

# UFO Updates

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

Location: [UFOUpDatesList.Com](http://UFOUpDatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > Feb

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*The number enclosed in brackets is the number of lines of new text in the message, excluding the header, blank lines and quotes from previous messages.*

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## The Argentine Beam UFO Returns

From: **Scott Corrales** <[lornis1.nul](mailto:lornis1.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 31 Jan 2009 14:49:25 -0500 (GMT-05:00)  
Archived: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:23:48 -0500  
Subject: The Argentine Beam UFO Returns

Source: VISION OVNI  
Date: 01.31.09

ARGENTINA: The Beam UFO Returns  
By Silvia Perez Simondini, Vision OVNI

At 1:00 a.m., Elias Kolev, a member of Vision OVNI, called me by phone to inform me of the spectacular UFO sighting taking place in Rosario. It reconfirmed what I presented earlier this week with the light that shoots beams against the surface, and it occurred at the same exact spot. On this instance, however, three (3) UFOs were seen. We have the information, witnesses and recordings, which we will make known to you when our research is organized. The following e-mail message is among the ones received which clearly explains the events. You will be able to read one of the eyewitness accounts that best describes what took place:

"Good morning! I don't even know how to explain it - yesterday, or rather today in the early morning (31 January, 1 a.m. approximately) we were driving along with two friends and people suddenly began getting out of their cars, leaving doors open and engines running, pointing skyward. It looked like a scene out of a Martian Invasion movie. This occurred near the Alto Rosario shopping center. I don't know what it was, but it moved up and down while gyrating on its own axis; white lights were clearly visible and its shape could even be made out. It maneuvered for approximately half an hour before going away and vanishing suddenly.

"It left all of us with a very strange sensation that I can't explain, and then there were several details that drew our attention, such as ALL of the traffic lights turning red in unison, in other words, no street or lane could move. When we took out our cellphones, the screens went gray and turned off. When we turned them on again, the batteries had practically drained out. I have no idea what it was, but it was something odd in our skies, without question...I'd be delighted if you could tell me something more about it...many thanks."

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Translation (c) 2009, S. Corrales, IHU  
Special thanks to Silvia Perez Simondini

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## Orthon The Alien Left A Sci Fi Novel Behind?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:31:16 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:31:16 -0500  
Subject: Orthon The Alien Left A Sci Fi Novel Behind?

Source: io9 - San Francisco, California, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/dhvn5>

Sat Jan 31 2009

[Links throught thee article]

Did Orthon The Nordic Alien Leave A Science Fiction Novel Behind  
For Us?  
By Charlie Jane Anders

There's only one thing you're not supposed to do if you're a UFO guru: write a science fiction novel about UFOs. Especially if it comes out before you supposedly met aliens (and the Pope.)

George Adamski famously photographed a set of UFOs flying in formation, in 1950. And he got an up-close-and-personal UFO shot a couple years later. Eventually, he met a Nordic looking alien named Orthon, who took him into outer space, talked to him about the dangers of nuclear war, and left cryptic symbols in his footprints. (Possibly including Swastikas?) Adamski also met Saturnians, and eventually attended a conference on Saturn. He became one of the greatest evangelists of UFOlogy, and claimed to have met the Pope, who gave him a special UFO-related medal.

And in the 1980s, he had a new career, recording trippy electronic pop with the help of Seal.

But now a 1949 novel, which Adamski wrote with the help of Lucy McGinnis, casts doubt on all his claims. The novel used to be nearly impossible to track down, but UFO researcher Timothy Green Beckley brought it back as a print-on-demand title, which you can buy on Amazon.

And sadly, it turns out Adamski's 1949 fictional account is oddly similar to *Inside The Spaceships*, his retellings of his supposedly true 1950s encounters with Orthon and the gang, according to Skeptic Report:

"To your surprise you will discover that these two books give exactly the same descriptions of space (with the fireflies), the Moon (with snow on mountains, forests, lakes, artificial hangers and even small running animals), the scout ship (with the great lens in the middle of the cabin and the graphs on the walls), the mother ship (with its two "skins"), and even little details such as the portrait of the Great One in the mother ship, the famous Saturnian badge with the balance, etc... You will also be pleased also to see that the Masters' pompous statements are exactly the same, something that demonstrates that Adamski had a poor imagination and was unable to create new or original philosophical concepts."

So how could Adamski have written exactly the same account of

his alien encounters years before they happened? There's really only one explanation: Orthon visited him earlier than we realized, and he tried to pass off these events as fiction at first. Just remember: Orthon the Nordic alien is looking over your shoulder as you read this.

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## "A True Leader Wouldn't Feed The UFO Frenzy"

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:37:15 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:37:15 -0500  
Subject: "A True Leader Wouldn't Feed The UFO Frenzy"

Source: NewsBlaze - Folsom, California, USA

<http://newsblaze.com/story/20090131145832reya.nb/topstory.html>

January 31, 2009

UK Conservative Party Leader David Cameron: I Will Share Info  
About UFOs

By Robert Paul Reyes  
Op-Ed Contributor

"David Cameron vowed today that if he was elected Prime Minister he would bring an end to the era of government secrecy over UFOs and extra-terrestrial activity.

Speaking at one of his 'Cameron Direct' public meetings, the Conservative Party leader pledged that a Tory government would be 'entirely open and frank' in sharing any information about alien life-forms.

At the meeting in Tynemouth, North-East England, he was questioned about a string of recent mysterious incidents. 'I have no idea if there is intelligent life out there,' he replied. 'I do believe in freedom of information and openness and this question has been asked from time to time, and I think we should be as open and clear as possible.'"

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article5600271.ece>

Cameron promises to be "open and frank" in sharing any information about alien life-forms. I wish Cameron were open and frank now, and admit that the UFO issue is an effort to distract the British citizens from the serious economic woes facing them.

It's disappointing that a politician who may be elected Prime Minister of England is obsessed with finding intelligent life out there when it's in such short supply down here.

There is no government secrecy over UFOs in the UK or in the United States, and any political candidate who makes such a false claim is unfit to serve in government.

With the intractable economic problems facing the international community, no world leader should waste his time worrying about UFOs.

UFO mania has gripped the UK, almost every day there's a story about a UFO sighting in the tabloids. A true leader wouldn't feed the UFO frenzy, he would dismiss it as so much nonsense.

Robert Paul Reyes is a NewsBlaze writer on Politics, Pop Culture and Pointless Pontificating. Contact him by writing to [NewsBlaze](mailto:NewsBlaze).



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## Re: UFO Over Germany Official

From: **Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos** <[ballesterolmos.nul](mailto:ballesterolmos.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 1 Feb 2009 13:18:08 +0000 (GMT)  
Archived: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 08:45:08 -0500  
Subject: Re: UFO Over Germany Official

With regard to a recent post on UFO Updates under the title UFO Over Germany Official, below is the message Dutch researcher Frits Westra posted to EuroUFO, a distinguished forum of European UFO experts, on this event.

I hope you find it of interest.

Best regards,  
Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos  
FOTOCAT Blog <http://fotocat.blogspot.com/>

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From: Frits Westra <[ufo-net.nul](mailto:ufo-net.nul)>  
To: [EuroUfoNet.nul](mailto:EuroUfoNet.nul)  
Date: Sunday 1 febrero, 2009 12:53  
Subject: Re: [EuroUfo] UFO Over Germany Official

Hello all,

Below are some links to articles in the German press about the German UFO on Jan. 19. The first two articles offer the most useful information, IMO.

<http://www.gea.de/detail/1175395>

<http://www.stuttgarter-nachrichten.de/stn/page/detail.php/1927600>

<http://tinyurl.com/c9tx8a>

<http://tinyurl.com/aw3mna>

From these news reports, I gather that on Monday Jan. 19, at 20:18 local time (sunset was at about 16:55 local time), Stuttgart Airport Air Traffic Control detected a primary radar target that didn't respond to ATC instructions.

An airliner pilot confirmed that he had intermittent visual contact with the unidentified traffic, which was flying at an estimated altitude of 6,000 to 7,000 ft. From this, I gather that the traffic had position lighting, or it wouldn't have been visible in the dark.

A police helicopter pursued the unknown traffic to no avail. The object's speed was reported to be around 100 km/h. It eventually disappeared from radar in the Grafenwohr region, where a US Army garrison is located, some 20 km west of the German-Czech border.

A Stuttgart ATC spokesman said that he presumed the traffic originated from France and landed in Czechoslovakia.

Military aircraft communications listeners whom I know in Germany said that to their knowledge no jet fighters were scrambled.

Regards,

Frits Westra

Re: UFO Over Germany Official

UFO Working Group Netherlands

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## Teething Problems Should Be Fixed?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 09:31:39 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 09:31:39 -0500  
Subject: Teething Problems Should Be Fixed?

Rather than circumventing problems with the List at the old domain/host, the new version of the List/Archive has presented new problems.

The glitch is being worked on...

If you've sent responses to recent List-posts, please re-send them - a pain in the patoot, I realise.

Should that Send fail, please let me know by sending a New Message to:

[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)

Thanks, and again, apologies,

ebk

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## Re: The Argentine Beam UFO Returns

From: Eleanor White <[ewraven1.nul](mailto:ewraven1.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 01 Feb 2009 15:59:55 -0500  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 07:18:39 -0500  
Subject: Re: The Argentine Beam UFO Returns

>From: Scott Corrales <[lornis1.nul](mailto:lornis1.nul)>  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Sat, 31 Jan 2009 14:49:25 -0500 (GMT-05:00)  
>Subject: The Argentine Beam UFO Returns

>Source: VISION OVNI  
>Date: 01.31.09

>ARGENTINA: The Beam UFO Returns  
>By Silvia Perez Simondini, Vision OVNI

<snip>

>"It left all of us with a very strange sensation that I can't  
>explain, and then there were several details that drew our  
>attention, such as ALL of the traffic lights turning red in  
>unison, in other words, no street or lane could move.

That sounds like specific intent on the part of the craft,  
rather than some sort of unintended interference.

Eleanor White

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 2](#)

## New Possible UFO Sighting Near Stephenville

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 07:50:20 -0500  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 07:50:20 -0500  
Subject: New Possible UFO Sighting Near Stephenville

Source: 33 KDAF-TV - Dallas, Texas, USA

<http://www.the33tv.com/pages/landing/?blockID1640&feedID=460>

February 1, 2009

New Possible UFO Sighting Near Stephenville  
Norris Deajon, The 33 News

Are the possible UFO sightings starting again near Stephenville? A family in the tiny town of Walnut Springs thinks so. Twenty-year-old Matt Collins showed us where he and his family saw a strange object hovering above a hill about four miles from their home.

"I think it was some type of craft," Collins said.

Collins grabbed his camera and shot this video of the object. In video it just looks like a bright light in the dark sky drifting slowly from side to side and up and down. All the while it was changing colors. Does Matt think he saw a UFO?

Collins said, " Yes and no. I don't believe in aliens or anything but I do believe there's stuff out there that we can't explain." Matt says with the naked eye the object looked like it had mass, not just a ball of light. Matt called his sister and mother so they could also witness the phenomenon. Actually, his sister had seen it first on Thursday night.

Ashley Collins said, "What I saw was three lights. There was two on top and one on the bottom. Then the two on top disappeared."

Last night the family watched the bright object for 15 minutes and they weren't afraid. " I think we were too curious and interested and we were hoping it would stay around a little longer and get close so we could get to see it better," said Matt's mother Sharla Collins.

According to a Sheriff's dispatcher, four other people around Walnut Springs reported seeing the object this weekend. The accounts were very similar to those last year that thrust nearby Stephenville into the national spotlight. Several people produced images of those sightings. A teenager from Dublin, Texas showed us video of a possible UFO last October.

At the Collins home, watching Matt's video has become quite a pasttime, as well as wondering what on Earth it is. Matt Collins said, "I believe it's something that needs to be looked at."

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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## Scientists Zero In On Earth's Original Animal

From: **Greg Boone** <[Evolbaby.nul](mailto:Evolbaby.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 1 Feb 2009 23:49:23 EST  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 07:58:15 -0500  
Subject: Scientists Zero In On Earth's Original Animal

This is important because it sheds light on the fact that evolution is far more amazing than previously thought.

For evolution to occur several different times in the areas that it does shows that any number of species could have evolved in the past and at speeds we might not be comfortable with.

Who knows what strange and remarkable intelligent beings may have risen and gone on to who knows what.

Best,

Greg  
[ufomafia.com/blog](http://ufomafia.com/blog)

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## Gordon Took On Cheats In Star Pages

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 14:19:48 -0500  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 14:19:48 -0500  
Subject: Gordon Took On Cheats In Star Pages

Source: The Toronto Star - Ontario, Canada

<http://www.thestar.com/article/580806>

Feb 02, 2009

[Photograph]

Gordon Took On Cheats In Star Pages

Jason Miller  
Staff Reporter

Henry Gordon was a magician and a realist who wasn't afraid to take jabs at UFO believers, ghostbusters, astrologers and faith healers.

The long-time Toronto Star columnist and debunker died Jan. 24 at the age of 89.

He wrote several books quashing the claims of psychics and illusionists, including the 1987 hit Extrasensory Deception. His many appearances on television included Oprah Winfrey's show in 1988.

Gordon's debunking column ran in the Sunday Star for more than 20 years. He also penned a column called "It's Magic" for Starship, the children's page, in which he explained the secrets of stage tricks.

"He knew his magic so well, and was such a capable writer, that kids could actually do the tricks. In person he was a gentleman and sharp as a tack," former Starship editor John Robinson said.

But it was Gordon's role as a debunker that garnered him the most attention, and sometimes disdain. He was a founder of the Ontario Skeptics Society and a fellow of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Claims of the Paranormal.

The Montreal native was outspoken in condemning unscrupulous mentalists and mystics, calling them "dishonest frauds" out to fool people for their money. "I like to call myself an honest fraud," Gordon said of his magic act.

His wife of 68 years, Zita, said away from the limelight Gordon was a wonderful father and attentive husband driven by his curiosity and many interests.

"He was kind and slow to anger," she said. "He tried all his magic tricks on me first."

As a professional skeptic, Gordon had many foes, including UFO believer and nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman, 74, who recalled having his first heated discussion about visiting spacecraft with Gordon in 1984.

"There is no question he was in the top ranks of debunkers in Canada," Friedman said from Fredericton yesterday.

"He was very, very much aware of psychics' tricks," colleague James "the Amazing" Randi said by phone from Florida.

"We talked many times over the years about how primitive those tricks are, about how easy it is to fool the na=EFve."

Randi said Gordon was well-known in the close-knit magic world, where he had business sidelines that including manufacturing "effects" for other performers.

[Thanks to Mendip Lad for the lead]

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## NASA & Google Launch Virtual Exploration Of Mars

From: **NASA News** <[hqnews.nul](mailto:hqnews.nul)>  
Date: Mon 02 Feb 2009 13:40:00 EST  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 14:22:16 -0500  
Subject: NASA & Google Launch Virtual Exploration Of Mars

Feb. 02, 2009

Dwayne Brown  
Headquarters, Washington  
202-358-1726  
[dwayne.c.brown.nul](mailto:dwayne.c.brown.nul)

Michael Mewhinney  
Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Calif.  
650-604-3937  
[michael.s.mewhinney.nul](mailto:michael.s.mewhinney.nul)

RELEASE: 09-024

NASA AND GOOGLE LAUNCH VIRTUAL EXPLORATION OF MARS

MOFFETT FIELD, Calif. -- NASA and Google announced Monday the release of a new Mars mode in Google Earth that brings to everyone's desktop a high-resolution, three-dimensional view of the Red Planet.

Besides providing a rich, immersive 3D view of Mars that will aid public understanding of Mars science, the new mode, Google Mars 3D, also gives researchers a platform for sharing data similar to what Google Earth provides for Earth scientists.

The mode enables users to fly virtually through enormous canyons and scale huge mountains on Mars that are much larger than any found on Earth. Users also can explore the Red Planet through the eyes of the Mars rovers and other Mars missions, providing a unique perspective of the entire planet.

Users can see some of the latest satellite imagery from NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and other probes orbiting the Red Planet. Viewers can learn about new discoveries and explore indexes of available Mars imagery. The new Mars mode also allows users to add their own 3D content to the Mars map to share with the world.

Today's announcement is the latest benefit from a Space Act Agreement NASA's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif., signed with Google in November 2006. Under its terms, NASA and Google agreed to collaborate to make NASA's data sets available to the world.

NASA Ames, along with its partners at Google, Carnegie Mellon University, SETI, and other institutions, helped produce the data to make this possible.

Google's innovative search technologies connect millions of people around the world with information every day. Google is headquartered close to Ames in Silicon Valley with offices throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia.

For more information about NASA and agency programs, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov>

For more information about Google, visit:

<http://www.google.com>

-end-

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

Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 2](#)

## Robbie's UFO Obsession Is A "Wind-Up" c

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 14:28:45 -0500  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 14:28:45 -0500  
Subject: Robbie's UFO Obsession Is A "Wind-Up" c

Source: Q4Music - London, England, UK

[http://news.q4music.com/2009/02/robbies\\_ufo\\_obsession\\_is\\_a\\_win.html](http://news.q4music.com/2009/02/robbies_ufo_obsession_is_a_win.html)

02/02/2009

Robbie's UFO Obsession Is A "Wind-Up", Claims Barlow

Robbie Williams's supposed obsession with UFOs is simply an elaborate game to get one over on tabloid newspapers, his former bandmate Gary Barlow has revealed.

The Take That star told the latest edition of Q magazine how Robbie's interest in extra-terrestrial life was a stunt to fool the press. Williams =96 who quit Take That in 1995 =96 presented a programme about UFOs for BBC Radio 4 with the broadcaster and journalist Jon Ronson last year, and has since been portrayed as having a huge interest in alien life.

But Barlow told the latest edition of Q: "All this UFO stuff is a laugh with the press. He's like that. You are always on the butt-end of his sense of humour."

It would not be the first time that Robbie has gone to great lengths to wind up his tormentors. He once faked a series of photographs cavorting by a poolside with Rod Stewart's ex-wife Rachel Hunter in order to fool the press. His plan was to make the shots so racy that anything less in future would be unusable.

He has also toyed with the paparazzi by repeatedly leaving his Notting Hill home in the same clothes every day while wearing a Robbie Williams mask. The aim was to look exactly the same each day so that photographers would be unable to sell any shots because they looked identical each day which would eventually mean they would stop sitting on his doorstep.

However Robbie's collaborator has countered Barlow's version of events. "Not true," said Ronson, in response to Barlow's comments (see below).

Barlow went on to say that Williams longed to be "one of us". "I feel quite sorry for him and my natural instinct is to help him. But even after ten years, he's one of us still. He longs to be one of us still, so I feel really sorry for him."

You can read more in the latest issue of Q:

<http://covers.q4music.com/Item.aspx?pageNo=3D6117&year=3D2009>

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## Re: Kevin Randle On Levelland

From: Richard Hall <[dh12.nul](mailto:dh12.nul)>  
Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2009 15:00:55 -0500  
Archived: Mon, 02 Feb 2009 16:25:03 -0500  
Subject: Re: Kevin Randle On Levelland

>Source: Kevin Randle's A Different Perspective Blog

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

>Sunday, January 04, 2009

>IUR DVD And Levelland Texas

<snip>

The 1964 summary of the Levelland sightings in The UFO Evidence (1964), p. 168, includes a report by Sheriff Clem that a brilliant red oval streaked across the road ahead of him "lighting up the pavement."

So although Burleson's follow-up work was good, this and some of the other details were not entirely new. Don Keyhoe supervised the compilation of this document, and was correct at that time that there were nine witnesses known to us. Just because additional witnesses have since been located doesn't make him "wrong".

Dick

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## 'UFO Crash' In Somerset?

From: Dave Haith <[visions1.nul](mailto:visions1.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 3 Feb 2009 00:34:46 -0000  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 07:43:09 -0500  
Subject: 'UFO Crash' In Somerset?

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Source: The Mercury - Bristol, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/csjjg6>

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Young Clevedon Reporters Get A Scoop That Is Out Of This World

A UFO has crashed at a primary school in Clevedon - giving the most clear sign yet that aliens do exist.

The object, described by witnesses as an alien spacecraft, crashed on the playing fields at Yeo Moor Junior School shortly before midnight on Wednesday.

It then took off again but, as well as leaving a trail of debris behind, footprints were also found.

Police are not confirming what it is but a crime scene investigator exclusively told the Mercury 'he had never seen anything like it before' and that in his opinion 'it appeared to be alien'.

Mrs Symes, of Baytree Road, said she was walking her dog at about 11pm on Wednesday when she heard 'an amazing noise'.

She said: "Initially I thought it was an aircraft having trouble, then I spotted this strange-looking rocket-type machine falling to the ground.

"It crashed at the school and there was a huge explosion.

My dog was going berserk and I suddenly felt very frightened so I ran home and immediately called the police.

When I was on the phone I heard engines start again and saw the rocket take off and disappear within seconds.

"I didn't think the police would believe me, and to start with they didn't, but then they cordoned off the school field."

PCSO Linda Richards was the first person on the scene.

She said: "I have to admit when we spoke to Mrs Symes we thought she was having us on but I still had to investigate.

"When I got to the school everything was quiet but just as I was about to leave I spotted smoke from the corner of the field.

I then saw that some sort of aircraft had landed on the field, but had taken off again.

I cordoned off the area so that officers could start investigating at first light and called headteacher Roland Lovett."



Mrs Clark, a learning support assistant who lives near the school, also witnessed the crash.

She said she was worried that no-one would believe her, so was relieved when she realised she wasn't the only one who saw it.

She said: "I was up late preparing school work and heard an amazing noise.

"I had no idea what it was but spotted a machine a bit like a rocket, which was falling to Earth.

"When it crashed there was a huge explosion so my husband and I went to investigate.

"We saw it was at the school but couldn't get in as the gates were locked.

"It definitely looked like something extra-terrestrial to me."

Yeo Moor Junior School was open on Thursday, but pupils were not allowed near the crash site.

Sgt Gareth Starr said: "We are investigating the matter but cannot give any more details at this time.

A spokesman for Bristol International Airport said air traffic controllers reported nothing unusual.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 3](#)

## Study Questions Usefulness Of Animal-Human Embryos

From: **Franklin Fields** <[fields.nul](mailto:fields.nul)>  
Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2009 23:53:53 -0500 (EST)  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 07:47:17 -0500  
Subject: Study Questions Usefulness Of Animal-Human Embryos

Studies like this make alien hybrid stories seem less strange...

Quotes from article:

"Opponents objected to mixing human and animal material and worried that such research could lead to genetically modified babies.

Hybrid embryos have been made elsewhere, but there's no widely accepted report of getting stem cells from them. Animal eggs are attractive because human ones are hard to get for research...

...For the new work, Lanza and colleagues put human DNA into human, cow and rabbit eggs and grew them into early embryos. In embryos from human eggs, they found that patterns of gene activity resembled those in ordinary human embryos. But with the human-animal hybrid embryos, the patterns were much different."

If we are creating hybrids to harvest stem cells, is it a huge leap to think that a scientist may one day allow a hybrid embryo to mature?

Full article at:

<http://tinyurl.com/bepa53>

Regards,

Frank

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## Tinley Park Triangle 10-25-08

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 07:56:12 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 07:56:12 -0500  
Subject: Tinley Park Triangle 10-25-08

Source: The Examiner - Denver, Colorado, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/baabec>

February 3, 2009

UFO Witness Testimony Matches In Multiple Cases  
by Roger Marsh  
UFO Examiner

The return of the huge triangular-shaped UFO to the Tinley Park area just south of Chicago in October 2008 brought back memories from 2004 when hundreds of area witnesses reported this low-flying craft.

Ufologist Sam Maranto - an investigator from the 2004 case - is heading up this new case from Oct. 25 where a massive triangular-shaped UFO was seen near a forest preserve by an airport employee.

In nearby Empire, Ohio, a truck driver took a photo of a UFO while an object came out of it. The man described the object as looking like "something alive". On Oct. 19, in suburban Oak Lawn, IL, a witness said he observed an object that looked like a "squished egg" that moved over his home. Both this case and the Ohio case match descriptions.

New developments from the 2004 Tinley Park case include a new report from Aug. 22, 2004 - a day after the Tinley Park sightings - with similar descriptions from a case in Wisconsin. The as yet unreleased video footage is being analyzed, but includes an object moving out of a larger object.

Watch the video as Sam Maranto details these cases...

[Video Link]

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## Between The UFO And Yoruba Mythology

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 08:00:53 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 08:00:53 -0500  
Subject: Between The UFO And Yoruba Mythology

Source: The Punch - Lagos, Nigeria

<http://www.punchng.com/Articl.aspx?theartic=Art200902031033423>

Tuesday, 3 Feb 2009

Between The UFO And Yoruba Mythology  
By Abimbola Adelakun

His books are bound to provoke various reactions. While some are likely to reason with him, some will dismiss him with indulgent amusement and others may not find it funny. Yemi Ogunsola is a writer but he does not write about everyday issues. His passion, which has formed the basis of his writing, is to give voice to the Yoruba history, which, according to him, has been suppressed. His book, The UFO that led the Isrealites, he says, is based on research that the pillar of cloud and fire that led the Isrealites out of Egypt was actually an unidentified flying object. Quoting copiously from Eric Von Daniken and Joseph Blumrich's books, he states the similarities between the UFO and the whirlwind, called Aja by the Yorubas.

"I believe many local accounts of Yoruba Aja (whirlwind) are actually UFO encounters. Remember Elijah's chariot of fire was also called a whirlwind in the Bible. What the Yoruba call Irawo Osan tii ba agba l'eru (The noon-day star that scares the daylight out of even adults) shows even more awareness of the phenomenom," he said. The book also studies the UFO phenomenon in relation to the Yoruba deities.

"The entity that led the Israelites and travelled them as his possession was a deity. Yoruba deities also traveled in Ope tente ereke to yaka yabu ka merindinlogun (the flying palm-like thing that has 16 branches or compartments).Yahweh had his agenda for Israel and deployed his advanced technology in favour of Israel. The Yoruba deities were no less behind," he adds.

Ogunsola says he is very aware of the kind of controversy a book like his can attract and he is 'very prepared' to challenge everybody with facts. He believes for instance that the technology that are being celebrated today are nowhere near what exists in those times and chronicled in the Bible

"There are in the Bible account of aerial objects which fall in this category of sophisticated technology. They were vehicles which, in technology, surpass some of ours even today. So, the relatively primitive nomadic Israelites naturally found them incredible, even out of this world (heavenly) and described them so: 'Bright cloud' 'Glory of the Lord' 'Chariots of fire'. Prophet Ezekiel described his encounter with a UFO in Ezekiel chapter one. Many Western writers have been researching into this ancient evidence of advanced technology. Eric Von Daniken, a Swiss, is prominent among these writers. A NASA scientist and expert in the construction of rockets (space vehicles), Josef M. Blumrich, who attempted to discredit Daniken discovered to his utter amazement that Daniken was right: Prophet Ezekiel actually

saw a UFO! Check out Josef Blumrich on the internet and you'll see all these things."

Apart from books, he has several articles published in newspapers that seek to expound these beliefs and is currently compiling them. Being a graduate of Biology/Zoology from the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University) whatever would have led him to delve into this kind of literature when there are more pressing issues in the sphere of science he could have attended to? He says it all started out of curiosity.

"Like virtually every other human being, I've been curious about so many things about life. Who's that entity the Bible calls God? Is He the same entity the Yoruba call Olodumare? The usual answer I get is "Yes". But why then do Christians brand as "demons" Olodumare's ministers to the Yoruba--Orunmila, Obatala, Ogun, Osun, Oya etc? I was never comfortable with the Christian notion that only followers of Jesus will enter the Heaven of this God. What about the millions of wonderful Muslims many of whom are my good, good friends? Why would this God order the wholesale massacre of Canaanites just to give their lands to a nomadic tribe of Israelites? I was passionate in my search for answers. Gradually, I began to make some discoveries. Many of them were very shocking but very enlightening, if only one summon the courage to face the facts. It then dawned on me that most of the problems plaguing our otherwise beautiful world today - from the Middle East to the Kano riots - stem from ignorance of these discoveries."

Even though his ideas are yet unpopular, Ogunsola is undaunted. He believes that his books have the power to open the eyes of all who care about the truth. That is why he pursues his goals so passionately.

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## Cracked IT Team Still A'fixin'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 08:17:46 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 08:17:46 -0500  
Subject: Cracked IT Team Still A'fixin'

Despite the best efforts of our cracked IT Team of seven dwarf winos going bananas with magnetic screw drivers and ballpien hammers, bringing the List and reply system back to total functionality is taking wa-a-a-y longer than anticipated.

Subscribers are, apparently, receiving List-mail - as is the Archive. New submissions - rather than replies - do seem to be making it through here.

For those subscribers who wish to respond before the systems are once again behaving here's an option:

- 1 - Click Reply on the message you want to respond to
- 2 - Highlight and copy your response and paste that into a New Message addressed to [post.nul](mailto:post.nul)
- 3 - Copy and paste the Subject line of the orginal into the new message and hit Send...

That may decrease the frustration level - tho' it may also discourage the cracked IT Team from their self-styled intense investigation and "fixin' de hell out of dish problim."

ebk

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## Re: Cracked IT Team Still A'fixin'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 11:26:09 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 11:26:09 -0500  
Subject: Re: Cracked IT Team Still A'fixin'

>Despite the best efforts of our cracked IT Team of seven dwarf  
>winos going bananas with magnetic screw drivers and ballpien  
>hammers, bringing the List and reply system back to total  
>functionality is taking wa-a-a-y longer than anticipated.

>Subscribers are, apparently, receiving List-mail - as is the  
>Archive. New submissions - rather than replies - do seem to  
>be making it through here.

<snip>

It seems that the cracked Team may have come through for us.

Provided you receive a copy of this/read it at the Archive,  
things are now normal and perhaps we can all get back to  
receiving/sending and and submitting List-Posts.

The solution was to blow-away the original List at the Host  
and re-build a new one with a slightly different name.

Now to see if it all works... <loud sound of deep inhale>

ebk

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## More Mysterious Objects In Erath Skies

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 11:35:44 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 11:35:44 -0500  
Subject: More Mysterious Objects In Erath Skies

Source: The Abilene Reporter-News - Texas, USA

<http://www.reporternews.com/news/2009/feb/02/theyre-baaack/>

Monday, February 2, 2009

### Mysterious Objects Reported In Skies

By Angelia Joiner  
Special to the Reporter-News

Speculation abounds as to why unknown objects continue to fly in the skies over Erath County.

Slightly more than a year after the first report of mysterious objects, now known as Stephenville Lights, more witnesses are coming forth. Walnut Springs resident Matt Collins and his mother, Sharla, and sister Ashlee have all said they have witnessed bright lights in the sky that defy explanation.

On Thursday Matt said he and his sister were returning to their home on FM 203 shortly after 7 p.m. He said they had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings when his sister pointed and said, "Look at that". "I thought she was kidding at first because we had just been talking about the Stephenville sightings."

"My sister saw three light sets but by the time I located them there was only one. The lights would come on and stay on for about 20 seconds. Then it would go off and reappear a little to the right or left of where it was."

Matt said the air traffic route for Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport is near his home so he is accustomed to the presence of commercial and private aircraft.

Matt said the object appeared about 25 to 30 degrees off the horizon in the northwest sky toward Stephenville. He said he could definitely see a dark mass between the sets of lights.

"I'm not sure how close or far away it was," Matt said. "It could have been over Chalk Mountain. But, it was definitely in the direction of Stephenville."

Then on Saturday it was back. This time it was about 9:30 p.m., shortly after Matt appeared on the WB 33 (KDAF-TV of Dallas/Fort Worth) news discussing the sighting he had witnessed two nights before.

"I ran in the house and got my sister and woke up my mom," Matt said. He also took video footage of the incident, he said.

Sharla said she was amazed.

"I always thought people that said they saw UFOs were crazy," Sharla said. "Now, I think there is definitely something out



there that we don't know about."

The family said the object was visible for about fifteen minutes and had a red center but that the outside of the light changed from red to yellow, to white and bright orange.

CNN called Matt on Monday and made arrangements to show the film he took in a future broadcast.

Apparently, the Collinses were not the only ones to see the objects.

On the same night, Cody and Carrie Tedford and their uncle Dwayne Clover were turning right off Loop 377 South in Stephenville returning to their home in Hamilton.

Cody said he caught something out of the corner of his eye and told his uncle to look out the back window.

Clover said his 5-year-old niece riding in the back seat with him could also see the object and made comments like, "Wow! Look at that."

They agreed the object was fairly low in the skies but estimated it could have been 60 degrees from the horizon and then made a slow descent to about 25 degrees.

"At first it appeared to be just sitting there hovering," Clover said. "But that might have been because it was moving toward us and we couldn't tell that."

Cody said he thought it was over the courthouse and moving toward the City Limits bar on U.S. 377.

"We thought it was landing," Clover said.

All said they saw a double row of horizontal lights.

Clover said he likes to watch planes and he works at a place where helicopters take off and land often, so he was sure it was not one of those types of aircraft.

"I don't know what it was. We weren't frightened," Clover said. "We were just watching it, trying to figure out what it was and it didn't fit for anything I knew. It was a clear descent and moving slowly and close enough to the ground to make you think it was landing."

A reporter from WB 33 said the Bosque County Sheriff's Office dispatcher received four calls reporting something unusual.

Two people in the Abilene area also reported sightings to the Mutual UFO Network Web site.

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## CIA Warming Up To Openness?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 12:07:05 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 12:07:05 -0500  
Subject: CIA Warming Up To Openness?

Source: Larry W. Bryant's UFOView Blog

<http://ufoview.posterous.com/item-217-is-the-cia-grudgingly>

February 02, 2009

Is the CIA (Grudgingly) Warming Up To Openness?

When, on Feb. 7, 2003, I submitted my FOIA request to the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency for access to "the entire CIA case file on 'Wendy Lee's' submission of her draft memoirs for prepublication approval," the thought never crossed my mind that the FOIA co-ordinator would take as long as six years to process my request.

No wonder the Agency received the National Security Archive's 2006 Rosemary Award for FOIA laxity/non-responsiveness! See:

<http://tinyurl.com/bzyjul>

In a letter to me of Jan. 28, 2009, current CIA FOIA-meister Delores M. Nelson invokes six of the Act's '(b)' exemptions to deny me access to most of the sought-for case file.

What she did deign to provide was a copy of two legal documents filed within the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia under case No. 1:03-cv-00206-TPJ: (1) the Feb. 3, 2003, First Amendment complaint of Wendy Lee v. Central Intelligence Agency (from the hand of Mark S. Zaid, Esq.); and (2) the July 7, 2004, memorandum and order granting summary judgment to the Agency (under the hand of Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson).

Basically, the pseudonymous Wendy Lee lost her case because the Agency, in the court's view, has carte-blanche authority to 'classify' anything it chooses.

What's more, Lee, by having signed a pre-employment secrecy agreement, had forfeited her First Amendment right to publish anything relating to her CIA (undercover) affiliation without prior Agency review/approval. Thus, her claim of official prior-restraint censorship failed to persuade Judge Jackson that the Agency had acted arbitrarily and capriciously in denying her permission to publish.

I summarize this case here to point out an apparent breakthrough in the Agency's almost impenetrable stone wall of recalcitrance with regard to its obligation to process citizens' FOIA requests in a competent and good-faith manner.

Can we attribute this turnaround to the fully activated, FOIA-strengthening U.S. OPEN Records Act of 2007? Let's hope so. And let's hope that there'll be fewer FOIA lawsuits, too - so that some of the saved federal funds can be applied to beefing up the various agencies' FOIA staffs.

-- Larry W. Bryant (independent writer specializing in national-

security affairs

<http://ufoview.posterous.com>

"... [CIA-deleted] in their telephone conversation, suggested that we had not heard the last from Mr. Bryant."

>From an Aug. 14, 1973, CIA memorandum pertaining to the Agency's clandestine courting of the ufological favors of UFO researcher Richard H. Hall

<http://www.hallrichard.com/newufopage.htm>

See the May 17, 1990, FOIA lawsuit of Larry W. Bryant v. CIA (Civil Action No. 90-1163; USDC for the D. C.), which unsuccessfully sought access to the redacted portions of the 1973 memo.

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 3](#)

## Re: 'NASA Agent' Spills UFO Beans?

From: **Steven Kaeser** [mailto:[steve.nul](mailto:steve.nul)]  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 14:45:05 -0500  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 14:45:05 -0500  
Subject: Re: 'NASA Agent' Spills UFO Beans?

>I don't know about The Inquirer - perhaps a subscriber does?

>-----

>Source: The Inquirer - Harrow, England, UK

><http://tinyurl.com/bghuqm>

>Thursday, 29 January 2009

>NASA Agent Spills UFO Beans  
>McKinnon defender says the truth is out there  
>By Mark Ballard

>A veteran NASA agent who says he processed the real X-Files has  
>come clean with the inside story on the Roswell aliens.

>Joseph Richard Gutheinz Jr, a practising criminal lawyer and  
>decorated former NASA special agent, spoke out in defence of UFO  
>hacker Gary Mckinnon last week. Having also spent the last four  
>years on the Texas Criminal Justice Advisory Committee on  
>Medical and Mental Impairments, he felt qualified to call on the  
>US government to cease its unfair hounding of the UFO hacker.

Gutheinz had been writing on this for a while, apparently, and I  
found a number of links to his allegations and much of it  
published in the UK:

<http://www.ufodata.co.uk/pdf/Fallen.pdf>

NASA's Fallen Star The Investigation of Omniplan Corporation by  
Joseph Richard Gutheinz, Jr., J.D.

"The air conditioning in one of Montijo's office buildings was  
rerouted to a secret room where Papa Primos pizza's and candy  
were kept. Key employees used a code system when pizza  
deliveries were made, so other employee's would not learn what  
Mr. Montijo was doing."

In a letter dated March 29, 1995, FBI Director Louis J. Freeh  
wrote to me, in my capacity as the case agent assigned to lead  
"the cooperative investigative efforts of a task force looking  
into the alleged fraud against NASA by a number of individuals  
doing business as the Omniplan Corporation in Texas and  
California." Mr. Freeh stated, "I know that this was the largest  
scheme to defraud ever committed against NASA, and I commend you  
in your leadership skills which resulted in a very complete and  
thorough investigation."

That same year, I briefed Russian President Boris Yeltsin's  
economic advisors about this case, followed by presentations to  
the International Business Forum and to the Association of  
Certified Fraud Examiners. The following is a behind-the-scenes  
account of this investigation, which resulted in the liquidation  
of seven companies, the 179 count conviction of Omniplan CEO,  
Ralph Elias Montijo, Jr., and a case that led to a Federal  
lawsuit against three powerful corporations. In addition, a  
fourth case led to an administrative settlement.

[the rest may be read on the web site]

For those who want to learn more of the "Truth" about Roswell,  
take a look at

"Building 265"

<http://www.ufodata.co.uk/pdf/BUILDING%20265.pdf>

But I have to admit that I find it interesting that a US  
Professor is publishing his UFO articles on UK sites, and  
perhaps just missed the links to his US outlets. He's not  
someone I've seen his name appear on any speaker lists, but I'm  
not that close to most of the Symposiums in the US.

Steve

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 3](#)

### Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

From: Don Ledger <[dledger.nul](mailto:dledger.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 15:31:32 -0400  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 14:49:05 -0500  
Subject: Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

UFO UpDates - Toronto posted:

>Source: Austrian Times - Vienna, Austria

><http://austriantimes.at/index.php?id=10895>

>30. 01. 09

>UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

>Crack Luftwaffe fighter pilots were scrambled in a UFO drama  
>over German airspace, it emerged today (Thursday).

>The mystery object was tracked moving across the entire  
>country at high speed after being spotted by Germany's air  
>traffic controllers on January 19.

>Now an official report into the UFO sighting is being compiled  
>by the country's air traffic safety office, the DFS.

>Investigators have already checked and excluded conventional  
>aircraft, weather balloons and freak atmospheric conditions.

>"We have ruled out all the conventional possibilities - it is  
>a mystery," said DFS spokesman Axel Raab.

>German air force jets were put on red alert and there were  
>dozens of reports of the object as it flew across southern  
>Germany including several airports which were put on emergency  
>standby.

>It eventually vanished above Grafenwoehr, an area used by  
>American troops on training exercises.

>Raab said: "When it vanished from the radar we believed that  
>whatever it was had crashed - but there was no crash site to be  
>seen.

>"It is a complete mystery. It confused radar operators because  
>it kept flicking on and off the screen as if some of the time it  
>just wasn't there. Then it simply vanished completely into thin  
>air."

This incident got missed, probably due to the problems with the  
new List Host but it points out a problem that seems to  
be taken seriously by Germany's air traffic control but pooh-  
pooed by American, British and Canadian control and their air  
forces.

I wonder why that is? Is Germany perhaps not part of the clique  
and is going it alone? Or is it because perhaps they take these  
seriously unlike the other three who are comfortable with their  
"pose no threat to national security" mantras?

If there is someone in Germany looking into this incident I'd  
appreciate additional information if there is an investigation.  
This could be used, perhaps, as leverage with the ABC.

Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

Cerertainly NARCAP would be interested.

Don Ledger

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 3](#)

## Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

From: **Joachim Koch** <[lists.nul](mailto:lists.nul)>  
Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 22:51:12 +0100  
Archived: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 17:16:51 -0500  
Subject: Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

>From: Don Ledger <[dledger.nul](mailto:dledger.nul)>  
>To: [post.nul](mailto:post.nul)  
>Date: Tue, 03 Feb 2009 15:31:32 -0400  
>Subject: Re: UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

<snip>

>If there is someone in Germany looking into this incident I'd  
>appreciate additional information if there is an investigation.  
>This could be used, perhaps, as leverage with the ABC.

<snip>

Hi List,

I am in contact with German Military Officials and hope that they will respond to my email. It usually takes up to two weeks.

Best,

Joachim

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A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena  
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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 4](#)

## Uk Police Database 310 Incidents In 6 Years

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 08:59:58 -0500  
Archived: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 08:59:58 -0500  
Subject: Uk Police Database 310 Incidents In 6 Years

Source: The Daily Telegraph - London, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/c6dam5>

04 Feb 2009

UFOs: Database Of Police Sightings Of Records 310 Incidents In Six Years

A database set up to record UFO sightings by police officers has recorded 310 incidents in the past six years.

By Ben Leach

Gary Heseltine, a British Transport Police officer, has produced an annual report detailing UFO sightings by officers across the country since 2003.

His latest report, published on his PRUFOS (Police Reporting UFO Sightings) database this week, highlights 50 new cases involving 106 officers - taking the total of individual sightings recorded to 310.

The 48-year-old said: "Police officers are trained to give dispassionate, detailed descriptions of things they see and are highly credible witnesses as a result."

Mr Heseltine said he set-up the database in the mid-Nineties after he found a UFO magazine full of highly credible accounts of sightings by military pilots backed up by radar evidence.

He said one of the most startling reports on it is that of PC Alan Godfrey, who spotted a diamond-shaped UFO levitating above a road in Todmorden, West Yorks, in 1980.

He tried to call for help on his police radio but it had stopped working. He then tried to get out of his car but was blinded by a white light. Pc Godfrey's next conscious memory is being back in his car, further down the road, with the UFO having vanished.

Under hypnosis he claimed he was taken up into the spacecraft and examined by small creatures.

Since starting the database Mr Heseltine, a detective constable from Wakefield, West Yorkshire, who has two grown-up children, claims to have made two UFO sightings.

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 4](#)

## The Police Reporting UFO Sightings Database

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 10:14:48 -0500  
Archived: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 10:14:48 -0500  
Subject: The Police Reporting UFO Sightings Database

With thanks to MendipLad for the lead:

<http://www.prufospolicedatabase.co.uk/>

ebk

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

Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 4](#)

## Videos From Turkey 2008

From: **Ralph O. Howard** <[rhjr.nul](mailto:rhjr.nul)>  
Date: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 20:28:54 +0000  
Archived: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 17:52:42 -0500  
Subject: Videos From Turkey 2008

Fellow List-folk,

Our MUFON State Director (Georgia) was made aware of some interesting apparent video footage from - post says - near Istanbul, Turkey, taken between May and Sept. 2008. The website hosting it is the Sirius UFO Space Science Research Center, whatever that is. As I always do I visited UpDates to see if there's been discussion and unless my search capabilities have gone AWOL, I find no discussions whatsoever. From the Archives I searched using keywords "Turkey video Sirius 2008," finding zero hits. Hmmm.

MUFON-Sacramento (CA) has a video and link posted at:

<http://www.mufonsacramento.info>

that takes you to where the footage is posted, at Vimeo. There, where posted by Sirius

<http://vimeo.com/1928279>

one finds the usual vague off-the-cuff reviews present anywhere videos are posted. Text at upper left suggests this has all been sitting here some 4 months.

Is anyone aware of this footage and has anyone reviewed it? There's like 17 minutes of it (spliced together) making for an interesting watch. To me it falls well short of being what the site rhetoric claims it is; the hyperbole itself is a hoot and makes the Vimeo site well worth a visit. For example, "The images captured are expected to have a tremendous impact throughout the world and be listed as 'the most important UFO/extraterrestrial images ever filmed in the all World'" and "these amazing UFO video footages which would likely have major repercussions around the world and be listed as =E2=80=9Cthe most significant UFO videos ever.=E2=80=9D

Assuming just as a starting-point this is faked, how difficult would this be? The reflections over water are interesting. A couple of the commenters do make good points about possible oil-well-burnoff or oil-refinery reflections and questioning why the videographer didn't get other people to also video the phenomena. The text of the post implies there is more footage in Sirius' possession.

I'd be interested in what others think of the footage. Or, if I missed it and all of you have seen this, please enlighten me as to when those discussions took place in UFO-Updates so I can have a look in the archives. Thanks.-

Ralph O. Howard, Jr.  
Asst State Director MUFON of Georgia

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# UFO Updates

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## UFO Pic Sparks Fierce Debate

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 06:54:02 -0500  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 06:54:02 -0500  
Subject: UFO Pic Sparks Fierce Debate

Source: The Batemans Bay Post Star - Batemans Bay, New South Wales,  
Australia

<http://tinyurl.com/bky9ha>

5/02/2009

UFO Pic Sparks Fierce Debate  
By Sally Foy

Publication of a photograph purportedly showing an unidentified flying object in the skies over Batemans Bay has sparked heated debate from readers.

For more local news and photos grab a copy of the Bay Post or Moruya Examiner.

Since the photo appeared last Friday, the Bay Post/Moruya Examiner has received a number of calls and emails from people who believe it is evidence of extra-terrestrial life.

A south Mogo man, who wishes to remain anonymous, says he also saw the object but thought no one would believe him.

"I knew it couldn't have been a plane," he said.

"But it was really high up and quite obvious against the sky."

The man watched it until it went out of sight.

"The distance it was covering, it must have been moving quite fast," he said.

"I remember it quite clearly because the storm itself was amazing to watch. I knew it wasn't a falling star because it was travelling across the sky, but it was like a travelling light but with no sound to it."

Another woman said she captured a similar object (pictured) on film while holidaying in London three years ago.

"You can see the object over the three houses on the left," she said.

"It was taken at Brentford, London, in 2006 with a digital camera from a boat on the River Thames. I didn't notice anything while taking the picture, there were no airplanes in the sky and no sound whatsoever."

Visit

[www.batemansbay.yourguide.com.au](http://www.batemansbay.yourguide.com.au)

and tell us what you think.

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# UFO Updates

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## UFO Spotted Opposite Houses Of Parliament

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 07:05:12 -0500  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 07:05:12 -0500  
Subject: UFO Spotted Opposite Houses Of Parliament

Source: The Daily Telegraph - London, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/cqlcwt>

05 Feb 2009

UFO Spotted Opposite Houses Of Parliament

A multicoloured spacecraft seen floating opposite the Houses of Parliament was among the hundreds of UFOs reported in 2008, it has been disclosed.

By Matthew Moore

The number of UFO sightings logged with the Ministry of Defence more than doubled to 285 last year, a rise described as "phenomenal" by experts. It is the highest number of sightings in 10 years.

All the incidents are included in a document released by the MoD yesterday, which details the date, time and location of the sightings, along with a brief summary of the eyewitness reports.

The Palace of Westminster sighting on Feb 12 is described as follows: "There was a craft that had green, red and white lights. It was still and static in the sky. It was seen for about an hour and a half." There is no information about who reported the UFO or what it may have been.

The MoD only investigates reports of unidentified flying objects that it considers may pose a risk to national security, and most of the incidents seem just to have been logged and ignored. One UFO, in the skies over Stroud in Gloucestershire on June 2, is recorded only as "a sighting of something".

Many of the sightings read like the products of overactive imaginations. In Scarborough, North Yorkshire on June 11 a member of the public reported seeing "a cork shaped object that glowed like an angel, flew up and over some trees".

Others are strikingly specific, like this description of a UFO seen near Blackpool in Lancashire on Sept 8: "An object, the shape of a chewing gum pack, black in colour and had three circles of lights underneath it, emitting a dull orange light. Was about 150 feet long and 50 feet wide."

Nick Pope, who used to investigate UFOs for the MoD in the 1990s and is now one of the country's leading UFO authorities, said that the doubling of sightings was "statistically extremely significant." In 2007 there were 135 reported sightings, and just 97 in 2006.

"If it was a more modest increase one could say it was due to all sorts of reasons but this is phenomenal," he said.



"There are some interesting clusters of sightings in the summer where there were six sightings on the same day, albeit in different parts of the country and with different descriptions."

Mr Pope said that the increase in reporting was probably linked to the MOD's release of documents from its UFO archive in May, which made headlines across the world and helped make the phenomenon a mainstream issue again.

Many of archive documents featured testimonies from policemen and pilots, which "sent a message to people that there is nothing to be ashamed of" about reporting a UFO, Mr Pope said.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## Re: UFO Over Germany Official

From: Bert Reijersen van Buuren <[bert.nul](mailto:bert.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 01:42:25 +0100  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 07:11:49 -0500  
Subject: Re: UFO Over Germany Official

>UFO UpDates - Toronto posted:

>Source: Austrian Times - Vienna, Austria

><http://austriantimes.at/index.php?id=10895>

>30. 01. 09

>UFO Over Germany Official - Says Air Traffic Control

>Crack Luftwaffe fighter pilots were scrambled in a UFO drama  
>over German airspace, it emerged today (Thursday).

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>country at high speed after being spotted by Germany's air  
>traffic controllers on January 19.

>Now an official report into the UFO sighting is being compiled  
>by the country's air traffic safety office, the DFS.

>Investigators have already checked and excluded conventional  
>aircraft, weather balloons and freak atmospheric conditions.

>"We have ruled out all the conventional possibilities - it is  
>a mystery," said DFS spokesman Axel Raab.

>German air force jets were put on red alert and there were  
>dozens of reports of the object as it flew across southern  
>Germany including several airports which were put on emergency  
>standby.

>It eventually vanished above Grafenwoehr, an area used by  
>American troops on training exercises.

There is some building activity there for the USA military:

<http://tinyurl.com/d5688c>

<http://www.rinf.com/forum/showthread.php?p=16962>

<http://tinyurl.com/abzrjv>

<http://tinyurl.com/bx7n56>

Bert ( A W RvB )  
[bert.nul](mailto:bert.nul)  
[www.rjrsnvbrn.nl](http://www.rjrsnvbrn.nl)

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## Green Comet Approaches Earth

From: Terry Colvin <[fortean1.nul](mailto:fortean1.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 15:52:29 +0700 (GMT+07:00)  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 07:23:28 -0500  
Subject: Green Comet Approaches Earth

-----

Source: NASA - Washington, DC, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/b4vnc3>

02.04.2009

Green Comet Approaches Earth

February 4, 2009: In 1996, a 7-year-old boy in China bent over the eyepiece of a small telescope and saw something that would change his life - a comet of flamboyant beauty, bright and puffy with an active tail. At first he thought he himself had discovered it, but no, he learned, two men named "Hale" and "Bopp" had beat him to it. Mastering his disappointment, young Quanzhi Ye resolved to find his own comet one day.

And one day, he did.

Fast forward to a summer afternoon in July 2007. Ye, now 19 years old and a student of meteorology at China's Sun Yat-sen University, bent over his desk to stare at a black-and-white star field. The photo was taken nights before by Taiwanese astronomer Chi Sheng Lin on "sky patrol" at the Lulin Observatory. Ye's finger moved from point to point - and stopped. One of the stars was not a star, it was a comet, and this time Ye saw it first.

Comet Lulin, named after the observatory in Taiwan where the discovery-photo was taken, is now approaching Earth. "It is a green beauty that could become visible to the naked eye any day now," says Ye.

Amateur astronomer Jack Newton sends this photo from his backyard observatory in Arizona:

"My retired eyes still cannot see the brightening comet," says Newton, "but my 14-inch telescope picked it up quite nicely on Feb. 1st."

The comet makes its closest approach to Earth (0.41 AU) on Feb. 24, 2009. Current estimates peg the maximum brightness at 4th or 5th magnitude, which means dark country skies would be required to see it. No one can say for sure, however, because this appears to be Lulin's first visit to the inner solar system and its first exposure to intense sunlight. Surprises are possible.

Lulin's green color comes from the gases that make up its Jupiter-sized atmosphere. Jets spewing from the comet's nucleus contain cyanogen (CN: a poisonous gas found in many comets) and diatomic carbon (C<sub>2</sub>). Both substances glow green when illuminated by sunlight

[More...]

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Terry W. Colvin  
Ladphrao (Bangkok), Thailand  
Pran Buri (Hua Hin), Thailand

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## Re: Videos From Turkey 2008

From: **Martin Shough** <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 16:25:11 -0000  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 12:05:24 -0500  
Subject: Re: Videos From Turkey 2008

>From: Ralph O. Howard <[rhjr.nul](mailto:rhjr.nul)>  
>To: UFO Updates <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Wed, 04 Feb 2009 20:28:54 +0000  
>Subject: Videos From Turkey 2008

>Fellow List-folk,

>As I always do I visited UpDates to see if  
>there's been discussion and unless my search capabilities have  
>gone AWOL, I find no discussions whatsoever. From the  
>Archives I searched using keywords "Turkey video Sirius 2008,"  
>finding zero hits. Hmmm.

Hi Ralph

This material was discussed on this List in a number of posts  
over several days from about Oct 13 last year. The best subject  
keyword would probably be "Kumbergaz".

Most seemed to agree that the videos of the "hovering disc" were  
of little or no value, and that various inconsistencies  
suggested that they were very probably a hoax. Several claims  
made on the website are incoherent and demonstrably misleading.

An inquiry via the EuroUFOnet List revealed that the  
organisation responsible is apparently well-known in European  
circles as sensational and unreliable.

There is some other material included in the video sequence, of  
lights over the Sea of Marmara. These may be genuine phenomena  
(possibly, I suggested, an unusual mirage of oil rig burn-off  
plumes on the horizon).

Martin Shough

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# UFO Updates

A mailing list for the study of UFO-related phenomena  
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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## MoD Releases 2008 UFO Listing

From: Joe McGonagle <[joe.mcgonagle.nul](mailto:joe.mcgonagle.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 16:42:02 +0000  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 12:06:30 -0500  
Subject: MoD Releases 2008 UFO Listing

The MoD have released their listing of reports from 2008 yesterday. It can be downloaded from:

<http://tinyurl.com/alrxn3>  
(63K .pdf file)

Earlier (1996-2007) listings can be downloaded from:

<http://tinyurl.com/anl7hm>

The Sun devoted another ridiculous 2-page spread to it including the now inevitable imbecilic commentary which can be found at:

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/ufos/article2206715.ece>

Joe

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

Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 5](#)

## Flight 1549 Transcripts

From: Don Ledger <[dledger.nul](mailto:dledger.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:24:40 -0400  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:10:58 -0500  
Subject: Flight 1549 Transcripts

[Off-Topic]

Hi,

Anyone interested can read the PDF transcripts for the US Airway  
Flight 1549 Hudson River event at:

[http://www.avweb.com/pdf/us-airways-flight-1549\\_transcript.pdf](http://www.avweb.com/pdf/us-airways-flight-1549_transcript.pdf)

Or hear the abbreviated audio at:

<http://tinyurl.com/dhz5yu>

Don Ledger

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## UK's Fox Mulder At UFO Forum

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:15:31 -0500  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:15:31 -0500  
Subject: UK's Fox Mulder At UFO Forum

Source: The Wiltshire Times - England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/cgcmpt>

Thursday 5th February 2009

UK's Fox Mulder At UFO Forum  
By Craig Evry

UFO and paranormal enthusiasts will this summer descend on a Wiltshire town credited with being the nation's hotspot for mystery sightings.

Warminster will play host to the Weird 2009 conference in August, which will be attended by UFO expert and former Ministry of Defence employee Nick Pope, who during his time at the MoD was tasked with documenting the UFO phenomenon.

Mr Pope, nicknamed the British Fox Mulder, referring to the character in The X Files, will be one of the guest speakers at the conference, being held in the Athenaeum Centre on the weekend of August 29-30.

Warminster is known as the former UFO capital of the UK, possibly the world, with 5,000 sightings over a 10-year period.

During the conference a skywatch and paranormal investigation will be held on the famed Cradle Hill.

Warminster became a hive of activity in the 1960s and 70s when a mystery sound was first heard on December 25, 1964.

Witnesses described a strange cracking and crashing sound which later became known as The Thing.

Over time the noise phenomenon reduced and people started seeing UFOs, describing them as silent, stationary and cigar-shaped. The first sighting was on May 19, 1965.

The phenomenon led to a public meeting in the town hall in August 1965, which was televised and reported worldwide.

Chris Williams, one of the organisers of Weird 09, said: "This is more than a normal UFO or paranormal conference.

"Weird 09 will be an experience for everyone who attends.

"We have an atmospheric venue, a great line-up and will soon be announcing a very well known personality who will act as our host for the weekend."

Other guest speakers will include US crop circle researcher Nancy Talbot and UFO researchers and authors Paul Devereux and Joe McGonagle.

Fundraising will take place over the two days for the Great

Western Hospital Special Care Baby Unit.

Tickets for the event are on sale and can be bought at:

[www.mystical-county.org.uk/booking.htm](http://www.mystical-county.org.uk/booking.htm)

[Thanks to Frank Fields for the lead]

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## Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive?

From: J. Maynard Gelinas <[j.maynard.gelinas.nul](mailto:j.maynard.gelinas.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 11:44:13 -0500  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:22:49 -0500  
Subject: Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive?

This is an interesting article. Vallee once suggested that at least some UFO activity might be caused by space faring life forms. I don't think that potential should be discounted. If life exists to extract and use ambient energy to thwart entropy, and there is no requirement for carbon as part of the energy storage and transfer process (CH->H2O->CH), then one might reasonably speculate that at least some of those strange things witnessed by military and tracked in triangulation by multiple radar streams could well be a life form and not Grays from some random star system somewhere out there.

A silver disc-shaped object might well compare to a bacterium. It might live in an environment near our sun for energy and travel outside for reproduction. Or, perhaps, just by accident. From this perspective, the UFO need not be "intelligent" the way we view intelligence, it need only be able to behave at the level of a single cell or small multicellular organism.

At least some flying saucers are definitely real. But the phenomena needn't be anthropomorphized as little gray men inside a dome shaped bottle as the only explanation.

The article is here:

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[http://www.scienceagogo.com/news/20070715030629data\\_trunc\\_sys.shtml](http://www.scienceagogo.com/news/20070715030629data_trunc_sys.shtml)

"Physicists Mull Whether Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive"

Intriguing new evidence of life-like double-helix structures formed from inorganic substances in space has been reported in the New Journal of Physics. The physicists behind the discovery are now pondering whether extraterrestrial life could be composed of corkscrew-shaped formations of interstellar dust. The findings hint at the possibility that life beyond Earth may not necessarily use carbon-based molecules as its building blocks and they may also point to a possible new explanation for the origin of life on Earth.

The idea that particles of inorganic dust can take on a life of their own is nothing short of alien, but an international team has discovered that under the right conditions, particles of inorganic dust can become organized into helical structures. These structures can then interact with each other in ways that are more usually associated with organic compounds and life itself.

V.N. Tsytovich of the Russian Academy of Science, working with colleagues there and at the Max-Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics and the University of Sydney, has studied the behavior of complex mixtures of inorganic materials in a plasma. Until now, physicists assumed that there could be little organization in such a cloud of particles.

However, using a computer model of molecular dynamics, Tsytovich and his colleagues demonstrated that particles in a plasma can undergo self-organization as electronic charges become separated and the plasma becomes polarized. This effect results in

microscopic strands of solid particles that twist into corkscrew shapes, or helical structures resembling DNA. These helical strands are themselves electronically charged and are attracted to each other.

Bizarrely, not only do these helical strands interact in a counterintuitive way in which like can attract like, but they also undergo changes that are normally associated with biological molecules, says Tsyrovich. He says they can divide (or bifurcate) to form two copies of the original structure and can also interact to induce changes in their neighbors. They can even evolve into yet more structures as less stable ones break down, leaving behind only the "fittest" structures in the plasma.

Could helical clusters formed from interstellar dust be somehow alive? "These complex, self-organized plasma structures exhibit all the necessary properties to qualify them as candidates for inorganic living matter," muses Tsyrovich, "they are autonomous, they reproduce and they evolve." He added that the plasma conditions needed to form these helical structures are common in outer space.

Interestingly, plasmas can also form under terrestrial conditions, such as the point of a lightning strike. The researchers speculate that perhaps an inorganic form of life emerged on the primordial earth, which then acted as the template for the more familiar organic molecules we know today."

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## Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: Terry Colvin <[fortean1.nul](mailto:fortean1.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 23:56:40 +0700 (GMT+07:00)  
Archived: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 17:25:27 -0500  
Subject: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

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<http://www.ufoinfo.com/humanoid/humanoid1910.shtml>

Location. Aldeburgh England

Date: 1916  
Time: 1155A

Looking out a 2nd story window, Mrs Whitehead saw, a little above the house (about 20 ft up), a round platform with 8-12 men, who were staring straight ahead & tightly gripping a brass handrail. They wore blue uniforms & "little hats like sailors." The object approached slowly from nearby marshes, made a turn, & disappeared behind nearby houses. The platform was about a foot thick. The center was "hollow," like a doughnut. No means of propulsion was evident. Duration, less than 5 minutes.

Humcat 1916-1  
Source: Gordon Creighton, FSR 15 # 1  
Type: A

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In the Fifties and Sixties there were several attempts at building flying platforms for military use. The most famous of these was the Hiller VZ-1 Pawnee, developed in 1954. However, the 8ft (2.5m) platform could only carry one man to a maximum height of 33ft (10m) and at a maximum speed of 16mph (25km/h) using the power of twin ducted fans.

Richard Timewall invented a similar one-man platform in the mid-Seventies. He sold it as a kit for \$5,795 or a bargain \$97.50 for the blueprints only. It was powered by four jet engines and Timewall claimed it had a "ten mile (16km) range, 15-minute flight time, with a top speed of about 40mph (64km/h)"

Two other claimants for the crown of one-man flying platform were variations on a theme -- the Williams X-Jet and Williams Aerial Systems Platform (or WASP), which both looked a bit like flying pulpits, as the pilot was covered up to waist height.

It's hard to see how any such man-made flying platforms could have been the cause of the two English (UK) sightings; these were only ever tested in America, decades later, and none carried more than two men.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiller\\_Flying\\_Platform](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiller_Flying_Platform)

<http://www.hiller.org/flying-platform.shtml>  
[VZ-1 Pawnee]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJARrc40imk>

[WASP - Williams Aerial Systems Platform]  
[[Les, you'd look good in this flying pulpit]]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHJBvtr0H-E>

[Williams X-Jet][Audio is poor quality]

<http://www.ufologie.net/ce3/1955-10-18-uk-westhampstead.htm>

[UFO floating platform with 30 entities]

Terry W. Colvin  
Ladphrao (Bangkok), Thailand  
Pran Buri (Hua Hin), Thailand

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## Finding Control In Chaos

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:26:43 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:26:43 -0500  
Subject: Finding Control In Chaos

Source: Scientific American Magazine - New York, New York, USA

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=finding-control-in-chaos>

February, 2009

Finding Control In Chaos  
Feeling helpless leads us to see nonexistent patterns

By Siri Carpenter

Even the most laid back among us crave a sense of control, and when we feel helpless we scour our surroundings for anything that will restore predictability. New research shows that when we lack control we don't simply wait for order to return: we impose it, if only in our own minds, by imagining patterns and trends where none exist.

In six experiments, psychologists Jennifer Whitson of the University of Texas at Austin and Adam Galinsky of Northwestern University manipulated subjects' sense of control.

In some trials, they gave participants either random feedback or no feedback at all on a tricky experimental task; in others, they asked participants to recall a situation in which they lacked control or one in which they had full control.

Results showed that not having control caused participants to mistakenly see an image in a field of static, to smell conspiracy in other people's benign behavior, to embrace superstitious beliefs and to perceive nonexistent stock-market trends.

Such illusory perceptions evaporated when participants were first denied control but then given an opportunity to write about their most deeply held values, an activity that bolsters psychological security and quells feelings of helplessness.

The authors observe that illusory pattern perception "may not be entirely maladaptive" if by soothing uncertainty and restoring a sense of control, it encourages us to actively confront unpredictable circumstances rather than withdrawing from them.

One unanswered question, they add, is whether loss of control also heightens people's speed or accuracy in detecting patterns that do exist.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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## PRG Update - February 5, 2009

From: **Stephen G. Bassett** <[PRG.nul](mailto:PRG.nul)>  
Date: Thu, 05 Feb 2009 20:10:13 -0800  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:36:06 -0500  
Subject: PRG Update - February 5, 2009

PRG  
Paradigm Research Group

PRG Update - February 5, 2009

Million Fax on Washington - Phase II

[www.faxonwashington.org](http://www.faxonwashington.org)

Phase II of the Million Fax on Washington has been informally underway since January 20 and formally launched on February 1.

It is a well understood fact the first 100 days of a new administration are the most important. So between January 20 and April 30 - one hundred days - PRG once again promotes the sending of letters, faxes and/or emails to the new President - this time to the White House - calling for an end to the Truth Embargo regarding an extraterrestrial presence and the release of as much relevant information to the American people as possible within reasonable constraints of national security. A national press release will be sent out February 6. Examples of past MFW letters to the President are posted at:

[www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/Million-Fax-Correspondence.htm](http://www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/Million-Fax-Correspondence.htm)

Many more will be posted soon.

Contact information: The Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20500  
[Standard business size envelopes only please.]

Fax: 202-456-2461

Email via: <<http://change.gov/page/content/contact/>>  
<<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>>

[Note: emails are limited to 500 characters, but that is more than enough to make the key points.]

Is calling the White House a good idea? Yes, you can also call the White House and leave a brief comment at 202-456-1111, but do this in addition to writing a letter, fax and/or email because these leave a record, and the collective correspondence can be more easily reviewed

X-Conference 2009 - April 17-19, Hilton Hotel, Gaithersburg, MD

[www.x-conference.com](http://www.x-conference.com)

[www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/registration.htm](http://www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/registration.htm)

The fifth X-Conference also formally launches tomorrow with a national press release. Conference registrations are being taken now at the X-Conference website. Hotel reservations can be made via: 301-977-8900 (booking code: x-conference).

Because events relevant to Disclosure are breaking on a weekly basis, PRG's confidence that Disclosure is close at hand remains high. For this reason X-Conference 2009 will be to some extent an Exopolitical Summit. PRG will expand the press conference at

the National Press Club on Monday morning, January 20 and has booked the First Amendment Room. A substantial press contingent is expected. Leading figures in the Exopolitics Disclosure Movement are being invited to speak and a number of guest activists from around the world will also be part of the conference. In fact, it will be the largest gathering of such activists ever.

But X-Conference 2009 will not be monochromatic. With two speakers invited pending confirmation, the lineup is as follows:

Special Presentation - George Noory, host of the #1 late night talk show in America, will revisit some of the great segments from past C2C shows, give his thoughts on the extraordinary events taking place, take questions and sign autographs.

Special Presentation - Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Apollo 14 Astronaut and founder of the Institute of Noetic Sciences, returns again this time to give an in depth lecture on the full spectrum of his experience with the UFO/ET issue, his interactions with the media, his thoughts on the disclosure process and hopes for the post-disclosure world.

Special Presentation - A debate/dialogue/Q&A will take place between Dr. John Alexander (Col. US Army ret.) and PRG executive director, Stephen Bassett. All subjects will be on the table. All issues will be engaged.

Special Presentation - one of the most prolific authors and researchers of the ancient world, Graham Hancock, will look at the exopolitics of the distant past.

[Note: all special presentations will only require a Day Pass. There will be no extra charge.]

Other outstanding speakers include:

Colin Andrews - he's back and he has a lot to say.

Art Campbell - his important research on events in the Eisenhower administration and on the Plains of San Augustin.

Richard Dolan - the second volume in his extremely important trilogy, UFOs and the National Security State

Paola Harris - the exopolitics of Hollywood

Joseph Montaldo - contactee, founder of ICAR and builder of an expanding Internet radio presence

Jeff Peckman - from the Denver Extraterrestrial Affairs Commission Ballot Initiative to David Letterman and beyond

Nick Pope - the man in the center of the United Kingdom UFO/ET/Disclosure firestorm is back

Dr. Michael Salla - one of the most aggressive thinkers and writers in exopolitics today.

Victor Viggiani - the leader of exopolitics in Canada

Alfred Webre, JD - the founder of exopolitics, futurist, and leading activist for a space based weapons ban.

[Note: President Obama has indicated he will call for a Space Weapons Ban. Alfred Webre (along with Carol Rosin and Danny Sheehan) are a major reason why.]

Guest activists include:

Dr. Joseph Buchman - former Libertarian Party congressional candidate calling for Disclosure

Dr. Rebecca Hardcastle and Terri Mansfield - along with Dr. Lynne Kitei are building a political movement combining exopolitics, exoconsciousness and peace activism.

More speaker info at:

[www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/speakers.htm](http://www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/speakers.htm)

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Thunderbird UFO Spotted Flying Above Bournemouth

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:43:44 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:43:44 -0500  
Subject: Thunderbird UFO Spotted Flying Above Bournemouth

Source: [Thaindian.com](http://Thaindian.com) - Bangkok, Thailand

<http://tinyurl.com/cut2zp>

Feb 06 2009

Thunderbird UFO Spotted Flying Above Bournemouth

London, (ANI): Brit UFO experts went into orbit on Thursday in search of a Thunderbird, which was recently photographed flying high above Bournemouth.

The picture was taken by a professional photographer named Mark Wild.

The mystery craft, bright orange-red like Thunderbird 3, was caught in a head-on shot on camera hovering above the resort on the Dorset coast.

The stunning snap emerged on the day when it was revealed that a dossier made public by the Ministry of Defence showed UFO sightings doubled last year.

Excited alien-spotters hailed the picture as one of the best they had ever seen.

It is an amazing picture, one of the best I've seen in some time, the Sun quoted flying saucer expert Nick Pope, an ex-MoD worker, as saying.

Most pictures are taken at night and just show vague lights.

With this you can clearly make out a structure to the thing and it is a classic UFO shape, he added.

Mark, who was taking arty pictures of seafront buildings, did not even realise it was there until he got home and looked at his photos on his home computer.

Mark, 35, of Poole, said: "When I pulled the pictures up I noticed something there. When I enlarged it I saw what I can only describe as a UFO.

I have shown it to quite a few friends and nobody has the faintest idea what it is.

I'm pretty open-minded but to think I might have caught an actual UFO is amazing", he added. (ANI)

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More & photos at The Sun - UK:

<http://tinyurl.com/bd355f>

[Thanks to Greg Boone for the lead]

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## Book Review 'Need to Know'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:50:56 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:50:56 -0500  
Subject: Book Review 'Need to Know'

Source: Blog Critics Magazine - San Francisco, California, USA

<http://blogcritics.org/archives/2009/01/05/034143.php>

January 05, 2009

Book Review: Need to Know - UFOs, The Military, And Intelligence  
By Timothy Good  
Written by Glen Boyd

For those familiar with the subject of Ufology (the study of UFOs and aliens visiting our little blue marble), British researcher Timothy Good stands out from the rest of the pack. Good's 1988 book *Above Top Secret* is widely regarded as one of, if not the definitive volume on a subject where because of its very nature, the crackpots, hoaxsters, and new-age devotees of the world often occupy space right alongside those who take a more serious approach at the bookstore.

The research involved was exactly what made *Above Top Secret* such a classic. In addition to Good's determination at going after facts and documenting his evidence, the book provides pages and pages of actual government documents to back it up. This is a guy who knows how to dot his "i's" and cross his "t's."

In fact, pretty much the entire back section of *Above Top Secret* is devoted to these eye-opening documents. The storytelling and anecdotal evidence which characterizes most UFO research is of course here as well. But whenever possible, Good corroborates the stories with multiple witness accounts and just plain facts.

And then there are those juicy documents. We're not just talking questionable pieces of paper like the so-called Majestic-12 briefing documents. *Above Top Secret* in fact devotes roughly 100 pages (in the appendix section) to official documents coming from everyone from J. Edgar Hoover to Harry Truman. When taken together, the combined documents seem to suggest that our government (as well as those of other countries) have, at the very least, been a lot more interested in the subject than they have let on.

*Need to Know: UFOs, the Military, and Intelligence* is basically an update on *Above Top Secret*, and it is no less impressive. Once again, Good loads the volume with documents designed to back up his assertion that not only are UFOs real, but that the government has known about them dating at least back to the Roswell incident in 1947.

Roswell is covered of course, and updated with new information and sworn affidavits from some of the key witnesses. The book itself is divided into three sections, going into the pre-Roswell era of the thirties and early forties (did you know for example that Benito Mussolini was a UFO believer?), the post-Roswell-era of the fifties (which is where many believe government knowledge and the subsequent cover-up began), and the

modern era from the sixties to the present day.

In addition to the usual stuff about Roswell and Area 51 however, Good reveals lesser-known details about other cases. The Ghost Rockets and so-called Foo Fighters of the pre-Roswell era are a particularly interesting, though not often covered, area where both governments were concerned and military men were apparently often engaged.

More recently, Good digs into the story of a "Brazilian Roswell" in the town of Varginha that happened in the nineties. In the story, a UFO is alleged to have crashed in the town, followed by reports of "strange beings" roaming the streets, and even receiving medical attention. This book includes extensive interviews with witnesses, including a doctor said to have treated one of the extraterrestrial patients. In every case, the often fantastic stories are backed with corroborating witnesses and evidence.

Best of all, Good includes more of those juicy government documents that seem to suggest more than the officials are letting on. As fantastic as all of it sounds, Good actually makes a very convincing case here that not only are we not alone, but the government has been in on the world's best kept secret for a very long time. In other words, you can stop thinking you're paranoid. They really are out to get you (okay, maybe that's overstating it a bit).

With *Need to Know: UFOs, the Military, and Intelligence*, Timothy Good has once again distinguished himself with another classic that lets the facts speak for themselves, and allows the reader to render their own judgment. At the very least, whether or not you are a believer, it is also a provocative and fascinating read.

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## Family See 'Return' Of UFOs At Home

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:58:04 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 05:58:04 -0500  
Subject: Family See 'Return' Of UFOs At Home

Source: The Telegraph & Argus - Bradford, Yorkshire, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/aa9swr>

Thursday 5th February 2009

[Photos & Video]

Family See 'Return' Of UFOs At Home

They're back! UFOs spotted buzzing over Bradford have mysteriously re-appeared in the night skies.

He shouted to daughter Laura, 28, who recorded what they believe was a close encounter on her mobile phone while he dashed upstairs to get his camcorder.

The astonishing video he handed to the T&A shows a glowing orb =96 similar to the one spotted in late autumn last year and on New Year's Eve.

Mother-of-one Laura, a science and health student at Bradford College, said: "In October, my family woke me up in the early hours of the morning and said they had spotted what looked to be a UFO in the Odsal/Wibsey area and they asked me to capture the footage on my phone. Not believing it, I went back to sleep.

"It was only when I saw footage in the newspaper that I thought it could be a real UFO.

"Then at about 5pm on Wednesday, my father looked out of the window and saw it was back."

Kevin Brown said: "It was darting about, then it zoomed in then zoomed out again. I don't know whether it is the exact same one we saw before.

But it doesn't look like a star. Stars stay still. This was spinning."

In September, Richard Ing, 40, of Westminster Avenue, Clayton, said he watched from the balcony of his house as a UFO passed over Bradford city centre, Clayton and off towards Denholme. In another sighting just after midnight on New Year's Eve, Clare Harris, 30, and four friends spotted a flickering ball moving slowly across the sky above Low Moor.

Asked why he thought the aliens had returned following the latest sighting on Wednesday night, Mr Brown said: "They are probably just observing us to learn about our culture."

Laura added: "I do believe there is more than just us here. Just as long as they leave me alone, I'm alright."

A spokesman for West Yorkshire Police said the force had received no other reports of UFO sightings in the North Bradford



division on Wednesday night.

e-mail: marc.meneaud .nul

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead on this and previous post]

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Number Of Alien Worlds Quantified

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:01:02 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:01:02 -0500  
Subject: Number Of Alien Worlds Quantified

Source: BBC News - London, England, UK

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7870562.stm>

Thursday, 5 February 2009

### Number Of Alien Worlds Quantified

Intelligent civilisations are out there and there could be thousands of them, according to an Edinburgh scientist.

The discovery of more than 330 planets outside our solar system in recent years has helped refine the number of life forms that are likely to exist.

The current research estimates that there are at least 361 intelligent civilisations in our Galaxy and possibly as many as 38,000.

The work is reported in the International Journal of Astrobiology.

Even with the higher of the two estimates, however, it is not very likely that contact could be established with alien worlds.

While researchers often come up with overall estimates of the likelihood of intelligent life in the universe, it is a process fraught with guesswork; recent guesses put the number anywhere between a million and less than one.

"It's a process of quantifying our ignorance," said Duncan Forgan, the University of Edinburgh researcher who carried out the work.

In his new approach, Mr Forgan simulated a galaxy much like our own, allowing it to develop solar systems based on what is now known from the existence of so-called exoplanets in our galactic neighbourhood.

These simulated alien worlds were then subjected to a number of different scenarios.

The first assumed that it is difficult for life to be formed but easy for it to evolve, and suggested there were 361 intelligent civilisations in the galaxy.

A second scenario assumed life was easily formed but struggled to develop intelligence. Under these conditions, 31,513 other forms of life were estimated to exist.

The final scenario examined the possibility that life could be passed from one planet to another during asteroid collisions - a popular theory for how life arose here on Earth.

That approach gave a result of some 37,964 intelligent civilisations in existence.

## Form and function

While far-flung planets may reduce uncertainty in how many Earth-like planets there are, some variables in the estimate will remain guesses.

For example, the time from a planet's formation to the first sparks of life, or from there to the first intelligent civilisations, are large variables in the overall estimate.

For those, Mr Forgan says, we will have to continue to assume Earth is an average case.

"It is important to realise that the picture we've built up is still incomplete," said Mr Forgan.

"Even if alien life forms do exist, we may not necessarily be able to make contact with them, and we have no idea what form they would take.

"Life on other planets may be as varied as life on Earth and we cannot predict what intelligent life on other planets would look like or how they might behave."

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:19:07 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:19:07 -0500  
Subject: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

Source: IceNews - Reykjavik, Iceland

<http://tinyurl.com/cm7wb>

Feb 6, 2009

Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public  
By Luna Finnsson

The top secret UFO files compiled by Denmark's Air Force over the past 30 years have finally been declassified and opened to public perusal. Some 15,000 reported UFO sightings are detailed in the files, offering plenty for UFO buffs to drool over. The Danish government decided to release the files because they felt "there was nothing secret in the files".

The Copenhagen Post reports that most of the sightings remain unidentified because there was not enough precise information to make a judgment. Many of the sightings, however, were found to be aircraft, weather phenomenon and the like. But not all the sightings were over Danish territory, and rumor has it one sighting over Greenland is drawing particular attention from UFO enthusiasts.

The Greenland incident happened on 5 January 1981, when a square flaming object appeared over the frozen tundra near Thule Air Base. The object disappeared as suddenly as it appeared. Interestingly, the neighbouring American military base recorded the exact same thing.

Danish Air Force Captain Thomas Petersen is an expert on the UFO files, and told the Copenhagen Post that the Air Force's primary concern is defending Denmark against outside threats. "UFOs are not a known threat," Peterson teasingly commented.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People'

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:27:14 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:27:14 -0500  
Subject: Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People'

Source: The Daily Mail - London, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/crr9ur>

03rd February 2009

Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People': The eye disorder that leaves thousands of Britons fearing they've lost their senses

By Morag Preston

Following his wife's death six years ago, David Stannard has become accustomed to spending quiet evenings alone at his home in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

So it came as a surprise to the 73-year-old when he looked up from his television one evening to discover he was sharing his living room with two RAF pilots and a schoolboy.

'The pilots were standing next to the TV, watching it as if they were in the wings of a theatre,' he says.

'The little boy was in a grey, Fifties-style school uniform. He just stood there in the hearth looking puzzled. He was 18 inches high at most.'

Mr Stannard's guests never said a word and vanished after 15 minutes. That night, he says, the walls of his house, which had always been white, looked as though they had been redecorated in patterned wallpaper with a brickwork effect.

The next morning he was caught off-guard again when he found a fair-haired girl standing on his sofa. She also appeared to be from the Fifties, but was life-size, wearing a short skirt and pink cardigan, with chubby knees, white ankle socks and ribbons in her hair.

'I watched her for a while,' he says. 'She didn't move much. Then she was gone.'

It would be easy to dismiss Mr Stannard's story as the bizarre imaginings of an elderly mind. Fortunately, he knew he wasn't losing his mind; neither was his house haunted.

A few weeks earlier he had been registered blind, though he was still able to watch television if he sat at a certain angle. He'd been warned that as his eyesight deteriorated, he might experience visual hallucinations in the form of Charles Bonnet Syndrome (CBS).

'I was lucky enough to know what it was,' he says, 'otherwise I would have thought I was going bonkers.'

An estimated 100,000 people in the UK have CBS, but many won't

realise it because the condition remains something of a mystery.

The real number is probably higher because sufferers are often too ashamed to talk about what they have seen for fear of being considered crazy.

The late historian Lord Dacre of Glanton, formerly Hugh Trevor-Roper, was unusual among CBS patients in that he talked openly about what he jokingly referred to as his 'phantasmagoria'.

He would see horses and bicycles racing, and whole landscapes whizzing by as if he were on a train. On one occasion, he found himself trapped in an apparently endless tunnel.

Hallucinations tend to have common themes: simple geometric patterns, disembodied faces with jumbled features, landscapes, groups of people, musical notes, vehicles and miniature figures in Victorian or Edwardian costume. They can be in black and white or colour, moving or still, but they are always silent.

The condition was named after Charles Bonnet, an 18th-century Swiss natural philosopher whose grandfather had seen people, patterns and vehicles that were not really there. Bonnet was the first person to identify that you could have visual hallucinations and still be mentally sound.

The condition can affect anybody at any age with diminishing eyesight. Even people with normal vision can develop it if they blindfold themselves for long enough.

But most people who have CBS have it as a side-effect of age-related macular degeneration - the most common cause of blindness in the UK. It is thought that up to 60 per cent of patients with severe vision loss develop CBS.

Crucially, CBS is caused by lack of visual stimulation rather than mental dysfunction.

Usually, on opening our eyes, the nerve cells in the retina send a constant stream of impulses to the visual parts of the brain. If the retina is damaged, the stream of impulses reduces, but - rather than lie dormant - other parts of the brain become hyperactive.

So when the brain isn't receiving as many pictures as it is used to, it builds its own artificial images instead from the areas we use every day to process faces, objects, landscapes and colours.

What you hallucinate depends on which part of the brain these increases are located. But why only a proportion of patients with macular degeneration experience hallucinations is still unknown, or why younger patients with macular degeneration are less likely to have CBS than older ones.

Dr Dominic Ffytche, a senior lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, is a leading expert on CBS. He has been at the forefront of a campaign led by the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and The Macular Disease Society calling for eye doctors to warn patients with macular degeneration that they may develop CBS.

He says: 'In our experience, forewarning and knowledge of the possibility of hallucinations helps patients cope when they occur. It allows them to realise this indicates a functional problem with their sight and not a problem with their mind.'

In 2003, Sandra Jones, 54, a former TV producer, thought she was losing her mind when she started seeing faces looming towards her out of nowhere.

Having visited various massacre sites, including Rwanda, as part of her job, she assumed it was a form of post-traumatic stress disorder.

'Part of me thought this was payback time,' she says.

The faces would swirl off the pages of the book she was reading, or appear in front of her computer screen. It would happen three or four times a day, usually when she was feeling relaxed or trying to get to sleep.

'Some nights I couldn't lose them and I would only get an hour's sleep,' she says. 'Closing my eyes wouldn't help, so I'd get up and clean my house just to keep moving. I got the feeling that if I was tired, it would help me fall asleep, which would then free up my mind.'

She didn't dare tell friends or anyone at work for fear of jeopardising her job, and found out about CBS only after researching her symptoms online. Earlier that year she had been diagnosed with Sorsby's fundus dystrophy, a rare genetic eye condition which causes early onset macular degeneration, but nobody had warned her that hallucinations might be a side-effect.

'The unpleasant feeling was of not being in control,' she says. 'Once they are identified, they are not a problem.'

Hallucinations can last from only a few seconds to several hours. In a minority of unlucky cases, they are continuous throughout the day. Patients usually have several daily before they taper off to once a week, then once a month.

For 60 per cent of patients, they will stop entirely after 18 months. There has not yet been a long-term study, but some patients report having them for at least three years.

Part of Dr Ffytche's research involves looking into ways patients can stop the hallucinations. 'There won't be a single recipe for everyone,' he says. 'But hallucinations tend to occur when you are in a state of drowsy wakefulness, so you want to rouse yourself.'

As the condition is caused by a lack of stimulation in the visual part of the brain, one of the techniques he is investigating is stimulating the fingertips.

This is based on the fact that studies of brain scans of sight-impaired people reading Braille show increased activity in that area. The theory is that even feeling a dice with dimples could bring visions to a halt.

Other techniques include holding your breath; turning on a light if it is off, or vice-versa; standing up if you are sitting down; and moving your eyes. In extreme cases, medication is used. But the drugs can have side-effects such as tremors, drowsiness, sickness and diarrhoea.

Dr Winfried Amoaku, chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and a specialist in macular degeneration, says when they come to visit him, patients do two things: first, they request that nobody else is in the room before mentioning the hallucinations, then afterwards they breathe a sigh of relief.

For Mary Orr, 84, from West Kilbride, the final straw was seeing the walls of her house covered in white fur. In desperation, she started to claw at them. 'It was then I thought: "I can't live like this," ' she says.

After months assuming she had dementia, she was referred to a psychiatrist who recognised the signs of CBS straight away and told her to see an eye doctor.

It explains why she still sees pink squares and snakes rising out of the pavement, but Mary is resolute that the worst is behind her. As she says: 'It's the fear of not knowing what's happening that you can't live with.'

The Macular Disease Society, [www.macularisease.org](http://www.macularisease.org), 0845 241 2041; Royal National Institute for the Blind, [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk), 0303 123 9999.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: **Martin Shough** <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 11:26:53 -0000  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 06:51:49 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Terry Colvin <[fortean1.nul](mailto:fortean1.nul)>  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 23:56:40 +0700 (GMT+07:00)  
>Subject: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

><http://www.ufoinfo.com/humanoid/humanoid1910.shtml>

>Location. Aldeburgh England

>Date: 1916  
>Time: 1155A

>Looking out a 2nd story window, Mrs Whitehead saw, a little  
>above the house (about 20 ft up), a round platform with 8-12  
>men, who were staring straight ahead & tightly gripping a brass  
>handrail. They wore blue uniforms & "little hats like sailors."  
>The object approached slowly from nearby marshes, made a turn, &  
>disappeared behind nearby houses. The platform was about a foot  
>thick. The center was "hollow," like a doughnut. No means of  
>propulsion was evident. Duration, less than 5 minutes.

>Humcat 1916-1  
>Source: Gordon Creighton, FSR 15 # 1  
>Type: A

>-----

>In the Fifties and Sixties there were several attempts at  
>building flying platforms for military use. The most famous of  
>these was the Hiller VZ-1 Pawnee, developed in 1954. However,  
>the 8ft (2.5m) platform could only carry one man to a maximum  
>height of 33ft (10m) and at a maximum speed of 16mph (25km/h)  
>using the power of twin ducted fans.

>Richard Timewall invented a similar one-man platform in the mid-  
>Seventies. He sold it as a kit for \$5,795 or a bargain \$97.50  
>for the blueprints only. It was powered by four jet engines and  
>Timewall claimed it had a "ten mile (16km) range, 15-minute  
>flight time, with a top speed of about 40mph (64km/h)"

>Two other claimants for the crown of one-man flying platform  
>were variations on a theme -- the Williams X-Jet and Williams  
>Aerial Systems Platform (or WASP), which both looked a bit like  
>flying pulpits, as the pilot was covered up to waist height.

>It's hard to see how any such man-made flying platforms could  
>have been the cause of the two English (UK) sightings; these  
>were only ever tested in America, decades later, and none  
>carried more than two men.

Hi Terry

This is an old mystery that has made me scratch my head for  
years - the curious nexus of synchronicities that connects 1897-  
1909 mystery airship reports, mediaeval chronicles and the  
"Aldeburgh platform" seen over Suffolk in 1916 (date recollected  
in the 1960s by the elderly witness, whose name incidentally was  
Whiteland, not Whitehead ).

What is the connection? To refresh Listers' memories, in brief:

A Texas newspaper in 1897 published an account of an airship that had been seen by people on their way home from church. It was too high to see more than a strange shape with lights but it was trailing an anchor on a rope which caught on a railroad track, and a man "small in size" in a light blue uniform or "sailor suit" shinned down the rope, cut it, and the thing sailed away. The churchgoers recovered the anchor and it went on display in the local blacksmith's shop.

The 13thC Irish 'Speculum Regale' has an account of a ship in the sky whose anchor caught in the porch of St Kineras church, Cloera. A man came down the rope looking as though "swimming" in the air and the churchgoers tried to grab him but the bishop said to let him go. He scurried back up and cut the rope. The anchor was kept and displayed in the church.

Similar accounts occur in English chronicles. One, in Gervase of Tilbury's *Otia Imperialia* which is in the British Museum's Cotton Collection, where I went to see it many years ago, is set in Kent. A "cloudship" was seen whose anchor got caught among stones in a churchyard. The churchgoers heard voices above and saw a man come down and cut the rope. They grabbed him and he suffocated "in our thick air". In another account the man got away again. In both stories the anchor was kept and made into iron furniture for the church doors by the local blacksmith.

Now in the Aldeburgh case a circular flying platform was seen, probably in 1916 (although not recounted until carrying a number of men dressed in blue suits like sailors standing around it behind a railing. It manoeuvred low over the town and they appeared to be looking out for something.

The connection to the airships and the cloudships is this:

Research into this story by John Harney turned up the facts that

1) Zeppelins were sometimes flown with "observation cars" suspended by a rope far below them, streamlined pods like hollow bombs containing a couple of men lying prone who could spy out the land through little windows while the ship stayed relatively safe at altitude. You can see a stereo pair of one of these here

<http://www.stereo.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/images/wrecks/cuffley.jpg>

2) About a year later than the recollected date of the Aldeburgh sighting Zeppelin L48 crashed and burned at Theberton, which is only a few miles away from the witness's house, killing 16 crew.

<http://www.fairmile.fsbusiness.co.uk/zeppelinww1.htm>

3) They were buried at nearby St Peter's church, and a piece of the Zeppelin framework was put on display in the church porch where it remains to this day with a plaque commemorating the event.

The cherry on this cake for me is that the wreckage fragment in the church is anchor-shaped! I'm not kidding - you can see it here

<http://www.suffolkcam.co.uk/theberton15032003.htm>

There were some very interesting web pages on the Aldeburgh platform by John Harney at the old Magonia site, containing much new information and correspondence, but they've disappeared. Two of them were until recently still available in Google cache but last time I looked these had gone too. Might be worth hunting for. I understand the old Magonia material is being reincarnated at a new site so maybe these pages will become available again?

Martin Shough

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## PRG Update Correction

From: **Stephen G. Bassett** <[PRG.nul](mailto:PRG.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 04:40:29 -0800  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 07:51:55 -0500  
Subject: PRG Update Correction

>X-Conference 2009 - April 17-19, Hilton Hotel, Gaithersburg, MD  
>[www.x-conference.com](http://www.x-conference.com)  
>[www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/registration.htm](http://www.paradigmresearchgroup.org/X-Conference2009/registration.htm)

>The fifth X-Conference also formally launches tomorrow with a  
>national press release. Conference registrations are being taken  
>now at the X-Conference website. Hotel reservations can be made  
>via: 301-977-8900 (booking code: x-conference).

>Because events relevant to Disclosure are breaking on a weekly  
>basis, PRG's confidence that Disclosure is close at hand remains  
>high. For this reason X-Conference 2009 will be to some extent  
>an Exopolitical Summit. PRG will expand the press conference at  
>the National Press Club on Monday morning, January 20 and has  
>booked the First Amendment Room. A substantial press contingent

Note the date for the NPC press conference should be April 20  
not January 20.

SB

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## October 2008 UK MoD UFO Files

From: Joe McGonagle <[joe.mcgonagle.nul](mailto:joe.mcgonagle.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 13:41:18 +0000  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 08:58:29 -0500  
Subject: October 2008 UK MoD UFO Files

I have been requested to make these available to another researcher and have uploaded them to the links shown below. Note that they are still available at a cost from The National Archives.

Due to the effort involved, I will not be uploading these again, so this may be your last chance to download them for free if you haven't already done so.

The links are likely to expire in about 30 days, and they will not work when the server is busy, so I suggest that anyone that needs them downloads them as early as possible.

Regards,

Joe

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File 1:  
File Name: defe-24-1926(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 15 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/yoxtvk>

File 2:  
File Name: defe-24-1927(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 27 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/rtyflz>

File 3:  
File Name: defe-24-1928(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 19 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/e3n6tc>

File 4:  
File Name: defe-24-1929(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 31 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/gpyeg7>

File 5:  
File Name: defe-24-1930(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 33 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/u51wpl>

File 6:  
File Name: defe-24-1931(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 29 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/3wcn2k>

File 7:  
File Name: defe-24-1939(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 10 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/cw3xq5>

File 8:  
File Name: defe-24-1940(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 10 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/5uwjjn>

File 9:  
File Name: defe-24-1941(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 22 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/62agn7>

File 10:  
File Name: defe-24-1942(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 25 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/hmx5wz>

File 11:  
File Name: defe-24-1943(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 4 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/c04uen>

File 12:  
File Name: defe-24-1949(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 27 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/0ibofu>

File 13:  
File Name: defe-24-1951(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 18 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/6ifp17>

File 14:  
File Name: defe-24-1952(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 18 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/sjxrh5>

File 15:  
File Name: defe-24-1953(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 18 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/scdqob>

File 16:  
File Name: defe-24-1954(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 14 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/ap7atl>

File 17:  
File Name: defe-24-1955(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 28 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/rvybhl>

File 18:  
File Name: defe-24-1956(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 20 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/5kvkl6>

File 19:  
File Name: defe-24-1957(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 19 MB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/bestoe>

File 20:  
File Name: oct-2008-highlights-guide(compressed).pdf  
File Size: 164 KB  
Download Link: <http://www.sendspace.com/file/km664j>

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## Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

From: Ole Henningsen <[oleh.nul](mailto:oleh.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 15:27:13 +0100  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 09:56:29 -0500  
Subject: Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

>Source: IceNews - Reykjavik, Iceland

><http://tinyurl.com/cmx7wb>

>Feb 6, 2009

>Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public  
>By Luna Finnsson

>The top secret UFO files compiled by Denmark's Air Force over  
>the past 30 years have finally been declassified and opened to  
>public perusal. Some 15,000 reported UFO sightings are detailed  
>in the files, offering plenty for UFO buffs to drool over. The  
>Danish government decided to release the files because they felt  
>"there was nothing secret in the files".

<snip>

Dear ufo-friends,

Please be aware that the mentioned 15,000 reported ufo-sightings  
were not compiled by the Danish Air Force, but by Scandinavian  
UFO Information, SUFOI, over the last 50 years!

If you want to read about the mentioned released (the reports  
were NOT in any way "declassified") air force files, please read  
the story here:

<http://www.sufoi.dk/index-gb.php>

Best Regards,

Ole

Ole Henningsen  
Scandinavian UFO Information  
<http://www.ufo.dk>>[www.ufo.dk](http://www.ufo.dk)  
Denmark

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: **Jerome Clark** <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 10:45:52 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 11:55:23 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Martin Shough <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 11:26:53 -0000  
>Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>>From: Terry Colvin <[fortean1.nul](mailto:fortean1.nul)>  
>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>>Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 23:56:40 +0700 (GMT+07:00)  
>>Subject: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>This is an old mystery that has made me scratch my head for  
>years - the curious nexus of synchronicities that connects 1897-  
>1909 mystery airship reports, mediaeval chronicles and the  
>"Aldeburgh platform" seen over Suffolk in 1916 (date recollected  
>in the 1960s by the elderly witness, whose name incidentally was  
>Whiteland, not Whitehead ).

>What is the connection? To refresh Listers' memories, in brief:

>A Texas newspaper in 1897 published an account of an airship  
>that had been seen by people on their way home from church. It  
>was too high to see more than a strange shape with lights but it  
>was trailing an an anchor on a rope which caught on a railroad  
>track, and a man "small in size" in a light blue uniform or  
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>sailed away. The churchgoers recovered the anchor and it went on  
>display in the local blacksmith's shop.

>The 13thC Irish 'Speculum Regale' has an account of a ship in  
>the sky whose anchor caught in the porch of St Kineras church,  
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>anchor was kept and displayed in the church.

This isn't much of a mystery, Martin. A few April 1897 papers  
noted the medieval legend. Shortly thereafter, some enterprising  
Texas correspondent incorporated the tale into a contemporary  
airship sighting.

Business as usual, in other words, for the freewheeling  
'journalism' of the period.

Jerry Clark

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# UFO Updates

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

From: Don Ledger <[dledger.nul](mailto:dledger.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 14:05:17 -0400  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 13:24:39 -0500  
Subject: Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

UFO UpDates - Toronto posted:

>Source: IceNews - Reykjavik, Iceland

><http://tinyurl.com/cm7wb>

>Feb 6, 2009

>Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public  
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>The top secret UFO files compiled by Denmark's Air Force over  
>the past 30 years have finally been declassified and opened to  
>public perusal. Some 15,000 reported UFO sightings are detailed  
>in the files, offering plenty for UFO buffs to drool over. The  
>Danish government decided to release the files because they felt  
>"there was nothing secret in the files".

>The Copenhagen Post reports that most of the sightings remain  
>unidentified because there was not enough precise information to  
>make a judgment. Many of the sightings, however, were found to  
>be aircraft, weather phenomenon and the like. But not all the  
>sightings were over Danish territory, and rumor has it one  
>sighting over Greenland is drawing particular attention from UFO  
>enthusiasts.

>The Greenland incident happened on 5 January 1981, when a square  
>flaming object appeared over the frozen tundra near Thule Air  
>Base. The object disappeared as suddenly as it appeared.  
>Interestingly, the neighbouring American military base recorded  
>the exact same thing.

>Danish Air Force Captain Thomas Petersen is an expert on the UFO  
>files, and told the Copenhagen Post that the Air Force's primary  
>concern is defending Denmark against outside threats. "UFOs are  
>not a known threat," Peterson teasingly commented.

One wonders why the Danish Air Force kept 30 years of UFO  
sightings under wraps for the last 30 years if as they stated,  
'there was nothing secret in the files'.

According to Luna Finnsson we 'UFO buffs' will now 'drool' over  
them. The Danish Air Force revitalized that old saw about lack  
of details did not allow identification stating "...most of the  
sightings remained 'unidentified' because the details were not  
precise enough."

If we had more details we could solve them? So could we. One  
wonders though if the answer came up intelligently controlled,  
extra -terrestrial... would they say so?

And then there is the standard.'and UFOs are not a known  
threat'. To my mind keeping the files out of public view is  
partnered with the inane statement that UFOs are not a known  
threat. The two equal embarrassed recognition of the fact that  
the Danish Air Force and those of the US, Canada and the UK can't  
do a damn thing about these invasions of their air space.

In other words, they can't guarantee their own air spaces free

of other than their own or sanctioned aircraft in that airspace.

Don Ledger

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

From: **Franklin Fields** <[fields.nul](mailto:fields.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 14:12:07 -0500 (EST)  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 14:29:46 -0500  
Subject: Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

>From: Don Ledger <[dledger.nul](mailto:dledger.nul)>  
>To: [post.nul](mailto:post.nul)  
>Date: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 14:05:17 -0400  
>Subject: Re: Danish UFO Files Now Open To Public

>UFO UpDates - Toronto posted:

>>Source: IceNews - Reykjavik, Iceland

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>do a damn thing about these invasions of their air space.

>In other words, they can't guarantee their own air spaces free  
>of other than their own or sanctioned aircraft in that airspace.

I agree Don and would add that a declassification of files does  
not mean that all files have now been released.

It is possible that some files still remain classified. How  
would we know if the government has a 'neither confirm or deny'  
policy?

Frank

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: **Martin Shough** <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 20:05:36 -0000  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 15:16:34 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 10:45:52 -0500  
>Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>>From: Martin Shough <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
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>>>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>>>Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 23:56:40 +0700 (GMT+07:00)  
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>>This isn't much of a mystery, Martin. A few April 1897 papers  
>>noted the medieval legend. Shortly thereafter, some enterprising  
>>Texas correspondent incorporated the tale into a contemporary  
>>airship sighting.

>>Business as usual, in other words, for the freewheeling  
>>'journalism' of the period.

Hi Jerry

I entirely accept that the Houston Post story reflects a  
journalist's recognition of some resonance between the 1897  
airships and the mediaeval cloudships. I'd supposed this was  
possible, and I'm interested that you say there were specific  
references made to the mediaeval stories in April 1897. I hadn't  
seen these sources.

Nevertheless, the fact that it occurred to journalists to notice  
and exploit this resonance between modern and mediaeval stories

of manned ships in the air trailing anchors/grapples (the Merkel story is not the only one of that sort from 1897) still interests me, because it does not really, by itself, satisfy my curiosity about the synchronistic "mystery" I mentioned, and indeed even remains - despite the availability of a deterministic account - an instance of it.

This synchronism has several other elements connected via the Aldeburgh platform affair to the dangling 'observers' below Zeppelins, the nearby Zeppelin crash, and the absurdly anchor-shaped fragment of Zeppelin debris preserved in the porch of the local St Peter's church. A direct causal influence either from mediaeval chronicles or Texas newspapers seems harder to envisage in this case.

Of course I can't quantify the unlikelihood, or even meaningfully convey why I find this so peculiar, let alone suggest what it might signify. But it's one of those several absurd features of the UFO mythology that make my scalp prickle instinctively and that I like to mull over from time to time when in a superstitious frame of mind.

Regards

Martin Shough

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'Its All Here In Black & White'

Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## To Stifle Self-Expression

From: **Alfred Lehmborg** <[alienview.nul](mailto:alienview.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 14:20:13 -0600  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 15:34:20 -0500  
Subject: To Stifle Self-Expression

Fellow UpDaters;

Regretfully, I have to make a \_subsequent\_ uncomfortable report so you won't be blindsided by the proceeding and hear it first from me...

Regarding the pernicious, preposterous, and penultimately evil charges of Rich Reynolds on my person:

<http://alienviewgroup.blogspot.com/2005/11/smoke-and-fire.html>

He's at it again, banging the exact \_same\_ discredited drum...

<http://www.alienview.net/news.html>

In the smallest contention with him this could be you.

[alienview.nul](mailto:alienview.nul)  
[www.AlienView.net](http://www.AlienView.net)  
AVG Blog -- <http://alienviewgroup.blogspot.com/>  
U F O M a g a z i n e -- [www.ufomag.com](http://www.ufomag.com)

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 6](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 14:35:32 -0500  
Archived: Fri, 06 Feb 2009 16:01:58 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Martin Shough <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
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>>>>airships and the mediaeval cloudships. I'd supposed this was  
>>>>possible, and I'm interested that you say there were specific  
>>>>references made to the mediaeval stories in April 1897. I hadn't  
>>>>seen these sources.

From my UFO Encyclopedia, 2nd ed. (1998), page 60:

"This oddly compelling tale led even so cautious a scholar as the prominent British folklorist Katharine Briggs to remark, 'This strange early space-men story... shows some glimmering of scientific knowledge about the relative density of the air near the earth. It is one of those strange, unmotivated and therefore rather convincing tales that are scattered through the early chronicles'... Nonetheless, there is nothing eerie or significant about the apparent repetition in small-town Texas centuries later. It is now known that Gervase's account was

reprinted in American newspapers in the spring of 1897 (see, for example, the Taylorville [Illinois] Daily Breeze, April 17), providing the hoaxer (probably the author of the Houston Daily Post story) with a model from which he or she deviated only slightly (even identifying the witnesses as worshippers leaving a church) in producing an 1897 version."

Since writing the above, I've come upon other examples of Gervase of Tilbury's account reprinted in the press of the period.

>Nevertheless, the fact that it occurred to journalists to notice >and exploit this resonance between modern and mediaeval stories >of manned ships in the air trailing anchors/grapples (the Merkel >story is not the only one of that sort from 1897) still >interests me, because it does not really, by itself, satisfy my >curiosity about the synchronistic "mystery" I mentioned, and >indeed even remains - despite the availability of a >deterministic account - an instance of it.

The only other account of an airship anchor, or anchorlike device, that comes to mind is one from Iowa, where a man named Robert Hibbard allegedly was dragged by one. I've always had my doubts about that report, based not so much on anything specific as on the sort of instinct one develops after years of studying these accounts, a significant percentage of which are fictional. I could be wrong, of course, and it's pretty certain that we'll never know with confidence one way or another.

Anyway, if you have other examples, Martin, I'd be interested in seeing what they are.

Cordially,

Jerry Clark

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: **Martin Shough** <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 23:24:08 -0000  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 06:47:40 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 14:35:32 -0500  
>Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

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>never know with confidence one way or another.

>Anyway, if you have other examples, Martin, I'd be interested  
>in seeing what they are.

Thanks, Jerry, for the quote.

I, too, can recall only those two anchor examples off the top of  
my head - though there were some dragging ropes, along with the  
notorious Hamilton cow, and in a couple of 1909 cases suspended  
"platforms" were mentioned. But the likelihood that the Hibbard  
anchor story is also a "fiction" misses the point.

Evidently we are looking at this through different filters. I've  
twice tried to indicate the nature of my interest in the  
Aldeburgh story and its associations, and twice its been  
snipped. It isn't a big deal, but regretfully I'm going to leave  
it there, as I've said my piece and I don't think we are going  
to understand each other this time.

Best

Martin Shough

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People'

From: Rick Nielsen <[nilthchi.nul](mailto:nilthchi.nul)>  
Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 19:28:14 -0800 (PST)  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 06:49:04 -0500  
Subject: Re: Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People'

>Source: The Daily Mail - London, England, UK

><http://tinyurl.com/crr9ur>

>03rd February 2009

>Ghostly Faces And Visions Of 'Little People': The eye disorder  
>that leaves thousands of Britons fearing they've lost their  
>senses

>By Morag Preston

<snip>

>The condition was named after Charles Bonnet, an 18th-century  
>Swiss natural philosopher whose grandfather had seen people,  
>patterns and vehicles that were not really there. Bonnet was the  
>first person to identify that you could have visual  
>hallucinations and still be mentally sound.

>The condition can affect anybody at any age with diminishing  
>eyesight. Even people with normal vision can develop it if they  
>blindfold themselves for long enough.

>But most people who have CBS have it as a side-effect of age-  
>related macular degeneration - the most common cause of  
>blindness in the UK. It is thought that up to 60 per cent of  
>patients with severe vision loss develop CBS.

>Crucially, CBS is caused by lack of visual stimulation rather  
>than mental dysfunction.

<snip>

Alien abductions do not equal:

Abductions of family members, armageddon and paradise visions,  
Charles Bonnet Syndrome, child nurseries, clothing stains,  
conspiracy theories, government or military or uniformed staff  
involvement, implants of foreign material, kidnappings, little  
people, grey aliens, insectoids, reptoids, djinn, Nordics,  
macular degeneration, missing time, night terrors, nightmares,  
paranormal activities, Post Abduction Syndrome, Post Traumatic  
Stress Disorder, reproductive system traumas, scars from normal  
wear and tear, screen memories, sleep disorders, sleep  
paralysis, UFO=A2s, airships, flying saucers, etc., etc., etc.

But elements of all of the above, and more, have occurred with  
alien abductions.

Let's befriend the abductee, collect and quantify the accounts,  
and see if together we can stop the abductions.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Latest Account From Australia

From: **Sheryl Gottschall** <[gottscha.nul](mailto:gottscha.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 7 Feb 2009 13:29:11 +1000  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 06:51:07 -0500  
Subject: Re: Latest Account From Australia

Source: Harlow Herald 24 - Stevenage, England, UK

<http://tinyurl.com/az4o4o>

07 February 2009

UFO Watch: Latest Account From Australia

The Herald's article about UFO sightings on New Year's Day continues to reach a global audience.

Last month Australian Yvonne Vincent contacted the Herald newsroom to tell us about her UFO experience on January 1.

This week Scott Podmore from Warrandyte, near Melbourne, Australia, contacted us with his alien account.

He wrote: "I live in Warrandyte, about 5km further east of Donvale (in Melbourne) and my wife and I sat out on our tennis court on Saturday night (Australian time, January 31) and witnessed what appeared to be a shooting star, very high up.

"However, there wasn't just one - there were three! Two looked like they were on a collision course, but simply flew past each other. Can't explain it, wasn't as dramatic as Yvonne's experience, but certainly something that took us by surprise.

"My wife is a little bit pessimistic with such things as UFOs, ghosts etc but she clearly saw it and believes 'it must be a good sign'. Something very peaceful about the whole experience, all 10 seconds of it.

"There have been no other reports locally as far as I can see, but doing a search on the internet I stumbled upon your article involving Yvonne."

Have you seen strange lights in the sky?

E-mail [heraldnews.nul](mailto:heraldnews.nul)

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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](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive?

From: Joaquim Fernandes <[jfernand.nul](mailto:jfernand.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 7 Feb 2009 11:47:59 -0000  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 07:00:47 -0500  
Subject: Re: Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive?

>From: J. Maynard Gelinus <[j.maynard.gelinus.nul](mailto:j.maynard.gelinus.nul)>  
>To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Thu, 5 Feb 2009 11:44:13 -0500  
>Subject: Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive?

>This is an interesting article. Vallee once suggested that at  
>least some UFO activity might be caused by space faring life  
>forms. I don't think that potential should be discounted. If  
>life exists to extract and use ambient energy to thwart entropy,  
>and there is no requirement for carbon as part of the energy  
>storage and transfer process (CH->H2O->CH), then one might  
>reasonably speculate that at least some of those strange things  
>witnessed by military and tracked in triangulation by multiple  
>radar streams could well be a life form and not Grays from some  
>random star system somewhere out there.

>A silver disc-shaped object might well compare to a bacterium.  
>It might live in an environment near our sun for energy and  
>travel outside for reproduction. Or, perhaps, just by accident.

>From this perspective, the UFO need not be "intelligent" the  
>way we view intelligence, it need only be able to behave at the  
>level of a single cell or small multicellular organism.

>At least some flying saucers are definitely real. But the  
>phenomena needn't be anthropomorphized as little gray men inside  
>a dome shaped bottle as the only explanation.

>The article is here:

>[http://www.scienceagogo.com/news/20070715030629data\\_trunc\\_sys.shtml](http://www.scienceagogo.com/news/20070715030629data_trunc_sys.shtml)

>"Physicists Mull Whether Inorganic Dust Formations Could Be Alive"

<snip>

Dear List Members,

The UFO bacterium-like hypothesis was suggested by the Portuguese researcher Dr. Raul Berenguel in the last 70's in his book, OVNI Portas para o Ano Zero - UFO Door For Year Zero - where he deals extensively with the very disturbing Evora case, November 2, 1959, in the south of Portugal.

We recounted those events in the TV documentary for RTP 2, the second channel of Portuguese State Television, produced by our Center - CTEC - at the University Fernando Pessoa, in Porto, and presented by me. That episode is available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/bzkjuz>

In his book, now out of print, Raul Berenguel reproduced the original report of a daily "silver disc" observed through a little telescope over Evora town made by a large group of people, scholars and students from the main local Institute.

In the same moment a large amount of angel-hair substance was delivered over the houses and streets of Evora covering a large

area of the center city. Caught in the angel-hair substance - Berenguel called it "fibrilvina", a neologism for the substance - was a little "organism" that was the controversial subject of a dispute in those days concerning its nature.

The Evora dossier is too long to be described here.

Nevertheless, its features seems to be compared within the "bacterium hypothesis" here described and also pointed by my friend Jacques Vallée.

Joaquim Fernandes, PhD  
University Fernando Pessoa  
Porto  
Portugal

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# UFO Updates

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Greek UFO Incident Involving Air Force & Airline

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 07:21:47 -0500  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 07:21:47 -0500  
Subject: Greek UFO Incident Involving Air Force & Airline

Source: All News Web - Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

<http://www.allnewsweb.com/page2992994.php>

7-2-2009

Greece: Amazing UFO Incident Involving Air Force And Airline  
Michael Cohen  
[m.cohen.nul](mailto:m.cohen.nul)

A remarkable UFO incident that occurred in the skies over Athens over a year ago but was kept secret by the Greek Aviation Authority and the Greek Air Force has recently come to light and is receiving extensive media coverage in Greece. A recording of the conversation (in Greek) between the pilot involved and the airport control tower has been made public and can be listened to below. A copy of the official document named 'Lightning 2' commanding two F-16's to intercept the UFO can also be viewed below.

On 11 October 2007 at 3:20am the captain of Olympic Airways flight 266 from Athens to London noticed an extremely unusual object moving erratically to the west of Athens. The object was somewhat star like in appearance however much brighter and larger with a constantly shifting shape.

Meanwhile the captains of Olympic Airways flights 730 to Kos and 700 to Rhodes reported the same thing. The sighting was then confirmed by Athens Airport control tower, whose employees observed the object moving towards Karystos, a small town on the Greek island of Euboea. At this point the Greek Air Force was contacted.

The Greek Air Force confirmed that they too were visually monitoring the object from their radar station at the top of Parintha Mountain near Athens and had observed that it was travelling at incredible speed and did not fit the description of any terrestrial craft. The staff at the Air Force radar station later described the UFO as large, of an unusual shape and very bright. Air force staff were requested to photograph the craft and did so (no pictures have come to light yet).

At this point two F-16=92s were sent up too intercept the UFO, while the various control towers monitored the object from earth. The object then shot off at incredible speed skyward and the Jets failed to indentify anything. While both staff at the Athens Airport and the Parintha Mountain Air Force Radar Unit confirmed that they clearly observed the object their radars picked up nothing.

The ensuing deliberate cover-up of this incident by the Greek authorities is being treated as fact by that country's media.

Possibly the most bizarre aspect of this sighting is that although the object was witnessed simultaneously by three pilots with decades of flying experience between them, staff at

multiple radar and ground control stations and the Greek Air Force, who actually sent jets up to chase it, it has been dismissed by some Greek Government officials as a mistaken sighting of...wait for it=85.Venus! This, despite the fact that the captain of flight 266 remains convinced he saw a UFO.

With that in mind, are these Government officials planning to request an investigation into the capability, if not sanity, of their country's Air Force ground control staff? Don=92t hold your breath.

It is hardly surprising that if indeed aliens are visiting earth they would take an interest in Greece, that cradle of western civilization. What is more surprising is Western media=92s complete non-coverage of this incident and the continuing and sometimes absurd attempts by governments to deny the obvious as far as UFOs are concerned. Perhaps the Ancient Athenian culture of intellectual curiosity and questioning existing belief systems has been replaced by one of secrecy, concealment and the idea that the public does not have the right to know what is happening in the universe around them.

Below is the recording of the pilots conversation with the airport control tower:

[Video Player]

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# UFO Updates

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

From: **Jerome Clark** <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 7 Feb 2009 09:20:33 -0500  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 10:44:04 -0500  
Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>From: Martin Shough <[parcellular.nul](mailto:parcellular.nul)>  
>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 23:24:08 -0000  
>Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>>From: Jerome Clark <[jkclark.nul](mailto:jkclark.nul)>  
>>To: <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
>>Date: Fri, 6 Feb 2009 14:35:32 -0500  
>>Subject: Re: Military Fliers - Flying One-Man Platforms

>I, too, can recall only those two anchor examples off the top of  
>my head - though there were some dragging ropes, along with the  
>notorious Hamilton cow, and in a couple of 1909 cases suspended  
>"platforms" were mentioned. But the likelihood that the Hibbard  
>anchor story is also a "fiction" misses the point.

>Evidently we are looking at this through different filters. I've  
>twice tried to indicate the nature of my interest in the  
>Aldeburgh story and its associations, and twice its been  
>snipped. It isn't a big deal, but regretfully I'm going to leave  
>it there, as I've said my piece and I don't think we are going  
>to understand each other this time.

Sigh. I have nothing to say about platforms, but I do know  
something about airships. You made a point on which I thought I  
could shed some light, and you respond like this.

I am well aware that the issue of the factuality or otherwise of  
the Hibbard story is not of interest to you. It is, however, of  
interest to me and, I suspect, to readers who have heard of it.

Jerry Clark

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

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 7](#)

## Re: Greek UFO Incident Involving Air Force &

From: Nick Balaskas <[nikolaos.nul](mailto:nikolaos.nul)>  
Date: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 11:05:07 -0500  
Archived: Sat, 07 Feb 2009 11:13:57 -0500  
Subject: Re: Greek UFO Incident Involving Air Force &

>Source: All News Web - Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

><http://www.allnewsweb.com/page2992994.php>

>7-2-2009

>Greece: Amazing UFO Incident Involving Air Force And Airline  
>Michael Cohen  
>[m.cohen.nul](mailto:m.cohen.nul)

>A remarkable UFO incident that occurred in the skies over Athens  
>over a year ago but was kept secret by the Greek Aviation  
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>is receiving extensive media coverage in Greece. A recording of  
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>commanding two F-16's to intercept the UFO can also be viewed  
>below.

<snip

>Possibly the most bizarre aspect of this sighting is that  
>although the object was witnessed simultaneously by three pilots  
>with decades of flying experience between them, staff at  
>multiple radar and ground control stations and the Greek Air  
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>dismissed by some Greek Government officials as a mistaken  
>sighting of...wait for it, Venus! This, despite the fact that  
>the captain of flight 266 remains convinced he saw a UFO.

>With that in mind, are these Government officials planning to  
>request an investigation into the capability, if not sanity, of  
>their country's Air Force ground control staff? Don't hold your  
>breath.

<snip>

>Below is the recording of the pilots conversation with the  
>airport control tower:

>[Video Player]

Hi Everyone!

There are some questions that first need to be answered before  
we can say for sure that the bright light or UFO that was  
reported in the sky over Greece was indeed the planet Venus.

According to the video clip, the narrator says, in Greek, that  
Olympic Airways Flight 266 was a London to Athens flight (not  
Athens to London as in the article below). In the same clip the  
pilot of Flight 266 says that he thinks this light in the sky  
may be another aircraft at about the same height as his  
aircraft (which implies an elevation in the sky close to zero  
degrees). The pilot also says that this light is to his right  
and the Athens control tower says they have nothing on their  
radar. These additional facts are very important in determining

if this bright light in the sky was indeed the planet Venus.

Venus is the third brightest object in the sky after the Sun and Moon and is only present in the sky up to a maximum of about 4 hours before sunrise or after sunset.

Since the reported time of this UFO sighting was 3:20 a.m. and sunrise in London and Athens for October 11, 2007 was 7:17 a.m. and 7:29 a.m. respectively, a difference of about 4 hours, it is possible that the bright light could have been the planet Venus seen just above the eastern horizon. The effects of atmospheric refraction so low in the sky would also make this star like light (Venus?) seem to move erratically and to be constantly shifting its shape as was reported.

If we assume that Flight 266 originated in Athens, then the light the pilot saw to his right would most certainly have been Venus. If the flight originated in London to the north-west of Athens, then that light would move more to the south since his aircraft would be heading in a south-easterly direction (unless the pilot was close to Athens and thus in a different heading in preparation for landing). If that light in the sky was indeed low in the sky and in a southern direction, it could not have been the planet Venus.

On the day of this UFO sighting, Venus was close to its maximum brightness and was a close companion in the sky with Saturn, a less bright planet located just a few degrees away (and below) from Venus. Did the pilot of the Flight 266 also report seeing Venus too - a very bright light very low in the sky that he could not be sure of? Venus has frequently been confused as a UFO, even by experienced observers of the sky, especially when it is so low in the sky that it appears to be a distant aircraft flying at about the same altitude as Flight 266. Those of us who live not far from busy airports are familiar with the slow moving or momentarily stationary lights seen just above the horizon in the general direction of the airport. It is easy to confuse the planet Venus with a UFO, especially during pre-dawn or post-dusk times on very dark Moonless nights as on the date of this reported UFO sighting.

Greek F-16s (and Canadian F-18s) are routinely dispatched to intercept unknowns over their territory (for example, Turkish jets probing our defenses or Israeli warplanes practising long distant bombings). The fact that civilian and military radars in Athens and in nearby Parintha Mountain did not pick up the UFOs further suggests that the light seen by Flight 266 and confirmed by two other commercial aircraft (Flights 730 to Kos and Flight 700 to Rhodes) which would have been flying on easterly and southeasterly directions, was indeed Venus since this planet would have been visible very low in the sky in front of these two civilian aircraft.

From the times the Greek fighter planes were dispatched suggests that there was a second UFO in the sky over Greece (this time a real one?) later that same morning.

This would not be the first time the Greek Air Force was called out where a UFO incident was covered-up. For example, in 1990, there was a UFO crash in central Greece where debris was collected and later analyzed (see first URL below). Although there were many witnesses to this UFO incident (this time it was not the planet Venus) nothing official was ever released - a policy followed by all world governments.

<http://www.v-j-enterprises.com/ufogreek.html>

For example, just a few days before this UFO crash in Greece there was another one in Canada (see second URL below). From eyewitness accounts, a variety of aircraft from both NORAD and the Canadian Armed Forces were involved in the apparent recovery of the wreckage. Again, no official report was ever released to the public of this little known Canadian UFO crash incident.

<http://www.cseti.org/crashes/157.htm>

Nick Balaskas

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 8](#)

## Astronomical Causes Of UFOs

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:12:47 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:12:47 -0500  
Subject: Astronomical Causes Of UFOs

Source: Ian Ridpath.Com - Brentford, Middlesex, England, UK

<http://www.ianridpath.com/ufo/astroufol.htm>

January 27, 2009

Astronomical Causes Of UFOs  
Ian Ridpath

Surprising as it may seem, astronomical objects are the most common cause of mistaken UFO reports, including close encounters.

---

Approaching Manchester airport, England, on the evening of 1995 January 6, a British Airways Boeing 737 with 60 passengers on board was buzzed by a bright, fast-moving UFO. The first officer ducked instinctively as it flashed past. The conversation between the pilot and Manchester air traffic control was as follows:

Pilot: "We just had something go down the right hand side just above us very fast"

Manchester: "Well, there's nothing seen on radar. Was it an aircraft?"

Pilot: "Well, it had lights, it went down the starboard side very quick"

Manchester: "And above you?"

Pilot: "Just slightly above us, yeah".

At the time of the incident, which occurred at 18.48 pm, the Boeing was descending through 4,000 ft altitude about nine miles southeast of Manchester. Visibility was over 10 km, it was dark and the Boeing was flying in clear air above cumulus cloud on a northerly heading. The UFO was moving in the opposite direction and was visible for about two seconds. There was no apparent sound or wake. No other pilots reported it, nor was it seen from the ground, presumably because of the intervening cloud.

The incident was considered so unusual that the pilots submitted a report which was investigated by the Civil Aviation Authority's (CAA) Independent Joint Airmiss Working Group. Their findings were published in February 1996.

In his report to the CAA the pilot described the object as having a number of small white lights, like a Christmas tree. While he was convinced that the object itself was lit, the co-pilot differed, describing it as a dark wedge-shaped object with what could have been a black stripe down the side, and thought that it was illuminated by the Boeing 737's landing lights. (In fact this is unlikely, since the object was above and to the



side of the Boeing). The co-pilot was convinced that it was not a meteorological phenomenon, balloon, or any other craft they were familiar with, including a Stealth aircraft.

In its investigation the CAA considered the possibility that the UFO could have been another aircraft ranging from a hang glider or microlight to a military flight, but found no evidence to support such suggestions. The CAA investigators did not consider other possible causes since they were outside their remit of air safety, but remarked that "almost all unusual sightings can be attributed to a wide range of well-known natural phenomena". They concluded that the incident "remains unresolved".

Had the CAA chosen to consider astronomical explanations, a likely answer would not have been difficult to find. From the captain's description, the object sounds like a bright fireball, and in view of the lack of a radar return or a wake there is no good reason to suppose that it was anything else. Such a misidentification by experienced pilots is not unusual, as we shall see from what follows. In fact, another British Airways pilot and two RAF Tornado pilots had described a satellite re-entry in similar terms in 1990 (for details, see here and here). But, in the annals of UFOlogy, the Manchester case has gone down as a UFO officially endorsed by the Civil Aviation Authority.

---

Amateur astronomers know more about the causes of UFO sightings than most so-called UFO researchers. Arthur C. Clarke, not a man with a closed mind, once said: "If you've never seen a UFO, you're not very observant. And if you've seen as many as I have, you won't believe in them."

To see what he meant, we need to look at some statistics. Astronomical objects are by far the main causes of mistaken UFO reports. In a classic analysis of 1,300 UFO reports made to the Center for UFO Studies in the US, published by Allan Hendry in *The UFO Handbook* (Sphere, 1980), just over half of all identified nocturnal lights were accounted for by astronomical causes: stars, planets, meteors, the Moon, artificial satellites, and satellite re-entries.

What's more, astronomical objects also featured prominently among the identified daytime UFOs, those involving apparent corroboration by radar, and the various classes of close encounters, including the celebrated Third Kind in which occupants are supposedly sighted. In short, an astronomical solution should always be uppermost in a UFO investigator's mind, but experience shows that few UFOlogists have even a rudimentary understanding of astronomy and so fail to weed out even easily explicable cases.

Why should simple lights in the sky cause such confusion? As amateur astronomers know, most people are totally unfamiliar with the sky. Highly credible witnesses such as teachers, policemen and pilots (yes, and astronomers) can still be surprised by the unexpected appearance of a bright star, planet, meteor, or satellite.

Usually, a description such as "it seemed to hover for an hour" is diagnostic of a star or planet (people get fed up watching after about an hour, or the object sets). Often there are other descriptions such as "flashing coloured lights" or "it appeared to be rotating" which is how bright stars appear when they are twinkling, notably Sirius on a cold, frosty night. Binoculars do not always help identification if they happen to be cheap and with optical defects that produce spurious colours and shapes.

Additional information such as "it wasn't there before" or "it appeared to move slowly" or "it dodged around" are still consistent with characteristics of stars and planets. Many people don't realize that stars rise and set during the night. Thin clouds can make stars appear to dim and brighten, as though they were receding or approaching. And, when seen between scudding clouds, stars really do appear to dodge around.

A more subtle effect is known technically as the autokinetic effect. In this, natural movements of the eye make a stationary object appear to move irregularly, sometimes zooming up and down or swinging from side to side in a movement sometimes described as like a "falling leaf". Autokinetic motion can be uncanny when

watching artificial satellites, which often appear to zig zag or even make deviations around stars in their path.

Another shortcoming of human perception is that it is impossible to judge the distances of lights in the sky. A planet millions of miles away, an aircraft several thousand feet away, or a torch bulb a few dozen yards away all appear much the same size and brightness at night. The examples in this article show the tendency of witnesses to grossly underestimate the distance of nocturnal lights.

Let's start by looking at some instructive examples involving the planet Venus, the biggest UFO culprit of all, popularly known as the "evening star" (although it can also appear in the morning sky as the "morning star"). As amateur astronomers know, Venus is the brightest object in the night sky after the Moon and can dazzle the eye, sometimes appearing cross-shaped. Back in 1967, there was a famous case in which two policemen in Devon, England, reported Venus as a UFO shaped like a "flying cross" and chased it in their car at speeds up to 90 mile/h.

Perhaps the most celebrated UFO witness of all time was the governor of the US state of Georgia, a former American naval officer trained in celestial navigation and nuclear physics, who was later to become president of the United States: Jimmy Carter. In 1973, Carter reported that four years earlier he and 10 other people in the town of Leary, Georgia, had watched a brilliant UFO low on the horizon which appeared to move towards them and away again, while changing in brightness, size, and colour. He estimated the distance as between 300 ft and 1,000 ft, and said that at times it became almost as big and bright as the full Moon.

This case was thoroughly investigated by Robert Sheaffer, who described it in his book *The UFO Verdict* (Prometheus, 1981). For a start, Sheaffer found that Carter was nine months out in his recollection of the date. Of the ten claimed witnesses, Sheaffer could find only one who remembered the incident even vaguely, and he thought the object might have been a balloon. But with the correct date established, Sheaffer found that the witnesses had been looking straight at brilliant Venus. The errors in his report are typical of those made by UFO witnesses: the size and brightness of the object is overestimated, the distance is underestimated, and spurious motion is attributed to the object.

In *The UFO Handbook*, Allan Hendry describes an apparent close encounter of the third kind stimulated by Venus. A woman reported that a very bright object in the southwest had made a slow, jerky descent over a period of an hour one evening. As she stared at it, she became convinced that she could see occupants with rounded silvery heads looking out of the object's windows. The UFO turned up again on subsequent nights, exactly where Venus should be.

Keep this report of apparent occupants in mind when considering the famous story of an American couple, Betty and Barney Hill, who claimed to have been chased by a UFO one night. Barney stopped to look at the object through binoculars and reported seeing a row of windows with alien faces peering out. Thinking they were going to be abducted, the Hills drove off in panic. Later, Betty Hill dreamed that they really were abducted, and many UFOlogists have believed her dream story.

Yet, from Betty Hill's own sketch, Robert Sheaffer has identified the UFO as Jupiter, which is second only to Venus in brightness. The apparent 'chasing' is another phenomenon of celestial objects, which appear to keep pace with moving cars. Sheaffer also describes a hilarious 100 mph police chase of Venus through Ohio and Pennsylvania in 1966. They never did catch it, but they did inspire a scene in the movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*.

Another example of a 'close encounter' with Venus concerns a Spanish family driving home one evening, known as the Serena encounter after the family involved. They reported that they were chased by a bright light which descended to a height of 7 to 8 metres above their car, lowered landing gear and caused one of their children to be violently sick. Venus at that time was a brilliant object in the evening sky but the investigators of this case, who included an American professor of physics, Willy Smith, rejected Venus as an explanation because its setting time

was around 9.30 pm GMT, whereas the UFO was visible until 10.30 pm.

However, the investigators forgot that Spain keeps one hour ahead of GMT and so the visibility of the UFO matched that of Venus exactly. The child's stomach upset is easily explained by a combination of fear and travel sickness on the winding road. Hence even a close encounter endorsed by a professor of physics can have a simple astronomical explanation.

In recent years, I have seen a number of videos taken with hand-held camcorders which appear to show saucer-shaped objects making erratic motions in the evening sky. These videos are clearly of Venus in twilight. The "movement", noticeable only when the camera is zoomed in, is due simply to tremors in the hands of the excited camera operator, while the apparent shapes of the objects are optical effects in the camera itself. Parenthetically, video evidence has also made it clear that many daytime UFOs are now caused by small, shiny helium-filled balloons of the type given out at fairgrounds. In addition, a type of rotating reflective kite called the UFO SAM has made its own contribution to sightings. More recently, small decorative hot air balloons called Sky Lanterns or UFO Balloons have joined the list of culprits, generating reports of orange-coloured "saucer fleets". (For more about fire balloon misidentifications and pranks, see here and here). Another addition to the list, brought to my attention by someone who was temporarily fooled by one at night, are kites and balloons designed to scare birds. Even black plastic bags, when heated by the Sun, can become UFO-like balloons.

Getting back to astronomy, it is understandable that people can misidentify planets and bright stars - but surely not the Moon? Yet it happens. Allan Hendry describes a case in which three witnesses observed a saucer "25 ft in diameter" accompanied by two pulsating lights which hovered over a car park for nearly an hour, dimming the car park lights as though draining power from them. A humming noise was heard which changed to a loud beeping before the saucer shot straight up into the sky. A parakeet owned by one of the witnesses screeched and her dogs barked. The woman felt as though she was in a trance and could hardly move.

This has all the hallmarks of a classic UFO case: electromagnetic effects, animal reactions, and physical effects on the witnesses. However, Hendry determined that the witnesses were looking at the crescent Moon (the "saucer") with Mars and Jupiter next to it (the "pulsating lights"). The dimming of the car park lights was caused by intermittent mist which eventually obscured the Moon and planets. The rest of the report is a marvellous product of human imagination.

Meteors (bits of dust and rock from space burning up in the atmosphere to produce a brilliant streak of light) are less easy to identify after the event because of their transient nature. Humans are as bad at estimating time as they are at estimating brightness and distance, and reports often exaggerate the duration for which a meteor was seen. Very bright meteors - say, brighter than the planet Venus - are termed fireballs. These are so bright they can be caught on normal video cameras, and a fascinating selection of sightings can be found on this page - particularly impressive is the Perth fireball of 2005, filmed by chance during a family party at a house in Western Australia, which generated widespread reports of an aircraft crash [2.5 MB AVI file]. Also try this one seen more recently (2009) in Sweden.

Even people familiar with normal meteors can be fooled by unusually bright fireballs. Here is an example quoted by Philip Klass in his book UFOs Explained (Random House, 1974). Pilots aboard a commercial jet flying at 39,000 ft over the United States in 1969 were reportedly buzzed in daylight at a distance of 300 ft by a formation of four objects emitting a blue-green flame. A military jet flying some miles behind the airliner reported a squadron of UFOs approaching that suddenly started to climb as if to avoid a collision.

At the same time as this UFO "encounter", a brilliant daylight fireball broke up into several flaming pieces over the United States, and there seems little doubt that this is what the pilots saw, despite the fact that it was actually over 100 miles away from, them. So even experienced pilots can make major

errors of identification and distance. That doesn't make them bad airmen, simply human. The encounter near Manchester reported at the start of this article seems to have been a more modest example of the same thing. For an example of how a brilliant fireball and bright stars featured in a multi-witness sighting involving the US Air Force, see my investigation of the celebrated Rendlesham Forest UFO case.

Even sightings involving military radar are no more likely to involve "genuine" UFOs. In 1989 a series of reports began to emanate from Belgium, culminating on the night of 1990 March 30-31 with widespread sightings by police and an aerial "chase" by Belgian Air Force F-16 fighters involving radar contact with an unidentified target. This now-famous event turned out to have been sparked off by misidentifications of bright stars and planets while the radar returns were due to atmospheric effects and equipment malfunction. Faced with cases such as this and Rendlesham, both still declared unexplained by some UFOlogists, one wonders how far it is possible to credit any UFO report.

Over half a century after the launch of Sputnik 1, many people are still surprised to find that orbiting satellites can be seen from the ground with the naked eye. Satellites have tricks that can fool even experienced observers. Some satellites flash as they rotate; others travel in convoys, including triangular formations; and others fade and disappear as they enter the Earth's shadow, giving an effect that is sometimes described as "vanishing rapidly upwards".

A new breed of UFO culprits is a series of satellites launched to relay signals for the Iridium mobile phone system. There are over 70 of these, launched since May 1997, and they have highly reflective aluminium antennae which can catch the Sun, giving sudden spectacular glints far brighter than any star or planet, lasting for a few seconds. Such sudden brightening followed by fading may give the impression of something rapidly approaching and then receding.

I have mentioned the zig-zagging of satellites due to effects in the eye. In his collection of essays *The View from Serendip* (Gollancz, 1978), Arthur C. Clarke described an unexpected sighting of the balloon satellite Echo which appeared to stop and hover overhead before resuming its onward path. The reasons, as he realized afterwards, were that he and film producer Stanley Kubrick, who was also watching, were too excited to observe calmly; it is almost impossible to assess the motion of something overhead; and moonlight had swamped the background stars against which the motion could be judged.

Echo, a particularly brilliant satellite, re-entered long ago, but many other bright satellites have taken its place, notably the International Space Station. If real alien spacecraft were whizzing around in orbit they would rapidly be noticed both by amateur satellite spotters and by defence radars which are actually designed to look for spaceships - our own.

Finally, satellite re-entries occur on a daily basis. In appearance they are similar to fireballs but can be brighter, longer-lasting, and slower-moving. As a man-made object burns up it usually fragments into numerous pieces, giving the impression of a cigar-shaped UFO with portholes.

For instance, a widely reported sighting over the British Isles early on 1993 March 31 termed the Cosford Incident is now known to have been caused by the re-entry of the rocket that launched the Russian Cosmos 2238 satellite into orbit, combined with the misidentification of a police helicopter by a meteorologist at an RAF base an hour and a half later. Yet the MOD investigator at the time, Nick Pope, declared: "It seems that an unidentified object of unknown origin was operating in the UK Air Defence Region without being detected on radar." Hence another solved case has come to be regarded by some as an officially recognized UFO.

Satellite predictions, including flashes from Iridium satellites, can be obtained for any location in the world from the web site hosted by the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) on <http://www.heavens-above.com>

Good UFO spotting!

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<http://www.ianridpath.com/cv/cv.htm>  
[ian.nul](mailto:ian.nul)

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 8](#)

## UFOs In The Pacific Ocean

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:27:55 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:27:55 -0500  
Subject: UFOs In The Pacific Ocean

Source: True Ghost Tales - Morehead, Kentucky, USA

<http://www.trueghosttales.com/paranormal/ufo-in-the-pacific-ocean/>

February, 2008

UFO In The Pacific Ocean

During my stint in the Navy I was on an ammunition ship (USS Kilauea) in the Indian Ocean somewhere near Vietnam around early 1974.

Myself and two friends were out on the Foxhull (bow of the ship), it was dark, around 9 pm probably. There was little or no moon but millions of stars like always out there. We were in a group with a destroyer and a carrier, I think the USS Mason DD, and maybe the Oriskany.

We were watching the Mason in front of us and the glowing trail of ocean it was kicking up from the phosphorus algae in the water when the ocean in front of us lit up, started glowing. It got brighter and brighter and then this really bright orange/yellow ball came out of the water on the right-starboard side of the destroyer. It flew over the top of the destroyer and went back in the ocean on the port side, with the same glowing ocean water and then disappeared.

We all just stared at each other with our mouths open. We could not believe what we saw, but I asked friends of mine who were on watch on the bridge if they saw it and they all did. There was nothing ever reported that I know of though and we just quit talking about it. I bet the destroyer got a good look at it. It went right over the bridge of that ship and it was big. Maybe 150 to 200 feet in diameter. That was my big encounter.

Written by Norman Burns copyright 2008

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Comments

<snip>

Bill says:  
April 10, 2008 at 2:12 pm

I was Stationed on USS Reeves (CG24) at the same place in late 1974. I had the 0000-0400 Sonar Watch. At about 0130, I picked up a rather large blip (about the size between a carrier and a cruiser) off our port side beam about 140 degrees relative at 2000 yards and drifting towards our baffles. I could only pick up the contact with Active Sonar, nothing showed up with the passive sonar. I reported the bearing and range to the Bridge and to CIC. The Bridge Lookout saw a large glow in the water and the Officer of the deck brought the ship around so I could maintain contact. CIC could not pick it up initially on our

Radar, but as we got within 1,000 yard they had a blip, then another, and another. All of a sudden I lost Sonar Contact like it was never there, but CIC still had it at last bearing with an abrupt positive altitude change. The chatter was look at the size of that thing. I went outside through the sonar door on the Port Side and visually saw a large moonlike shape that flew upward over the ship at a 60 degree angle and disappeared into the sky in seconds. I heard no noise from the object when it went over us. I saw a full moon that night on the other side of the ship, but it remained fairly constant give or take a few ship rolls.

When we pulled into port a few weeks later, all records in the Bridge, CIC, and Sonar logs about that time were torn out. Whoever tore them out made one error, the pen imprint on the next page was still there. No one spoke of the incident again.

[Thanks to 'The Norm' for the lead]

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## More BS From CSI On Big Sur

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:56:32 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 06:56:32 -0500  
Subject: More BS From CSI On Big Sur

Source: Frank Warren's UFO Chronicles.Com

[www.theufochronicles.com/2009/02/more-bs-from-csi-on-big-sur.html](http://www.theufochronicles.com/2009/02/more-bs-from-csi-on-big-sur.html)

Saturday, February 07, 2009

More BS From CSI On Big Sur  
By Robert Hastings  
[ufohastings.com](http://ufohastings.com)

Journalist Terry Hansen is the author of the excellent book, *The Missing Times: News Media Complicity in the UFO Cover-up*, which authoritatively exposes the U.S. government's infiltration of the American elite media over the decades - for the purpose of covertly promoting officially-sanctioned propaganda on a variety of subjects, ranging from communism to UFOs.

Regarding CSICOP [now renamed the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry or CSI], Hansen examines the possibility that the organization that publishes *Skeptical Inquirer* magazine, CSICOP/CSI, was infiltrated early on by a small but determined group of U.S. government-affiliated operatives, whose true motives have far more to do with disinformation than skepticism.

He writes, "[The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal] is an organization of people who oppose what they contend is pseudo-science... CSICOP, contrary to its impressive-sounding title, does not sponsor scientific research. On the contrary, it's main function has been to oppose scientific research, especially in areas such as psychic phenomena and UFOs, two topics that, coincidentally or not, have been of demonstrated interest to the intelligence community over the decades. Instead, CSICOP devotes nearly all of its resources to influencing the American public via the mass media. As author Jerome Clark, editor of the *International UFO Reporter*, once pointed out, 'CSICOP's ability to influence media is legendary. It's Manual for Local, Regional and National Groups devotes 17 pages to 'Handling the Media' and 'Public Relations' and, tellingly, a mere three to 'Scientific Investigations'....'"

Hansen continues, "CSICOP can accurately be described as a propaganda organization because it does not take anything approaching an objective position regarding UFOs. The organization's stance is militantly anti-UFO research and it works hard to see that the news media broadcast its views whenever possible. When the subject of UFOs surfaces, either in the news media or any other public forum, CSICOP members turn out rapidly to add their own spin to whatever is being said. Through its "Council for Media Integrity" CSICOP maintains close ties with the editorial staffs of such influential science publications as *Scientific American*, *Nature*, and *New Scientist*. Consequently, it's not too hard to understand why balanced UFO articles seldom appear in those [magazines]."

"... CSICOP [now CSI] members typically publish their thoughts on UFOs and other 'paranormal' phenomena via Prometheus Books, a



closely related publishing house that also offers a surprising number of volumes on such topics as child-adult sexuality, prostitution, sadomasochism, and pornography. It would be interesting to know which titles sell better; those devoted to debunking UFOs and paranormal research, or those about sex. Perhaps it's worth pointing out at this point that cross-subsidizing unprofitable activities with profitable ones has been a hallmark of many covert intelligence operations."

The long-time and still-current Executive Editor of Skeptical Inquirer, Kendrick Frazier, worked for more than two decades as a PR Specialist at Sandia National Laboratories - although one will have to look high and low to find references to that employment in his magazine and even in his self-published online biography. Sandia Labs is one of the U.S. government's most important nuclear weapons labs. Those of you familiar with my research know that a UFO-Nukes Connection has been confirmed by hundreds of declassified USAF, FBI and CIA documents, as well as by the testimony of nearly 100 USAF veterans who were involved in the incidents.

So who is routinely trying to debunk the reality of UFOs and the notion of a UFO cover-up in Skeptical Inquirer? Why, a PR guy working for the U.S. government's nuclear weapons program! (Although he is strangely shy about publicly acknowledging where he picked up his paycheck for over 20 years, the same period when he was feverishly debunking UFOs!)

The Big Sur case, which Frazier's rag tried to debunk in 1993, involved the filming of a UFO shooting down a dummy nuclear warhead in flight, on September 15, 1964 - according to two former U.S. Air Force officers, Dr. Bob Jacobs and Dr. Florenze Mansmann. In the wake of my well-documented article on the case, posted at my website in 2008, Skeptical Inquirer's latest issue once again attempts to debunk the Big Sur UFO Incident, using the same sleight-of-hand tricks, distortions, and outright falsehoods the magazine trotted out in the earlier bogus article by Kingston A. George in 1993. Same BS, new packaging.

I am currently preparing a rebuttal and will post it on this forum and elsewhere. The title will be: Kingston George's Latest Comments In Skeptical Inquirer On The Big Sur UFO: Deep Denial Or Disinformation?

The actual facts about Big Sur may be found on the Articles page at my website:

ufohastings.com

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## Did A UFO Appear At The Inauguration?

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 07:14:28 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 07:14:28 -0500  
Subject: Did A UFO Appear At The Inauguration?

Source: The Lufkin Daily News - Texas, USA

<http://tinyurl.com/att5gr>

Sunday, February 08, 2009

Did A UFO Appear At The Inauguration?

By Jim Moore  
Contributing writer

There is a piece of really interesting video that was shown live on CNN the day of the inauguration. As Wolf Blitzer and Anderson Cooper are outside at a table, discussing the activities, what appears to be a large, cigar shaped silver object darts across the screen in the background, at what appears to be a speed much faster than aircraft. The Washington Monument is seen in the distance, and the object appears behind it and is quickly out of the picture.

The internet is abuzz with the story, although mainstream media has failed to address it, thus far. Perhaps they will. Today's corporate media seldom perform the function we once expected of major media. Now, they're mainly cheerleaders talking incessantly about stories that once were seen mainly on entertainment shows.

If you wish to see screen shots made of the object, they can be found at this internet site:

<http://tinyurl.com/dx4uva>

The video can also be seen at CNN, provided it remains up. Earlier, it was taken down for a while:

<http://tinyurl.com/b47nep>

That site still has the video up, so I invite you to look at it and make your own determination. I do not know what it is, but I am open to all possibilities. That's what the true scientific mind is about. It's not about excluding anything that cannot be proved in a court of law or through objective evidence. It's about reaching out into the unknown and searching until a hypothesis can either be proved or disproved.

Some incorrectly believe the scientific method means anything that cannot be proved to one's satisfaction is therefore untrue. That sort of thinking once kept humans in the dark ages, once kept great scientific minds considered heretics for stating that our planet was not the center of the universe.

There are an incredibly large numbers of Americans who believe that UFOs are something that require open and public investigation. The silliness of UFOs detractors appeals to the lowest kind of debate: the ridiculing of those who say "why don't we keep an open mind about it?"

I look forward to the detailed and thoughtful analyses I know will follow this event. Sane, well adjusted, rational individuals will be ridiculed for their investigations into the event. Isn't it about time our government took a more intelligent, open minded look at UFOs, particularly this event? It was an Unidentified Flying Object, and no matter what it was, don't we, as a nation, need to know?

Jim Moore is a member of The Lufkin Daily News' Board of Contributors.

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Location: [UFOUpdatesList.Com](http://UFOUpdatesList.Com) > [2009](#) > [Feb](#) > [Feb 8](#)

## Re: Astronomical Causes Of UFOs

From: Dick Hall <[dh12.nul](mailto:dh12.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 8 Feb 2009 07:47:49 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 08:14:55 -0500  
Subject: Re: Astronomical Causes Of UFOs

On Sun, Feb 8, 2009 at 6:12 AM,  
UFO UpDates - Toronto <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)> posted:

>Source: Ian Ridpath.Com - Brentford, Middlesex, England, UK

><http://www.ianridpath.com/ufo/astroufol.htm>

>January 27, 2009

>Astronomical Causes Of UFOs  
>Ian Ridpath

>Surprising as it may seem, astronomical objects are the most  
>common cause of mistaken UFO reports, including close  
>encounters.

>---

>Approaching Manchester airport, England, on the evening of 1995  
>January 6, a British Airways Boeing 737 with 60 passengers on  
>board was buzzed by a bright, fast-moving UFO. The first officer  
>ducked instinctively as it flashed past. The conversation  
>between the pilot and Manchester air traffic control was as  
>follows:

>Pilot: "We just had something go down the right hand side just  
>above us very fast"

>Manchester: "Well, there's nothing seen on radar. Was it an  
>aircraft?"

>Pilot: "Well, it had lights, it went down the starboard side  
>very quick"

>Manchester: "And above you?"

>Pilot: "Just slightly above us, yeah".

>At the time of the incident, which occurred at 18.48 pm, the  
>Boeing was descending through 4,000 ft altitude about nine miles  
>southeast of Manchester. Visibility was over 10 km, it was dark  
>and the Boeing was flying in clear air above cumulus cloud on a  
>northerly heading. The UFO was moving in the opposite direction  
>and was visible for about two seconds. There was no apparent  
>sound or wake. No other pilots reported it, nor was it seen from  
>the ground, presumably because of the intervening cloud.

<snip>

While it is definitely true that astronomical objects (including  
meteoric fireballs and Venus) cause many false UFO reports,  
explaining the Jan. 6, 1995, British Airways sighting as a  
fireball is contradicted by internal evidence.

One of the defining characteristics of a fireball is that it is  
seen over a wide distance, whereas no one else saw this. Nor do  
fireballs give the appearance of an object with body lights.

They virtually always appear, as the name suggests, of a fiery (flaming) ball of light.

If they break up, then they appear as an in-line string of lighted objects.

Dick

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## Another Site For 2008 UK MoD UFO Files

From: **UFO UpDates - Toronto** <[post.nul](mailto:post.nul)>  
Date: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 08:19:21 -0500  
Archived: Sun, 08 Feb 2009 08:19:21 -0500  
Subject: Another Site For 2008 UK MoD UFO Files

With thanks to Joe McGonagle for the 2008 UK MoD UFO files,  
they now have another and perhaps more permanent home:

<http://virtuallystrange.net/ufo/updates/modtna/>

ebk

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