simple. A bold expression of surprise with hands up near the face. The hands move to mime taking a photo. On the rimshot you move your right index finger to click, shift your weight over to the other leg with a fetching wiggle of your booty, and click on the next rim shot. More wiggling of booty, of course.

The song needs to take you through the process verbally (rhyming with Hasselblad optional). You see the UFO, you whip out your camera, you shift your weight and take another photograph. Maybe include instructions on showing part of the landscape so the UFO is in context. Then you upload your copies to Flickr, and we have stereo images from multiple angles... See if we can get the B-52s to do the song as a sequel to their extremely catchy UFO song, "Is That You Mo-dean?"

Put it up on You Tube, let it go viral, and you'll have a gazillion hits. Once you've done your successful meme farming, next time a UFO appears over a crowd of people, they won't gawp like they just fell off the turnip truck. Someone will whistle the first few bars, and everybody will pull out their cameras and does the Astronaut Shuffle, just like the video programmed them to. Data galore.

C'mon, turn your webcams off, get up from your desks and practice the Astronaut Shuffle. No-one can see you experiment with shaking your booty for science. As Pasteur said, chance favors the prepared mind.

Carol

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'Ball Of Light' Show Filmed Over Westwoods

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 05:46:32 -0500
Archived: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 05:46:32 -0500
Subject: 'Ball Of Light' Show Filmed Over Westwoods

Source: Medway Crop Circle - Kent, England, UK

<http://www.medwaycropcircle.co.uk/westwood2008bols.htm>

Sunday, August 17th, 2008

[images & enhancements at site]

Amazing 'Ball Of Light' Show Filmed Over The Stunning Crop
Formation At Westwoods, Lockeridge, First Reported 17th July

Exactly one calendar month to the day this beautiful formation at Westwoods, Lockeridge was reported, I miraculously filmed a stunning "Ball of Light" show as I flew around the formation sometime around Midday on Sunday August 17th. I do not recall at the time ever seeing the bright white "orb-like" objects flying over the field, as I was some distance away up in a plane viewing the formation from a small video camera screen. This incredible event lasted for almost 40 seconds as I flew around the field. I have the original footage recorded on digital tape. The quality is not the best (it never is!) - but the footage clearly shows the incredible independent and collective nature of the objects as they moved and danced with each other over the formation.

What are these objects? I must have filmed possibly 20 or more of them during the time period they were visible. This is without any doubt what-so-ever evidence there is a unique relationship between the white, bright, orb-like objects witnessed and recorded on numerous occasions before, and the crop formations. Are we witnessing the true circlemakers, whatever these incredible "UFOs" are - admiring and showing off their brilliant handiwork - this original and stunning Celtic-cross-compass like design?

I have captured some still shots, 10 in all during the encounter with these objects - I have shown the original still shot with alongside it, an identical still shot except with the "Balls of Light" highlighted. Please maximise your browser for best viewing.

[Thanks to Dave Haith for the lead]

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WebCams?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 06:12:08 -0500
Archived: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 06:12:08 -0500
Subject: WebCams?

I'm aware of a few Subscribers/Readers who have WebCams/Headsets and am wondering how many others reading this also have them?

There are plans to set-up a free discussion 'room' should you care to participate with video, audio or texting.

Please e-mail if you'd like to participate noting which of the above you'd use and you'll be sent details.

ebk

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Another E-Mail Problem

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 06:58:19 -0500
Archived: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 06:58:19 -0500
Subject: Another E-Mail Problem

Despite being able to send this, there has been no in-bound mail to any virtuallystrange.net address since Friday evening.

VSN's hosting company is working on the problem which seems to have occurred after a 're-boot' of their server.

Holding breath,

ebk

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E-Mail Flowing Again

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 06:49:26 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 06:49:26 -0500
Subject: E-Mail Flowing Again

The problem was that there were 73,000 spams that had piled up in the /mail/temp/ folder on the VSN server since October 20th.

Where in past years un-wanted mail was seemingly discarded, the 'rules' have once again changed. The spam in that folder caused VSN to go 'over-quota'.

The response from 'support' was not helpful beyond asking for a VSN e-mail address and password. It was only concentrated digging on my part that eventually revealed the source of the problem and the system corrected itself late yesterday.

The board of directors and our huge staff are contemplating future options but consensus is difficult to reach and with the current world-wide economic situation may take an hour or two...

Meanwhile, List-mail should return to normal.

ebk

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Re: UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Sat, 08 Nov 2008 23:18:35 -0400
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 07:00:25 -0500
Subject: Re: UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

UFO UpDates - Toronto wrote:

>Source: LoHud.Com - Lower Hudson, New York, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/5bdy5w>

>November 6, 2008

>UFO 'Evidence' Is Unconvincing

>It is understandable that eyewitnesses to the Hudson Valley UFO
>sightings of 25 years ago would stick to their stories all these
>years (Oct. 31 story). It is very likely that their reports
>accurately reflected what they saw in the night skies back then.
>The crucial point is that what they perceived did not accurately
>reflect what was actually present in the night skies. It is well-
>known that at night, where there is relatively little information
>about what an object is, people's perceptions wildly exaggerate
>the detail in what they see. That is, they really perceive
>details that are not really there.

>In dozens of so-called UFO sightings, it has turned out that
>credible witnesses perceived and reported much more detail than
>was present. These details made the perception much larger and
>more like a flying saucer than the object that was perceived -
>often just the lights of an aircraft at night. Eyewitness
>reports of flying saucers are totally unconvincing evidence for
>the reality of such things. The actual cause of the Hudson Valley
>UFO sightings was a group of private pilots who got up to hoaxing
>by flying around in the night sky turning their aircraft lights
>on and off. There is a complete lack of credible photographic or
>physical evidence (but lots of fakes, hoaxes and well-intentioned
>photos of little lights on a dark background) for flying saucers.
>Visitors from outer space are not whizzing around Earth looking
>to do mischief, bring us peace and love, or better recipes for
>lasagna.

>Terence Hines

This blog is simple minded and unconvincing.

Don Ledger

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Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

From: Frank Warren <frank-warren.nul>
Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 00:02:10 -0800
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 07:02:57 -0500
Subject: Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 7 Nov 2008 12:01:03 -0800
>Subject: Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

>>Source: Frank Warren's The UFO Chronicles Blog

>><http://tinyurl.com/68ahl5>

>>11-5-08

>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>>My UFO Experience: Witness Recounts The Night A UFO Crashed
>>Near Roswell, New Mexico

>>Reader Submitted Report

>>I am a 70 year old retired psychotherapist. I grew up in Santa
>>Rosa, New Mexico, which is around 90 miles or less north from
>>Roswell, New Mexico, where the UFO's crashed. I was 9 years old
>>on that 7/47 night in question I vividly remember around 10:30 pm
>>or so, looking into the sky and seeing a V-shaped line of about
>>eleven lights streaking across the sky, first from one area, then
>>from another, then another. They were streaking across the sky at
>>a rate of speed that was quite clearly faster than anything made
>>on earth in 1947. After about five minutes the V-shape changed to
>>a diagonal line and continued the same pattern of streaking
>>across the clear sky for a few more minutes.

>>Needless to say I was stunned. In the morning I dashed down the
>>street to tell Mr. Hoy what I had seen. He was the editor of the
>>small newspaper, put out once a week. He shared with me that the
>>Deputy Sheriff, Joe Pat Downing, was on patrol the night before
>>and had told him he had seen the same thing.

>Interesting report. The rapidly moving V-shaped formation of
>lights is very similar to what Jesse Marcel reported personally
>seeing in the days before the Roswell Incident. From my website:

>http://www.roswellproof.com/NM_UFO_reports.html

>"In interviews in 1979 and 1981, Lt. Col. Jesse Marcel, Roswell
>AAF chief of intelligence in 1947, said that there had been many
>reports of flying saucers in the area just before his involvement
>in the Roswell Incident starting July 6 or July 7. One night,
>about 11:30, the base provost marshal, Major Edwin Easley, called
>him up and told him to get out to the base in a hurry. On his
>way, south of town, he saw six bright lights in a perfect V-
>formation flying north to south, from overhead to the horizon in
>maybe 3 or 4 seconds, much faster than any plane. When he got to
>the base, Easley told him he had just seen them too. Marcel said
>a GI also told him 2 or 3 days later that he had seen the same
>thing. (Interviews with Linda Corley and with Bob Pratt, Pratt
>interview reprinted by Karl Pflock in Roswell: Inconvenient Facts
>and the Will to Believe)"

>One potential problem with the Santa Rosa witness report is the
>statement that he reported his sighting to the Santa Rosa News

>editor, who also related that the Deputy Sheriff had seen the
>same thing. Yet nothing about this appears in the newspaper from
>late June or July 1947, which I have reviewed (though several
>other sightings are reported). It is possible that the witness is
>a little off in when the sighting occurred, or the editor, for
>unknown reasons, decided not to publish these particular reports.
>Maybe a more thorough review of the Santa Rosa newspaper would
>turn up the actual report and corroborate the story.

David, et al,

Having corresponded with the witness I feel comfortable in what
he is saying is true; however, it's certainly possible he has
the date wrong; I have forwarded your missive to him and told
him I would pass on any rejoinder. Important to remember he was
9 years old at the time, perhaps the editor of the paper
didn't think an account from a child merited publication.

Cheers,

Frank

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Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 07:57:47 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
>Subject: The Ventura UFO Festival

>You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual
>Ventura County UFO Festival

<snip>

Preston,

Why do we have to assign the term 'Festival' to a UFO event?
This only provides fodder for the ignorant/biased media hounds
with nothing better to do than to make fun of the UFO
phenomenon.

Let me suggest that we keep words like "festival" separate from
the term "UFOs".

No offense intended, but it is offending me anyway.

Kelly

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Re: E-Mail Flowing Again

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 07:44:00 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:09:00 -0500
Subject: Re: E-Mail Flowing Again

UFO UpDates - Toronto wrote:

>The problem was that there were 73,000 spams that had piled
>up in the /mail/temp/ folder on the VSN server since October 20th.

<snip>

>The board of directors and our huge staff are contemplating
>future options but consensus is difficult to reach and with
>the current world-wide economic situation may take an hour
>or two...

>Meanwhile, List-mail should return to normal.

>ebk

My best regards to your board of directors and huge staff. We
wouldn't want them to be out of work, unless they have golden
parachutes.

Dick

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Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Sun, 9 Nov 2008 18:13:38 -0000
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:06:00 -0500
Subject: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

Hello List

Here are two recent news items:

<http://tinyurl.com/6frtmw>

Professor Brian Cox (particle physics, Manchester University) on the unanswered questions - quote begins "the wheels are starting to come off our picture of reality" quote ends.

<http://tinyurl.com/5gyx49>

On dark flow - quote begins "this motion is caused by structures well beyond the current cosmological horizon, which is more than 14 billion light-years away" quote ends

Just that last item implies the real universe can be ten times, or hundred or thousands of times bigger, and therefore older, than we thought.

So we could be looking at evolution (and migration, and advancement) opportunities stretching back trillions of years, compared to our Earth life's evolution of 3 or 4 billion, and our human technology of perhaps two hundred years.

Taken with the first item, and with John D Barrow's forecast, in The Constants of Nature, that "eventually, our current theories will all be shown to be wrong", it seems we're just peeking over the back-yard fence, as far as knowledge is concerned.

Cheers

Ray D

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Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
Date: Sun, 9 Nov 2008 16:00:42 EST
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:07:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Witness Recounts UFO Crash Near Roswell

>Source: Frank Warren's The UFO Chronicles Blog

><http://tinyurl.com/68ahl5>

>11-5-08

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>My UFO Experience: Witness Recounts The Night A UFO Crashed Near
>Roswell, New Mexico

>Reader Submitted Report

>I am a 70 year old retired psychotherapist. I grew up in Santa
>Rosa, New Mexico, which is around 90 miles or less north from
>Roswell, New Mexico, where the UFO's crashed. I was 9 years old
>on that 7/47 night in question I vividly remember around 10:30 pm
>or so, looking into the sky and seeing a V-shaped line of about
>eleven lights streaking across the sky, first from one area, then
>from another, then another. They were streaking across the sky at
>a rate of speed that was quite clearly faster than anything made
>on earth in 1947. After about five minutes the V-shape changed to
>a diagonal line and continued the same pattern of streaking
>across the clear sky for a few more minutes.

<snip>

How does this relate to The Roswell Incident? This is kind of
you to post but what type of connection are you trying to
ascribe with this report?

Also, how does, his comment "after five minutes" truly reflect
how fast they were actually going? As opposed to his "streaking
across the sky" comment. Aren't these somewhat incongruous?

But, I guess we need to add another Roswell witness to the heap
since it is the 'politically correct' thing to do. After all,
why have critical thought processes when it comes to 'Roswell'.

Sure, this about sums up Roswell - 30 years later he makes the
right connections when it hit all the papers back then?

So, let me guess the thinking processes at play here: these were
actually UFO search and rescue vehicles trying to locate their
downed saucer compadres.

golubik

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Another Global UFO Flap?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:08:00 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:08:00 -0500
Subject: Another Global UFO Flap?

Source: The Chicago Sun-Times Blogs - Illinois

<http://tinyurl.com/6nsg82>

Saturday, October 25, 2008

[Many links in article]

Another Global UFO Flap?
by Barbara Sowell

They are back and just in time for Halloween. UFOs have been sighted hovering in the skies over England, Philadelphia, and Stephenville, Texas this month. Some UFOs caught Bruce Springsteen in Philadelphia, other UFOs preferred Texas football.

The Huddersfield Daily Examiner in West Yorkshire, UK reports that a family saw a UFO in the sky last week. The Evans family was walking along Smithy Lane in Skelmanthorpe last Friday around 7pm, when they saw a strange orange light in the sky.

The father, Anndy Evans, said that the silent object flew "about the speed of a plane" but it stopped "like a helicopter". Mrs. Evans thought it was on fire and the daughter, Amber, age five, thought it was a spaceship.

Mr. Evans took a very interesting photograph of the object as it hovered.

There have been a string of mysterious incidents in the skies above Huddersfield since July.

Earlier this month Deighton woman Tracey Britton spotted strange orange lights in the sky while walking near Huddersfield Broad canal.

In August four people said they saw a bright white light above Huddersfield. They also reported hearing a loud Tardis-like noise.

In July people in the Holme Valley reported seeing strange red lights in the sky, but after an appeal in the Examiner it turned out the mysterious lights were nothing more mysterious than fast-flying Chinese lanterns.

A Discovery Channel series episode of Investigation X is called "UFO Outbreak," aired in mid October. According to Aircraft Maintenance Technology, the hour-long episode is a "forensic investigation of the mass UFO sightings" earlier this year in Stephenville, TX; Kokomo, IN; and Southwick, MA.

American Chronicle reports that on Oct. 4 UFOs were sighted hovering near a Bruce Springsteen concert in Philadelphia. The story was broadcast on WPVI-TV, Channel 6 (ABC affiliate), on Oct. 8.

One of the people at the concert took video of what appear to be four objects hovering in the sky some distance away and at a fairly low altitude.

According to ABC news, on Jan. 8 of this year over 30 residents of Stephenville, Texas claimed to have seen a mile-wide silent UFO "with bright lights, flying low and fast". The mass sightings received world-wide attention.

Last night local news broadcasts in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas "Metroplex" announced that Stephenville, Texas has been visited by UFOs again as recently as Thursday night.

Whitney White-Ashley, Staff Writer at the Stephenville Empire Tribune wrote in her blog yesterday, that "Dozens" of residents have reported UFO lights this week in the Texas sky. The accounts began coming in on Tuesday, Oct 21. The witnesses reported seeing the lights and then watching jets chase after the lights.

More sightings were reported Wednesday night and a stadium full of parents watching a Junior High Football game spotted more strange lights Thursday night.

A more detailed account is carried in the Stephenville Empire Tribune, which requires registration for the full article.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 10](#)

Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 15:29:25 -0000
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 10:52:38 -0500
Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

>From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 9 Nov 2008 18:13:38 -0000
>Subject: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

>Hello List

>Here are two recent news items:

><http://tinyurl.com/6frtmw>

>Professor Brian Cox (particle physics, Manchester University)
>on the unanswered questions - quote begins "the wheels are
>starting to come off our picture of reality" quote ends.

Gosh. This sounds like some cataclysm coming out of nowhere to knock those complacent scientists off their pedestal. I can't say that creating this impression was actually your intention, but it would be consistent with your usual style.

In fact Cox says "... in a sense, I feel the wheels are starting to come off our picture of reality. This is why the Large Hadron Collider is being built." He is not saying anything different here from what the entire community of physicists has agreed upon with increasing focus and frustration over the course of several decades.

There are deep unresolved mysteries in the standard model of particle physics. Not news. Far from suppressing this fact most physicists have been earning their mortgage repayments by probing at them at them in some fashion all their professional lives. Nothing would please any of them more than earning a Nobel or two for finding "the answers". Some of the problems they've worried at have generated a range of possible theoretical resolutions that can hopefully be tested by going to LHC energies. Possibly (almost certainly, on some level) there will be completely new physics revealed too, which will beckon theorists towards another layer of the explanatory onion. All very exciting. But how do you imagine those problems came to put such pressure on the standard model in the first place? They were discovered by physicists in the course of trying to make it work. It's physicists who yank the wheels off their old models of reality, in order that physicists can make new ones.

><http://tinyurl.com/5gyx49>

>On dark flow - quote begins "this motion is caused by structures
>well beyond the current cosmological horizon, which is more than
>14 billion light-years away" quote ends

>Just that last item implies the real universe can be ten times,
>or hundred or thousands of times bigger, and therefore older,
>than we thought.

This is a misunderstanding. Imagine yourself as an observer at a point on that 14 BLY light horizon: You still have a light horizon forming a sphere all around you at 14 BLY. Every observer at any point in spacetime is the centre of such an horizon, but not every observer is causally connected with all

of the points encompassed by every other observer's horizon. It has never been part of the standard cosmological model (SCM) to say that there is no more cosmos beyond our light horizon. This is just the observable universe (often just called "the universe" for simplicity). There could be many times the mass of known galaxies beyond the light horizon - or there could even be less, it all depends on the large scale geometry of spacetime.

The 14 BLY is (in some sense) the age of light that might reach us from this surface (if the last scattering surface were not in the way) but it is not the spacetime radius of the universe, which in the expanding curved space of the SCM is much larger by a Hubble scale factor, and would contain many overlapping horizons (which has to do with the "horizon problem" leading to inflation theories of course). Nevertheless, the age of the universe as measured by the light horizon is the same 14 BLY "Hubble radius" for observers everywhere. So this discovery doesn't make the universe "older than we thought".

The article doesn't give any idea of why discovering evidence of mass hot-spots beyond our light horizon should "rewrite the laws of physics" or "explode physics as we know it". This is garbage journalism. The novelty of the new observation (if it and its interpretation both hold up, which may well not happen as they often don't) is that it suggests the larger scale structure of the cosmos beyond the light horizon is not homogeneous, i.e. it might still have lumps in it. This would be fantastically interesting and strikes a chord with my prejudices, because whilst the SCM presupposes there is a 'homogeneity scale' at which the cosmos can be modelled as though it were a smooth fluid (because only in this case can General Relativity be used to model it using the usual simplified FLRW type metric) there has long been a minority view that galaxy surveys indicate a fractal structure, which could imply new physics beyond GR.

>So we could be looking at evolution (and migration, and
>advancement) opportunities stretching back trillions of years,
>compared to our Earth life's evolution of 3 or 4 billion, and
>our human technology of perhaps two hundred years.

See above.

>Taken with the first item, and with John D Barrow's forecast, in
>The Constants of Nature, that "eventually, our current theories
>will all be shown to be wrong", it seems we're just peeking over
>the back-yard fence, as far as knowledge is concerned.

I'm sure that's right. It's a basic tenet of the philosophy/sociology of science - and, again, has been for many decades - that the current theory paradigm of every age is destined to live on only as a limit case subsumed inside a future theory with broader application (which is what "wrong" means). And that applies to today as much as it did to Newtonian physics. Glad that you and the physicists agree. It's just a shame that there is no short cut to finding out what's in the future. They just have to go there!

Martin Shough

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Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

Archive programming by Glenn Campbell at AliensOnEarth.com

UFO Updates

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 10](#)

Re: E-Mail Flowing Again

From: **Bruce Maccabee** <brumac.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 08:54:27 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 10:55:28 -0500
Subject: Re: E-Mail Flowing Again

UFO UpDates - Toronto wrote:

<snip>

>The board of directors and our huge staff are contemplating
>future options but consensus is difficult to reach and with
>the current world-wide economic situation may take an hour
>or two...

We certainly are thankful that the board of directors and the
huge staff were able to solve this problem!

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 10](#)

Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 11:15:22 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 12:28:44 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
>>Subject: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual
>>Ventura County UFO Festival

><snip>

>Preston,

>Why do we have to assign the term 'Festival' to a UFO event?
>This only provides fodder for the ignorant/biased media hounds
>with nothing better to do than to make fun of the UFO
>phenomenon.

>Let me suggest that we keep words like "festival" separate from
>the term "UFOs".

>No offense intended, but it is offending me anyway.

Would you believe... "carnival"?

Dick

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Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 12:55:41 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 12:55:41 -0500
Subject: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

It appears that the media is finally catching up to the
1994 Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs
which has been discussed here since 1997 - see:

<http://tinyurl.com/37hsrt>

Greg Boone sent the following media link:

<http://tinyurl.com/37hsrt>

which is a TV station in Phoenix...

ebk

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 10](#)

Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 12:11:00 EST
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 13:40:08 -0500
Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

>From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 9 Nov 2008 18:13:38 -0000
>Subject: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

>Hello List

>Here are two recent news items:

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>Professor Brian Cox (particle physics, Manchester University) on
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>The Constants of Nature, that "eventually, our current theories
>will all be shown to be wrong", it seems we're just peeking over
>the back-yard fence, as far as knowledge is concerned.

>Cheers

>Ray D

Hey! What's going on here? Ray D you know better than to
introduce theories that might contradict the conventional!

Why if this keeps up we might just find answers to things our
scientists haven't answered yet but still call other people
'nuts' and 'conspiracy theorists' and 'kooks'.

Here I was all convinced that our scientists knew everything
about everything.

A mug just can't depend on eggheads nowadays can he?

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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Re: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 13:37:47 -0500
Archived: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 13:49:01 -0500
Subject: Re: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

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>1994 Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

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>Greg Boone sent the following media link:

><http://tinyurl.com/37hsrt>

>which is a TV station in Phoenix...

I noticed that the date on this article is in February, and I'm not sure what year.

Do we know when this ran originally?

Just curious as to why it came up, but with a MUFON spokesman involved I also wonder if this was an outreach on MUFON's part.

Steve

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 11](#)

Re: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

From: **Dennis Balthaser** <truthseeker.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 15:56:45 -0700
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 06:33:57 -0500
Subject: Re: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 13:37:47 -0500
>Subject: Re: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

>>From: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>>To: - UFO UpDates Subscribers - <UFO-UpDates.nul>
>>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 12:55:41 -0500
>>Subject: UFO UpDate: Fire Officer's Guide To Disaster Control & UFOs

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>not sure what year.

>Do we know when this ran originally?

>Just curious as to why it came up, but with a MUFON spokesman
>involved I also wonder if this was an outreach on MUFON's part.

To Steven and listers,

I obtained a copy of the "Fire Officer's Guide to Disaster Control" several years ago, and wrote an editorial in 2003 about Chapter 13, " Enemy Attack and UFO Potential." That editorial can be read at www.truthseekeratroswell.com/ed030103.html

Dennis Balthaser
www.truthseekeratroswell.com
www.gizapyramid.com

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Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

From: **Gerald O'Connell** <gac.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 23:32:02 +0000
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 06:35:35 -0500
Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 15:29:25 -0000
>Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

>There are deep unresolved mysteries in the standard model of
>particle physics. Not news. Far from suppressing this fact most
>physicists have been earning their mortgage repayments by
>probing at them at them in some fashion all their professional
>lives.

An element of understatement there.

String theorists have practically industrialised the process of multiplying the number of unresolved mysteries.

And in all of this there is an ever-widening epistemological gap: as the problem of describing how it all works becomes more difficult and complex, so we get further and further away from even addressing the issue of why it all works that way.

I suspect that somewhere deep in our collective psyche there is a myth to which we adhere: that of the 'clockwork model', a closed, discrete system called the universe, capable of being laid bare to the human understanding by a sufficiently complete description of its parts and the laws governing their interactions. Every time a piece of information or academic conjecture that challenges this myth seeps into the arena of public discourse there is a consequent mini-shockwave of confused reaction: the media pokes a bit of fun at the physicists; fringe theorists renew their licence to engage in unwarranted conjecture, each according to their respective hobby horses; the public at large becomes a little more ignorant as to the real nature of our collective scientific ignorance.

The cycle is as dispiriting as it is tedious.

For my own part I have nothing but admiration for those theoretical physicists who grapple with the frontier of our understanding. It's hard, mindbending work out there at the edge!

--

Gerald O'Connell

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Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:14:55 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 06:37:11 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 11:15:22 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
>>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
>>>Subject: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>>You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual
>>>Ventura County UFO Festival

>>Why do we have to assign the term 'Festival' to a UFO event?
>>This only provides fodder for the ignorant/biased media hounds
>>with nothing better to do than to make fun of the UFO
>>phenomenon.

>>Let me suggest that we keep words like "festival" separate from
>>the term "UFOs".

>>No offense intended, but it is offending me anyway.

>Would you believe... "carnival"?

Hello Mr. Hall,

Carnival is just as bad. Either way, it all ends up being a
circus. :)

Down here in Tallahassee, the Brogan's Museum recently had an
event in October dubbed Alien-O-Rama. I just get tired of UFOs
being linked to entertainment a la let the kiddies have some
fun.

Kelly

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Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:46:24 -0800
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 06:43:13 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

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>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
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><snip>

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>with nothing better to do than to make fun of the UFO
>phenomenon.

>Let me suggest that we keep words like "festival" separate from
>the term "UFOs".

>No offense intended, but it is offending me anyway.

Hi Kelly,

I agree with you, the word "festival" might not be the most accurate label for these types of events. I just now looked up the word in the dictionary, and it means "a celebration... entertainment."

Hmmm... while I hope the event is entertaining and that it gives attendees reasons to celebrate, the main purpose is, of course, to educate, and I think most people will assume that. At least I hope so! Certainly, it's not about celebrating UFOs!

That said, I think you might agree that education is usually more effective if it is also entertaining. Alas, as I'm sure you know, this field is riddled with semantic difficulties, starting with the word 'UFO' (which could mean anything!) and going on from there! And speaking of offensive terms, I hate it when the media uses the term "UFO buff". As if UFO research is like stamp-collecting or something!

I didn't choose the word "festival," and I had no say in the matter, though I'm confident it wasn't meant to offend anyone.

Dick Hall jokingly offered the word "carnival," which is not much better, but might be more accurate to describe some of the events in this field <LOL> Just kidding - I think!

I'm trying to think of a better word. Maybe 'convention', but everyone uses that one. Hmm... I'll have to think about that one. And maybe we can save the phrase 'UFO Festival' for a time when we really do have a reason to celebrate, such as the inevitable and impending end of the official UFO coverup, to name one

example.

Well... it's too late for this year; the media people have already been told that it's called The Ventura UFO Festival. Thankfully, so far, the media coverage of the upcoming event has been very positive. I spoke there last year, and it attracted a pretty good crowd, so I guess we'll see!

Peace on earth and beyond!

Preston

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Phoenix Lander Finishes Work On Red Planet

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:45:00 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:45:00 -0500
Subject: Phoenix Lander Finishes Work On Red Planet

Source: NASA - Washington, DC, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/5kwf38>

Nov. 10, 2008

RELEASE : 08-284

Mars Phoenix Lander Finishes Successful Work On Red Planet

WASHINGTON -- NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander has ceased communications after operating for more than five months. As anticipated, seasonal decline in sunshine at the robot's arctic landing site is not providing enough sunlight for the solar arrays to collect the power necessary to charge batteries that operate the lander's instruments.

Mission engineers last received a signal from the lander on Nov. 2. Phoenix, in addition to shorter daylight, has encountered a dustier sky, more clouds and colder temperatures as the northern Mars summer approaches autumn. The mission exceeded its planned operational life of three months to conduct and return science data.

The project team will be listening carefully during the next few weeks to hear if Phoenix revives and phones home. However, engineers now believe that is unlikely because of the worsening weather conditions on Mars. While the spacecraft's work has ended, the analysis of data from the instruments is in its earliest stages.

"Phoenix has given us some surprises, and I'm confident we will be pulling more gems from this trove of data for years to come," said Phoenix Principal Investigator Peter Smith of the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Launched Aug. 4, 2007, Phoenix landed May 25, 2008, farther north than any previous spacecraft to land on the Martian surface. The lander dug, scooped, baked, sniffed and tasted the Red Planet's soil. Among early results, it verified the presence of water-ice in the Martian subsurface, which NASA's Mars Odyssey orbiter first detected remotely in 2002. Phoenix's cameras also returned more than 25,000 pictures from sweeping vistas to near the atomic level using the first atomic force microscope ever used outside Earth.

"Phoenix not only met the tremendous challenge of landing safely, it accomplished scientific investigations on 149 of its 152 Martian days as a result of dedicated work by a talented team," said Phoenix Project Manager Barry Goldstein at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Phoenix's preliminary science accomplishments advance the goal of studying whether the Martian arctic environment has ever been favorable for microbes. Additional findings include documenting a mildly alkaline soil environment unlike any found by earlier

Mars missions; finding small concentrations of salts that could be nutrients for life; discovering perchlorate salt, which has implications for ice and soil properties; and finding calcium carbonate, a marker of effects of liquid water.

Phoenix findings also support the goal of learning the history of water on Mars. These findings include excavating soil above the ice table, revealing at least two distinct types of ice deposits; observing snow descending from clouds; providing a mission-long weather record, with data on temperature, pressure, humidity and wind; observations of haze, clouds, frost and whirlwinds; and coordinating with NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter to perform simultaneous ground and orbital observations of Martian weather.

"Phoenix provided an important step to spur the hope that we can show Mars was once habitable and possibly supported life," said Doug McCuiston, director of the Mars Exploration Program at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "Phoenix was supported by orbiting NASA spacecraft providing communications relay while producing their own fascinating science. With the upcoming launch of the Mars Science Laboratory, the Mars Program never sleeps."

The University of Arizona leads the Phoenix mission with project management at JPL and development partnership at Lockheed Martin Corporation in Denver. International contributions came from the Canadian Space Agency; the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland; the universities of Copenhagen and Aarhus in Denmark; the Max Planck Institute in Germany; the Finnish Meteorological Institute; and Imperial College of London.

For additional information about Phoenix mission findings, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/phoenix>

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 11](#)

Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:00:14 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:46:00 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciifo.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:14:55 -0500
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>>>>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
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I couldn't agree more. Listers will know that I have been
fulminating for a long time about the entertainment pieces
masquerading as documentaries on The History Channel, Discovery.
A&E, etc.

And for an even longer time about the annual UFO circuses at
Roswell and many other places. These do nothing whatsoever
toward educating the public, promoting scientific inquiry, or
advancing any of our presumed goals. Instead, they misinform the
public and literally make a circus out of a potentially serious
matter.

Dick

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Justice Should Punt McKinnon

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:47:00 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:47:00 -0500
Subject: Justice Should Punt McKinnon

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/34yy9v>

Monday, November 10, 2008

Justice Should Punt McKinnon
by Billy Cox

It's good to see Obama transition team chief John Podesta taking aim at untangling the Bush catastrophe with executive orders, and let's hope Executive Order 13292 (De Void 11/5/08) is at the top of the list.

Podesta's advocacy of UFO declassification is generating considerable speculation about how far he can push it, but it's doubtful President Clinton's former chief of staff wants an early test. Which he may get if this Gary McKinnon thing keeps tottering towards America's shores.

Dubbed 'The Nerd Who Knew Too Much' by Fleet Street, McKinnon is the 42-year-old British hacker who confessed to breaking into U.S. military and NASA computers seven years ago in search of secret UFO data. He didn't strike the mother lode, but the Justice Department is about to haul him across the pond for wreaking an alleged million dollars in damages during his fishing expedition.

Since his arrest in 2002, McKinnon has been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism, and his defense team is hoping the British High Court will hear him out in an oral judicial review by Dec. 5. Otherwise, McKinnon's headed for trial in the States.

Problem: Thanks to Gitmo, waterboarding, and assorted other upgrades to America's definition of human rights, McKinnon has become a cause celebre in the UK. Supporters at FreeGary.org.uk have been pressing Parliament to tell Uncle Sam to bring the trial to England. Last week, a bipartisan group of MPs urged British Home Secretary Jacqui Smith to freeze McKinnon's extradition unless the U.S. agrees to return him home for any jail time he faces if convicted.

A hyperbolic American federal prosecutor's labeling of McKinnon as "the biggest military computer hacker of all time" has apparently transformed the Glasgow native into a video martyr, at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nf01G0Ozypw>

and

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXHXM-82Wlc>

According to The Inquirer in London, the latter became the third most-viewed clip on Myspace last week until it vanished: "The

Inquirer understands that the video was pulled by someone in the U.S. without explanation."

Wow. More conspiracy intrigue. How unusual.

This isn't the fight a new administration committed to transparency really wants to pick, not now. A McKinnon trial in the U.S. could conceivably slip the bridle of cyber-vandalism and provoke a broader discussion about UFO secrecy. That's not likely to happen, given the MSM's endlessly comfortable whirlpool bath in talking-points Thorazine. Still, it's not a chance that a guy like Podesta, given his vulnerability on UFOs, wants to take at this point.

If the Justice Department were smart, it'd punt the venue back to England. The cowboy days are over.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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The Fierce Urgency Of FOIA

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:48:00 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:48:00 -0500
Subject: The Fierce Urgency Of FOIA

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/34yy9v>

Wednesday, November 05, 2008

The Fierce Urgency Of FOIA
by Billy Cox

There were never any real expectations from Bush Inc. Even before it was sworn in, when the imminent new regime announced it intended to run government like a corporation, you knew the only element of surprise would be one of degree.

From the get-go, long before 9/11, Bush Inc. flipped the bird at transparency by refusing to comply with the Presidential Records Act of 1978. On three separate occasions, it refused to release 68,000 Reagan-era documents as required by law. Finally, by November 2001, the White House nullified the law altogether with an executive order giving the commander in chief - as well as former presidents and vice presidents - veto power over the public distribution of American history.

Within months of taking his oath, Dick Cheney forced the Government Accountability Office into playing an historically unprecedented hand: suing the executive branch for access to the names of the Veep's energy policy advisors. The guy charged with spearheading this uncomfortable litigation - GAO Comptroller General David Walker - wasn't your typical a bomb-throwing weasel. He'd served under Reagan and Bush I.

Threats by congressional Republicans to slash GAO's budget brought the suit to an end. Larry Klayman - the litigious, right-wing Clinton harasser extraordinaire who joined the GAO suit - went into orbit and called Bush Inc. "the most secretive of our lifetime, even more secretive than the Nixon administration."

When the names were eventually leaked to the media by a White House source in 2007, the revelations were so thin and constipated, even people who attended those closed-door policy sessions felt free to marvel over the administration's feeble grasp of proportion. Volunteered Charles Samuels, who represented the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers in hopes of obtaining tax credits for inventing new energy-saving devices: "I never knew why they fought so hard to keep it secret."

But the Cheney/GAO tussle was just a tuneup for Bush Inc.'s full-court press on Sunshine Law culture following 9/11. The result was an information clampdown so deep and black it was like they'd sucked every last tendril of hydrogen out of Earth's closest star. And John Ashcroft's expanded list of FOIA exemptions at the end of 2001 was just the beginning.

On March 25, 2003, as American troops rumbled towards Baghdad

and nobody was paying attention, #43 decided to nuke Executive Order 12958.

Executive Order 12958 was signed by President Clinton in 1995 to end an archaic classification system jamming the pipes with Cold War-vintage documents that had no contemporary bearing on national security. Some 800 million declassified federal papers subsequently flooded the public domain, most notably from the old Atomic Energy Commission. Some of it, like the plutonium experiments conducted on American citizens, was ghastly stuff. But like the saying goes: you're only as sick as your secrets.

Five years ago, Bush Inc. "amended" Clinton's action with Executive Order 13292. Among other things, the new rules a) extended deadlines for the declassification of federal data, b) allowed for the reclassification of government material already in the public domain, c) gave classification authority to the Veep's office, and d) offered those same privileges to agencies which had never stamped "Secret" on anything before.

Once 13292 kicked in, federal entities from the Office of Science & Technology Policy to the Environmental Protection Agency to the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Agriculture could legally withhold whatever they could rationalize as national security. It was a breathtaking prescription for abuse of power.

We may never learn the full extent of the vandalism conducted in the dark by Bush Inc., but in two months, this national disgrace will collapse into the history books. And now, suddenly, overnight, there are expectations.

In January, a scholar in Constitutional law will move into the White House. Given the wreckage Barack Obama is inheriting, it's hard to know where he'll begin. If he intends to restore credibility to what's left, transparency should be at the center of it. But that could put the new administration in a pickle.

When, in 2002, Obama transition team leader John Podesta called for the declassification of government data on UFOs, he cited Executive Order 12958: "We ought to do it because it's the law."

But it's not anymore, thanks to Bush Inc. And for a close-up glimpse of the breezy disregard for open government in the backwash of this malignancy, look no farther than the Mutual UFO Network's attempts to document this year's Stephenville, Tex., UFO controversy through the Freedom of Information Act.

The military - which pursued the object with jet fighters - refuses, without justification, to release its radar records or flight logs. The U.S. Customs & Border Protection Department, which monitors American boundaries for the Department of Homeland Security and has access to Air Force radar data, shirked its legal obligations and simply ignored MUFON's FOIA request altogether.

Reality check: The only way Obama or Podesta or anybody else with the new government is going to talk seriously about UFOs anytime soon is via Photoshop. So if Tuesday night's election really produced Change We Can Believe In, let's start with the fundamentals first. Executive Order 13292 needs to be buried with the rest of the sludge.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 11](#)

Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 12:11:16 -0000
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 08:50:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger

>From: Gerald O'Connell <gac.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 23:32:02 +0000
>Subject: Re: Universe Might Be Bigger Older And Stranger Place

>Every time a piece of information or academic conjecture that
>challenges this myth seeps into the arena of public discourse
>there is a consequent mini-shockwave of confused reaction:
>the media pokes a bit of fun at the physicists; fringe theorists
>renew their licence to engage in unwarranted conjecture, each
>according to their respective hobby horses; the public at large
>becomes a little more ignorant as to the real nature of our
>collective scientific ignorance.

>The cycle is as dispiriting as it is tedious.

Cheer up Gerald,

We're trying to observe and theorize about the universe while using the senses and brain of an ape adapted to survive in a specific environment.

Not surprisingly, we're struggling to clear our vision of the illusions bred into that ape. Every step forward seems to contradict 'common sense reality' which that ape held dear, for jungle survival maybe.

Looking at mounting quantum results, Max Planck said: "The increasing distance of the physical world picture from the world of the senses means nothing but a progressive approach to the real world."

Maybe scary but quite exciting, I think.

Cheers

Ray D

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 11](#)

Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Stanton T Friedman <fsphys.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 14:48:24 -0400
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 16:19:08 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 07:00:14 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
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>>>>Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
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>>>>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
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>toward educating the public, promoting scientific inquiry, or
>advancing any of our presumed goals. Instead, they misinform the
>public and literally make a circus out of a potentially serious
>matter.

Dick

Having spoken at many Roswell festivals and been very well received, and having talked to literally thousands of people at my book tables at the Museum, I must say I think those festivals have done a great deal in the way of public and media education. Obviously I don't know how many times Dick has participated there, if he has. Remember that Roswell is 200 miles from Albuquerque, El Paso and Amarillo. Families need a little more than dry facts to make the trip. They do buy books by Dr. Jesse Marcel, Don Schmitt, Bruce Maccabee and and myself. Yes, I have agreed to be there in early July 2009. Introduce yourself.

I can agree that many of the TV documentaries can more rightly be called mockumentaries. But their high ratings have helped whet peoples (and producers) appetites for more.

Stan Friedman

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UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: **Greg Boone** <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 16:23:31 -0500
Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces since George Washington led the troops.

In my hometown you can't walk a half a mile in any direction without coming across some monument to the fallen and those who've served and those names go wayyyy back.

Heck, now and then along the Hudson River bank some soul often finds a tree or rock or hillside still holding a lead musket ball or on rare occasion a cannon ball.

I sat here today looking at the news and seeing how around 1,000 WWII vets pass away each day and the mind boggles as to the massive amount of experience and adventure lost when one of these men or women passes on.

I got to thinking about how many of them were in on the early UFO age and what they've gone through keeping secret all these years. We don't really know what adventures both fantastic and horrific these vets have gone through regarding this issue alone.

Unsung heroes of the UFO era would be a fitting moniker I guess but doubt any would want to wear it, yet I can't help but think of what wonders and horrors go untold or uncelebrated to folks who faced this issue and didn't have the data we have now.

We know from the Roswell incident and records and testimonies that they didn't know what they were dealing with at the time and that is still probably one of the most amazing stories in human history.

So when we think about UFOs lets also remember the veterans who were involved from day one and even though we may not agree with the way government handles the situation, we're still here breathin' and livin' and that means somebody did something right.

Best,

Greg
www.ufomafia.com

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Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Eleanor White <ewraven1.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:34:17 -0500
Archived: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 16:28:36 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:46:24 -0800
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

<snip>

>I'm trying to think of a better word. Maybe 'convention', but
>everyone uses that one.

That's a good one. How about 'symposium'?

Eleanor White

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Gary McKinnon's New Song & Video On MySpace

From: Dave Haith <visionsl.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 21:16:42 -0000
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 06:44:44 -0500
Subject: Gary McKinnon's New Song & Video On MySpace

Hi Everybody

You have heard of Gary McKinnon the computer hacker who is being extradited to the US to face maybe a future in jail for trying to bust the American military UFO secrets.

I think currently his lawyers are trying a new tack to allow him to face the charges here under human rights laws because he is registered autistic - Asbergers Syndrome.

His song and music - good graphics - are at the link below in the e-mail from his mum, Janis.

Please click on it to increase the hits and support the FreeGary campaign.

Dave Haith

From: Matthew Williams
To: Matthew Williams
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 10:28 AM
Subject: Fw: Gary McKinnons New Song & Video On My Space

Myspace took Garys down last video that had 1 million hits... seems they had a grudge against Gary.

[At:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXHXM-82Wlc>

Only a Fool by Gary Mckinnon --ebk]

View the new video he has created and give it the same sort of coverage by sending to your friends. If it gets the same amount of hits again it will send a clear message to those at Myspace that his video means more than their politics.

Pass it on

Matthew

From: Janis.nul
To:
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 3:46 AM
Subject: Gary McKinnons New Song & Video On My Space

Thought you might like to see & hear Gary McKinnon perform his new song which has just gone up in My Space.

As Music is good for his Psyche and gives Gary a peace of mind that he desperately needs at the moment, we've just finished doing a video of one of Gary's other songs called Wanton Child and you can see Gary performing it in the link below on My Space.

It'll be interesting to see if it flies up the charts with 336,000 hits in less than three days like the other one did before being removed by My Space.

If it does well, I'm sure it will lift Gary's spirits.

<http://tinyurl.com/64rz9j>

If I could, I would add a dash of compassion to the world's water supply.

Very Best Wishes

Janis

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Crash Retrieval Conference 2008 Reviewed

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 06:57:58 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 06:57:58 -0500
Subject: Crash Retrieval Conference 2008 Reviewed

Source: IntoTheMystic - Pasadena, California, USA

<http://www.ufomystic.com/index.php>

Nov 10 2008

Crash Retrieval Conference 2008
by Greg Bishop

I hadn't really planned to attend Bob and Ryan Wood's eighth annual Crash Retrieval Conference, since there were only a couple of people whose lectures I wanted to hear, but Mark Pilkington and Adam Gorightly were going, and Nick [Redfern] was speaking, so excuses evaporated.

With his partner John Lundberg, Mark is working on a documentary about the history of the U.S. Government's involvement in the UFO subject, specifically efforts to disinform and direct the efforts of some UFO researchers. While in Las Vegas this past weekend, they interviewed Richard Dolan, John Alexander, Bill Ryan and Linda Moulton Howe to complete their shooting schedule. The finished product should be ready sometime around summer of 2009.

Adam was there with his wife to report on the event for UFO magazine, and we both attended a few of the lectures. Particularly interesting to me was Col. John Alexander's talk which (apart from his reputation) drew me in with the teasing title: UFOs: The Good News and the Bad News.

Alexander's name comes up in the files of fevered conspiracy writers in everything from remote viewing to non-lethal weaponry. There is little doubt that he was involved in classified projects for nearly 20 years, and continues to keep his hands in many pies, but he was in Las Vegas in an attempt to demystify the government's involvement with UFOs, at least from his point of view.

Strangely (and perhaps worse to some people) I tend to agree with his main premise that the U.S. Government does not care about UFOs - at least on an official basis. Alexander maintained that the primary reason is that they were not determined to be a threat to national security. Although he contradicted this stance somewhat with remarks about the 1967 Malmstrom incident (when UFOs apparently shut down nuclear missiles in their silos) and another previously unreported instance in the USSR that involved a massive UFO and missiles that were instructed to launch without any input from the Russian military.

He also described his 'UFO working group' which was convened in the late 1980s and included members such as Hal Puthoff, Ed Dames and even Bob Wood. I wrote about this group in the mid-1990s, drawing on the research of Melinda Leslie and Randy Koppang. It was also described (in more murky terms) in Howard Blum's book *Out There*, published in 1990. Dubbed the Theoretical Physics Working Group it was apparently brought together by Alexander to study the UFO problem using the knowledge and

contacts available to the members, who held sensitive positions in the government. As far as I can tell, they really didn't find out anything important - 'important' being what the government really knows about the UFO subject.

Since I did not attend the conference as a speaker or guest, I didn't see many presentations. On Saturday, we caught some of Nick's talk on the Tunguska event of 1908. He made a case for an ET UFO accident as a plausible answer to the mystery. I'm sure he does not believe wholeheartedly in this theory, but like we always do here at ufomystic, Nick plays with theories to see what can be teased out.

Rich Dolan gave the conference a preview of his new book (part two of his UFOs and the National Security State.) The new volume (due out in mid-2009) continues his deep research into the U.S. Government's interest in the phenomenon. Surprisingly, he specifically pointed me out during the lecture and declared that he disagrees with my assessment of the Paul Bennewitz episode. Dolan thinks that Bennewitz was actually seeing and filming "real" UFOs over Kirtland AFB in the late 1970s and early '80s. I maintained that the objects were government-built, while I leave the possibility open that there were actual unidentifieds present on at least two occasions, since there are declassified documents to that effect. What I think Dolan was getting at was that the powers at Kirtland were interested in keeping Bennewitz away from the unknowns as well as (to a lesser extent) secret projects. I see the story as perhaps 95% due to the Air Force (and others) covering their own activities. We had a friendly debate in the hall after his talk.

In the discussion of John Alexander's talk, I neglected to mention our conversation. He maintained that the Aviary was the product of conspiracy theories and conjecture. Later, in his lecture, he had a PowerPoint page devoted specifically to this issue. I'm not sure if he added it at the last minute because of our short conversation. When I told him that Bill Moore recalled at least three meetings between some of the members, he replied that there were none. "That means Bill must have been lying to me for the last ten years", I said. His only answer to this was "Apparently."

I realize that Moore may have a hazy memory, but this direct contradiction was confusing. For Alexander to maintain that the group was merely the product of Moore and partner Jamie Shandera's efforts to keep their contacts organized was missing my point. I realize that the group was named by them to have a way to refer to people without having to mention names, but the affiliation apparently went beyond this, and I believe that there was indeed a loosely-affiliated association that may have morphed into Alexander's Theoretical Physics Working Group, and now survives within the membership of the Society For Scientific Exploration.

Col. Alexander was polite and patient with me and others, and appears to be mellowing as the years pass. He is still on the search for an answer to the UFO enigma, and we can only hope that he will provide a revelation if he reaches his goal.

Nick loaned part of his table space to a nice older British woman who was selling copies of a self-published volume entitled The Star Child's Guidebook. It contains an alien alphabet called Eh k'entoo. We'll take a look at this strange but intriguing artifact within the next few days.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Abductee To Speak In Nelson British Columbia

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 07:04:45 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 07:04:45 -0500
Subject: Abductee To Speak In Nelson British Columbia

Source: PRLog.Com

<http://tinyurl.com/6hbalz>

Nov 10, 2008

=09
UFO Contactee Abducted From 100 Mile House To Speak In Nelson,
Canada

Author Miriam Delicado was abducted into a spacecraft in 1988.

On November 30th, 2008, in Nelson, Canada, she will speak on her
experience as a UFO abductee and current contact.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRLog (Press Release) =96 Miriam Delicado was 22 years old when
she was led aboard a spacecraft that had stopped along highway
near 100 Mile House, BC in 1988.

While driving with friends, Delicado noted they were being
followed by what she thought was a vehicle with large round and
very bright lights. After Delicado and her friends had traveled
a fair distance with the lights still close behind, she told the
driver to pull over.

That=92s when an ordinary evening turned into a mission for
Delicado.

When the car stopped, so did the other vehicle. What happened
next still remains vivid in her memory two decades later.
Delicado=92s friends fell into trance-like states while she
remained fully conscious. Things turned even stranger as she
found herself being led on board the craft hand in hand with
Tall Blond Aliens.

The Tall Blond aliens relayed messages they wanted her to share
with others. Years later she discovered the messages the aliens
had given her were remarkably similar to the Hopi Prophecies of
peace and salvation. Not only that - the language they had
spoken telepathically to her in was Hopi.

Delicado, who today remains in contact with the aliens, was
prompted in 2003 to begin sharing what the aliens had told her.
She has recounted her initial abduction and subsequent contact
in her recently published book Blue Star: Fulfilling Prophecy.
Hers is truly one of the most fascinating stories you will ever
hear.

An evening not to be missed.

On November 30th, for one evening only, Miriam Delicado, will
share her story and their messages at the Prestige Inn, Nelson,
on Sunday November 30, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

Advance tickets (\$20) can be purchased at Pack Rat Annie=92s (Nelson), Earth Spirit Books (Winlaw), Caf=E9 Books (Rossland), Books n=92 Music (Castlegar), and Black Bear Books (Preston). If tickets still available, may be purchased at the door for \$25.

For more information on Miriam Delicado and her book, visit:

www.alienbluestar.com

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 21:51:59 -0000
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 07:07:24 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
>friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces
>since George Washington led the troops.

Hello Greg,

A US pal was recently happy to get this site showing the
battlefields where his grandfather had been in Europe:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7712908.stm>

BBC WW I

"The battlefields of France and Belgium. Trenches in the forest
of Verdun have simply become overgrown while Fort Douaumont
remains largely untouched. Click on the map below for a tour of
the sites..."

And for most of us too young to know, there's a few video shorts like

The Hell of Verdun

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKxhE9eY2uA>

There was some good footage with a Johnny Cash backing but it
looks like the money-boys have objected to that - withdrawn from
all the sites I've searched.

Ray D

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Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 16:57:43 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:10:00 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Eleanor White <ewraven1.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:34:17 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:46:24 -0800
>>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

><snip>

>>I'm trying to think of a better word. Maybe 'convention', but
>>everyone uses that one.

>That's a good one. How about 'symposium'?

What we use locally in Maryland is 'conference'.

Dick

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: **Mike Woods** <mike.woods.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:11:00 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
>friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces
>since George Washington led the troops.

Hey Greg,

Here in Canada, it's Remembrance Day and I'm a vet of the
Canadian Forces and a 25 year broadcast journalist.

Your e-mail reminded me of something Robert A Heinlein wrote...
and he wasn't known for his love or respect of Big Brother
government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
lives."

As a journalist, and a veteran, I couldn't agree more.

My colleagues will now gather rocks and then form a circle
around me.

Mike Woods

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'Alien' Faces

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:12:00 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:12:00 -0500
Subject: 'Alien' Faces

Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

<http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

Thursday, November 06, 2008

'Alien' Faces
By Mac Tonnies

The late conspiracy theorist Jim Keith, in his colorfully titled *Saucers Of The Illuminati*, makes an interesting point about the simplicity of the quintessential alien face. Could it be, he wonders, that abductees' brains manufacture the same predictable alien visage because the close encounter experience is so devastatingly weird, crammed with unfamiliar visual cues? Conversely, the minimalist alien head may be due to a scarcity of visual information; the abductee's mind may "fill in the blanks" to encompass something essentially faceless.

Some ufologists have noted that the eyes of the commonly depicted "Gray" alien would be anatomically impossible, if spherical like human eyes; there simply wouldn't be enough room in the skull, no matter how outsized. It's worth recalling that an ostrich's eye is actually larger than its brain.

Then again, the familiar ink-black 'eyes' may not be eyes in the familiar sense. If the Grays are physical beings, perhaps the eyes (with their now-famous black coverings) could be convex lenses - a sort of alien 'heads-up' display. In any case, I'm virtually certain the excessively stylized alien face so common in the media is an exaggeration, an easily communicable caricature.

Whatever the nature of the archetypal alien encounter, I'm convinced there's an hallucinatory component at play, an idea I plan to revisit in future posts.

Mac Tonnies

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: **Bruce Maccabee** <brumac.nul>
Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 22:29:17 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:13:00 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
>friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces
>since George Washington led the troops.

>In my hometown you can't walk a half a mile in any direction
>without coming across some monument to the fallen and those
>who've served and those names go wayyyy back.

>Heck, now and then along the Hudson River bank some soul often
>finds a tree or rock or hillside still holding a lead musket
>ball or on rare occasion a cannon ball.

>I sat here today looking at the news and seeing how around 1,000
>WWII vets pass away each day and the mind boggles as to the
>massive amount of experience and adventure lost when one of
>these men or women passes on.

>I got to thinking about how many of them were in on the early
>UFO age and what they've gone through keeping secret all these
>years. We don't really know what adventures both fantastic and
>horrific these vets have gone through regarding this issue
>alone.

In Gulf Breeze, Florida, there is another association between
UFOs and Veteran's Day: Nov 11, 1987 at about 2:30 AM the Gulf
Breeze flap began when Billie Zammit took Sam outside for the
assumed obvious reason. Sam was the first to see it.

Instead of doing what she expected, the dog looked up into the
sky and barked. So she looked up... and saw what she later,
publicly, stated was the same thing that was shown in pictures
published in the local paper about two weeks later. Those
pictures were taken by Ed Walters approximately 15 1/2 hours
after Bille and Sam's sighting. And from then on, as they say,
"the rest is history...".

[In Canada, also on Remembrance Day 1975, the Falconbridge
radar incident occured. See Michel Deschamp's NOUFORS site:

<http://tinyurl.com/5s4q3h>

which Michel along with a witness will discuss on SDI
soon. Recorded yesterday--ebk]

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:57:16 EST
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 09:20:37 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>'Alien' Faces
>By Mac Tonnies

>The late conspiracy theorist Jim Keith, in his colorfully titled
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>in the media is an exaggeration, an easily communicable
>caricature.

>Whatever the nature of the archetypal alien encounter, I'm
>convinced there's an hallucinatory component at play, an idea I
>plan to revisit in future posts.

>Mac Tonnies

Or, noses and mouths are simply more difficult to draw for the
common person.

golubik

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: **Alfred Lehmborg** <alienview.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 08:46:20 -0600
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 11:52:23 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
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>Canadian Forces and a 25 year broadcast journalist.

>Your e-mail reminded me of something Robert A Heinlein wrote...
>and he wasn't known for his love or respect of Big Brother
>government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>lives."

>As a journalist, and a veteran, I couldn't agree more.

>My colleagues will now gather rocks and then form a circle
>around me.

I'd agree, but then I remember how the mantle of trust to keep
the 'necessary secret' is so furiously abused by the authority
alluded to and in ways casting such mawkish discredit on that
conjectured 'necessary authority', too.

I think special counsel is required to sort it all out... apart
from the involvement of that authority, mind, so we're not
further trifled by foxes guarding henhouses, the current
problem. It's not the "woos". It's the 'man', dude!

alienview.nul
www.AlienView.net
AVG Blog -- <http://alienviewgroup.blogspot.com/>
U F O M a g a z i n e -- www.ufomag.com

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 10:18:59 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 11:51:48 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
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>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>lives."

<snip>

Mr. Woods,

You stated that Robert Heinlein wrote no constitution yet
written contained the phrase "The public's right to know..." I
disagree, many newer constitutions contain the phrase. I know of
a few in Africa and many U.S. States include it as well.

I do not believe that the drafters included it in earlier
Constitutions because they felt that it was obvious and did not
need to be specifically mentioned. The United States
Constitution does not contain the phrase. But the right to
access government information is granted. In fact it is the
bedrock of a democratic form of government.

The right to information is an inseparable attribute and was a
basic conviction held by the drafters. The enumerated freedoms
(such as Free Speech, Press, Assembly, Due Process, and others)
require a right to access information in order to function.
Also, information, scientific advancement, education all are
part of "the blessings of liberty" mentioned in the Preamble and
Amendment IX specifically says:

"The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall
not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the
people."

The democratic form of government, which is of the people, means
citizens must have information in order to be part of the
process. James Madison, a drafter of the U.S. Constitution,

specifically stated that without "popular information" democracy would not function. Madison further stated:

"A popular Government without popular information or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives."

Again, the requirement of an informed electorate is vital to a democracy and inherent in the U.S. Constitution.

The U.S. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) was drafted and passed by congress to "clarify and protect the [Constitutional] right of the public to information". Previous laws had hindered information access and the FOIA was drafted to correct that problem. The congressional historical reports specifically mention that inherent to our other Constitutional rights is the right to information and knowledge. In other words, the FOIA was passed into law as legal framework to facilitate the Constitutional right to information.

The right to information can be restricted and regulated for the common good. Military secrets are one of the areas that could legally be regulated. The point is there must be proper checks and balances to insure the public's right to participate in the government is not unnecessarily restricted.

In the U.S. form of government we have a checks and balances system. The three branches of government (Executive, Legislature, and Judicial) work to keep each other in check. If a citizen believes they have a right to information and the Executive refuses based on military or national security reasons the citizen has the right to challenge the secrecy by going to one of the other branch. For example, they are able to go to a Court and ask for redress.

The problem is the current judicial review process virtually never (less than 1%) conducts a trial to determine if an Executive agency is acting appropriately. The mere unchecked opinion of our government bureaucrats, that the release of the information might be a national security threat, is insufficient.

Under the present system an agency is not required to prove that the national security risk is likely, just simply state it is a potential. This type of unsupervised government secrecy should not be allowed to continue.

Take the case of the CIA, which classifies more documents than any other U.S. government body and may hold the most information on UFOs. They have proven especially invulnerable to FOIA review. The Ninth Circuit conceded in 1992 that "we are now only a short step away [from] exempting all CIA records from FOIA." (See: Hunt v. CIA, 981 F.2d 1116, 1120, 9th Cir.).

This sad state of affairs means that over 99% of all FOIA law suites end before the trial ever begins

It can not be more apparent; FOIA national security claims deserve additional judicial scrutiny. The judicial record of FOIA case law shows that the inappropriate bias has caused uncontrolled government secrecy. According to the Information Security Oversight Office (part the U.S. National Archives) the number of documents classified in the last six years has almost quadrupled.

Regards,

Frank

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Re: Crash Retrieval Conference 2008 Reviewed

From: **Bruce Maccabee** <brumac.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 10:27:10 -0500
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:34:42 -0500
Subject: Re: Crash Retrieval Conference 2008 Reviewed

>Source: IntoTheMystic - Pasadena, California, USA

><http://www.ufomystic.com/index.php>

>Nov 10 2008

>Crash Retrieval Conference 2008
>by Greg Bishop

>I hadn't really planned to attend Bob and Ryan Wood's eighth
>annual Crash Retrieval Conference, since there were only a
>couple of people whose lectures I wanted to hear, but Mark
>Pilkington and Adam Gorightly were going, and Nick [Redfern] was
>speaking, so excuses evaporated.

<snip>

>In the discussion of John Alexander's talk, I neglected to
>mention our conversation. He maintained that the Aviary was
>the product of conspiracy theories and conjecture. Later, in his
>lecture, he had a PowerPoint page devoted specifically to this
>issue. I'm not sure if he added it at the last minute because of
>our short conversation. When I told him that Bill Moore recalled
>at least three meetings between some of the members, he replied
>that there were none. "That means Bill must have been lying to
>me for the last ten years", I said. His only answer to this was
>"Apparently."

>I realize that Moore may have a hazy memory, but this direct
>contradiction was confusing. For Alexander to maintain that the
>group was merely the product of Moore and partner Jamie
>Shandera's efforts to keep their contacts organized was missing
>my point. I realize that the group was named by them to have a
>way to refer to people without having to mention names, but the
>affiliation apparently went beyond this, and I believe that
>there was indeed a loosely-affiliated association that may have
>morphed into Alexander's Theoretical Physics Working Group, and
>now survives within the membership of the Society For Scientific
>Exploration.

It has long been my opinion, based on what Bill told me, that the
Aviary consisted of two gentlemen known only to Bill and
Jaimie Shandara.

Other names were given to a few serious researchers but only the
first two had real "inside" information. In the latter 1980's
and early 90's the Aviary swelled like mushrooms in the rain,
with "everyone" getting a bird name. Although I was one of the
early ones to get a name (Seagull) I never met the original two
birds. To my knowledge there never was a "meeting" of the Aviary
that included the first two birds.

The closest to a sort of meeting is described in Bob Collins'
book, wherein he describes the activities of "Hawk" leading up
to the (in)famous Oct. 1988 TV show, Cover Up Live.

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 12](#)

Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:05:55 EST
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:34:42 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
>>friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces
>>since George Washington led the troops.

>Hey Greg,

>Here in Canada, it's Remembrance Day and I'm a vet of the
>Canadian Forces and a 25 year broadcast journalist.

>Your e-mail reminded me of something Robert A Heinlein wrote...
>and he wasn't known for his love or respect of Big Brother
>government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>lives."

>As a journalist, and a veteran, I couldn't agree more.

>My colleagues will now gather rocks and then form a circle
>around me.

Hey Mike,

I started in print journalism very young at 19 and stayed with
the Gannett News Service for 8 years. UFO experiences like you
wouldn't believe but I'm just now writing about them.

The thing with vets and the UFO issue is that on several
occasions I've asked veterans, no make that on multiple
occasions I've asked vets about UFOs and the stories I could
tell would send people screaming for the hills. Some of these
people are dear friends of mine and tough as nails who won't
talk about it. Some go into dang near convulsions and sweats.
Vets who landed at Normandie, were in the Battle of the Bulge,
rode subs, withstood nuclear bomb testing, crawled through
jungles in Vietnam or braved bone chilling cold and combat in
Korea and could talk about those experiences but you mention
UFOs and they'd get balled up like a baby or shaking like a
broken washing machine on spin.

I admire and respect these people and to see them like this I
learned to be very, very cautious about the subject. One wonders
what horrors they've had to endure and can't tell us.

As I said earlier, it's another sacrifice we don't know about
and another reason to show respect and caution.

Best ,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Katharina Wilson <K.Wilson.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 11:13:35 -0600
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:39:04 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>'Alien' Faces
>By Mac Tonnie

>The late conspiracy theorist Jim Keith, in his colorfully titled
>Saucers Of The Illuminati, makes an interesting point about the
>simplicity of the quintessential alien face. Could it be, he
>wonders, that abductees' brains manufacture the same predictable
>alien visage because the close encounter experience is so
>devastatingly weird, crammed with unfamiliar visual cues?
>Conversely, the minimalist alien head may be due to a scarcity
>of visual information; the abductee's mind may "fill in the
>blanks" to encompass something essentially faceless.

That may have been the case back then, but it is not the case today. There are different types of aliens 'visiting.' The idea that all aliens look alike is simply out-of-date information.

For an example of different alien types click on:

<http://www.alienjigsaw.com/Gallery/gallery.html>

Alien Art Alley <http://www.alienalley.com>

Praying Mantis Accounts by a UK abductee named Jim

<http://ufobc.ca/Beyond/prayingmantis-update-april-2008.htm>

See also Hybrid Children:

http://www.alienjigsaw.com/Gallery/Children_Hybrids.html

>Some ufologists have noted that the eyes of the commonly
>depicted "Gray" alien would be anatomically impossible, if
>spherical like human eyes; there simply wouldn't be enough room
>in the skull, no matter how outsized. It's worth recalling that
>an ostrich's eye is actually larger than its brain.

>Then again, the familiar ink-black 'eyes' may not be eyes in the
>familiar sense. If the Grays are physical beings, perhaps the
>eyes (with their now-famous black coverings) could be convex
>lenses - a sort of alien 'heads-up' display. In any case, I'm
>virtually certain the excessively stylized alien face so common
>in the media is an exaggeration, an easily communicable
>caricature.

You're generalizing by using the term "some ufologists". Who are they? What do they actually know about alien abduction? Have they ever come face to face with an alien like abductees have?

And, the media? You're joking, right? They've never gotten anything right when it comes to the subject of aliens.

>Whatever the nature of the archetypal alien encounter, I'm
>convinced there's an hallucinatory component at play, an idea I
>plan to revisit in future posts.

Hallucinatory? If you believe aliens are an illusion, imaginary or unreal, why revisit this subject at all? Are you going to provide the 'real' answers as to what's going on? For example, perhaps it's all 'mind control' and 'alien' abductions are perpetrated by humans?

I would really like to learn more about the technology being used and the motive for this. I explored this when I wrote Project Open Mind - MILABS back in 1996, and while I found evidence that 'some' could be perpetrated by humans, there was no way to explain all alien abductions.

<http://www.alienjigsaw.com/Milabs/milabs.html>

We've learned over the past two decades that there really isn't an archetypal or typical abduction encounter. There are similar things being done, but when it comes down to it, different types of Beings are performing different types of activities. In addition, the nature of abductions is changing due to the massive number of hybrids that have been created over the past 20 or so years.

I feel that a splattering of posts debunking alien abductions is about to be cast upon the Updates list. Everyone, lets read Jim Keith's book for ourselves. Here's where you can read an excerpt:

<http://tinyurl.com/6z338d>

You can buy it (or peruse it) at Barnes & Noble or Borders Books. It's also available at Amazon.

There. I've done my bit to promote the latest conspiracy book.

Katharina Wilson
www.alienjigsaw.com

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:21:26 EST
Archived: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 12:41:39 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 10:18:59 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>>>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
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>>Canadian Forces and a 25 year broadcast journalist.

>>Your e-mail reminded me of something Robert A Heinlein wrote...
>>and he wasn't known for his love or respect of Big Brother
>>government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
>>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>>lives."

<snip>

>Under the present system an agency is not required to prove that
>the national security risk is likely, just simply state it is a
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>Take the case of the CIA, which classifies more documents than
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>FOIA case law shows that the inappropriate bias has caused
>uncontrolled government secrecy. According to the Information
>Security Oversight Office (part the U.S. National Archives) the
>number of documents classified in the last six years has almost
>quadrupled.

>Regards,

>Frank

As always, Frank Fields contributes with clarity and thorough examination. Real pro-level posts!

Yes Frank, I was just discussing FOIA with some pals who are some of the top attorneys in the U.S.. I've egged them on about UFOs and the FOIA subject comes up regarding what the Bush Administration has brutalized the law in this regard. What they got away with is abominable.

It's all about covering up tracks to avoid litigation and prosecution.

There's no telling what crimes are being committed and to what extent the damage is done. Could be irreversable.

I'll reveal here that I know the Obama team has several UFOlogists on board and they'll dig into the matter but I also don't believe Obama will reveal anything nor pursue it.

I mentioned a few months ago one of the most startling things I've ever heard from a high end security career military man. He had no interest in UFOs but when the Stephenville story broke he thought I was kidding him and somehow, somehow he waltzed right onto his base, asked the questions and told me right then and there. He was quite shaken too but now he's a firm believer and he's a die-hard fundamentalist Christian at that.

Our veterans are our greatest gifts as a nation and we have to keep an eye out for them and tend to them. I'll be heading over to the VA to chip in and with a surge expected in Afghanistan as soon as Obama gains office you can bet the folks there will need more volunteers. Heck, I might even ask the new Pres if he'd let me join up at my age.

Stranger things have happened.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 14:55:00 -0400
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 10:28:56 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
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>government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>lives."

>As a journalist, and a veteran, I couldn't agree more.

>My colleagues will now gather rocks and then form a circle
>around me.

By "rocks", Mike is referring to the preferred alternative to
the Ross rifle Canadian soldiers were saddled with during the
First World War. When opportunities arose they would chuck the
rifle and grab up a Lee Enfield from a fallen British soldier.
Eventually they got the Enfields.

Anyway Peace, Order and Good Government is the order of the day
in Canada and two out of three ain't bad. I'm not sure if the
right to know is embedded in the Canadian Charter of Rights. It
might be included somewhere below the provision for the right
to a kick-ass pension for federal MPs.

I'd like to take this opportunity to give credit to the troops
in Afghanistan; those of all nations. It's a crappy job that
these people take on and in the case of Afghanistan at least
they are fighting for the rights of those Afghanistannies who
want freedom, particular the females who will have the Talaban's
boot on their necks should these self-serving and ignorant thugs
succeed.

Don Ledger

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:00:42 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 10:32:10 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 10:18:59 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
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>>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>>lives."

><snip>

>Mr. Woods,

>You stated that Robert Heinlein wrote no constitution yet
>written contained the phrase "The public's right to know..." I
>disagree, many newer constitutions contain the phrase. I know of
>a few in Africa and many U.S. States include it as well.

>I do not believe that the drafters included it in earlier
>Constitutions because they felt that it was obvious and did not
>need to be specifically mentioned. The United States
>Constitution does not contain the phrase. But the right to
>access government information is granted. In fact it is the
>bedrock of a democratic form of government.

>The right to information is an inseparable attribute and was a
>basic conviction held by the drafters. The enumerated freedoms
>(such as Free Speech, Press, Assembly, Due Process, and others)
>require a right to access information in order to function.
>Also, information, scientific advancement, education all are
>part of "the blessings of liberty" mentioned in the Preamble and
>Amendment IX specifically says:

>"The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall
>not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the
>people."

>The democratic form of government, which is of the people, means
>citizens must have information in order to be part of the
>process. James Madison, a drafter of the U.S. Constitution,
>specifically stated that without "popular information" democracy
>would not function. Madison further stated:

>"A popular Government without popular information or the means
>of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy or
>perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a
>people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves
>with the power knowledge gives."

>Again, the requirement of an informed electorate is vital to a
>democracy and inherent in the U.S. Constitution.

>The U.S. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) was drafted and
>passed by congress to "clarify and protect the [Constitutional]
>right of the public to information". Previous laws had hindered
>information access and the FOIA was drafted to correct that
>problem. The congressional historical reports specifically
>mention that inherent to our other Constitutional rights is the
>right to information and knowledge. In other words, the FOIA was
>passed into law as legal framework to facilitate the
>Constitutional right to information.

>The right to information can be restricted and regulated for the
>common good. Military secrets are one of the areas that could
>legally be regulated. The point is there must be proper checks
>and balances to insure the public's right to participate in the
>government is not unnecessarily restricted.

>In the U.S. form of government we have a checks and balances
>system. The three branches of government (Executive,
>Legislature, and Judicial) work to keep each other in check. If
>a citizen believes they have a right to information and the
>Executive refuses based on military or national security reasons
>the citizen has the right to challenge the secrecy by going to
>one of the other branch. For example, they are able to go to a
>Court and ask for redress.

>The problem is the current judicial review process virtually
>never (less than 1%) conducts a trial to determine if an
>Executive agency is acting appropriately. The mere unchecked
>opinion of our government bureaucrats, that the release of the
>information might be a national security threat, is
>insufficient.

>Under the present system an agency is not required to prove that
>the national security risk is likely, just simply state it is a
>potential. This type of unsupervised government secrecy should
>not be allowed to continue.

>Take the case of the CIA, which classifies more documents than
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>uncontrolled government secrecy. According to the Information
>Security Oversight Office (part the U.S. National Archives) the
>number of documents classified in the last six years has almost
>quadrupled.

Dear Frank,

For the first time in my life, I've been thoroughly spanked, and
yet remain capable of sitting.

I wouldn't challenge the depth of knowledge you've presented...
I'll merely add it to my own and be better informed by it.

I'm not comfortable with and will never support the public's
right to know the movement of troops during combat operations,

the exact tools and techniques needed for a hydrogen bomb or the specific vulnerabilities of a local fuel depot or public utility, to mention just a few instances. Who decides what is kept secret, from whom and why?

That's the basic dilemma of democracy and neither legislation nor watchdogs can instill intelligence, honor or dedication into a politician or the public.

Frank, that is simply the best 'you-are-so-wrong' I have ever received... I'm almost honored to have been the recipient.

Thank you for the education, seriously,

Mike Woods
(now in search of a cerebral bandage)

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140 years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 10:38:51 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 10:38:51 -0500
Subject: 140 years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

David G. sent me the following link to a portion of the Daily Telegraph's website in London, England:

<http://tinyurl.com/6gqm76>

Titled 140 years Of UFO Sightings - Part I, it features a 29 image slide show of UFOs, captioned and attributed.

There are a couple of photos there that I was not aware of...

ebk

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First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:31:49 EST
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 10:41:14 -0500
Subject: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

We've all heard about the Missing Time phenomena where people discover they've been missing for hours or days with no recollection. Mostly associated with abductions related to UFOs.

Now I'm listening to Missing Space. Where people exhibit hours or days worth of physiological changes like hair and nail growth, fat growth but hadn't been anywhere or so they thought.

This is getting strange because I got a warning not too long ago that we needed to bring the abduction issue out fast because the abductors are getting better at 'it'.

I guess that 'it' meant the ability to abduct us and not raise notice or alarm.

After 60 years of scrutiny and much more in the past 20 years we may be cramping their style and they're coming up with other ways to abduct us without disrupting our timeline. We get abducted for a second but into a dimension or environment that is unaffected by time as we know it and then we're brought back a second later to us but our bodies show signs of regular operation.

I've not read every UFO book or case study but this phenom has popped up several times this year alone to people I've spoken too and the incidents have been going on for at least the past 5 years.

Could they be employing new techniques? Are we losing this battle to expose abductions associated with UFOs?

We have far too many multiple eyewitness accounts and far too many accounts in general to sweep this under the rug. It's time to do it or get off the pot before someone gets real smart and we'll never know when abduction occurs.

Best,

Greg
www.ufomafia.com/blog

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 16:25:59 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:45:00 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>'Alien' Faces
>By Mac Tonnies

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>alien visage because the close encounter experience is so
>devastatingly weird, crammed with unfamiliar visual cues?
>Conversely, the minimalist alien head may be due to a scarcity
>of visual information; the abductee's mind may "fill in the
>blanks" to encompass something essentially faceless.

We manage to view 1300 years of Cycladic figurines without
"filling in the the blanks" when we see their severely
abstracted faces. Likewise we don't manufacture information that
is not overtly available from a Brancusi sculpture, or other
abstract Modernist figurative depictions.

We don't manufacture compensatory information when faced with
realistic make-up or CGI depictions of aliens. There is no
documentation that Halloween throws neurotypical viewers (and
those without a history of PTSD) into altered states of
consciousness.

>Some ufologists have noted that the eyes of the commonly
>depicted "Gray" alien would be anatomically impossible, if
>spherical like human eyes; there simply wouldn't be enough room
>in the skull, no matter how outsized. It's worth recalling that
>an ostrich's eye is actually larger than its brain.

If their eyes aren't spherical, that argument doesn't hold
water.

> In any case, I'm virtually certain the excessively stylized alien face
>so common in the media is an exaggeration, an easily
>communicable caricature.

Mac, you aren't backing this idea up with anything more
substantial than your own "virtual certainty." The Jim Keith
opinion you offer doesn't offer any substantiation of his
position either. Speculation can be useful, but it's got to be
grounded in something deeper.

Carol

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 13](#)

Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 16:03:59 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:46:00 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Katharina Wilson <K_Wilson.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 11:13:35 -0600
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA
>><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>>'Alien' Faces

>>By Mac Tonnies

>>Whatever the nature of the archetypal alien encounter, I'm
>>convinced there's an hallucinatory component at play, an idea I
>>plan to revisit in future posts.

>Hallucinatory? If you believe aliens are an illusion, imaginary
>or unreal, why revisit this subject at all? Are you going to
>provide the 'real' answers as to what's going on? For example,
>perhaps it's all 'mind control' and 'alien' abductions are
>perpetrated by humans?

If I'm reading Mac's intention correctly, perhaps instead of
"hallucinatory" he might want to use "altered state of
consciousness".

Carol

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 13](#)

Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:32:48 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 12:26:05 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:00:42 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

<snip>

>For the first time in my life, I've been thoroughly spanked, and
>yet remain capable of sitting.

>I wouldn't challenge the depth of knowledge you've presented...
>I'll merely add it to my own and be better informed by it.

>I'm not comfortable with and will never support the public's
>right to know the movement of troops during combat operations,
>the exact tools and techniques needed for a hydrogen bomb or the
>specific vulnerabilities of a local fuel depot or public
>utility, to mention just a few instances. Who decides what is
>kept secret, from whom and why?

>That's the basic dilemma of democracy and neither legislation
>nor watchdogs can instill intelligence, honor or dedication into
>a politician or the public.

>Frank, that is simply the best 'you-are-so-wrong' I have ever
>received... I'm almost honored to have been the recipient.

>Thank you for the education, seriously,

Mike,

I think you make a mistake in the belief that the issue of Troop
movements and Nuclear weapon design are really secret, when in
fact there is an illusion of that secrecy that really just keeps
it from the public - which are for the most part harmless.

We, on the outside, have only limited knowledge of the world of
political and tactical intrigue, and the vulnerabilities you
mention are all listed in public documents that exist in
libraries around the US (and perhaps the world).

I was amused by the sudden realization on the part of some -
late last year - that most military bases are clearly visible
from space and the many mapping satellites that are constantly
updating databases around the world are able to provide up to
the minute pictures of the current situation at bases all around
the world.

The free public databases have older images, while those who can
pay for them can get images that are perhaps only hours old. Of
course, the US uses this technology on an ongoing basis and has
most of this information faster.

Several years ago a Doctoral thesis was written about
vulnerabilities to our infrastructure, based solely on public
information. The Doctoral student had to go to great lengths to
get permission to publish his document and get his degree.

Homeland Security was so upset with the scope of the information he'd gathered that they wanted to immediately classify it as Top Secret, confiscate the Thesis, and demand that the Student never publish the information again.

To be honest, I have very mixed feelings about secrecy for secrecy's sake. We have built a world that is (in some ways) a house of cards. I believe that much of the secrecy is designed to hide embarrassing information, and for decades the Government would simply stamp Top Secret on documents because it was the normal thing to do with all intelligence documents.

One only has to go through some of the current FOIA documents released by the CIA over the years and you can see how many are nothing more than newspaper articles they'd collected on the subject and then classified as Top Secret once in their files. This shows a knee-jerk reaction to the classification process and the lack of thought given to it, which seems to have been the rule.

I was also in contact with the Officers in charge of the declassification effort in the mid-90's at Wright-Patterson AFB, who said that the job was daunting and to a great extent overwhelming.

Documents were stored all around the US and he was trying to co-ordinate the declassification of all of them with different people using different judgments as to what should be released or blacked out. The entire process was far too subjective and he said it would take years to plough through the many boxes of documents.

I still had an open request, but never heard back and there is little effort on the part of the AF to release any further documents, that I'm aware of. Unfortunately, the world changed in 2001, and that makes it all the more difficult to get FOIA requests through.

I think that we all could have respect for the Classification process if it was implemented fairly and properly and dealt only with documents and information that actually posed a threat.

The concept of 'National Security' is often thrown out as the 800-lb gorilla in the room in regard to secrecy, but somehow that needs to be more clearly defined than the 'whim' of the person thinking about it (whether that's the President, Military Officer or Bureaucrat).

Steve

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:56:12 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 12:29:02 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

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>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 16:03:59 -0500
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

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>>To: ufoupdates.nul
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>>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA
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Carol,

I think there are several people on this List who are in a
perpetual altered state of consciousness. :^)

Reality, imagination, fantasy... all seem to blur together in
their thought patterns. And then they spew out the hodgepodge as
if it were cutting edge thinking that we backward, scientific
types are simply too out of it to comprehend.

Dick

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140 years of UFO sightings - Part II

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 15:45:00 -0500
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 15:45:00 -0500
Subject: 140 years of UFO sightings - Part II

David G., again, sent me the following link to a portion of the Daily Telegraph's website in London, England:

<http://tinyurl.com/5gg3u3>

140 years of UFO sightings - Part II

ebk

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Re: 140 years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 19:13:04 -0000
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 15:47:49 -0500
Subject: Re: 140 years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

>David G. sent me the following link to a portion of the Daily
>Telegraph's website in London, England:

> <http://tinyurl.com/6gqm76>

Hello,

Number 10 (labelled image 9 here

<http://tinyurl.com/6p43nm>

is reported as "discs over Catalan Island, California, in 1947".

Google Maps doesn't know where that is. Could it be Catalina
Island, which apparently has been getting UFO reports since then?

Cheers

Ray D

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Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: John Rimmer <j.rimmer.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 20:30:41 +0000
Archived: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 15:47:44 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:31:49 EST
>Subject: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>We've all heard about the Missing Time phenomena where people
>discover they've been missing for hours or days with no
>recollection. Mostly associated with abductions related to UFOs.

>Now I'm listening to Missing Space. Where people exhibit hours
>or days worth of physiological changes like hair and nail
>growth, fat growth but hadn't been anywhere or so they thought.

>This is getting strange because I got a warning not too long ago
>that we needed to bring the abduction issue out fast because the
>abductors are getting better at 'it'.

>I guess that 'it' meant the ability to abduct us and not raise
>notice or alarm.

<snip>

>Could they be employing new techniques? Are we losing this
>battle to expose abductions associated with UFOs?

No, 'they' are not using a new technique, they are using the
techniques associated with the fairy-folk, the sidhe, the
gentry, the boggarts, whatever you want to call them, for
centuries.

--

John Rimmer
<j.rimmer.nul>

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 14](#)

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 19:27:10 -0400
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 09:26:35 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: John Rimmer <j.rimmer.nul>
>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 20:30:41 +0000
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:31:49 EST
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>techniques associated with the fairy-folk, the sidhe, the
>gentry, the boggarts, whatever you want to call them, for
>centuries.

Many of them from the British Isles if memory serves.
Odd, huh?

Don Ledger

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Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 20:11:19 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 09:29:45 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:00:42 -0500
>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 10:18:59 -0500 (EST)
>>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>>From: Mike Woods <mike.woods.nul>
>>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 17:06:31 -0500
>>>Subject: Re: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>>Date: Tue, 11 Nov 2008 15:16:22 EST
>>>>Subject: UFOs & Veteran's Day

>>>>Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are big events with my family and
>>>>friends. Reason being we've had family in the U.S. armed forces
>>>>since George Washington led the troops.

>>>Hey Greg,

>>>Here in Canada, it's Remembrance Day and I'm a vet of the
>>>Canadian Forces and a 25 year broadcast journalist.

>>>Your e-mail reminded me of something Robert A Heinlein wrote...
>>>and he wasn't known for his love or respect of Big Brother
>>>government. He wrote that no constitution yet written contained
>>>the phrase "The public's right to know..." and that no
>>>journalist and few politicians could be trusted with military
>>>intelligence... because they couldn't be trusted with military
>>>lives."

>><snip>

I apologize Mr. Woods; I was not trying to prove you wrong. I do believe that some information is justifiably classified. I agree troop movements should be kept secret. I just have a very strong opinion on our right to have access to information that is being kept secret for some unknown reason.

UFO secrecy and the actions of the people behind the concealment are illegal. In general, secrecy is dangerous because it can be abused. UFO secrecy is even more dangerous because the reasons for hiding it are not understood. It is easy to see why troop movements or weapon design information needs to be guarded. What are the reasons for UFO secrecy? What if the reasoning is not high minded, benevolent, or compassionate but instead for money, power, and control?

Secrecy is inherently dangerous and since we do not know the reasons behind it, we must assume the worst. History tells us that power corrupts and secrecy is power. Regardless of motivation we must always question and fear it.

Yours truly,

Frank

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Re: 140 Years Of UFO sightings - Part II

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 04:49:44 -0400
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 09:40:11 -0500
Subject: Re: 140 Years Of UFO sightings - Part II

>David G., again, sent me the following link to a portion of the
>Daily Telegraph's website in London, England:

><http://tinyurl.com/5gg3u3>

>140 years of UFO sightings - Part II

>ebk

The very first UFO; "What is often claimed to be the earliest picture of a UFO, this picture was taken from the summit of Mount Washington, New Hampshire, in 1870." This was determined to be a used cigar on frost snow on the top of Mount Washington, NH close to the observatory.

Note the Swastika on the band. It's in the UpDates archive at:

<http://tinyurl.com/6bh6ya>

Don Ledger

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Re: 140 Years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

From: Dave Haith <visions1.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 09:30:18 -0000
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 09:40:27 -0500
Subject: Re: 140 Years Of UFO Sightings - Part I

This looks like the source of the UK Daily Telegraph's recent UFO pictures.

<http://tinyurl.com/5php74>

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 06:52:41 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:45 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Dick Hall
>To: ufoupdates@virtuallystrange.net
>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:56:12 -0500
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>Carol,

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>Reality, imagination, fantasy... all seem to blur together in
>their thought patterns. And then they spew out the hodgepodge as
>if it were cutting edge thinking that we backward, scientific
>types are simply too out of it to comprehend.

I should point out that my own knowledge, inclinations, and
experience may put me in that nebulous category you are trying
to insult.

Carol

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Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 14:38:26 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:46:59 -0500
Subject: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

Source: Bernhard Haisch's UFOskeptical.Com - Redwood City,
California, USA

<http://www.ufoskeptical.org/>

February 19, 2006

Would The President Be Briefed On A UFO Special Access Program

In 1976 presidential candidate Jimmie Carter promised the American people that he would open any government UFO files that might exist. Recall that while governor of Georgia, Carter had a UFO sighting and actually filed a report. After winning election to President, Carter met with CIA Director George H. W. Bush seeking a briefing on the topic. Bush turned him down, claiming that neither as President nor as Commander-in-Chief did he have a "need to know." Once in office Carter turned to NASA for information, directing presidential science advisor Frank Press to ask NASA administrator Robert Frosch to "form a small panel of inquiry" to investigate the UFO situation. This letter and other correspondence may be found in "UFOs and NASA" (Journal of Scientific Exploration, pp. 93-142, 1988). Nothing at all came of this as recounted by Richard C. Henry - then a young astrophysicist (now a prominent Johns Hopkins professor) working as a deputy to the director of what was the Astrophysics Division at NASA headquarters - on whose desk this "hot potato" request landed. For five months NASA went through some amusing twists and turns, recounted by Henry, before politely declining.

Discounting the NASA farce, and assuming that any possible UFO program would exist as a Special Access Program in the Department of Defense, on what legal basis would the President and Commander-in-Chief be denied access? Bush apparently replied to the effect that if Carter could get Congress to vote to give him (Carter) clearance then he (Bush) would do it - implying that there was a binding law in effect that prohibited disclosure even to the President, under normal circumstances. That means that even if the incoming President asked someone who knew about the existence of such a program, that individual would be required by law to not only not tell the President, but also to actively mislead him, if necessary. (Such a policy is actually spelled out in controversial documents that researchers Ryan and Bob Wood obtained and traced back to CIA Director Allen Dulles in the 1950s. The source of these documents is unclear.) If a president today tried the same thing without the appropriate clearances (which he could not give to himself) he would likewise be told (legitimately) that there was nothing disclosable.

It is likely that the UFO topic is actually classified by one or more laws duly enacted by Congress in the late 1940s concerning national security - but without any overt reference to UFOs - and signed by President Truman. Only a handful of members of Congress would have known that more than Cold War issues were involved in this far-reaching national security legislation enacted at a time of near panic over a Soviet nuclear threat.

There are at least two bins into which the UFO topic could have been placed such that a future President could not unilaterally release it (legally) or, in fact, maybe even know about it. One bin is the category of Restricted Data (RD) established by the Atomic Energy Act in 1946 and pertains to Special Nuclear Material (SNM); another bin would be a Waived Special Access Program set up under the authority of the National Security Council, established by the National Security Act signed by Truman in 1947 (interestingly only a couple of weeks after the Roswell episode).

If this hypothesis is correct, then UFO information would be "Born Secret" by the Atomic Energy Act, and not releasable to anyone without at least an AEC "Q" clearance (and likely higher, R or above), plus a legitimate need to use it in his/her job. By law, all RD is "owned" by the AEC Commissioner at its inception. The AEC clearance standards are somewhat different than executive branch standards. In order to grant a Q or higher clearance, the Commissioner must find that the applicant is of "good moral character," among other things. Thus, if the Commissioner didn't like Richard Nixon's burglary at the Watergate Hotel, or Bill Clinton's dalliances, the Commissioner could withhold access to RD even on those grounds.

A new President who wants to know what the government knows about UFOs would have to be persistent, clever, and informed before beginning the quest, as Clinton's failed attempt via Associate Attorney General Webster Hubble attests. Simply issuing a presidential executive order declassifying the topic might yield the mistaken conclusion that there is no such material. The first step would be to determine under exactly what legal jurisdiction the matter is classified. This could best be accomplished by a small dedicated research team reporting directly and personally to the President with at least high enough clearances to be able to read all classified Presidential Decision Memoranda and the classified appendices to the Atomic Energy Act and the National Security Act.

See also Some Thoughts on Keeping It Secret:

<http://www.ufoskeptic.org/secret.html>

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 14](#)

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 15:42:08 -0000
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:59:01 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 19:27:10 -0400
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: John Rimmer <j.rimmer.nul>
>>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 20:30:41 +0000
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:31:49 EST
>>>Subject: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>><snip>

>>>Could they be employing new techniques? Are we losing this
>>>battle to expose abductions associated with UFOs?

>>No, 'they' are not using a new technique, they are using the
>>techniques associated with the fairy-folk, the sidhe, the
>>gentry, the boggarts, whatever you want to call them, for
>>centuries.

>Many of them from the British Isles if memory serves.
>Odd, huh?

A lot of these "reports" do come from the British Isles, yes.
Maybe a disproportionate number. But if so this is likely to be
an artefact of a skewed "reporting system" - i.e. the number of
enthusiastic amateur antiquaries in the UK, the growth of the
idea of folklore as an academic subject in the UK and the
popularity of this and related parapsychological ideas in the
culture of Victorian and Edwardian Britain.

In a real sense Britain (William Thoms) invented Folk-Lore in
1846, drawing together under an idea the activities of many
collectors going back to Aubrey (Miscellanies 1696) to Camden's
'Britannia' of about 1600 and beyond, and giving birth to
university anthropology and anthropological folklore via Tylor,
Lang and other seminal academics, with the creation of the
Folklore Society in 1876. There was a lot of real activity behind
this, not just theorising - actual fieldwork collecting stories
first hand from the "witnesses", respecting the idea of verbatim
records and treating folklore collection as a kind of scientific
journalism - just like ufology really. This was new.

According to Richard Dorson's "The British Folklorists: A
History" (RKP 1968, including 2 companion volumes "Peasant
Customs & Savage Myths" running to an epic 1200pp): "How the
theory and pursuit of folklore eveolev in England and were
transported throughout the British islea, the British Empire,
and the world at large is the story of this book." And Dorson
could appreciate this dissemination from the perspective of
Professor of History & Folklore at the University of Indiana.

So there is a huge amount of material from the UK, and a
proportionately large amount of commentary. And it's hardly

surprising that the British material appears to dominate the literature, especially from the perspective of an English-language reader.

Nevertheless, the "phenomena" uncovered by all these collectors and analysts was especially notable for one fact, which created terrific controversy over competing explanations and (I think it safe to say) is to this day not really understood: People all over the world, from many types of cultures and without any realistic possibility of historical cross-contamination, all "reported" the same types of folkloric experiences. This is probably nowhere more notable and circumstantial than in the case of the many variants of the fairyt tradition.

People like John Michel and Vallee in the 60s and 70s rediscovered this in the context of ufology. Highly unfashionable today, but I'm still fascinated and intrigued by this angle.

Martin Shough

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Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:14:22 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 12:02:42 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Martin Shough
>To:
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 15:42:08 -0000
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: Don Ledger
>>To: ufoupdates@virtuallystrange.net
>>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 19:27:10 -0400
>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>>From: John Rimmer
>>>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 20:30:41 +0000
>>>To:
>>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>>>From: Greg Boone
>>>>To: ufoupdates@virtuallystrange.net
>>>>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 15:31:49 EST
>>>>Subject: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

Hi, Martin,

>According to Richard Dorson's "The British Folklorists: A
>History" (RKP 1968, including 2 companion volumes "Peasant
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>theory and pursuit of folklore eveolev in England and were
>transported throughout the British islea, the British Empire,
>and the world at large is the story of this book." And Dorson
>could appreciate this dissemination from the perspective of
>Professor of History & Folklore at the University of Indiana.

That's Indiana University, not University of Indiana.

>Nevertheless, the "phenomena" uncovered by all these collectors
>and analysts was expecially notable for one fact, which created
>terrific controversy over competing explanations and (I think it
>safe to say) is to this day not really understood: People all
>over the world, from many types of cultures and without any
>realistic possibility of historical cross-contamination, all
>"reported" the same types of folkloric experiences. This is
>probably nowhere more notable and circumstantial than in the
>case of the many variants of the fairyt tradition.

I don't understand why you've put scare quotes around reported.
Whatever the nature of the stimuli that led to the reporting,
there can be no question that many people reported such things,
sometimes as firsthand encounters. The reports are not open to
question; it's their content that induces headaches, puzzlement,
aggravation, and the like among those who pay attention to them.

>People like John Michel and Vallee in the 60s and 70s
>rediscovered this in the context of ufology. Highly
>unfashionable today, but I'm still fascinated and intrigued by
>this angle.

I have made a fresh attempt at it, in my lecture to the Society
for Scientific Exploration this past June. A modestly revised
version ("Experience Anomalies; or, How to Believe One's

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

Informants Without Believing Their Explanations" - the manuscript title anyway) will appear soon in Fortean Times.

Jerry Clark

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:14:22 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 12:09:22 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Carol Maltby
>To: ufoupdates@virtuallystrange.net
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 06:52:41 -0500
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>From: Dick Hall
>>To: ufoupdates@virtuallystrange.net
>>Date: Thu, 13 Nov 2008 11:56:12 -0500
>>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>Carol,

>>I think there are several people on this List who are in a
>>perpetual altered state of consciousness. :^)

>>Reality, imagination, fantasy... all seem to blur together in
>>their thought patterns. And then they spew out the hodgepodge as
>>if it were cutting edge thinking that we backward, scientific
>>types are simply too out of it to comprehend.

>I should point out that my own knowledge, inclinations, and
>experience may put me in that nebulous category you are trying
>to insult.

>Carol

Carol,

If the shoe fits... However, I was trying to describe or
characterize a certain type of muddled thinking that goes on as
a matter of fact. If anyone is insulted by that, so be it. I
don't see anything "nebulous" about it, and so far I haven't
seen you practice what I am talking about.

There is nothing wrong with using imagination while evaluating
something. When used properly, it is almost essential. What I am
attempting to point out is that there are all too many people
who don't seem to know the difference between facts and
reasonable inferences on the one hand, and flights of fancy and
untethered imagination on the other.

Dick

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Another Host Outage

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 14:38:26 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 14:38:26 -0500
Subject: Another Host Outage

Unfortunately, again, an outage at the VSN host has probably caused some bounces of subscriber List-mail, here. It also caused the Latest 100 Messages list at the Archive to brain-cramp, re-setting to zero messages.

If you're in the habit of logging in and using that Latest page, please go to the Archive main page to read what missed there for the next while.

This post should appear there...

And if you've sent submissions for the List and they haven't appeared please re-send.

Thanks for your patience - its causing me just a tad of anxiety <VBG>

ebk

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Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 14:50:14 -0500
Archived: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 14:50:14 -0500
Subject: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

Source: Kevin Randle's Blog

<http://tinyurl.com/66mj7n>

Friday, November 14, 2008

Needles UFO Crash May 14, 2008

At the 6th Annual UFO Crash Retrieval Conference in Las Vegas (registration area seen here), George Knapp told of a UFO crash along the Colorado River near Needles, California on May 14, 2008. Make no mistake here. There was a UFO crash, but also remember that UFO doesn't necessarily translate into extraterrestrial.

Knapp told the audience during his Keynote address that he had investigated the case from the beginning, talked to the witnesses, and learned that five helicopters had flown into the area within minutes of the crash. Something real had happened.

According to witnesses, about three in the morning, a cylinder-shaped object with a turquoise glow, fell out of the sky and crashed west of the Colorado River. A witness, known as Bob on the River (because he lives on a houseboat and they "bob" in the water as they float) and who lives in Topock, Arizona said that he had seen the object as it flew over. He thought it was on fire. He didn't see it hit the ground, given the terrain, but he did hear it. He told Knapp that it smacked into the sand.

Bob tried to call for help, but his satellite phone wouldn't work. Not long after the crash, however, he heard the pulsating beat of rotor blades and saw five helicopters in a loose formation heading toward the crash site. One of them broke off to circle his houseboat and then rejoined the others. These might have been Huey's, though it seems that's a name applied to many helicopters. I suspect that they were Black Hawks, but no matter.

The helicopters located the wreck and according to Bob on the River, the fifth helicopter known as a Sky Crane retrieved the object. Although unseen by any of the witnesses, some of the helicopters had to land so that the object, whatever it was, could be rigged for lifting.

Bob said that the object, still glowing, was airlifted from the site, and carried away. All the helicopters went with it.

Had Bob on the River been the lone witness we might have been able to dismiss his story as the musings of a loner who lived on a houseboat. This is not to mention that not long after this happened, Bob disappeared.

Frank Costigan, once the chief of airport security at the Los Angeles airport and a retired police chief and a man who would seem to be more credible than Bob, said that he had seen the object when he got up at three to let out his cat. He said that

he knew the object was not a meteorite because it seemed to change speed. According to Costigan, it was bright enough to have illuminated the ground. It disappeared behind some hills and didn't reappear. Clearly it was down.

In a bizarre incident, David Hayes, the owner of KTOX radio in Needles, said that on his way to work he saw a strange assortment of odd vehicles getting off the highway. He produced a rough drawing that he showed to George Knapp (seen here). This seemed to be a "Men in Black" sighting.

There were all sorts of other, seemingly related events. According to what Knapp learned, "Out of the blue the station got a call from a friend in Laughlin [also on the Colorado River] who said the Laughlin Airport had been inundated on the night of the crash with so-called Janet planes. That's the airline that flies workers to top secret Area 51. Costigan says the airport could not confirm this because no one is on duty after 6 p.m... not even the tower."

Knapp continued, "The black vehicles have left Needles. Bob the houseboat guy can't be found either... The point is, something definitely happened."

Knapp, of course, continued the investigation. He learned that the vehicles, sometimes black, were often seen in the Needles area and he, along with his camera crew were able to spot and photograph them. Knapp said that he joined in the formation as it drove down the road. One of the vehicles eventually pulled over and Knapp did the same thing.

There was an encounter with the crew, who were armed and who suggested they were federal agents. One of them flashed an ID at Knapp who said that he hadn't gotten a good look at it and was shown it again.

Eventually the confrontation, if that's what it was, ended and everyone went on their own way. Later Knapp received a call from a friend with the Department of Energy who told Knapp he was lucky that the confrontation ended as peacefully as it did.

Knapp would learn that these agents, black vehicles and all, had nothing to do with the UFO crash, if that's what it was, but with a very real and security-wrapped federal mission. Knapp would be the first reporter allowed to see the training of the agents. These dark vehicles, often on the roads around Needles had nothing to do with the object's crash.

So, one mystery solved, but what happened to Bob on the River? Knapp eventually found him and talked to him at length about what he had seen. Bob on the River couldn't add much to the descriptions that others had, or rather, he had given to others. The object struck with a thud, like something smacking into sand.

Knapp said, at the Crash Retrieval Conference that he knew Bob's real name and even showed us video of the interviews that hadn't aired on Las Vegas television. Bob told a solid story and his somewhat unorthodox life style didn't play into it. Bob on the River had seen something fall out of the sky.

Knapp, in his presentation made it clear the helicopters had been on the scene in less than twenty minutes and that meant that someone, somewhere, had been monitoring the progress of the object. Someone, somewhere knew what it was. Knapp gave the impression that he didn't believe it to be of extraterrestrial origin. The next day, meaning the next day after Knapp's presentation and not the next day after the crash, I had a chance to talk to Knapp about this. He told me that he believed, based on what he had seen and learned, that the object was an experimental craft that had failed. The helicopters got there too fast for anything else.

In the end, there are two solutions to this. One is the extraterrestrial, but that seems to be the least likely. The other is that this was an experimental object, probably some sort of advanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) belonging to the US government. They retrieved it before anyone in Needles or Topock got a good look at it. At the moment, that is the explanation that I prefer.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 07:53:10 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 07:53:10 -0500
Subject: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void- Sarasota, Florida

<http://tinyurl.com/5gnjyj>

Friday, November 14, 2008

Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

By Billy Cox

It's a rare thing to see the conceits of establishment science splashed out in the Letters to the Editor. But that's just what happened over the past week in The Tallahassee Democrat. Check it out:

Since late August, the Mary Brogan Museum of Art & Science in Tallahassee has been hosting a Roswell Exhibit. Old news clippings from that 1947 UFO event, audio, space aliens, all that. The display runs through December.

Last weekend, the Museum also sponsored two lectures by Stan Friedman, who helped revive public curiosity in the coverup by turning his research into several books. Florida State University physics Prof. Dr. Paul Cottle, an otherwise thoughtful guy who helped revise teaching standards in Florida schools, hit the roof and uncorked an ad hominem tirade.

Leading with how his peers had worked hard to protect students from "the threat of pseudoscience undermining scientific literacy in our state," Cottle labeled Friedman "a well known charlatan," questioned his credentials as a nuclear physicist, and accused the Museum of undermining efforts to "improve the scientific environment in Tallahassee."

That sparked a swift riposte from Museum executive director Chucha Barber. Friedman, she wrote, "received B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics from the University of Chicago in 1956 and 1956. He was employed for 14 years as a nuclear physicist for such companies as GE, GM, Westinghouse, TRW Systems, Aerojet General Nucleonics and McDonnell Douglas."

Furthermore, "Last I checked, Florida public education was not including beliefs about UFOs among testing standards." In defending the Museum's mission, Barber added: "UFOs and dinosaurs attract people of all ages to, we hope, seek truth, learn more and perhaps be entertained while inspired."

That generated a broadside from Dr. Gregory Boebinger, director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory in Tallahassee. Boebinger said Barber's letter "misses the point" of Cottle's critique.

"Is the Brogan planning to host future exhibits on palm reading and astrology? Surely," he wrote, "when a science museum hosts often-debunked pseudoscience, it is not only using 'a variety of entertaining experiences to attract audiences to science,' as Ms. Barber contends, but also insidiously endorsing

pseudoscience and attracting our children and the public away from science."

UFOs = palm reading and astrology? Boebinger forgot to add pedophilia.

Anyhow, the best efforts of Cottle and Boebinger went for naught. According to Barber, Friedman lectured to a packed house; people had to be turned away.

"But what troubled me about it," Barber says, "is that I've been in this business for 25 years and I've never felt compelled to write a letter to the editor defending my museum experiences. Getting people to think is what we're supposed to do."

Barber recalls the spirited debate that unfolded last summer when members of the Museum's science and arts committees contemplated staging the Roswell Exhibit. "One of the science guys said, 'This isn't science,' and one of the others said, 'I don't know why it wouldn't be science.' A great dialogue ensued and my board president turned to me and said, 'We're gonna host the Roswell Exhibit.'"

"The museum doesn't promote a particular ideology or a point of view on Roswell. But clearly, it creates a lot of emotion, and who's to say a kid who sees this stuff won't be motivated to learn more about the universe?"

From his home in New Brunswick, Canada, Friedman is still smarting from Cottle's attack. "Since when is name-calling a scientist's appropriate response to something?" he says. "He calls me a charlatan without giving any reason for it, and he labels UFOs a pseudoscience without stating why. It's science by proclamation."

Being scientists, no doubt Cottle and Boebinger are familiar with Project Blue Book Special Report #14, in which Air Force analysts determined that roughly 20 percent of their UFO reports were legitimate unknowns by the mid-1950s. And of course they'd read the disturbing 1999 French COMETA Report, presented by the Institute of Higher Studies for National Defense with a foreword by the former chair of the French National Center for Space Studies.

Naturally, being scientists, they had also acquainted themselves with *The UFO Enigma: A New Review Of The Physical Evidence*, authored by a team of scientists assembled by Dr. Peter Sturrock, professor emeritus of applied physics at Stanford University.

And, in the rigorous spirit of scientific inquiry, they had probably already reviewed the FAA/National Weather Service radar records of the Stephenville, Tex., UFO incident in January. Surely, they had perfectly logical explanations for why the military refuses to release its own radar records, as well as the uncensored flight logs of the F-16s that pursued the object.

De Void wanted to discuss the pseudo-scientific aspects of these and other studies with the offended parties. But Cottle's e-mail response was terse: "I'm not going to comment further. My letter to the editor was a message to my local community, and I'm going to leave it at that."

Boebinger didn't bother to respond at all.

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 21:00:15 -0000
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 07:55:52 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:14:22 -0500
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 15:42:08 -0000
>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

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>>transported throughout the British islea, the British Empire,
>>and the world at large is the story of this book." And Dorson
>>could appreciate this dissemination from the perspective of
>>Professor of History & Folklore at the University of Indiana.

>That's Indiana University, not University of Indiana.

Pardon me, Jerry. You're quite right.

>>Nevertheless, the "phenomena" uncovered by all these collectors
>>and analysts was especially notable for one fact, which created
>>terrific controversy over competing explanations and (I think it
>>safe to say) is to this day not really understood: People all
>>over the world, from many types of cultures and without any
>>realistic possibility of historical cross-contamination, all
>>"reported" the same types of folkloric experiences. This is
>>probably nowhere more notable and circumstantial than in the
>>case of the many variants of the fairyt tradition.

>I don't understand why you've put scare quotes around reported.
>Whatever the nature of the stimuli that led to the reporting,
>there can be no question that many people reported such things,
>sometimes as firsthand encounters. The reports are not open to
>question; it's their content that induces headaches, puzzlement,
>aggravation, and the like among those who pay attention to
>them.

This reads as though the 19thC folkloric context was a
respectful curiosity about folk beliefs as possible sources of
information about genuinely unusual experiences, a position at
which I am sneering by putting quotes around "reported". Of
course that was far from the case (in general; see below) and my
motive is exactly opposite to this.

I wish to encourage the idea that much of the information
collected by folklorists can be seen as having a similar
status to the ufologists' "reports", and that by transferring
the jargon across in this way one gets a different perspective
on the ways these two areas of study might still have the
potential to cross-fertilise one another.

Those sources were not then seen in the context of "reports" made
by living individuals about "experiences" or "phenomena" but as
tales or stories to be deconstructed as illustrating some theory
of mythological symbolism, rumour transmission, linguistic

corruption or whatever. This was the widespread attitude prevailing before the epoch I was writing of, and to which the corrective factors were:

- 1) the Folk Lore Society and "scientific" (sorry of that; scary) systematisation of folklore recording and publishing;
- 2) the growth of the number of folklore collectors realising the wealth of first-hand material "out there" to be gathered on the ground
- 3) the influence of psychical research and specifically cross-over folklorists associated with the SPR like Andrew Lang, who pushed for the establishment (embodied in dignified elder statesmen like Sir Edward Clodd and the FLS) to realise that folklore was not about antiquated mythologies or the fables of primitive tribes but was about the kind of things (fire walking, apparitions, ghost lights - and fairies) being described today in circumstantial accounts by known and often creditable real people.

One could go on, but the point is that for these accounts of fairies etc to be thought of (in many cases) as "reports" - particulars rooted in individual experience and told "for true", not just romances handed down by the local bard or seanchaidh or wise woman - and to be given the respect at least of good journalism if not of proper scientific analysis, requires an attitude of mind that the early folklorists could no more share or understand than could Joe Public today, for whom a "fairy story" remains the epitome of a tissue of silly make-believe - in spite of Andrew Lang's project from about 1870 to reinterpret folklore as a branch of comparative parapsychology. His impatience with Aryan philology and his "scientific" interest in examinations of mediums and hauntings etc had a big influence on folklorists, and entertained popular readers, but his program was never carried through - probably in the end because the parapsychologists of the SPR never succeeded in sealing their own end of the tacit bargain by convincing the physicists of their day.

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>>People like John Michel and Vallee in the 60s and 70s
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>version ("Experience Anomalies; or, How to Believe One's
>Informants Without Believing Their Explanations" - the
>manuscript title anyway) will appear soon in Fortean Times.

Thanks, I'll look out for it.

Martin

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena 'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

From: **Franklin Fields** <fields.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 16:21:43 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 08:39:21 -0500
Subject: Re: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

>Source: Kevin Randle's Blog

><http://tinyurl.com/66mj7n>

>Friday, November 14, 2008

>Needles UFO Crash May 14, 2008

<snip>

>Eventually the confrontation, if that's what it was, ended and
>everyone went on their own way. Later Knapp received a call from
>a friend with the Department of Energy who told Knapp he was
>lucky that the confrontation ended as peacefully as it did.

Lucky it ended peacefully? This is type of activity from the
federal government is pretty spooky. Is this okay for any
reason? I think not.

>Knapp would learn that these agents, black vehicles and all, had
>nothing to do with the UFO crash, if that's what it was, but
>with a very real and security-wrapped federal mission. Knapp
>would be the first reporter allowed to see the training of the
>agents. These dark vehicles, often on the roads around Needles
>had nothing to do with the object's crash.

Why should Knapp or anyone else believe their story? Would they
say it was not a UFO if they were trying to cover it up? Yes.

>So, one mystery solved, but what happened to Bob on the River?
>Knapp eventually found him and talked to him at length about
>what he had seen. Bob on the River couldn't add much to the
>descriptions that others had, or rather, he had given to others.
>The object struck with a thud, like something smacking into
>sand.

<snip>

>Knapp, in his presentation made it clear the helicopters had
>been on the scene in less than twenty minutes and that meant
>that someone, somewhere, had been monitoring the progress of the
>object.

Why does this set of events rule out an extraterrestrial origin?
It is very possible that an alien craft (crashing or on fire)
would be picked up by NORAD.

>Someone, somewhere knew what it was. Knapp gave the
>impression that he didn't believe it to be of extraterrestrial
>origin. The next day, meaning the next day after Knapp's
>presentation and not the next day after the crash, I had a
>chance to talk to Knapp about this. He told me that he believed,
>based on what he had seen and learned, that the object was an
>experimental craft that had failed. The helicopters got there
>too fast for anything else.

>In the end, there are two solutions to this. One is the
>extraterrestrial, but that seems to be the least likely. The

>other is that this was an experimental object, probably some
>sort of advanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) belonging to the
>US government. They retrieved it before anyone in Needles or
>Topock got a good look at it. At the moment, that is the
>explanation that I prefer.

<snip>

I do not see information in this post that indicates an
extraterrestrial explanation is not possible.

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 22:43:23 -0000
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:40:00 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:14:22 -0500
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 15:42:08 -0000
>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>According to Richard Dorson's "The British Folklorists: A
>>History" (RKP 1968, including 2 companion volumes "Peasant
>>Customs & Savage Myths" running to an epic 1200pp): "How the
>>theory and pursuit of folklore eveolev in England and were
>>transported throughout the British islea, the British Empire,
>>and the world at large is the story of this book." And Dorson
>>could appreciate this dissemination from the perspective of
>>Professor of History & Folklore at the University of Indiana.

>That's Indiana University, not University of Indiana.

Pardon me, Jerry. You're quite right.

>>Nevertheless, the "phenomena" uncovered by all these collectors
>>and analysts was especially notable for one fact, which created
>>terrific controversy over competing explanations and (I think >it
>>safe to say) is to this day not really understood: People all
>>over the world, from many types of cultures and without any
>>realistic possibility of historical cross-contamination, all
>>"reported" the same types of folkloric experiences. This is
>>probably nowhere more notable and circumstantial than in the
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>I don't understand why you've put scare quotes around reported.
>Whatever the nature of the stimuli that led to the reporting,
>there can be no question that many people reported such things,
>sometimes as firsthand encounters. The reports are not open to
>question; it's their content that induces headaches, puzzlement,
>aggravation, and the like among those who pay attention to
>them.

This reads as though the 19thC folkloric context was a
respectful curiosity about folk beliefs as possible sources of
information about genuinely unusual experiences, a position at
which I am sneering by putting quotes around "reported". Of
course that was far from the case (in general; see below) and my
motive is exactly opposite to this.

I wish to encourage the idea that much of the information
collected by folklorists can be seen as having a similar
status to the ufologists' "reports", and that by transferring
the jargon across in this way one gets a different perspective
on the ways these two areas of study might still have the
potential to cross-fertilise one another.

Those sources were not then seen in the context of "reports"
made by living individuals about "experiences" or "phenomena" but
as tales or stories to be deconstructed as illustrating some
theory of mythological symbolism, rumour transmission,

linguistic corruption or whatever. This was the widespread attitude prevailing before the epoch I was writing of, and to which the corrective factors were:

1) the Folk Lore Society and "scientific" (sorry of that; scary) systematisation of folklore recording and publishing ; 2) the growth of the number of folklore collectors realising the wealth of first-hand material "out there" to be gathered on the ground

3) the influence of psychical research and specifically cross-over folklorists associated with the SPR like Andrew Lang, who pushed for the establishment (embodied in dignified elder statesmen like Sir Edward Clodd and the FLS) to realise that folklore was not about antiquated mythologies or the fables of primitive tribes but was about the kind of things (fire walking, apparitions, ghost lights - and fairies) being described _today_ in circumstantial accounts by known and often creditable real people.

One could go on, but the point is that for these accounts of fairies etc to be thought of (in many cases) as "reports" - particulars rooted in individual experience and told "for true", not just romances handed down by the local bard or seanchaidh or wise woman - and to be given the respect at least of good journalism if not of proper scientific analysis, requires an attitude of mind that the early folklorists could no more share or understand than could Joe Public today, for whom a "fairy story" remains the epitome of a tissue of silly make-believe - in spite of Andrew Lang's project from about 1870 to reinterpret folklore as a branch of comparative parapsychology. His impatience with Aryan philology and his "scientific" interest in examinations of mediums and hauntings etc had a big influence on folklorists, and entertained popular readers, but his program was never carried through - probably in the end because the parapsychologists of the SPR never succeeded in sealing their own end of the tacit bargain by convincing the physicists of their day.

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>version ("Experience Anomalies; or, How to Believe One's
>Informants Without Believing Their Explanations" - the
>manuscript title anyway) will appear soon in Fortean Times.

Thanks, I'll look out for it.

Martin

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:41:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>Source: Bernhard Haisch's UFOSkeptic.Com - Redwood City,
California, USA

<http://www.ufoskeptic.org/>

>February 19, 2006

>Would The President Be Briefed On A UFO Special Access Program

>In 1976 presidential candidate Jimmie Carter promised the
>American people that he would open any government UFO files that
>might exist. Recall that while governor of Georgia, Carter had a
>UFO sighting and actually filed a report. After winning election
>to President, Carter met with CIA Director George H. W. Bush
>seeking a briefing on the topic. Bush turned him down, claiming
>that neither as President nor as Commander-in-Chief did he have
>a "need to know."

<snip>

>on what legal basis would the President
>and Commander-in-Chief be denied access? Bush apparently replied
>to the effect that if Carter could get Congress to vote to give
>him (Carter) clearance then he (Bush) would do it - implying
>that there was a binding law in effect that prohibited
>disclosure even to the President, under normal circumstances.

There isn't a shred of evidence presented that any such
conversation ever took place between President Carter and then
DCI Bush, and it is laughable on its face.

Bush resigned as DCI Director of Central Intelligence) effective
the day that Carter took office, on Jan. 20, 1977.

Why couldn't Carter just ask his own DCI whom he personally
appointed, Admiral Stansfield Turner??

The story is more MJ-12-type hogwash, coming from Daniel
Sheehan without a stitch of documentation, and served up as
factual history.

Brad Sparks

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Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Lecture - The Physics Of UFOs

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:51:10 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:51:10 -0500
Subject: Lecture - The Physics Of UFOs

Source: The University Of Illinois At Urbana-Champaign, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/6yo686>

11/15/2008

Saturday Physics: The Physics Of UFOs

Speaker: Professor Kevin Pitts, Physics, U. of Illinois

Date: Nov 22, 2008

Time: 10:15 am

Location: 141 Loomis, 1110 W. Green Street, Urbana

Sponsor: Department of Physics

Contact: Toni Pitts

E-Mail: tpitts.nul

Phone: 217-244-2948

Event type: Lecture

Original Calendar: Physics - Saturday Physics Honors Program

Has Earth been visited by extraterrestrials? We've all heard fantastic stories of UFO sightings, but is there any hard evidence to back up these stories? We will take a look at the question of alien visitation from a scientific standpoint. What does our understanding of modern physics have to say about UFO claims?

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:59:11 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:59:11 -0500
Subject: Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

Source: The Northbrook Star - Glenview, Illinois, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/6npg85>

November 14, 2008

Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

By Irv Leavitt
ileavitt.nul

[Images of car at site]

Did magnetic waves from a visiting UFO warp, dent and wrinkle the side of a car heading east on Lake-Cook Road?

It may be more likely that a deer did the damage. But local UFO enthusiasts are looking into the Nov. 4 event just to make sure, and are planning scientific tests on the car.

"What could have caused this?" Sam Matrano, Illinois director of the Mutual UFO Network, wants to know. The driver "was driving down the road at 40-45 mph and felt a little bump, but the damage to the car is really extensive. It must have been something powerful."

Most of the driver's side of the 2008 Mitubishi sedan is caved in, but there's hardly a scratch in the paint. The side mirror hangs from its cables.

The driver, a 21-year-old Northbrook Court employee, told Northbrook police she saw no cars around as she headed to the Edens Expressway at around 9:19 p.m. She only "felt a nudge against my car," according to the supplementary report she filed.

Noting the missing mirror, she pulled over at Revere Drive and found the side of the car mangled.

Last week, Matrano's organization posted pictures of the car on the National UFO Reporting Center Web site, www.nuforc.org, with the driver's explanation.

The driver said police suspected she'd been sideswiped. But that seems unlikely given "The entire left side of my car appears to be scorched but no paint was removed," the driver is quoted as saying on the Web site.

The item was posted again Nov. 10 on the Internet forum page for the Discovery Channels' "Mythbusters" show, where one wag wrote: "Sounds like someone was out doing something she wasn't supposed to, possibly with someone she wasn't supposed to be with, and concocted this silly story."

Matrano said the driver no longer will talk about the incident publicly and doesn't want her name revealed.

Matrano has heard claims of other-worldly encounters before. A Minnesota deputy sheriff he interviewed in 1979 said his patrol car was battered.

"He said this ball of energy went through his windshield," Matrano said. "He felt like he was hit by a 200-pound pillow.

"The clock in the car was 14 minutes slow."

The clock in the Northbrook Court employee's Mitsubishi remained accurate, Matrano said, and there's no indication that something not of this earth had visited it.

"I'm not looking to find an alien under every rock," he said.

Still, he's intrigued.

There's a deep dent in the pillar separating the windshield from the door frame, and it seems to fit the shape of the mirror. But the mirror is plastic, and the pillar is thick steel. That's like dropping an egg in a skillet and seeing the egg dent the pan, he said.

Thursday night, he walked along the Lake-Cook Road median looking for mirror pieces, trying to establish that, at least, the driver was telling the truth about where the incident occurred.

As six lanes of rush-hour traffic whizzed by, the Orland Park insurance salesman plucked a little triangular gasket off the concrete and rejoiced. The following day, he had confirmed it as coming from the mirror, he said.

That morning, a manager of a body shop near the driver's Chicago apartment looked at the car. On first glance, "That's a sideswipe," Jimmy Cios, of Leo's Body Shop, said.

Then Cios noticed there were no scratches or paint transfers, so he guessed someone had vandalized the car with something with no sharp edges.

Finally, he settled on a deer collision. He figured the deer hit the car on an angle, and "sort of rolled along the side."

Matrano favors the deer theory too, but isn't fully convinced because no blood or hair was found on the car.

Marty Jones, head of the state Urban Deer Project since 1989, favors the deer theory as well.

"If it was a glancing blow, it may not have even skinned the deer up, other than where it hit that mirror," he said. "The deer may have just run off, and it may be still running around. It's amazing what deer can sustain."

Both Jones and Cios guessed the driver was on her cell phone Nov. 4, and the distraction caused her to miss seeing what hit the vehicle or feel the impact.

"And if you're traveling in a 4,000-pound car and hit something that weighs 300," Cios said, "the thing you hit is going to feel it a lot more than you."

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 09:52:03 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:29:26 -0500
Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 22:43:23 -0000
>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 10:14:22 -0500
>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 15:42:08 -0000
>>>Subject: Re: First Missing Time Now Missing Space?

>>>Nevertheless, the "phenomena" uncovered by all these collectors
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>information about genuinely unusual experiences, a position at
>which I am sneering by putting quotes around "reported". Of
>course that was far from the case (in general; see below) and my
>motive is exactly opposite to this.

<snip>

I appreciate your clarification and have no quarrel with your
subsequent remarks. Knowing something of the history you address
(I have an academic-folklore section in my personal library), I
believe you have represented it fairly and accurately.

I have an interest in how claims evolve from outrageous heresies
- which all right-thinking elites must squelch in order to save
civilization itself (resulting, in extreme cases, in
professional debunkers and debunking organizations) - to mere
harmless "folklore." Surely, the key element in that transition
occurs - you noted something of the same - when claimed personal
experiences of the extraordinary are treated over time as if
indistinguishable from larger cultural beliefs and traditions.

Also unexamined (at least in any serious, systematic fashion) is
the potential relationship between those experiences and those
cultural traditions, though at least one folklorist I've read

has acknowledged that belief in mermen and mermaids was "experience-driven."

>>>People like John Michel and Vallee in the 60s and 70s
>>>rediscovered this in the context of ufology. Highly
>>>unfashionable today, but I'm still fascinated and intrigued by
>>>this angle.

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>>version ("Experience Anomalies; or, How to Believe One's
>>Informants Without Believing Their Explanations" - the
>>manuscript title anyway) will appear soon in Fortean Times.

>Thanks, I'll look out for it.

Less than an hour after I'd written and sent those words about my Fortean Times article, advance copies of the issue (#243) arrived in my mail. The piece is titled "Experience Anomalies," and it appears on pp. 42-47.

Jerry Clark

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Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:12:37 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:31:26 -0500
Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void- Sarasota, Florida

><http://tinyurl.com/5gnjyj>

>Friday, November 14, 2008

>Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

<snip>

>Boebinger didn't bother to respond at all.

Hello,

After I got home Saturday from the Brogan Museum, I sent a response to Boebinger's letter to the editor. For those interested, my response can be seen at:

<http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID08811130303>

Kelly

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Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: **Stanton T Friedman** <fsphys.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:16:44 -0400
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:53:34 -0500
Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void- Sarasota, Florida

><http://tinyurl.com/5gnjyj>

>Friday, November 14, 2008

>Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>By Billy Cox

>It's a rare thing to see the conceits of establishment science
>splashed out in the Letters to the Editor. But that's just what
>happened over the past week in The Tallahassee Democrat. Check
>it out:

>Since late August, the Mary Brogan Museum of Art & Science in
>Tallahassee has been hosting a Roswell Exhibit. Old news
>clippings from that 1947 UFO event, audio, space aliens, all
>that. The display runs through December.

>Last weekend, the Museum also sponsored two lectures by Stan
>Friedman, who helped revive public curiosity in the coverup by
>turning his research into several books. Florida State
>University physics Prof. Dr. Paul Cottle, an otherwise
>thoughtful guy who helped revise teaching standards in Florida
>schools, hit the roof and uncorked an ad hominem tirade.

>Leading with how his peers had worked hard to protect students
>from "the threat of pseudoscience undermining scientific
>literacy in our state," Cottle labeled Friedman "a well known
>charlatan," questioned his credentials as a nuclear physicist,
>and accused the Museum of undermining efforts to "improve the
>scientific environment in Tallahassee."

<snip>

This was a very strange experience as I know neither of these
two distinguished physicists.

I suspect that one of the skeptic groups in Florida saw an
announcement about my speaking at the Brogan and made the
defamatory comment about "well known charlatan" and
"pseudoscientist".

Anybody on this List have any suggestions as to the source?

Stan Friedman

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A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

From: Kevin Randle <KRandle993.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:35:01 EST
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 11:55:47 -0500
Subject: Re: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 16:21:43 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Randle On The Needles UFO Crash

>>Source: Kevin Randle's Blog

>><http://tinyurl.com/66mj7n>

>>Friday, November 14, 2008

>>Needles UFO Crash May 14, 2008

><snip>

>>Eventually the confrontation, if that's what it was, ended and
>>everyone went on their own way. Later Knapp received a call from
>>a friend with the Department of Energy who told Knapp he was
>>lucky that the confrontation ended as peacefully as it did.

>Lucky it ended peacefully? This is type of activity from the
>federal government is pretty spooky. Is this okay for any
>reason? I think not.

Meaning that Knapp and his crew were not arrested for
interfering with government agents who are completing their
mission. Sometimes, believe it or not, the government does have
the right to do things especially in the interest of national
security and public safety. I say this with the real fear that
it will launch a discussion about what is in the interest of
national security and what is not and more rude comments about
the Bush administration trampling all over the Constitution (and
yes, I'm well aware that they have trampled portions of it in
the best tradition of Big Brother, but that's really not the
issue here.)

>>Knapp would learn that these agents, black vehicles and all, had
>>nothing to do with the UFO crash, if that's what it was, but
>>with a very real and security-wrapped federal mission. Knapp
>>would be the first reporter allowed to see the training of the
>>agents. These dark vehicles, often on the roads around Needles
>>had nothing to do with the object's crash.

>Why should Knapp or anyone else believe their story? Would they
>say it was not a UFO if they were trying to cover it up? Yes.

Because he learned what their mission was... transportation of
toxic and valuable cargos. He was given access to their training
facilities, and he was allowed to see some of what they do. It
was clear to Knapp, and I saw no reason to doubt what he said,
that this agency has nothing to do with UFOs and their presence
in the area was a coincidence and nothing more. Sometimes
coincidences happen.

>>So, one mystery solved, but what happened to Bob on the River?
>>Knapp eventually found him and talked to him at length about
>>what he had seen. Bob on the River couldn't add much to the

>>descriptions that others had, or rather, he had given to others.
>>The object struck with a thud, like something smacking into
>>sand.

><snip>

>>Knapp, in his presentation made it clear the helicopters had
>>been on the scene in less than twenty minutes and that meant
>>that someone, somewhere, had been monitoring the progress of the
>>object.

>Why does this set of events rule out an extraterrestrial origin?
>It is very possible that an alien craft (crashing or on fire)
>would be picked up by NORAD.

Didn't say that it did... was suggesting only that someone,
somewhere had been monitoring the progress of the object. Where
did I say that it couldn't have been extraterrestrial?

>>Someone, somewhere knew what it was. Knapp gave the
>>impression that he didn't believe it to be of extraterrestrial
>>origin. The next day, meaning the next day after Knapp's
>>presentation and not the next day after the crash, I had a
>>chance to talk to Knapp about this. He told me that he believed,
>>based on what he had seen and learned, that the object was an
>>experimental craft that had failed. The helicopters got there
>>too fast for anything else.

>>In the end, there are two solutions to this. One is the
>>extraterrestrial, but that seems to be the least likely. The
>>other is that this was an experimental object, probably some
>>sort of advanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) belonging to the
>>US government. They retrieved it before anyone in Needles or
>>Topock got a good look at it. At the moment, that is the
>>explanation that I prefer.

><snip>

>I do not see information in this post that indicates an
>extraterrestrial explanation is not possible.

I'm tempted to say something snotty here, but will point out
that I don't say the extraterrestrial is not possible, I suggest it
is not the preferred answer. This seems to be a case of something
manmade crashing, and that is the answer I prefer, but there is
nothing here to rule out the extraterrestrial.

And before someone points out that I said at the beginning that
UFO doesn't necessarily translate into the extraterrestrial, I
will note that UFO means unidentified rather than alien. I meant
nothing more than that.

Krandle
www.KevinRandle.blogspot.com

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: **Joe Merrell** <joe.nul>
Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 23:38:57 -0800 (PST)
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 13:00:00 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>'Alien' Faces
>By Mac Tonnies

<snip>

Eh? I'm a little unclear on the point of this kind of speculation (and I'm not trying to be mean or especially critical here).

I guess that my point is that what I find interesting is the fact that so many people have described these beings so similarly.

Joe Merrell

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Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:02:28 EST
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 13:01:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>From: Stanton T Friedman <fsphys.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:16:44 -0400
>Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>>Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void- Sarasota, Florida

>><http://tinyurl.com/5gnjyj>

>>Friday, November 14, 2008

>>Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>>By Billy Cox

<snip>

>>Last weekend, the Museum also sponsored two lectures by Stan
>>Friedman, who helped revive public curiosity in the coverup by
>>turning his research into several books. Florida State
>>University physics Prof. Dr. Paul Cottle, an otherwise
>>thoughtful guy who helped revise teaching standards in Florida
>>schools, hit the roof and uncorked an ad hominem tirade.

>>Leading with how his peers had worked hard to protect students
>>from "the threat of pseudoscience undermining scientific
>>literacy in our state," Cottle labeled Friedman "a well known
>>charlatan," questioned his credentials as a nuclear physicist,
>>and accused the Museum of undermining efforts to "improve the
>>scientific environment in Tallahassee."

><snip>

>This was a very strange experience as I know neither of these
>two distinguished physicists.

>I suspect that one of the skeptic groups in Florida saw an
>announcement about my speaking at the Brogan and made the
>defamatory comment about "well known charlatan" and
>"pseudoscientist".

>Anybody on this List have any suggestions as to the source?

>Stan Friedman

For starters a call to Prof. Dr. Cottle to clarify if he indeed
did make such remarks.

If not, it's probably some prattle from that sub-species of
hominid we all run into when discussing data that contradicts
the norm, the Ad Hominem Homo-Pseudo-Sapiens.

They've been holding on to their evolutionary niche because
nature keeps them around for entertainment purposes.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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E-Mail To Prof. Dr. Paul Cottle

From: Dave Haith <visions1.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 17:21:40 -0000
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 13:02:00 -0500
Subject: E-Mail To Prof. Dr. Paul Cottle

From: David Haith <visions1.nul>
To: <cottle.nul>
Subject: E-Mail To Prof. Dr Paul Cottle
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 17:21:40 -0000

Prof. Dr Paul Cottle
Florida State University
15 November, 2008

Dear Dr Cottle

I am a retired professional journalist in the UK and frankly am appalled at your attack on Stanton Friedman as a 'charlatan' and his subject of UFOs - 'pseudoscience'.

I am even more disgusted that you don't have the decency to defend your stance with any evidence - obviously because there is none.

This all reeks of prejudice and is a million miles from the science of which one expects you to be an honest representative.

Please read Billy Cox's piece below, eat some 'humble pie' and then if you have any courage at all, apologise to Mr Friedman and all the other serious UFO researchers you malign with your pathetic weasly words.

David Haith
visions1.nul

<snip>

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 10:05:56 -0800
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 13:21:59 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>Source: Bernhard Haisch's UFOSkeptic.Com - Redwood City,
> California, USA

><http://www.ufoskeptic.org/>

>>February 19, 2006

>>Would The President Be Briefed On A UFO Special Access Program

>>In 1976 presidential candidate Jimmie Carter promised the
>>American people that he would open any government UFO files that
>>might exist. Recall that while governor of Georgia, Carter had a
>>UFO sighting and actually filed a report. After winning election
>>to President, Carter met with CIA Director George H. W. Bush
>>seeking a briefing on the topic. Bush turned him down, claiming
>>that neither as President nor as Commander-in-Chief did he have
>>a "need to know."

><snip>

>>on what legal basis would the President
>>and Commander-in-Chief be denied access? Bush apparentl>>replied
>>to the effect that if Carter could get Congress to vote to give
>>him (Carter) clearance then he (Bush) would do it - implying
>>that there was a binding law in effect that prohibited
>>disclosure even to the President, under normal circumstances.

>There isn't a shred of evidence presented that any such
>conversation ever took place between President Carter and then
>DCI Bush, and it is laughable on its face.

>Bush resigned as DCI Director of Central Intelligence) effective
>the day that Carter took office, on Jan. 20, 1977.

>Why couldn't Carter just ask his own DCI whom he personally
>appointed, Admiral Stansfield Turner??

>The story is more MJ-12-type hogwash, coming from Daniel
>Sheehan without a stitch of documentation, and served up as
>factual history.

Valid points Brad, but other possibilities include Carter meeting with Bush at any time to get his advice in how to get at the UFO information. It could have been when Bush was still DCI when Carter was President-elect (just as Obama is now consulting with experts inside and outside government during the transition period) or after Carter became President, if DCI Turner was being thwarted.

Carter turns to Bush, as ex-DCI, and informally asks him what he might know about it. Bush tells him there were procedures in place. Bush too might have been denied clearance to get at the information, but he was aware of the process.

Both scenarios would still be consistent with the story as it now stands.

As Haisch was pointing out, Presidents can be legally frozen out of knowing about highly secretive research and development programs by national security legislation passed in the 1940s. Two that Haisch names that could possibly hide UFO R&D were the Atomic Energy Act in 1946 and Waived Special Access Program set up under the authority of the National Security Council, established by the National Security Act signed by Truman in July 1947.

Remember Truman wasn't informed about the A-bomb until a month after he became President, when a decision had to be made as to whether to use it against Japan. He was similarly told nothing about development of the H-bomb for 3 years, until they needed a surge of funding to make it a reality. Until then, it was deemed by those who held the atomic secrets that Truman had no need-to-know about our most important weapons' development.

Just food for thought.

David Rudiak

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:32:15 EST
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:42:43 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Joe Merrell <joe.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 23:38:57 -0800 (PST)
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

>><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

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>>By Mac Tonnies

><snip>

>Eh? I'm a little unclear on the point of this kind of
>speculation (and I'm not trying to be mean or especially
>critical here).

>I guess that my point is that what I find interesting is the
>fact that so many people have described these beings so
>similarly.

Whether these Alien visages resemble their true counterparts may be in question. Why? Because I think it rather easy to draw Alien faces using slits for mouths and two holes for noses simply because those features are more difficult to draw for the average person. As a result, we obtain a muted "one step above" stick-figure-like appearances. And, I'm sure that the ability to draw isn't any better today than it was at any other time in our collective histories.

Round eyes are much easier to draw. But, here again, they are rather simple and take up most of the space - allowing the other features secondary importance - deferring the need for explanation or improved drawing technique. Therefore, any similarities may be nothing more than our common inability to render - each of us reduced to the same basic pattern-like drawing technique.

But, I'm sure there are good renderings. Perhaps, what we have can more aptly be described as an icon: Both simplistic and evocative - thus defining their continued survival in the culture.

Still, one must go back to their first appearances in popular literature before cinching any arguments.

Viktor Golubik

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:56:47 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:43:44 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 10:05:56 -0800
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>surge of funding to make it a reality. Until then, it was deemed
>by those who held the atomic secrets that Truman had no need-to-
>know about our most important weapons' development.

<snip>

It has been pointed out that a President can legally be prevented from knowing about highly secretive programs, such as UFOs, by National Security legislation passed in the 1940s. I must say this idea seems unlikely to me and would not be legal.

The system of checks and balances in the government of the United States include various procedural rules that allow one branch to limit another, such as the authority of the President to veto legislation passed by Congress, or the power of Congress to alter the composition and jurisdiction of the federal courts. However, the alleged national security legislation is outside of normal checks and balances. It would be a sweeping restriction on the President, by congress, that would not hold up even if it was actually passed.

The current administration's interpretation of the executive power is that the President has authority over members of the executive branch and functions as the "CEO" or Commander-in-Chief. The Bush administration's stated policy is that the Executive power is only restricted by the U.S. Constitution (as interpreted by the Judiciary). Congress can hold the President accountable only by censure, impeachment, or constitutional amendment; legislation restricting the executive branch has no power.

Even if one disagrees with the Bush administration's interpretation previous administrations, with less of a "unitary executive theory", would not have supported regulation of this magnitude.

In my opinion, it is more likely that Presidents get briefed on the UFO topic. Of course it could be that new Presidents either do not ask the right questions (to the correct departments) or the information is being illegally withheld.

I guess another possibility is the information is no longer held in legal government channels and is held by organizations outside of the legitimate government (black or secret government).

Frank

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Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 15:29:23 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:51:02 -0500
Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>From: Stanton T Friedman <fsphys.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:16:44 -0400
>Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

<snip>

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>two distinguished physicists.

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>announcement about my speaking at the Brogan and made the
>defamatory comment about "well known charlatan" and
>"pseudoscientist".

>Anybody on this List have any suggestions as to the source?

Hi Stan,

This thread is a bit confusing, but there was an original
November 6th article, as well as reaction to your lectures by
the Florida Citizens for Science published in Letters to the
Editor and on their web site. Billy Cox then wrote an article
in reaction to their reaction... and so it goes.

The original November 6th article is here:

<http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID08811060312>

But you are more interested in the commentary by two Physicists,
which can be found here:

<http://www.flascience.org/wp/?p=768>

"Who are these people?", you ask. Well, this is the "Florida
Citizens for Science" web site and information on Dr. Paul
Cottle, who is also a Nuclear Physicist, can be found at:

<http://www.physics.fsu.edu/people/personnel.asp?fn=Paul&ln=Cottle&mn>

Contact information for Chucha Barger can be found at the
following link, but his claim to fame is his position (as far as
I can tell) and not his scientific stature:

<http://tinyurl.com/57eour>

I find it frustrating that some scientists believe that they
need to filter ideas and information from the public to preserve
the integrity of scientific thought. Of course, this takes place
in the juried acceptance of articles for "Scientific Journals",
but this carries Carl Sagan's 1995 "The Demon-Haunted World -
Science as a Candle in the Dark" to a whole new level. I would
have to ask if either of these people actually attended one of
the two lectures; or, were they reacting to a pre-conceived idea
of what was to be presented.

Steve

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: John Velez <jvelez49.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 15:47:40 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:51:27 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Joe Merrell <joe.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
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>speculation (and I'm not trying to be mean or especially
>critical here).

>I guess that my point is that what I find interesting is the
>fact that so many people have described these beings so
>similarly.

Hey Joe, All,

Mac Tonnies has been a buddy of mine for many years, but I have been waiting with bated breath for someone to finally consider the, apparently, way-out proposition that; abductees and other witnesses may be accurately - as accurately as they can - describing precisely what they have seen.

It just seems to me, reading the posts, that every theory in God's creation is fair game and worthy of consideration as long as... it isn't the one that gives thousands of witnesses world-wide, including a group of African schoolgirls, credit for accurately reporting what they saw.

The mind boggles every time it approaches this subject matter. It 'must be' something else, anything else, as long as it isn't what the witnesses say it is. Better to blame some as yet undiagnosed psychopathology or imaginative 'Soma Holidays' than to consider that our fellow creatures may be reporting something they actually saw. Perish the thought. Too frightening to contemplate.

Thanks for the thought, Joe. At least one person on this List is willing to suggest that many - not all necessarily, but then, it only takes one - people who are honestly and to the best of their ability, simply reporting what it was they saw.

I have seen the 'typical' Greys. I have also seen tall, Mantis-like creatures. I wouldn't know any other way to describe them.

I'm going back to my 'Cone of Silence.'

Peace,

Re: 'Alien' Faces

John Velez
Witness

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 15](#)

Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 18:16:24 -0500
Archived: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 20:00:00 -0500
Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 10 Nov 2008 19:46:24 -0800
>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sun, 09 Nov 2008 08:41:44 -0500
>>Subject: Re: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>>From: Preston Dennett <prestone.nul>
>>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Sun, 2 Nov 2008 11:18:31 -0800
>>>Subject: The Ventura UFO Festival

>>>You are cordially invited to attend the 3rd annual
>>>Ventura County UFO Festival

>>Preston,

>>Why do we have to assign the term 'Festival' to a UFO event?
>>This only provides fodder for the ignorant/biased media hounds
>>with nothing better to do than to make fun of the UFO
>>phenomenon.

>>Let me suggest that we keep words like "festival" separate from
>>the term "UFOs".

>>No offense intended, but it is offending me anyway.

>Hi Kelly,

>I agree with you, the word "festival" might not be the most
>accurate label for these types of events. I just now looked up
>the word in the dictionary, and it means "a celebration...
>entertainment."

>Hmmm... while I hope the event is entertaining and that it gives
>attendees reasons to celebrate, the main purpose is, of course,
>to educate, and I think most people will assume that. At least I
>hope so! Certainly, it's not about celebrating UFOs!

Yes, educating the public on the reality of the UFO phenomenon
and dispelling some of the myths perpetrated by the powers that
be should be primary at any UFO event.

I can't think of anything we should be celebrating with regard
to UFOs, though. Hell, we don't even know if they like us or
not. :)

>That said, I think you might agree that education is usually
>more effective if it is also entertaining. Alas, as I'm sure you
>know, this field is riddled with semantic difficulties, starting
>with the word 'UFO' (which could mean anything!) and going on
>from there! And speaking of offensive terms, I hate it when the
>media uses the term "UFO buff". As if UFO research is like
>stamp-collecting or something!

Yeah, UFO buff sets me off, too.

>I didn't choose the word "festival," and I had no say in the
>matter, though I'm confident it wasn't meant to offend anyone.

>Dick Hall jokingly offered the word "carnival," which is not
>much better, but might be more accurate to describe some of the
>events in this field <LOL> Just kidding - I think!

>I'm trying to think of a better word. Maybe 'convention', but
>everyone uses that one. Hmm... I'll have to think about that one.
>And maybe we can save the phrase 'UFO Festival' for a time when
>we really do have a reason to celebrate, such as the inevitable
>and impending end of the official UFO coverup, to name one
>example.

And when the coverup ends, I hope there can be a reason for us
all to celebrate. I'm not confident that will be the case,
though.

>Well... it's too late for this year; the media people have
>already been told that it's called The Ventura UFO Festival.
>Thankfully, so far, the media coverage of the upcoming event has
>been very positive. I spoke there last year, and it attracted a
>pretty good crowd, so I guess we'll see!

I hope the media coverage is positive. But I bet some smart ass
journalist won't be able to resist those three most feared
words... little green men.

Kelly

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Organ Transplant Abductees?

From: **Greg Boone** <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 19:35:49 EST
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:01:07 -0500
Subject: Organ Transplant Abductees?

Here's the scenario.

A lifelong abductee dies and is an organ donor.

The recipients of those organs suddenly start getting abducted.

Anyone recall any stories regarding this?

You can figure out why I'm asking.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 16](#)

Re: Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

From: William Treurniet <wtreurniet.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 20:02:07 -0500
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:05:42 -0500
Subject: Re: Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

>Source: The Northbrook Star - Glenview, Illinois, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/6npg85>

>November 14, 2008

>Selective Damage To Car Drives UFO Theorists

>Did magnetic waves from a visiting UFO warp, dent and wrinkle
>the side of a car heading east on Lake-Cook Road?

>It may be more likely that a deer did the damage. But local UFO
>enthusiasts are looking into the Nov. 4 event just to make sure,
>and are planning scientific tests on the car.

>"What could have caused this?" Sam Matrano, Illinois director of
>the Mutual UFO Network, wants to know. The driver "was driving
>down the road at 40-45 mph and felt a little bump, but the
>damage to the car is really extensive. It must have been
>something powerful."

>Most of the driver's side of the 2008 Mitubishi sedan is caved
>in, but there's hardly a scratch in the paint. The side mirror
>hangs from its cables.

>The driver, a 21-year-old Northbrook Court employee, told
>Northbrook police she saw no cars around as she headed to the
>Edens Expressway at around 9:19 p.m. She only "felt a nudge
>against my car," according to the supplementary report she
>filed.

>Noting the missing mirror, she pulled over at Revere Drive and
>found the side of the car mangled.

>Last week, Matrano's organization posted pictures of the car on
>the National UFO Reporting Center Web site, www.nuforc.org, with
>the driver's explanation.

>The driver said police suspected she'd been sideswiped. But that
>seems unlikely given "The entire left side of my car appears to
>be scorched but no paint was removed," the driver is quoted as
>saying on the Web site.

<snip>

>Matrano has heard claims of other-worldly encounters before. A
>Minnesota deputy sheriff he interviewed in 1979 said his patrol
>car was battered.

>"He said this ball of energy went through his windshield,"
>Matrano said. "He felt like he was hit by a 200-pound pillow.

>"The clock in the car was 14 minutes slow."

>The clock in the Northbrook Court employee's Mitsubishi remained
>accurate, Matrano said, and there's no indication that something
>not of this earth had visited it.

>"I'm not looking to find an alien under every rock," he said.

>Still, he's intrigued.

>There's a deep dent in the pillar separating the windshield from
>the door frame, and it seems to fit the shape of the mirror. But
>the mirror is plastic, and the pillar is thick steel. That's
>like dropping an egg in a skillet and seeing the egg dent the
>pan, he said.

The observations in the last paragraph are consistent with other indications that matter can be manipulated to reduce the binding force that holds it together.

I believe this was first mentioned by Wilbert B. Smith who was told by "the boys upstairs" that a reduction in binding force was responsible for the destruction of aircraft that got too close to alien saucer craft.

He designed and built a simple instrument to measure this effect according to specs that he was given. He found areas of significantly reduced binding force near the locations of two separate airplane crashes.

Then there is the Hutchison effect, which includes metal becoming like toffee when exposed to particular combinations of static electric fields and RF.

There is also the evidence presented by Dr. Judy Wood that some of the after effects of the WTC attack resemble the anomalies seen in the Hutchison effect. This includes evidence of extreme malleability of steel girders.

Although technology for reducing molecular binding force is obviously not in the public domain, connecting the above dots suggests that it does exist.

The slowing of the clock in the sheriff's car mentioned above, after the ball of energy went through the windshield, may be a related phenomenon. Wilbert Smith was made aware of a "tempic field" associated with the flow of time. According to the information he received, the region of reduced molecular binding force around the saucer is associated with a modified tempic field gradient.

So in the case described in this article, the car may have been exposed to a field effect that softened the steel, and simultaneously hit by some kind of pressure wave that collapsed the steel door and door post.

Further, the evidence suggests that metal may be particularly susceptible to softening or disintegration in this way. For example, Mr. Matrano was quoted as saying that the plastic mirror holder was able to dent the metal door post.

Also, I understand that very few filing cabinets were found in the rubble after the WTC collapse, but there was plenty of loose paper.

William

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 22:20:11 -0400
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:07:48 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:32:15 EST
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>From: Joe Merrell <joe.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 23:38:57 -0800 (PST)
>>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

>>><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>>>'Alien' Faces
>>>By Mac Tonnies

>><snip>

>>Eh? I'm a little unclear on the point of this kind of
>>speculation (and I'm not trying to be mean or especially
>>critical here).

>>I guess that my point is that what I find interesting is the
>>fact that so many people have described these beings so
>>similarly.

>Whether these Alien visages resemble their true counterparts may
>be in question. Why? Because I think it rather easy to draw
>Alien faces using slits for mouths and two holes for noses
>simply because those features are more difficult to draw for the
>average person. As a result, we obtain a muted "one step above"
>stick-figure-like appearances. And, I'm sure that the ability to
>draw isn't any better today than it was at any other time in our
>collective histories.

>Round eyes are much easier to draw. But, here again, they are
>rather simple and take up most of the space - allowing the other
>features secondary importance - deferring the need for
>explanation or improved drawing technique. Therefore, any
>similarities may be nothing more than our common inability to
>render - each of us reduced to the same basic pattern-like
>drawing technique.

>But, I'm sure there are good renderings. Perhaps, what we have
>can more aptly be described as an icon: Both simplistic and
>evocative - thus defining their continued survival in the
>culture.

>Still, one must go back to their first appearances in popular
>literature before cinching any arguments.

Try the images drawn by the Allagash, Maine abductee who is an
artist. Nothing amateurish or childlike about those, Viktor.

Don Ledger

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 22:22:01 -0400
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:13:46 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 16:25:59 -0500
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

>><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>>'Alien' Faces
>>By Mac Tonnies

>>The late conspiracy theorist Jim Keith, in his colorfully titled
>>Saucers Of The Illuminati, makes an interesting point about the
>>simplicity of the quintessential alien face. Could it be, he
>>>wonders, that abductees' brains manufacture the same predictable
>>alien visage because the close encounter experience is so
>>devastatingly weird, crammed with unfamiliar visual cues?
>>Conversely, the minimalist alien head may be due to a scarcity
>>of visual information; the abductee's mind may "fill in the
>>blanks" to encompass something essentially faceless.

>We manage to view 1300 years of Cycladic figurines without
>"filling in the the blanks" when we see their severely
>abstracted faces. Likewise we don't manufacture information that
>is not overtly available from a Brancusi sculpture, or other
>abstract Modernist figurative depictions.

>We don't manufacture compensatory information when faced with
>realistic make-up or CGI depictions of aliens. There is no
>documentation that Halloween throws neurotypical viewers (and
>those without a history of PTSD) into altered states of
>consciousness.

>>Some ufologists have noted that the eyes of the commonly
>>depicted "Gray" alien would be anatomically impossible, if
>>spherical like human eyes; there simply wouldn't be enough room
>>in the skull, no matter how outsized. It's worth recalling that
>>an ostrich's eye is actually larger than its brain.

>If their eyes aren't spherical, that argument doesn't hold
>water.

>>In any case, I'm virtually certain the excessively stylized
>>alien face so common in the media is an exaggeration, an
>>easily communicable caricature.

>Mac, you aren't backing this idea up with anything more
>substantial than your own "virtual certainty." The Jim Keith
>opinion you offer doesn't offer any substantiation of his
>position either. Speculation can be useful, but it's got to be
>grounded in something deeper.

Hi Mac, Carol;

My two cents for what it's worth...

For the lack of a better explanation many have attempted to make the UFO phenomenon and its first cousin, alien abduction, psychological events created out of nothing in the human brain but resulting in trauma that only the experiencers can imagine.

No cause, no effect. You don't get serial killers - for example - without some outside influence or physiological defect. The latter can now be detected early on in humans and has been documented over the last few decades. Mind you it took the FBI to discover these trends as they applied to serial killers with the psych community dragging its feet for another decade or so before discovering these traits on their own. And BTW-the FBI [John Douglas for example] did it through observation; and from anecdotal evidence passed on by the psychopaths they interviewed. As we know this is not science, but dammit, somehow it works.

If I can stay with serial killers for the moment; if one checks their history it will be found that there were indicators which we now see as warnings. Most know these; they are the torturing of small animals such as the family cat and other aberrant behavior. This behavior is stimulated either by child abuse or in lesser instances some physio defect that leads to either sociopathic behavior or psychopathic behavior. Lately it is a toss-up as to which does more damage to society. The former are the charmers who have no empathy for their fellows and feel no guilt for the trouble and mayhem they cause. The business sector is only now awakening to these types [ENRON?] who can literally destroy a business. In some cases they are now screening for this behavior. One can only hope that there is some of this restraint in the political process but obviously there is not when you consider history. And how about those who work their way upward in the ranks of the military?

You will excuse me for using serial killers as an example for my remarks about alien abduction; I am not paralleling these two but bringing up a point. Save for those abductees who have a history going back to childhood [and maybe they all do but aren't cognizent of it] where is the history leading up to an abduction claim? "I don't like it when they come into my room at night." A 4-and-a-half-year-old girl. Where's the history?

Some years ago I watched a documentary where a 30 year old male was being tramatised by the Old Hag syndrome. They experiented on this man by watching him - video-taped and watched in real time - while he was asleep and indeed he would go into fits of terror, his eyes wide open, his heart rate and blood pressure high, etc. but there was nothing there.

Hmmm, I wondered at the abduction scenario. Parallels there? Possibly, but how about those experiences where the abductees were not in bed but driving their car (I have at least 7 of those and of the rest only a small percentage are bedroom related) or with other people or others witnessed the event from different vantage point?

Is there a psychological componant to abductions? You bet, but it is after the event, not before particularly for the first timer. After that then trauma comes into the picture and concerns about it happening again.

How come "cause and effect" gets thrown out the window where the abduction phenomenon is concerned? Observation and anecdotal evidence is frowned upon. The Kinsey Report was conducted from anecdotal reports and set a generation on its ear. Observation was key to astronomy for hundreds of years but it's not taken seriously in this business of ours.

As for wrap-around eyeballs, I've seen plenty of good ol' boys who run around with the same sleezy looking shades on. Who says they are eyes, maybe they are just eye protection? If these are, as Dave Jacobs and others suggest, hybrids then they might have custom built, manufactured sensing organs that serve two or more purposes; seeing and intimidation; or maybe a heads-up display on the back-side.

If we are dealing with something so far beyond our ken....well you know the rest.

Re: 'Alien' Faces

Don Ledger

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Re: First Ever Crop Circle In Brazil

From: A. J. Gevaerd <gevaerd.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 02:27:35 -0200
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 09:15:00 -0500
Subject: Re: First Ever Crop Circle In Brazil

Dear Colleagues:

The first Brazilian crop circle was just recently found in Ipua=E7u County, Santa Catarina State, South of Brazil. I have been at the location investigating and I am about to finish my report. See some photos below. The estimated date and time was from 10 pm Saturday 8th to 02 am Sunday 9th, November 2008.

Two independent figures separated by 5 km from each other. Each figure is a circle with approx. 20 m diameter with a external ring. Many witnesses reported unusual lights in 12 neraby cities. The harvest was wheat and the plants were all bent clockwise direction. The peculiarities of these circles are very similar to others found in UK and other countries.

Details and photos here:

<http://www.ufo.com.br/index.php?arquivo=3DnotComp.php&id=3D4008>

<http://www.ufo.com.br/index.php?arquivo=3DnotComp.php&id=3D4009>

<http://www.cropcircleconnector.com/inter2008/brazil/brazil2008b.html>

My report in English and new photos will be released soon.

A. J. Gevaerd,
Editor, Brazilian UFO Magazine
www.ufo.com.br
gevaerd.nul
aj.nul

Panoramic view of one of the circles. Credit: Brazilian UFO Magazine: www.ufo.com.br

A. J. Gevaerd and agronomic engineer Otac=EDlio Pasa exam the damaged crop. Credit: Brazilian UFO Magazine: www.ufo.com.br

Each circle is aprox. 20 m in diameter. Credit: Brazilian UFO Magazine: www.ufo.com.br

The external ring. Credit: Brazilian UFO Magazine:

www.ufo.com.br

Another view of one of the circles. Credit: Brazilian UFO

Magazine: www.ufo.com.br

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 23:40:59 EST
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 09:16:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:56:47 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 10:05:56 -0800
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

Dave and Frank,

You make some good points too. Frank points out that the President as head of the Executive Branch and as Commander-in-Chief can hardly be refused when he asks for a UFO briefing. Under Bush's vast unilateral extension of Executive powers (which many constitutional scholars would hold to be unconstitutional) this refusal is even less likely.

However, ultimately this, in my opinion totally bogus, story is an undocumented claim by Daniel Sheehan. Sheehan has the burden of proving his outlandish and I think utterly false story, not me to disprove it. What this kind of junk does is gum up the works, wasting our time trying to investigate phony claims so that we don't have time and resources to investigate legitimate cases and projects.

If we give credence to junk like this we fall victim to the VIP Truth Fallacy, which is the mistaken notion that if a VIP says something it must be true. This is a classic disinformation technique to get a VIP to say something fitting the propaganda guidance for the disinfo op. Lots of VIP's will do this for patriotic reasons, being told it's for their country, please say that you know where the alien bodies are buried at Wright-Pat, you can always deny it later and say you were misquoted if you wish.

>>Carter turns to Bush, as ex-DCI, and informally asks him what he >>might know about it. Bush tells him there were procedures in >>place. Bush too might have been denied clearance to get at the >>information, but he was aware of the process.

I already covered that when I said Carter could simply have asked his own DCI Adm Turner.

Why ask a departing Republican official such as Bush such a politically sensitive question like that anyway??

That makes no sense either for an incoming Democrat President, the first in almost a decade. Was Carter so impatient to uncover the UFO secrets that he couldn't just wait a few months? Why then did he wait several months to initiate the NASA inquiry (assuming that it was Carter who did that in April 1977)? Evidently it was not so urgent. Carter could have waited to ask for the UFO briefing when he had his own man, another Navy man, in charge of CIA.

But I think the whole story is a lie and there never was any request by Carter to DCI Bush asking for a UFO briefing while Carter was still President-elect and had not yet taken office.

>>Both scenarios would still be consistent with the story as it >>now stands.

>>As Haisch was pointing out, Presidents can be legally frozen out >>of knowing about highly secretive research and development >>programs by national security legislation passed in the 1940s.

As Frank was pointing out that seems unlikely. Legally, it is the President's Executive Branch that is carrying out the nuclear R&D and could not do so under his Constitutional authority if he was shut out of it.

>>Two that Haisch names that could possibly hide UFO R&D were the >>Atomic Energy Act in 1946 and Waived Special Access Program set >>up under the authority of the National Security Council, >>established by the National Security Act signed by Truman in >>July 1947.

That implies that SAP's were established as far back as 1947 when in fact SAP's were first established in the 60's under DoD authority, not the NSC.

Furthermore, the President is the original classification authority for national security secrets, not the NSC, not the CIA. The President issues the Executive Orders such as EO 12958 that provide the legal authority for thousands of officials given the President's delegated powers to classify documents TOP SECRET, SECRET and CONFIDENTIAL.

>>Remember Truman wasn't informed about the A-bomb until a month >>after he became President, when a decision had to be made as to >>whether to use it against Japan. He was similarly told nothing >>about development of the H-bomb for 3 years, until they needed a >>surge of funding to make it a reality. Until then, it was deemed >>by those who held the atomic secrets that Truman had no need-to->>know about our most important weapons' development.

That's an urban legend. Truman had only been Vice President for 3 months when FDR died and he became President. Truman was informed about the atomic bomb within moments after he was sworn in as President at 7:09 PM on April 12, 1945, not a month later.

While Truman had been a US Senator and member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, appropriations measures for the Manhattan project came to him. Because Truman was also Chairman of the Senate's Special Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program, known as the "Truman Committee," he sent investigators to Oak Ridge and Hanford to find out what the money was being spent on. Secretary of War Stimson found out and told Truman the developments at Oak Ridge and Hanford were the greatest US secret and so Truman called off the investigation.

But apparently Truman knew the name "Manhattan" on the appropriations measures and knew it involved Oak Ridge and Hanford.

I also doubt the H-bomb story. The Soviet nuclear bomb test RDR-1 on Aug 29, 1949, is what galvanized the H-bomb effort.

<snip>

>It has been pointed out that a President can legally be >prevented from knowing about highly secretive programs, such as >UFOs, by National Security legislation passed in the 1940s. I >must say this idea seems unlikely to me and would not be legal.

>The system of checks and balances in the government of the >United States include various procedural rules that allow one >branch to limit another, such as the authority of the President >to veto legislation passed by Congress, or the power of Congress >to alter the composition and jurisdiction of the federal courts. >However, the alleged national security legislation is outside of >normal checks and balances. It would be a sweeping restriction >on the President, by congress, that would not hold up even if it >was actually passed.

>The current administration's interpretation of the executive

>power is that the President has authority over members of the
>executive branch and functions as the "CEO" or Commander-in-
>Chief. The Bush administration's stated policy is that the
>Executive power is only restricted by the U.S. Constitution (as
>interpreted by the Judiciary). Congress can hold the President
>accountable only by censure, impeachment, or constitutional
>amendment; legislation restricting the executive branch has no
>power.

>Even if one disagrees with the Bush administration's
>interpretation previous administrations, with less of a "unitary
>executive theory", would not have supported regulation of this
>magnitude.

>In my opinion, it is more likely that Presidents get briefed on
>the UFO topic. Of course it could be that new Presidents either
>do not ask the right questions (to the correct departments) or
>the information is being illegally withheld.

>I guess another possibility is the information is no longer held
>in legal government channels and is held by organizations
>outside of the legitimate government (black or secret
>government).

>Frank

I agree with the above. Privatized UFO secrets would probably be
illegal, as there is no legal basis for just giving away
government secrets and property to private individuals and
corporations.

Brad

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UFO Updates

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 16](#)

Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

From: Stanton T Friedman <fsphys.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 07:24:43 -0400
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 09:17:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 15:29:23 -0500
>Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

>>From: Stanton T Friedman <fsphys.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:16:44 -0400
>>Subject: Re: Scientists Decline To Defend Themselves

><snip>

>>This was a very strange experience as I know neither of these
>>two distinguished physicists.

>>I suspect that one of the skeptic groups in Florida saw an
>>announcement about my speaking at the Brogan and made the
>>defamatory comment about "well known charlatan" and
>>"pseudoscientist".

>>Anybody on this List have any suggestions as to the source?

>This thread is a bit confusing, but there was an original
>November 6th article, as well as reaction to your lectures by
>the Florida Citizens for Science published in Letters to the
>Editor and on their web site. Billy Cox then wrote an article
>in reaction to their reaction... and so it goes.

>The original November 6th article is here:

><http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID08811060312>

>But you are more interested in the commentary by two Physicists,
>which can be found here:

><http://www.flascience.org/wp/?p=768>

>"Who are these people?", you ask. Well, this is the "Florida
>Citizens for Science" web site and information on Dr. Paul
>Cottle, who is also a Nuclear Physicist, can be found at:

><http://www.physics.fsu.edu/people/personnel.asp?fn=Paul&ln=Cottle&mn>

>Contact information for Chucha Barger can be found at the
>following link, but his claim to fame is his position (as far as
>I can tell) and not his scientific stature:

><http://tinyurl.com/57eour>

>I find it frustrating that some scientists believe that they
>need to filter ideas and information from the public to preserve
>the integrity of scientific thought. Of course, this takes place
>in the juried acceptance of articles for "Scientific Journals",
>but this carries Carl Sagan's 1995 "The Demon-Haunted World -
>Science as a Candle in the Dark" to a whole new level. I would
>have to ask if either of these people actually attended one of
>the two lectures; or, were they reacting to a pre-conceived idea
>of what was to be presented.

Steve,

Let me set the record straight here.

I was interviewed by phone by Kathy Lauffenberg of the Democrat. The article appeared on Nov. 6. Generally accurate. Prior to that there was the letter from Dr. Paul Cottle, Professor of Physics at FSU which appeared on Nov. 4 and called me a charlatan and pseudoscientist - no basis given.

This brought a friendly-to-me response from Ms. Chucha Barger. She is the head of the Mary Brogan Museum.

Then Dr. Greg Boebinger, head of the National Magnet Lab at FSU (a topline facility) joined in. He didn't mention my name, but again talked about Brogan, pseudoscience and UFOs.

I had responded to both via email, demanding an apology for the libelous claims by Cottle. and sent the emails and articles to Billy Cox whose blog has gone all over. I have shared the lot with several people.

My question about who are these people is about whether the skeptical societies, especially in Florida, had previously referred to me in a derogatory or defamatory fashion and prompted Cottle and Boebinger. I had never heard of either one, so presume that the "well known charlatan" phrase came from some organization that had noted my widely publicized appearance.

I am off to Philadelphia until Nov. 20 but will pursue the libel business when I return.

Stan Friedman

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 16](#)

Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:00:52 -0500
Archived: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 09:18:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:56:47 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

>It has been pointed out that a President can legally be
>prevented from knowing about highly secretive programs, such as
>UFOs, by National Security legislation passed in the 1940s. I
>must say this idea seems unlikely to me and would not be legal.

Actually, the problem that Carter created with his release of information about the Stealth caused the intelligence community to look at the political implications of letting information surface. The position of President makes him responsible for the final decisions that are made, and his advisors will decide what information he needs to make those decisions. While he technically has the right to all information, there's no guarantee as to what he is briefed on up front.

Let's keep in mind that the glimpse of politics we've just seen is running at a continual level within and between Federal Agencies. Levels of distrust and fear change between Agencies, but it never goes away. A new Administration is viewed as a transitional politically based power base, and treated with respect, but that fear and distrust is pervasive in many circles and the "need to know" takes on a new challenge. The question becomes, in part, "Does this President need to know this information at this time?", and the person making that decision is the one with the information and not the President or his Team.

This is too complicated an issue to draw any projected conclusions as to what might occur. I'm not sure this is the forum to get into a political discussion about the Constitution and how it is interpreted today. Then again, that's likely to be taking place in the Courts.

Steve

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Re: Organ Transplant Abductees?

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 11:47:40 -0500
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 06:42:03 -0500
Subject: Re: Organ Transplant Abductees?

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 19:35:49 EST
>Subject: Organ Transplant Abductees?

>Here's the scenario.

>A lifelong abductee dies and is an organ donor.

>The recipients of those organs suddenly start
>getting abducted.

>Anyone recall any stories regarding this?

>You can figure out why I'm asking.

Hello Greg,

Enlighten me. It sounds illogical, and I've never heard anything
like it before.

Kelly

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Re: 'Alien' Faces

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 10:39:33 -0800
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 07:47:12 -0500
Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 12 Nov 2008 16:25:59 -0500
>Subject: Re: 'Alien' Faces

>>Source: AboutSETI.Com - Carlsbad, New Mexico, USA

>><http://www.aboutseti.com/blog/alien-faces>

>>Thursday, November 06, 2008

>>'Alien' Faces
>>By Mac Tonnies

>>Some ufologists have noted that the eyes of the commonly
>>depicted "Gray" alien would be anatomically impossible, if
>>spherical like human eyes; there simply wouldn't be enough
>>room in the skull, no matter how outsized. It's worth
>>recalling that an ostrich's eye is actually larger than its
>>brain.

>If their eyes aren't spherical, that argument doesn't hold
>water.

Quite right. I'm not sure the statement was true even if one
assumes spherical eyes. Who are these other "ufologists" and
what anatomical studies did they do?

There is also a hidden assumption here that the reported big-
eyed aliens are normal biological beings such as our selves.
They could be anything, including engineered robots or androids
with eyes very different from an evolved biological creature.
Cameras can have very different structures from eyeballs.

Or are people seeing external eye coverings, maybe eye
protection or sensors, not the actual eyes?

Back to the shape issue, down here on planet Earth, there are
many animals with nonspherical eyeballs. Birds are good
examples. Some have very flattened eyeballs; some, like owls,
more tubular (resembling an acorn or old Mercury space capsule).

<http://www.birdsnways.com/wisdom/ww3leii.htm>
<http://tinyurl.com/5vwmxh>

Nonspherical eyes make for limited eye movement. Birds make up
for this limitation by rapid darting of their heads. When
engineering solutions to problems, there is often more than one
way to skin a cat.

Bird eyes also take up a much larger percentage of their head
volume than mammals like humans, yet they still have more than
adequate brains and some, like various raptors (owls, eagles,
etc.), extremely good vision. To make space, birds "push" their
brains behind their relatively big eyeballs, not a big design
problem. Again, there is more than one way to skin a cat or
design an eye/brain system.

The main limitation to brain size in most birds is not eyeball

size but the simple fact that they must be lightweight to fly. A hypothetical biological alien with big eyeballs has no such limitation. They can have large brains and mold them any which way around the eyeballs, even very large ones.

A whole lot of nonsense has also been written in the UFO literature about what big alien eyeballs mean about alien evolution, life style, etc. E.g., I have several times seen it stated that big eyeballs would necessarily mean that aliens have better night vision and probably come from planets with dimmer suns.

That's a lot of deducing from very little information, and is also scientifically wrong. Actually light sensitivity depends on many factors, eyeball size being the least of them. E.g., cats and owls have much better night vision than humans, despite having much smaller eyes.

In fact, if all eyeballs were spherical and otherwise equal in proportions (e.g., relative pupil size), equal light per unit area would be cast on the retina no matter what the eye size happened to be. E.g., an eyeball twice as large as ours with twice the pupil diameter would admit 4 times the light but this would be spread out on a retina 4 times the area, hence equal light intensity per unit area and no increase in light sensitivity.

David Rudiak

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Franklin Fields** <fields.nul>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 07:53:47 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 08:00:52 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:56:47 -0500 (EST)
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

><snip>

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>becomes, in part, "Does this President need to know this
>information at this time?", and the person making that decision
>is the one with the information and not the President or his
>Team.

<snip>

Mr. Kaeser,

The President of the United States is the chief executive officer of the federal government, the leader of the executive branch, and the commander in chief of the armed forces. The president also has the power to make treaties with other nations [alien or human]. To answer your question, "Does this President need to know this information at this time?", I would say yes. If he was not briefed there would be a very serious breach of law.

I agree that the person with the information is not the President or a member of his immediate team (meaning the team a President puts in place within the first few days of office).

However, in a larger sense his team is the whole Executive branch and when he is inaugurated he is their boss. In other words, the entire branch works for him and is part of his "team". The Executive is the largest employer in the United States. The DOD alone has millions of uniformed military

personnel.

Now to my main point, the President has a "need to know" whatever information he deems relevant to his Constitutional roles as Commander in Chief, etc. His security clearance is supreme. Nothing under his Constitutionally authorized purview could be kept from him. This is not in dispute by Constitutional Scholars.

Evidence of an extraterrestrial presence on earth is clearly within the President's area of responsibility. The Executive would be the branch that would evaluate a potential threat, plan for a defense if required, or establish contact (to name a few). These are Constitutional duties of the President. If UFOs are in fact flying around this planet the President should be briefed on the issue within days of assuming office, if not before. His briefing would be required under the law.

Saying that a President does not have the legal right to know about UFOs is like saying he does not have the legal right to know information on al-Qaeda or North Korea. If UFOs are violating our air space the President would be briefed, period. If there was a treaty in place letting ETs fly in our air space, he would be briefed, period. If he was not briefed, those in the CIA, NSA, or Military, that withheld the information, would be breaking the law. They have an overt legal responsibility to inform the President of this type of issue or they would be in violation of their mandate and could be prosecuted.

As you know, the CIA has responsibility to provide intelligence estimates to the President and the President's advisers. The CIA exists as a service agency to the President. If the President were to ask the CIA director or any other Executive employee for information and he did not get a response, to his liking, he could remove the person (and go to the next in line).

Regards,

Frank

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WWII Film Treasures Still To Be Found

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 00:52:32 EST
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 07:56:08 -0500
Subject: WWII Film Treasures Still To Be Found

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/27648023#27648023>

This is a story about two fellows who found super rare 16mm films of historic events during WWII taken by their grandfather a combat photographer. Some of the footage shows the aftermath of Normandy, aerial combat and dogfights and other events of historical magnitude.

The films were discovered in a barrel in their grandmother's basement.

One can only wonder what else is out there lying around in basements or attics.

Could there be unseen UFO footage? It just makes for us to be cautious and continue to search and get the word out to whom to send such pics and films and videos.

In this case the fellows donated the movies to the government.

They'll probably be stored next to the crate housing the Ark of the Covenant from those Indiana Jones movies.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:45:29 -0500
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 10:19:18 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

>Mr. Kaeser,

>The President of the United States is the chief executive
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>[alien or human]. To answer your question, "Does this President
>need to know this information at this time?", I would say yes.
>If he was not briefed there would be a very serious breach of
>law.

Mr. Fields,

I have been working at the US House of Representatives for more than 20 years and have some idea of the mechanisms that we deal with on a day to day basis in Government. It certainly isn't the simple top to bottom management structure that we'd probably all like it to be, and I'm not sure why you say that keeping that information secret would be a "breach of law". Who's made that decision? You? Where is level of detail defined and do you really believe that the UFO issue is a prime issue that needs to be transferred?

Need to know is often defined by those with the information, and while it seems to be morally and legally in error, the information provided is screened by both subordinates and Agencies. The President has a "right" to the information, but there is no inherent obligation to provide complete details of every project in every Agency. Agencies with information that they might think is embarrassing, or show weakness in their level of understanding, might not bring up those issues unless necessary.

As I said, the problems created by the Carter release of Stealth information (before the Pentagon and CIA were ready for the world to know it) caused both Agencies to be far more careful about what details were disclosed regarding "Special Projects". I would agree that this isn't necessarily correct in a moral sense, but that doesn't change the facts. Books about the Johnson Administration have also acknowledged that he made mistakes in his handling of the Viet Nam conflict because he was being fed an incorrect view of the conflict that made the various Agencies look good. This is not a new problem and mimics bureaucratic in-fighting found in private industry.

To be quite honest, I pray that Obama deals primarily with the economic and foreign policy issues that we face, and leaves the UFO issue very low on his priority list. The view from here isn't very pretty and the demands that will be made on Government leaders at all levels will be difficult (at best). I wouldn't expect many in Washington to give much more than a passing response to the UFO issue for the next several years.

Steve

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Jerome Clark** <jkclark.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:42:25 -0500
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 12:45:46 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:45:29 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

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>isn't very pretty and the demands that will be made on
>Government leaders at all levels will be difficult (at best). I
>wouldn't expect many in Washington to give much more than a
>passing response to the UFO issue for the next several years.

I doubt that you have to "pray" that the new President will have
his priorities in order. To every indication he is an
intelligent and sensible man, and we all know the nation faces
crises more dire than any in decades. Assuming he has no secret
intelligence concerning an imminent alien invasion, he has no
reason to give UFOs a second thought, except - if he happens to
have some private curiosity - in what will surely be very rare
idle moments.

Under the circumstances, those advocating political action on
UFO-related matters would be well advised to turn their
attention to more productive projects. What was already a long
shot has now lengthened and vanished into the distance and over
the horizon. As we endeavor to learn more about UFOs, we'll have
to do it the old-fashioned way: by our own efforts.

Jerry Clark

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From: **Franklin Fields** fields.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 11:39:16 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 12:50:17 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
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>information secret would be a "breach of law". Who's made that
>decision? You? Where is level of detail defined and do you
>really believe that the UFO issue is a prime issue that needs to
>be transferred?

There are many laws that require the President to be informed on
matters such as UFOs. For example, the CIA Director is required
by SEC. 102. [50 U.S.C. 403] of the National Security Act to
advise the President on all intelligence matters. The law
further states in SEC. 103. (50 U.S.C. 403-3), "Under the
direction of the National Security Council, the Director of
Central Intelligence shall be responsible for providing national
intelligence to the President". I could go further but really
there is no dispute on the requirement to brief the President on
matters of National Security such as UFOs.

Maybe the President is not actually briefed but there is no
doubt about the legal requirement that he be informed. I am not
naive enough to believe that everything is a simple top to
bottom management structure. However, your opinion that the UFO
issue is not "prime" enough to warrant transfer is preposterous
and shows a level of naivet=E9 on your part.

If UFOs are actually abducting people or shutting down nuclear
missiles, as has been put forward, there may not be a more
important National Security issue.

It is possible that a UFO was traveling near the President's
Texas Ranch as recently as a few weeks ago. I believe that

President Bush would have been briefed on what was known about the event or at least there is a legal requirement for him to be briefed.

>Need to know is often defined by those with the information, and
>while it seems to be morally and legally in error, the
>information provided is screened by both subordinates and
>Agencies. The President has a "right" to the information, but
>there is no inherent obligation to provide complete details of
>every project in every Agency. Agencies with information that
>they might think is embarrassing, or show weakness in their
>level of understanding, might not bring up those issues unless
>necessary.

You're correct there is no inherent obligation to provide complete details of every project in every Agency but that is missing the point.

There is an obligation to provide the President information on substantial developments or important issues facing America.

What could be more important than visitations from extraterrestrials; especially if they are flying around America abducting people?

<snip>

>To be quite honest, I pray that Obama deals primarily with the
>economic and foreign policy issues that we face, and leaves the
>UFO issue very low on his priority list. The view from here
>isn't very pretty and the demands that will be made on
>Government leaders at all levels will be difficult (at best). I
>wouldn't expect many in Washington to give much more than a
>passing response to the UFO issue for the next several years.

Everyone has there own set of priorities and yours appears to be the immediate diversion of the economy and foreign policy.

I guess the whole issue of priorities really depends on the nature of UFOs. If Professor Jacobs is correct in his book, "The Threat: Revealing the Secret Alien Agenda", there should not be a higher priority for the President than UFOs.

Hopefully, Jacobs=92s analysis is wrong. But UFO activity less menacing would be deserving of Presidential attention. The mere visit of an ET race to Earth is relevant. The President has a legal justification for knowing that fact and his advisers would have a legal requirement to tell him.

I guess the real point is that the President is legally required to assign the level of priority, not bureaucrats working in one of his agencies.

Regards,

Frank

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A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 17](#)

Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Franklin Fields** <fields.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 13:01:52 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 17:12:04 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:42:25 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:45:29 -0500
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

>Under the circumstances, those advocating political action on
>UFO-related matters would be well advised to turn their
>attention to more productive projects. What was already a long
>shot has now lengthened and vanished into the distance and over
>the horizon. As we endeavor to learn more about UFOs, we'll have
>to do it the old-fashioned way: by our own efforts.

Jerry,

Would you comment further? Why do you think the tide has turned
against UFO disclosure? It seems that there is much hope. Obama
has promised a more open government.

Frank

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 17](#)

Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 10:26:28 -0800
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 17:16:33 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 23:40:59 EST
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 14:56:47 -0500 (EST)
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 10:05:56 -0800
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

><snip>

>Dave and Frank,

>You make some good points too. Frank points out that the
>President as head of the Executive Branch and as Commander-in-
>Chief can hardly be refused when he asks for a UFO briefing.
>Under Bush's vast unilateral extension of Executive powers
>(which many constitutional scholars would hold to be
>unconstitutional) this refusal is even less likely.

The fact is, as Bill Clinton himself stated in 2005, Presidents
CAN be stonewalled, whether it is legal or not:

"I did attempt to find out if there were any secret government
documents [about Roswell/UFOs] that revealed things. If there
were, they were concealed from me too. And if there were, well I
wouldn't be the first American president that underlings have
lied to, or that career bureaucrats have waited out. But there
may be some career person sitting around somewhere, hiding these
dark secrets, even from elected presidents. But if so, they
successfully eluded me=85and I'm almost embarrassed to tell you I
did (chuckling) try to find out."

http://www.presidentialufo.com/clinton_roswell.htm

<snip>

>>>Carter turns to Bush, as ex-DCI, and informally asks him what he
>>>might know about it. Bush tells him there were procedures in
>>>place. Bush too might have been denied clearance to get at the
>>>information, but he was aware of the process.

>I already covered that when I said Carter could simply have
>asked his own DCI Adm Turner.

We're talking about two different scenarios here: Carter asking
Bush as President-elect and Carter asking Bush as President. As
I previously stated, Carter (when he became President) might
have gone back to EX-DCI Bush to see what he might know if
Turner was being stonewalled.

Alternatively, Carter could have informally asked Bush what he
might know before becoming President while Bush was still DCI.

>Why ask a departing Republican official such as Bush such a
>politically sensitive question like that anyway??

Why not? Incoming Presidents and even Presidential nominees are given national security briefings. Carter could conceivably have brought the subject up during such a briefing. Carter made a big issue of finding out about UFOs and informing the public when campaigning for President. Asking Bush when he was President-elect would be a possible preparatory step. He asks outgoing DCI Bush a simple question of how he might get this information. Again, I am just throwing this scenario out there as a possibility.

>That makes no sense either for an incoming Democrat President,
>the first in almost a decade. Was Carter so impatient to uncover
>the UFO secrets that he couldn't just wait a few months?

Maybe. Why not start laying the ground work to keep his campaign UFO promise during the transition period? Or why not come back to Bush after becoming President if he and new DCI Turner were getting nowhere with their initial inquiries?

>Why
>then did he wait several months to initiate the NASA inquiry
>(assuming that it was Carter who did that in April 1977)?
>Evidently it was not so urgent. Carter could have waited to ask
>for the UFO briefing when he had his own man, another Navy man,
>in charge of CIA.

>But I think the whole story is a lie and there never was any
>request by Carter to DCI Bush asking for a UFO briefing while
>Carter was still President-elect and had not yet taken office.

Again, you are mixing up two different hypothetical scenarios I mentioned of when Carter might have asked Bush about a UFO briefing: 1) when Bush was still DCI (and Carter was President-elect), and 2) when Bush was ex-DCI and Carter was President.

This was in response to your perfectly valid point that Bush wasn't DCI when Carter became President, being replaced by Carter's own man. So I threw out these other possibilities to counter your assertion that Daniel Sheehan's story of the Carter/Bush encounter was impossible.

>>>Both scenarios would still be consistent with the story as it
>>>now stands.

>>>As Haisch was pointing out, Presidents can be legally frozen out
>>>of knowing about highly secretive research and development
>>>programs by national security legislation passed in the 1940s.

>As Frank was pointing out that seems unlikely. Legally, it is the
>President's Executive Branch that is carrying out the nuclear R&D
>and could not do so under his Constitutional authority if he was
>shut out of it.

As Bill Clinton commented, Presidents are indeed lied to and stonewalled by career bureaucrats. See also Steve Kaeser's posts based on his personal Washington experience. Maybe that's not the way government is supposed to work, but reality doesn't always conform to what we were taught in high school civics books.

>>>Two that Haisch names that could possibly hide UFO R&D were the
>>>Atomic Energy Act in 1946 and Waived Special Access Program set
>>>up under the authority of the National Security Council,
>>>established by the National Security Act signed by Truman in
>>>July 1947.

>That implies that SAP's were established as far back as 1947
>when in fact SAP's were first established in the 60's under DoD
>authority, not the NSC.

I think you are getting hung up on semantic labels here Brad. I believe Haisch is talking in general about so-called black budgets and black projects that certainly existed well-before the 1960s. These are projects, budgets, operations, and agencies that are considered so secret and sensitive that access is much more highly restricted than normal top secret information. (Thus "above top secret", though technically no such official

classification exists)

The Manhattan Project would be the first prime example, created by Roosevelt by executive order. Another example would be the Central Intelligence Act of 1949, which authorized concealment of the CIA's budget. Since then, all funds for the CIA are secretly contained in the DOD's published budget under camouflaged names. Truman created the National Security Agency in 1952 by executive order, whose very existence was a secret for many years.

The "Big Eight" members of Congress are supposed to be informed of the existence of such programs, agencies, etc., but details can legally be withheld from them. Even the limited information provided to Congressional leaders only came into being in the wake of the Watergate scandal (according to what I have read).

The system is so complicated and compartmentalized, that it basically makes a farce of Congressional oversight. Congress has no idea whatsoever what it is voting for when it approves defense appropriations. It does so largely on faith.

>Furthermore, the President is the original classification
>authority for national security secrets, not the NSC, not the
>CIA. The President issues the Executive Orders such as EO 12958
>that provide the legal authority for thousands of officials
>given the President's delegated powers to classify documents TOP
>SECRET, SECRET and CONFIDENTIAL.

Great in theory, but what does a President do with faceless bureaucrats who simply ignore his wishes? In the case of UFOs, just finding out who is in charge of the information would be an enormous hurdle. Presidents do not have absolute power, which is actually a good thing in most cases.

>>>Remember Truman wasn't informed about the A-bomb until a month
>>>after he became President, when a decision had to be made as to
>>>whether to use it against Japan. He was similarly told nothing
>>>about development of the H-bomb for 3 years, until they needed a
>>>surge of funding to make it a reality. Until then, it was deemed
>>>by those who held the atomic secrets that Truman had no need-to-
>>>know about our most important weapons' development.

>
>That's an urban legend. Truman had only been Vice President for
>3 months when FDR died and he became President. Truman was
>informed about the atomic bomb within moments after he was sworn
>in as President at 7:09 PM on April 12, 1945, not a month later.

I stand corrected, but it turns out that's not the full story either. Truman was given the information in dribs and drabs.

According to Truman's memoirs, he was sworn in, spoke to the Cabinet, then was approached by Secretary of War Henry Stimson, who said he had a most urgent matter.

Truman then writes:

"Stimson told me that he wanted me to know about an immense project that was under way--a project looking to the development of a new explosive of almost unbelievable destructive power.

That was all he felt free to say at the time, and his statement left me puzzled. It was the first bit of information that had come to me about the atomic bomb, but he gave me no details. It was not until the next day that I was told enough to give me some understanding of the almost incredible developments that were under way and the awful power that might soon be placed in our hands.

"...The next day Jimmy Byrnes, who until shortly before had been Director of War Mobilization for President Roosevelt, came to see me, and even he told me few details, though with great solemnity he said that were were perfecting an explosive great enough to destroy the whole world."

So still nothing specific about the Manhattan Project itself or the atomic bomb, though Truman now had some idea that there was a big project developing some super-explosive.

Truman continues, "It was later, when Vannevar Bush, head of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, came to the White House, that I was given a scientist's version of the atomic bomb. Admiral Leahy was with me when Dr. Bush told me this

astounding fact."

I'm not sure when Bush provided Truman with the more detailed briefing, but the Truman calendar shows them meeting for the first time at the White House on June 14, or two months after Truman was sworn in.

>While Truman had been a US Senator and member of the Senate
>Appropriations Committee, appropriations measures for the
>Manhattan project came to him. Because Truman was also Chairman
>of the Senate's Special Committee to Investigate the National
>Defense Program, known as the "Truman Committee," he sent
>investigators to Oak Ridge and Hanford to find out what the
>money was being spent on. Secretary of War Stimson found out and
>told Truman the developments at Oak Ridge and Hanford were the
>greatest US secret and so Truman called off the investigation.

>But apparently Truman knew the name "Manhattan" on the
>appropriations measures and knew it involved Oak Ridge and
>Hanford.

But not what the hell these operations or codenames were about, namely developing a super bomb, which was the key point. Truman didn't know about this until he became President.

Again, that is the whole nature of special access-type programs. Congressional leaders may be told that there is a program, but nothing about what it is about.

As Truman writes about this in his memoirs, "I had known, and probably others had, that something that was unusually important, was brewing in our war plants. ...Sec. Stimson had phoned me to say that he wanted to have a private talk with me. ...I learned that the subject he had in mind was connected with the immense installations I had sent the committee representatives to investigate in Tennessee and the state of Washington.

Stimson tells him, "Senator, I can't tell you what it is, but it is the greatest project in the history of the world. It is most top secret. Many of the people who are actually engaged in the work have no idea what it is, and we should do would appreciate your not going into those plants."

So all Truman knew was that something big and very top secret was going on but didn't know the specifics. It was Truman's job to provide Congressional oversight, but he demurred to national security. He took Stimson's word that it was none of his business and please keep out.

>I also doubt the H-bomb story. The Soviet nuclear bomb test
>RDR-1 on Aug 29, 1949, is what galvanized the H-bomb effort.

Theoretical work on the H-bomb went clear back to 1941 and gained steam with the successful development of the A-bomb in 1945 (which is needed to detonate an H-bomb). I was going off my memory of Richard Rhodes book on the development of the H-bomb ("Dark Sun: The Making of the Atomic Bomb") when I stated that Truman wasn't informed of the work on the H-bomb for 3 years after becoming President.

Reviewing the book, you are correct that it was really 1949 and the big spur was the first Soviet A-bomb test in August.

However, I was in fact correct that Truman knew nothing at all until this time. I also found out that neither did Sidney Souers, executive secretary of the NSC at the time and first DCI, nor did Air Force Chief of Staff Hoyt Vandenberg, even though he would be in charge of delivering such a weapon.

Excerpts of Rhodes book can be found at Google books:

<http://tinyurl.com/5ol6e5>

p. 381: Half a decade later, Souers remembered the occasion well: "Strauss came to me shortly after the Russians had exploded their atomic bomb. I didn't know anything about this super-bomb, this H-bomb, until Strauss came into my office then.

Strauss looked upon me as a fellow security man and asked me whether the President had ever had any information on the super-bomb, and if he had, had he made a decision with regard to going ahead with it. I said, 'Lewis, as far as I know, he has had none, none from me anyway.' ...[Strauss said] 'I don't

think [the President has been informed] has been informed because Lilienthal [head of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy] is opposed to it.' ...The next morning at our meeting I told [the President] about this conversation... asked him if he had any information on it. He said, 'No, but you tell Strauss to go to it and fast.'

Adds Rhodes: "Until October 6, 1949, the President of the United States had never heard of the hydrogen bomb."

So, in other words, Lilienthal was opposed and the information was withheld from Truman and the NSC, until Strauss, a big supporter of the H-bomb's development, went over Lilienthal's head and spoke to Souers.

Regarding Vandenberg and the Joint Chiefs not knowing:

p. 387: ...[Physicist Earnest O.] Lawrence returned to Washington. He had another idea, perhaps evolved from learning about the success of the Joint Chiefs' move to increase the military requirement for atomic bombs. He looked up Kenneth Nichols of the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project and encouraged him to approach the JCS about establishing a military requirement for hydrogen bombs as well. The Joint Chiefs were scheduled to meet with the JCAE [Joint Committee on Atomic Energy] on October 14. ...Nichols decided he should brief the Joint Chiefs before they testified. He went to see [Gen.] Lauris Norstad, who took him to see General Vandenberg, who was scheduled to be the JCS spokesman at the JCAE hearing. ***Like Truman, it turned out, the USAF Chief of Staff had never heard of the hydrogen bomb.*** "I think I spent about two hours with Vandenberg," Nichols recalled, "and explained as well as I could from the information I had what the thermonuclear weapon would be."

Rhodes then goes on to explain that Nichols with Norstad then briefed the rest of the Joint Chiefs on October 13, so apparently the entire JCS, the heads of our military forces, didn't know about the H-bomb either until then.

Of course, the H-bomb wasn't a real weapon then, nor was there a big program yet. The whole point of finally informing, Truman, Souers, the JCS, etc., about how such a weapon could probably be built was to get the funding to turn it into a big program.

><snip>

>>It has been pointed out that a President can legally be >>prevented from knowing about highly secretive programs, such as >>UFOs, by National Security legislation passed in the 1940s. I >>must say this idea seems unlikely to me and would not be legal.

Well, it seems Lilienthal unilaterally decided not to tell Truman about work on the H-bomb, because, according to Rhodes, he was morally opposed to it. That's one powerful bureaucrat deciding not to inform the President and keeping a big secret from him.

Now if Truman had gotten wind of the research and gone to Lilienthal for more information, no doubt Lilienthal would have told him about it. But Presidents kept in the dark ask no questions.

This is also a different situation than UFOs, because Truman would know exactly who to approach for more information on a new atomic weapon, namely the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy that he himself had set up. However, there is no official corresponding "Joint Committee on UFOs" that a current President could go to get a UFO briefing.

>>The system of checks and balances in the government of the >>United States include various procedural rules that allow one >>branch to limit another, such as the authority of the President >>to veto legislation passed by Congress, or the power of Congress >>to alter the composition and jurisdiction of the federal courts. >>However, the alleged national security legislation is outside of >>normal checks and balances. It would be a sweeping restriction >>on the President, by congress, that would not hold up even if it >>was actually passed.

The reality is, Congress is almost completely in the dark as well because of the security rules that apply to most special

access-type programs. As mentioned, Congressional leaders by law are supposed to be informed of the existence of such programs but are generally not told much about them. Thus, like Truman when he was a Senator, he might be aware of the existence of the codename "Manhattan Project" and the existence of Oak Ridge, but be given not a clue as to what they were up to, such as, "BTW, the purpose is to develop a super-bomb to blow up cities."

Thus Congressional oversight can be very, very limited. They are basically told to authorize funding for such programs on blind faith that they are in the country's national security interests without knowing exactly what they are funding.

And this is the above-board funding. Remember when Sec. of Defense Donald Rumsfeld went before Congress in 2001 and admitted that around 25% of the Defense budget couldn't be accounted for, or roughly \$2.3 TRILLION dollars over the last 50 years? I seriously doubt that much missing money is due solely to poor accounting practices. I would bet a big chunk is going to black projects so secret that Congress doesn't have a clue what they are. UFO back-engineering anyone?

>>The current administration's interpretation of the executive >>power is that the President has authority over members of the >>executive branch and functions as the "CEO" or Commander-in->>Chief. The Bush administration's stated policy is that the >>Executive power is only restricted by the U.S. Constitution (as >>interpreted by the Judiciary). Congress can hold the President >>accountable only by censure, impeachment, or constitutional >>amendment; legislation restricting the executive branch has no >>power.

>>Even if one disagrees with the Bush administration's >>interpretation previous administrations, with less of a "unitary >>executive theory", would not have supported regulation of this >>magnitude.

That sounds good in theory, but in practice that doesn't seem to be what happens. The government in the modern age is such a huge and complicated maze of agencies and compartmentalization that it can be extremely difficult to get one's hands on highly restricted information. The simplest way to keep a President or Congressional leader from knowing about something is to not tell them it exists, such as Lillenthal unilaterally did with H-bomb research.

>>In my opinion, it is more likely that Presidents get briefed on >>the UFO topic. Of course it could be that new Presidents either >>do not ask the right questions (to the correct departments) or >>the information is being illegally withheld.

Yes, unless you know who to ask, you don't get anything. And even if you ask the right people, they can lie or ignore you, as Clinton indicated does indeed happen with Presidents. Unless a President is willing to risk a huge fight and has the right lieutenants to push the issue, stubborn, entrenched bureaucrats can thwart even Presidents.

>>I guess another possibility is the information is no longer held >>in legal government channels and is held by organizations >>outside of the legitimate government (black or secret >>government).

>I agree with the above. Privatized UFO secrets would probably be >illegal, as there is no legal basis for just giving away >government secrets and property to private individuals and >corporations.

I don't know of any big organization where everybody plays by the rules all the time. If anyone thinks the government has been operating 100% legal since WWII, they haven't been paying attention. Let's get real here.

David Rudiak

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul@g.com>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 14:13:57 -0500
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 17:18:41 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Frankl Fields fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 11:39:16 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

>There are many laws that require the President to be formed on
> matters such as UFOs. For example, the CIA Director is required
> by SEC. 102. [50 U.S.C. 403] of the National Security Act to
> advise the President on all telligence matters. The law
> further states SEC. 103. (50 U.S.C. 403-3), "Under the
> direction of the National Security Council, the Director of
> Central Intelligence shall be responsible for provid g national
> telligence to the President". I could go further but really
> there is no dispute on the requirement to brief the President on
> matters of National Security such as UFOs.

>Maybe the President is not actually briefed but there is no
> doubt about the legal requirement that he be formed. I am not
> naive enough to believe that everyth g is a simple top to
> bottom management structure. However, your op ion that the UFO
> issue is not "prime" enough to warrant transfer is preposterous
> and shows a level of naivet=E9 on your part.

What is deemed to be important for the President to know is not
a universal given, nor is it def ed very well. Brief gs on what
is thought to be important to the President are def ed by those
giv g the brief gs. If they want to limit is access to formation
because they believe he doesn't need it now, they can do so
legally. His subord ates are, part, be g paid to keep the
pressure to a m imum and shield him from formation that he
doesn't really need. Now who makes that decision? How do you
know that the subord ates don't all believe they have the UFO
situation under control and there's no reason to br g it up now
to a new President.

FYI, I really don't have a dog this fight and don't want to
get to a long philosophical argument over this or any other
issue. I f d that most people this field speak a lot of
nonsense about how they believe the Government operates and that
compounds the confusion we f d this genre. This is my last
missive this thread.

Steve

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SDI #464 - Twenty Questions

From: **Alfred Lehmborg** <alienview.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 14:30:32 -0600
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 17:22:14 -0500
Subject: SDI #464 - Twenty Questions

SDI #464 - Twenty Questions

20 Questions acerbically addressed by Errol Bruce-Knapp, Dave Furlotte, Alfred Lehmborg, and Michel Deschamps with a decided lack of elak if exuberant elan:

1. Ears or rears or in arrears?
2. Suspicious facts are best? Outright fabrications are worst? Who makes which and why?
3. Fear, uncertainty, and doubt are "FUD" on ones face as is "mud" on a drying sheet?
4. Is it likely that a vetted person top-kick-accountable for the real-world intelligence of an outfit responsible for the use of the world's only atomic weapon... ..be not also able to distinguish a ruined heap of common foil and balsa wood from a bona fide UFO?
5. Do three atoms of hydrogen and one of carbon have to smell this bad?
6. How long has gum been wrapped in aluminum foil?
7. At the end of a fact check, who's the idiot or the fraud?
8. What are the cognitive processes utilized in the determination of fecal matter from Shinola.
9. When are orders lawful enough for it to be acceptable to use the rational that you were "only following orders"?
10. Did Jesse Marcel Sr. concede to play the dunce on orders from superior officers?
11. Given there is admission by authority that an event of some kind occurred at Roswell in 1947, what event actually occurred when all the explanations presented by authority are shown to be bupkis and nonsense?
12. What do 700 issues of FATE Magazine mean?
13. What is PalTalk and what will that mean to the future of Podcasting?
14. With no resolution but that leading to the highly strange, still... whatever happened to the flap at O'Hare from early this year?
15. Are UFOs on the verge of some ready-for-prime-time status in the discredited mainstream media?
16. What is the physical effect of seven pounds of high explosive arriving to impact at hypersonic speeds on anything not prepared for it?
17. What must it be like to be sitting charged and ready in the cockpit of a state-of-the-art jet fighter knowing you were soon

to hurtle down the active runway for scrambled take-off and shoot rockets at UFOs?

18. What value are documents "dribbled" and "redacted"?

19. What hazard is a well moneyed klasskurtxian machine?

20. Who is Lexi Loudin?

Gads and fracken zooks but that fifty plus startling minutes remain! Lexi Loudin, a regional science fair winner for her research into the Flatwoods Monster, demonstrates 'the child is father to the man' and that she has a 'take on things', too. Michel Deschamps - Webmaster/creator of the NOUFORS - Northern Ontario UFO Research & Study site, fluffs the righteous anomaly discussing his search of newspapers for Northern Ontario UFO reports plus the famous Falconbridge Canadian Forces Radar Station case... then we hear whispers from the non-acknowledged ufological past courtesy Wendy Connors.

Verily... Ufological sensibilities empowered are the listener's own! Listen now or know the toad with extreme prejudice!

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/sdi/program/>

alienview.nul

www.AlienView.net

AVG Blog -- <http://alienviewgroup.blogspot.com/>

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 17](#)

Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 16:38:41 -0500
Archived: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 18:25:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 13:01:52 -0500 (EST)
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:42:25 -0500
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:45:29 -0500
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
>>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>Under the circumstances, those advocating political action on
>>UFO-related matters would be well advised to turn their
>>attention to more productive projects. What was already a long
>>shot has now lengthened and vanished into the distance and over
>>the horizon. As we endeavor to learn more about UFOs, we'll have
>>to do it the old-fashioned way: by our own efforts.

>Would you comment further? Why do you think the tide has turned
>against UFO disclosure? It seems that there is much hope. Obama
>has promised a more open government.

Hmmm... I thought I'd made myself clear on that. Maybe not.

My point was that with a collapsing economy, two wars, global warming, terrorism, the urgent need to repair America's damaged relations with the international community, and more, the new President will be overwhelmed with dire crises from the moment he enters the White House. Short of evidence of an impending war of the worlds, he will have no reason to invest attention or political capital (which would be massively expensive) on UFO matters.

I do agree, however, that President Obama will be less secretive - how could he be more secretive? - than the Bush/Cheney gang have been. Perhaps in that way inquirers will be able to dig out some interesting, heretofore-unreleased UFO-related documents via FOIA and other sources.

It's just that UFO disclosure as such is, to any available evidence, no priority at the presidential level. Nor, given the truly scary situation we find ourselves in currently, should we want it to be. There's more important and pressing business to deal with. This is surely the case whether there are or are not major UFO secrets under wraps.

Jerry Clark

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 18](#)

UFOs & Science: ...Attack The People

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 06:46:22 -0500
Archived: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 06:46:22 -0500
Subject: UFOs & Science: ...Attack The People

Source: Frank Warren's The UFO Chronicles Site

<http://tinyurl.com/67y4g9>

11-16-08

UFOs & Science: If One Can't Attack The Data, Attack The People
- It's Easier!

By Frank Warren

As most of our readers are undoubtedly aware by now (see Billy Cox's excellent expose), there has been an exercise in character assassination aimed at renowned ufologist, Stanton Friedman; the culprit in this instance is one Paul Cottle,

Dr. Cottle is no slouch, and has an impressive resume, earning his doctorate at Yale. Currently he resides at the Experimental Nuclear Physics Faculty at FSU, where he has been for quite some time, his accolades there are abundant and impressive. All this begs the question as to why a man of science such as Cottle would resort to ad hominem attacks against a man he doesn't know, and based on his comments, a subject he's ignorant of.

For those not familiar with the recent events, here is a brief synopsis:

The Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science, located in Tallahassee, Florida recently hosted the "Roswell Exhibit" The exhibit focuses on the events that took place near Roswell, N.M. in the summer of 1947 involving the crash of one or more UFOs and the post military/government cover-up.

In association with the exhibit, Stan was tasked to lecture at the Museum as well, this a sensible compliment to the show, given the fact that it was through his efforts that the story was brought to the public's attention back in 1978, and why "Roswell" has become a household name today.

On November 4th, in a Letter To The Editor to The Tallahassee Democrat, Cottle wrote:

"Brogan should give up UFO 'pseudoscience'

Florida's scientists and science educators recently completed a year's work revising the standards for teaching and learning science in the state's public schools. In the end, most of the energy spent by the standards writers, policymakers and citizens was focused on the threat of pseudoscience undermining scientific literacy in our state.

That's why it is so discouraging that the Brogan Museum of Arts and Sciences has chosen to feature an exhibit ("The Roswell Exhibit") and to host a speaker (well-known charlatan Stanton Friedman) that feature UFO pseudoscience.

The Brogan is going to alarming lengths to sell tickets to Friedman's talks. Last week, the museum sent an e-mail to a number of FSU physics professors asking them to award extra credit to students in their classes for attending Friedman's lectures and coughing up the \$10 ticket price. The Brogan staff was presumably inspired to make this request by Friedman's claim that he is a nuclear physicist.

The Brogan should make a new commitment to promoting genuine science. There are too many scientists and educators working hard to improve the scientific environment in Tallahassee to allow the Brogan to undermine it."

That slanderous diatribe incited responses from Chucha Barber, the Brogan Museum executive director, who came to Stan's defense, and then more malevolent innuendo ensued from Dr. Gregory Boebinger, director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, also at FSU; he in part wrote:

"When Professor Cottle expresses concern about "pseudoscience undermining scientific literacy in our state," he means all pseudoscience, including UFOs, palm reading and astrology. Is the Brogan planning to host future exhibits on palm reading and astrology? Surely, when a science museum hosts often-debunked pseudoscience, it is not only using "a variety of entertaining experiences to attract audiences to science" as Ms. Barber contends, but also insidiously endorsing pseudoscience and attracting our children and the public away from science."

Clearly both Cottle and Boebinger are ignorant to the elements of Ufology; however, at least the latter, although he employed innuendo a propos Ufology, he didn't slander Stan by name; some might argue the difference given the association.

Knowing Stan, as I do, as well as being a proponent of Ufology, and the scientific investigation thereof, to say I was offended by the remarks of these two men would be a great understatement. Feeling compelled to "chime in," I wrote the following to both the Tallahassee Democrat, as well as the Florida Citizens for Science web-site:

"Stanton Friedman is credentialed both academically, and by classified programs which necessitated a Q clearance. The DOE's Q Clearance is equivalent to the DoD's Top Secret Clearance (TS); his achievements have been such that he has been called on by The United Nations, as well as Congress... hardly the accolades of a charlatan!

Equally important is the fact he his a man of impeccable character, ethics, and principals - a true gentlemen in every sense of the word; fortunately, for those who choose to slander him, fear not, as he need not slither down to the level of ad hominem attacks.

One other attribute Stan possesses is courage! He crossed a line long ago that most academics and or mainstream scientists won't dare! He became cognizant of a global phenomenon decades past and took action! He did what science prescribes, setting aside "cognitive bias" as well as selfishness, then began to research and investigate. He is a Copernicus of his time, defying the status quo, and staying true to science.

I might add for those that feel that Ufology isn't worthy of science, let me remind them that the first physicists who broached the subject (albeit by mandate) are names they might recognize e.g., Dr. Edward Teller, Dr. Norris Bradbury, Dr. Frederick, Dr. Reines, Dr. John Manley to name a few.

One final note for those who don't know him, yet choose to malign the man; Stanton Friedman vindicates his thesis with factual data; he lays it on the table for all to see, and he invites logical inquiry; he takes on any and all challengers with plausible arguments; those who can't step up and argue the scientific points, and can only sling mud certainly don't conform to science or common decency for that matter."

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Science And Chalatlans

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 07:06:30 -0500
Archived: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 07:06:30 -0500
Subject: Science And Chalatlans

Source: Kevin Randle's Blog - Iowa, USA

<http://kevinrandle.blogspot.com/2008/11/science-and-chalatlans.html>

Monday, November 17, 2008

Science And Chalatlans

There has been a disturbing story circulating on UFO UpDates and told by Billy Cox on his blog and who is a real friend of the UFO community. According to these stories, Stan Friedman was to lecture at a science museum and that invitation was challenged by a "real" scientist, Paul Cottle, see:

www.flascience.org/wp/?p=768

who suggested that the study of UFOs is a "pseudoscience" and thought of Friedman, according to these reports, as a "charlatan."

Now, as many of you know, Stan and I have had our differences over the years. Simply look at the arguments about MJ-12 and you'll understand some of it. But this really is too much, no matter what you think of Friedman, his theories, and his research.

These 'scientists', and all too often the members of CSI (which used to be CSICOP before they changed their name) have long thought they needed to protect us unwashed heathens from those attempting to sell us snake oil. They have decided that we are incapable of discerning the truth for ourselves and always there to force the truth down our throats even if that truth smacks of their own dogma.

I won't bother with a long list of things that scientists knew before the evidence finally overwhelmed them forcing them to reevaluate their positions. The history of science is loaded with things that we all just knew to be real until the radical new ideas were forced on us. I'm thinking here of germ theory, genetic mutation and the demise of the dinosaurs, just to name a few.

In this case the 'scientists' who know relatively nothing about UFOs decided that they weren't worthy of study. After all, didn't Dr. Edward U. Condon study the flying saucers in the late 1960s and conclude that they weren't anything to be taken seriously by science. Aren't they 'often-debunked pseudoscience'? No further study required.

Isn't it true that there is no evidence of these alien visitations, so we can ignore the testimony of airline pilots entrusted with the lives of hundreds, of police officers who clearly don't understand what is in the sky around them, and all sorts of professionals who have reported UFOs in the past including such scientists as Clyde Tombaugh?

Can't we ignore the solid movies and photographs taken in the past? Haven't reputable scientists found the pictures to be faked? Aren't the reports corroborated by radar merely the mistakes of the air traffic controllers and others who are supposed to know the difference? Can't we ignore the evidence collected at more than 4,000 landings around the world?

Didn't the Air Force prove that the 1947 Roswell UFO crash was nothing more than a Project Mogul balloon array... even though there were no unaccounted for launches, the balloon array would have been recognized for what it was, a balloon array, by those who found it and there is no record of a Flight No. 4 which was identified as the culprit by the skeptics. Can't we just ignore the testimonies of those hundreds who were involved in the clean up because it doesn't fit into our 'accepted' reality?

I have nothing against any scientist who expresses an opinion, but I do have something against those who express uninformed opinions. Just because someone can append letters after his or her name, doesn't mean that his or her opinion about everything is valid, especially when they have made no attempt to check the current literature. (For those interested, when I was working on my Ph. D., and when I became bored with psychology after long hours, I would look up UFOs in the scientific literature and found more than 100 articles in the psychology library, not all of them dismissing the topic as debunked.)

Years ago I had the opportunity to interview James A. van Allen, a scientist I believe everyone can respect. The topic was the idea that the Tunguska explosion of 1908 was the result of a failure in the power plant of an alien spacecraft. Van Allen knew the topic and granted me a couple of hours of his time.

Several things struck me at that interview. One, he was gracious enough to talk to me about a subject that might have been considered pseudoscience. Two, he had studied the Tunguska case because it interested him. And three, rather than rejecting what I said about it, he would ask, "What's your source on that?"

He was of the opinion that a comet had disintegrated about five miles high and the resulting explosion, which would have been massive, was the reason that impact site resembled ground zero where atomic bombs had been tested.

We also talked briefly about UFOs on another occasion and he seemed to be willing to listen to the evidence. He wasn't about to make a pronouncement based on what he thought to be the evidence, but rather on what the evidence showed.

He did say that if you were in the middle of Wyoming and heard the thunder of hooves, you don't expect zebra. Which means, of course, you must eliminate the mundane before you graduate to the unusual.

With today's keepers of the flame, those who profess to have the light while the rest of us wander in the dark unable to find our way, can we expect anything other than immediate dismissal? Without looking at a shred of evidence, they are able to tell us what is and what isn't.

This debate, such as it was, next turned to Dr. Gregory Boebinger, the director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory in Tallahassee. He asked "Is the Brogan [the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science in Tallahassee which hosted Friedman's presentation] planning to host future exhibits on palm reading and astrology? Surely, when a science museum hosts often-debunked pseudoscience, it is not only using 'a variety of entertaining experiences to attract audiences to science', as Ms. Barber [the Executive Director of the museum] contends, but it also insidiously endorsing pseudoscience and attracting our children and the public away from science."

Nothing like reducing UFO study to that of palm reading and astrology. Nothing like calling UFO research pseudoscience without knowing a thing about it.

Let's talk about pseudoscience. Let's talk about the epitome of pseudoscience which is known as the Condon Report, or officially as the Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects which was conducted at the University of Colorado and funded with more than half a million taxpayer dollars thanks to the Air Force.

(For a little more detail, look at The Hippler Letter published on this blog in March 2007.)

In fact, in 1967, Condon delivered a lecture to scientists in Corning, New York telling them, "It is my inclination right now to recommend that the government get out of this business. My attitude right now is that there is nothing in it. But I am not supposed to reach a conclusion for another year." So much for science.

Condon did reach the conclusion that there was no threat to national security, which was one of his missions, but he also concluded that no further study was required, even after more than thirty percent of the reports in his study were not identified. Even after one sighting was identified as a phenomenon so rare it had never been seen before or since and certainly doesn't tell us what it was. So much for science.

These other scientists, Cottle and Boebinger for example, are certainly familiar with the Air Force study of UFOs known as Project Blue Book (yes, that is sarcasm) and although the Air Force claimed they had identified all but three or four percent of the sightings, the true number is considerably higher. The Air Force often labeled a sighting as "Insufficient for Scientific Analysis", which, of course, doesn't explain it, but kept it out of the "Unidentified" category.

The evidence, all the evidence that science could want, is out there. Instead of looking at it, we had scientists such as Donald Menzel who called the pictures taken by Carl Hart, Jr. over Lubbock, Texas a hoax without proof or evidence of a hoax. The problem for Menzel was that if those pictures hadn't been faked by Hart, then there was no earthly explanation for them. So much for science.

And in keeping with that tradition, Cottle and Boebinger have not bothered to respond to these questions and points. Cottle just said that his letter to the editor was his message to the local community. Boebinger has yet to respond.

So much for science.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 07:21:21 -0500
Archived: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 07:21:21 -0500
Subject: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

Source: Scott Corrales' INEXPLICATA Blog

<http://tinyurl.com/6den2h>

Monday, November 17, 2008

When Ufologists Become Skeptics

Gustavo Fernandez, editor of the Al Filo de la Realidad bulletin and host of the radio show with the same name, shared with us an extended article on the phenomenon of UFO researchers who suddenly switch sides and join the ranks of skeptics. We have taken the liberty of translating an abbreviated version of the piece for INEXPLICATA readers, striving to preserve the core of Gustavo's message. While the conditions he discusses apply to his native Argentina, some parallels clearly exist in the Northern Hemisphere --Scott Corrales

Al Filo de la Realidad - When Ufologists Become Skeptics
By Gustavo Fernandez

In Psychology, it's customary to discuss the destruction of the "object of desire" =96 stated plainly, this is the unconscious and overwhelming need of some minds, bewildered by the enormity of having to accept the fact that the object of their desire will be forever out of their reach, to destroy what they had lusted after until that very moment. Weakened souls and emotionally unprotected minds feel unable to resign themselves to the fact that what they love, seek or covet will never be theirs. Ever. Police blotters are filled with examples of this nature on a daily basis, spurned lovers who murder (out of love?) the person who rejected them. Folk wisdom recalls this brilliantly in the fable of the fox and the grapes, the one about the fox, who desperately strives for an unreachable branch after many hours of efforts, shrugs and finally walks off saying "Bah! They're still green."

In our specific case, it is my belief that some characters, tormented by the awareness that they will never divine the true nature of UFOs (and much less come into contact with them) preserve a certain emotional balance by triggering a denial mechanism (which is ultimately one of the defensive mechanisms of the unconscious ego) and seek to destroy it, slaughter it, thus achieving a certain degree of intellectual peace through the gratification that such compensation affords.

History (in uppercase or not) is loaded with examples of this. Many religious converts are more devoted than those who were born into the faith. Let us not forget, by the way, that fanaticism is a psychological aberration, a behavioral and personality disturbance that has nothing to do with education. Therefore, receiving a college degree does not safeguard any human being against fanaticism. A fanatic is the individual who concocts a theory to belittle and attack the ideology espoused

by others. A fanatic is someone who, distressed by the dissemination of another's ideas, claims journalistic censure against these ideas, which is a patent manifestation of cultural regression. A fanatic necessarily thinks that he or she possesses the truth because the other is wrong.

There are other motivations that logically concur with the destruction of the object of desire. When one closely follows the creation of groups like the Comision para la Investigacion y Refutacion de las Pseudociencias (Commission for Research and Refutation of Pseudosciences) in our country =96 so scientific that they commit the basic mistake of knowledge, since an organization whose very name seeks "refutation" cannot seriously and objectively propose research =96 or others, which are created, fight and dissolve with the same swiftness and ease characterized by teenage UFO study groups. One cannot help but feel certain tenderness toward the solemn and fatuous manner in which these crusaders present their task. Its only natural, being aware of the cyclic waves of human emotion - the same which caused tens of thousands of youths to embrace left-wing causes, imposing the psycho Marxist fashion, and who later became comfortable bourgeois free-market defenders. After a huge wave of pro-UFO passion, a UFO backlash was inevitable. But to believe that the proliferation of [skeptics] in recent years is because current generations have a keener scientific understanding than in the past is an effrontery to common sense. After all, who remembers groups of "professional skeptics" back in the '60s and =9170s?

Being a skeptic is nice work. It's no longer unusual to see someone on TV defending the extraterrestrial hypothesis as the source of UFOS, or to see someone holding a lecture on paranormal phenomena. But to have someone seriously, and with a sardonic smile, say that UFOs are bunk, or a publicity-starved stage magician "prove" that telepathy exists, is really different, and therefore newsworthy. Unfortunately, a large segment of the public is amused by heated exchanges and the vulgarity (my grandma used a far stronger and effective word) of "researchers" fighting in front of the camera. One of them will surely lose the exchange, usually the one who is less skilled in managing on-air time, since television has no time for the truth. This creates ratings. Moderators don't care who's right or wrong: only the Nielsens matter.

On the other hand, representatives of the skeptical fauna are usually invited to conferences, even if only to avoid being labeled "cultists" should they not do so. Many times this results in per diem allowances and other gratuities.

Furthermore, being a horse of a different color is eye-catching. In Argentina, some former ufologists and progressive skeptics have taken advantage of this repositioning and their contacts in the journalistic world in order to boldly attack other researchers, employing all manner of fallacious arguments to settle old personal scores.

It is for this reason, among others, that I praise the members of RAO (Red Argentina de Ovnilogia =96 Argentinean UFO Network) for unanimously voting to bar the entry of naysayers into their organization. What for? I know that my stance may be decried as lacking objectivity and displaying fear of dissent, but I'm a simple fellow. Not only is it not worth feeding these vultures, just to have them benefit from the work of others, turning their own structures against them.

I believe that Anti-UFO Skepticism is a fad, surely a transient one. A sort of intellectual snobbery that will exhaust its followers when they reach the critical mass that no longer makes them attractive or original to others. Some will undoubtedly continue to embrace their fanaticism (we all believe that we have a mission in this life); hesitant to let go of what has given a sense of meaning to their lives. Others will feel the anguish of looking over their shoulders and seeing that the same old mysteries are still there. They will harden their brain cells and will turn skepticism into a cult. As long as there are those who believe that "Dr." preceding their names gives them the right to petulantly state that "there are no scientific investigations that have proven the reality of these phenomena," as long as there are people who believe that UFOs do not exist because a UFO photograph can be doctored (overlooking the fact that Hollywood simulates amazing airplane crashes, which

unfortunately doesn't mean airplane crashes do not exist), these Torquemada wannabees will continue meddling with the credulity of others. An apparently contrary form of credulity (it-cannot-be-and-therefore-I-must-be-convinced form of credulity), but which remains credulity, in the end.

Opposite, yet complementary. The ying and yang of this cosmic sideshow.

Finally, I think we're taking matters too seriously. Something has been lost when knowledge needs to garb itself in solemnity. I believe that neither skeptics nor defenders of "whatever" are so important that we can waste time that we'll never recover on this childish quarrel. So don't waste your time either, dear reader. For this reason I am ending these lines with something that perhaps does matter. Not brainy "scientific evidence" or quotations from ominous encyclopedic treatises. This intellectual feast I set aside for minds more enlightened than my own. With regard to this subject, I only wish to leave behind a treat for the spirit, in the form a poem written by Chesterton: "when practical minds invite us/to discover the cold calculations that the world is made of/our souls shall reply from the shadows/yes, perhaps, but are there others?"

Translated by Scott Corrales
Inexplicata - The Journal of Hispanic Ufology

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Vincent Boudreau <vincentboudreau.nul>
Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 23:37:20 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Tue, 18 Nov 2008 07:47:37 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:42:25 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2008 09:45:29 -0500
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: Franklin Fields <fields.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2008 21:25:02 -0500 (EST)
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>The President of the United States is the chief executive
>>>officer of the federal government, the leader of the executive
>>>branch, and the commander in chief of the armed forces. The
>>>president also has the power to make treaties with other nations
>>>[alien or human]. To answer your question, "Does this President
>>>need to know this information at this time?", I would say yes.
>>>If he was not briefed there would be a very serious breach of
>>>law.

>>To be quite honest, I pray that Obama deals primarily with the
>>economic and foreign policy issues that we face, and leaves the
>>UFO issue very low on his priority list. The view from here
>>isn't very pretty and the demands that will be made on
>>Government leaders at all levels will be difficult (at best). I
>>wouldn't expect many in Washington to give much more than a
>>passing response to the UFO issue for the next several years.

>I doubt that you have to "pray" that the new President will have
>his priorities in order. To every indication he is an
>intelligent and sensible man, and we all know the nation faces
>crises more dire than any in decades. Assuming he has no secret
>intelligence concerning an imminent alien invasion, he has no
>reason to give UFOs a second thought, except - if he happens to
>have some private curiosity - in what will surely be very rare
>idle moments.

>Under the circumstances, those advocating political action on
>UFO-related matters would be well advised to turn their
>attention to more productive projects. What was already a long
>shot has now lengthened and vanished into the distance and over
>the horizon. As we endeavor to learn more about UFOs, we'll have
>to do it the old-fashioned way: by our own efforts.

Funny that you say that.

If some Muslims went around, dressed in djellabas, abducting
people and shutting down missile silos, we would all be under
red alert, no?

But! since it's aliens...

Vincent Boudreau

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A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 19](#)

UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 07:29:16 -0500
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 07:29:16 -0500
Subject: UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

Source: FOX7-TV - Austin, Texas, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/6n7dec>

Tuesday, 18 Nov 2008

[Video at site]

UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

AUSTIN--Carl Lancaster of Austin believes that UFOs are hovering over the city's sky at night and believes he has the video to prove it. Foti Kallergis spoke with Lancaster who showed FOX 7 his UFO footage.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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UFO Sightings Over Bucks County

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 07:37:51 -0500
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 07:37:51 -0500
Subject: UFO Sightings Over Bucks County

Source: WPVI-TV Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/6cq6fa>

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

[Video report at site]

UFO Sightings Over Bucks County
By Walter Perez

LANGHORNE, Pa. - November 18, 2008- (WPVI) -- A conference planned for Bucks County is truly "out of this world!"

It comes in response to numerous reports of strange lights, high in the sky.

What were those things people saw hovering over the Sesame Place Amusement Park in Langhorne?

How about those boomerang shaped aircraft in the skies above Oxford Valley Mall?

There've been dozens of reports of UFO sightings in Bucks County over the past few months.

In fact, Action News was able to find an eyewitness.

"It was the most bizarre looking thing, we both said 'What is that?'" said Susan Prager of Yardley, Pa. "We couldn't figure it out. We kept looking at it and looking at it. It definitely was a UFO."

This burst in unexplained sightings has prompted the Pennsylvania Mutual UFO Network, better known as MUFON, to hold it's next Alien Hunter Conference at Bucks County Community College.

MUFON's Pennsylvania Branch Director, John Ventre, says having the meeting here is a no-brainer.

He sent us a release from his home near Pittsburgh saying, in part, "Over the Summer of 2008, we had 138 UFO sightings from Pittsburgh to Philly. Normally we would have 36 over a four month period. The Philly-Bucks County area had 77 of the 138.

Even Derrick Pitts, Chief Astronomer at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia admits... He wants to believe.

But...

"In the case of alien spacecraft, we have no hard evidence whatsoever about the existence of either alien spacecraft of aliens themselves," Pitts said.

That MUFON meeting will be held January 24th. Topics will include alien abductions, eyewitness accounts and the, quote, "alien hybrid program."

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The Nye Incidents?

From: Jason Gammon <boyinthemachine.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 00:52:44 -0500
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 08:02:02 -0500
Subject: The Nye Incidents?

Does anyone have any links or more information about the supposed strange deaths of homeless people in New Jersey circa 2001?

These deaths were reportedly the inspiration behind Whitley Strieber's 'The Nye Incidents', and were said to involve the discovery on roof-tops of the mutilated bodies of homeless people. Going further, the cause of death was supposed to have been listed as drowning.

Any help would be much appreciated.

-Jason Gammon

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 19](#)

Re: The Nye Incidents?

From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 08:24:46 -0500
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 08:49:03 -0500
Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

>From: Jason Gammon <boyinthemachine.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 00:52:44 -0500
>Subject: The Nye Incidents?

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>supposed strange deaths of homeless people in New Jersey circa
>2001?

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>Strieber's 'The Nye Incidents', and were said to involve the
>discovery on roof-tops of the mutilated bodies of homeless
>people. Going further, the cause of death was supposed to have
>been listed as drowning.

>Any help would be much appreciated.

Hi Jason,

I didn't know anything about the book until you brought this up
and as far as I can tell, this book is being published as a
fictional story, but is apparently rooted in deaths that Whitley
became aware of near his cabin in New Jersey.

The incident and book are being discussed on several forums,
including:

<http://tinyurl.com/672gnl>

[Begin Quote]

In 2001, Whitley Strieber began to hear of a large number of
mutilation murders taking place in northern New Jersey - in fact,
within about forty miles of his old cabin. These were absolutely
terrifying stories, to say the least. At first, he thought they
must be a hoax, but subsequently was forced to place them in the
realm of the unknown.

These true stories involved the remains of street people being
found mutilated like cattle, on the roofs of buildings. Worse,
they had been drowned by being taken to such a depth in the
ocean that their lungs showed pressure damage. So these street
people were being taken, having their genitals and tongues and
eyes and lips cut off, then being plunged into the sea a hundred
miles away and drowned, then dropped back on the roofs of
buildings.

At first, it appeared that he had a direct line to the coroner
involved. Then that collapsed, and he was left unsure about what
had happened. He could not believe that the murders were done by
some sort of serial killer, because how could a serial killer
mutilate people, then drown them by taking them down in the
ocean, then bring them back and put them on roofs? It struck him
as impossible.

[End Quote]

Re: The Nye Incidents?

It would be interesting to interview the coroner about the book and see how they react to it.

Steve

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After UFO Sightings Alien Hunters To Gather

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 09:09:34 -0500
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 09:09:34 -0500
Subject: After UFO Sightings Alien Hunters To Gather

Source: Bucks County Courier Times

<http://tinyurl.com/6ggx23>

November 18, 2008

After UFO Sightings Alien Hunters To Gather Here
By James McGinnis
Bucks County Courier Times
215-949-3248
jmcginnis.nul

What started with a single UFO sighting over a Middletown Mexican restaurant Jan. 26 has turned into a science fiction sensation.

Spaceships were spotted over Sesame Place.

Black boomerangs were reported over Citizens Bank Park during the Phillies National League Championship series.

An extraterrestrial even was seen recently in the men's department of the local JCPenney, smiling at our women.

With more than 50 reports from Bucks since January, the Pennsylvania Mutual UFO Network says it now will gather here for its next alien hunter conference Jan. 24 at Bucks County Community College.

State MUFON coordinator John Ventre is scheduled to discuss what he calls the "Pennsylvania UFO Wave". The list of speakers also includes self-professed local abductees, including history professor David Jacobs of Temple University.

Bucks County also will be profiled in a documentary "UFOs over Earth" scheduled to air at 9 p.m. Monday on the Discovery Channel.

No doubt, MUFON will have a lot to talk about that day. The encounters reported to the organization are lengthy and, at times, almost too incredible to believe.

On June 23, a woman reported seeing an "alien entity" in the JCPenney's men's section.

"He was standing by a clothes rack," the report said. "She described him as being male, no hair, gray skin, almond black eyes with a lumpy heavily wrinkled face." The alien appeared to be shopping and had a "pleasant smile" for ladies in the store.

Yet the woman told MUFON she decided to leave the scene "because she and her husband were planning to attend a movie."

(It's not known which outlet the aliens chose for their shopping spree, though several other sightings were reported near the Oxford Valley Mall.)

The spacecraft over Sesame Place was seen Oct.18. As reported to MUFON, the craft had no wings, no windows and was able to instantly change direction.

Another report from Oct. 5 recounts "bright quick flickering lights" hovering and disappearing in the sky as well as "several quiet helicopters circling the area."

On Sept. 11, a man from Warrington reported a rumbling noise and a series of falling white lights.

On June 6, a Bucks County resident reported a strange object floating down Almshouse Road toward Newtown.

Derrick Pitts, chief astronomer for the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, urges residents not to jump to conclusions about strange celestial sightings.

Often times, these objects are identifiable, Pitts said. And even if they can't be explained, that doesn't necessarily make them aliens.

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Re: UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

From: Robert Powell <rpowell.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 08:18:15 -0600
Archived: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 09:31:16 -0500
Subject: Re: UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

UFO UpDates - Toronto wrote:

>Source: FOX7-TV - Austin, Texas, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/6n7dec>

>Tuesday, 18 Nov 2008

>[Video at site]

>UFOs Frequent North Austin Sky

>AUSTIN--Carl Lancaster of Austin believes that UFOs are hovering
>over the city's sky at night and believes he has the video to
>prove it. Foti Kallergis spoke with Lancaster who showed FOX 7
>his UFO footage.

I can't believe that made the news. Here is the link to his
video:

<http://tinyurl.com/66mdhb>

The diamond shape the guy is talking about is nothing more than
distortion when he zooms in his video camera.

There is nothing on his video tape that indicates anything out
of the ordinary.

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:47:00 EST
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 09:05:35 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>Source: Bernhard Haisch's UFOskeptical.Com - Redwood City,
California, USA

>><http://www.ufoskeptical.org/>

>>February 19, 2006

>>Would The President Be Briefed On A UFO Special Access Program

>>In 1976 presidential candidate Jimmie Carter promised the
>>American people that he would open any government UFO files that
>>might exist. Recall that while governor of Georgia, Carter had a
>>UFO sighting and actually filed a report. After winning election
>>to President, Carter met with CIA Director George H. W. Bush
>>seeking a briefing on the topic. Bush turned him down, claiming
>>that neither as President nor as Commander-in-Chief did he have
>>a "need to know."

><snip>

>>on what legal basis would the President
>>and Commander-in-Chief be denied access? Bush apparently replied
>>to the effect that if Carter could get Congress to vote to give
>>him (Carter) clearance then he (Bush) would do it - implying
>>that there was a binding law in effect that prohibited
>>disclosure even to the President, under normal circumstances.

>There isn't a shred of evidence presented that any such
>conversation ever took place between President Carter and then
>DCI Bush, and it is laughable on its face.

>Bush resigned as DCI Director of Central Intelligence) effective
>the day that Carter took office, on Jan. 20, 1977.

>Why couldn't Carter just ask his own DCI whom he personally
>appointed, Admiral Stansfield Turner??

>The story is more MJ-12-type hogwash, coming from Daniel
>Sheehan without a stitch of documentation, and served up as
>factual history.

>Brad Sparks

This may somewhat impugn the reputation of JSE and serves as a doorway into what little fact checking is consistently possible within this field - a suburb example of the catastrophic misrepresentation likely from those corners purported to be leading in a more critical area of study. A great illustration that research should lead opinion rather than blind "rushed along" acceptance fulfilling some emotionally equivalent model.

Skepticism and critical thought processes are continually on the decline in all areas - for the sake of festival comradery? Who

doesn't like a good party, but seriously do you really want to be on every invitation list and attend every junket?

Can't we simply admit that the number of good cases are not that plentiful and, instead, enjoy the process of real discovery, wherever it may lead, on what few cases we actually have or have failed to collect.

I find it disconcerting that somehow science is increasingly beneath this field of inquiry - the "how dare you invoke such nonsense" ever on the increase. Since science merely eliminates possibilities, it in no way interferes with the inexplicable.

Education_is_a truly worthwhile endeavor . . . and this field, like no other inquiry, is ripe and demanding of it's equilateral acceptance and abundance.

It increasingly looks as though we, ourselves, are breeding the very aliens within our midst - not intending to take away from it's profoundly colorful and, nonetheless, interesting "otherworldly" aspects.

Viktor Golubik

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Re: The Nye Incidents?

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 16:09:56 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 09:15:05 -0500
Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 08:24:46 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

>>>From: Jason Gammon <boyinthemachine.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 00:52:44 -0500
>>>Subject: The Nye Incidents?

>>>Does anyone have any links or more information about the
>>>supposed strange deaths of homeless people in New Jersey circa
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>>>These deaths were reportedly the inspiration behind Whitley
>>>Strieber's 'The Nye Incidents', and were said to involve the
>>>discovery on roof-tops of the mutilated bodies of homeless
>>>people. Going further, the cause of death was supposed to have
>>>been listed as drowning.

>>>Any help would be much appreciated.

>Hi Jason,

>I didn't know anything about the book until you brought this up
>and as far as I can tell, this book is being published as a
>fictional story, but is apparently rooted in deaths that Whitley
>became aware of near his cabin in New Jersey.

>The incident and book are being discussed on several forums,
>including:

><http://tinyurl.com/672gnl>

>[Begin Quote]

>In 2001, Whitley Strieber began to hear of a large number of
>mutilation murders taking place in northern New Jersey - in fact,
>within about forty miles of his old cabin. These were absolutely
>terrifying stories, to say the least. At first, he thought they
>must be a hoax, but subsequently was forced to place them in the
>realm of the unknown.

Your link came up with a 404 notice for me, and a search of the
forums there for Whitley Strieber (evidently their search engine
rejects words with less than 4 letters, so "Nye" was out")
didn't bring up any threads with titles that suggested talking
about the Nye book. I dipped into a few threads, but didn't find
any worthwhile discussion.

If this was something that actually happened, 40 miles from
Whitley's old cabin in High Falls would place it right along the
New York/New Jersey border - thus somewhere in Bergen County, or
in the mountainous and sparsely populated areas of northern
Sussex or Passaic counties.

I did, however, stop by Whitley's own forum, and found this
curious idea I'd not seen before. It seems that the very special
subscribers in his forum's inner circle will escape the fate of

Re: The Nye Incidents?

the rest of us, and will not have to wait around for the next billion and a half years while we wait for intelligent life to grow physical bodies that we can use on this planet again.

Bummer.

However, you have to admire the specificity that "billion and a half" suggests, compared to a vague handwaving big number like "billion".

From Whitley's Subscriber interview with David Sereda:

"This is a spaceship. We are building a spaceship out of our own bodies and souls on this website, in this subscriber section. That's what it's about. It's about survival for a very, very few because most people are going to just end up in a situation - quite frankly, I'll tell you what they're going to end up in - where they are ensouled but connected to a planet that is no longer capable of sustaining physical life on a level that where the body, the physical bodies, will fit their souls. And they will remain here, incomplete and unfinished, in a kind of waiting around the planet for it to evolve new bodies. And I will even tell you what I've been told by the Visitors is what will happen: Those bodies will eventually evolve on the planet; there will eventually be creatures on the planet again that have intelligence. That time will be one and a half billion years in the future. This is what this is all about."

Carol

[It appears that Strieber's site does not allow access via Tiny URLs. This List does not use long URLs since they 'break' in posts and the Archive 'chokes' on them --ebk]

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Nashville Report

From: Joe Faccenda <Uforth.nul>
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 17:49:27 EST
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 09:19:39 -0500
Subject: Nashville Report

Because the Internet has made ufology truly Global, like most webmasters I receive reports from all over the world.

Unfortunately because of my location I am unable to give this due diligence and ask if any researchers in the Nashville area could look into this report.

I will pass on relevant information and subsequent pending enquires I have made as to exact details.

Apologies in advance if this is a hoax, or was some kind of TV event.

Report

I was driving home from work when I immediate slammed on brakes because all of the cars in front of me stopped. People were leaving their cars and walking in the road looking up into the sky. Wouldn't everyone else know it was a helicopter too? Why the interest? I was in shock I said to myself no way this cannot be true.

I almost stopped myself to take a picture but I kept going because I thought there has to be an explanation. I live in Nashville, TN. Maybe they are shooting a music Video or movie.

It was a huge black rectangular shape with red lights all the way around the corners hovering just above the trees on the side of the road. It was waiting there taking a photo shoot! Channel 4 News was there and filming.

When I returned about 30-mins later, because I just had to find out, police were on the scene with air guard vehicles.

Channel 4 filmed the air craft, I saw the camera pointed up to the sky. When the news aired they showed a few-second clip saying a body was found near smith springs road and did not show any of the camera footage. They said a rescue helicopter was on scene.

I know what a helicopter looks like. It wasn't! It was square with red lights all the way around! Why did no other news station report a body being found? In fact they said it was an African American but when a family came forward the next day (I followed on this) they made a website recant of their story. Why didn't any other news station cover at least a dead body found?

My family lives in South Ga they had no idea this had taken place, but I get a call from them saying they heard of a sighting of a UFO. A country radio station WSIX, here in Nashville, have syndicated announcers Big D and Bubba.. Their show featured callers calling in about the object! I want to connect to people who saw this. I am tired of being rediculed and laughed at by this. I want resolution so that I can have peace over this.

Regards ,

Joe Faccenda
Scotland

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Jerome Clark** <jkclark.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 08:11:01 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 09:23:31 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:47:00 EST
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>It increasingly looks as though we, ourselves, are breeding the
>very aliens within our midst - not intending to take away from
>it's profoundly colorful and, nonetheless, interesting
>"otherworldly" aspects.

What is "breeding aliens"? Is there an alien bakery somewhere?

Jerry Clark

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Re: Nashville Report

From: Robert Powell <rpowell.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 08:54:24 -0600
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:09:10 -0500
Subject: Re: Nashville Report

>From: Joe Faccenda <Uforth.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
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>could look into this report.

>I will pass on relevant information and subsequent pending
>enquires I have made as to exact details.

>Apologies in advance if this is a hoax, or was some kind of TV
>event.

<snip>

What was the date of the event? Anything more specific on the
location?

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Woman Recounts Her Story Of Alien Abduction - Pt. I

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:26:58 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:26:58 -0500
Subject: Woman Recounts Her Story Of Alien Abduction - Pt. I

Source: KLTV-7 - Tyler, Texas, USA

<http://www.kltv.com/Global/story.asp?S=9381903&nav=1TjD>

11/19/2008

[Video Reports at site]

Woman Recounts Her Story Of Alien Abduction - Pt. I

Courtney Lane
clane.nul

Winnboro--Over the years, we've shown you snapshots and video of flying objects East Texans say are out of this world. But now, KLTV 7 has made contact with a woman claiming to have been up close with beings from outer space. The woman, who lives in East Texas but was born in England, says no matter where she moved in her life, the aliens followed. In a KLTV 7 exclusive, she tells our Courtney Lane about her experiences, and what she says is the proof that backs up her story.

"I was terrified. As soon as the sun went down, I knew they'd be there."

Jane Nelms says throughout her life she's had constant visitors, and not of this earth. She says it all started in 1973 when a brilliant white light appeared in her bedroom window one night.

"As I pulled the drape aside, all of a sudden there were 5 beings...all around me."

Nelms has drawn what she remembers of her encounters. These are the 5 beings she says came in quickly that night and took her.

"I could not move, couldn't do a thing and I was trying to grab the railings to stop myself from being taken. They had total control."

She says they carried her to their ship outside, and one of them even spoke.

"This is the being that talked to me and he said in a very monotone voice, 'Jane, it is your time to come.' And I said 'I am not going anywhere. He said, 'why not you come with us'. I mean, just very very few words. I said because need me here on earth. I have family, I have friends. It is your time to come now. So, they took me. And I was on that ship and it wasn't until 1993 when I was hypnotized that I found out what they were doing."

Nelms says she didn't speak of that for years until she met others at a support group near dallas who claimed similar experiences. When she moved to Carrollton, Nelms says the aliens followed her and came to others. She remembers a frantic, frightening phone call from a neighbor.

"She said 3 different types of beings came down the hallway. And the fans started reversing, lights were flashing...and there were these little balls of light just flying around everywhere. She said one of the beings was so tall it could hardly get through the door," said Nelms.

Nelms says those beings abducted her neighbor, just as they had her before. Why? She says for scientific research.

"I know this is crazy, but this is what happened. They examined her. She said when she was on the ship, the mothership, she said there were all kinds of different species of aliens. Some of them were wearing civilian clothes, she said some of them talked in other languages, she said ones that came over to her and told her that they weren't going to harm her, they just wanted to do some examinations."

She says she confronted those same aliens that night, and even has evidence they were here.

"These are the fingerprints off of the car."

Nelms says these long, skinny markings are the aliens' fingerprints that she dusted, and she has pictures as well.

"This alien was in a fetal position as it tumbled through the window. Through solid material...here's his head and his eye socket and this is one hand here and another hand here. It's hard to see. See the cranium...it's almost like an x-ray."

Nelms says she had to overcome her fears, so she went right out and met them.

"I went out into the backyard and I faced one of them, very tall, and in the dark he had really glowing eyes. And he was scanning. He stood there and was just scanning, like this, just like that. And he looked up and I was about 25 foot from him and I said, you don't scare me."

She says they left after that, but not for long.

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 20](#)

CUFOS & Northwestern University

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:39:51 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:39:51 -0500
Subject: CUFOS & Northwestern University

Source: North By Northwestern - Northwestern U. Evanston,
Illinois, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/5wpe8n>

Nov. 19, 2008

The Center For UFO Studies That Northwestern Wanted Nothing To Do With
By Jason Plautz

During his career, Merrill Lynch CEO John Thain earned the nickname 'I, Robot' for the mechanical and emotionless manner in which he carried out his instructions.

Many co-workers suspected that Thain merely resembled a human in appearance only, and that behind the button-down shirt, hard-wired circuitry allowed him to perform his duties without giving rise to feelings.

Recent events now suggest that Thain is not a robot but in fact an alien at the center of an intergalactic conspiracy to rob Earth of vital minerals and financial institutions.--The Weekly World News, Sept. 15, 2008

The stereotype of the ufologist is something like The Lone Gunmen - just a bunch of crazies, sitting in their moms' basements, staring at computer screens through thick-rimmed glasses and spouting conspiracy theories about how the CIA or NSA or some other initialed agency covered up the Roswell crash because the government is trying to harness the alien technology to build a race of superhumans, starting with their prototype, Barack Obama. It's a stereotype that's all over the media and, quite frankly, isn't far from the truth in a lot of cases.

But the scientists (yes, scientists) at the Center for UFO Studies are different. The Center, located at 2457 W. Peterson Avenue in Chicago, is dedicated to a serious academic study of UFOs. Northwestern astronomy professor Dr. J. Allen Hynek founded CUFOS in 1973 to "end a quarter century of misrepresentation and buffoonery." And now, 35 years later and 22 years after Hynek's death, the Center is still committed to that same standard.

CUFOS focuses on investigating reported sightings, going in-depth by interviewing witnesses, surveying the environment and looking for any kind of evidence that UFOs are out there. In 2006, the group was able to investigate a sighting of a round object hovering in midair at O'Hare International Airport. Three times a year, they publish the International UFO Reporter, a scholarly journal that gets to the heart of what the Center is all about.

"We have a track record of publishing reliable and high-level information and analysis," says Mark Rodeghier, the CUFOS Scientific Director. "You can get commentary in a lot of places, but the academic style of analysis and research is something we

specialize in."

Quacks

But research is often unseen in a field dragged down by conspiracy theorists, people publishing wild statements on the Internet and, well, crazies. Even ufology's only newsstand magazine, UFO, has ditched the serious reporting for a new-age approach. Frank John Reid, one of the Center's volunteers, may look like the public's stereotype of a goofball with his wild hair and unkempt mustache, yet he is quick to note that the Center is a step above.

"A guy can tell you the Queen of England has reptile blood and say he's a ufologist, but he's not," Reid says. "There's a real tendency to put stuff online with no peer review. Outside of us, there's not much peer review."

Even though the volunteers can't always admit to being in the mainstream, Rodeghier says the Center fights being associated with the oddballs simply by doing good work.

"We try to present ourselves well in other venues. We try not to associate with the crazies," he says. "Are there quack psychologists and people with weird theories? Absolutely. Should they reflect on the profession of psychology? No."

Perhaps the goofballs capture the attention because it's easy to dismiss them. The idea of ufology is off-putting or taboo to many, and they don't want their name associated with it.

"If you're on your way up, you don't want to let people know you're into UFOs," says David Boras, Assistant to the Scientific Director.

That sentiment caused tension between Hynek and the Northwestern administration throughout his career. Even though Hynek was one of Northwestern's most popular and famous professors, the university refused to be associated with CUFOS. Memos from the university archives show that Hynek was careful to avoid mentioning UFOs and Northwestern in the same breath. In one memo to John Fields, the vice president of development, Hynek wrote, "I am sorry about the occasional attribution of the Center to Northwestern." A memo from Provost Raymond W. Mack laid out the distinction Hynek was supposed to make in public:

"There is no reason for Northwestern not to receive credit on the coast-to-coast television speeches you mention for the fact that you are a member of our faculty, but there is every reason for us not to claim that the Center of UFO Studies is an organizational part of Northwestern University."

But perhaps the most damning evidence of the strain between academia and ufology came in a memo from Dean Rudolph Wengartner to the University Relations Department years after Hynek had retired.

"We are not, have not been and will not be proud of Hynek's UFO affairs. There are many who think that what he's up to has nothing to do with research."

An Academic Study Of A Non-Academic Topic

The office of CUFOS doesn't give off the environment of a dedicated think tank. For one, it's three rooms in an office complex owned by Liberty Tax, marked only by a large sign with the Statue of Liberty. The walls of the main room are covered in pictures, newspaper clippings, X-Files posters, Far Side comics, drawings of aliens and grainy photographs of indistinct objects in the sky. The other two rooms in the dark, cool office are dominated by books, filing cabinets and shelves, which hold the Center's famous files.

The Center's office is staffed entirely by volunteers, but the building itself might as well be abandoned if not for the files. The scientific board has members across the country and the 500 or so associates work from afar. But somebody has to man the office, so volunteers will drift in and out. Reid, a retiree, acts as a librarian for other researchers. He has a halting

style of speech and describes himself as an "average, garden-variety goof." Since he treats this as his job, he finds himself spending a lot of his time at the Center, searching through the files for other researchers.

Those files are a big reason the Center is so relevant. They hold press clippings, eyewitness interviews, field reports and any other evidence CUFOS can amass. According to Rodeghier, their library, which includes files from the defunct National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, is the best there is.

Beyond just being a library, though, the Center has engaged in grand-scale investigations. In the early '90s, they embarked on the largest investigation into the Roswell crash, the go-to topic of anyone's basic UFO knowledge. Not content with the reigning, allegedly government-created "weather balloon" theory of the mysterious New Mexico crash, a team headed by Regional Director Don Schmitt set out to unearth new witnesses and evidence.

What followed was a process akin to assembling a legal case. They had to investigate witness testimony, verify their credibility and corroborate any evidence they found. Assisted by witnesses, they found the exact spot of the crash. The team unearthed evidence of a coverup: Military officials in Roswell confessed to being silenced and even 40 years down the line were nervous to talk about it. Witnesses described unusual scrap metal that wouldn't dent even when hit with a sledgehammer, and an other-worldly foil that would become instantly smooth after being crumpled. They didn't come away with definitive answers to the Roswell questions, but unearthed enough evidence to justify reasonable doubt in the current story.

Even the thought of investigating truly excites the volunteers. Upon hearing about a suspicious car crash outside of Chicago, Reid and Rodeghier eagerly discuss the possibilities. The damage to the car doesn't match an accident or side-swipe and there's no evidence of anything the car could have hit. Rodeghier starts referencing older "car-bashing" cases, tying them to incidents where a UFO swiped over cars or mysterious magnetic fields caused damage to vehicles. The sight of these two graying men, Reid with his facial tics and Rodeghier with his thick glasses, exhibiting boyish excitement evokes images of what the volunteers must have been like as children in the Sputnik era, when the headlines were dominated by space and the idea of aliens wasn't crazy so much as it was enchanting.

The Ultimate Professor Of Ufology

This tradition of excitement and discovery dates back to the 70s, when Hynek founded the Center. He envisioned a place where scientists could discuss and study the UFO phenomenon. The goal was to bring an air of credibility to the field and to explore the inexplicable, as any good scientist does.

Hynek gained fame as an astronomer at The Ohio State University and initially thought little of UFOs. In 1948, he was hired by the Air Force to act as a consultant on Project Sign, which studied UFO reports. Hynek's job was essentially that of a debunker: he studied the reports and would try to find known astronomical objects that would explain the sighting. He became known for explaining away a set of sightings in Michigan as swamp gas.

But as he looked through more and more cases, he slowly started to change his mind. The quality of witnesses made him think twice about dismissing cases. Eventually, he realized there was something worth studying, and he was troubled that the Air Force seemed to have a hesitant attitude towards UFOs. He stayed with the Air Force through Project Sign, which became Project Grudge and then Project Blue Book, but once the investigations closed he openly questioned their results. He became a staunch supporter of the study of UFOs, eventually publishing the seminal book on UFOs, "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry." In that book, he laid out his very scientific definition of what a UFO was, showing just how serious he was about making ufology academic:

"We can define the UFO simply as the reported perception of an object or light seen in the sky or upon the land the appearance,

trajectory and general dynamic and luminescent behavior of which do not suggest a logical, conventional explanation and which is not only mystifying to the original percipients but remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification, if one is possible."

Notice that the definition says nothing about aliens. Hynek was careful to avoid the direct association of aliens and UFOs, a theory even he questioned. His book also established perhaps his most famous legacy: a system of ranking "encounters" with a UFO. Those rankings would reach a mass audience with the Steven Spielberg movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," which Hynek was a consultant on.

But studying UFOs can't pay the bills, so Hynek worked as an astronomy professor, heading up Northwestern's small department in 1960. Within a year of his chairmanship, the department expanded from offering one course to more than a dozen, attracted 20 new faculty members and acquired expensive new equipment. According to Rodeghier, who worked with Hynek, it was a role that suited him perfectly.

"He was the ultimate professor," Rodeghier says. "He looked and talked like a professor, he smoked a pipe and had a twinkle in his eyes."

Students flocked to his Introduction to Astronomy class like current students seek out Gary Saul Morson's Introduction to Russian Literature. He would gather students to watch eclipses and meteors and was known for his dynamic lectures.

In 1973, he set his focus to UFOs by founding the Center. It moved between many Evanston locations, including, for a time, his basement. But he managed to get a group of dedicated, interested researchers together, and the Center would become his great legacy. He capitalized on the obsession with space that had been started by Sputnik. Rodeghier explains that he, along with most of the nation, became fascinated with the idea of UFOs in that era.

"I wanted to be an astronomer," Rodeghier says. "I just found the idea of aliens and space very exciting, so I just connected the two. Everyone did - even the Air Force was investigating UFOs."

In 1978, Hynek retired from Northwestern and focused all his attention on the Center. The nation's UFO obsession may have died down, but his fire remained strong. He served as scientific director until he retired to Arizona, where he continued to have a passion for investigating cases. He continued his UFO work until, in 1986, he died of a brain tumor. Fittingly, he died as he was born - under Halley's Comet.

Just Think Of Meteors

Since Hynek's death, the study of UFOs hasn't gotten any easier. A dip in sightings has meant fewer current cases to work on. The Internet is changing the way scientific research is shared, and is making the Center's paper files look increasingly antiquated. As Reid says, "I feel like a guy who knows all the tribal chants, but now here comes a guy who's writing on paper and I have to adapt."

But, as most things do, the Center's challenges come back to money. The unfriendly atmosphere surrounding UFO studies means they don't get heavy funding and there isn't much opportunity to turn a profit in scientific research, especially in a phenomenon like UFOs.

"When science was first growing, scientists had to depend on getting a prince or a duke or the Queen of Sweden to fund them," Reid says. "We just can't get a hold of the Queen of Sweden."

Even if they could get through to the Queen, it's not likely she would send royal funds their way. Roedigher said he is frequently going up against skeptics and misinformation about his field. To him, the best approach to take is to just explain what he's doing.

"If I meet someone whose mind is open, even just a crack, I can sit and talk to them," Rodeghier says. "I just try to present the best cases. In the end, they always say, 'Okay, I see at least why you're studying this. There might really be something there.'"

Reid says most people reject ufology because they may be uncomfortable with the new ideas that UFOs bring. There is a moral component, with people wondering what would happen if a race of aliens arrived with evil intentions.

"Do you see what they're doing to ferrets? They're genetically making different kinds. Can you imagine someone breeding humans like that?" Reid says. "It's disheartening to think that aliens out there could be using humans as slaves or for experiments."

But even if the public doesn't approve of their research, the scientists at CUFOS just keep going. The Chicago Tribune reportedly killed a profile of the Center that might portray them sympathetically, but that didn't deter anyone. Rodeghier just points out that a story about the O'Hare sighting was the most popular on the site that day. After all, did a little skepticism ever deter The X-Files' Fox Mulder?

They are currently working on a large project analyzing data from the Abduction Monitoring Project. During the project, they measured various fields (light, magnetic, electric, among others) at reported abduction sites to find a trace of physical evidence left behind by a UFO. They continue to work on the IUR and publishing their own papers. And they're content waiting for the rest of science to catch up with them.

"Just think of meteors," Rodeghier says. "Before 1800, scientists rejected the idea that rocks could fall from the sky. They rejected it even though there was eyewitness testimony, because it might violate their theories. Finally, with some good luck, some scientists in France saw rocks fall. Within a few years, everybody just accepted that rocks could fall from the sky."

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Public Discussion Of NASA's UFO Footage

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:59:39 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:59:39 -0500
Subject: Public Discussion Of NASA's UFO Footage

Source: University Of California - San Diego, USA

<http://sciencestudies.ucsd.edu/Flyers/2008-09/Brown.pdf>

UCSD Science Studies Program

Colloquium Series

presents

Barry Brown
UCSD, Associate Professor of Communication

December 1, 2008

4:00 -96 6:00pm

Humanities and Social Sciences Bldg. #3027

Reception prior to talk at 3:30 pm in HSS 3005

Sightings And Seeing: Public Discussion Of NASA's UFO Footage

Abstract

The increasing distribution of video materials online provides opportunities for the analysis of 'found media' - materials made available, discussed and dissected online. In this paper I investigate the online activities of a somewhat maligned group - UFO enthusiasts - using the video materials they discuss and share online in their attempts to convince readers of the existence of objects from another planet. These enthusiasts and their extensive online resources present not only an example of a deviant epistemic community, but also one in which video analysis is a key part of their practice. Investigating the discussions and debates around one particular video (recorded by NASA and much discussed by both enthusiasts and even NASA scientists) provide an arresting example of both how involved and complex the work of UFO enthusiasts can be, but also how similar their video analysis techniques are to those of us in the social sciences.

For more information, please contact the Science Studies Program Office
(858) 534-0491 or ssadmin.nul
<http://sciencestudies.ucsd.edu>

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Steven Kaeser** <steve.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:44:57 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 12:10:32 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 08:11:01 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:47:00 EST
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>It increasingly looks as though we, ourselves, are breeding the
>>very aliens within our midst - not intending to take away from
>>it's profoundly colorful and, nonetheless, interesting
>>"otherworldly" aspects.

>What is "breeding aliens"? Is there an alien bakery somewhere?
I think there's a "Deep Fried Twinkie" joke in here somewhere...

Steve

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: **Franklin Fields, Esq.** <fields.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 12:24:39 -0500 (EST)
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 12:48:01 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:47:00 EST
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

<snip>

>Skepticism and critical thought processes are continually on the
>decline in all areas - for the sake of festival comradery? Who
>doesn't like a good party, but seriously do you really want to
>be on every invitation list and attend every junket?

>Can't we simply admit that the number of good cases are not that
>plentiful and, instead, enjoy the process of real discovery,
>wherever it may lead, on what few cases we actually have or have
>failed to collect.

>I find it disconcerting that somehow science is increasingly
>beneath this field of inquiry - the "how dare you invoke such
>nonsense" ever on the increase. Since science merely eliminates
>possibilities, it in no way interferes with the inexplicable.

>
>Education_is_a truly worthwhile endeavor . . . and this field,
>like no other inquiry, is ripe and demanding of it's equilateral
>acceptance and abundance.

>
>It increasingly looks as though we, ourselves, are breaching the
>very aliens within our midst - not intending to take away from
>it's profoundly colorful and, nonetheless, interesting
>"otherworldly" aspects.

Viktor,

You might be correct in part. The problem is that in order to believe UFOs are flying around, even with solid evidence; one must have an open mind. So the problem becomes two fold, many gravitate to the field that have minds so open that most of the data falls out and on the other side of the coin many refuse to open their mind enough to let in the real evidence. When you say "the number of good cases are not that plentiful", I get the feeling you fall into the latter group.

You say that skepticism and critical thought processes are continually on the decline and you could be correct. When it comes to UFOs and ETs the argument can be made that skepticism is declining because there is so much evidence (or misinformation) floating around in the public forum and that it is now much easier to believe.

Another important point is that if one agrees with your position, that there are not many good cases and also believes that people like Daniel Sheehan and the 1000s of others are not telling us the truth than the question becomes are they just

plain liars or is there a conspiracy to make us believe. Is it the "false flag" scenario? What would be the reason to lie?

It is also relevant to point out that Sheehan was given information about the alleged Carter conversations second hand (hearsay). The story could have changed as it passed through people or it could have been intentionally put out as misinformation. Sheehan may have told the truth but was given disinformation?

Yours,
Frank

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Re: Public Discussion Of NASA's UFO Footage

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 12:43:01 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 13:00:03 -0500
Subject: Re: Public Discussion Of NASA's UFO Footage

>Source: University Of California - San Diego, USA

><http://sciencestudies.ucsd.edu/Flyers/2008-09/Brown.pdf>

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>NASA and much discussed by both enthusiasts and even NASA
>scientists) provide an arresting example of both how involved
>and complex the work of UFO enthusiasts can be, but also how
>similar their video analysis techniques are to those of us in
>the social sciences.

I had to look up "deviant epistemic" to see if I could find a translation. I wasn't sure if "somewhat maligned" and "how similar their video analysis techniques are to those of us in the social sciences" was standing up for us in a way that compensated for saying we have pervy epistemology. The few Googled uses of the phrase were not promising.

Note to Professors of Communication [sic]: A flyer for an afternoon lecture that will be preceded by snacks does not actually need an "abstract". And your comparison of "video analysis techniques" to "those of us in the social sciences" is actually comparing techniques to a group of people, rather than to the techniques used by a group of people.

Carol

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Re: The Nye Incidents?

From: Joe McGonagle <joe.mcgonagle.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 19:10:57 +0000
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 14:23:12 -0500
Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

The following link worked for me:

<http://tinyurl.com/68ebr9>

Joe

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Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 10:24:15 -0800
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 14:26:17 -0500
Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>From: Steven Kaeser <steve.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 11:44:57 -0500
>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 08:11:01 -0500
>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>From: Viktor Golubik <Diverge247.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Sat, 15 Nov 2008 12:47:00 EST
>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>>From: Brad Sparks <RB47x.nul>
>>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>>Date: Fri, 14 Nov 2008 18:35:22 EST
>>>>Subject: Re: Haisch On Presidential Briefing

>>>>It increasingly looks as though we, ourselves, are breeding the
>>>>very aliens within our midst - not intending to take away from
>>>>it's profoundly colorful and, nonetheless, interesting
>>>>"otherworldly" aspects.

>>What is "breeding aliens"? Is there an alien bakery somewhere?

>I think there's a "Deep Fried Twinkie" joke in here
>somewhere...

Or maybe:

Finally, the real truth behind Project Blue Book...

It's a cookbook!

David Rudiak

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 20](#)

Re: CUFOS & Northwestern University

From: Eleanor White <ewraven1.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 14:59:34 -0500
Archived: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 15:11:27 -0500
Subject: Re: CUFOS & Northwestern University

><http://tinyurl.com/5wpe8n>

>Nov. 19, 2008

>The Center For UFO Studies That Northwestern Wanted Nothing To Do With
>By Jason Plautz

<snip>

>"We have a track record of publishing reliable and high-level
>information and analysis," says Mark Rodeghier, the CUFOS
>Scientific Director. "You can get commentary in a lot of places,
>but the academic style of analysis and research is something we
>specialize in."

Mmmm... maybe not such a great track record of publishing the
results of their abductee environmental monitoring experiment,
though.

Eleanor White

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 21](#)

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:23:24 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 07:16:12 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>Source: Scott Corrales' INEXPLICATA Blog

><http://tinyurl.com/6den2h>

>Monday, November 17, 2008

>When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>Gustavo Fernandez, editor of the Al Filo de la Realidad
>bulletin and host of the radio show with the same name, shared
>with us an extended article on the phenomenon of UFO researchers
>who suddenly switch sides and join the ranks of skeptics. We
>have taken the liberty of translating an abbreviated version of
>the piece for INEXPLICATA readers, striving to preserve the core
>of Gustavo's message. While the conditions he discusses apply to
>his native Argentina, some parallels clearly exist in the
>Northern Hemisphere --Scott Corrales

>Al Filo de la Realidad - When Ufologists Become Skeptics
>By Gustavo Fernandez

>In Psychology, it's customary to discuss the destruction of the
>"object of desire" -- stated plainly, this is the unconscious and
>overwhelming need of some minds, bewildered by the enormity of
>having to accept the fact that the object of their desire will
>be forever out of their reach, to destroy what they had lusted
>after until that very moment. Weakened souls and emotionally
>unprotected minds feel unable to resign themselves to the fact
>that what they love, seek or covet will never be theirs. Ever.
>Police blotters are filled with examples of this nature on a
>daily basis, spurned lovers who murder (out of love?) the person
>who rejected them. Folk wisdom recalls this brilliantly in the
>fable of the fox and the grapes, the one about the fox, who
>desperately strives for an unreachable branch after many hours
>of efforts, shrugs and finally walks off saying "Bah! They're
>still green."

I thank Gustavo for his well argued and well written article and
I thank Scott for bringing it to our attention.

While I agree that there no doubt are UFO-antiUFO "conversions"
among the skeptics that are caused by the inability to prove
UFOs (more accurately, TRUE UFOs or TRUFOs) are real, I think
there may also be an element of "luck" in investigating cases.
(TRUFO - an object or phenomenon that seems related to
activities of Other Intelligences [OI] or Non-Human
Intelligences [NHI] and which remains unexplained after
extensive investigation and which seems that it will remain
unexplainable even after further investigation.)

I have talked to "neo-skeptics", people who were initially
inclined to "believe" that at least some UFOs were TRUFOs (such
as "flying saucers"). But when they investigated several cases
for themselves they discovered mundane explanations, most of
which are of the type labelled "misidentifications of natural or

manmade phenomena. From their point of view, the failure to find an unexplainable case "proved" there were no unexplainable cases... no TRUFOS.

I can understand this. I was tending toward "belief" based on books that I had read before I actually investigated any cases.

If, when I began investigating (working with the NICAP investigator network), I had taken on several cases and found mundane explanations for them all, I, too, would likely have concluded that there was really nothing there and I would have departed from the field of UFO research.

It would not have been surprising if I had investigated only explainable cases. After all, most are explainable. But, in the "luck of the draw", my first several cases were unexplainable, so I kept going. Over the years I have proposed reasonable explanations for many sightings, especially photo/film/video cases, but other types as well. But there are always the "special cases" that resist explanation when carefully analyzed. Also, it helped me in my investigations to study the explanations offered by skeptics and it helped me to realize that very often the proposed explanations were clearly wrong! In fact, when I realized that skeptics proposed "garbage" (incorrect) explanations, I became <gulp>...

Skeptical of the skeptics.

This skepticism of my own resulted in large part from numerous interactions with the Chief Skeptic (Philip J. Klass) who taught me how to think like a lawyer. PJK's big downfall was that he didn't understand the physics of some cases. He was an expert in taking a case apart piece by piece and then attempting to explain each piece (including motive, if he suspected a hoax... and he often "suspected a hoax").

The bottom line is, if an interested person decides to investigate for him/herself and finds only mundane case after mundane case, said person may logically decide to move "over to the Dark Side," and this "conversion" may have nothing to do with a failed desire to find a TRUFO.

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Re: Nashville Report

From: Joe Faccenda <Uforth.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:56:32 EST
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 07:19:04 -0500
Subject: Re: Nashville Report

>From: Robert Powell <rpowell.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 08:54:24 -0600
>Subject: Re: Nashville Report

>From: Joe Faccenda <Uforth.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 17:49:27 EST
>Subject: Nashville Report

>I will pass on relevant information and subsequent pending
>enquires I have made as to exact details.

>Apologies in advance if this is a hoax, or was some kind of TV
>event.

<snip>

>What was the date of the event? Anything more specific on the
>location?

Hi Robert, as far as I can determine from the response from
the witness it was the fall 2006 late Sept-October.

Location: Nashville TN at the intersection of Bell Rd and Smith
Springs Rd

The witness also left a telephone number which I will pass on
in a private email if required.

Regards,

Joe Faccenda

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Re: The Nye Incidents?

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 23:46:58 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 07:21:11 -0500
Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

>From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2008 16:09:56 -0500
>Subject: Re: The Nye Incidents?

>From Whitley's Subscriber interview with David Sereda:

>"This is a spaceship. We are building a spaceship out of our own
>bodies and souls on this website, in this subscriber section.
>That's what it's about. It's about survival for a very, very few
>because most people are going to just end up in a situation -
> quite frankly, I'll tell you what they're going to end up in -
> where they are ensouled but connected to a planet that is no
>longer capable of sustaining physical life on a level that where
>the body, the physical bodies, will fit their souls. And they
>will remain here, incomplete and unfinished, in a kind of
>waiting around the planet for it to evolve new bodies. And I
>will even tell you what I've been told by the Visitors is what
>will happen: Those bodies will eventually evolve on the planet;
>there will eventually be creatures on the planet again that have
>intelligence. That time will be one and a half billion years in
>the future. This is what this is all about."

>Carol

>[It appears that Strieber's site does not allow access via
> Tiny URLs. This List does not use long URLs since they
> 'break' in posts and the Archive 'chokes' on them --ebk]

Sorry, Errol!

For the record, the Strieber quote above is from his
unknowncountry.com message board. Unknown Country to Whitley's Books,
the "What is the purpose of Unknowncountry?" thread. Posted
by miaree9 on Sunday, December 09, 2007

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Re: MoD X-Files & UFO Hunters

From: Nick Pope <nick.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:43:57 +0100 (CET)
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 07:24:42 -0500
Subject: Re: MoD X-Files & UFO Hunters

I recently updated an article on the MoD's UFO files, to include information about the second batch of material and to comment on some of this summer's UFO sightings in the UK:

http://www.nickpope.net/mod_x-files.htm

The MoD file release and the UK's 'summer of the saucers' will feature in a forthcoming episode of the History Channel show UFO Hunters, entitled British Invasion '08.

Captain Ray Bowyer's April 2007 sighting will also be covered, in the episode entitled Giant UFOs:

<http://www.history.com/minisites/ufohunters>

Best wishes,

Nick Pope

<http://www.nickpope.net>

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MRO Detects Buried Glaciers On Mars

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:25:57 -0000
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 08:25:00 -0500
Subject: MRO Detects Buried Glaciers On Mars

Guy Webster 818-354-6278
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California
guy.webster.nul

Dwayne Brown 202-358-1726
NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
dwayne.c.brown.nul

News Release: 2008-220
November 20, 2008

NASA Spacecraft Detects Buried Glaciers on Mars

PASADENA, Calif. - NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has revealed vast Martian glaciers of water ice under protective blankets of rocky debris at much lower latitudes than any ice previously identified on the Red Planet.

Scientists analyzed data from the spacecraft's ground-penetrating radar and report in the Nov. 21 issue of the journal Science that buried glaciers extend for dozens of miles from edges of mountains or cliffs. A layer of rocky debris blanketing the ice may have preserved the underground glaciers as remnants from an ice sheet that covered middle latitudes during a past ice age. This discovery is similar to massive ice glaciers that have been detected under rocky coverings in Antarctica.

"Altogether, these glaciers almost certainly represent the largest reservoir of water ice on Mars that is not in the polar caps," said John W. Holt of the University of Texas at Austin, who is lead author of the report. "Just one of the features we examined is three times larger than the city of Los Angeles and up to one-half-mile thick. And there are many more. In addition to their scientific value, they could be a source of water to support future exploration of Mars."

Scientists have been puzzled by what are known as aprons - gently sloping areas containing rocky deposits at the bases of taller geographical features - since NASA's Viking orbiters first observed them on the Martian surface in the 1970s. One theory has been that the aprons are flows of rocky debris lubricated by a small amount of ice. Now, the shallow radar instrument on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has provided scientists an answer to this Martian puzzle.

"These results are the smoking gun pointing to the presence of large amounts of water ice at these latitudes," said Ali Safaeinili, a shallow-radar instruments team member with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

Radar echoes received by the spacecraft indicated radio waves pass through the aprons and reflect off a deeper surface below without significant loss in strength. That is expected if the apron areas are composed of thick ice under a relatively thin covering. The radar does not detect reflections from the interior of these deposits as would occur if they contained significant rock debris. The apparent velocity of radio waves passing through the apron is consistent with a composition of

water ice.

Scientists developed the shallow radar instrument for the orbiter to examine these mid-latitude geographical features and layered deposits at the Martian poles. The Italian Space Agency provided the instrument.

"We developed the instrument so it could operate on this kind of terrain," said Roberto Seu, leader of the instrument science team at the University of Rome La Sapienza in Italy. "It is now a priority to observe other examples of these aprons to determine whether they are also ice."

Holt and 11 co-authors report the buried glaciers lie in the Hellas Basin region of Mars' southern hemisphere. The radar also has detected similar-appearing aprons extending from cliffs in the northern hemisphere.

"There's an even larger volume of water ice in the northern deposits," said JPL geologist Jeffrey J. Plaut, who will be publishing results about these deposits in the American Geophysical Union's Geophysical Research Letters. "The fact these features are in the same latitude bands, about 35 to 60 degrees in both hemispheres, points to a climate-driven mechanism for explaining how they got there."

The rocky debris blanket topping the glaciers apparently has protected the ice from vaporizing, which would happen if it were exposed to the atmosphere at these latitudes.

"A key question is, how did the ice get there in the first place?" said James W. Head of Brown University, Providence, R.I. "The tilt of Mars' spin axis sometimes gets much greater than it is now. Climate modeling tells us ice sheets could cover mid-latitude regions of Mars during those high-tilt periods. The buried glaciers make sense as preserved fragments from an ice age millions of years ago. On Earth, such buried glacial ice in Antarctica preserves the record of traces of ancient organisms and past climate history."

JPL manages the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington. For more about the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/mro>

-end-

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Sean Jones <Sean.Jones.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:43:51 +0000
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 08:26:00 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:23:24 -0500
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>Source: Scott Corrales' INEXPLICATA Blog

>>When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>I thank Gustavo for his well argued and well written article and
>I thank Scott for bringing it to our attention.

Ditto

>While I agree that there no doubt are UFO-antiUFO "conversions"
>among the skeptics that are caused by the inability to prove
>UFOs (more accurately, TRue UFOs or TRUFOS) are real, I think
>there may also be an element of "luck" in investigating cases.
>(TRUFO - an object or phenomenon that seems related to
>activities of Other Intelligences [OI] or Non-Human
>Intelligences [NHI] and which remains unexplained after
>extensive investigation and which seems that it will remain
>unexplainable even after further investigation.)

This reminds me of a similar exchange that I am having at the
moment with Nancy Talbot of BLT

I spent five years researching crop circles. Found only man made
hoaxes. Interviewed a number of crop circle makers, and even
went to the extent of having soil samples examined at my own
expense.

Not one shred of evidence to suggest anything but man made.

Consequently I am indeed very sceptical of crop circles.

In my recent emails with Nancy, and Earl I have been told that I
am operating from a position of ignorance because I haven't read
through all of BLT's "peer reviewed" research and agree with it!

Ho Hum

So in short, I think some are "assisted" in their turning to the
"dark side" by some over zealous stalwarts who wont accept
anything but their view point.

We need both skeptics and believers alike to come to an informed
balanced opinion.

I've been in this field a good few years and all of my opinions
are formed by my own research. Wether it be in the field
investigating cases, or reading a good few well researched
books. I wonder how many can claim the same? Many self expressed
"experts" have done little more than read a few pages on the
internet before declaring that they know all about the subject
of UFO's & etc.

However, back on the topic of TRUFOS I don't doubt that there
are some. I am however convinced that it is a very small

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

percentage of the sightings reported, not the hundred of thousands that some would have you believe.

If this all makes me a sceptic, then so be it. I have arrived at that position from the path that I have travelled, not by blindly following others.

Best regards

Sean

--

In an infinite universe infinitely anything is possible.

<http://www.tedric.demon.co.uk/>

Sean Jones

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:51:26 -0000
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 08:27:00 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:23:24 -0500
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>Source: Scott Corrales' INEXPLICATA Blog
>> <http://tinyurl.com/6den2h>

>The bottom line is, if an interested person decides to
>investigate for him/herself and finds only mundane case
>after mundane case, said person may logically decide to
>move "over to the Dark Side," and this "conversion" may
>have nothing to do with a failed desire to find a TRUFO.

Hello Bruce,

Luckily I'm an outside observer, with none of the frustrations
of a field investigator.

My impression is that folk who veer from 'belief' to 'unbelief'
(or vice versa) in any theory/hypothesis tend to be those who
haven't gone deeply into the details of the phenomena or the
logics applied.

In fact 'belief' is only needed by someone who doesn't know the
facts.

Let's hope most of us are true 'sceptics' who value fact more
than 'belief', and keep things continually under review.

[As opposed to 'skepti-bunkers' who are dedicated to their
'unbelief'.]

Cheers

Ray

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Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 09:25:05 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 09:25:05 -0500
Subject: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

Source: The Birmingham Mail - England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/66tbpu>

Nov 21 2008

UFO Involved In A Dramatic Incident
by Anuji Varma
Birmingham Mail

A police helicopter flying over Birmingham narrowly avoided tragedy when it nearly collided with a UFO, a report has claimed.

The pilot managed to swerve out of the mystery aircraft's way while he was on a routine police surveillance task over the city centre earlier this year.

The helicopter was also carrying two police observers during the journey at around 9.50pm on May 2.

All three reported seeing an aircraft with two continuous blue/green lights =96 but were unable to identify what it was. The extraordinary incident is detailed in a document compiled by experts from the Airprox Board, which records near misses and reports them to the military and air traffic control units.

The report stated: "The front observer saw unidentified lights flying around their aircraft. The pilot established visual contact, as he manoeuvred the aircraft to avoid a collision and to identify the light source."

The object was less than 100m away and flew around them. The pilot told the Airprox Board he thought the intent may either have been sinister or just someone messing around.

It was initially believed that the object was a radio controlled aircraft and that it was purposefully flown around the helicopter.

The report stated: "He (the pilot) believes the lights may have come from a radio controlled fixed wing aircraft, the lights being to assist with night flying."

Despite searching the area with a thermal camera, the pilot was unable to find any signs of radio-controlled model activity.

And the British Model Flying Association ruled out the possibility, saying the mystery object was flying too high to be a miniature craft.

Leading expert Nick Pope, who previously worked for the Ministry of Defence's UFO desk and is nicknamed the British Fox Mulder, told the Birmingham Mail today: "A helicopter was nearly blown out of the sky."

"This is a very disturbing incident which needs to be thoroughly investigated by the MoD and the Civil Aviation Authority as well as other near misses.

"The conclusion on the report is unsatisfactory especially when this aircraft came within seconds of a collision. It is a very interesting case especially when you look at the eyewitnesses. They are credible and reliable sources who have experience in night time flying."

"This sighting clearly illustrates that whatever one believes about UFOs, this incident raises important air safety issues and should be taken seriously."

[Thanks to Nick Pope for the lead]

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Another Unexplained Sighting In Stephenville

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 10:10:47 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 10:10:47 -0500
Subject: Another Unexplained Sighting In Stephenville

Source: The Reporter News - Abilene, Texas, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/5svo7s>

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Another Unexplained Sighting In Stephenville

By Angelia Joiner
Special to the Reporter-News

What in the world continues to fly in the skies over Stephenville? Or maybe it's out of this world.

On the heels of multiple UFO sightings in the area on Oct. 23, Tuesday proved just as noteworthy for local residents.

Michael Corn, 27, a former member of the Army assigned to a Patriot Missile unit, said while at his home at 7:15 p.m. at the intersection of Highway 377 Business and U.S. Highway 281, friends called him outside.

He saw what appeared to be a brightly lit object in the sky.

"It looked really close to Stephenville, like it was almost over the courthouse," Corn said.

He said the amber/orange lights pulsed in a right-to-left direction.

"I could see the bottom of the object from the illumination of those lights and the city lights," Corn said. "The bottom (of the object) looked smooth.

"There is no way you could be outside and look up in the sky and not notice this thing. It was just weird."

Corn said he observed the object for about 15 seconds, and then it disappeared without a sound.

"It just vanished," he said.

When questioned about the possibility of the object being an experimental military project, he said: "I know that we couldn't make it. I don't believe it's ours. I got the impression that it has technology that we are not capable of understanding."

Corn said he is familiar with all types of aircraft because of his experience in the Army and his childhood near the Dallas-Fort Worth airport.

"It was very unnerving - you can't come up with a reasonable explanation for what it was," Corn said.

Corn's girlfriend, Ashley Couch, also saw the object.

"It reminded me of a carousel lying over on its side," Couch said.

Another observer at U.S. Highway 281 and North Loop 377 said she could not explain what she saw.

The 20-year-old woman, who asked not to be identified, was traveling north on Loop 377 when her boyfriend called her attention to the vehicle just ahead that seemed to be strangely illuminated.

"He asked me if I saw those weird lights," she said. "But I hadn't noticed anything."

She said they pulled into a gas station at the intersection.

When they exited their vehicle, a man pulled in and asked if they had seen the lights.

"He said he was a pilot, and after my boyfriend had just asked me about lights so that got my attention," the woman said.

Entering back into traffic headed north, they both saw an object.

"It was coming down at a slight angle - slowly - it had a bright, big light, a steady light and a blinking light," she said, "for a total of three.

"One was red, and maybe that was the one that was blinking ... I'm not sure."

The couple was so mesmerized they slowed down to almost a stop in the road.

"It pivoted to our left side, maybe 50 yards away and 75 yards up in the air," she said. "It looked almost like it was hovering. The lights were so bright it was hard to see the shape."

The woman said they passed the object, and she looked back to see if it was going to land at the airport, Clark Field. But she was unable to see it.

"We turned around and went back" to the gas station, she said. "There we saw it again, but this time it was on our right moving left across in front of us," she said. "It turned again and looked like it was about to stop, and went back the other way."

"The lights were so bright it was almost hard to look at it. I think it might have been blimp-shaped and about the size of two school buses. It was hard to tell."

Area law enforcement officers said about 10 calls were received reporting a craft or lights.

While some of the callers may have seen flares, one officer said not all of the calls were related to flares dropped in the Brownwood Military Operating Area just before 7 p.m.

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 21](#)

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:29:04 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:44:56 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Sean Jones <Sean.Jones.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:43:51 +0000
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:23:24 -0500
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>>Source: Scott Corrales' INEXPLICATA Blog

>>>When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>I thank Gustavo for his well argued and well written article and
>>I thank Scott for bringing it to our attention.

>Ditto

>>While I agree that there no doubt are UFO-antiUFO "conversions"
>>among the skeptics that are caused by the inability to prove
>>UFOs (more accurately, TRue UFOs or TRUFOfs) are real, I think
>>there may also be an element of "luck" in investigating cases.
>>(TRUFOf - an object or phenomenon that seems related to
>>activities of Other Intelligences [OI] or Non-Human
>>Intelligences [NHI] and which remains unexplained after
>>extensive investigation and which seems that it will remain
>>unexplainable even after further investigation.)

>This reminds me of a similar exchange that I am having at the
>moment with Nancy Talbot of BLT

>I spent five years researching crop circles. Found only man made
>hoaxes. Interviewed a number of crop circle makers, and even
>went to the extent of having soil samples examined at my own
>expense.

>Not one shred of evidence to suggest anything but man made.

>Consequently I am indeed very sceptical of crop circles.

<snip>

>However, back on the topic of TRUFOfs I don't doubt that there
>are some. I am however convinced that it is a very small
>percentage of the sightings reported, not the hundred of
>thousands that some would have you believe.

>If this all makes me a sceptic, then so be it. I have arrived at
>that position from the path that I have travelled, not by
>blindly following others.

IMHO any investigator should be initially skeptical of any case
and attempt to explain it as a natural of man-made phenomenon.
If this attempt fails, then the skeptic should admit that the
explanation(s) fail(s) and make a decision as to whether the
object/phenomenon has some characteristics of "non-human

intelligence." (NHI) For example the phenomenon' might has been reported as something that looks manufactured... but not "here," in which case it could be the craft of a NHI. Skepticism turns to debunking when the skeptic proposes an explanation which agrees with some of the details of the sighting and proceeds to publicize that explanation as the explanation. Even though, upon more careful analysis, it is found that the proposed explanation is contradicted by other sighting details, details which make impossible the proposed explanation.

As an example, consider the first explanation offered for the JAL1628 sighting of Nov. 17(?), 1986. The skeptics CSICOP/(now CSI)/Klass publicized an explanation which involved extraterrestrial phenomena: Mars and Jupiter. However, interviews with the crew members uncovered the detail that "Mars and Jupiter" first appeared one above the other and stays that way for several minutes and then suddenly rearranged their orientation to one beside the other. During that time the plane was flying straight and level so there was no way that the real Mars and Jupiter could have accomplished this reorientation.

Perhaps the most important aspect of any valid explanation for a UFO sighting (or agriglyphs, etc.) is that the "mundane" explanation must obey physical laws. The reported UFO might appear to "break" those laws, but the explanation must obey them. Very often skeptics/debunkers propose and publicize explanations that violate physical laws. When this happens one knows that the explanation is suspect.

First Rule for Debunkers: any explanation is better than none.

Second Rule: if the first explanation falls on its face, try another. (IN the JAL1628 case CSICOP/Klass proposed a second explanation when it became apparent that "Mars and Jupiter" made no sense. Instead, it was claimed that the crew was confused by seeing moonlight on clouds. This also made no sense in the context of the sighting which included the statement by the Captain that, while the two objects were in front of the airplane he felt "heat on his face." As for the moon, it was behind the airplane.

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PRG Update - 11/21 - CNN/Million Fax/John Podesta

From: **Steven Bassett** <PRG.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:55:24 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 13:05:35 -0500
Subject: PRG Update - 11/21 - CNN/Million Fax/John Podesta

PRG
Paradigm Research Group

PRG Update - November 21, 2008

CNN UFO/ET Series
www.cnn.com/CNN/Programs/american.morning/index.html

[Note: the movers, shakers and rainmakers in Washington, DC do not sleep in. They get up early, and the first thing they do is turn on the news - not the local news, cable news - CNN, MSNBC, Fox or all three. Next week this is what they will see while they are brushing their teeth.]

Monday through Friday, November 24-28, CNN's American Morning with John Roberts and Kiran Chetry will air a five-part series on UFO/ET/Exopolitical issues.

- MONDAY: NOT JUST CRAZIES - What do Moonwalker Edgar Mitchell, Actor Dan Aykroyd, Former White House Chief of Staff John Podesta and CNN Correspondent Miles O'Brien have in common? They have all seen UFO's, believe in them or both.

- TUESDAY: ROSWELL REVISTED - 61 years since the famous UFO incident and the place is still peddling the alien trade. We'll take you to the site where the UFO landed and let you decide.

- WEDNESDAY: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS - Abductions: are they a reality or a product of vivid imaginations. We'll talk with someone who says they've been for a ride with ET. Could this really be true?

- THURSDAY: CALL 1-800-ALIEN... PLEASE! - Listening to the heavens for a radio signal to prove there is intelligent life beyond Earth. What can be heard and could we make contact? -

FRIDAY: THE MARS WORM - Did the NASA Opportunity Rover snap a picture of a fossilized worm? If so, what does life on Mars mean for the theory that we're not alone?

Twenty days after the election the cable channel home of Larry King Live, which has been giving prominent exposure to UFO/ET/Exopolitical issues for the past 18 months, airs a series which mentions the President Elect's transition head, John Podesta, in connection with UFOs. The owners and producers of CNN have climbed on the Disclosure train and the message is clear - questions are coming. Prepare.

For those who can do so, please watch, record and YouTube these segments. Thanks.

Open Letter to Barack Obama
www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/Open_Letter_Obama.htm
Million Fax on Washington
www.faxonwashington.org

PRG has just published an Open Letter to President Elect Barack Obama in connection with the Million Fax on Washington. In addition to the web page above the letter will soon appear at the American Chronicle, OpEd News and elsewhere.

Chicago politics is famous for the phrase, "vote early, vote often." In that vein please take a moment to click over to the Open Letter and revisit often. This will generate sufficient page visits to elevate the Open Letter to the top of the Google/Yahoo search returns in order to draw attention. As it happens, there are many open letters to Barack out there and competition is intense.

The Million Fax on Washington is proceeding on schedule. Notices of sent correspondence are pouring into PRG. The Million Fax on Washington Facebook group page has over 700 members with one degree of separation from over 100,000 Facebook friends. Please send your letter ASAP.

The Senate office is closing down and the new target for future correspondence is:

The Honorable Barack Obama
President Elect of the United States
Washington Transition Headquarters
451 6th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Fax: (not yet available)
Email: <http://www.change.gov/page/s/contact>

John Podesta

The appointment of John Podesta to head Barack Obama's transition team was not unexpected and indicates to PRG the window for Disclosure early next year remains wide open. To understand why, Google or Yahoo - John Podesta UFO - and visit the following web pages:

www.heraldtribune.com/article/20081027/BLOG32/810270283
<http://tinyurl.com/63gktj>
www.nytimes.com/2008/11/06/us/politics/06podesta.html?_r=1&oref=slogin
www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=washingtontory&sid=aF7fB1PF0NPg
www.freedomofinfo.org
<http://tinyurl.com/2o526u>

X-Conference 2009 - April 17-19
www.x-conference.com [Registration]

The plain fact is we are witnessing extraordinary economic developments. The impact of this financial news on outlying conferences is non-trivial. It is perfectly understandable why potential attendees might hesitate to register early. But alas, this does make it difficult to properly develop and plan a large event.

If you are someone who will be attending X-Conference 2009 "come hell or high water," please consider reserving your Hilton Hotel room now (costs nothing) and registering now for the conference (provides funds for advertising and development).

Given the pace of unfolding events PRG will be holding off until the first of the year before developing the speaker platform for the 2009. PRG is also considering how to structure X-Conference 2009 should Disclosure take place prior to April 17.

Paradigm Research Group
4938 Hampden Lane, #161, Bethesda, MD 20814
PRG.nul 202-215-8344
www.paradigmresearchgroup.org

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:24:03 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 13:06:45 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Thu, 20 Nov 2008 20:23:24 -0500
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>Also, it helped me in my investigations to study the
>explanations offered by skeptics and it helped me to realize
>that very often the proposed explanations were clearly wrong! In
>fact, when I realized that skeptics proposed "garbage"
>(incorrect) explanations, I became <gulp>...

>Skeptical of the skeptics.

We're all skeptical. We're all skeptics.

We just draw the boundaries in different places. One of the
biggest mistakes we make is when we let those on the opposing
side hijack the definitions. "Skeptic" is one of those
definitions they hijacked.

Carol

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UK Airprox Board Cites 'Sinister' Helicopter UFO

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:12:58 EST
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 13:09:41 -0500
Subject: UK Airprox Board Cites 'Sinister' Helicopter UFO

<http://tinyurl.com/5z77qs>

Now this was a surprise!

The story of the helicopter pilots swerving to avoid a UFO comes back at us with a new study by an official board of aircraft safety review not only designating the object a UFO but possibly of sinister intent.

That raises a whole new can of worms and hopefully professional conversation between authorities and UFOlogists.

We will never, ever, get any sort of disclosure from the U.S. government so perhaps Mother England will buck up and lead the charge into enlightenment regarding the issue of UFOs. I didn't say extraterrestrials as we're just talking UFOs.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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C.E.: International UFO Reporter Now On DVD

From: Jean Waskiewicz <etjean.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:55:27 -0500
Archived: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 13:15:39 -0500
Subject: C.E.: International UFO Reporter Now On DVD

Hi Folks,

I got my copy of this DVD this past weekend and have been browsing it during this week. I would highly recommend that everyone who has an interest in the history of this phenomenon get their own copy.

This is an invaluable addition to any library of historical information.

The cases reported in the IUR since 1976 are a great resource of data. I am thoroughly enjoying reading the early issues. I only had hard copies of these since 1995 and so the early issues were of great interest to me. The PDF format of the issues makes it easy to search and find whatever you are looking for.

This DVD along with the CD released of the NICAP Investigator issues are an excellent example of CUFOS making this information available to a wide audience. They are both worth every penny and I will be using them as a resource far into the future. In fact, I have used the NICAP Investigator CD many, many times since receiving it.

Please help support CUFOS and order your own copies of both of these items.

www.cufos.org/iurdvd.html

Jean

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Hunting Down The Protected Truth

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:37:57 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:37:57 -0500
Subject: Hunting Down The Protected Truth

Source: The Argonaut - The University of Idaho, Moscow, USA

<http://www.uiargonaut.com/content/view/7066/1/>

Thursday, 20 November 2008

Hunting Down The Protected Truth
Written by Andrew Priest
The Argonaut

UFO researcher Robert Hastings' first experience with UFOs occurred in 1967.

At the time, he was just 16 years old and working as a custodian at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana where his father was stationed.

"One night... when I was in there pushing a broom, emptying trashcans, (an air traffic controller)... motioned me over to his scope and said, 'We're tracking UFOs'", Hastings said. "And I stood there for two minutes and all I saw were five blips that were... clustered together."

After the incident, the traffic controller became tight-lipped and refused to talk about the objects.

Since then, Hastings has been interested in UFOs and began to devote much of his time to researching them several years later.

Hastings spoke to a crowd of around 150 people in the Administration Building Auditorium Monday.

Hastings has been to UI to give lectures twice before, once in 1987 and once 10 years later to a turnout of around 300 people during the height of the X-Files mania.

Since 1981, Hastings has been giving presentations on UFOs and says he has spoken at several hundred colleges and universities.

This time, Hastings began by urging the importance of his topic and giving a 30 minute visual presentation going through more publically known examples of UFO sightings. After the slideshow, Hastings presented the audience with text from formerly classified documents released using the Freedom of Information Act.

The crowd's reception was mixed given the controversial nature of the topic.

After his lecture, Hastings accepted questions from the audience.

Kyle Howardson, senior, asked a question about the presentation. Afterward, Howardson said, "It was interesting. There were parts you definitely laugh at, but overall, I think (Hastings) has got his stuff down."

Howardson's opinion was shared by much of the audience, including Marina Rankow, the lectures and performing arts chair of the Vandal Entertainment Board and who was in charge of booking Hastings.

"It was scientific, and you could really learn a lot," said Rankow. "I guess you would call me a skeptic... it's hard to actually convince me that it's true."

Hastings is driven by a feeling of personal obligation to inform the public. During his lecture, he said it was intended as a public service.

"I feel strongly that because this is real, it needs to be made public," Hastings said. "I don't think that the Pentagon and the CIA deserve to have a blank check indefinitely to keep the public in the dark about this for another 50 years."

Hastings wanted to stress that he didn't have any sort of anterior motive. He said he's not on a mission to make converts.

"I'm saying here's the data, here's what I interpreted it to be," he said. "You can access it if you wish. Draw your own conclusions, but if you choose not to, don't pretend or delude yourself that you have an informed opinion on the subject."

In July, Hastings published a book of what he called the result of a lifetime of research, titled UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters At Nuclear Weapons Sites.

The book includes a collection of dozens of interviews that Hastings personally conducted with former air force personnel.

Hastings has been doing his research mostly for personal reasons. He was working as an electron microscope technician while doing much of the research for his book.

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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2 Similar UK UFO Incidents 20 Years Apart

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 14:16:44 EST
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:38:34 -0500
Subject: 2 Similar UK UFO Incidents 20 Years Apart

I was posting on my blog:

<http://tinyurl.com/5b4ste>

about the latest report by the Airprox Board regarding the June 10, 2008 UFO Helicopter incident in Birmingham, when I noticed that, almost to the day 20 years earlier, there was a nearly identical incident in the same skies. June 12, 1998.

Anyone notice this too?

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: Joe McGonagle <joe.mcgonagle.nul>
Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 22:31:27 +0000
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:41:24 -0500
Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

I found the official Airprox summmary - a .pdf file,
668 Kb - at:

<http://tinyurl.com/5pmx7w>

on pages 56-58 - Airprox 55/08.

Joe

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Franks Stranges Passes

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:56:23 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 07:56:23 -0500
Subject: Franks Stranges Passes

Source: Greg Bishop's UFO Mystic Blog

<http://www.ufomystic.com/wake-up-down-there/frank-stranges-passes/>

Nov 19, 2008

Franks Stranges Passes

The Reverend Frank Stranges, author of such contactee classics as *Stranger At The Pentagon* and *Flying Saucerama*, has returned to his permanent home with the space brothers, according to an email today from Tim "Mr. UFO" Beckley.

Stranges founded the National Investigations Committee on Unidentified Flying Objects (NICUFO) in 1967, apparently in homage to NICAP, the original civilian UFO group founded in 1956. He may have been piggybacking on NICAP's strong public image, but we can of course forgive him for that.

Stranges most lasting legacy may be his narrative in *Stranger At The Pentagon*, the story of Venusian Captain 'Valiant Thor'.

<snip>

More & pictures at site...

[Thanks to Terry Colvin for the lead]

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Nice Video Of Grey Alien

From: **Greg Boone** <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 01:16:46 EST
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 09:00:00 -0500
Subject: Nice Video Of Grey Alien

This is a darn good special effects video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eA9uvRUUlgY&feature=related>

I'm an aficionado of special effects and have studied everything from the late great Willis O'Brien's King Kong on up to my pals who do the advanced CGI effects for movies.

I like this vid.

Watch the blurring as the camera moves out on the alien's highlight in his right eye.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 09:01:00 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:29:04 -0500
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Sean Jones <Sean.Jones.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:43:51 +0000
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

<snip>

>>However, back on the topic of TRUFOS I don't doubt that there
>>are some. I am however convinced that it is a very small
>>percentage of the sightings reported, not the hundred of
>>thousands that some would have you believe.

>>If this all makes me a sceptic, then so be it. I have arrived at
>>that position from the path that I have travelled, not by
>>blindly following others.

>IMHO any investigator should be initially skeptical of any case
>and attempt to explain it as a natural of man-made phenomenon.
>If this attempt fails, then the skeptic should admit that the
>explanation(s) fail(s) and make as decision as to whether the
>object/phenomenon has some characteristics of "non-human
>intelligence." (NHI)

<snip>

>First Rule for Debunkers: any explanation is better than none.

>Second Rule: if the first explanation falls on its face, try
>another.

I agree, except that "trying another" is perfectly proper and exactly what a sceptical investigator_ought_ to do, and keep on doing. Really the only condition on that is to try to stay rigorous, objective and conscientious in the doing of it.

The "debunker" and the "believer" are alike (a debunker_is_ a believer), in having become ideologues (maybe he/she didn't start out that way and got there by way of conscientious conviction) and both approach a report as an exemplar of some theory of ufology that has become the static equilibrium position from which it is difficult to disturb them. As soon as there is a chance of an interpretation that comes within their comfort zone they tend to give undue weight to it and make lazier demands on evidence that seems to support it. They are generally_not_ motivated to "try another".

To be truly rigorous sceptics in circumstances where we don't know the truth a priori we need to stay balanced on a far-from-equilibrium knife edge between possibilities (as Viktor has often enjoined), which costs energy like any kind of work. I don't suppose any of us is capable of this except in short bursts, but the aim ought to be to train oneself in habits of thought that predispose to it and this is probably as good a definition as any of what it is to have a "scientific" approach

rather than a settled conviction.

Science is like a person walking - in a controlled fall.
Sometimes it ain't elegant. But an ideology is a person sitting
down.

Martin Shough

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 22](#)

Don't Start Making Sense

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 09:02:00 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 09:02:00 -0500
Subject: Don't Start Making Sense

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20081120/BLOG32/811200246>

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Don't Start Making Sense
By Billy Cox

Not much reason for De Void to have heard of Fox News talking head Greg Gutfield, buried as he is in the network's third-shift graveyard slot. Oh, he'd apparently had some success being outrageous at Men's Health, Stuff, and Maxim/UK, but these days he likes to make blogging noises at The Daily Gut, which bills itself as - verbatim - "A Handkerchief of Hard News Soaked in a Sneeze of Thought Snot".

At Gutfield's Fox News blog, however, he evidently has the license to dispense with the Handkerchief and the Thought altogether so's he can spray directly into your face. Or at least that's what happened Tuesday, when Gutfield attempted to brand UFOs as a liberal confabulation. Not only did the dude get his facts wrong about Obama transition team leader John Podesta (no, sorry, Greg, the former Clinton chief of staff did NOT form the Coalition for Freedom of Information), he went out and blew snot all over his own political species:

"See, I've always felt that people into UFOs are loony, in that normal life is so complicated, they cling to conspiracies for intellectual comfort... I like the UFO obsession because it points out a peculiar aspect of progressivism. That is, if you believe in progressive ideas, you'll believe in anything, including alien conspiracies."

Psst, Greg =96 yo dawg. Ronald Reagan ordered his pilot to follow a UFO when he was California governor, and went on to speculate openly about ET invasions as president, in venues as disparate as a public school and the United Nations. Oh, and Barry 'Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice' Goldwater =96 he went public about being denied access to UFO data by USAF Chief of Staff Curtis LeMay, the famous 20th-century tree-hugger. And Steven Schiff, the Congressman who prompted the General Accounting Office to investigate the 1947 Roswell Incident =96 he was a conservative Republican from New Mexico.

OK, the Schiff thing was a cheap shot - if Gutfield didn't know about Reagan and Goldwater, he wouldn't know beans about Schiff. But the GAO's Roswell investigation disintegrated in 1995 when it discovered Roswell Army Air Field had illegally destroyed its own base records from the 1940s. Which made further inquiries =96 according to Schiff =96 "impractical".

The point here isn't that Gutfield doesn't know what he's talking about. It's better that way. Let's hope the suits at Fox News keep this blundering, Podesta/UFO liberal fantasy alive and bobble it all the way into the prime-time news cycle. They might

get it so wrong, they could provoke some sort of official response. Then we might actually get a debate going. Then we might actually get somewhere.

Memo to Greg Gutfield: Keep that UFO Thought Snot coming. You don't need to make any sense. Just keep sneezin', man.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 22](#)

The Man Who Wasn't There

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 10:20:14 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 10:20:14 -0500
Subject: The Man Who Wasn't There

Source: Joe Capp's UFO Media Matters Blog

<http://tinyurl.com/6b9aad>

Friday, November 21, 2008

The Man Who Wasn't There: Newhouse
Joe Capp

I'm writing for you, the future UFO researcher and investigator, and you can take this as a prophetic hint or a powerful history lesson: Don't let the debunkers make your credible UFO witness a non-entity.

This increasingly common debunker's tactic of removing the witness from center stage has been very successful. This tactic allows debunkers to isolate the evidence from the people and then manipulate that evidence by shifting the focus to explainable data while excluding witness testimony and any other real-time data. This removal of the witness from center stage in UFO casework highlights the need to advocate for the witness in a public way.

That is exactly what didn't happen in the Lt. Newhouse case, centered on an impeccable military witness who supported and trusted his country and acted on that trust by submitting an 8mm film of his sighting as "evidence" of "flying disks". This was a big deal. Newhouse was not saying he saw miscellaneous lights in the sky, he was claiming he saw flying craft that were in fact disks.

This post could have been The Family That Wasn't There. Lt. Newhouse's testimony was further enhanced with statements by his wife and children, witness testimony that was treated as inconsequential, hardly spoken about and noted, even though the family members themselves had the closest sightings.

James McDonald, See Post: The Last Scientist

<http://ufomedia.blogspot.com/2008/07/last-scientist-part-1.html>

sought the Newhouse family out over a decade later. This is from McDonalds about his phone interview with the family:

"As you will recall, one of the key points that I wanted to check with Newhouse concerned the description given by Ruppelt (and repeated in Baker's analysis as reproduced in the 1968 Congressional hearings), namely, that they appeared to be silvery-gray, "gunmetal", and like two pie pans face-to-face. Both Newhouse and his wife fully confirmed that, Newhouse comparing the shape to a discus in his comments to me. Mrs. Newhouse pointed out that they occasionally tipped, so that their round projected area, as seen in the initial portions of the sighting when they were nearly overhead, was replaced occasionally by a side-view exhibiting their discoid shape. There was not the slightest equivocation or any element of

uncertainty as either of them discussed that very important point...

I should add that Newhouse returned to the above point several times in the course of our 50-minute telephone conversation, since, as he remarked, the matter of the visual observation was extremely important in his estimate. He commented on the point that almost no one who has since discussed his sighting and movies takes note of that point. In particular, he volunteered some extremely negative comments about the analysis in the Condon Report, and, to my queries, replied that no one from the Colorado team ever personally contacted him. When I asked him, in that connection, if he rejected their "gull hypothesis," he replied in the affirmative and said that, if he had a chance, he'd tell Condon the same thing he told Ruppelt: "You'd better go take a better look at some sea gulls!"

"Newhouse said that the Air Force didn't send the originals back to him at any time. He wrote ATIC when a long time had elapsed, and what they did finally send back to him was a color print which he stressed was distinctly inferior to the original. Not only that, but he was positive that they had cut out the first 10 or 20 feet, which were shot when the objects were very much closer and appeared much sharper on the film. (Oh! it just hit me that this may account for the seeming discrepancy between the maximum image size on the Baker-analyzed film and Newhouse's rough recollection that he began the shooting when the objects were at a zenith angle of 45-degrees. The missing footage, which he seemed positive was from the earliest and best parts of his original, would have shown the objects at an angular diameter larger than the later portions that have been involved in subsequent analyses. You follow me, I presume.)

What happened to that clip which clearly showed these object the Newhouse family saw were disk-shaped? The objects on the film were hard to evaluate for any definitive answers. But the tape that was given back to Newhouse was a copy and not the original he had submitted.

This is an extreme closeup...but they were pretty far away by then.

Lt. Newhouse had ample aviation and photography credentials, making him a superior witness and documentor: "He had about 2,000 air-hours as an aviation photographer by 1952"

"Newhouse's rough recollection that he began the shooting when the objects were at a zenith angle of 45-degrees" would have made them much closer. UFOMM posted an article on missing evidence which was submitted and Newhouse's was not the only claim of this type.

<http://ufologie.net/htm/tremontomcdonald.htm#doc>

At conferences, I see UFO researchers who become disenchanted with the whole field simply because of the vehement and irresponsible, knee-jerk attacks other researchers make on witnesses who report UFOs. Today we need to be more vocal as researchers on the side of credible witnesses. It is not enough to throw our hands up and avoid involvement, or push the witness aside, while we pick up our metaphoric slide rules and focus on myriad small things. The testimony of regular Americans is an crucial part of the process of convincing people these are real. After all the great mass of documentary evidence and eye witness testimony is now in the hands of the everyday people - not in the hands of the scientist, debunker or professional UFO researchers.

Gustavo Fernandez describes fanatics in his article: "When Ufologists Become Skeptics": "A fanatic is someone who, distressed by the dissemination of another's ideas, claims journalistic censure against these ideas"...

<http://tinyurl.com/6den2h>

Today, via the Internet, we have instant social media posts of breaking events, and Google searches and via YouTube, rapid distribution of cell phone video and point-and-shoot consumer cameras, we have millions of blogs, and free public access to old-media style wire service distribution that used to be available only to professional journalists and broadcast

networks. We must use these great communications media, not as hammers against different new and carefully thought-out ideas, but as a convergence of public spaces where we must examine the injustices of the debunkers first hand. And we need to rethink our roles as rapid-responders, and publish these injustices as they happen, especially when debunkers and disinfo campaigns are used to make witnesses invisible by minimizing them to death.

Don't let them minimize witness testimony... let your testimony be heard via your blog, your youtube, your website.

When you have a UFO witness - whether professional or lay orientation-come forward to take the risk and appear on Larry King, take time to call in and confront the debunkers one on one. That kind of pro-witness activism is a great thing to behold... and to participate in.

We have to remember that with massive popular distrust of government officials, major media, and even the now widely documented suppression and falsification of data by science institutions during the Bush presidency, the best way to "sell" the reality of the UFO phenom is to let the everyday people hear and see the everyday UFO witnesses tell their stories.

I do not myself entertain theories that end up making the UFO witnesses constantly idiots. For me, a good theory has to include the human factor, especially in the case of UFOs that seem to demonstrate possible intelligence on the other side.

But regardless of our personal theories about the phenom, we need better ways to investigate. We need fresh input from a new generation in the field - intelligent people who view the entire anatomy of a UFO event in terms of both human and non-human possibility.

One of the ideas I disagreed with mentioned in the Brad Sparks clip on MOGUL: The Balloon To Nowhere was his minimizing certain types of witnesses. The ground truth that allows Mr. Sparks - who I think is a fine investigator - to theorize is that there would be no counter-story, if it weren't for the everyday witness: the farmer, rancher and housewife. Brad Sparks and everyone else would not be presenters if not for these witnesses. Despite how they are treated and used and tossed aside they still come forward the Newhouses, Mack Brazels, Betty & Barney Hills...June Crain and many more, brave UFO experiencers who believe with their whole hearts, that there is something deep and good in the nature of humankind, something in each of us that will recognize these most credible witnesses from all walks of life are telling the truth.

This is the real heart of what is happening on our planet... people of all kinds are experiencing the "impossible" and are brave enough to talk about it.

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 22](#)

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 13:03:53 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 13:23:00 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:29:04 -0500
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>>From: Sean Jones <Sean.Jones.nul>
>>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 12:43:51 +0000
>>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

><snip>

>>IMHO any investigator should be initially skeptical of any case
>>and attempt to explain it as a natural of man-made phenomenon.
>>If this attempt fails, then the skeptic should admit that the
>>explanation(s) fail(s) and make as decision as to whether the
>>object/phenomenon has some characteristics of "non-human
>>intelligence." (NHI)

><snip>

>>First Rule for Debunkers: any explanation is better than none.

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>I agree, except that "trying another" is perfectly proper and
>exactly what a sceptical investigator_ought_ to do, and keep on
>doing. Really the only condition on that is to try to stay
>rigorous, objective and conscientious in the doing of it.

Making a series of attempts to explain is, certainly, the
scientific method. However, I am more referring to the
"propaganda" aspect. The scientist would avoid, as much as
possible, publicizing an explanation until it has been
thoroughly "vetted." However, the debunker grabs what seems to
fit (at least part of the sighting) and runs with it...
publicly. If that explanation seems unconvincing to the "masses"
or the press, then the debunker grabs another, probably equally
bad explanation.

And then there is the corollary to the Second Rule: if the
second explanation fails... try another!

Some sightings have garnered numerous explanations. Why?

Because of poor research and/or analysis by the explainer. The
debunker seems to think that the more explanations are proposed,
the more likely it is that a case has been explained or is
explainable by some one of the suggested explanations. In
contradiction to that, I have stated in the past that, IMHO, the
more explanations that are proposed the less likely it is that
the sighting is explained.

In a previous message I referred to the explanations proposed for the Japan Airlines 1628 sighting (Nov 17, 1986): Mars and Jupiter (which failed) and then "moonlight on clouds" (which failed).

Much more illustrative of the points above is the New Zealand sighting case of Dec. 31, 1978. The initial widely publicized explanation was Venus. Then the explainer (an astronomer) learned a bit about the sightings, such as that they occurred before Venus rose. So he switched to Jupiter, which was overhead.

Jupiter also failed for various reasons, such as, the cameraman would have had to film through the metal roof of the airplane.

Sir Bernard Lovell was quoted in the press as saying the witnesses saw "unburned meteorites" and went on to criticize the witnesses and press and so on for being unscientific and publicizing the conclusion that extraterrestrial craft were involved.

There were several other explanations offered, none of which fit the data.

If one is going to propose an explanation, one should be thoroughly familiar with the data first and refrain from offering off the cuff explanations without at least pointing out that the proposed explanation(s) is(are) tentative until further investigation either confirms or rejects them.

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Re: The Man Who Wasn't There

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 13:20:52 -0500
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 14:28:55 -0500
Subject: Re: The Man Who Wasn't There

>Source: Joe Capp's UFO Media Matters Blog

><http://tinyurl.com/6b9aad>

>Friday, November 21, 2008

>The Man Who Wasn't There: Newhouse
>Joe Capp

>I'm writing for you, the future UFO researcher and investigator,
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<snip>

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<snip>

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>human possibility.

<snip>

>This is the real heart of what is happening on our planet...
>people of all kinds are experiencing the "impossible" and are
>brave enough to talk about it.

I realized long ago that if the investigator is convinced that a particular sighting is truly unexplainable in a mundane way (and hence may be evidence of ET or whatever, Non-Human Intelligence), then the investigator must act as the defense for the witness(es) in the court of skeptical (public) opinion. As I learned at the feet of the master debunker, Philip J. Klass, when it comes down to arguing the individual details of a sighting, the skeptic or debunker will mount an ad hominem attack if necessary and try to show that the witness(es) are not believable in some crucial details. Hence the investigator must think like a prosecution lawyer and find the weak points of any sighting report and study them, learn why they are perceived as weak, and decide for himself whether or not the weak points are weak enough to "break" the case before throwing the case open in the court of skeptical opinion.

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Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 14:31:32 -0400
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 14:29:10 -0500
Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>From: Joe McGonagle <joe.mcgonagle.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 22:31:27 +0000
>Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>I found the official Airprox summmary - a .pdf file,
>668 Kb - at:

><http://tinyurl.com/5pmx7w>

>on pages 56-58 - Airprox 55/08.

Hi Joe,

Thanks for this. The other Airprox were interesting as well.
The very last heading in Airprox Report N0. 055/08 which is
Degree of Risk sets the risk at D. I assume that the greatest
degree of risk is A?

I wonder if the pilot of the police helicopter would agree with
that? At night with an unknown type of aircraft flying close to
your own and not knowing its intentions would have the hairs
standing up on the back of my neck. Not knowing what the heck
the other aircraft is going to do when it's that close is scary.

The reviewing agency did a good job of vetting the usual suspects.

One observation. A night flying ultralite was considered as a
suspect for the airprox. I would caution anyone about giving
this serious consideration. In the vast airspaces of North
America which have much less restricted airspaces in which to
fly private or gen/av aircraft I would question the use of
modern day ultralites in such a case; but the restrictive air
regulations/space the UK pilots and those in other western
European countries have to fly under would make it even more
unlikely by a factor of at least 10.

Don Ledger

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:25:13 -0800
Archived: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 16:02:54 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Fri, 21 Nov 2008 11:29:04 -0500
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>>>From: Sean Jones <Sean.Jones.nul>
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>>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

<snip>

>To be truly rigorous sceptics in circumstances where we don't
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>bursts, but the aim ought to be to train oneself in habits of
>thought that predispose to it and this is probably as good a
>definition as any of what it is to have a "scientific" approach
>rather than a settled conviction.

>Science is like a person walking - in a controlled fall.
>Sometimes it ain't elegant. But an ideology is a person
>sitting down.

Yes, but taken to extreme this can also lead to an 'anything goes' approach, that often infects topics such as this one. Not all theories have equal validity or likelihood. Sorry, e.g., if I pass on UFO 'explanations' such as Nazi flying saucers, hollow earth theory, Planet X, or shy, hiding crypto-terrestrials, all of which are either impossible or incredibly unlikely.

If that makes me 'rigid-minded', so be it. But the fact is, all intellectual endeavors draw distinctions between probable, possible, unlikely but slightly possible, and obvious pure crap, and devote appropriate amounts of time to considering each.

David Rudiak

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Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: Nick Pope <nick.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 22:30:26 +0100 (CET)
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 09:01:31 -0500
Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 14:31:32 -0400
>Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

<snip>

>Thanks for this. The other Airprox were interesting as well.
>The very last heading in Airprox Report N0. 055/08 which is
>Degree of Risk sets the risk at D. I assume that the greatest
>degree of risk is A?

<snip>

Category D is defined as "Risk not determined: Insufficient information was available to determine the risk involved, or inconclusive or conflicting evidence precluded such determination":

<http://tinyurl.com/6ehpfe>

My call for an official inquiry has now been picked up by various national newspapers and the BBC.

Best wishes,

Nick Pope

<http://www.nickpope.net>

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Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 17:07:52 -0500
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 09:11:20 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:25:13 -0800
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

<snip>

>>To be truly rigorous sceptics in circumstances where we don't
>>know the truth a priori we need to stay balanced on a far-from-
>>equilibrium knife edge between possibilities (as Viktor has
>>often enjoined), which costs energy like any kind of work. I
>>don't suppose any of us is capable of this except in short
>>bursts, but the aim ought to be to train oneself in habits of
>>thought that predispose to it and this is probably as good a
>>definition as any of what it is to have a "scientific" approach
>>rather than a settled conviction.

>>Science is like a person walking - in a controlled fall.
>>Sometimes it ain't elegant. But an ideology is a person
>>sitting down.

>Yes, but taken to extreme this can also lead to an 'anything
>goes' approach, that often infects topics such as this one. Not
>all theories have equal validity or likelihood. Sorry, e.g., if
>I pass on UFO 'explanations' such as Nazi flying saucers, hollow
>earth theory, Planet X, or shy, hiding crypto-terrestrials, all
>of which are either impossible or incredibly unlikely.

>If that makes me 'rigid-minded', so be it. But the fact is, all
>intellectual endeavors draw distinctions between probable,
>possible, unlikely but slightly possible, and obvious pure crap,
>and devote appropriate amounts of time to considering each.

>David Rudiak

Amen, David! That sums up my viewpoint very well. Thanks for
expressing it so succinctly.

Dick

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Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 23](#)

The UFO And JFK Assassination Link

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 09:12:02 -0500
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 09:12:02 -0500
Subject: The UFO And JFK Assassination Link

Source: The News - Salem, Arkansas, USA

<http://www.areawideneews.com/blogs/1215/entry/22315/>

Friday, November 21, 2008

The UFO And JFK Assassination Link
Bret Burquest

A conspiracy is a secret agreement among a group of people attempting to conceal something. The two biggest conspiracies in our lifetimes, if true, are the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the cover-up of the presence of extraterrestrial beings on earth.

Kenn Thomas, author of a book titled Maury Island UFO: The Crisman Conspiracy, points out a remarkable string of coincidences that may actually tie the two conspiracies together. According to Thomas, a man named Fred Crisman played a central role in these seemingly unrelated events.

On June 21, 1947, an airplane pilot named Kenneth Arnold spotted what he described as "flying saucers" over Mt. Rainier in the State of Washington, launching the modern UFO era. The term "flying saucer" soon became part of the UFO lexicon. There were many UFO sightings later in 1947, including the famous Roswell crash incident.

Four people, including Harold Dahl and his son, witnessed the event from a salvage boat in a nearby bay. They reported seeing six doughnut-shaped craft, approximately 20 feet in diameter, hovering high above. Five of the craft formed a circle surrounding a craft in the middle that was wobbling badly. The seemingly damaged craft suddenly dropped down about 700 feet, then spewed two substances -- one was a paper-like metal that floated in the bay and the other was a hot, steaming, black sludge that rained down, striking Dahl's son and killing his dog.

Dahl reported these events to Fred Crisman, a man he believed to have some connections in the intelligence community.

Crisman subsequently went to Maury Island to investigate the incident. He found a great deal of both materials on the shore and recovered some for himself.

Soon thereafter, Crisman shared his experience with Ray Palmer, a magazine publisher, who then hired Kenneth Arnold (the original pilot) to investigate further.

Three days later, Arnold had more sightings, culminating with a woman recovering some unusual material in the same vicinity, who then turned the material over to FBI agent Guy Banister.

Capt. Lee Davidson and Lt. Frank Brown, Air Force investigators under the command of Gen. Nathan Twining, soon joined Arnold in

retrieving debris on Maury Island. Ultimately, Crisman was compelled to turn over his samples to the two Air Force investigators.

Classified documents, recently discovered under the freedom of information act, also indicate that Crisman turned additional samples he had held back over to CIA agent Clay Shaw.

On November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.

Many people believe it was part of a larger conspiracy, far beyond a lone gunman named Lee Harvey Oswald.

In his 1968 investigation of the assassination, New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison claimed that Guy Banister and Claw Shaw were involved in the plot to kill JFK, and that Fred Crisman may have been one of the gunmen.

Some interesting coincidences occurred between the JFK assassination and the 1947 UFO cover-up.

In 1943-1952, Guy Banister was FBI "Special Agent in Charge" in the Pacific Northwest, later transferred to Chicago. Upon retirement he opened a private investigative office in New Orleans where he occasionally hired Lee Harvey Oswald in a variety of capacities.

In 1963, former CIA agent Clay Shaw was the director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans, a CIA front organization. He later went to trial as one of the co-conspirators in JFK's death but was found not guilty by a jury. Key evidence linking Shaw to the assassination was not permitted by the trial judge.

According to many JFK assassination researchers, Fred Crisman was one of the three so-called "hobos" who were picked up in the railroad yard immediately following the JFK shooting, then released shortly thereafter.

The world is full of strange coincidences and possible conspiracies in high places.

In September of 1964, the Warren Commission Report declared that Kennedy was killed by a lone-gunman named Lee Harvey Oswald.

Fifteen years later, the House Selection Committee on Assassinations concluded that Kennedy "was probably killed as the result of a conspiracy" but "was unable to identify the other gunmen or the extent of the conspiracy."

Based on the information detailed in CROSSFIRE by Jim Marrs and FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE by Robert D. Morrow, it seems likely that the conspiracy involved organized crime.

Carlos Marcello was the mob boss of New Orleans. In the spring of 1961, the new U.S. Attorney General, Robert Kennedy, had Marcello handcuffed and put onto a plane to Guatemala City with no luggage and very little cash.

Marcello was eventually flown back to the USA by his personal pilot David Ferrie, vowing to get even with the Kennedys.

Allegedly, Marcello and Ferrie devised a plan that included placing blame on a "nut" for the assassination of the President, Robert Kennedy's brother. Ferrie had been Lee Harvey Oswald's Civil Air Patrol leader.

The thrust of the plan was to make it look as though Fidel Castro was behind the killing of the American President, thereby inciting the U.S. government to attack Cuba, eliminating Castro who had forced the mob casinos in Havana to close.

Santos Trafficante, the south Florida mob boss, was a close associate of Marcello who had been in the casino business in Cuba and even jailed by Castro for a period of time.

Mobsters Johnny Roselli of Miami and Sam Giancana of Chicago were also involved.

Trafficante set up two men who thought they were working for the

CIA to assassinate Castro and had them sent to Cuba. Through Roselli, Castro was tipped off that the CIA was sending these two men to kill him. The two men were then captured in Cuba and forced to reveal they were CIA operatives.

On September 7, 1963, Castro told associated press reporters he was being targeted for assassination by U.S. government leaders who "could find their own lives in jeopardy."

During this entire period, Lee Harvey Oswald was being manipulated by associates of Ferrie in New Orleans to appear to be a pro-Castro wacko.

The trap had been set. A patsy, Lee Harvey Oswald, had been created to shift the blame to Castro. Plus, Castro had recently made statements to the press that he was being targeted by the Kennedy Administration, further fanning the flames. Thus, when JFK was killed, Castro, through Oswald, would be targeted for invasion by the USA whereupon the mob would get their Cuban casinos back and get the Justice Department (headed by Robert Kennedy) off their backs.

When JFK was assassinated in Dallas several things went awry.

Oswald was to have been killed in the confusion but managed to escape. He was later killed by Jack Ruby to silence him and close the case.

The FBI and the CIA both wanted the case closed as quickly as possible to avoid embarrassing entanglements.

The new President, Lyndon Johnson, wanted it closed quickly to avoid a possible catastrophic confrontation with Cuba and their cold war ally, the USSR.

Thus, the lone gunman nutcase became the quick official remedy.

Jack Ruby, the Dallas mob connection, was the key lynchpin to the conspiracy. He made more long distance phone calls to known mobsters (Trafficante, Marcello, etc.) during the two months prior to the assassination than he had made the entire previous year.

Roselli met with Ruby twice just prior to the assassination.

When the Dallas police chief was answering questions at a press conference shortly after Oswald was arrested, Ruby (from the back of the room) loudly corrected him (captured on audio and video) as to which Cuba freedom organization Oswald had belonged. It was imperative that Oswald be portrayed as Pro-Castro, thereby placing ultimate blame on Castro as being behind the assassination.

Ruby then killed Oswald to end any further investigation.

Scheduled to testify before Congress, Roselli was found dead in an oil drum floating in Biscayne Bay.

Giancana had helped JFK get elected President, later to be subjected to Robert Kennedy's organized crime taskforce. The evening before Giancana was to testify before a senate committee on CIA-mob assassination plots, he was shot in the back of the head.

A few days before David Ferrie was scheduled to meet with the New Orleans district attorney to discuss the JFK assassination, he was found dead (unsolved murder) in his apartment.

Less than 12 hours later, Eladio del Valle, a known Ferrie collaborator, was brutally murdered in Miami.

Dead men tell no tales.

A coincidence is the occurrence of supposedly unrelated events that seem to have a connection. When you have dozens of coincidences all relating to the same event, the concept of everything being unrelated no longer passes the smell test.

Dead skunk in the middle of the road.

And it stinks to high heaven.

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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The Day The Aliens Came

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 11:17:11 -0500
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 11:17:11 -0500
Subject: The Day The Aliens Came

Source: The Cyprus Mail - Nicosia, Cyprus

http://www.cyprus-mail.com/news/main.php?id=3D42669&cat_id=3D9

Sunday, November 23, 2008

The Day The Aliens Came
By Nathan Morley

Is the mystery of an unexplained crash in the Troodos in 1973 about to be solved?)

A British UFO researcher may hold a vital clue that could help prove a flying saucer crashed into the Troodos mountains 35 years ago.

Gary Heseltine, the editor of the popular UFO Monthly magazine, has taken possession of several items of unidentified debris collected by a former British soldier who claims to have witnessed a UFO fall to earth in 1973.

In his detailed account, Corporal Tom Clarke, who was part of a six man British Army unit on a late night patrol recalled what happened when spotted strange lights in the sky.

"We were all awoken at about 2am by a brilliant bluish dazzling bright light in the sky, what happened next is hard to explain. There was not an explosion, but we were all hit by a shockwave and fell flat to the ground. The light just disappeared or went out," Clarke recalled.

The team of dazed soldiers quickly found the crash site which was located some 200 metres down the mountain and additional military personal were called in to investigate.

The soldiers were ordered to collect debris and place it into black plastic bags; Corporal Clarke managed to conceal some small pieces of golden tinted foil from amongst the wreckage =96 which is now in the hands of UFO Magazine.

"After what seemed like hours a halt was called and we were all lined up and told that under no circumstances were we to talk about what we had been doing and that we were forbidden to take anything from the site under threat of Court Martial.

"We were then all taken from the area by helicopter and flown to Alexander Barracks in Dhekelia where we were interviewed separately. I was asked to describe exactly what I had seen and was warned again not to discuss with anyone the events that had occurred."

Soon afterwards all six men who witnessed the crash were posted to different foreign locations and nothing more was heard about events of that night in 1973 - until now.

Gary Heseltine is convinced that Clarke has given a credible and

genuine account of the mysterious events of 1973.

"You have to appreciate for someone to come and contact a person like me they have to be quite serious and determined to discover more about their experience. Mr Clarke has kept records, photos and gave me a very clear precise account of what happened, I doubt very much this is a fantasy or made up," he told the Sunday Mail.

"I have the artefacts Mr Clarke collected from the crash site and am now looking at having them examined by experts to determine what they are or where they are from. From everything that has been described I would have to label this a UFO event. Something obviously crashed and by the response of the military it was something highly secret," he added.

Unsurprisingly, in a statement to the Sunday Mail, a spokesman for the British Ministry of Defence claimed they had no knowledge of any UFO crash in Cyprus.

"The MoD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity. Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported," he said.

The MoD remained 'open-minded' about aliens, he added.

However, Paphos based UFO expert John Knowles, who has enjoyed two UFO encounters himself, told the Sunday Mail that he would certainly not rule out that a crash could have happened.

"It is feasible that something like this could easily have occurred without anybody noticing it, or it could have been covered up. There is a lot of fear associated with this subject, many authorities are reluctant to admit that there are things that they can't control and I think that's part of any cover up activity."

The Troodos range, which is home to several military communication stations, has been location of dozens of reported "UFO incidents" over the past half century.

Speaking from the UK, famed psychic Uri Geller told the Sunday Mail how he watched in disbelief as a disc-shaped object floated above his head in Troodos before it "zoomed off at incredible speed" in 1961.

"Actually I had two UFO experiences whilst I was living in Cyprus, the first in 1959 and then again a few years later," he said.

"I have never really spoke about this openly, but I saw a UFO when I was up in the Troodos and once whilst I was walking my dog on a beach near Kyrenia. On both occasions I saw flying objects, they were not planes or helicopters and I saw them both times in broad daylight."

Geller told the Sunday Mail he would never forget what he saw in the skies above Cyprus, despite the fact the incidents happened over 40-years ago.

"On both occasions the craft did an amazingly fast zig-zag, then the shot off at a speed no human craft could ever achieve."

One theory as to why the alleged Troodos incident is now only seeing the light of day is because UFOs were of extreme military interest during the Soviet era and it's believed that the USA, UK and USSR were all actively seeking to capture an alien craft.

It has recently been revealed that during the Cold War the Soviet Union's Air Force had standing orders to intercept and shoot down any detected UFO in Soviet airspace.

The Kremlin was apparently sure that the United States had recovered some advanced alien technology from the Roswell crash site in the 1940s.

Whether alien activity or natural phenomena, reports of UFOs have flooded in this summer from all across the island.

If aliens are choosing Cyprus as a holiday destination, it appears it is becoming more popular, as the number of sightings has dramatically shot up.

In the past year alone dozens of accounts of local UFO activity have appeared on local forums and message boards and even Uri Geller admits he is aware of the increased activity in this region.

"Recently the most extraordinary UFOs were filmed for 20 minutes outside Istanbul, and if you think geographically it's pretty close to Cyprus. I know there have been lots of sightings in that arena lately. If people see a UFO they really should report it."

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 23](#)

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: **Martin Shough** <parcellular.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 16:34:27 -0000
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 12:41:21 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:25:13 -0800
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

><snip>

>>To be truly rigorous sceptics in circumstances where we don't
>>know the truth a priori we need to stay balanced on a far-from-
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>>bursts, but the aim ought to be to train oneself in habits of
>>thought that predispose to it and this is probably as good a
>>definition as any of what it is to have a "scientific" approach
>>rather than a settled conviction.

>>Science is like a person walking - in a controlled fall.
>>Sometimes it ain't elegant. But an ideology is a person
>>sitting down.

>Yes, but taken to extreme this can also lead to an 'anything
>goes' approach, that often infects topics such as this one.

Most things taken to extreme become undesirable. But the
extremum of rigorous scepticism is not "anything goes", rather
it is "nothing goes". That too can become a dogmatic ideology
and perhaps some people take refuge in it because it protects
them from having to expend mental energy on the problem - the
rationale being that there is no hope of certainty or clarity
and so follow the common wisdom: "If in doubt, do nowt". I would
agree that this can be used to throw a cloak of what looks like
scientific caution over what is really laziness and incuriosity.
But that is not what I was recommending. And remember what we
are discussing: The way in which specific analyses of
observer/instrument reports in specific cases may be used to
argue - within ufology and/or in the court of scientific opinion
- for a judgment of INSUFFICIENT INFO, KNOWN, or UNKNOWN (or
perhaps Bruce's stronger category of TRUFO).

>Not all theories have equal validity or likelihood. Sorry,
>e.g., if I pass on UFO 'explanations' such as Nazi flying
>saucers, hollow earth theory, Planet X, or shy, hiding
>crypto-terrestrials, all of which are either impossible or
>incredibly unlikely.

Let's add in space animals, Time Lords, fancy plasmas and
Santa's reindeer while we're at it. This takes us from "nothing
goes" scepticism to its polar opposite, an anything-goes stew of
endlessly stirred and reheated science-fiction left-overs that
passes for "theorising" in ufology. Speculation on this level
may be entertaining, and it may have a function in the cultural
process that eventually germinates useful theories, but it has
little to do with (and should strictly have nothing to do with)

how one attempts to find an explanation for an object or event reported by witness A at place B.

Hyper-sceptical ufologists such as Andy Roberts have this following point correct, and it needs to be separated off from any possible future utility that one or more of these ideas may prove to have:- At the at the level of probative testing of sighting information it has all remained unproductive to date, and this goes for the ETH as well. Not one of these ideas has ever proved useful either in the technical process of taking a case investigation from initial report to the status of INSUFFICIENT INFO, KNOWN or UNKNOWN, or in the adversarial process described by Bruce of defending the value of UFO investigations in the court of scientific opinion. These are just practical historical facts.

>If that makes me 'rigid-minded', so be it. But the fact is, all
>intellectual endeavors draw distinctions between probable,
>possible, unlikely but slightly possible, and obvious pure
>crap,
>and devote appropriate amounts of time to considering each.

Who suggested conflating all degrees of probability and erasing distinctions? This simply does not make contact with anything I said or intended. We can all play the game of assigning likelihoods to different speculations about how all the UNKNOWNNS might be explained as a class (or maybe as several classes, with several exotic theories ranked in order) and there is some validity to this - it is the sort of flexing of the intellectual thews that is the necessary precursor to some day turning what is presently "an idea for an idea" into a testable theory. But this type of high-level speculative weighting of probabilities for future theorising should not be allowed to interfere in the ground-level task of evaluating and presenting observational data and analysis thereof. Without a one-way valve in the system the evaluation process risks being corrupted (we've all watched it happen a zillion times so this is another practical fact), then Bruce's "court of sceptical scientific opinion" will need no excuse not to listen to representations, and more sceptics will be allowed to drift to the extreme cop-out position of "if in doubt, do nowt."

Maybe you don't care about that and would not yourself have bothered entering into debates with ideologically anti-UFO spokespeople like Klass. But that is what is under discussion here. You can argue with them 'til you are blue in the face that the ETH is not intrinsically unlikely, and makes sense of many things for you. But this will not help one whit with the case-based problem Bruce identified. Every time you signal even a hint of putting this ETH cart in front of the horse - the horse being "rigorous, objective and conscientious" trying out of every less exotic possibility - it will give your arguments less traction and your enemies comfort, and the less rigorous, objective and conscientious they will themselves find it necessary to be.

More generally, if ufologists do not want to be - or lack the self-discipline to be - their own most sceptical critics, then they need Klass and his ilk because without them there would never be any virile dialectic. Advances in understanding of several classic cases can be traced directly to work stimulated by Klass's critical publications. Bruce has referred to cases where a series of different explanations was proposed by Klass, each of which he was able to refute, in the process learning a deal about how the ideological sceptic thinks and (I'm confident) gaining fresh insight about the case into the bargain. (I can relate to this myself, having done very detailed critiques of some of Klass's efforts although I never corresponded with him directly.) Well, this in itself seems to me to be a good and a necessary part of the process. Still speaking generally and "present company excepted", it would be no good saying after the fact, Yes we should have got around to testing that hypothesis ourselves one day but it was just "obvious pure crap" so we didn't bother. Somebody needs to do this.

Martin Shough

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

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Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 13:19:45 -0400
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 12:43:07 -0500
Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>From: Nick Pope <nick.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 22:30:26 +0100 (CET)
>Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>>From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 14:31:32 -0400
>>Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

><snip>

>>Thanks for this. The other Airprox were interesting as well.
>>The very last heading in Airprox Report NO. 055/08 which is
>>Degree of Risk sets the risk at D. I assume that the greatest
>>degree of risk is A?

><snip>

>Category D is defined as "Risk not determined: Insufficient
>information was available to determine the risk involved, or
>inconclusive or conflicting evidence precluded such
>determination":

><http://tinyurl.com/6ehpfe>

>My call for an official inquiry has now been picked up by
>various national newspapers and the BBC.

These were the four categories you sent me.

A Risk of Collision: An actual risk of collision existed.

B Safety not assured: The safety of the aircraft was
compromised.

C No risk of collision: No risk of collision existed.

D Risk not determined: Insufficient information was available to
determine the risk involved, or inconclusive or conflicting
evidence precluded such determination.

From what I've read about the case Category B would have better
suited the scenario. Category D was the burying of the 'Boards'
collective heads in the sand. I can't help but think that there
was a possible attempt to keep the case out of the paranormal
region.

I wonder if anyone asked the helicopter pilot what he thought the
risk was? If in this case there was a high strangeness component
to the event it could have induced psychological impact as well.
Often, as we all know there is a sense of wonder and or fear
associated with CE3K cases. Stress enters into it as well which
affects control inputs. Since this was night time there is the
chance of disorientation if the pilot suddenly shifts from
instruments to visual clues outside the aircraft. In this case he
had no choice because there were lights in close proximity to the
helicopter which he had to watch and avoid. His situational

awareness would have been affected.

When there is doubt in regulated airspace where separation rules have been compromised, B is the only 'least' choice one should make in a case like this.

To me choosing D meant that the board did not believe the pilot or the witnesses.

Don Ledger

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Re: The Day The Aliens Came

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 12:30:20 -0500
Archived: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 13:00:04 -0500
Subject: Re: The Day The Aliens Came

UFO UpDates - Toronto wrote:

>Source: The Cyprus Mail - Nicosia, Cyprus

>http://www.cyprus-mail.com/news/main.php?id=42669&cat_id=9

>Sunday, November 23, 2008

>The Day The Aliens Came
>By Nathan Morley

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>and fell flat to the ground. The light just disappeared or went
>out," Clarke recalled.

>The team of dazed soldiers quickly found the crash site which
>was located some 200 metres down the mountain and additional
>military personal were called in to investigate.

<snip>

>[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

Let's see now, they saw a flash, felt a concussion and fell out
of their beds? Or they were marching along in their sleep and
were "awoken" by the flash and concussion? Then without any
directional data they quick-marched 200 meters down the mountain
and "quickly found the crash site?"

Pardon my skepticism but methinks this story is either badly
garbled, or a hoax is being played on Heseltine, who argues that
it must be true or why would the guy come to him. Uh, possibly
because of his gullibility?

Dick

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 24](#)

UFOs Over Ladner British Columbia

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 07:51:00 -0500
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 07:51:00 -0500
Subject: UFOs Over Ladner British Columbia

Source: YouTube.Com

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkXVOjD2rYI#>

UFOs Over Ladner British Columbia, Canada, November 15, 2008

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Woman Claims Alien Abduction

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 08:01:30 -0500
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 08:01:30 -0500
Subject: Woman Claims Alien Abduction

Source: ABC-TV - New York, New York, USA

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkXVOjD2rYI#>

11/22/08

Woman Claims Alien Abduction (ABC News Video)

Texas woman shares her stories of alien abduction

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Location: ufoupdateslist.com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 24](#)

Why The Universe May Be Teeming With Aliens

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 08:11:19 -0500
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 08:11:19 -0500
Subject: Why The Universe May Be Teeming With Aliens

Source: New Scientist Magazine - Sutton, Surrey, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/6khax6>

19 November 2008

Why The Universe May Be Teeming With Aliens
by David Shiga

Wanted: Rocky planet outside of our solar system. Must not be too hot or too cold, but just the right temperature to support life.

It sounds like a simple enough wish list, but finding a planet that fulfills all of these criteria has kept astronomers busy for decades. Until recently, it meant finding a planet in the "Goldilocks zone" - orbiting its star at just the right distance to keep surface water liquid rather than being boiled off or frozen solid.

Now, though, it's becoming increasingly clear that the question of what makes a planet habitable is not as simple as finding it in just the right spot. Many other factors, including a planet's mass, atmosphere, composition and the way it orbits its nearest star, can all influence whether it can sustain liquid water, an essential ingredient for life as we know it. As astronomers explore newly discovered planets and create computer simulations of virtual worlds, they are discovering that water, and life, might exist on all manner of weird worlds where conditions are very different from those on Earth. And that means there could be vastly more habitable planets out there than we thought possible. "It's like science fiction, only better," says Raymond Pierrehumbert, a climate scientist at the University of Chicago, who studies planets inside and outside of our solar system.

Distance from the nearest star is, of course, important. In our own solar system, Venus has long served as an example of what can happen if a planet gets too close to its star. Venus is only 28 per cent closer to the sun than Earth is, but its surface is a sweltering 460 =BOC, hot enough to melt lead, and it chokes under a thick carbon dioxide atmosphere 90 times the density of Earth's.

Put Earth where Venus is and it would probably end up looking rather similar. The extra solar radiation would increase evaporation from the oceans, boosting the amount of water vapour in the atmosphere. As water vapour is a greenhouse gas, this increase would set off a vicious cycle, with higher temperatures triggering more evaporation, until the planet's surface was hot enough to boil away the oceans. At the other extreme, water on a planet that is too far from its star will simply freeze, like on Mars.

However, in 1993 a study by James Kasting of Pennsylvania State University, University Park, demonstrated that even in our own solar system, the habitable zone is not based on distance alone.

In a calculation based on the sun's current brightness,

Kasting worked out that while moving Earth just 5 per cent closer to the sun would doom it to the same fate as Venus, it could move almost 1.7 times its current distance from the sun before it would freeze (Icarus, vol 101, p 108). This outer limit is interesting because it is beyond the orbit of Mars, whose orbit has a radius about 1.5 times that of Earth.

So if Mars is in our solar system's Goldilocks zone, why isn't it teeming with life? The answer lies in how a planet's mass affects its ability to hold on to a habitable atmosphere. On Earth, the carbon cycle works as a kind of thermostat that keeps the climate liveable. Volcanic activity releases CO₂, which warms the Earth's surface via the greenhouse effect, increasing evaporation and rain. The rain erodes carbon-containing minerals from rocks, washing them into the sea. Eventually, these minerals are pulled deep into the Earth in subduction zones.

This balance between emitting and sequestering CO₂ has helped keep the Earth's climate stable for the past 4 billion years. Mars, though, is only half the size of Earth, so its interior cooled quickly, shutting down the volcanic activity needed to supply CO₂ to the atmosphere. Its weaker gravity also allows its atmosphere to drift away into space. As a result, there is too little CO₂ in the Martian atmosphere to warm its surface enough to sustain liquid water. This has probably been the case for much of the past few billion years.

Goldilocks not required

Mass, however, is not the only factor. In a series of computer simulations published earlier this year, David Spiegel of Princeton University explored whether factors such as a planet's spin axis or speed of rotation could allow a planet outside of the habitable zone to hold onto liquid water long enough to sustain life (The Astrophysical Journal, vol 681, p 1609). "I've been kind of twisting the knobs so that they're different from Earth, but they all have the same mass as Earth," says Spiegel, who was at Columbia University in New York when he carried out the work.

In some simulations, the team altered the tilt of the planet's spin axis. Earth's axis is tilted 23.5 degrees relative to the plane of its orbit, which is why each hemisphere has longer periods of sunlight during summer and shorter ones during winter. When they gave planets a tilt of 90 degrees, similar to that of the gas giant Uranus in our own solar system, the much larger variations in illumination led to more extreme seasons.

When this large axial tilt was combined with a rate of rotation three times Earth's, the summers became warm enough for ice to temporarily melt around the pole facing the star (see diagram). This meltwater was only sustainable when the planet rotated faster than the Earth, as the centrifugal force created made it harder for air to flow from the poles to the equator. This trapped heat at the illuminated pole.

Spiegel argues that this kind of simulation shows that astronomers should not think of habitability as an all-or-nothing thing. It makes more sense to think in terms of "fractional habitability", he says, as in what fraction of a planet's surface is habitable, for what fraction of the year, or for what fraction of its history. "Even the Earth is not 100 per cent habitable, at least by the standard liquid-water definition," Spiegel points out. "Parts of the planet are frozen part of the time. Parts of the planet are frozen all of the time."

Even Earth is not 100 per cent habitable by the standard liquid-water definition

Spiegel also created a desert world which was partially habitable. The planet was 90 per cent land, with just 10 per cent of its surface covered by liquid water. By earlier standards, the only part of this planet that would be considered habitable is a narrow zone around the equator where liquid water can exist all the time. Elsewhere, seasonal extremes would make water alternately boil and freeze at different times of the year, with liquid water present only in the spring and autumn. But Spiegel's team suggests that even these zones should not be

ruled out as uninhabitable. They point out that there are microbes on Earth that can reproduce below 0 °C and others that can do so above 100 °C. None are known to be capable of both, as far as the team is aware, but that doesn't mean it is impossible.

What's more, life-giving heat need not necessarily come from the nearest star. This year, a team led by Brian Jackson of the University of Arizona in Tucson explored the extent to which some planets have internal heat sources. Planets orbiting close to a star or with non-circular, eccentric orbits move towards and away from their star in the course of an orbit. As a result, they are stretched and squeezed by variations in the gravitational pull from their star, and this causes enough friction in their interiors to generate heat.

Jackson's team calculated the amount of heat generated by this process of "tidal heating" for virtual rocky planets in a variety of orbits, focusing on planets in close orbits around red dwarf stars. These are the most abundant type of star in the universe, but they do not give out much in the way of heat.

While the amount of tidal heating varies depending on the mass of the star and planet, the team calculated that, given a large enough variation in gravitational pull around the orbit, this additional heat from below could be enough to thaw out frozen planets orbiting a red dwarf, despite the feeble radiation they receive from their host stars. The extra heat could also stimulate volcanic activity, even on planets with a low mass, potentially giving them thicker atmospheres and the stronger greenhouse effect needed to maintain liquid water beyond the Goldilocks zone.

Planetary mysteries

There is such a thing as too much of a good thing, though. Tidal heating is strongest for planets in the closest, most eccentric orbits. Some of these would receive tidal heat at an even greater rate than Jupiter's moon Io, which, because of tidal heating from variations in Jupiter's gravitational pull, erupts vigorously enough to completely remake its surface every 150 years or so. The massive amounts of volcanic activity that result from such intense heating could make it impossible to sustain life on these planets, the team say in a paper to appear in *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*.

With more than 300 planets already discovered outside our solar system, and many more sure to be found, these kinds of insights will help researchers to reconsider planets once dismissed as inhospitable, and focus on the highest priority targets for follow-up observations.

There is much still to discover, of course. For example, clouds can complicate the picture as they cut the amount of stellar radiation reaching a planet's surface, while also trapping infrared radiation emitted by the planet. Factoring in these different effects will be "absolutely central" to better understanding the climates of planets outside our solar system, says Pierrehumbert.

Despite this broadening of the criteria for potentially habitable planets, not everyone is convinced that these new insights are particularly helpful in the search for worlds that might support life. There is a lot left to figure out, even for Earth, says Jonathan Lunine of the University of Arizona. "I don't think we really understand how or why the Earth has been habitable in its history and what the excursions from habitability really were," he says, "and until we do, it's hard to be anything but sceptical that some of these models are really going to inform the search."

Plus, Lunine says, we are still grappling with puzzles over climates in our own solar system, regardless of the relative wealth of data we have on them. "We still don't really understand whether Mars had a globally habitable environment for any significant amount of geological time, and if it did, how early in its history did that climate come to an end? Why and why," he adds.

There is always the chance that the search for liquid water on the surface may be missing the point. What if exotic forms of

life could thrive where there is no liquid water at all - swimming around in lakes of liquid methane on Saturn's frigid moon, Titan, for example? "One should not rule out the notion that a kind of life or organised chemistry could exist in that kind of liquid," says Lunine. "Let's cast the net broadly." Just right?

Last year, a team of astronomers led by Stéphane Udry of the Geneva Observatory, Switzerland, discovered Gliese 581c, the first likely rocky planet orbiting a sun-like star in another solar system. Given the size of its orbit around its star, initial calculations suggested it should be in the Goldilocks zone - at about the right temperature for liquid water. But other scientists soon pointed out that if it had an atmosphere containing greenhouse gases, it would most likely be far too hot for liquid water. However, the same effect could make a planet called Gliese 581d, orbiting further out round the same star, suitable for life. Then again, Gliese 581d may be too big to be a rocky planet. The team that discovered the planets point out that Gliese 581c could still be habitable if it is very cloudy, and it remains the best candidate so far for a habitable planet in another solar system. With new planets being discovered all the time, though, there are sure to be others.

The trials of life

Even if life were to get started on other planets, there are all manner of hazards that could wipe it out. Red dwarf stars, for example, are prone to frequently unleashing powerful stellar flares, which would bathe any surrounding planets in deadly radiation. Planets in solar systems with more asteroids than ours might be relentlessly pummelled by giant impacts, like the one that may have killed off the dinosaurs on Earth. Solar systems closer to the supermassive black hole at the centre of our galaxy may also fall victim to the strong bursts of X-rays it seems to give off from time to time as it gobbles up surrounding matter. Finally, close encounters between stars can rip planets from their orbits and fling them into interstellar space, sending them, and any life, into the dark and far from home.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

From: Nick Pope <nick.nul>
Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 20:19:52 +0100 (CET)
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 11:46:33 -0500
Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

>From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 13:19:45 -0400
>Subject: Re: Another UFO/Police Helicopter Report

<snip>

>These were the four categories you sent me.

>A Risk of Collision: An actual risk of collision existed.

>B Safety not assured: The safety of the aircraft was
compromised.

>C No risk of collision: No risk of collision existed.

>D Risk not determined: Insufficient information was available to
>determine the risk involved, or inconclusive or conflicting
>evidence precluded such determination.

>From what I've read about the case Category B would have better
>suit the scenario. Category D was the burying of the 'Boards'
>collective heads in the sand. I can't help but think that there
>was a possible attempt to keep the case out of the paranormal
>region.

<snip>

>To me choosing D meant that the board did not believe the pilot
>or the witnesses.

I'm not so sure. I recall previous such cases (back in the days
when the Airprox Board was called the Joint Airmiss Group and
when Category D was designated "unassessable"). In my experience
it genuinely meant they didn't know, though where UFOs were
involved it also tended to mean "this is all too difficult - I
wish this issue would go away".

Best wishes,

Nick Pope
<http://www.nickpope.net>

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God Eclipsed By Supernatural & UFOs

From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 02:02:08 EST
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 11:46:33 -0500
Subject: God Eclipsed By Supernatural & UFOs

The Daily Mail

Survey: Believe in God? No. But I Swear By Little Green Men,
Ghosts And Mediums

<http://tinyurl.com/5rwz36>

This story made me want to run outside and scream.

It cites a survey that gives stats on how many believe in the
supernatural and contrasts that with a belief in God.

Last time I checked God cornered the market on the supernatural
already.

Anyhow the survey and story are just irritating.

I've been studying UFOs most of my life and have been chaw
spittin' close to some UFOs and have studied the paranormal til
I'm blue in the face and my faith in God is a billion times
stronger now than ever.

Matter of fact I hit a milestone the past few weeks. I'd
spent the better part of the last 10 years handling
religious pursuits and I've reached the level I was
searching for. It's like being brand new or might I
say born again?

UFOs are the primary reason for this because in studying them I
had to study the various sciences and humanities and that led me
to drop many things in my life and pursue my religious studies.
I for one am very happy with that. I might risk to ask if any of
you have stopped to look at yourselves and noticed where you are
regarding your faith as opposed to when you first started out in
studying UFOs?

That'd be a documentary I'd pay good money to see.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

<http://tinyurl.com/5rwz36>

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That'd be a documentary I'd pay good money to see.

Best,

Greg
ufomafia.com/blog

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Planetarium Looking Into UFO Sightings

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 11:50:37 -0500
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 11:50:37 -0500
Subject: Planetarium Looking Into UFO Sightings

Source: KEYE-TV - Austin Texas, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/62qjzk>

November 24 2008

Austin Planetarium Looking Into Recent UFO Sightings
by CBS 42 Reporter: Alexis Patterson
adpatterson.nul

The Austin Planetarium is now investigating some strange sights in the sky - caught on tape. An astronomy expert is calling them unidentified flying objects - UFOs.

Some men who live in a Central Austin apartment building say they've seen bizarre things in the sky for months, but lately it's been more frequent. The men recorded their sightings on home video. Experts from the Austin Planetarium visited the apartment building area Friday night to see if they could also spot the objects.

Nothing appeared in the sky Friday that would convert any skeptics. But the home video show by Carl Lancaster and Doug McCullough may raise questions in some people's minds.

"Sometimes they go fast, sometimes they go slow. They make no noise," said McCullough.

McCullough and Lancaster aren't sure what they captured on video. The executive director of the Austin Planetarium doesn't know either.

"It doesn't look like anything I can recognize," said Torvald Hessel.

Hessel, an astronomer, says the objects don't move like an airplane.

"There's a military base close by, so that would be possible, and they are not going to tell you if they're flying something special," said Hessel.

But Hessel doesn't think the shapes are weather balloons, comets, or shooting stars.

"It's an unidentified flying object," said Hessel. "I'm not saying it's little green men at all. It's just something we see flying in the air, and we don't know what it is."

The Austin Planetarium plans to try to enhance the video to see if some answers can be identified. The video enhancement will take a few days at least. In the meantime, Lancaster and McCullough say they'll keep watching the sky.

Lancaster and McCullough say they first saw the objects back in April, then didn't see them again until September. They tell CBS

42 they've consistently seen the objects since then.

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Re: The Day The Aliens Came

From: Joe McGonagle <joe.mcgonagle.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 19:40:35 +0000
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 17:08:05 -0500
Subject: Re: The Day The Aliens Came

>Source: The Cyprus Mail - Nicosia, Cyprus

>http://www.cyprus-mail.com/news/main.php?id=42669&cat_id=9

>Sunday, November 23, 2008

>The Day The Aliens Came
>By Nathan Morley

<snip>

I had thought that both Dave Clarke and I had read documents at TNA which may have a bearing on the Cyprus report, but Dave has no recollection of them (but he is checking his records). It may be that I am confusing an event from the 1960s with this story.

Dave has however come across another archival resource which contains correspondence from a Lt.Col. in the Royal Marines describing how he and 700 marines on exercise in Cyprus in 1973 observed and photographed an object, possibly a re-entering spacecraft. Included in the archive were 6 b&w photographs. This could lend some support to the account from Heseltine's witness.

Cheers,

Joe

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Re: God Eclipsed By Supernatural & UFOs

From: **Eleanor White** <ewraven1.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 15:27:29 -0500
Archived: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 17:09:28 -0500
Subject: Re: God Eclipsed By Supernatural & UFOs

>From: Greg Boone <Evolbaby.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 02:02:08 EST
>Subject: God Eclipsed By Supernatural & UFOs

<snip>

>I might risk to ask if any of you have stopped to look at
>yourselves and noticed where you are regarding your faith as
>opposed to when you first started out in studying UFOs?

I was, as many people have been, attracted to watching for
developments in ufology from my early teens. I've never
seriously 'studied' UFOs.

My genuine Christian faith didn't fully take root until my 50s,
though I had been going through the motions for longer.

I don't see the slightest conflict between my faith and the
probable existence of ETs visiting Earth. I don't see anywhere
that the Bible claims to reveal all the details of the universe,
or that if it's not in the Bible, it doesn't exist.

The probable existence of ETs visiting Earth had no effect on
when I developed my genuine religious faith.

Eleanor White

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 25](#)

Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Mon, 24 Nov 2008 18:08:15 -0500
Archived: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 07:08:33 -0500
Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sun, 23 Nov 2008 16:34:27 -0000
>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>From: David Rudiak <drudiak.nul>
>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:25:13 -0800
>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

>>>From: Martin Shough <parcellular.nul>
>>>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>>>Date: Sat, 22 Nov 2008 12:52:16 -0000
>>>Subject: Re: When Ufologists Become Skeptics

><snip>

>>>To be truly rigorous sceptics in circumstances where we don't
>>>know the truth a priori we need to stay balanced on a far-from-
>>>equilibrium knife edge between possibilities (as Viktor has
>>>often enjoined), which costs energy like any kind of work. I
>>>don't suppose any of us is capable of this except in short
>>>bursts, but the aim ought to be to train oneself in habits of
>>>thought that predispose to it and this is probably as good a
>>>definition as any of what it is to have a "scientific" approach
>>>rather than a settled conviction.

<snip>

>>Not all theories have equal validity or likelihood. Sorry,
>>e.g., if I pass on UFO 'explanations' such as Nazi flying
>>saucers, hollow earth theory, Planet X, or shy, hiding
>>crypto-terrestrials, all of which are either impossible or
>>incredibly unlikely.

>Let's add in space animals, Time Lords, fancy plasmas and
>Santa's reindeer while we're at it. This takes us from "nothing
>goes" scepticism to its polar opposite, an anything-goes stew of
>endlessly stirred and reheated science-fiction left-overs that
>passes for "theorising" in ufology. Speculation on this level
>may be entertaining, and it may have a function in the cultural
>process that eventually germinates useful theories, but it has
>little to do with (and should strictly have nothing to do with)
>how one attempts to find an explanation for an object or event
>reported by witness A at place B.>

>Hyper-sceptical ufologists such as Andy Roberts have this
>following point correct, and it needs to be separated off from
>any possible future utility that one or more of these ideas may
>prove to have:- At the at the level of probative testing of
>sighting information it has all remained unproductive to date,
>and this goes for the ETH as well. Not one of these ideas has
>ever proved useful either in the technical process of taking a
>case investigation from initial report to the status of
>INSUFFICIENT INFO, KNOWN or UNKNOWN, or in the adversarial
>process described by Bruce of defending the value of UFO
>investigations in the court of scientific opinion. These are
>just practical historical facts.

<snip>

>Maybe you don't care about that and would not yourself have
>bothered entering into debates with ideologically anti-UFO
>spokespeople like Klass. But that is what is under discussion
>here. You can argue with them 'til you are blue in the face that
>the ETH is not intrinsically unlikely, and makes sense of many
>things for you. But this will not help one whit with the case-
>based problem Bruce identified. Every time you signal even a
>hint of putting this ETH cart in front of the horse - the horse
>being "rigorous, objective and conscientious" trying out of
>every less exotic possibility - it will give your arguments less
>traction and your enemies comfort, and the less rigorous,
>objective and conscientious they will themselves find it
>necessary to be.

The "scientific method" would be to test every proposed mundane hypothesis against the available sightings information. Most "candidate explanatory hypotheses" (CEH) would be immediately rejected. For example, if a person reports a bright light in the sky at night, tornados, flying insects, lightning and Nazi sympathizers could (in all probability) be rejected immediately. Not rejected would be stars, planets, meteors, airplanes. Further believable information would be necessary to reject these other categories of lights.

It is important to note that one job of the investigator is collect information on the history of the sightings, the dynamics of the reported object(s), etc., and (sometimes very difficult) to separate observation (actually observed characteristics such as shape, motion, etc.) from interpretation (what the witnesses thought it looked like or what the witnesses thought it did).

>More generally, if ufologists do not want to be - or lack the
>self-discipline to be - their own most sceptical critics, then
>they need Klass and his ilk because without them there would
>never be any virile dialectic. Advances in understanding of
>several classic cases can be traced directly to work stimulated
>by Klass's critical publications. Bruce has referred to cases
>where a series of different explanations was proposed by Klass,
>each of which he was able to refute, in the process learning a
>deal about how the ideological sceptic thinks and (I'm
>confident) gaining fresh insight about the case into the
>bargain.

This is true. It is of interest to note, however, that when arguing with a "dyed in the wool skeptic" (this is how Klass described himself the first time I spoke to him, in 1973 or 1974) it may not be enough to provide rigorous physical proof that a 'skeptical-preferred' explanation cannot be correct because it violates known physics. Such a situation does not often arise, when the last remaining CEH (Candidate Explanatory Hypothesis) can be proven to be incorrect because it violates physics, and, in fact, the case I am thinking of may be unique in that regard.

It involves an explanation proffered by Klass for the last UFO section of the Crockett color movie film shot Dec. 31, 1978 off the coast of New Zealand - approaching the 30th anniversary!

The primary fact of the case is the set of images on the film which shows a light or lights flashing at about 1 Hz and changing color and brightness from very bright white or white/yellow to dim red. There seems to be a multiple light structure involved. Another fact is that this section of the film was shot from the flight deck of an aircraft flying east of the South Island of New Zealand.

Where Phil got himself into 'trouble' with the physics was in his proposed explanation for the flashing light.

The flash rate of this color changing light was essentially the same (1 Hz) as the flash rate of the red, rotating beacon on top of the airplane, so Phil proposed the following explanation: (red) light from the beacon reflected off a propellor blade (at the right side of the aircraft) and the cameraman turned his camera toward this reflection and filmed it.

There were several reasons why this made no sense in the context

of the factual information, but only the physics is important here: Klass essentially argued that the red light reflected from the propellor could be turned white by the reflection. But there is no hint of red in the bright white images which appear periodically (1 Hz) in the film.

I pointed out to Klass, in numerous letters, the physics problem with this explanation. (Red light from a beacon, when reflected from a rotating propellor blade - or any metal surface - will not turn white.) However, in true "debunker" fashion, Klass went ahead and published it anyway. You will find that explanation in UFOs: The Public Deceived, page 254 (along with further details of the images on the film). (This book is aptly named, but not in the way Phil intended.)

A good example of the skeptical approach when the skeptic realizes he is 'defeated', is in Klass' chapter on the Val Johnson, Warren, Minnesota, police car damage case of August, 1990. Klass provides a very straightforward and accurate account of the event and the investigation. He says he discovered that Johnson was a "bit of a practical joker" who might "hide your cup of coffee." Klass then points out that there are only two possibilities: either it really happened or it was a hoax. He is correct in this interpretation. Then he concocts a hypothetical ET interaction in which an alien with a hammer leans out of the flying saucer and whacks the police car, breaking some glass, and bends two antennas as the saucer zooms by.

I presume that uncritical skeptics reading this chapter (24) would "agree" with Klass that the ET hypothesis is so silly that the case must be a hoax.

Incidentally, I wrote to Klass a letter in which I said that he should contact the sheriff (Johnson's boss) with his "proof" that Johnson damaged his own police car because it could only have been a hoax or ET activities and, of course, ET is impossible, so it must have been a hoax or "practical joke" by Johnson. (I have no evidence that Klass ever sent such a letter. And, by the way, the police department never charged Val Johnson with damaging public property.)

>(I can relate to this myself, having done very detailed >critiques of some of Klass's efforts although I never >corresponded with him directly.)

I corresponded for years with Klass. The most prolific correspondence concerned the New Zealand Sightings. This resulted in well over 1000 and probably over 1500 pages of single spaced text - a monumental "achievement" of its own, written during the years 1980 - 1984.

I also have dozens of pages concerning the McMinnville sighting (Trent photos) and dozens of pages concerning the Gulf Breeze sightings. There are also numerous pages concerning other sightings over the years.

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See:

<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/sdi/program/subscribers/>

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NY-SPI Returns To The Air

From: John Velez <jvelez49.nul>
Date: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 00:23:01 -0500
Archived: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 07:14:00 -0500
Subject: NY-SPI Returns To The Air

Hi All,

Rarely, if ever, do I publicly endorse any UFO programs. The truth is, few that are made are worth the trouble. However two of my former cronies from the Intruders Foundation have produced a program worthy of my endorsement and breaking my self-imposed silence on the List.

NY-SPI Investigates is the re-worked and better version of UFO Hunters from the Sci-Fi channel that was aborted early on and never really given the chance to build an audience of regular viewers.

This special, chronicles ufologists using cutting-edge technology to investigate claims of UFO sightings and otherworldly experiences. Co-founders Oliver Kemenczky and Ted Davis of the New York Strange Phenomena Investigators (NY-SPI), along with researcher/investigator Dennis Anderson, pursue, review and reveal their findings throughout the program.

NY-SPI Investigates airs on Saturday, December 13 at 10 PM ET on Investigation Discovery, a Discovery network focused on fact-based investigative content about culture, history and the human condition. This reworking of the pilot, originally aired as UFO Hunters, contains new scenes so shocking that the other channel was afraid to air them.

I hope all of you take the time to watch the pilot and if you like what you see, support the program by letting the station know that you'd like to see more.

Mark it on your calendars!

Best to All...

John Velez

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CNN's Alien Believers Among Us

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 07:56:33 -0500
Archived: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 07:56:33 -0500
Subject: CNN's Alien Believers Among Us

Source: CNN - Atlanta, Georgia, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/9v426>

November 24, 2008

Alien Believers Among Us

Miles O'Brien reports on the range of credible people who have experiences with UFOs.

The video features former USAF pilot Milton Torres who chased a UFO over the UK in the 50's

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Low Expectations From CNN

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 17:19:50 -0500
Archived: Tue, 25 Nov 2008 17:19:50 -0500
Subject: Low Expectations From CNN

Source: Billy Cox's Blog De Void - Sarasota, Florida, USA

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20081122/blog32/811219994>

Saturday, November 22, 2008

Low Expectations From CNN

By Billy Cox

A 'smoking gun', as jurors in the criminal trial of O.J. Simpson reminded us, is in the eye of the beholder. So when CNN's Miles O'Brien warned "American Morning" audiences on Friday that his upcoming "In Search of Aliens" series "landed a little bit south of smoking gun proof that we are not alone," it sounded like all the other noise emanating from the network sausage factories.

O'Brien is one of the brightest lights in network journalism. A licensed pilot and award-winning investigative sleuth in the fields of space and technology, his agility in translating the violent physics of shuttle Columbia's catastrophic re-entry into a riveting comprehensible narrative left competitors sucking wind in 2003. And that's why it's so disappointing to hear him pumping his piece on the SETI radiotelescopes - part of a five-installment series - by saying he'll tell us "where they're listening for alien signals =96 yes, I said alien signals."

Wow. That'd be news to an old Japanese soldier hiding out on Gilligan's Island, but the rest of us have been beaten over the head with SETI 'revelations' since Senator William Proxmire bestowed his notorious Golden Fleece Award on government appropriations for it in the 1980s. Even if you're not into politics, you couldn't miss The X-Files spin on the massive Arecibo dish, or "Contact" at the movie theaters in 1997, which featured Jodi Foster listening for alien signals. Yes, I said alien signals.

So here we'll go again on Monday morning, revisiting the same hack format we've seen too many times before on Larry King or ABC in September, another ratings month: Pretend nobody's ever heard of any of this stuff before, do your alien abduction piece, balance it off with SETI's level-headed, faith-based pragmatists, throw in some titillating ambiguity from the surface of Mars, get Apollo astronaut Edgar Mitchell's shocking revelations on camera (he's only been talking about the UFO coverup since 1996), defrost a little Roswell action =96 voila! =96 a nice bounce in the Nielsens.

Is it too much to ask, just once, to get one of these projects to put a single compelling element beneath a microscope and study its texture? O'Brien evidently had that opportunity with retired jet fighter pilot Milton Torres, who reportedly makes a cameo on In Search of Aliens.

Now retired in Miami, the 77-year-old made headlines last month

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4974540.ece>

by confirming his role in an attempted shoot-down of a UFO over Great Britain in 1957, which was disclosed during the declassification of Ministry of Defence papers.

Back in the Fifties, when the military was marginally more candid than it is today, authorities admitted engagements with UFOs involved potentially profound national security consequences. In 1953, Gen. Benjamin Chidlaw, who ran America's Air Defense Command, stated, "We have a stack of reports of flying saucers. We take them seriously, when you consider we have lost many men and planes trying to intercept them." Former Project Blue Book director, USAF Capt. Edward Ruppelt, tried to disentangle a popular impulse to embrace them as "space brothers" by writing that UFOs pursued by military pilots sometimes resulted in "lurid tales of death."

If CNN wanted to perform a public service, it wouldn't have to dig back half a century. It could simply focus on the Stephenville, Tex., incident from January, where radar analysis by MUFON investigators caught the Air Force with its pants down in its inability to prevent a UFO from violating restricted airspace at President Bush's Crawford ranch. And those regional sightings continue, having disrupted a football game in October

<http://www.earthfiles.com/news.php?ID=3D1488&category=3DEnvironment>

and distracted motorists

<http://tinyurl.com/64mm5w>

just this week.

This isn't news anymore: UFOs can go wherever they want, and the military can't stop it. The media's inability to cover this reality outside sweeps-week stunts - that's news. In fact, it's a scandal.

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5 Minutes With Walter Andrus Jr.

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 06:54:34 -0500
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 06:54:34 -0500
Subject: 5 Minutes With Walter Andrus Jr.

Source: The San Antonio Express-News, Texas, USA

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/community/35103584.html>

11/25/2008

Q&A: 5 Minutes With Walter Andrus Jr.

Walter Andrus Jr., 87, is a co-founder of the Mutual UFO Network, which bills itself as the largest UFO research organization in the world. He lives in Seguin.

How did you become interested in UFO phenomena?

"I've been interested ever since I had a sighting in Phoenix, Ariz., in August of 1948. So it's been a long time that I have been interested."

Can you describe your sighting?

"We were in Phoenix on vacation coming back from the West Coast going to Illinois, where we used to live. I was in downtown Phoenix having lunch, getting ready to head back to the airport. We were watching a plane in the sky, which was much more interesting than looking at storefronts. My son, who was only 5 at the time, pointed out four silver balloons. There were three objects flying in formation and one that was a straggler. It was 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the sun was very bright and there were no clouds in the sky.

"They began to move east to west, and then as they got north of us, they began to disappear in the clear sky. Other people on the street had been watching them also. That made us wonder what they could be since we heard about flying disks at Roswell the year before. I had another (sighting) in Seguin many, many years later."

How did you start the organization?

"We started officially in 1969. There were some other organizations in existence, but they just weren't doing a very good job. We thought we could do better. Apparently we have, because we're here 40 years later and other organizations passed out long ago. We're the most active UFO organization on the planet Earth."

What was the feeling you had when you saw those objects?

"I had no fear. These objects are not going to hurt anyone. The modern era of flying saucers has been since 1947, but sightings go back in to biblical times. They had sightings back in 1893 all over the United States and they called them "mysterious airships." This is a subject that has been around a long time and we're trying to solve it through scientific measures. You fear the unknown, but there was no fear here."

What is it you hope to discover?

"Well, some of these objects seem extraterrestrial in nature. We'd like to be part of the nation that solves the mystery of UFOs."

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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An Eye Out For Life In Outer Space

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 07:04:33 -0500
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 07:04:33 -0500
Subject: An Eye Out For Life In Outer Space

Source: The Albany Sun-Times - New York, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/62tbet>

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

An Eye Out For Life In Outer Space

RPI announces a new center to look for clues to extraterrestrial life

By Marc Parry, Staff writer

TROY--They are profound questions that have engrossed great thinkers for centuries: Are we alone? What does it mean to be living? How did it happen?

Aristotle, Copernicus and Plato pondered them. But they had no chance of knowing. This age, some scientists believe, we will.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Monday announced a new center, funded by a \$7.5 million NASA grant, dedicated to the search for life in the universe.

RPI President Shirley Ann Jackson said scientists from RPI and partner schools such as University at Albany "will help piece together the fragmented clues that could lead to the discovery of the first extraterrestrial life and the origins of the first life to appear here on Earth."

"We are on the brink, because of our technology and our knowledge, of not only asking the questions that have been asked by others for thousands of years, but now being able to answer them," said John Delano of UAlbany, the new center's associate director.

Monday marked the second time in a week that a Capital Region college announced a collaboration with NASA.

Students and a physics professor at Siena College are working on a new project to build a so-called CubeSat satellite that is roughly the size of a loaf of bread. The new satellite mission, called Firefly, will explore the link between lightning and sudden bursts of high-energy radiation in the Earth's upper atmosphere.

The National Science Foundation awarded Siena and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center a \$1 million grant to lead the mission. Physics professor Allan Weatherwax described it as one of the most important science grants his undergraduate liberal arts college has ever received. It brought national attention from the Discovery Channel, among other places to a small Loudonville school whose name is more typically in the news for polling and basketball.

And most of the satellite will be built on campus.

"This is about teaching the next generation of students how to go through this process of building instruments, how to design and develop a satellite program," Weatherwax said.

RPI's new center is called the New York Center for Astrobiology, after the scientific field that deals with the origin, evolution and distribution of life in the universe.

RPI officials described the announcement as a milestone for the institute, and two of the key scientists were in such good spirits at the announcement that they hugged.

Researchers will investigate whether the processes that prepared the Earth for life could be replicated on Mars and other bodies in our solar system, and on planets orbiting other stars. Part of their work will be helping NASA plan to bring samples back from Mars for analysis.

Scientists will determine which materials are most likely to answer the question of whether there is life on Mars, said Doug Whittet, an RPI physics professor who directs the new center. Whittet guesses there is a good chance there was life on Mars, but considers the prospect that there still is a long shot.

He stressed that researchers are talking about primitive microbial life, not intelligent life. Even to discover a primitive form of life on another planet would be a huge breakthrough for science, he said.

"It's important to understand that we're not really talking about E.T., in the sense of little green men," he said.

Marc Parry can be reached at 454-5057 or by e-mail at mparry.nul

For more about the New York Center for Astrobiology, see:

www.origins.rpi.edu

For more about Siena's satellite mission, see:

<http://firefly.gsfc.nasa.gov>

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 07:19:30 -0500
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 07:19:30 -0500
Subject: Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

Source: The Bucks County Courier Times - Pennsylvania, USA

<http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/111-11252008-1627436.html>

November 25, 2008

Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

By George Mattar

Denise Lynch Murter's story began last April when her Yorkie named Alex began growling and awoke her from a deep sleep.

"I thought it was an intruder at first," she said. "I went outside and saw it. It was shaped like a boomerang and had three lights like the headlamps of a car up in the sky."

Murter believes she saw a UFO outside her Falls home.

And so does the Discovery Channel.

On Monday night the cable channel aired its special "UFOs over Earth" and Murter along with her daughter and husband, Dan, tuned in. The topic wasn't the only draw for the Murter family, Denise's story was featured on the hour-long show.

Denise Murter was one of about a half dozen Bucks County residents who reported such sightings this past summer.

Discovery Channel investigators put together the cable special after interviews with Murter and the other residents.

Investigators made several trips to her home to try to document what she saw. Murter believes she saw UFOs in the rear yard of her Village of Pennbrook apartment on several occasions and took photos of the second and third sightings.

While investigators said her photos may not identify what she really saw, "she really seems to be telling the truth," said John Ventre, director of the Mutual UFO Network, known as MUFON.

In the show, Murter says she saw a strange object "as it shuffled across the sky" and hovered over trees in her backyard as many as five times between April and July. She said all of incidents occurred between 1 and 4 a.m. and several times the object sprinkled a sparking, metallic substance on one of the trees.

The state MUFON came to Falls in late July and investigated Murter's claims. Investigators took leaf and soil samples from the tree Murter claims was showered in the dust, and samples from a second tree a block away. Three independent laboratories checked the samples with different results. One lab insisted that the leaves from the tree in her yard had been subjected to high heat or radiation. The leaves also had very high levels of boron and magnesium, but none were found in the soil or in the

tree a block away, said Ventre.

One scientist, W.C. Levengood, hired by MUFON, tested the leaves and said Denise "saw a very unusual phenomenon".

Murter said being in the cable special was weird at first because she doesn't believe in science fiction and no interest in UFOs until this happened.

"I'm disappointed I did not catch a better photo", she said. "However I feel positive about the whole thing because I know what I saw."

George Mattar can be reached at 215-949-4165
or
gmattar.nul

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Sports Chopper Videos UFO Over Sacramento

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 08:05:59 -0500
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 08:05:59 -0500
Subject: Sports Chopper Videos UFO Over Sacramento

Source: KXTV-TV - Sacramento, California, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/59tay5>

November 26, 2008

[Video at site]

Callers, Air10 Spot UFO Over Sacramento

SACRAMENTO, CA - News10 often receives calls from those who spotted something unusual in the night skies. It's not nearly as common for those calls to be backed up by our own Air10.

While shooting Friday Night Football highlights over Sacramento, Air10 pilot Ed Georges and FNF correspondent Angel Cardenas spotted a strange set of lights flying over their helicopter.

"I know what aircraft lighting looks like and this was definitely something different," Georges said. "It looked almost like a scrolling message on a blimp to the naked eye. I was at 1,200 feet and it was considerably higher."

Georges said he and Cardenas maneuvered the helicopter to get a better look at the lights through Air10's Power Zoom camera.

"(Angel and I) were both amazed at the odd lights and movement. I started flying toward it, but it began to fade away and disappeared to the southeast," Georges said. "Not knowing the size of the object, I couldn't determine how far away we were, but I believe it was some distance away as the image was fuzzy even through the PowerZoom camera."

Not long after their sighting, several callers phoned the News10 newsroom to report seeing the same phenomenon.

When contacted, Federal Aviation Administration and Sacramento International Airport spokespeople said they hadn't heard anything about the object and had no idea what the craft could be. A Travis Air Force Base representative said the base had no aircrafts that could be confused with a UFO.

So what is it? Take a look at the video to the right and weigh in with your own verdict.

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New UFO TV Chat Shows

From: Nick Pope <nick.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 14:21:19 +0100 (CET)
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 08:26:38 -0500
Subject: New UFO TV Chat Shows

There are some new UFO-related interviews available here:

<http://www.edgemediatv.com/watchrecordings.html>

Edge Media TV goes out on Sky Channel 200 and is unusual because the presenters are genuinely knowledgeable about the unexplained and get a full hour to chat in depth about the subject. See, for example, Franky Ma's interviews with myself and Timothy Good, on her show, entitled On The Edge.

Best wishes,

Nick Pope
<http://www.nickpope.net>

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Weird 09 Conference

From: Philip Mantle <philip.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 14:08:18 -0000
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 11:36:00 -0500
Subject: Weird 09 Conference

Weird 09 Conference, Warminster

Aug 29 30, 2009

In the beautiful county of Wiltshire lies the small town of Warminster. Surrounded by some of the most ancient monuments in the UK, including StoneHenge, Avebury, West Kennet Long Barrow and Silbury Hill, the conference is at the heart of a county full of history and strange phenomena.

The 2009 Paranormal Conference at the Athenaeum Theatre is proud to present the top speakers in Ufology, The Paranormal, Crop Circle Research and Folklore, from the UK and the USA.. Our prestigious line up includes: Nick Pope, Paul Devereux, Joe McGonagle, Dr. Peter McCue, USA Crop Circle Researcher Nancy Talbot, Mike Oram, Kevin Goodman, Hayley Stevens and Nick Redfern.

We are also able to offer opportunities to take an active part in the annual Warminster Sky Watch and a rare chance to participate in a paranormal investigation. Book your tickets early as this event will sell out..

<http://www.sufor.org.uk/>

<http://www.mystical-county.org.uk/>

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Re: Sports Chopper Videos UFO Over Sacramento

From: Michael Tarbell <mtarbell.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 09:29:43 -0700
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 11:41:16 -0500
Subject: Re: Sports Chopper Videos UFO Over Sacramento

>Source: KXTV-TV - Sacramento, California, USA

><http://tinyurl.com/59tay5>

>November 26, 2008

>[Video at site]

>Callers, Air10 Spot UFO Over Sacramento

>SACRAMENTO, CA - News10 often receives calls from those who
>spotted something unusual in the night skies. It's not nearly as
>common for those calls to be backed up by our own Air10.

>While shooting Friday Night Football highlights over Sacramento,
>Air10 pilot Ed Georges and FNF correspondent Angel Cardenas
>spotted a strange set of lights flying over their helicopter.

<snip>

This has since been resolved...

Source: KXTV-TV - Sacramento, California, USA

<http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=51021&catid=2>

November 26, 2008

ROSEVILLE, CA - The mystery surrounding a series of lights seen hovering over Roseville Friday night has been solved.

The lights were attached to an airplane that belongs to a Bay Area aerial advertising firm that was announcing the grand opening of a tire store.

"It was the craziest thing I've ever seen," said News10 reporter Angel Cardenas, who recorded a nine-second clip of video from Air10 while flying over a high school football game in Roseville.

The incident prompted a number of calls to News10 and a buzz on the Internet.

The owner of the advertising firm said the plane occasionally stirs UFO sighting reports.

"From a distance it looks unidentified, lights are blinking," said Jason Frost of American Air Lights in Concord. "You can't read the words unless you're in the target audience (below the plane)."

Frost said he welcomed the exposure from the Friday night aerial ad campaign.

"It's good for us," he said.

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Re: Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

From: Bruce Maccabee <brumac.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 12:12:12 -0500
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 12:25:41 -0500
Subject: Re: Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

>Source: The Bucks County Courier Times - Pennsylvania, USA
><http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/111-11252008-1627436.html>

>November 25, 2008

>Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

>By George Mattar

>Denise Lynch Murter's story began last April when her Yorkie
>named Alex began growling and awoke her from a deep sleep.

>"I thought it was an intruder at first," she said. "I went
>outside and saw it. It was shaped like a boomerang and had three
>lights like the headlamps of a car up in the sky."

>Murter believes she saw a UFO outside her Falls home.

>And so does the Discovery Channel.

The quoted statment above recalled to my memory that the formerly famous or infamous Gulf Breeze sighting flap started in a similar way, Nov. 11, 1987. What you read below is a small part of an unpublished manuscript I wrote about 10 years ago entitled, Gulf Breeze, the Untold Story. This small portion describes the beginning of the flap.

And, oh yes, by the way, Ed Walters claimed that he saw the strange object and took his first 5 photos at about 6 PM about 16 hours after the sighting bdescribed below. And, oh yes, by the way, there were several other sightings by independent witnesses on that same day, both before and after Walters' claimed sighting. (If it was all a hoax he was indeed "fortunate" to made an excellent choice of which day to claim as his first sighting day.)

Abstracted from From: GB, The Untold Story

During 1987, before November, there were only a few sightings of moderate interest in the area. Sightings in other parts of the USA, in particular in southwestern Virginia, were attracting all the ufo-attention.

However, things changed drastically during the early morning hours of November 11. Sleepy little Gulf Breeze, the rest stop on the way to the clean white beaches of the Gulf Of Mexico, was about to become UFO-central for the world.

Sam was the first to sense that it was nearby.

At about 2:30 A.M. he awakened Billie Zammit and indicated that he wanted to go outside by growling and nuzzling her cheek. Sam, the normally placid Labrador Retriever that sleeps next to her bed, was being bothered by something unusual. Billie got out of bed and held the restless dog by the back of its neck while she

led it to the back door. Evidently the dog wanted to go outside. She assumed it was for the obvious reason, so she opened the door. To her surprise the dog started to bark. She and the dog walked several feet onto the lawn behind her house and then she noticed that the dog was looking upward. It was barking at something in the sky. She looked up and was startled to see something that she had never seen before.

She described it in a letter she sent to the Gulf Breeze Sentinel (a weekly newspaper) about two weeks later, after Ed's photos had been published.

Note: black and white copies of three of Ed's first five color Polaroid photos were published in the Sentinel on November 19.

"I looked up and this same object (referring to the object depicted in the newspaper photos) was in the sky, about one mile high, 15 degrees to the northwest and there was a stream of light that came down into our canal".

After watching this object for about five minutes she became so scared that she grabbed the dog and ran into the house. "I thought that maybe the object was here to get my dog," she told MUFON investigators Charles Flannigan and Gary Watson during interviews on November 25 and December 3. She reported to MUFON that the UFO was circular with a bright pastel yellow or orange light at the bottom, that it appeared to be brighter than Venus and that it was two to three times larger than the apparent size of the full moon, which was also in the sky at the time.

She repeated what she had written in the letter and said that the "stream of light" was blue in color and that it made about an 8" diameter spot on the dock in the canal behind her house.

(Her report of the pastel yellow or orange color at the bottom of the object and of the blue beam of light are consistent with what Ed reported to the MUFON investigators in January, 1988. However, there is no way that she could have known these details of Ed's sighting at the time of her letter to the newspaper or her report to the MUFON investigators.)

Billie wrote, in her letter to the Sentinel, that the next morning she "wanted to call the Air Force, but chose not to." Therefore her sighting probably would have never been reported if it hadn't been for the publication of Ed's photos two weeks later.

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Re: Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 13:27:03 -0400
Archived: Wed, 26 Nov 2008 13:26:05 -0500
Subject: Re: Falls Woman Stars In UFO Documentary

UFO UpDates - Toronto posted:

>Source: The Bucks County Courier Times - Pennsylvania, USA

><http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/111-11252008-1627436.html>

>November 25, 2008

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>By George Mattar

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>"I thought it was an intruder at first," she said. "I went
>outside and saw it. It was shaped like a boomerang and had three
>lights like the headlamps of a car up in the sky."

>Murter believes she saw a UFO outside her Falls home.

>And so does the Discovery Channel.

>On Monday night the cable channel aired its special "UFOs over
>Earth" and Murter along with her daughter and husband, Dan,
>tuned in. The topic wasn't the only draw for the Murter family,
>Denise's story was featured on the hour-long show.

>Denise Murter was one of about a half dozen Bucks County
>residents who reported such sightings this past summer.

<snip>

>Murter said being in the cable special was weird at first
>because she doesn't believe in science fiction and no interest
>in UFOs until this happened.

She doesn't 'believe' in Science Fiction? I wonder if she
believes in Mystery Novels.

At least scientist Levengood got it right when he said Denise
"saw a very unusual phenomenon".

Don Ledger

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Norway In UFO Photographs

From: **Edoardo Russo** <e.russo.nul>
Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 10:03:16 +0100
Archived: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 07:33:52 -0500
Subject: Norway In UFO Photographs

Ciao List Members everywhere,

You may be interested in learning that Spanish researcher Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Norwegian fellow Ole Jonny Braenne finally had their book, Norway In UFO Photographs: The First Catalogue, published.

No less than 744 alleged UFO pictures from that single country (1909 through 2005) are shown, presented and evaluated within the international FotoCat project. Mr. Ballester Olmos has been coordinating for a few years now, in order to collect all available photo data on UFOs:

<http://fotocat.blogspot.com>

BTW, as many as 479 of those pics come from the small Hessdalen valley, where a decades-long effort is still active of getting instrumental evidence of the recurrent luminous phenomena there:

<http://www.hessdalen.org>

The catalogue is a rare example of ongoing cataloguing activity, in these days when grassroots ufology seems to be a 'redux' affair, while everybody is busy armchair investigating.

Even rarer, it's an example of concrete international cooperation between ufologists: Mr. Braenne is a veteran chairman of Norway national UFO organization UFO-Norge:

<http://www.euroufo.net/content.asp?contentid=472>

and a detailed presentation of Ballester Olmos' profile:

<http://www.euroufo.net/content.asp?contentid=427>

would be too long in this post...

It is written in English in order to reach an international readership, overcoming language barriers.

The book is a 206-page report (actually: a more complete and revised edition of the paper presented at SSE European 2007 meeting:

<http://www.scientificexploration.org/meetings/7thbiennial.php>

and includes, in addition to an amazing number of pictures, a catalogue of case summaries, a statistical analysis of data, a bibliography, and the full catalogue, and colour pictures and a spreadsheet on a CD-ROM.

Both the paper and the spreadsheet were already available thorough the Internet, but it is a firm belief of some that such worthy works have to be solidified on paper format, too, even if just for a handful of collectionists and (more important) for those specialized libraries and archives meant to preserve UFO knowledge in the future. So, it found its way into the growing collection of UPIAR Monographs (for those old enough to remember it, the UPIAR initiative was created in 1976 precisely to the

aim of publishing scientific-oriented literature on UFOs).

Those who share our passion for printed and bound paper may be interested in getting that book via UPIAR Store at:

<http://www.upiar.com/index.cfm?artID=174>

Edoardo Russo
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<http://www.cisu.org>

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1967 UK Saucer Hoax Book Research?

From: Philip Mantle <philip.nul>
Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 10:24:41 -0000
Archived: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 08:53:02 -0500
Subject: 1967 UK Saucer Hoax Book Research?

Subject: 1967 UK Saucer Hoax Book Research

Dear All,

FYI: I will be making a series of public appeals on local BBC radio stations over the next few days, for further leads on the 1967 UK Flying Saucer hoax particularly from any members of the public who may have info, memories or anecdotes of those bizarre events.

If anyone has any information on this incident could you contact me please?

Best regards,

John Keeling
Director
Monkey's Paw
Email: john.keeling.nul

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19th Century UFOs

From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 15:12:59 +1000
Archived: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 08:58:37 -0500
Subject: 19th Century UFOs

19th Century UFOs

In the newly released 'paranormal' anthology Darklore Volume 2 (available from Amazon US and Amazon UK - three free sample articles also now available on the Darklore website:

<http://darklore.dailygrail.com>

European researcher Theo Paijmans employed technology to open up a relatively new area for UFO studies - reports in newspapers about alien and UFO encounters during the 19th century. As Theo says:

"Buried deep in the countless accounts of dancing lights in the skies, fiery portents, strange atmospheric apparitions, phantom armies and specter legions, sailing cloud ships and erratic comets, we find a small set of puzzling reports of a different nature, more than anything suggestive of the existence of a 19th century UFO phenomenon as complex as its 20th and 21st century counterparts. Since nowadays literally hundreds of millions of newspaper pages are digitised and can be perused online, it is now finally possible to explore and fathom the nature of the proto-UFO phenomenon at depth and assemble its data -- the Dark Cohorts that silently march side by side to Charles Fort's Damned Data, delivering a surprising new view on an enigmatic phenomenon. Owing to this pleasant side effect of the digital revolution, I was able to discover a multitude of cases previously unknown in Fortean and ufology. Therefore, what is presented in this article is entirely new, in the sense that these materials have not been published before in the Fortean and ufological studies which deal with the manifestation of the 19th century UFO phenomenon."

Paijmans points out that as early as 1858, one journalist asked his readers "Do the Inhabitants of other Planets ever Visit this Earth?"; then matter of factly recounted what may be one of the earliest 19th century 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind' (CE-III) on record. One Henry Wallace had reported that on a clear day, a shadow was suddenly thrown over he and his friends, and when they looked up to see what had caused the anomaly they "beheld a large and curiously constructed vessel, not over one hundred yards from the earth." They could make out a large number of 'people' on the vessel, whose average height they estimated to be around twelve feet. Wallace described the strange craft as being "worked by wheels and other mechanical appendages, all of which worked with a precision and a degree of beauty never yet attained by any mechanical skill upon this planet..."

An even earlier report of strange phenomena in the sky came from a resident of Athens, Georgia, in 1849: "Mr. Editor, are you or your readers aware that a strange phenomenon is to be seen every night about half past ten, in the south?", the citizen wrote to his local newspaper. "It seems at first sight to be simply a star of reddish appearance -- But look a moment, and you will see it blazing up, and then the light dying away. It is constantly moving, sometimes in an upward direction, and sometimes in a circle. It moves westward, and is seen for several hours. What

is it?"

In his Darklore article, Paijmans points out phenomena that simply cannot be explained away as mistaken sightings of Venus. 12-year-old George Campbell described what he and his father witnessed in Sherman, Texas in 1898:

"Last night Papa and I were riding along in the 'Eighty-foot Road', about two and a half mile north of town, when all at once everything got very bright. We saw a great ball of fire coming down toward the ground. It got within about three feet of the ground and seemed to rest for a while and then it went back up until it got clear out of sight. There was a buzzing sound all the time."

Young George described the object "as being about ten feet in diameter and that it hurt one's eyes to look at it," but that even though he and his father were close to the object "he did not feel any heat."

Many paranormal investigators will find much of interest in the previous account, but for true Fortean weirdness - with elements of Jacques Vallee's Magonia hypothesis, apparitions of the Virgin Mary, the 1897 Airship flap, and archetypal paranormal sounds - it's hard to go past the next report uncovered by Theo Paijmans during his research, as told by Walter Stephenson of Tennessee, in 1907:

"Stephenson was... just finishing a long chase with his dogs and sat down on a log to rest, when he espied upon the Eastern horizon a speck, which he took to be a large kite. He paid little attention to the object, and shifted his gaze temporarily to other scenes. Soon his attention was attracted to a whirring noise, and looking upward, he saw that the speck which he had a few moments before discovered in the eastern sky had approached almost directly over him, and that the object was in reality a huge balloon, but of a pattern and appearance he had never in his life before seen. He discovered that the floating mass was rapidly approaching the earth. Of a sudden, the observer says, strains of music calculated to charm the spheres burst from the balloon, which circled round and round and finally landed at Kideman springs (sic).

A number of strange people emerged from the car, which was closely curtained with a substance that fairly glistened in the sunshine that temporarily burst through the obscuring clouds, and all going to the big, flowing spring, knelt by it in a supplicating attitude and so remained for a minute or more. Mr. Stephenson says that while this was going on he sat quietly within speaking distance, and when the strange visitors arose to their feet and he supposed their devotional exercises were over, he asked if he might be permitted to inquire who they were, and what their mission? He said that instantly a visard was lifted by one of the company and the benign face of a lady showed from underneath and said in German: "Haben sie Beten?" (did you pray?) and instantly all were aboard, the airship rose, circled about for a minute or more, and was gone in a westerly direction."

Paijmans' ground-breaking article also goes into reports of "flying swords", fairy-like abduction scenarios, and more. Fascinating research, great to see new information like this being mined through the use of the latest technology.

Darklore Volume 2 is available from Amazon US and Amazon UK, in both paperback format and in a limited edition hardcover. Three free sample articles are available on the Darklore website:

<http://darklore.dailygrail.com>

in their original format as PDF downloads.

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Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

From: Loren Coleman <lcoleman.nul>
Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 09:39:23 -0500
Archived: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 09:50:33 -0500
Subject: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

Happy Birthday, Jerry!

<http://www.cryptomundo.com/cryptozoo-news/birth-j-clark/>

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Cells From Space Have Unusual Makeup

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 08:40:24 -0500
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 08:40:24 -0500
Subject: Cells From Space Have Unusual Makeup

Source: World Science - New York, New York, USA

http://www.world-science.net/exclusives/080908_redrain.htm

Sept. 8, 2008

Report: Cells From Space Have Unusual Makeup
Special to World Science

A lineage of odd microbes that may have crashed into Earth aboard a meteor in 2001 seem to contain molecules not found in Earthly cells, two scientists are reporting.

Although many remain skeptical over the remarkable claim of minuscule extraterrestrial visitors, Godfrey Louis, head of the physics department at Cochin University of Science and Technology in India, presented the findings at a scientific conference in San Diego on Aug. 12.

The meeting was organized by SPIE, the International Society for Optical Engineering. The acronym reflects its former name as Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers.

The microbes give off unusual sorts of fluorescence under specific lighting conditions, which follow patterns never seen in normal cells, according to Louis and Santhosh Kumar of Mahatma Gandhi University in India, co-authors of the report. The likely explanation, they added, is that the particles contain molecules not found in Earthly organisms.

Louis and Kumar previously reported that the odd particles contain no DNA, although they replicate abundantly in ferocious heat by spawning new "cells" from within themselves. It was these offspring whose fluorescence properties the pair tested.

Mysterious, tiny red globules fell to Earth in a red rain that pelted parts of southern India sporadically for about two months in 2001, causing widespread puzzlement. The event, however, was the latest in a series of reports of colored rains from various places stretching back centuries, some better documented than others.

Louis and Kumar say the orbs could be cells from space because they have biological characteristics but match no known life form. A space rock could have broken up in the atmosphere and seeded clouds with these organisms, the pair argues, citing witness reports of an airburst just before the showers. Other scientists have conceded the particles are mystifying, but the claim of live cells from space is so bizarre that many are holding back any assent.

Some note that the hazards of journey through space, including intense radiation and extraordinary travel times, make the possibility of bacterial transfer among different solar systems unlikely.

"Exchanges of bacteria between planets in different solar systems are only possible during the birth cluster stage of the systems," when they're situated close together in a star cluster, wrote scientists with NASA and other institutions in a report this month. Our own solar system is far from being in such a stage. That paper has been accepted for publication in the research journal *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

On the other hand, researchers with Kristianstad University in Sweden and other institutions reported on Sept. 8 that some tiny Earth animals called tardigrades proved surprisingly resilient in outer space. Dried-out tardigrades lived for 10 days unprotected in that environment, and went on to reproduce, these scientists wrote in the Sept. 9 issue of the research journal *Current Biology*.

Louis and Kumar are persisting in their studies; their ideas have gained support from figures such as Chandra Wickramasinghe, director of the Cardiff Centre for Astrobiology at Cardiff University, U.K.

In his presentation, Louis said that "red cell" spawns under various lighting conditions exhibited properties violating a scientific principle known as Kasha's Rule, found to have few exceptions elsewhere. The rule has to do with fluorescence, the phenomenon in which a substance emits light of one color upon stimulation by light from another color. Kasha's rule holds that in general, the color of the arriving light and the emitted light are unrelated.

To the contrary, Louis found that in the red globules' "offspring," alone among cells on Earth, these colors are related by a distinct pattern.

"Hence the presence of new kind of bio-molecules can be inferred," Louis wrote in the presented paper. "Organisms replicating at 300 degrees [Celsius] and showing this kind of autofluorescence are currently unknown to exist on earth yet several thousand kilograms of these cells came down through the red rain." The original parent cells are also under fluorescence testing and results will be reported later, Louis said.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

From: **Jeff Olson** <jlolson53.nul>
Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 20:13:21 -0600
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 08:55:47 -0500
Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

Happy 39th, brother!

Jeff :)

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UFO Near-Miss For Cop Chopper

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:03:15 -0500
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:03:15 -0500
Subject: UFO Near-Miss For Cop Chopper

Source: The Great Barr Observer - England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/65uee2>

Friday, November 28, 2008

UFO Near-Miss For Cop Chopper

An unidentified flying object was involved in a near-miss incident with a police helicopter above a Sandwell beauty spot earlier this year.

The UK Airprox Board (UKAB) released details last week of an incident on May 2, when a West Midlands police helicopter narrowly avoided a collision with a UFO above Sandwell Valley Country Park.

The EC-135 Eurocopter pilot spotted an object with two blue/green lights some 100 metres away before he swerved to avoid contact at around 9.50pm.

The lights, according to all three on board the helicopter, then appeared to circle them, flew north, then back before finally flying off.

The pilot believed the intent was either 'sinister or just someone messing around' and thought the lights came from a radio-controlled fixed wing aircraft which was 'purposefully flown around them'.

The crew used a thermal camera but failed to identify any signs of radio-controlled activity.

'Flashing' from rotor blades was discounted by the pilot, as were internal reflections from the canopy, checked on a later flight.

A spokesperson for West Midlands Police confirmed the pilot reported the incident and said: "As far as they were concerned, nothing was picked up on Birmingham Airport radar and the object was probably a radio-controlled model aircraft.

"The helicopter was conducting a search at the time and was flying at low level."

UKAB, jointly funded by the Civil Aviation Authority and the Ministry of Defence, investigated the incident but ruled out the mystery object being a model aircraft, as the incident occurred at 1,500 feet and at night.

A laser light show was discounted due to a lack of cloud base for lights to reflect on, as was the possibility of gliders, kites and balloons due to the light and clear weather conditions.

Manny Williamson, Development Officer for the British Model

Flying Association, who spoke with UKAB at the time of the investigation told the Observer: "At that time of night if you couldn't see a model aircraft, you couldn't fly it.

"To fly an aircraft at that height would be almost impossible. The maximum would be a couple of hundred feet and the lighting would need to be good. There is no way it could have been a model aircraft."

Military flights were also ruled out due to the non-appearance on radar. A spokesperson for the MOD said: "The MOD examines reports solely to establish whether UK airspace may have been compromised by hostile or unauthorised military activity.

"Unless there is evidence of a potential threat there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting reported."

After a thorough investigation, UKAB could not identify source of the flying lights.

The UKAB report said: "Although the possibility of a civilian clandestine flight by a microlight or similar aircraft could not be ruled out, it is thought unlikely that any pilot engaged on illegal airborne activity would orbit what could probably be identified as a police helicopter.

"Regrettably therefore, despite extensive tracing, the source of the lights could not be identified."

Have you spotted any UFOs? Contact us:

greatbarroserver.nul

[Lead from Stuart Miller @ <http://www.alienworldsmag.com>]

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 28](#)

More People Report UFOs Over Town

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:09:31 -0500
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:09:31 -0500
Subject: More People Report UFOs Over Town

Source: The Courier - Leamington Spa, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/6kejnl>

Date: 27 November 2008

More People Report UFOs Over Town

More sightings have been reported of glowing UFOs flying above Warwick.

Last week 19-year-old Owen Lloyd and his girlfriend Ashleigh Bishop described how the bright lights appeared above the Woodloes estate on November 15, seeming to float in formation as if they were communicating with each other.

Others saw the eerie lights floating above the estate - and one woman has described how a single orange sphere seemed to track her as she walked her dog in Warwick Gates.

Woodloes Avenue resident Amber Merulla, 21, saw the phenomenon in Woodloes with her family.

She said: "Out of my window in Warwick we saw three bright orange lights. At first we thought it was an aeroplane coming towards the house. Then they stopped and made a triangle formation, then a straight line, all evenly spaced.

After moving around for a few seconds, one began to fly away at a steady even speed, the other two then followed.

"We even turned off the television and opened the windows to see if we could hear anything but there was nothing."

The Rangemaster employee added: "All four of us saw it but none of us could think of a reason. We would also all love to know what it was even if it is a hoax, just to make sense of it."

They were not alone. On the other side of Warwick a single lamp appeared at the same time above Warwick Gates. Troilus Court resident Emma Clark, 26, was walking her dog on the cycle path through the estate when she saw an orange glow moving above the rooftops.

She said: "It came straight over the Heathcote pub and was creeping really slowly and silently alongside me.

"It was a very bright orange light and the more you tried to look at it the harder it became to focus on. It was a perfect circle. It went really small at first and then it pulsed three times."

One explanation that has been offered is that the lamps were a home-made hot air balloon, but Mrs Clark says the object did not appear to be affected by wind. She described herself as "very spooked out" by the occurrence, as was her Staffordshire terrier

Bailey. She added: "The dog ran about three circles on the spot. Every time we have been out since he has looked at the sky."

Warwick man Dave Rist contacted the Courier after seeing the same three lights at around 7.45pm. He said: "One came down towards the ground then as we watched all three disappeared into the sky."

Another to spot the moving lights was Kenilworth man Mark Clayton, who believes he has an explanation. The Malthouse Lane resident wrote: "They are actually paper balloons of about one meter in diameter which have a small fire below them to heat the envelope, enabling them to rise hence the orange appearance."

"I first saw one in Aston Fields near Bromsgrove where a local resident flies them. I was recently on holiday in Lithuania where a relative released such a balloon one evening and it is certainly a delight to watch. I hope this clears up the mystery."

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Now Discovery Channel Does The 'UFO Thing'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <ufoupdates.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:16:21 -0500
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:16:21 -0500
Subject: Now Discovery Channel Does The 'UFO Thing'

Source: Christopher Knowles' The Secret Sun Blog

<http://tinyurl.com/5lfd2f>

Thursday, November 27, 2008

Now Discovery Channel Does The 'UFO Thing'

Sensing a pattern here? UFOs Over Earth premieres this week. I haven't had time to check it out, but I'm not holding my breath for it being anything but a bunch of ad hoc arguments, professional kooks and establishment-mouthpiece "skeptics" getting the last word.

I'm pretty tired of these shows, since they never really address the real evidence (Discovery's AAT show was a farce). They exist for two reasons; one, to give the debunkers some publicity, and two, to reassure those who have no real interest in the topic that there's nothing to worry about, so go back to your daily shopping duties.

The so-called skeptic movement is a joke - when the Fundamentalists were storming to power in the 70s and 80s on an aggressively anti-science agenda, the so-called skeptics were more worried about palm readers and crystal kissers. That's because those types have no power and no real ability to retaliate.

But I wonder if any of the debunkers ever stopped to realize that UFO debunking may well be feeding into anti-science sentiment in some parts of the country. When skeptics like Phil Plait make objectively false statements about UFOs:

<http://www.dailygrail.com/news/astronomers-and-ufos>

or dismiss out of hand the thousands of good photos or film we have on them, it hardly lends to their credibility when they call someone's religious faith into question- something which a topic like UFOs pales into triviality for true believers.

In the end, however, the debate is irrelevant to what I'm writing about here, since my interest is in how UFOs and all the rest of it are absorbed and processed in the culture. I've never seen a UFO myself, but have a very interesting swamp gas story that I should tell you all about sometime.

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Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 28](#)

Astronomers And UFOs

From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 10:20:00 -0500
Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

Hi Folks,

Phil 'Bad Astronomy' Plait (the newly anointed skeptical successor to James 'The Amazing' Randi) has been recently been repeating a meme about how astronomers never see UFOs. I have posted a short commentary about this on the Daily Grail:

<http://dailygrail.com/news/astronomers-and-ufos>

- text of the post below, sans embedded video and links - but would appreciate any further input from the more knowledgable members of UFO Updates. I think Dick Hall spoke to Tombaugh himself about his sightings?

Astronomers and UFOs

Discovery Channel is launching a new series called UFOs Over Earth (sample videos available via the link), and as part of the publicity for the premiere have included a commentary by Phil 'Bad Astronomy' Plait on the skeptical view of UFOs. Plait - the skeptic du jour, and inheritor to the crown of James 'The Amazing' Randi - has said pretty much the same before, such as in this video:

**

In both versions, one of Phil Plait's main assertions is that a certain group of people provide clear evidence that UFOs are simple misidentifications of natural phenomenon, because they - apparently - don't report them:

"Amateur astronomers. They are dedicated observers, out every night peering at the sky. If The Truth Is Out There, then amateur astronomers would be reporting far and away the vast majority of UFOs.

But they don't. Why not? Because they understand the sky! They know when a twinkling light is Venus, or a satellite, or a military flare, or a hot air balloon, and so they don't report it.

That, to me, is the killer argument that aliens aren't visiting us. If they were, the amateur astronomers would spot them."

It sounds good and makes for common sense doesn't it? Just one small problem with the argument: it's patently false. Astronomers *do* report UFOs - that's not to say that they are seeing alien spaceships, but in plenty of cases it was certainly something which didn't conform to any natural cause that they can think of. Plait's skeptical argument is not a new one, and has been answered previously, before he put it on like an old jacket. BUFORA's Geoff Falla wrote of this standard skeptical response in his article "Astronomers and UFOs" (PDF):

"It is sometimes claimed that astronomers never see UFOs, and that for this reason such objects cannot possibly exist as truly unexplained events. After all, astronomers must spend more time

looking at the sky than anyone else, so if there is anything in the sky which should not be there they would surely be aware of it. But astronomers of course do not always have a wide view of the sky. A telescope eyepiece only provides a narrow angle view, and a very small fraction of the sky. Astronomers do, however, sometimes see UFOs - although what may be reported or discussed in public is not the same as what may be admitted in more guarded statements. In 1976, over a thousand members of the American Astronomical Society were asked in a survey if they had experienced any UFO-type observations. A small but significant number, amounting to about five per cent of the members, responded that they had in fact seen an object which they were unable to explain, and which they would classify as a UFO.

There have been several noted reports from astronomers, and from observatories. As far back as 1949, Dr Clyde Tombaugh, famous for his discovery of Pluto in 1930, was at his home in New Mexico with other members of his family when they saw a very strange object in the sky. He was so astonished and concerned that he reported the matter to the FBI, on the understanding that details would not be revealed to the public.

... The search for evidence and for more definitive answers will continue. Where exactly UFOs come from may be neither here nor there, and perhaps in a somewhat different direction, but if anyone says that astronomers never see UFOs - don't believe them."

Besides Tombaugh (who said of his sighting, "In all of my several thousand hours of night sky-watching, I have never seen anything so strange as this"), Falla lists a few other examples of astronomers reporting unidentifiable phenomena in the sky in his article - but *this page* goes into far more detail (probably too much - there are some reports I would take issue with... *cough* Adamski *cough*... but you will still find plenty of interest in amongst the dross). Most people interested in the UFO topic could also probably list a few well-known cases - not least that of astrophysicist Jacques Vallee who had his own sighting in the 1950s, as well as being involved in a curious incident while working at the Paris Observatory in 1961.

For all his good points, Phil Plait currently has *no* relevance to the UFO debate, because he seems to have no idea or background knowledge of the topic (quite odd actually, for a prominent skeptic interested and knowledgeable in astronomy and space matters). Unless he does and just ignores it for his own convenience. In any case, until he stops simply referencing lights in the sky which might or might not be Venus/swamp gas, and goes further into the more detailed sightings and encounters (including high strangeness reports and effects such as electrical interference), his arguments hold no weight. And as I've said, that's not to say that UFOs are alien vehicles (I tend to think not, personally). But there is a mystery here, something which might provide new knowledge through good science, and it's just... goofy and unscientific... to keep on ignoring it.

Kind regards,

Greg

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

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Re: Astronomers And UFOs

From: Dick Hall <dh12.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 11:31:22 -0500
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 19:48:42 -0500
Subject: Re: Astronomers And UFOs

>From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
>Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

>Phil 'Bad Astronomy' Plait (the newly anointed skeptical
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>- text of the post below, sans embedded video and links - but
>would appreciate any further input from the more knowledgable
>members of UFO Updates. I think Dick Hall spoke to Tombaugh
>himself about his sightings?

No, I never spoke with Tombaugh about his sighting, but I did
send him a letter inquiring about it. He replied confirming the
sighting and sending me a summary of it.

>Astronomers and UFOs

>Discovery Channel is launching a new series called UFOs Over
>Earth (sample videos available via the link), and as part of the
>publicity for the premiere have included a commentary by Phil
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>In both versions, one of Phil Plait's main assertions is that a
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>"Amateur astronomers. They are dedicated observers, out every
>night peering at the sky. If The Truth Is Out There, then
>amateur astronomers would be reporting far and away the vast
>majority of UFOs.

>But they don't. Why not? Because they understand the sky! They
>know when a twinkling light is Venus, or a satellite, or a
>military flare, or a hot air balloon, and so they don't report
>it.

<snip>

And if they did see a real UFO, they wouldn't dare report it
because of ridicule from people like this ignorant debunker.
Pilots and meteorologists look at the sky all the time too, and
have reported hundreds of UFO sightings. I reported nine
sightings by astronomers in The UFO Evidence (1964).

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Re: Astronomers And UFOs

From: **Stanton T Friedman** <fsphys.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 13:23:01 -0400
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 19:52:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Astronomers And UFOs

>From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
>Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

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>night peering at the sky. If The Truth Is Out There, then
>amateur astronomers would be reporting far and away the vast
>majority of UFOs.

<snip>

Greg:

Don't forget that the basic rule is: don't bother me with the
facts, my mind's made up.

On page 210 of my book "Flying Saucers and Science", I discuss a
number of sources which discuss sightings by astronomers
including work by Allen Hynek, James McDonald, Peter Sturrock.
Gert Herb's survey of 1805 members of the American Astronomical
League (amateurs) determined that 23.9% had observed " an object
that resisted their most exhaustive efforts to identify it". I
am sure most, as in all other groups, didn't report what they
saw.

Stan Friedman

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Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 13:39:05 -0400
Archived: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 19:53:19 -0500
Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

>From: Jeff Olson <jlolson53.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 20:13:21 -0600
>Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

>Happy 39th, brother!

>Jeff :)

If Jerry is anything like me he probably spent the day
organizing his pills.

Don Ledger

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Re: Astronomers And UFOs

From: Ray Dickenson <r.dickenson.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 18:52:17 -0000
Archived: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 08:05:15 -0500
Subject: Re: Astronomers And UFOs

>From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
>Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

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>would appreciate any further input from the more knowledgable
>members of UFO Updates. I think Dick Hall spoke to Tombaugh
>himself about his sightings?

<snip>

Hi Greg,

Thanks for that rejoinder, and here's another answer to
'Astronomers don't see UFOs':

<http://tinyurl.com/68zm2f>

[Begin Quote]

"A. Long-ranging, narrow-field observing instruments are among
the poorest choices for detectors of any near-ground phenomenon
(thus eliminating any simple-minded advantage people might feel
that astronomers would have).

B. It is not true. Dr. J. Allen Hynek traveled the country while
working for the United States Air Force UFO Project, and
interviewed several astronomers who had seen UFOs. Clyde
Tombaugh, discoverer of the planet Pluto and obsessive
sky-watcher, was one of them."

[End Quote]

... more by Michael D Swords.

And here's Hynek's report - but they're changing servers at the
moment:

Report from Dr Hynek written (for the USAF) in Aug 1952

www.bluebookarchive.org/

Pages 958 to maybe 980

And more on Clyde Tombaugh's sighting(s) and his correspondence
with Dick Hall:

<http://tinyurl.com/6275e5>

That page addresses the seeming clamp-down on reports from astronomers - amateur and professional.

Cheers

Ray D

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Re: Astronomers And UFOs

From: Carol Maltby <carolmaltby.nul>
Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 14:14:56 -0500
Archived: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 09:06:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Astronomers And UFOs

>From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
>Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

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>members of UFO Updates. I think Dick Hall spoke to Tombaugh
>himself about his sightings?

There was a thread in the Bad Astronomy forum that addressed an article Phil Plait wrote for the May 2004 Sky and Telescope on how to debunk UFOs. "I've been attacked by UFOs!" gives a lot of useful insight into the arguments used by Plait and his followers regarding whether astronomers claim to see fewer UFOs than anyone else, and if so, what that might mean. Tip o' the hat to poster Factoid, who calmly counters many of the arguments posed by Plait's followers. Note that it's just as possible that Phil Plait's people are lurking on this list in the same way. ;)

<http://tinyurl.com/6e39fo>

It's really quite important to check out forum discussions for background material. The articles we see have usually been groomed, worked over, and polished, but forum discussions like this one on Plait's board allow for questions and follow-ups, if you can handle the corrosive atmosphere. They usually present a range of arguments that hand you all the points to cover in a FAQ. We don't do as many FAQs as we should. There's nothing like a FAQ to give the balance that includes the opposition objections, but in a way that brings out the shortest, pithiest arguments that we need to present.

The forum postings can garner surprising admissions that wouldn't have made it into a more formal article. Phil Plait mentions in this thread where he gets his impression of how many [alien?] abductions occur each year: "I once saw an extrapolation (on a TV show) stating that if the statistics are correct, then 800,000 Americans are abducted every year."

Plait also makes an astonishing claim there, saying "I also have no beliefs. None. I do not believe in anything; I simply ascribe high probability to things that have sufficient evidence."

Apparently Star Trek's Data walks among us! This notion that they have no "beliefs" is not an uncommon pose for debunkers to take. It usually goes hand in hand with their folk psychology pronouncements that inevitably condescend to their opponents, while admitting no flaws in their own individual or group natures. To hear it from them, it appears that debunkers are uniquely immune to normal human psychological workings.

Carol

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Re: Astronomers And UFOs

From: **Bill Chalker** <bill_c.nul>
Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 13:18:50 +1100
Archived: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 09:07:00 -0500
Subject: Re: Astronomers And UFOs

>From: Greg Taylor <greg.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 00:10:37 +1000
>Subject: Astronomers And UFOs

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>repeating a meme about how astronomers never see UFOs. I have
>posted a short commentary about this on the Daily Grail:

><http://dailygrail.com/news/astronomers-and-ufos>

Hi Greg,

Thanks for drawing attention to this issue.

I responded to the same issue in my blog piece:
UFOs, Aliens, Media & Science at:

<http://theozfiles.blogspot.com/2008/02/ufos-aliens-media-science.html>

See the piece "Only amateurs see UFOs" courtesy of our own
Dr. Nick Lomb of Australia's Sydney Observatory.

Regards,

Bill Chalker

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Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

From: Jerome Clark <jkclark.nul>
Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 09:11:16 -0500
Archived: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 10:19:24 -0500
Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

>From: Don Ledger <dledger.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Fri, 28 Nov 2008 13:39:05 -0400
>Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

>>From: Jeff Olson <jlolson53.nul>
>>To: ufoupdates.nul
>>Date: Thu, 27 Nov 2008 20:13:21 -0600
>>Subject: Re: Happy Birthday Jerome Clark

>>Happy 39th, brother!

>If Jerry is anything like me he probably spent the day
>organizing his pills.

Hey, Don,

Actually, I'm in pretty good shape for a guy of my age and
habits. My pill consumption consists in its entirety of
occasional aspirin and vitamin tablets.

So far, I feel like... well, 39, except without the beer.

Cordially,

Jerry Clark

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UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena
'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: UFOUpdatesList.Com > [2008](#) > [Nov](#) > [Nov 29](#)

Spread The Word!

From: Robert Hastings <hastings444.nul>
Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 13:13:48 -0700
Archived: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 16:56:09 -0500
Subject: Spread The Word!

Spread The Word!
By Robert Hastings

In the months following the July 2008 publication of my book, UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites, I have posted online a number of excerpts from it.

The book contains dozens of interviews with former or retired U.S. Air Force personnel who were involved in highly-classified, UFO-related incidents at various nuclear weapons sites, including missile launch facilities, nukes storage areas, and bomb/missile test sites during the Cold War era. In some cases, the missiles' functionality was reportedly compromised immediately after the UFOs hovered over them.

Because I am an American, UFOs and Nukes is written in English. Over time, persons from various countries have emailed me and asked for my permission to translate the posted excerpts into their own languages. I have readily and gladly complied with these requests. Other individuals or organizations have translated the same passages and posted them online without first asking my permission. While I would have preferred a formal request beforehand, as long as those translations are entirely accurate, then I have no objection to their appearance on the Internet.

The intention of this open message is to grant permission to anyone wishing to translate the already-posted excerpts from my book, into any language, for the purpose of posting them on the Internet. I would, however, greatly appreciate being notified of each and any translation.

Note: I am not granting permission to translate my entire book, only those excerpts which I myself have already posted online.

The excerpts in question appear below, together with their URL:

A Shot Across The Bow

<http://www.cufos.org/hastings.pdf>

Beams Of Light

<http://tinyurl.com/6dmavl>

Launch In Progress!

<http://www.theufochronicles.com/2008/07/launch-in-progress.html>

Like a Diamond in the Sky

http://www.eye2thesky.net/Hastings-Diamond_In_the_Sky.html

Reporter Duped By UFO Debunkers

<http://tinyurl.com/5bs6jp>

UFO Sightings At ICBM Sites and Nuclear Weapons Storage Areas

http://www.nicap.org/babylon/missile_incidents.htm

Given the obvious importance of this long-suppressed information about the UFO-Nukes Connection, I believe that it should be disseminated worldwide. To that end, I urge the translation of my research material into as many languages as possible. I ask only that the original English text be faithfully represented and that the following copyright notice appear with any such translation:

Copyright 2008 Robert L. Hastings. All Rights Reserved.

I am available for interviews by the media in any country. My website is ufohastings.com and my email address is:

hastings444.nul

If I do not reply in a timely fashion, please email me again-and again. Since the publication of my book, I have had some rather suspicious difficulties following- up with journalists worldwide who have expressed interest in writing about my research. While I admittedly have no proof of official tampering, one might speculate that these communications are being disrupted by some agency attempting to suppress the dissemination of my material. If this is indeed the case, don't let Big Brother win! Keep writing to me until I respond. I am in touch with many other UFO researchers around the world. Write to them, if necessary, and they will forward messages to me.

In summary, nearly 100 U.S. Air Force veterans now openly state that UFOs have been monitoring and sometimes interfering with our nuclear weapons systems. The citizens of every country on Earth have a right to know the truth about these important developments. Spread the word!

--Robert Hastings
ufohastings.com

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Re: Spread The Word!

From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
Date: Sun, 30 Nov 2008 11:07:34 -0500
Archived: Sun, 30 Nov 2008 11:45:47 -0500
Subject: Re: Spread The Word!

>From: Robert Hastings <hastings444.nul>
>To: <ufoupdates.nul>
>Date: Sat, 29 Nov 2008 13:13:48 -0700
>Subject: Spread The Word!

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Hello Mr. Hastings,

This is a worrisome aspect of the UFO phenomenon. If the UFOs
can disrupt nuclear weapons systems, can they or would they be
willing to launch them, also?

I hope the "ETs are here to save us people" can grasp that
sobering thought.

Kelly

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Re: Spread The Word!

From: Robert Hastings <hastings444.nul>
Date: Sun, 30 Nov 2008 12:03:54 -0700
Archived: Sun, 30 Nov 2008 15:43:03 -0500
Subject: Re: Spread The Word!

>From: Kelly Freeman <Khfflsciufu.nul>
>To: ufoupdates.nul
>Date: Sun, 30 Nov 2008 11:07:34 -0500
>Subject: Re: Spread The Word!

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>willing to launch them, also?

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>sobering thought.

Hi Kelly,

If you'll read the book excerpt "Launch in Progress!" you'll
find that one of the former Minuteman missile launch officers
I've interviewed, David Schuur, has already reported the
temporary activation of his missiles by a UFO.

Moreover, a similar incident reportedly occurred at an ICBM
complex in Soviet Ukraine, in October 1982. An ABC-TV transcript
relating to that case may be found at:

<http://www.ufoevidence.org/documents/doc459.htm>

In my opinion, the former incident was probably a demonstration
meant to scare the hell out of the missileer's superiors at SAC
HQ and the Pentagon; the latter was designed to alarm the Soviet

military's top commanders. I do not believe that the intention was to actually launch the missiles, in either case. How many more such incidents have occurred, if any, is an unknown at this time.

Even though I and some 75% of my ex-USAF missileer sources believe that those piloting the UFOs are attempting to warn us about the dangers of having nukes, it's not out of the question that 'they' are instead attempting to foster nuclear disarmament because they don't want to inherit a radioactive planet when they invade. Yikes! While I think this is highly unlikely, for a range of reasons, I obviously don't know the truth of the matter, nor do my sources.

Robert

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