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*United Airlines Pilots and Ground Crew observed a UFO over Gate C17 at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. MUFON investigates. Page 3. (drawing by Mark Marren)*

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**Mutual UFO Network**  
Post Office Box 279  
Bellvue, CO 80512-0279  
Tel: 970-221-1836  
Fax: 866-466-9173  
mufonhq@aol.com

**International Director**  
James Carrion, M.A.  
P.O. Box 279  
Bellvue, CO 80512-0279  
Tel: 970-221-1836 (221-1UFO)  
Fax: 866-466-9173  
jcarrion@mufon.com

**Interim Editor:**  
James Carrion, MA..  
P.O. Box 279  
Bellvue, CO 80512  
jcarrion@mufon.com  
mufonufojournal@hotmail.com

**Columnists:**  
George Filer, M.B.A.  
Stanton Friedman, M.S.  
Gavin A. J. McLeod  
Ted Phillips

**Staff artists**  
John Egerton  
Wes Crum  
Mark Marren

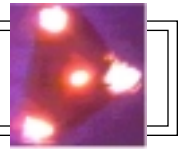
**MUFON staff photographer**  
Nick Roesler

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## Directors' Message

By James Carrion



### UFOs and Homeland Security

The November 2006 sighting of a UFO over Chicago's O'Hare Airport which recently made headlines across the world reinforces the importance of MUFON's role in educating the public on the UFO phenomenon. Just when we least expect it, the phenomenon reappears, often times causing witnesses to change their world view and the public to warm up to the radical idea that there may be something after all to UFOs. Who does the public turn to when they seek reassuring answers? Not the government, but an organization like MUFON which is ready to lend a sympathetic ear.



James Carrion

The reaction of officialdom on the other hand was predictable - "we see no need to investigate" - "probably a

weather phenomenon" - "it is not of concern", dismissing the reports of competent airline pilots and ground crew alike. I find it appalling to think that the FAA and the Department of Homeland Security, (entrusted with our nations aviation safety and security), can dismiss a violation of airspace over one of our nation's busiest airports as "not worthy of investigation". You don't have to believe in the UFO phenomenon to know that this constitutes a major breach of the public's trust.

MUFON along with NUFORC and NARCAP are still actively investigating this important case. I want to personally thank Peter Davenport of NUFORC and Dick Haines of NARCAP for their early involvement; and Sam Maranto, MUFON Illinois State Director and his dedicated team of field investigators for the many hours they have put into this investigation. As they uncover more information, we will keep you updated as well.

(Continued on page 22)

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**MUFON's mission is the scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of humanity through investigation, research, & education.**

# Incident at O'Hare

By Sam Maranto,  
MUFON Illinois State Director

*A Preliminary Overview of the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Sighting of a UFO at O'Hare International Airport*

If this past January 1<sup>st</sup> is any indication as to what to expect in 2007 as far as UFO sightings go, well... hold on to your hat!

Well before Jon Hilkevitch, Chicago Tribune's Transportation Reporter popped the cork to celebrate New Years, he was putting together a new investigative piece for his regular column. What made this piece different was that it was about to make the international news in a very big way.

"In The Sky ! A bird? A plane A...UFO?" was the title of the story that was being read across Chicago Land. Whether at kitchen tables, ubiquitous diners, board rooms or rest rooms, million dollar Gold Coast condos or bungalows in Gage Park, it was the buzz about town. Commuters for a change had something intellectually weighted on their laps to read. Though it may not have eased the thought of working a holiday, it was none the less a welcomed break from the usual brain rot in print that is pawned off as news. What an exciting story - United Airlines (UAL) employees observed a disk shaped object hovering over O'Hare International Airport on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at about 4:30 PM and which then departed at a high rate of speed, leaving a gaping hole in the overcast, revealing the blue sky above.

On January 1<sup>st</sup> the news wires began to carry this story abroad. Internet, Radio, Television, Cable and nearly every conceivable form of communication service eagerly propagated this event around the entire globe. In a few days, if not a few hours, what was once a local story had now gained world wide attention and that Chicago Columnist was becoming somewhat of a celebrity.

## Initial Report

The story began as a sighting report received by Peter Davenport at NUFORC. It was Peter who asked Mr. Hilkevitch to look into this case in hope that Jon would further the investigation and write a serious article on the event.

A highly respected investigative journalist in the area of Transportation, Jon did just that and the rest is history.

Any object flying within restricted air space at an International Airport without radio contact, transponders, or permission is potentially an aviation safety issue. It should come as no surprise then that UAL employees and others took the sighting so seriously. I personally feel this speaks volumes as to their integrity. In the face of ridicule they put their concerns for the safety of others before themselves. Now that's heroic!

## Incident at Gate C17

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Peter Davenport who was still settling into the new headquarters for the National UFO Reporting Center and received an urgent report from a United Airlines manager. The manager claimed that he was sitting in his office on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM when a radio call came in concerning an object hovering over gate C17. The manager immediately left the office to get a look for himself. There was significant overcast at about 1900 feet but he was able to see the object hovering in place. After making a call to his operation center to confirm the sighting then contacting the FAA, the manager then drove to the concourse to talk to witnesses.

One ground crewmember told how he felt compelled for some reason to look straight up and was startled to see the craft hovering silently. This witness then radioed the pilots in the plane (flight 446 from Chicago to Charlotte) that was being pushed back from gate C17. They too observed the object. The object was reported to be metallic and disk shaped and looked like a rotating Frisbee.

The next witness to come forward was a UAL pilot who was responsible for taxiing aircraft around the airport. The pilot was maneuvering a 777 from the International Terminal to the UAL Hanger, some 25 minutes away. Looking in the direction of the C concourse t he saw the pronounced object just below the cloud cover. He described it as



a clearly discernible grey disk with atmospheric distortion around the bottom similar to "heat rising off a desert road". After parking the aircraft in the hanger he noticed the craft was no longer there but an almost perfect circle in the cloud layer was visible where the craft once was.

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 this pilot witness, along with Peter Davenport were interviewed on the Jeff Rense Show, and subsequently the pilot was also interviewed on CNN. Contrary to circulating rumors, the witness stated that UAL had not pressured him in any way to stay quiet, nor had he received

any negative treatment except an occasional ribbing from his coworkers. One clarifying statement the pilot made was that “it wasn’t an object, it was a craft”. He also stated that the “inbound ground controller had to have seen it”, although he was quick to point out that the controllers may have very strict rules about reporting such things. These are just two of the dozens or more witnesses that witnessed this spectacle.

### **FAA Weather Theory**

At first the FAA denied receiving any reports of the incident but after being made aware that a Freedom of Information Act request was filed, they suddenly remembered. Elizabeth Isham Cory, spokesperson for the FAA, claimed that nothing was observed on radar. “The FAA is not conducting a further investigation”, Cory said. “Our theory on this is that it was a weather phenomenon,” she said. “That night was a perfect atmospheric condition in terms of low ceiling and a lot of airport lights. When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things. That’s our take on it”

This raises the following questions: How does weather account for a solid object of distinguishable color and shape exhibiting erratic hovering motion which can then bolt through the cloud cover leaving a cookie cutter type hole? How does it account for an object seen from multiple vantage points by multiple witnesses who by virtue of their aviation jobs know what should be in that air space and what should not be there? The answer to these questions is that weather conditions can not account for this sighting and the weather explanation is just complete and utter nonsense.

### **Media Coverage**

CLTV in Oakbrook, Illinois was the first to broadcast an interview with Jon Hilkevitch on Friday December 29<sup>th</sup>. The follow-up interview was even more revealing. It is this nine minutes of live candid footage from the second interview that made its way on YouTube.com. This enlightening footage discusses the quality of the witness reports, the pos-

sibility of digital photographs, and the genuine and serious interest in this case on the part of the media.

In stark contrast, the National Public Radio’s Melissa Block’s interview with Jon Hilkevitch on *All Things Considered* was both presumptuous about the conduct of UFO organizations and also downplayed Jon’s roll in bringing this case to public awareness.

### **On The Web/In the Blog**

Use what ever Internet search engine you prefer and type in “O’Hare UFO”. You will get no less than 400,000 hits. The Chicago Tribune noted that on January 1<sup>st</sup> alone this story had more hits than any other in its online history (over one million hits).

Another Internet news sites, Cosmic Log at MSNBC.COM by Science Reporter Alan Boyle had an article featuring an interview with both Peter Davenport and NBC Consultant and UFO Skeptic James Oberg. Mr. Boyle posed the idea that the disk shaped object was a lenticular cloud. However on that day the winds were not strong enough to create these large saucer shaped clouds that are usually seen in the Western part of the country on the leeward side of large mountains. In fact, these type of clouds are rarely seen in the Chicago area. The very notion of a lenticular cloud below an overcast sky sounds improbable, but even more astounding is how a lenticular cloud could bolt through the cloud layer as witnesses clearly observed. Boyle also puts forth the notion that some sort of weather related vortex may have punctured the clouds creating the circular, near perfect hole that was seen. However, on that date, the weather conditions were very stable with maximum wind gusts recorded at O’Hare a mere five miles an hour.

The other theory proposed was that the hole may have been caused by a Jet going through the cloud cover. This theory also doesn’t make much sense. Jets are aerodynamic and they are designed to minimize resistance and drag. They will cause a temporary disturbance but not one significant enough

to leave any such lasting pattern in the clouds. The time of the event was 4:30 PM central time and although there was an overcast, it was still daylight.

### **Skeptical Noise**

James Oberg also made a statement regarding the reliability of Airline Pilots as witnesses. “NTSB investigators say that the worst observers of an aviation accident are aviation personnel” Oberg said. “Its because pilots will usually want to understand what’s happened, and in their initial perceptions and latter retellings will stress the facts that support their interpretation.” This statement sounds more like the the tactics used by Skeptics rather than pilots. If pilots are not able to make valid real time visual observations of shapes, color and motion in the sky, then they cannot be trusted with the safety of airline passengers. Real time observations and analysis are constant critical functions performed routinely by pilots. No one does this better... period! We’re not talking about recall analysis but real time analysis. Mr. Oberg’s statement can be considered questionable at best.

### **Calling all Ufologists**

In no time at all, UFO experts, skeptics, and witnesses alike were in high media demand. Interviews and press conferences now dotted the calendars of anyone willing to answer the call. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Richard Dolan, author of “*UFOs and the National Security State*” was interviewed along with Jon Hilkevitch on CNN. Peter Davenport was also interviewed numerous times. Yours truly also had his share of interviews and will soon be in Chicago Magazine.

### **Where are the Photos?**

With the hundreds of security cameras, numerous Transportation Safety Agency (TSA) employees, Air Traffic Controllers and others in the airport towers, not to mention the hundreds of airport visitors and passengers, you would think someone would have photographed or video taped the object.

Will we see them? Hopefully.

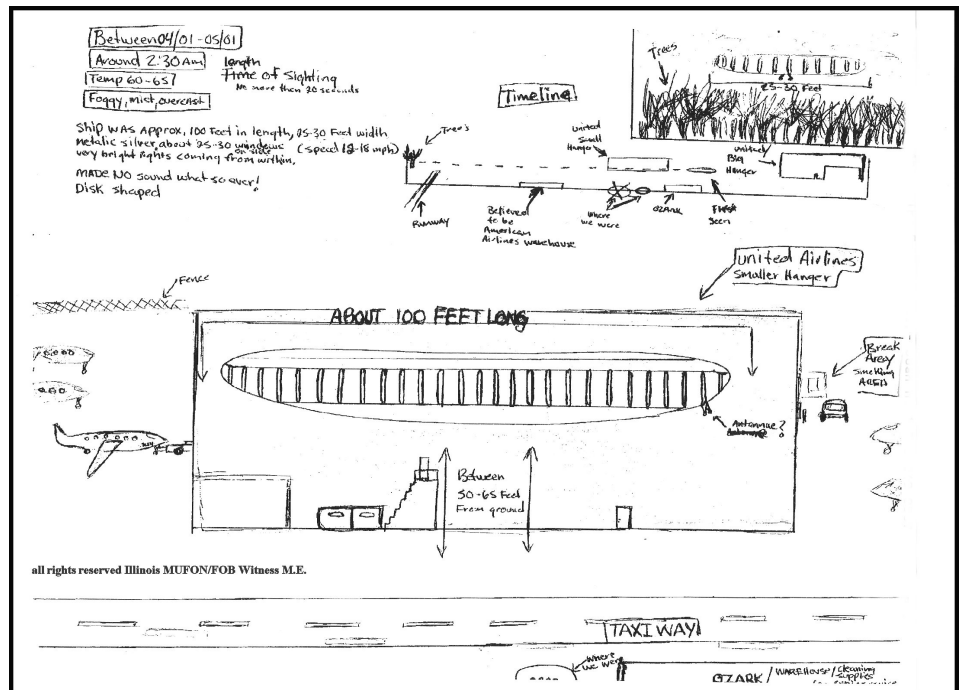


## The Investigation Begins

At the request of Peter Davenport, Dr. Richard Haines, Director of NARCAP started the investigation. Dr. Haines has many years of experience in dealing with pilots and the aviation industry on the subject of UFOs. Dr. Haines reputation for honoring witness anonymity (especially for pilots whose livelihood depends on it) is truly commendable. Illinois MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) will be assisting Dr. Haines in the field as needed. Freedom of information request have been filed by Dr. Haines and Jon Hilkevitch. They have not yet received any responses to these FOIA requests. At this time it is premature to make any more statements as to the progress of this investigation other than to say it is ongoing and there is much to do. A final report will be published on completion.

To provide some historical background, a UFO was also reported by tower personnel at O'Hare Airport on June 29th, 1951 and made it into Project Blue Book's case reports. There have also been other reports of UFO activity around Chicago airports and one such case at O'Hare in 2001 was reported to CUFOS and passed on to me for investigation. The event took place at about 2:30 AM central time and was observed by four UAL employees who were on lunch break. The craft was so close and large that the main witness said "It was maybe only fifty feet away and about seventy five feet in the air. Making no sound whatsoever. It had to be over a hundred feet long and I was so close to it I could see it entirely." The witness said that he viewed it for 28 seconds as it slowly floated in front of him and then it banked up over a runway into the mist/fog that was persistent that night and took off at a fast rate of speed.

"It had very bright yellow lights coming out of elongated windows or slots equally spaced along the bottom" said the witness. This witness is in the process of locating fellow witnesses to get their perspective on the event. I will be writing a follow up on this case and other related cases in Illinois.



Witness drawing - UFO at O'Hare in 2001

## Editor's Notes:

After being notified of the sighting Dick Haines of NARCAP immediately:

- 1) Filed an FOIA with the FAA for relevant tower communications, radar tapes, etc.
- 2) Completed a full meteorological review.
- 3) Spoke with a number of witnesses
- 4) Obtained detailed airport facility measurements with which to calculate distances and visual angles.
- 5) Contacted personnel at the Aviation Safety Reporting (ASRS) office.
- 6) Identified the aircraft at gate C-17 (but has not yet been able to identify its crewmembers that allegedly also saw the UFO hovering overhead).

Jon Nowinski, Director of the Smoking Gun Research Agency (SGRA) spoke on January 8, 2007 with the Public Affairs Officer at Scott AFB in Illinois as well as the Media Relations Officer at NORAD, located at Peterson AFB in Colorado.

The PAO at Scott AFB stated that while they were aware of the sighting, the base was never contacted by O'Hare Air Traffic Control. He further stated that there were no aircraft from Scott in the air at the time of the reported sighting, nor did Scott ATC report any contacts

by radar in the airspace around the base or the city of Chicago. He was not aware of any instances where aircraft from Scott were scrambled to intercept or investigate any unidentified objects in the area, but could not say for certain it had never happened.

The MRO at NORAD said that they too were aware of the sighting but emphasized that they only knew what they heard through the media or by other outside sources.

## Additional sources of information:

- [www.chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com)
- [www.nuforc.org](http://www.nuforc.org)
- [www.narcap.org](http://www.narcap.org)
- [www.cufos.org](http://www.cufos.org)
- [www.ufocenter.com](http://www.ufocenter.com)
- [www.cltv.com](http://www.cltv.com)
- [cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com](http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com)

# Blimp or UFO?

By David E. Twichell

Michigan MUFON's Chief Investigator, Lisa Shiel was assigned the case of a UFO sighting that occurred on August 16, 2006 at 9:43 PM. She then passed it onto State Section Director, Gary Golem and then I for further investigation. S. W., the witness, observed a typical disk-shaped object in the night sky for about eight minutes before it departed and was able to take at least one excellent picture of it. Below is the picture (untouched) and her report to MUFON.



*S. W.:* "I was driving home after having been to a circus in the town of Plymouth, Michigan. I was crossing a rail road track near my home while looking to be sure the tracks were clear, I noticed it to my right hovering above the tracks in the distance. I decided to see what it was, so I drove towards it hoping to get a better look at it while calling my sister to tell her what I was seeing. I had taken my camera with me to the circus, so I grabbed it and started taking pictures, the sky was very dark and I at first couldn't get it to show up (although the object itself was illuminated). I stopped in a parking lot where I had a clear view, there were no sounds coming from it at all. I continued to take pictures while talking to my sister. I

looked at my camera to try and change the settings and when I looked back it was moving away from where I had been watching it. I got in my truck and started following it. As I was driving down Plymouth Rd., I keep wondering why no one else was stopping to see it. I was very alarmed yet curious and somewhat scared at what I was seeing. As I came around a bend in the road I saw airplanes, approximately 4-5, and also a helicopter. I noticed that it had stopped again and was hovering just above the treetops. I couldn't get over the enormous size of it. It appeared to be at least the size of a house. All the

while I was taking pictures, hoping to get at least one good picture while talking to my sister, who I had put on speakerphone. Then I heard the helicopter and I looked to my right to see it. When I looked back to my left where the object had been hovering, it was no longer there. I was very nervous and excited the entire time. I gave my sister a play-by-play as the events unfolded. She kept asking me exactly where I was just in case something was to happen. The object appeared to be translucent and very, very bright. The entire thing lasted about ten minutes, although it seemed a lot longer. I watched the local news that night and checked the newspapers and was very shocked to see no mention of it. I can't believe that I

### About the author

Mr. Twichell is a field investigator, newsletter editor and Public Relations Officer for Michigan MUFON. He has authored three books as well as numerous articles on the UFO phenomenon. He has been a guest on numerous media shows as well as hosting his own local TV show, entitled "We Are Not Alone", which is presently in its seventh year. Most recently, he began broadcasting the radio version of his TV show on WHFR 89.3 FM. It may be heard the first Saturday of each month on the World Wide Web at 10:00 AM (EST) by going to <http://whfr.fm/index.php>. He presently resides with his wife in Trenton, Michigan. Most of his time is devoted to writing about and lecturing on UFOs and related phenomena.



was the only who saw this." Gary Golem asked the witness in a telephone interview how high the object was. She stated that the object was approximately 6-8 poles in height over the tracks. She also stated that she believed the object to have headed in a Southeasterly direction.

The event aroused the interest of the witness' sister, L. W., who a couple days later, scoured the Internet for similar sightings in that area around the same time that evening. She found three and immediately alerted her sister. A twenty-four year old man, traveling with two other witnesses observed a similar object while traveling from downtown Detroit to Southgate, Michigan along the Detroit River.

*Witness 2:* "Approximately 10:35 PM (August 16, 2006) my mother, sister and I left the Joe Louis Arena parking garage in downtown Detroit and headed south on Fort Street towards the 'downriver' area. We spotted an object over the Detroit River that resembled a blimp but it was glowing with a bright

light and was keeping the same pace as us (about 45 MPH). We continued down Fort Street keeping sight of the object for about 20 minutes. We lost sight of the object for about 10 minutes while stopped at my parent's house. When I got back on the road and headed towards my house, I spotted the object above me in the area of Dix and Northline. The object was glowing with a bright almost white light and a small blinking red light was in the bottom center of the object. It was rounded on top and flat on the bottom. It was moving at a pretty fast speed. It continued to move around in this area for another half hour before I lost sight of it. There was a man in the car next to me who was looking up at it also, so I am certain other people saw it. I tried to take a picture with my digital camera but because it was so dark they didn't come out very well. I checked around with people the next couple days but no one else saw anything but the roads were pretty light with traffic being 11 at night on a Wednesday. However, a few days later a co-worker said she saw a report on channel 4 news that a man reported strange activity in the sky on Wednesday the 16th. (This would have been the Thursday the 17th 11 P.M. news) I could not find any reports on their website and came across this website by searching Google for UFO sightings in Detroit. It was definitely not a natural object. I highly doubt it was a blimp due to the bright light and speed of the object. I would think a satellite would have been higher but I have never seen a weather balloon so I have no explanation for the strange object. I really never thought much about UFO sightings until now. I wish I could find an explanation for this but I'm glad I came across this website and found other proof that someone else saw the object."

At 10:30 PM, two witnesses in Windsor, Ontario, Canada reported a similar object for less than five minutes.

*Witness 3:* "My friend and I had decided to drive towards the Detroit River when we noticed a huge bright saucer-like object in the sky. At first we thought it was a blimp but at 10:30 on Tuesday in the suburb, rich part of Windsor that

seemed very unlikely. It was shaped too circular to be a blimp and was very fluorescent with blinking lights. We drove up an overpass and could still see the figure. We continued to drive to the river (about 2 minutes) and turned back around to find it again but it had disappeared. We drove around for another 15 minutes or so and still couldn't find it in the sky. Very scary." The witness also reported his sighting to local TV and newspapers.

In a separate report from Windsor to ufoevidence.com, four people witnessed the same or similar object.

*Witness 4:* "It was around 10.30 PM when my husband went to the windows to close the blinds for the night. He spotted a well-lit flying object and woke me up to show it. It was not an airplane shaped object, but something of a different shape, sometimes looked octagonal, sometimes like a huge saucer, well-lit, luminous object, moving not too fast but occasionally lost from view as they were passing tall trees. We could follow it for at least 15 minutes from our living room. It was a huge object, very exciting and scary at the same time. I have heard and read about UFOs. But never seen one or believed in one. But yesterday I sure believed what I saw. I was convinced it was something unusual, extraordinary and unnatural."

I asked ufoevidence.com for the contact information of the Canadian witnesses or to have my email address forwarded to them. There has been no response, therefore further investigation of the Downriver and Canadian witnesses has stalled at this time.

Longtime MUFON photographic analyst, Dr. Bruce Maccabee was sent a copy of the photograph taken by S. W. to which he replied, "Since I know nothing about this sighting, except that the photo looks real from previous experience and the shape, I would suggest checking on the possibility of an internally lighted blimp... unless there is something about the sighting that positively rules out such a blimp."

Erring on the side of caution, Dr. Maccabee did not rule out the possibility of a blimp while verifying that the object appeared to be an authentic 'un-

known' based on the shape and his previous extensive experience.

Mr. Golem checked with the Mettetal Airport in Canton (the closest small airport near Plymouth MI) and spoke with the airport manager regarding the night of August 16. He was told that nothing was reported or anything special happened that night. Nor were there any flights that he was aware of out of that facility. Golem also called the Helicopter service at Mettetal airport. The helicopter service had no flights that night either.

I personally called a Caryn Johnson at the Gross Isle Airport where advertising blimps are normally moored for special events in the Detroit metropolitan area. Ms. Johnson referred me to Amy Caulder of the Lightship Group that dispatches the blimps to the area from Madison, Wisconsin. I sent the photograph of the Plymouth object for her inspection via email.

Amy replied: "Hello there David, To me it clearly looks like the SANYO blimp. I am attaching a daytime photo of the ship so you can compare the lettering on the sides of each picture. We have an internal light system so the ship appears to glow from within while flying at night. Hope this helps. Thanks, Amy"

I sat for some time trying to "see the lettering on the sides of each picture" without success. I sent Ms. Caulder's email along with both pictures to Ms. Johnson at the Grosse Isle Airport to see if she could see something that I



*Daytime picture of the Sanyo blimp*

was missing. She replied: "Thanks for sending the pictures from the woman in Plymouth and from Sanyo. I can see how you don't see the resemblance that she says is there — it is a stretch! Was Amy able to confirm if they were in this area on August 16, 2006?"

Once again, I wrote to Amy Caulder and asked:

1. Does the SANYO blimp have a large red light on the tail section?
2. Are they allowed to (or do they ever) fly with the internal light system off and the advertisement not displayed?



*Nighttime picture of Sanyo blimp*

3. Was the SANYO blimp moored at the Grosse Isle Airport or flying in that area on the evening of Aug. 16, 2006?

Amy replied: “Hello David, Let’s see what I can help you with here. Yes we do have a red light on the tail. Yes we do fly with the lights off, however the SANYO lettering is a decal that can not be taken on and off quickly so no, we never fly without that. However there are plain white blimps with no advertisements on them at all. Lastly we do use Grosse Isle quite often. On the evening in question, we were in Grosse Isle, I have the days activities from our log book listed here: Transit to Detroit from Madison along I-94E into Milwaukee WI then direct to Benton Harbor MI, then continuing along I-94E through Kalamazoo, Brooks, Albion, Jackson, continuing into Night Aerial Display while arriving into Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Northern Detroit Communities, Downtown Detroit/Windsor Canada, then along the river to Grosse Isle Naval Airfield. That should be able to answer all questions from your investigation let me know if not. Thanks, Amy”

I attempted my own computer analysis of the Plymouth photograph in Paint Shop Pro, adding ‘glowing edges’. Unlike the Sanyo blimp, the glowing edge lines clearly depict a copula on top of

the object but no gondola on the bottom. Nor does this picture emphasize any lettering on the side of the object that would be blatantly apparent if they existed.

#### *Computer enhanced photo*

Another experiment using ‘emboss’, which emphasizes the lines in a photograph, did not reveal lettering. It did, however, emphasize the existence of a copula on top and lack of a gondola on the bottom. Furthermore, the overall shape, lighting configuration, and lack of bright internal lighting does not suggest to me that the Plymouth object and the Sanyo blimp are one and the same.

#### *Computer enhanced photo*

The fact that the Sanyo blimp was in the area of downtown Detroit and traversed along the Detroit River on the evening of August 16, 2006 could easily account for the sighting reports from the Downriver/Windsor area. It is regrettable that those witnesses could not be contacted for further testimony.

The fact that these witnesses are unable to tell the difference between an advertising blimp and an unknown object is troubling. It may be that the blimp was too far away and moving toward or away from them, disallowing them to view the lettering on its side.

All of the witnesses involved reported that the object was very bright. I have seen the Sanyo blimp personally and can verify that it is indeed very bright. However, the downriver witness re-

ported that the object was directly above him at one point and it was “rounded on top and flat on the bottom”, and “moving at a pretty fast speed”, both of which are inconsistent with a blimp. The Windsor witnesses considered the possibility of a blimp but concluded that “It was shaped too circular to be a blimp”.

The Plymouth sighting is another matter. According to Amy Caulder of the North America Group that dispatched the blimp, “unless it diverted from its known course, it moved eastward along I-94, which would have taken it over the Romulus area”. Plymouth is sixteen miles due north of Romulus (as the blimp flies) from the I-94 and I-275 intersection.

S. W., the witness in Plymouth, stated that the object headed off in a southeasterly direction. The Detroit/Windsor area is indeed southeast of Plymouth where witnesses reported their sighting a half hour to forty-five minutes later.

Advertising blimps generally fly over events where throngs of people congregate. Would a circus in Plymouth, Michigan qualify? Would airplanes and helicopters be part of the show? Why would the helicopters approach the blimp? And why would the blimp depart the scene when approached by them?

Why couldn’t S. W. finally conclude that it was a blimp when she had several minutes to observe it? The most baffling question is the photographic evidence captured by the Plymouth witness. Until someone with computer software and an expertise better than mine can confirm otherwise, the Plymouth object remains an unknown.



## Update on the “Ozark Devil”

Journal readers may recall the Journal story on a strange animal seen in Arkansas. Although this may seem like a Cryptozoology case, sightings of strange animals are also often reported during UFO encounters.

Recently two strange animals were killed in Arkansas. MUFON Arkansas is investigating and Arkansas State Director Norm Walker filed the following report with MUFON HQ:



*Norm Walker (left) and Ken Bergeron (right)*

On Jan 3, 2007, Assistant State Director and lead investigator Ken (Casper) Bergeron and I traveled to Clarksville, Arkansas to meet with Matt McCormick at his One Stop store. We (along with Randy Collins, Field Investigator Trainee) had interviewed Matt on November 21, 2006 after a local TV station (5News) reported that a strange animal had been shot by a hunter on October 3, 2006. Matt was given pictures of the first animal to display in his store and it was Matt who initially contacted 5News. The body of the first animal was buried in an undisclosed location by the hunter who shot it. This time a farmer, Herla Mullins had shot another animal December 7, 2006 in his field after it continued to stalk his cattle. We travelled 10 miles back in the hills to reach Mr. Mullin's farm. Casper and I followed Matt in his truck along some winding country roads to the farm. We reached the farm at 4:00 P.M. and I rode with Mr. Mullins in his farm truck



*The first animal shot in October 2006.*

down to the field where he shot the animal and Casper and Matt followed us to the site. On the way, Mr. Mullins told me that he would normally shoot 4-5 coyotes every year to protect his herd of cattle. This animal had behaved somewhat differently. As we reached the site of the carcass, he mentioned that the buzzards had worked the carcass over, but it was still there in the field. As we were shooting pictures, Mr. Mullins mentioned that the teeth were different than that of a coyote and the tail was more bushy at the end. After several pictures were taken, Matt agreed to take the carcass and refrigerate it, in case we needed it for DNA testing. We left just as it was getting dark.

MUFON Consultant in Veterinary Science, Lawrence Lacey was asked to look at the pictures of the two dead ani-



*The second animal shot in December 2006.*

mals. Lacey concluded: “After studying the pictures, I conclude that whatever this cryptozoological specimen is, it is not a dog. I see some similarities to the wallaby, such as the size, large erect ears, short wooly fur, long tail, small forequarters, and better developed rear quarters. Are any of the specimens female and do they have the kangaroo belly pouch? The hopping gait also leads one to compare it with the family of small kangaroos. A definite dissimilarity to the wallaby is the dog-like dentition. Wallabies are vegetarians.

“In order to conclude anything from the bones, one would have to have accurate measurements to compare front and rear of this thing with front and rear of a similar sized dog. I sent the two pictures to a friend of mine, Ken Roach, a retired long time leading small animal practitioner here in Sioux City. Ken agrees with my conclusions.”

### ***World's Best UFO Cases*** By Dwight Connelly



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**Bellvue, CO 80512-0279**

# In Memoriam: President Gerald Ford

By James Carrion  
MUFON International Director

President Gerald Ford, the 38th President of the United States who recently died at the age of 93, was interested in finding the truth behind the UFO mystery.

When Dr. J. Allen Hynek issued his infamous 'swamp gas' explanation for the 1966 mass sightings in Michigan, then Congressman Ford came to the aid of the American Public by stating in a letter to the House Armed Services committee and the House Science and Astronautics Committee: In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena. I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFOs and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment of the subject. I have taken special interest in these (UFO) accounts because many of the latest reported sightings have been made in my home state of Michigan... Because I think there may be substance to some of these reports and because I believe The American people are entitled to a more thorough explanation than has been given them by the Air force to date, I am proposing either the Science and Astronautics Committee or the Armed services Committee of the House, schedule hearings on the subject of UFOs and invite testimony from both the executive branch of the Government and some of the persons who claim to have seen UFOs... In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena. I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFOs and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment on this subject."

Neither committee took action on Congressman Ford's recommendations although Congressional hearings on UFOs were held in 1968. Ufology owes



a debt of gratitude to President Ford for taking a public stance on behalf of the American public in the face of Air Force debunking and ridicule.

## French to Publish UFO Files

PARIS (Reuters) - The French space agency is to publish its archive of UFO sightings and other phenomena online, but will keep the names of those who reported them off the site to protect them from pestering by space fanatics. Jacques Arnould, an official at the National Space Studies Center (CNES), said the French database of around 1,600 incidents would go live in late January or mid-February.

He said the CNES had been collecting statements and documents for almost 30 years to archive and study them. "Often they are made to the Gendarmerie, which provides an official witness statement ... and some come from airline pilots," he said by telephone.

Given the success of films about visitations from outer space like "E.T.", "Close Encounters of The Third Kind" and "Independence Day", the CNES archive is likely to prove a hit. It consists of around 6,000 reports, many relating to the same incident, filed by the public and airline professionals. Their names would not be published to protect their privacy, Arnould said.

Advances in technology over the past three decades had prompted the deci-

sion to put the archive online, he said, adding it would likely be available via the CNES website [www.cnes.fr](http://www.cnes.fr).

## Identified Falling Object (IFO)

A meteorite fell in New Jersey on January 2, 2007 and crashed into a home. The object which measured just 3 1/2 inches long and more than three-quarters of a pound fell through the roof of a home in Freehold, New Jersey and embedded itself in a wall.

"It pierced the shingles, the roof sheathing, the roof insulation, and the sheet rock of the bathroom. It damaged the tile floor and embedded itself into the sheet rock of the side wall of the bathroom," said lieutenant Robert Brightman of the Freehold Township Police Department. "There's some great interest in what we have here, It's rather unusual. I haven't seen anything like it in my career," he added.

Approximately 20 to 50 rock-like objects fall every day over the entire planet, said Carlton Pryor, a professor of astronomy at Rutgers University.

"Its new owners (a married couple with a son) expressed some interest in putting the meteorite on a small-scale tour so local schoolchildren could see it", said Jeremy Delaney, a Rutgers University meteoriticist who was among four scientists who identified the object for police. Eventually the family will have to decide whether to keep the meteorite, give it to an academic institution such as a museum, or sell it to a collector. New Jersey's only other known meteorite, weighing an ounce, fell in Deal in 1829.

The Freehold meteorite might be of some interest to researchers because it is rich in metals, a sign that it came from the deep interior of an asteroid.

## The Pikes Peak Ghost Lights Of 1929; Mount Evans, 2005

By Woody Smith

Although strange aerial phenomena have been reported for decades in Colorado's Front Range newspapers, the Pikes Peak "Ghost Lights" of 1929 are notable for the number of witnesses and explanations generated.

As reported in the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, a Mrs. C. O. Seleen, first saw the mysterious light on Sunday, February 17, 1929. Mrs. Seleen "stated that the light appeared to be on the right of the summit house and lasted from 9 until 9:30 Sunday night. She declared the illumination was similar to the fireworks display at the Adaman Club on New Years Eve."

A Manitou Springs dairyman, S.R. Francisco, first thought the light to be from workers on the Cog Railway. After watching it on successive nights, he decided it was "an unusually bright star." The lights were also witnessed at about 8:45 PM on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> by a Mrs. T.K. Finseth, who "declared that they resemble a bonfire." This was also the conclusion of a Colorado College night watchman who had been studying the mystery light. Several other witnesses agreed. The *Gazette* all but discounted the idea of a signal fire from someone in distress, since "no hiker is known to have attempted to scale the mountain."

On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the *Gazette* later reported, a search plane "carrying blankets, chocolate and matches, "crossed over the wind-blown summit. . . without sighting any signs of life or "fire and. . . returned confident that whatever their source, the mysterious lights were not of human origin. The flight did have a thrilling end, however, when the engine developed altitude sickness the pilot was forced to make a 'dead-stick landing' at the Alexander Airport, some ten-thousand feet lower and 15 miles distant.

That same day, Nat Walker, a student at Colorado College, climbed Pikes Peak but saw no evidence of fire. He also noted, after crawling through a

summit house window, that the register's last entry was made by the Adaman Club on New Year's Eve. However, it defies logic that someone wishing to remain unknown would sign in.

Despite the various search missions, the ghost light reappeared near the summit at 9:05 that evening. It shone for five minutes then disappeared for five minutes, only to reappear not more than 50 feet north of its former spot.

Since previous explanations couldn't account for the light's eccentricities, it was only natural that less-grounded theories took flight. Among these: The ghost of a miner – carrying a lantern; the Moon's reflection off the summit house windows; and ultimately nature's proof of Einstein's theory of relativity.

According to the *Gazette*, Einstein's theory came into play when the light was observed in different places by different people: Does light travel in a straight line? Is Pikes Peak showing that it does not? Good luck arguing that one with some early 20<sup>th</sup> century Physics devotee.

Even the Adaman Club's Fred Morath apparently feeling the heat, conceded the possibility that their fireworks may be the cause. By coincidence, stormy weather had forced cancellation of that year's display, so the boxes had been cached on the summit. In fact, a *Denver Post* article from January 1, 1925 describes the prelude to the previous evening's display as blazing "signal lights," followed later by "occasional specks of light."

But the *Gazette* dashed water on this theory offering "If this were true, then some maniac has been defying terrific cold and much suffering to fire off at fitful intervals, one at a time, some of the Adaman flares". Nonetheless, the news writer was probably closer to describing the average mountain climber's mental state than he realized. Perhaps the final ingredient of the Pikes Peak ghost Lights, or UFOs, is an official explanation from Washington.

In March 1929, Charles Fitzhugh Talman, the United States Weather Bureau Librarian "and well-

known authority on meteorology, published an article in Science Service, claiming the Pikes Peak lights were a naturally-occurring electrical discharge "known as 'St. Elmo's Fire'."

Talman cites an 1876 journal kept by the peak's Signal Corps weather observers, who "were often treated to spectacular displays." On at least one occasion, electrical discharges outlined almost 700 feet of telegraph wire "in brilliant light which was thrown out in beautiful scintillations. Not only was the wire outlined in this manner, but every exposed metallic point and surface was similarly tipped or covered. The anemometer cups appeared as four balls of fire revolving slowly around a common center. There was no heat in the light, and when the wire was touched only the slightest tingling sensation was felt."

Thus explained, the Pikes Peak Ghost Lights did not rematerialize. Or maybe they just moved north.

On November 21, 1941, the afternoon edition of the *Denver Post* reported that "light signals, apparently an 'SOS' flashed by means of a mirror, were seen coming from Mount Evans Friday morning." Since snow had closed the road above Echo Lake several weeks before, speculation began that a skier had become stranded. Denver's Manager of Parks George Cranmer said, "the peak is too rugged to attract ski enthusiasts." He also pointed out that, "the big glass bay window of the summit house looks to the east and possibly had reflected the sun."

To aid in searching for the light source, the Chamberlin Observatory at Denver University trained its telescope on the peak, some 30 miles distant. Not to be excluded, several state and federal officials with office windows providing an unobstructed view of the peak tried without success to see anything." Lowry Field also stationed a man in the fire lookout tower to scan the mountain with powerful field glasses. Officials said an observation plane would fly to the peak if the lookout reported anything to justify making a special mission flight. The next morning, the *Rocky*



*Mountain News* reported that the watchers “were unable to detect anything unusual,” and that “nothing was seen to indicate the source of the flashes.” City officials expressed belief that a window or some shiny object on the ground may have reflected the sun.”

This is not the only occasion of mysterious lights on Mount Evans. In the summer of 2005, unusually bright lights were witnessed, and videotaped on the mountain’s upper reaches. These individual lights most often appeared at dusk on the northern and southern shoulders of Mount Evans above timberline, but also on the summit. They would shine brightly for several seconds to a minute, and then disappear. On several occasions movement was observed. Since they often appeared near the toll road, it could be argued that these were merely car headlights, however, these ghost lights performed some decidedly spooky maneuvers.

On August 8, 2005 at 8:30 PM, a single yellow-white light appeared on the southern flank of Mount Evans near its 13,000-foot saddle with Epaulet Mountain. After a few flickering seconds, the light split. The first light remained stationary, while the second light moved slowly northward. Within seconds the first light disappeared, followed quickly by the second light. Eight minutes later, another light was observed on the northern flanks of Mount Evans, just below Rogers Peak (13,391). This light turned variously yellow, red, orange and white before it also split, as if giving birth to a second ball of light which quickly vanished. Moments later the first light also dimmed from view.

On other occasions, a previously unseen light on the summit was seen to blink once, followed immediately by a single blink from its north shoulder counterpart. Then nothing. Is this a signal of some kind? Or the planet Venus with a friend? Or is it swamp gas reflected by Elvis? What could be the explanation behind these mysterious mountain lights? Are the sightings of 1929, 1941 and 2005 somehow connected? We await the official government cover story. Until then... the truth is up there.

### About the Author:

Woody Smith resides in Denver, Colorado. He has been an Archivist with the Colorado Mountain Club since January 2003, and a UFO Investigator since February 2004.

### Estate Planning:

Please remember MUFON in your will. In addition to monetary bequests, you can also donate your UFO case files, books, periodicals, etc. Don't let your valuable research end up at a flea market or estate sale. Please contact MUFON HQ at 970-221-1836 for more information.

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### CALENDAR

**Feb. 25-March 2, 2007**—International UFO Congress Conference & Film Festival, Laughlin, NV, 303-651-7136, [www.ufocongress.com](http://www.ufocongress.com).

**April 13-15**—19th Annual Ozark UFO Conference, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR, featuring Linda Moulton Howe, Timothy Good, Wendelle Stevens, Dr. Claude Swanson, Grant Cameron, Nancy Talbott, and others to be added. [www.ozarkufo.com](http://www.ozarkufo.com), [ozarkufo@webtv.net](mailto:ozarkufo@webtv.net), 501-354-2558.

**May 18-19**—McMenamins UFO Festival, McMinnville, OR, 503-472-8427.

**June 9 -10** - ParaCon conference, Milford, CT. Contact Jon at 203-247-0310 or at [sgra@sgra-media.org](mailto:sgra@sgra-media.org) or at [www.sgra-media.org](http://www.sgra-media.org)

**July 6-8**—10th Annual Roswell UFO Festival, Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, NM, featuring Nick Redfern, Peter Robbins, Guy Malone, Richard Dolan, John Greenewald Jr, Steven Bassett, Dr. Michael S. Heiser, John Lear, John Rhodes, Adam GoRightly, [festival@roswellufofest.com](mailto:festival@roswellufofest.com).

**Aug. 10-12**—MUFON International UFO Symposium, Denver, CO. Theme: “An Estimate of the Situation: The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis”

Speakers: Stanton Friedman, Richard Dolan, Kathleen Marden, Nancy Talbot, John Greenewald, Sam Maranto, Michael Nelson, more.



## 2007 MUFON Membership Contests

There are two categories to compete in, one for State Directors and Assistant State Directors and a category for current MUFON Members. You can also participate in the 'everyone wins' lifetime member recruitment category. The winner of each category will receive their 2007 MUFON Symposium registration fee paid and a room for three nights at the Denver Marriott Tech Center. The MUFON 2007 Symposium is being held in Denver, Colorado from August 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007. All contests run from January 1, 2007 through May 30, 2007.

MUFON is membership driven and by recruiting new members MUFON can continue to provide leadership in solving the UFO mystery.

### Contest for MUFON State and Assistant State Directors

To qualify, you must increase existing membership in your state or state area (CA, NC, TN, WA) by at least 7 new members over that of 2006. State Directors were mailed a listing of their current members in December. For example, if your state has 10 MUFON International members as of December 31, 2006 you will have to increase your membership during the contest period by at least 7 new members to a total of 17. The MOST new members above the minimum, as noted above, will be the winner of the contest. (If there is a tie, the first one to reach the winning number will be the Contest winner.)

NOTE: The accounting of new members is critical. All new members you recruit must be identified as yours on their application for membership (paper or Internet) by including your name in the 'Recommended By' field. Membership fees must be included. Renewal of existing MUFON International members does not apply toward the contest.

### Contest for all MUFON Members excluding State/Assistant State Directors

To qualify, you must be a MUFON member in good standing (membership current). The individual who recruits the most new members greater than (5) five from January 1, 2007 to May 30, 2007 will be declared the winner. (If there is a tie, the first one to reach the winning number will be the Contest winner.)

NOTE: The accounting of new members is critical. All new members you recruit must be identified as yours on their application for membership (paper or Internet) by including your name in the 'Recommended By' field. Membership fees must be included. Renewal of existing MUFON International members does not apply toward the contest.

### Lifetime Member Contest (open to all MUFON members)

Any MUFON member who recruits three (3) new 'Life Time' Members for \$1000 each will receive paid Symposium fees and a room for two at the Denver Marriott for three nights. All new lifetime members you recruit must be identified as yours on their application for membership (paper or Internet) by including your name in the 'Recommended By' field. Membership fees must be included.

Monthly contest tally will be included in MUFON JOURNAL with names and number of new members recruited by State Directors, Assistant State Directors and MUFON members. Winners will be announced in the July MUFON Journal. Awards will be presented at the 2007 MUFON Symposium. MUFON is very excited about this opportunity for all MUFON members to participate in this exciting NEW Membership Contest. Membership is vital to our organization.

Good luck and we will see some of you at the 2007 Symposium in Denver.

## MUFON 2007 Symposium

**An Estimate of the Situation:  
The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis**

**August 10 - 12, 2007  
Denver Colorado**

### Speaker Lineup as of February

Stanton Friedman

Richard Dolan

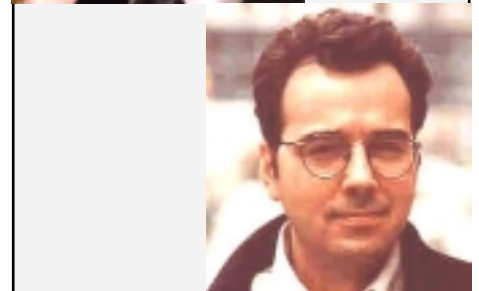
Kathleen Marden

John Greenewald

Michael Nelson

Sam Maranto

Robert Salas





# FILER'S FILES

By George Filer  
Director, MUFON Eastern Region



**Note:** These reports are presented in order to keep readers informed of some of the vast number of sightings being reported. However, these cases have not been officially investigated, unless noted.

## UFO Crashes in Iran

TEHRAN (Fars News Agency) -- An Unidentified Flying Object crashed in Barez Mounts in the central province of Kerman on Wednesday morning January 10, 2007. Deputy Governor General of Kerman province Abulghassem Nasrollahi told FNA that the crash which was followed by an explosion and a thick spiral of smoke has caused no casualties or damage to properties. He further denied earlier reports that the explosion has been the result of a plane or chopper crash, reminding that all the passing aircraft have been reported as sound and safe. The crash site is several hundred miles from even the closest nuclear development site and is not likely to be a foreign drone. The official further stated that investigations are underway by police and other relevant authorities in this regard.

Eye-witnesses assure that the explosion has been caused as a result of the crash of a radiant unidentified flying object onto the ground. Meantime, an informed source told FNA that the object has been on fire and there has been thick smoke coming out of it prior to the crash, concluding that the object couldn't have been a meteor as meteors do not smoke. The source also said that the crash has been witnessed by people in several cities and the crash site is located 100 kilometers from the provincial capital city of Kerman.

Similar crash incidents have been witnessed frequently during the last year all across Iran, and officials believe that the objects could be spy planes or a

high-tech espionage device. The city of Rafsanjan reported a similar incident several days ago. Thanks to FNA.

*Filer Comments:* There is some question if the reported UFOs are in fact US surveillance drones. Iranian Air Force General Karim Hawami stated, "We drew up plans to protect our



*George Filer*

nuclear facilities from any threat. The Iranian Air Force is on its guard and ready to do its duty." Ground to air missiles have been moved into to protect the nuclear development sites. They have been given the order to shoot down any unidentified or suspicious object that enters Iranian air space.

The US has been flying surveillance drones over Iran to seek evidence of their nuclear weapons program and to detect weaknesses in Iranian air defenses. The small, pilotless planes, penetrating Iranian airspace from U.S. military facilities in Iraq, use radar, video, still photography and air filters designed to pick up traces of nuclear activity to gather information that is not accessible by satellites. The aerial espionage is standard in military preparations for an eventual air attack and is also employed as a tool for intimidation. U.S. officials confirmed that the drones were deployed along Iran's northern and western borders, starting in April 2003, and periodically since then. The U.S. intelligence community began using Iraq as a base to spy on Iran shortly after tak-

ing Baghdad in early April 2003. Iranian special forces entered Iraq and conducting intelligence and terrorist operations.

The UFOs were first spotted by dozens of Iranian civilians and set off a national newspaper frenzy over whether the country was being visited by UFOs or surveillance drones. In one sense the US and Iran are already at war. Iranian intelligence units are operating inside Iraq and have been supplying high explosives for terrorist operations inside the country.

Several different types of drones with varying capabilities have been deployed over Iran. Some fly several hundred feet above the earth, getting a closer view of ground activities than satellites, and are equipped with air filter technology that captures particles and delivers them back to base for analysis. Any presence of plutonium, uranium or tritium could



indicate nuclear work in the area where the samples were collected. Iran's National Security Council indicated "It is clear to the Iranian Air Force many whom were trained in the US, that the intention was to get Iran to turn on our radars," the official said. This is a tactic, designed to determine the locations, frequencies they are operating on, ranges, and capability of Iranian Air Defense System. Iran's national security officials ordered their forces not to turn on the radar or come into contact with the drones in any way.

## **Pennsylvania UFO Photographed**

Youngwood - Researcher Stan Gordon reports: On the evening of January 3, 2007, something unusual was observed in the sky by three people traveling in a vehicle in Westmoreland County. The witnesses never officially reported their experience. Soon after the sighting, the witnesses were having dinner with a local businessman. During their conversation, they mentioned their sighting. They also showed the man the photo of the object which had been taken on their cell phone camera. The businessman suggested that they talk



with me about what they had observed. I was put in touch with the family and conducted a detailed interview.

The observation had taken place at 8:58 PM, as indicated on the cell phone camera near Youngwood, when they observed a brilliant luminous object in the sky which appeared to be hovering or moving very slowly. One witness described the object as a diamond shaped, or "oval shaped with a hump at the top and bottom." The area around the object glowed, also. The object was many times brighter and larger than any stars that were also visible on that clear night.

The wife said, "What the hell is that light? Why is it so low?" The wife noticed the moon off to her left, which looked much different than the object. At one point they stopped their car to take a better look at the object, where it then appeared to be stationary. They drove on to a new location with a clear view where they again stopped their vehicle, lowered the driver's side window, and took a picture with their new cell phone camera which they switched into a 'night mode' setting.

The wife checked the camera phone to see if the image had been captured. When she looked back seconds later

to see the object, it was no longer visible. The object had suddenly disappeared from sight after 3-4 minutes total. Researcher Jim Brown examined the photo using a method called pixel weight scan. Using this process, he was not able to detect any red or green lights commonly associated with aircraft.

Another UFO incident involving a similar shaped object, and still under investigation, occurred in Indiana County on December 12, 2006. That incident involved a large silent diamond shaped object flying low and was following the power lines. The object eventually passed directly over a car. See [www.stangordon.com/news/2007/january/ufophotographed](http://www.stangordon.com/news/2007/january/ufophotographed)

## **Tennessee White Light**

I was letting my cat out January 15, 2007, and since its still unseasonably warm 54 degrees, I decided to step outside with my cup of coffee. It was about 5:30 AM, and I was looking north at the relative fast moving clouds. I saw a very bright object not blinking, brighter than a plane but it did not illuminate the sky. It was a white light one. It was moving much faster than any jet I have ever seen. Although it was the size of a plane traveling at a normal altitude it moved faster than anything I have ever seen. It moved west to east and if I extended my arm the object could be covered with my thumb but traveled the distance of a yardstick if held in my hand.

I noticed that it traveled in between clouds. Maybe it was a shooting star but I don't know. The brightness and the speed made this unlike anything I have ever seen. Thanks to MUFON CMS [www.mufon.com](http://www.mufon.com)

## **Virginia Light**

Toms Brook -- While traveling in a van on I-81 South near Toms Brook, Virginia, at 6:57 PM, on December 11, 2006, my attention was diverted upward and to the left while glancing out the driver's window as I passed Mile Post 288.5. A bright yellow-white light sat motionless in the very clear night sky among the fixed stars for about a half-minute or more. I detected no change

in its position relative to the stars despite my highway speed of approximately 65-70 mph. This indicated to me that the light was probably hovering at an altitude well above 50,000 feet---far away from me. Perhaps 100 to 200 thousand feet altitude. The object was due south toward Charlottesville (approximately 60 miles away).

The object appeared ahead of me about 50 degrees to my left and 30 degrees above the horizon (90 degrees being directly overhead). It was almost as bright as Venus but with a distinct yellow tint. After about 15 to 20 seconds of observing, I saw it dim down dramatically to approximately one-third of its original brightness, hold for several seconds, dim down to a mere 'cinder', hold for a few more seconds, then dim steadily until it went completely out. I had the distinct impression the dimming was controlled manually. I noticed two aircraft in formation at approximately 30,000 feet flying right through that part of the sky only three minutes later. I stopped at the next ramp and exited my vehicle. An unusually high number of aircraft flew across the area 10 minutes after the sighting and continued to crowd the sky for at least half an hour. At a random moment, I counted 15 aircraft in various directions. The light appeared very bright to be so far away. I estimate that if it was hovering only a few thousand feet high, it could have lit an entire city. Thanks to Alan Caviness Independent UFO Investigator/Carolina Group Research

## **Washington UFO Sightings**

Vancouver -- There is an object in the sky on January 14, 2007, that is making no sound, moving extremely slow in a right to left and back again motion low in the sky. We observed this for over two hours and also observed several planes flying by the object. We noticed around five other object with only red and white lights moving just as slow but they were at a much higher altitude. We watched planes fly around them and called some neighbors to go outside and observe them also. We didn't have a telescope to look through so we used our binoculars, and could definitely



make out the different colored lights on each craft, and see the flashing pattern of the lights. We quit watching after a while because of the extreme cold. Each time we went out to look again, the crafts or objects were still there, they had just changed the place they were hovering. Thanks to MUFON CMS [www.mufon.com](http://www.mufon.com)

### Argentina Lights

LA PAMPA -- A report from Raul Oscar Chaves that sightings of strange lights as become a daily event. On January 12, 2007, between 22:00 and 23:00 hours, four lights were seen over Santa Rosa. After increasing their size suddenly and reaching dimensions roughly four times the size of Venus, they would gradually disappear.

Three of them were detected some 45 degrees to the East on radial 090 flying north being seen at their greatest splendor in some 15 seconds, with a 15-20 minute interval between sightings. The fourth luminosity was detected on radial 035, some 45 degrees over the horizon, with a SSE - NNW direction, remaining visible for some 10 seconds before gradually disappearing.

Five witnesses agreed that the colors of these lights fluctuated between yellow, blue, fluorescent green and amber. Moreover, residents of the "El Guanaco" ranch 35 km north of Santa Rosa saw at 23:00 that same evening the transit of a green, blue and white light from east to west. This light had a "sort of tail..." from which "...four lesser lights, white in color..." broke off slowly and progressively. The witnesses stressed that they looked like "the windows of a bus." While it is possible to see lights in this area, they have never had the size and intensity detected in this case. (translation (c) 2007, S. Corrales, IHU.)

### Brazil UFO

Photo taken by Carlos Alberto Souza, businessman. He was traveling by car with his wife Anna Almeida and brother-in-law at the Brazilian federal road BR-267 near Bataguassu, state of Mato Grosso do Sul. Souza asked the wife to take photos of the road and the beautiful scenery, which she did. Nobody saw anything unusual and the

strange object was noticed only when the photo was downloaded into the computer. The camera used was a Sony Cybershot W30 6.0 megapixels. Images are still under analysis.

Thanks to Brazilian Center for Flying Saucer Research (CBPDV) A. J. Gevaerd, Editor, Brazilian UFO Maga-



zine [www.ufo.com.br/arquivos/fotos/Road\\_Brazil\\_23\\_dez\\_06.jpg](http://www.ufo.com.br/arquivos/fotos/Road_Brazil_23_dez_06.jpg)

### Mexican Airliner Crew Observes UFO

Popocatepetl Volcano — Flight engineer Loe Gonzalez informed researcher Alfonso Salazar said he saw a UFO during a domestic flight between the city of Villahermosa (Tabasco) and Mexico City. The probable UFO irradiated a very powerful white light. He indicated that the pilot, the first officer and himself were witnesses to the sighting from the cockpit of their Boeing 737-200, registration XA-MAF. The UFO flew alongside the aircraft, placing itself some 1500 meters to the left of the airliner. The crew lost the UFO from sight when it flew at high speed along the vicinity of the Popocatepetl Volcano, entering a dense cloud bank.



Similar photo taken: The witness does not remember the exact date of the sighting, estimating that it took place around October 1, 2006. He specified that it occurred shortly after taking off from Villahermosa, roughly around 6:50 p.m. "It wasn't picked up on the Ticas radar, aside from the impressive speed at which it peeled away from the air-

liner," explains Alfonso Salazar, adding some pilots are currently traveling with their own cameras or camcorders in order to pick up these unexplained aerial phenomena. Thanks *Journal of Hispanic Ufology* to Ana Luisa Cid and Alfonso Salazar.

### Colorado Springs

Witness report: "On January 9, 2007, I hiked with a friend in the Ute Valley Park. At 5:40 PM, we were coming out of the park, after a two hour hike near Mule Deer Drive. We were going downhill, facing Pikes Peak and admiring the sunset and noticed a strange light appearing as a horizontal segment of light just above the saddle to the South in the skyline of Pikes Peak. The headlight-like white light was significantly to the left of the peak and was shaped like a horizontal segment. It was far too large to be landing lights, given the apparent distance to them. Initially, the light was linear and oriented horizontally. It was larger than the cog train station and was not a twinkling star. We rushed home to grab binoculars and rushed back to Ute Valley Park. By 6 PM, the sky was dark and I saw no light in that particular region of the sky. This sighting remains unexplained to me." Thanks to MUFON CMS.

### Eglin Air Force Base, Florida

Witness report: "On January 10, 2006, on Highway 90 and Gult City Road going south I viewed a triangular vehicle with three lights white in color. The vehicle's frame at night appeared black and it flew southeast about a quarter of arm's length. The vehicle moved in the general direction of Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. The objects movement was smooth as though it was gliding. At the last viewing the object was 1/2 dime size, and low in the horizon and lost to the trees. With renewed base activity this may be worth an extra look. When the object was last seen all three lights on the bottom and in its corners could still be made out. I hope this report can be forwarded to a person southeast of me tonight as it appeared to be fixed in its path." Thanks to Mr. Cannon MUFON CMS



# Field Investigator's Corner

## Monthly CMS Ranking Report

Chuck Reeve, MUFON Director of Investigations

Each month starting in this issue of the Journal, we will report the CMS Ranking Report for all State Directors.

Congratulations to **Bland Pugh (Florida)**, **Kenneth E. Cherry (Texas)**, and **Donald R. Burleson (New Mexico)** for being 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in the month of January.

The report is based on our two measures of UFO Investigation effectiveness. Assigning reports within 48 hours of receipt, and completing all investigations within 60 days of being assigned. The **'Assigned'** column is a six month running average of the number of cases assigned within 48 hours divided by the total number of cases received in that six month period. The **'Completed'** column is the number of cases completed beginning sixty two (62) days back and going back six months from there (for a total of eight months back) divided by the total number of cases reported in the same period. The **'Weighted Rank'** is just the average of the two columns expressed as a percent.

To improve your score be sure to assign all cases within 48 hours, and follow-up with your Field Investigators to ensure all reports are completed within 60 days. To be considered complete a report, must have been investigated and placed in one of the three completed status codes (Unknown, Hoax or IFO) by you the State Director.

If you have any questions or need help with your investigations please contact Chuck Reeve at 530-414-4341 or 530-582-8339 or via e-mail at wizard@telis.org

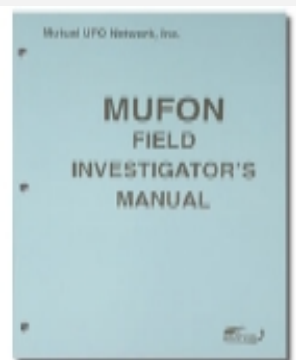
Rank	State	Director	Weighted Rank (50/50)	Assigned	Completed
1	Florida	Bland Pugh	83 %	53/60	69/69
2	Texas	Kenneth E. Cherry	76 %	15/28	44/44
3	New Mexico	Donald R. Burleson	71 %	16/21	8/12
4	Oklahoma	Charles L. Pine	69 %	5/13	16/16
5	Kansas	Thomas H. Nicholl	68 %	3/8	6/8
6	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	60 %	1/5	5/5
7	Washington	Laurence Childs	54 %	4/13	7/9
8	Nevada	Mark Easter	52 %	6/28	17/21
9	Iowa	Jim King	50 %	0/2	4/4
10	California	Georgianne Cifarelli	48 %	35/62	16/39
11	North Carolina	George E. Lund, III	46 %	3/14	39/55
12	Georgia	Mark C. Ausmus	46 %	8/14	4/11
13	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	43 %	8/29	9/15
14	Colorado	Leslie H. Varnide	43 %	38/49	5/52
15	Indiana	Jerry L. Slevers	41 %	8/30	12/21
16	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	40 %	3/15	6/10
17	Hawaii	Puuloa M. Teves	37 %	1/4	1/2
18	Massachusetts	Greg S. Berghorn	33 %	0/15	6/9
19	Nebraska	John C. Kasher	28 %	0/4	4/7
20	Utah	Elaine Douglass / Ronald S. Regehr	25 %	3/8	1/7
21	Michigan	William J. Konkolesky	22 %	6/68	14/41
22	Vermont	Dan Lavilette	21 %	3/7	0/8
23	New Jersey	George A. Filer, III	16 %	3/13	1/11
24	Maryland	Bruce S. Maccabee	13 %	0/6	3/11
25	Wisconsin	David J. Watson	9 %	1/11	1/10
26	California	Ruben J. Uriarte	9 %	6/41	2/44
27	Washington	Gerald E. Rolwes	8 %	1/6	0/5
28	Minnesota	Richard D. Moss	5 %	0/14	2/18
29	Pennsylvania	Wayne G. Gracey	5 %	0/22	2/17
30	New York	James G. Bouck, Jr.	3 %	2/27	0/26
31	Arizona	George C. Parks	0 %	0/23	0/24
32	Ohio	William Edward Jones	0 %	0/34	0/23
33	Kentucky	Earle T. Benezet	0 %	0/5	0/4
34	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	0 %	0/4	0/6
35	Virginia	Susan L. Swiatek	0 %	0/9	0/9
36	New Hampshire	Peter R. Geremia	0 %	0/10	0/8
37	Rhode Island	Janet L. Buoci	0 %	0/3	0/3
38	Idaho	Robert Gates	0 %	0/3	0/5
39	North Dakota	Jeffrey L. Wachler	0 %	0/2	0/0
40	Missouri	Bruce A. Widaman	0 %	0/16	0/13
41	Tennessee	Mark D. Gilley	0 %	0/4	0/4
42	Alaska	J. Glen Harper	0 %	0/1	0/2
43	Delaware	Ralph P. Flegal	0 %	0/1	0/0
44	Arkansas	Norman D. Walker	0 %	0/4	0/6
45	Alabama	William H. Weeks	0 %	0/6	0/8
46	Connecticut	Anastasia Wietzychowska	0 %	0/6	0/4
47	Montana	Jeff W. Goodrich	0 %	0/4	0/3

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# PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

## The O'Hare Morality Play

The story had everything; heroes, villains, deception, courage, and intrigue. A murder mystery? Spy novel? No, just the observation of an unidentified flying object over O'Hare Airport outside Chicago on November 7, 2006, by roughly a

dozen employees of United Airlines. There were likely other witnesses, since in my experience, 90% of people who have UFO sightings don't

report them. The time was about 4:30 PM. The object was described as oval and gray with no protuberances and no lights. It was hovering soundlessly below the cloud cover at 1900'. It was well before sunset. As UFO sightings go, it wasn't all that special. No crashed saucer, no observations of aliens, no apparent radar observation, and no dog-fights with interceptors.

There were some special features. First of all, the observers are accustomed to seeing all manner of aircraft at O'Hare, the world's second busiest airport, after Atlanta. Second, the object departed by going straight up and effectively boring a circular hole in the clouds. So there was an unusual physical trace, though not one observable or measurable well after the craft had left.

Peter Davenport is one of the heroes of the saga. He operates the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle and talks to thousands of UFO witnesses every year. He was called soon after it happened and talked to some witnesses hoping to hear from many more.



Stan Friedman

The real hero is Joe Hilkevitch, the transportation reporter for the Chicago Tribune. Peter contacted him and sought other witnesses and tried to get more data from the Federal Aviation Administration and from United Airlines. Both tried to deny knowing anything at all. Joe filed a Freedom Of Information Act request with the FAA which suddenly did some looking and found that there had been a conversation about the case. They claimed they could not investigate the case and that their conclusion was that it was some sort of weather phenomena with lights from the ground shining off clouds. How that could provide a round solid image below cloud level before sunset was not explained. United finally admitted they had heard about the case, but they were not investigating it either. A reasonable person might wonder why the FAA and a major airline were not concerned about an unknown vehicle hovering below 1900' over such a busy airport. Would it not be a threat to air safety? There have been other cases such as the JAL 1628 case in 1986 after which the FAA gathered the package of radio and radar data and swore people to silence. Joe also did something else. He interviewed Dr. Richard Haines a retired NASA Scientist. Dick is in my 1979 video "UFOs ARE Real", has worked with a number of astronauts, has written several UFO books, has worked with a number of abductees, and collected loads (well over 1000) of sightings by commercial and military pilots. He has also done work on Soviet UFO investigations. Dick is very active with the National Aviation Reporting Center for Anomalous Phenomenon (NARCAP) which provides an opportunity for pilots to report sightings without worry about their names being bruited about and bringing on problems with their companies and associates.

I am often asked what it would take to get the truth about UFOs out to the world. My answer is that aside from a huge sighting during the World Cup, or the Super Bowl, or World series, it would take a reporter making as much effort to blow the lid off the Cosmic Watergate as Woodward and Bernstein did more than 30 years ago at the Washington Post blowing the lid off the political Watergate. There was substantial backing by the paper. Starting off on January 1, 2007, with a well researched article on the front page of the Tribune, above the fold, would seem like a very good way to start. Comments within two weeks indicated that the article got more hits on the Trib website than any other article, ever (more than a million).

For 4 days it was the most sought article, which also never happens. The requests for more information came from media people and the general public from all over the world.

There were of course some villains. The Associated Press butchered the article leaving out comments from Haines, but emphasizing this stupid comment by O'Hare controller and union official Craig Burzych who said "To fly 7 million light years to O'Hare and then have to turn around and go home because your gate was occupied is simply unacceptable".

Why anybody in his right mind would talk of 7 million light years is not obvious. Latest data indicates that there are roughly 2000 stars within only 54 light years of Earth of which 46 are quite similar to the sun and with some at least a billion years older than the sun. The Andromeda galaxy is over 2 million light years away. The Milky Way is only about 100,000 light years in diameter and has a few hundred Billion stars. 7 million light years indeed.

But as might be expected, he was out done by a supposed comedian, Dennis



Miller quoted, "Only man is a narcissistic enough species to think that a highly evolved alien life source would travel billions and billions of light years just to snatch a few unfortunates for an intrusive medical exam." Billions and billions of light years? No exam noted either. What was he smoking? How about 39 light years to Zeta Reticuli or a few light seconds to a nearby base or mother ship?

As might be expected other villains include Dr. Joseph Nickell chief debunker of the newly renamed Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (formerly CSICOP). He appeared on CNN as the usual rent-a-skeptic as might be expected based on his many past top of the head comments, knowing nothing of the facts. Another is James Oberg, who unlike Nickell, with his 3 degrees in English did work for a long time in the space program and is often called upon for debunking, stated, "It is just sad that we keep getting these reports which are of zero evidential value. It's sad because there's a lot of strange stuff in the air that we do need to know". As usual with the debunkers we have the totally hypocritical thought that if a sighting can be explained as a relatively conventional phenomenon, the witness was obviously a good observer. If it can't (as in this case) be explained as a conventional phenomenon (unless one considers alien spacecraft conventional) then the witness must be a poor observer. I cannot stress too strongly that the reason most sightings can be identified is that people are good observers. The problem is the interpretation.

One nasty response came from Neil Steinberg a columnist for the Chicago Sun Times (the Tribune's main competition) though having a third less circulation, on January 7. The headline was "UFOs Frighten Me". No not because of their death rays, or their giant cockroach crew waving the anal probes they seem to be always inflicting upon cowering Kansas Housefraus. He is concerned not with UFOs themselves, but with our reaction to them.

With the unspoken assumption we greet UFOs with the unjustifiable seriousness and respect. We really think

they're flying saucers from outer space. The tacit implication is that despite official explanations, despite all that uncertainty, such sightings are a sly wink by our friends from the Crab Nebula. We used to get our meaning from the sky angels once, now UFOs. We have this veneer of modern knowledge, science, and civilization. Yet we cringe and flutter our hands at every odd cloud and imagine the wildest stories to justify our ducking. UFOs remind us how far we haven't come. "What a silly rant. I emailed with quotes from Dr. Herbert Strentz's 1970 Northwestern University PhD Thesis "Press Coverage of UFOs 1947-1966". Steinberg responded that he had indeed done his research for a book *The Alphabet of Modern Annoyance*. Turns out it was published in 1996 and I could not find a copy here so I have ordered it. I would gather his sources were *Weekly World News* and an enormous ego.

Some have questioned where are the pictures? The object was metallic gray seen against a gray cloud cover and roughly 25' in diameter. A 747 has a wingspan of 195 feet and typically at low altitude is moving only at 100-150 miles per hour. Perhaps of greater importance is the fact that judging by the responses to my questions about sightings after my lectures, only about 10% of people who believe they have had a sighting reported what they had seen. Since there was little publicity if any in early November, why would anybody have reported anything and to whom? Once the Trib article and the rest of the media jumped in, then more people supposedly have come forth. Airport radar may or may not have picked up the UFO. The FAA certainly isn't giving out information. Though stationary small objects, presumably without transponders reporting their identity and position on the radar would not be of much concern with all the landings and take offs competing for attention. The radar would be very unlikely to take note of the vertical hole in the clouds.

My first response to the Tribune article was and still is very enthusiastic. My posting on UFO Updates noted the

contrast between the well written, quite-fair article and comments from Dr. Strentz's PhD Thesis.

The high degree of ridicule present in the UFO phenomenon was reflected in the press coverage. The coverage has been marked by superficiality, redundancy, silliness, careless reporting, and lack of relevant information. The lack of relevant information was also attributable to the reluctance of the press to ferret out information about the phenomenon and those involved in it.

One of the common claims by believers and non-believers is that most people don't believe in UFOs. Really? Years ago I took a survey in a class of about 100 college students. I asked them to vote with their eyes closed. 80% thought most people didn't believe in UFOs. But 80% of the group themselves did believe. Within a week of the Trib article and the coverage on CNN and Fox, etc.; a Florida TV station polled its listeners two choices, a weather phenomenon as claimed by the FAA or a UFO? 4477 people voted: 83% said UFO.

I think the rout of nasty noisy negativists has begun.

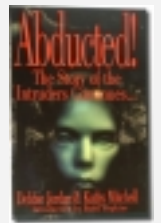
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*Please email [hq@mufon.com](mailto:hq@mufon.com) if you would like to review UFO related books for the MUFON Journal.*





# Physical Traces

By Ted Phillips



## The Project Begins

### Part Three

At the end of the war Tony was ordered by the Russians to direct a series of mines in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. He wanted no part of the Russians and refused. He and Anna we threatened with immediate arrest and they fled to France.

They lived in Paris until it was possible to travel to the United States in 1951. During their time in Paris they assisted other refugees with food and shelter.

After they arrived in the U.S., they established themselves by building a restaurant and Tony taught languages and music.

In 1970 I was put in contact with Tony and Anna and asked to go to the Tatra Mountains to find the Moonshaft as named by Tony. Allen Hynek and I approached an interested group for funding. In just two weeks, actor Jackie Gleason had agreed to fund my trip. Tony immediately began contacting old friends in Prague by letter asking for assistance that would provide equipment and transportation for me when I arrived. Tony contacted Jurek (a nickname) in Bratislava to give me a detailed map to the cave or to go with me. The Russians had invaded Czechoslovakia in 1968 and were in total control. Before we received confirmation of the necessary assistance, four of our contacts were arrested by the Russians and executed. The project was canceled.

Over the next 28 years I gathered any information I could find still hoping for

funding to complete the project. Tony died in 1976, Anna in 1978, and there was one surviving relative and she has provided much information to the current time.

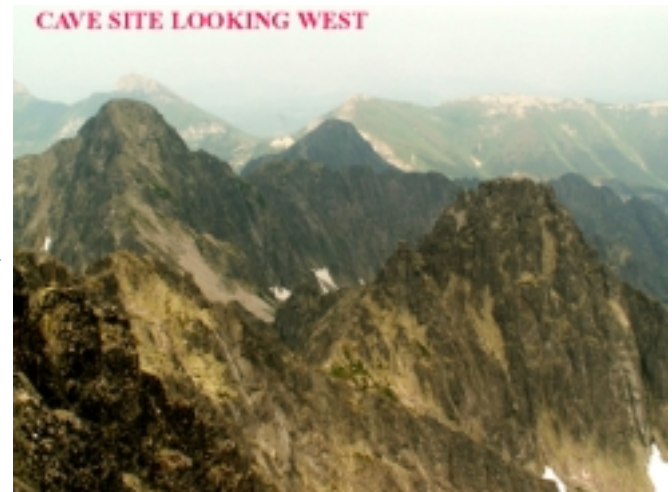
In late 1998 I was contacted about a UFO research project by an individual willing to fund such projects. In late March 1999 I presented the Moonshaft project to my funding source and two weeks later I was off to Slovakia with a heavy load of maps, sketches and equipment.

After a very long trip from Missouri to Slovakia which involved many flight changes and the dragging of equipment through several airports I found myself about to land in Kosice., which is located in eastern Slovakia. I found myself on the landing approach looking at a large number of Mig 29 fighter planes on the airfield. I was not aware of the yet heavy Russian influence in that small country.

After landing I began a 200 mile drive to Stry Smokovec which is located at the base of the High Tatra mountain range. Of course I couldn't read the road signs and directions were difficult as I couldn't speak the language. After adjusting to the driving habits of the locals it was an interesting and not too difficult drive. It was a good thing I am a professional race car driver, it appeared the local drivers had that background also.

After unloading at my new home for the next six weeks I was visited by the owners of a local travel agency that had arranged my travel and hotel needs. They owned a family business. The mother and father spoke little English but their teenage son and daughter spoke fluent enough. We became friends immediately and they provided much needed assistance and information.

I began my search for a very tiny cave entrance in some extremely rugged terrain.



Tony Horak had given me longitude and latitude coordinates based on low accuracy maps available in the late 1960's. I had also been given sketches made in 1944 of the cave entrance, the mountains in which the cave was located, the terrain at the cave area, and pointed out the path to the cave entrance and a detailed map of the cave itself.

As he noted in his 1944 diary he covered the entrance to three small passages deep in the cavern as he left the cave



for the last time. The idea was to make it impossible for ‘treasure hunters’ who might find the entrance to the main cavern from reaching the artifact area. He marked those for me on the map. Any one of the three would appear to be the end of this huge and complex cavern.

As I began the search with GPS in hand, I was certain I could locate the artifact if I could find this low cranny which would allow access to the grotto. The cave map indicates a distance from the entrance to the artifact to be nearly two miles. Over that length the main passage drops 200 to 300 meters in elevation as estimated by Tony. There are many side passages to the left and right which he explored only for short distances.



*Ted Phillips in the Tatra*

The terrain is extremely difficult and steep with many huge rock formations to navigate. With his sketch of the mountain area in which the entrance exists, I was able to match sketches by modern day climbers of that area. There are outstanding features on the 1944 sketch matching more recent sketches and photographs. There was no doubt I was in the right area and explored many caves having small entrances but failed to find the cave in question in just six weeks.

In 2001 I obtained funding for a second trip of four weeks, this time landing in Prague. I traced the history of the Horak family from their vast properties in the Czech Republic to other areas he had gone to during WWII. I found that all records of the family had disappeared. Even in the small village where he was born I talked with the local priest and he could find no records of Tony’s



*The Tatra border Poland and Slovakia*

birth. The priest suggested checking with the village ‘Major’ which I did. He told me that he had received orders to send all the records to Kosice in the early 1980 or 1981 which he did. I asked if the records sent were for the entire village and he replied that only the Horak records were asked for and sent.

I talked with a high ranking military officer who had access to WWII military records and he placed a call to an old military friend. This man told him that he remembered a Captain Antonin Horak and knew where to check. He called back and stated that those records were not available even to him. Why these records were taken is a bit of a puzzle. It is interesting that the Russians initiated a project to find the cave in 1981.

I again explored additional caves working my way into the general known location but there was not time to complete the job. I was very close and received new information after I returned home that confirmed it.

In the past five years I have received information from contacts in Poland and Slovakia of the crash of an unknown object in 1663 very near the cave location. Also the involvement of Hitler and the SS in a search for a cave called ‘The Cave of the Half Moon’ which began in 1939. Also the landing of a similar device in Russia centuries ago.

In Part 4 I will present details on similar artifacts in Russia, Yugoslavia and the United States.

## Spectacular Space Debris Lights up Western Skies

On January 4, 2007 at 6:15 AM Mountain time, early morning risers in Colorado and Wyoming were witnesses to an impressive aerial display, when a Russian SL4 rocket booster reentered the atmosphere after launching a French space telescope, leaving a burning trail of debris that was visible for hundreds of miles.

The French satellite was launched December 27, 2006 from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Russia to monitor stars and help locate new planets

There were unconfirmed reports of rocket space debris crashing in Riverton, WY that burned an area on the ground 30-40 feet wide. Richard Beckwith, MUFON Wyoming State Director contacted the Sheriff’s department in Fremont County and was told that some portion of the debris came down near the 45 mile marker of Highway 28 near the top of South Pass. Richard visited the site on January 11th, but found nothing. It appeared to have snowed, and there had been a tractor in the area which was not unusual as South Pass had been closed on the fourth due to snow and there would have been snow plows in the area.

NORAD spokesman, Lt. Cmdr. Sean Kelly said that the reentry was expected and was being monitored and also commented that “objects falling from space are almost an everyday occurrence.”

### MUFON Members Message Board

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Password: Hynek1947  
(case sensitive)

## Directors' Message...

(Continued from page 2)

### MUFON Journal Editor Retires

Dwight Connelly has retired as the MUFON Journal editor and I am acting as the interim editor in his place as of this issue of the Journal. I want to thank Dwight for his many years of service to MUFON (all the way back to when the Journal was Skylook) and for the excellent job he did editing the Jour-



nal each month. All of us at MUFON HQ wish him the best in his new endeavors.

I am currently looking for a MUFON member to take over editorial duties. If you have the time and the talent, please contact me at [jcarrion@mufon.com](mailto:jcarrion@mufon.com). The MUFON Journal Editor job is a paid position.

### MUFON Library

The MUFON library is growing thanks to the contributions of MUFON members like Shirley Gray who recently donated over 100 books to MUFON HQ. Thank you Shirley for your dedication and support! The MUFON library will be a great reference resource for the participant's of MUFON's upcoming Meeting of the Minds workshop that will be held March 10 - 12, 2007 in Fort Collins, Colorado.

### MUFON 2007 Symposium

We have a great line up of speakers for the August 10 - 12, 2007 Symposium and early registration will begin in March. This is one Symposium you will not want to miss.

### Position Announcements

New State Section Directors, Robert Thomas, North Central Arkansas, Mr. Lindy Cotner, West Central Arkansas, F. Paul Haag, Northwest Arkansas. Timothy Bender, Eastern Montana.

New State Directors, David Watson replacing Bill Olinger in Wisconsin. Kim Shaffer replacing Kevin Green in Eastern Tennessee, Walter T. Sheets replacing Mark Ausmus in Georgia who moves to the position of Consulting Assistant State Director.

New Assistant State Directors

Ralph Howard David Marchant, assistant state director for Georgia for the Georgia Coastal Region.

### New Field Investigators

Johnny Rentas of Brooklyn, NY, Robert C. Diehm of Danville, Ohio, Kari M. Buntin of Cary, NC. Dr. Scott Phillips and Grace Vasquez Phillips of Auburn, WA are new field investigators. Kathleen Marden reports that Scott and Grace are the first Field Investigator trainees to receive a perfect score on the exam in her entire tenure as Director of Field Investigator Training.

Kathleen who recently retired from her position recently wrote: "I want to thank MUFON for the opportunity to serve in a volunteer capacity over the past ten or so years. It was a pleasure to do so and I look forward to my continued association with MUFON. Best of luck with the new Field Investigators Manual and the new online exam."

The new address to send completed field investigator exams to is:

Attn: Chuck Reever  
MUFON Director of Investigation  
P.O. Box 10798  
Truckee, CA 96162

## HEADS UP

New Episodes of The Black Vault Radio every *TUESDAY* and *THURSDAY* night!

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### Announcement from Bud Hopkin's Intruders Foundation:

After a lengthy hiatus, the Intruders Foundation (IF) resumed its regular program of seminars on January 27, 2007 with a presentation by Anna Jamerson (one of the authors of Connections) in which she discussed her extraordinary UFO abduction experiences. Anna and her friend Beth Collings met in the late 1980s, and subsequently discovered that they were both undergoing UFO abductions and that amazingly, they had been brought together as children in a series of ongoing encounters evidently engineered by the UFO occupants.

For additional information, call the Intruders Foundation at 212-645-5278.

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### 2006 Symposium Proceedings and DVDs

Every year since 1971, MUFON has published the proceedings of the annual MUFON International UFO Symposium.

The 2006 proceedings are available from MUFON Headquarters, P.O. Box 279, Bellvue, CO 80512-0279, for \$33 postpaid in the U.S. and \$42 outside of the U.S.

DVDs, videos, and audio CDs of each symposium speaker are available from:

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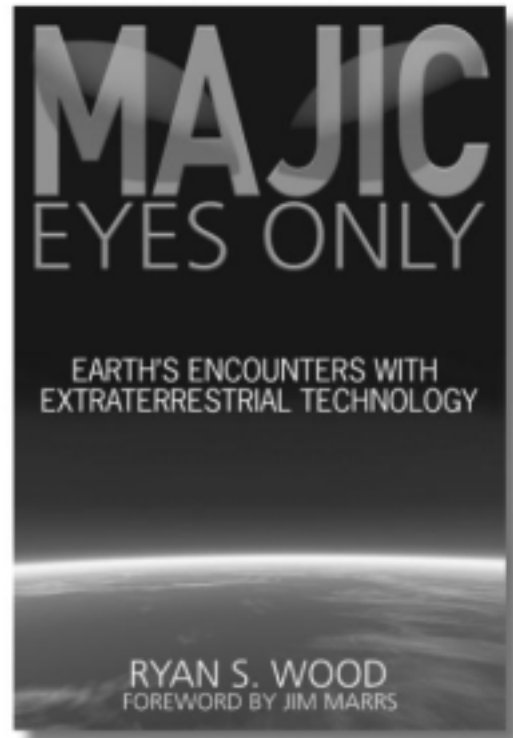
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