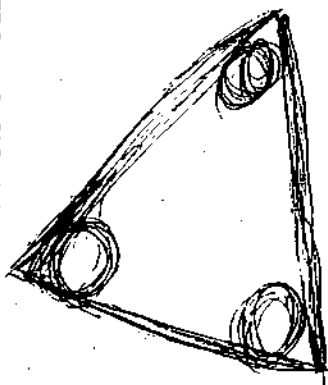


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Angel hair is tied to UFOs in an interview of Brian Boldman by Tracie Austin-Peters in a Let's Talk...Paranormal show. Above is a greatly enlarged photo of angel hair, courtesy of analytical scientist Phyllis Budinger. The article begins on page 3.

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Director's Message

By John F. Schuessler

MUFON UFO Symposium July 22-24

If you are ready for a series of new evidence-based papers aimed at resolving the UFO mystery, then you won't want to miss the 36th annual MUFON International UFO Symposium in Denver, CO, this July.

It is being held at the Marriott Tech Center Hotel on July 22-24. Room rates are only \$65 per night at this world-class hotel situated in a wooded campus setting. The location is about one mile south of the site of the 2004 MUFON symposium.

You will be able to meet, hear, and talk with the speakers about the results of their work. Unconventional Flying Objects are real, unusual, and consistent in their behavior. These researchers will present the facts about what is

going on and more.

Phyllis Budinger will present the results of her laboratory analysis work on evidence from several UFO incidents.

Richard Dolan, author of *UFOs and the National Security State*, has researched nearly every aspect of the UFO mystery, from flying triangles to the government cover-up, and will bring you another powerful segment in his continuing research.

Elaine Douglass has been researching the reports of solid UFOs turning invisible as they fly. You will be surprised at what she has found.

Frank Feschino, Jr. will chronicle his ten-year study of a UFO crash in West Virginia (the Flatwoods "Monster" case) and the many UFO incidents surrounding these events.

Nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman, holding the record for presenting the largest number of papers at the annual MUFON meetings, will present an all-new paper on Government UFO Lies.

Italian journalist Paola Harris
(Continued on page 22)



John Schuessler

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Boldman links angel hair to UFOs

By Tracie Austin-Peters

Guest: Brian Boldman

LTP You know, this angel hair substance, for viewers watching the show today, you know what they're going to say...is it something to do with angel hair, is it really the hair of angels, or is it something to do with pasta, and it's not...

BB Absolutely not. This sort of substance you wouldn't want to ingest. As a matter of fact, in some cases it's been radioactive, so I certainly wouldn't want to eat it.

LTP What are the characteristics of angels hair?

BB It's generally snow white, fibrous, superficially resembles spider web—and even serious ufologists and researchers have written off angel hair cases as nothing more than ballooning spider web. Spiders use silk to migrate on convective air currents, so for years and years that's been the explanation for it.

LTP Now, how did you get involved with it, apart from your sighting in 1989?

BB Well, quite frankly I just got bored with reports of nocturnal lights in the sky, you know, anecdotal reports, and there's nothing you can really do with them, and I wanted physical evidence, tangible evidence. Actually, angel hair is a CE 2—close encounter of the second kind; it's a trace left by a UFO, and it's tangible evidence.

LTP Okay, we're going to have a look at the picture as you're talking more about that, Brian.

BB This is an interesting fall. This happened in Horsehead, NY, in 1954, and it was actually radioactive. There was some conjecture that it had drifted over from the nuclear test out in Nevada, but it wound up in New York in February, and it was kind of odd to be that far away—and also the fact that it fell in February is not indicative of migrating ballooning spiders, because they don't migrate in February; that's win-

(Continued on page 4)



Video clip from the Tracie Austin-Peters' interview with Brian Boldman.



The *MUFON UFO Journal* and Let's Talk...Paranormal are cooperating in making some of the interviews from the show hosted by Tracie Austin-Peters available to *Journal* readers.

Let's TalkParanormal was created in late 2002, and to date has produced 35 shows. Tracie decided to produce and host the show because of her own interest and experiences with the subject since 1987 (see December, 2003, *MUFON UFO Journal*).

The show can be seen in Santa Clarita Valley, CA, on Mondays at 10 PM on channel 20, and there is a repeated show on Wednesdays at 5 PM.

Lets Talk...Paranormal is also networked in Tucson AZ, Saturdays and Sundays (see www.accesstucson.org for details), and is simulcast on the world wide web at that time (AZ time).

It's also broadcast in Iowa five nights a week, and most recently is broadcast as a radio show on Quality Beats Radio, www.qualitybeatsradio.com.

Videos are available on the Internet at <http://www.letstalkparanormal.com/>

About the Interviewee

Brian Boldman, 42, is a native North Carolinian. He became interested in aviation at a young age, which led to a pilot's license and a career with a major airline as an FAA airframe and powerplant mechanic.

After witnessing two UFOs over Charlotte, NC, in 1989, he began a study of the phenomenon, which led to angel hair research. He has compiled a data base of over 250 cases.

He has been published in various newsletters, including the *International UFO Reporter*, and has self-published "Angel Hair Newscippings, 1947-2002," a collection of 60+ newspaper articles.

He has appeared on the Bob Heironomus radio program, Hilly Rose Sirius Radio, and OVNI Televista, as well as at the National UFO Conference and MUFON NC.

He is a MUFON Field Investigator, CUFOS associate, and Society for Scientific Exploration associate.

ter in New York.

LTP Right; just getting back to the picture that we just saw, Brian, how did that gentleman discover the angel hair.

BB He was actually a chemistry professor at Almira college in New York, and was called in to investigate, and they had a geiger counter that picked it up as radioactive. And that's not the only case. We've had cases where it's had tritium, which is man made. It's made in nuclear reactors, which is very odd for a spider web.

You can imagine the spiders that would produce that. Another property which is indicative of it not being spider web is that it sublimates—it changes state from a solid to a gas, like dry ice would.

As an ice cube does, it goes from a solid, to a liquid, to a gas. Angel hair has been known to vanish upon handling. I guess the light and heat of a hand would make it just simply disappear.

So temperature may do it, and it typically falls on clear days when there's a low humidity, and that may have a bearing on how this stuff is produced by our little friends.

I did a study on angel hair. I went to the Library of Congress and different archives, and found all the articles or the data I could find on angel hair from 1947 to 2000.

Then I did an analysis of the data, and what I found in 215 cases during that time period is that 57% of the time UFOs are involved with the fall of this material, and in 40% of the cases the material sublimates to nothing—to a gas.

A substance fell in Vicelli, Italy, on Nov. 8, 1999, and we have another case coming up later which I believe was collected by Tom Brewer from Sacramento. Well that actually fell over here in California, on the eleventh, three days after the Vicelli fall in Italy, and that sample we've now had analysed, which we'll get to.

We've done comparisons with spider web, and the fibers in this angel hair are much finer. The data shows it is much thinner than spider web, and it doesn't contain the glue drops that spider web would have on it.

LTP Yes, because you know, if you look at a spider's web, it is very strong,



but there's no way it looks that white and as thick; there's no way.

BB That's correct. It superficially does, and that's what's thrown people off who have researched it. But the devil is in the details. You have to really look at all the data—spider web is a polypeptide protein, and a spider's web is five times as strong.

LTP ...Polypeptide protein? What does that mean, Brian.

BB Well, it's an organic substance that's produced by the spiders with different glands, and different proteins coming together to form a web.

But angel hair on the other hand superficially looks like it, but when you look at the data, and you look at the fact that in 40% of the cases, people unknown to each other separated both by geography and time, have reported the same properties of sublimation, and 57% report UFOs over head...

LTP ...And it's all over the world. This is a wide phenomenon, except for...

BB All over the world, except for, I think, Antarctica. I don't know, but it's probably just a population density situation.

LTP This goes back how far in time?

BB When you go back it is kind of hard to pin it down exactly as to all the information, because you don't have any current witnesses, but the earliest case, I think, was 50 B.C. in Marseilles. It was reported there and recorded by historians of the time.

LTP Well, we'll go into this a little further later on. As we saw in one of your slides, there was a craft traveling across the sky, and there was a trail left behind it.

BB Absolutely.

LTP Now, are there certain UFO types that emit this?

BB Absolutely. It's mainly a daytime phenomenon. Actually, afternoon, and what's mostly associated with it are the cigar shape and the disc.

LTP Yes, because I did some research into your research, and basically you were suggesting that discs and saucer-shaped crafts were 32 cases at 44%, globes and sphere-shaped UFOs were 21 cases at 29%, cigar shapes were 10 cases at 14%, and "others" were 9 cases at 12%, so the highest is the disc and saucer shape. Why do you think that is?

BB Well, if these are our little friends from who knows where, it could be like having a Ford or a Chevy. You have different makes of vehicles, and these particular makes, these particular producers, are the ships that produce the angel hair filament.

I have a suspicion that it has to do with acceleration or propulsion, because there have been several dozen cases where the witnesses have reported that when the UFO departs, the angel hair falls immediately.

LTP Okay, and the weather conditions have to be...

BB Clear, and that's why it's mainly in the fall of the year... actually, to get right down to it, I think the humidity in the atmosphere is what's really important to produce this stuff, and it could very well be that these ships during the summer time when there's a lot of humidity in the atmosphere, they don't produce it for that reason; there's many fewer cases in the summer time.

LTP We saw a slide of angel hair in a fresco. What do we have here, Brian?

BB This is a fresco of a pope in Rome who supposedly had a dream where he had seen a white substance fall from the sky, and was instructed that this would be a miracle, and that they would construct a Basilica on the spot.

Low and behold, the following day on 354 AD on a hill in Rome, this substance fell, and then they built the Basilica on the spot, the Basilica of St Mary Major in Rome, to commemorate this event. They have a feast of St Mary Major, or St Mary of the snows,

on Aug. 5 every year, where they drop flower petals from the balcony of the Basilica.

LTP So they're celebrating this as some kind of sacred thing,

BB I think so. I think when you get right down to the frescos, I think that's what it was. They took what would be to our mind a UFO, a CE 2, and turned it into a religious type of event.

LTP That's interesting stuff. I just want to mention, Brian, that in some of your research, you actually wrote about the times when angel hair falls. You wrote that the average time is 1:30 to 1:45 PM.

BB That correct. It's an afternoon phenomenon, and that is what has led people to jump to the conclusion that it's ballooning spiders. Okay, what happens is they migrate during the morning, and then they align in the afternoon, but when you look at the details, when you look at the fact that 57% of these cases from 1947 to 2000 involved UFOs, well we have a problem.

LTP Well the thing is with ballooning spiders that I can't quite get my head around, Brian, is that wouldn't this ballooning spider have to be native to most countries on the globe.

BB Absolutely, and it's been blamed here in the US on a species called "Linifide," and that one species is not indigenous to a lot of areas where this stuff has fallen. There's another very important point about all of this...spiders also migrate in the spring, and we don't have a big spike in the spring.

Also, October is generally a dry month; you have very low humidity when these falls happen. A classic example would be a clear blue sky on a fall day, and a UFO seen, a silver cigar, globe, or a disc, either shooting off or doing maneuvers.

LTP Right. Isn't it the anniversary of the first sighting today?

BB That's absolutely correct. Whitsett was 1955—it's a little town just east of Greensboro, NC. This is an interesting case because not only did a whole class see this—they were all out early on recess—but the principal and all the school teachers had also. I've since located two of them and spoken with them.

LTP Oh, you have?

BB One of the children I found, an insurance agent in Greensboro, still remembers it, and the principal was named H.D. Lambeth. He had been in the Second World War, had his wings, and had flown combat missions over Burma.

He asked the children to bring him a chair, got his binoculars out of his car, sat down, and watched what he called eight ball bearings, "steel-looking ball bearings" to quote him exactly, and these things cavorted overhead, then disappeared over the horizon. Then this stuff just fell all over the school yard.

There were about 60 students, and they were so excited by what they had found that the principal said, "Oh well, school's over with."

Another interesting thing about that is he had taken a sample, put it in a piece of construction paper, wrapped it up, put it in his wallet, then locked it in a filing cabinet in the school—and only he and one other person had the key to that. Well, the sample vanished, and he doesn't know what happened to it, or where it went.

LTP So the sample in the paper, the whole thing was gone?

BB The whole thing. The construction paper and the sample inside the locked filing cabinet vanished.

LTP My goodness. Okay. We have some kind of a report here Brian.

BB Yes we do. This is a Project Blue Book record card. Project Blue Book was the Air force's Investigation into UFOs, and this case happened in Marysville, OH, and in Union City, IN.

It was spread out over a wide area, and even though a principal had witnessed a UFO, Project Blue Book blew it off as spider gossamer, or ballooning spider web, and here we had a UFO that shot off, leaving a trail of angel hair over three miles.

LTP Three miles. Is this quite a stretchy substance?

BB It is, and as a matter of fact, it seems to be contradictory, because it seems to be strong and tough to break, followed by it's complete sublimation to nothing. Now that's a very strange property. It points to me that it's definitely not a spider's web type of material.

LTP I'd say not, and you know what, I have a friend in the UK, and as a small boy, he found some of this angel hair after a UFO sighting, managed to find a little match box, placed it inside, closed it, hurried off home to show his parents, and when he got home and opened the box it had totally disappeared.

BB Classic. That's a classic example of sublimation. This is what has been reported time and time again. These witnesses are separated by continents and time. These witnesses don't know each other, and report the same things.

LTP I'd like to mention a few "head scratchers," Brian, written in the *UFO Reporter*. The results of analysis by several different professional people are strangely contradictory.

"It is a significant fact that none of the scientists identified the material as the web of a ballooning spider."

"Six scientists of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organization have studied the threads, as the threads have a melting quality. They are further puzzled."

"A fiber technician with Burlington Industries tested a sample of the angel hair and said it was not cotton, wool, or any commercial synthetic yarn. He suggested it might be spider webs, or a similar animal material. But a Greensboro biologist examined a sample of the angel hair under a microscope, and said that it was unlikely a spider's web."

BB Absolutely. We get this time and time again in the data. You have a game of animal, vegetable, or mineral. You have the animal people saying, "Well it's got to be a plant material," and the plant people saying, "It's got to be an animal product." So they don't know what to do with it, and you can imagine what happens when someone sends them an example for analysis, and when it gets to the lab there's nothing in the container.

LTP You know, if anybody finds any of this angel hair, Brian, what would you suggest they do?

BB Number one, document as much information as you can. If you have a camera, take pictures. I would suggest using a clean air-tight container—this is important—and a clean

utensil if possible. It's a good idea if you can get something like a drinking straw with the wrapper; collect it with that, because we need clean samples that are not contaminated.

LTP So don't touch it under any circumstance.

BB Don't touch it. And another thing—to stop sublimation you can either increase the vapor pressure inside the vessel that contains it, or you can cool it.

So I would suggest to people to get this stuff inside a vial. Stop at a convenience store and get a bag of ice and put the vial right in the middle of it to preserve it.

LTP So you would give it that kind of temperature?

BB I would, and ideally we would want to store it cryogenically at a very,

very low temperature to avoid the sublimation. It's important if people get a sample in a sealed container to not open the lid, because that is just going to let the gas out. If they keep the gas in, we can do gas chromatography on it, and get analysis that way.

LTP Are you the only researcher, Brian, doing this?

BB No, there's a few in Australia doing it. There's one in the UK, I think, and there's one in Italy, but none of them have done the extensive research that I've done on it, as far as I know.

LTP So in most of the cases where people have had the UFO sighting, they have seen a craft and then they discovered the substance. Has there ever been a situation where a craft hasn't been witnessed and the material's been placed there.

BB It has, it has. We do have cases where it's just found on the ground, and I have a feeling there that probably UFOs are actually unreported, because most people don't look at the sky.

LTP No, they don't.

BB It could very well have passed overhead and discharged it, and they find it on the ground or off branches and wires, that sort of thing, so I probably think UFOs are unreported.

LTP How would you take this a step further?

BB Well, actually we've already done that. We've had samples recovered and returned to us, and we've done all kinds of analysis now on it. We've had the gas chromatography done on it, and infrared analysis has been done on it, so we basically know what it is, and it is not spider web.

LTP It doesn't even look any where close to spider web; it's too thick, too white.

BB Well, absolutely, and for instance a couple of chemicals have been found in it. (See box on this page.)

LTP Well, I know that Brian would like you folks at home to do some investigation of angel hair, and you can actually email Brian if you have any angel hair discoveries, and if you'd like more information.

email: ufoah@earthlink.net
Web: angelhair.info

Ph/fax: 336.595.3660

An analysis

Boldman notes that "We now have a contemporary analysis that can shed light on the molecular composition of angel hair. Phyllis Budinger of Frontier Analysis Ltd., a very skilled analytical scientist with the capability to do Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometry (FT-IR) with a Nicolet Avatar 360 spectrometer, and Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS), completed this work. Here are her results from a sample recovered in Sacramento, CA, on Nov. 11, 1999:"

The "angel hair" consists of fibrous material with protein amide type linkages showing it is from an animal/biological source. The data (FT-IR) compare closest to references of silk

It is definitely not from cobwebs.
[emphasis added]

The fibers also have small amounts of an ester type material and other components on the surface.

There are also volatiles associated with the angel hair. So far light branched hydrocarbons have been identified (GC/MS).

Another test is being done (FT-IR over time) to determine if there are other volatiles. Some current spec-

tra indicate there are.

They consisted of: 2-methyl propane; 2-methyl-1-propene; 2-methyl-1-butene; 2-methyl pentane; 3-methyl pentane; hexane; dimethyl-pentane; $2C_6H_{12}$ (molecular weight=84) hydrocarbon structures (specific isomers unidentified); one C_8H_{16} hydrocarbon (molecular weight=112) (specific isomer unidentified). Also indicated are carbonyl sulfide (COS) and carbon disulfide (CS_2).

There are possibly heavier hydrocarbons present, such as two $C_{20}H_{42}$ components and a $C_{23}H_{46}$ component.

"This sample compares with FT-IR spectra in other samples that Budinger has examined," adds Boldman, "and there is no question of the composition. It is positively identified as containing secondary amide linkages similar to protein, and compares closely to silk.

"This would seem to add ammunition to the spider web theory, but the seemingly biological origin by no means proves this. Also, the addition of volatiles seems to contradict the spider theory, and may explain sublimation. Moreover, Budinger believes this is not web material."

Object reported by NC couple

On June 22, 2004, a 47-year-old college graduate and his 40-year-old wife were on the deck of their home in Mecklenburg, NC, at 6:10 PM when he noticed a flying object which appeared to be at a "very high altitude."

He watched it until it stopped, then went inside and got his binoculars, which he shared with his wife. Through the binoculars the object appeared to be moving "in a tight geometrical pattern," and had a distinct shape.

It appeared to be dull gray in color. After about five minutes the object disappeared behind thunder clouds moving in from the west.

—Investigated by George E. Lund III, State Director, North Carolina.

Reports from India suggest UFO base and disclosures

Various individuals have suggested that activities in India indicate not only that UFOs have been reported there, as reported on page 6 of the January *Journal*, but that there may be a UFO base in the Himalayas.

Moreover, it has also been suggested that the Indian government has been in contact with these entities, and may make an announcement to this effect.

Joe Trainor of UFO Roundup is reportedly working with three stringers—two in India and one in China—as well as with an Indian UFO organization, in an effort to determine what is occurring. The English language newspapers in India have also been covering the events.

At this point, there is more speculation than hard evidence, with too many unnamed sources (i.e. who specifically among the military and government have allegedly made statements?).

There has also been too much speculation regarding military movements which may have mundane explanations. In addition, we do not know how reliable some of the reporters or newspapers are.

The reports, in fact, seem to contradict each other, as we are told by one source that UFOs are suspected of shooting down planes, while another source tells us they are peaceful.

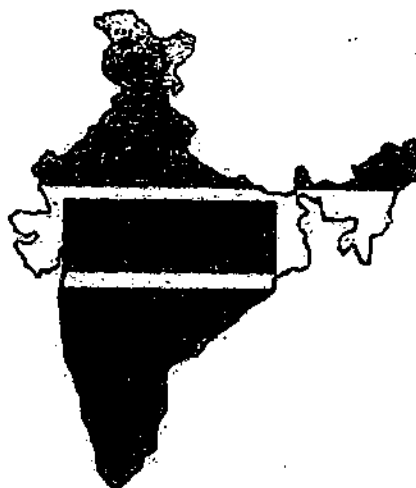
The following reports are being provided so that *Journal* readers can be up to date, whether or not there is anything to the speculation.

Another jet fighter crashes in India

UFO ROUNDUP, Vol. 9, No. 48, Nov. 31, 2004, Editor: Joseph Trainor

"An Indian Air Force (IAF) jet crashed Monday night, Nov. 8, 2004, the third French-built airplane involved in a crash since September (2004), officials said.

"They said the jet went off military radar 'almost immediately' after taking off around 8:40 PM. from the cen-



tral Indian Air Force base at Gwalior and then crashed in a dense forest nearby...The aircraft seems to have caught fire after gaining altitude an IAF source told Agence France Presse in New Delhi, India's capital.

"Rescuers rushed to the site to assist its lone pilot. The jet interceptor was a Dassault Mirage 2000, the aircraft used by the IAF's front-line fighter squadrons.

"On Oct. 12 (2004) an Indian Air Force Mirage 2000 went down during joint maneuvers with the Singapore Air Force after the pilot lost control due to technical problems.

"Another Mirage 2000 crashed near Gwalior after losing its nose wheel in mid-air on Sept. 23 (2004).

"An Indian Defence Ministry official said the latest crash was 'bewildering.... We are really at a loss to figure out why we are now losing Mirage planes. They have been a reliable fighter plane since we began ordering them (in 1985-J.T.),' the official said, speaking on conditions of anonymity.

"The following day, India's newspapers reported that the pilot had not survived the crash. He was Flight Lt. Neehar Gururani, a career IAF officer reputed to be 'India's Top Gun.'

"With the death of Flight Lt. Neehar Gururani last night, the IAF has lost its second pilot in a Mirage 2000 jet crash,' the newspaper reported.

"Gururani's aircraft hit the ground about 80 kilometers (50 miles) from IAF Gwalior. With this crash, the IAF has lost six Mirage 2000 jets so far—three of them during the past two months alone.

(J.T.'s Note: To say nothing of the IAF MiG-21 that went down in the western desert near Bikaner on Nov. 1, 2004. See UFO Roundup, Vol. 9, No. 46 for Nov. 17, 2004, "A shootdown in India?")

"IAF Vice-Chief Air Marshal S.K. Malik said on Nov. 10 (2004) that preliminary evidence shows the pilot may have been 'disoriented' due to the darkness, so there was no reason to suspect technical or engine failure. Initial reports had said the pilot was safe, but then the rescue teams reached the site and found Gururani's body.

(J.T.'s Comment.- So India's Top Gun became "disoriented," eh? Riiiiight! And if you believe that, you probably think it happens to Chuck Yeager, too.)

"The IAF sent its Director-General of Flight Inspection and Safety, Air Marshal P.S. Ahluwalia, to probe the reason behind the recent series of Mirage crashes.

"The crashes have been surprising indeed. The Mirage continues to be our finest fighter,' Malik said.

"A spokesman for Dassault, the French firm that built the aircraft, said, 'We are waiting for a final report from the IAF on the crash. From the information that we have received, it seems possible that the pilot was disoriented; which is why he may not have pushed the panic button.'

Gururani was part of a two-plane formation that took off from IAF Gwalior. His wingman sounded an alert when Gururani did not respond to radio inquiries and disappeared from the radar screen.

"When the second pilot failed to contact Gururani, he retraced his flight path to find a ball of fire on the ground. The dead pilot is the son of IAF Air Marshal S. Gururani, who retired in 1997 as the commander of IAF Maintenance Command.

"Malik said, 'We have seen his fitness reports. He was a good pilot and an enthusiastic boy. It is rather unnerving that this has happened.'

"The IAF has ordered ten more Mirages to make up for the crash losses, and an additional squadron is expected to arrive by year's end. The Defence Ministry is also considering Qatar's

offer of ten of its own Mirages.

"In the Oct. 12 (2004) crash, the engine's turbine blades came loose. The pieces are now at the National Metallurgical Laboratory in Jamshedpur for tests. After this, they will be sent to the Dassault factory in France for examination.

Indian ufologists are questioning why Gururani's Mirage descended to 900 meters (3,000 feet) before disappearing from military radar.

Ufologist Daniel Wilson is now comparing UFO reports from India and Pakistan with news accounts of jet crashes in the subcontinent, to see if there's any correlation.

"Until Daniel brought it up, we had not considered the possibility of a clandestine air war. But India has lost six Mirages and one MiG-21," said Krishnari Bai Dharapurnanda, UFO Roundup correspondent in India.

"A Mirage was lost on Sept. 23 (2004). This was at the same time many UFOs were seen over Himachal Pradesh (the Himalayas-J.T.), and there were reports of aliens building a base in the mountains overlooking the upper Sutlej River valley.

Gwalior is in India's Madhya Pradesh state approximately 300 kilometers (180 miles) south-southeast of New Delhi.

(See the newspaper *Indian Express* for Nov. 10, 2004, "Another Mirage 2000 military jet crashes." Many thanks to Daniel Wilson and Krishnari Bai Dharapurnanda for this newspaper article.)

U.S. participates in Cope India

Some observers have suggested that the fact that the U.S. has been training with the Indian Air Force shows that there is some tie-in with reported UFOs and UFO bases. If so, the evidence is elusive.

The latest round of joint exercises in India, known as Cope India, was Oct. 21-25, 2004, at Agra Air Base, India.

Pacific Air Forces sent C-130 aircraft and 150 personnel from Yokota Air Base, Japan; Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, and Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

The two militaries have participated

in training exercises and visits since 1962, when the first U.S.-India military exercises were held after the Sino-Indian border war, but not to the degree in these recent exchanges.

The Air Force exercises—the latest Cope India was the third in six months—are a continuation of President Bush's policy toward India. After Sept. 11, when India was one of the first nations to offer the United States help, Bush lifted U.S. sanctions and called for a more open relationship.

During Cope India in October, the U.S. Air Force and Indian air force exchanged information on airlifts, plus loading and unloading operations and procedures.

Previously the air forces from the United States and India participated in the second Cope India exercise Feb. 15-27, 2004. That exercise at Gwalior Air Force Station, India, provided training for aircrew and maintenance personnel.

Both forces conducted their first bilateral dissimilar air combat. U.S. Air Force assets participating included F-15 aircraft and approximately 140 personnel from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

A variety of Indian Air Force aircraft participated, including Mirage 2000, MiG-21, MiG-27, SU-30 and Jaguar.

During this exercise the U.S. aircrews were surprised at the capabilities of the Indian Air Force, consistently losing in simulated air-to-air combat exercises.

The reasons for this were explained as (1) the restrictions on equipment used, and (2) the skill and tactics of the Indian pilots.

None of the six F-15Cs used by the U.S. was equipped with the newest long-range, active electronically scanned array (AESA) radars.

At India's request, the U.S. agreed to mock combat at 3-to-1 odds, and without the use of simulated long-range, radar-guided AIM-120 Amraams that even the odds with beyond-visual-range kills.

U.S. participants say the Indian pilots also showed unexpected skill, innovation, and flexibility in their tactics. This suggests that the Indian pilots are indeed first-rate professionals, making the recent rash of crashes even more unexplainable.

News of Alien presence startles India

UFO ROUNDUP, Vol. 9 No. 52.
Posted on behalf of Joseph Trainor.
Dec. 29, 2004

"India was startled by four reports last week which appeared to confirm the rumors of a large underground base staffed by extraterrestrials in the Ladakh region of the Himalayas.

"In New Delhi, India's capital, a senior officer of the Indian Army told freelance journalist Subha Jain that aliens were indeed in the Himalayas.

"In Leh, a city in the Ladakh region, a local official confirmed that the Indian Army had moved armored brigades into the area and was limiting access to civilian residents and tourists.

"According to Subha Jain, she bumped into a very senior military official in a nightclub in New Delhi. According to him, the extraterrestrials have been visiting India and the rest of the world for thousands of years.

"In recent years, most of the superpowers have been visited. India is no exception. They always make contact through the ground radar stations run by the military," she says.

"The Himalayas and Ladakh is where they have made their most recent contact. They want to let Indians know the rules and regulations of the multidimensional universe.

"India is planning an unmanned moon expedition, and later an advanced unmanned Mars expedition. India's Space Research Organisation (SRO) has been given the galactic do's and don'ts."

"Last week, a flight commodore of the Indian Air Force (IAF), who recently retired, was asked to provide a little talk to his youngest son's class at a school in Bangalore.

"Guess what he picked as a topic? Yes, you got it right. It was the advanced landing base for UFOs in Ladakh. He started by saying new technology is evolving, and new advancements are being made in aerospace.

"The students started questioning him on different aspects of these new technologies and where this technology came from. At that moment, he began giving a vivid description of the land-

ing base.

"Surrounded by two of the world's highest mountain ranges, the Himalayas and the Karakorams, the region lies athwart two others—the Ladakh range and the Lanskar range. Residents live at altitudes ranging from 2,750 meters (9,000 feet) at Kargil to 7,672 meters (25,170 feet) at Saser Kangri in the Karakorams.

"In summer, temperatures rarely exceed 27 degrees Celsius, while in winter they plummet to minus 20 degrees Celsius, even in Leh.

"In Leh, Ladakh (region), according to Tsering Spalzung, a senior official, paranormal activities are happening with regard to the buildup of the Indian Army in the region.

"These are zones that the Indian Army and Indian Air Force block for security reasons. The Ladakh valley has been heavily secured by the Indian government.

"It is a 'sensitive area,' and no one is allowed to enter from either the Indian side or the Chinese side.

"According to some in New Delhi, UFOs have made contact with high-ranking officials of the Indian government.

"The government was initially baffled, not knowing how to react. Later, things became quiet, and it seems that everyone understands that the extraterrestrials are friendly."

Will India be first nation to acknowledge UFOs?

India Daily

Jan. 6, 2005

"New Delhi is in the middle of a big secret internal debate. On one side the largest democracy of the world is eager to explain to its citizens and to the world about the ongoing contacts with the UFOs and extraterrestrials.

"On the other hand there are invisible untold international protocols that prohibit doing anything that may cause worldwide fear and panic.

"It is well accepted among the UFO and extraterrestrial experts that all the five nuclear powers are in contact with the beings from other stars for quite some time.

"Recently India has seen enormous news on UFO contacts and secret UFO

bases in the Himalayas near the Chinese bases.

"In Ladakh, for example, the locals clearly point out the everyday phenomenon of large triangular spacecrafts coming out below the ground, and Indian security forces protecting them.

"Military officials and politicians have confessed the fact that India has been contacted. India has been told the rules of the Universe.

"The current debate is on whether to keep it secret like other countries are doing, or in tradition of a total transparent society come out and tell the truth. India is so open and democratic; it is very difficult to keep a secret for long.

"If the information comes out through unofficial channels first, and then the authorities are pressed against the wall to confess, two bad things can happen.

"First, it can really cause a panic in the country, as well as the world. Second, the way the Indian politics is run, the ruling party will be thrown out of power in no time if it is ever found that the Government withheld such information from the public.

"The recent rush of world leaders to India is remarkable. Russian President Putin to major Senators from America have visited or are planning to visit India. European Union is in deep discussion with India on cooperation.

"All sanctions against India's nuclear programs and Indian Space Research Organization are in the process of being lifted. India is cooperating with Europeans and the Americans in space explorations and technology research programs.

"India is also part of the World Trade Organization. India is receiving major outsourcing contracts in IT and call-center service work from America and Europe.

"India's Forex reserve is at a level never imagined before because of international direct investments from Western nations, Japan, Korea, and others.

"Interestingly, China, the arch rival of India, changed its posture in the last few years to make India's friendship and trade a priority.

"India is slowly getting to the point

where it is accepted as a permanent member of the Security Council. All of the five Security Council members, China, America, Russia, France, and the UK, support India's inclusion.

"When all these factors are added together and analyzed, it seems like India is being told by the world to abide by the hidden protocols, and in exchange be recognized as a major emerging superpower.

"The debate the country is facing internally is whether to abide by the laws of the world and the Universe to be recognized as a superpower or be truthful to its citizens and the world.

"According to sources close to the Government, the UFO contact is known by quite a few politicians in the opposition, and of course by those who are in power. The military has legitimate concern of not letting the secrets out either.

"Recently, India's foreign affairs minister, Mr. Natwar Singh, came out and said that for India it was not necessary to become a nuclear power. He is a strong supporter of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, India's former Prime Minister who initiated the nuclear program in the mid sixties.

"India first exploded a nuclear device in Pokhran in the early seventies. The whole country, including people from his own party, questioned Mr. Singh for such an irresponsible statement.

"But on analyzing his statements, it is evident, that based on what he knows now, being a nuclear power really does not matter much, because the technologies controlled by the extraterrestrials are so advanced that all our technologies mean really nothing.

"But importantly, he may be irritated with this controversial ongoing secret debate, and what he really meant was that if India was not a nuclear power, the debate on UFO and extra-terrestrials will never be there in India."

Case reports

Investigators. Please send a copy of your case reports directly to the *MUFON UFO Journal*.

Family sights unusual object over home

Date of encounter: 8/16/04

Investigator: Kathy Wheeldon

Date of investigation: 8/28/04 & 8/31/04

Background

The mother, Carolyn Joyce, is an ex-student of Dr. Jack Kasher, MUFON's State Director for Nebraska, and has an interest in the UFO phenomenon. She is a homemaker and is currently pregnant with her 11th child.

She called him after her sighting, and he passed the investigation on to me. John Buder and I met with Carolyn (42) and three of her four daughters who witnessed the event. There were two additional children present at the interview who were not witnesses.

The children who were witnesses who were present for the interview were: Emily (20), Virginia (16), and Irene (13). Irene has a twin, Katherine, who was also a witness to the event, but was not present for the interview.

The initial interview took place on Aug. 28 at the local library, and a subsequent on-site interview (at their home) took place on 8/31/04.

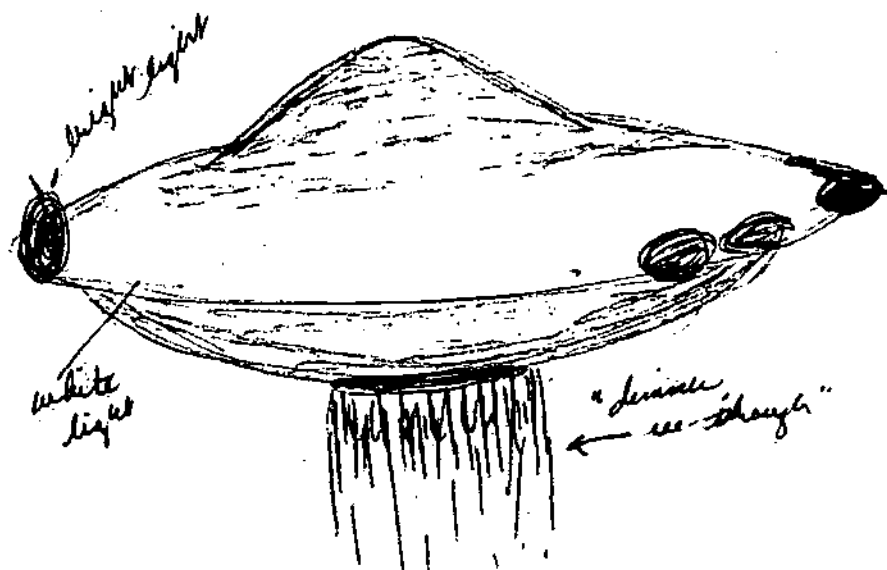
Virginia was the only one present for the second interview, and she rode in my car, in the passenger seat (the same seat she had when she witnessed the event), and took me through the series of events as I drove the route the family had driven the night of the encounter.

In addition to narrating their story, the family also drew pictures of what they had seen, and pictures of the area where the incident occurred. Those pictures are included in this report.

The encounter

On Monday evening, 8/16/04, at approximately 10:50 PM, Carolyn Joyce and four of her daughters were driving in their 15-passenger van to their home at 1830 N. 101st St. in Omaha, NE.

It was a clear evening. They were



This drawing shows the shape and structural features of the object, but does not show the colors which are in the original sketch.

heading west on Blondo St., and turned south onto 100th St., traveling at about 5 miles per hour.

Virginia Joyce, 16, who was riding in the front passenger seat, was the first one to see something in the south/southwestern sky that she thought was an extremely low-flying airplane, which seemed to be directly over their house.

She called attention to the "plane," and the other witnesses in the car also sighted the object. Virginia's first view of the object, approximately 75 degrees above the horizon, was unobstructed. The object seemed to be hovering over their house.

The longer the group watched the object, the more the group realized that the object was not a plane. They described a dull, gray, disc-shaped object with a dome-shaped top that had a bright white light at one side of the disc, and multicolored lights (red, green, blue and yellow) at the other side of the object.

There was a yellowish light that ran in a band around the center of the disc. There appeared to be a "beam of light" that was "shooting down" from the bottom of the disc that one of the witnesses described as a "dimmer, see-through light."

The object was low enough that it was obscured by the neighbors' trees as the van continued toward the wit-

nesses' driveway. The group became very excited as they realized that this was not an airplane hovering over their house. It apparently did not make a sound. (Carolyn reported that she may have heard a "type of wind sound," but that the house is not too far from two busy streets, and she couldn't be sure.

None of the other witnesses reported any sound associated with the object or event. The witnesses said this is what convinced them it wasn't a plane.

As they moved toward the driveway, the object began to move toward the north/northeast. When the van arrived at the driveway, it was directly underneath the object. The object was described as being treetop level, which was later estimated to be 75-100 feet high.

At this point, the object appeared to change shape and looked similar to an airplane, but it was "more triangular-shaped." The white light at the end of the object became brighter at this time. The witnesses thought the colored lights were also still evident.

The van stopped in the driveway; and the passengers "jumped out" to get a better view. The object was estimated to be approximately half the size of a football field—larger than their house.

At this point the object seemed to be disc-shaped again, and "shot straight up into the air and disappeared." Right

before the object disappeared, the white light appeared to get brighter. The witnesses reported feeling excitement mixed with disbelief, turning to apprehension and fear. They were also angry that it had left.

One of the daughters, Katherine, 13, who was not present at the interview, reported that she had a headache, and Irene, her twin, reported smelling a "burning hair smell."

The family owns horses that are kept behind the house. The horses didn't appear to be affected in any way, although one of the daughters mentioned later seeing a "large clump of [horse] hair on the ground."

No time loss was noticed, nor any other physical effects/symptoms.

At some point during the sighting, another relative, Aunt Katherine, also drove into the driveway to drop off some other children. She did not see anything, nor did any of the children she was with, but the witnesses noted that she was busy unloading children from her car.

The witnesses drew sketches of the object in both disc shape and triangular-plane shape. They also drew a sketch of the disc in relation to the treetops, and a sketch of the area of the sighting. These are included in the full report. The entire event lasted less than a minute.

There are power lines around the house and there is a large electric power station not far from their house on 108th and Blondo St.

Additional notes

Even though Virginia saw the object first, and had the best view of the object, Emily gave the most comprehensive description of the event. She was seated in the next seat back in the van.

She was described by her mother as having a "sixth sense," and has had "strange" experiences before, though not necessarily related to UFOs.

One experience involved Emily almost hitting a man standing in the road while she was driving during the day. Instead of hitting him, she "drove right through him."

She thinks she may have had other UFO sightings, but nothing like what she witnessed the night of 8/16. She has friends who live in Columbus, NE, and

while driving the highway to visit them, has seen "an object hovering off in the distance."

She reports, "One time [an object] shot in angles and left;" and "one time an object was moving across the sky, then suddenly changed directions." These all happened at night.

The mother thinks that after the night of 8/16 she saw a "bright light in the sky," but couldn't be sure. And, a 22-year old son, who no longer lives at home, once saw something outside the house when he was 13 years old.

He was playing basketball, and ran into the house saying that he saw what the family described as a UFO-type object, and "he saw windows and everything." I have asked the family if the son might want to tell his story, and they said they would ask him.

Nebraska State Director & Central U.S. Director

Dr. Jack Kasher's Comments

This is Kathy Wheeldon's first investigation since passing the Field Investigator test earlier this year. She has done an outstanding job of reporting what I consider to be a genuine sighting of a saucer by four witnesses—a mother and three of her daughters.

The mother, Carolyn Joyce, was a physics student of mine about twenty years ago, and I have kept in touch with her over the years because of her strong interest in UFOs. I consider her an extremely reliable and grounded person.

She told me that she actually played devil's advocate with her three daughters in order to be as objective as possible about the sighting.

She called and woke me out of a sound sleep a few minutes after 11:00, shortly after the sighting ended. I wasn't too alert, but at least remembered to tell her to write down everything she could recall, and that I would assign someone to the case.

I then assigned Kathy, and she did an excellent pair of interviews and wrote the fine report included here. I think this is a very credible case with four reliable witnesses.

I didn't realize until I read Kathy's report that the family lives only two blocks from me here in Omaha, and that the saucer actually moved toward my house before it shot up into the sky.

Part 2

Four experts explain why scientists should study UFOs

(Continued from January issue.)

Reprinted, with permission, from the current edition of the *Journal of the British Interplanetary Society* (BIS).

**By Dr. James Deardorff, Dr.
Bernard Haisch, Dr. Bruce
Maccabee, & Dr. H. E. Puthoff**

Sightings since Condon Report

The self-inconsistency of the Condon Report, along with the strengthening of Fermi's paradox through recent developments in cosmology, physics, astronomy, and astrobiology, are but two reasons to reevaluate the UFO phenomenon.

Another reason is that remarkable sightings did not cease with the publication of the Condon Report in 1969. Many detailed sightings since then have become available for examination.

Scientists should not feel reluctant to study these, inasmuch as the Report's executive summary stated that "any scientist with adequate training and credentials who does come up with a clearly defined, specific proposal for study [of UFO reports] should be supported."

One example of sightings worth studying are those that occurred on Dec. 31, 1978, off the northeast coast of South Island, New Zealand. These involved several channels of information recorded on tape and film during the sightings, correlated visual air and ground radar detections, and light phenomena recorded on color movie film, as well as reports by the eight witnesses who were involved.

Analysis of the recorded data and of the witness testimony indicates that unknown objects emitting bright light were detected on radar, filmed, and apparently moved in response to the motions of the airplane carrying the witnesses. The sightings have defied all mundane explanations [31-32].

Some investigations of unexplainable sightings have been sponsored by

governments outside the U.S. Since 1977 the French Space Agency has carried out an official investigation of UFO reports with its project GEPAN, later called SEPRA.

In the Belgium sighting wave of 1989-90, civilian and military officials cooperated in sharing eyewitness, radar, and video-image data of triangular-shaped craft.

Withheld information available

The Condon investigators did not have full access to the information and analysis compiled previously by the U.S. Air Force Office of Intelligence (AFOIN) or to all the information collected by Project Blue Book.

Much of this information has been disclosed in the years since 1968. The information release has come about on five fronts.

First, the U.S. Air Force released the complete files of Project Blue Book in 1975. This release included the previously unavailable files of the Air Force Office of Special Investigation (AFOSI).

Second, the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, which went into effect in the mid 1970s, resulted in the release of relevant information from other agencies (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 1977, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 1978, etc.), though often in a censored form [23-24].

A third new source of information is the collection of previously withheld reports and analyses carried out by the AFOIN in the late 1940s and early 1950s. This information has been released in the last 20 years as a result of standard declassification requirements for old documents.

It shows that Air Force intelligence privately concluded that as many as 5% of the sightings were unexplainable, even though they were apparently accurate reports made by credible observers, thus contradicting the public statements of the Air Force that all sightings could be explained.

The documents provide an explanation as to why Air Force intelligence told the FBI in August and again in October, 1952, that some top Air Force officials were seriously considering the "interplanetary" explanation [33].

Fourth, governments of countries

other than the United States have, over the last 25 years, released relevant information collected by their armed services and police.

Not only has the French government through GEPAN and SEPRA, released sighting documents, but also England's Ministry of Defense recently released a number of documents. The governments of Spain and Canada also released documents in the 1970s and 1980s.

Moreover, some governments besides that of France have official investigative groups on this topic. In 1997, in response to civilian and military sightings over the previous years, the Chilean Air Force formed the Committee for the Study of Anomalous Phenomena (acronym, CEFAA in Spanish), directed by a former Air Force general and headquartered in the Technical School of Aeronautics in Santiago.

One of us (Maccabee) was invited to Chile in 1999 to lecture at a symposium sponsored by the CEFAA, and to discuss the sightings.

The Peruvian Air Force set up a similar group in 2001. Brazil and Uruguay also have comparable investigative groups.

A fifth new source of information not available or utilized by the Condon group consists of the many witnesses to events in the 1940-1960 decades who had worked for the government or the military, and after reaching retirement age have come forward to divulge their first-hand knowledge [34].

They have felt it was more important for the citizens to know what has been taking place than to continue to obey instructions to maintain silence about it.

A reluctance to report UFO events arose because of a curtain of ridicule which, since the 1950s, had settled over the subject. It was induced in part by the CIA's 1953 Robertson panel that recommended a debunking program against the reality of the phenomenon [20,22-23].

The debunking is most often implemented by an authority figure asserting, at his own volition and without interviewing the witnesses, that whatever was observed and reported as extraordinary was instead the misidentification

of something mundane. This is demeaning to sincere, credible witnesses.

The major news media quickly picked up on sarcastic phrases like "little green men" and "UFO buffs," then gradually weaned themselves away from the topic—reporters, editors, and corporate owners fear ridicule, whether just or unjust, as much as do scientists and politicians.

The refusal of the U.S. Air Force in the 1950s and 1960s to release sighting data it had collected only added to the problem, since evidence collected by the government was not available to support the witnesses [33].

The first director of the CIA assessed the situation in 1960 as follows: "Behind the scenes, highranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about UFOs. But, through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense... to hide the facts, the Air Force has silenced its personnel" [35].

The Condon Report also added to the problem, since it demonstrated that men of science could simply allege that witnesses are mistaken or dishonest and they would be believed by most of their colleagues, even though they had no evidence to back up their allegations.

This in turn led to greater reluctance on the part of witnesses to come forward. As a result, "the most credible UFO witnesses are often those most reluctant to come forward with a report of the event they have witnessed" [27].

This ridicule factor has prevented many serious investigators from even attempting to report their findings within the journals preferred by most scientists.

Therefore, one of the recommendations made by the moderator of a 1997 panel of scientists is that journal editors should change their policy of refusing to even seriously consider publishing articles related to the UFO phenomenon, so that this difficulty may be alleviated [3].

Inferring an ET Strategy

If one allows that at least some unexplainable sightings may be manifestations of extraterrestrial intelligence, then there is yet another reason for re-evaluation: a growing recognition over the past two decades that a large part

of the behavior manifested can be viewed as being quite rational.

The topic of ET behavior has received considerable discussion in connection with SETI in the past three decades. SETI has proceeded on the assumption that Fermi's paradox is to be solved through continued and enhanced searching of the sky for electromagnetic signals indicative of ET communications [37].

Several possible reasons for lack of success to date have been proposed [1,37-38]. Since the 1970s, advocates of a covert ET presence in our vicinity have also been advancing their hypotheses or scenarios.

They reject as improbable the assumption that space-faring ETs must be dominated by the most evil and aggressive of their kind, an assumption whose consequence would be that we should not be existing as a freely developing civilization within a fully colonized and/or explored galaxy.

Contact optimists instead presume that many advanced ET groups are at least as ethical as we are, while still attending to their own safety and security. The ET motivation for space travel could be to increase their knowledge through exploration of space, rather than to colonize and seek domination [39].

Thus hypotheses have been set forth regarding why such ETs would be aware of our presence, but not yet have contacted us overtly. Among these are the zoo, nursery, and quarantine or embargo hypotheses [1,38,40-42].

Most of these posit that the ETs involved have frequently scouted us out semi-covertly and have concluded that we are either not yet mature enough for open contact, or not prepared for it, since any abrupt, overt contact could cause societal chaos and governmental downfalls.

Also postulated is that ET interference with our society would prematurely bring an end to our civilization's continued development if it occurred before our knowledge has progressed to the point that we could understand where the aliens could have originated and how great their head start over us could be [39].

A serious inconsistency in this rea-

soning, however, is that maintenance of total ET covertness towards Earth and the solar system would still lead to societal chaos whenever the covertness or embargo was eventually lifted, unless the ETs carried out a program of gradual disclosure—a "leaky" embargo [1,43].

Although the zoo or embargo hypothesis may be unverifiable, the leaky embargo hypothesis may be verifiable if the UFO evidence is taken into account. Much of this evidence appears to constitute just such a leak in the embargo: a grass-roots educational program in the form of the phenomenon which has been in operation since 1947, if not before.

Many sightings have been of a nature to attract attention to their craft and let isolated groups of witnesses know that its occupants are aware of us [24,44].

A key category of such cases involves reports wherein persons within a traveling vehicle frantically witness an object pacing them, even though their automobile or aircraft makes turns that rule out the sighting of an astronomical or other ordinary object as an explanation.

Similarly, in a number of the aircraft cases the unknown object, which was either pacing the aircraft or presenting itself to it, was detected on radar as well as visually [23-25,27].

The object's extraordinary appearance, maneuverability, and oft-times coincidental interference with the vehicle's electrical system additionally rule out mundane explanations [23-25].

Although individual, localized, and usually brief sightings may have provided sufficient evidence to be convincing to the observers and sighting analysts, the fact is that, since the widely-reported sightings began in 1947, no event has persisted in a prominent place a sufficient number of hours at a time, or demonstrated its abilities to enough witnesses at a time, for the news media to congregate and publicize it to the world.

Nor have they left quite enough evidence behind to be totally convincing to very many scientists [25]. We suspect that this chary behavior may be no accident. To put it another way, from

the viewpoint of investigators studying such phenomena, individual close-encounter and other sightings can be very intrusive and overt.

However, from the viewpoint of the scientific community, and society as a whole, this is not the case because of the relative rarity in time and space of convincing sightings, and because of the limited numbers of witnesses in most instances.

The inference is that, by not providing sufficient evidence to make their reality totally obvious to scientists and society in general, the ETs are following a strategy or program that avoids inflicting catastrophic shock to society as a whole, which any overt contact could cause, while preparing us for eventual open contact. This could say something about their level of ethics.

Proposing a certain level of ET ethics is not new; it was suggested in 1981 that advanced ETs may abide by a Codex Galactica that would require them to treat emerging civilizations delicately [1,45].

Such a standard of behavior is consistent with reality of the UFO phenomenon and the fact that not in the past 56 years, nor in past millennia, have we been colonized, conquered, or exterminated, nor has society been traumatized by any ETs or by their sometimes postulated robotic probes [1,41].

It is also consistent with the failure of investigative panels to find that UFOs constitute any direct threat to national security. On the other hand, it appears all too evident that ETs have not intervened in world affairs in any benevolent manner that would have forestalled human warfare, famine, and disease.

In fact, ample cases exist wherein the witnesses, when too close, were injured or harmed. Other cases exist, however, in which a witness was healed of some injury or medical condition [46]. All this suggests that ET interactions with humans are based on a neutrally benevolent ethical level overall.

Conclusions

Despite the UFO phenomenon having continued now for over two generations, the huge technological head start of the presumed ETs would still come as a great shock to many scien-

tists as well as citizenry, as the Brookings Report indicated [47]. It could be so great as to seriously challenge our consensual reality, a not insignificant danger.

The implication that we would be powerless relative to their presumed capabilities and evolutionary advantage may be most unwelcome, with it being no surprise that science would have difficulty coming to terms with the situation [48].

Nevertheless, the reality of the phenomenon and of our having long since been discovered by advanced ETs now may be more probable than that Fermi's paradox is to be resolved through either the non-existence of advanced ETs or their inability to explore or colonize the galaxy.

Hence open scientific research on the subject is needed, with special attention paid to high quality UFO reports exhibiting apparent indications that ET intelligence and strategy are involved.

Acknowledgments

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Truck driver gets close look at strange object

Occurred : 8/19/2003 05:15

Location: Council Bluffs, IA

Shape: Unknown

Investigated (telephone interview only) by Beverly Trout, MUFON State Director for Iowa.

She reports, "In my telephone interview with this gentleman, Kenneth Beougher, 53, it is quite evident that he is as verbally articulate as he writes.

"This is one very intelligent individual, with a thinking, observant mind, and who for 3-4 minutes had a rare and unique opportunity—which he took advantage of by observing as closely as possible this UFO's close (and lingering) position right next to his truck."

Ms. Trout forwarded the following write-up which the witness did for the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC), directed by Peter Davenport, and she indicates that this matches what the witness told her:

While driving the company's 18 wheeler on I-29 just north of Council Bluffs, IA., I saw something through the top right of the windshield that looked like an airliner (but too many lights), banking, then dropping down (about 1 mile out).

When I looked back to the road briefly, I almost couldn't find it again, but saw it hug the ground and cross to the interstate beyond the next overpass.

When I drove around a mild curve and went under the overpass, it was ahead of me about 1/4 mile over the ditch moving northbound as I was.

I left my truck in cruise at 60 MPH. It only took a few seconds to catch up to it. It slowly picked up speed as I got nearer and when I was just up to the rear lights, it was traveling about 2 MPH slower than my 60 MPH, so I studied the craft the best I could.

The bottom of the craft was only about 20'-25' above the road surface to my right, and the leftmost white light (1 of 3) was just to the right of the truck cab. What I could see clearly were three brilliant white circular disc-shaped

lights, about 4' in diameter, forming an equilateral triangle about 4'-6' apart, 2 leading and 1 trailing center.

A single bright red circular disc of lights approximately 3' in diameter was located in the center of the 3 white lights.

When approaching from the rear, I leaned forward to look up behind the lights, but couldn't see anything but black and a faint smoky or black misty wake like a boat would leave in water. It looked like it could have been following the underside of the craft, but I really couldn't tell.

The white lights were brilliant, and looked like a hundred-plus bulbs in a disc, but were too bright to see the light source, but they did not blind the eye when looking right at them. The light they gave off had a flood-like appearance and lit the ground and the truck cab very well (about like halogen).

The red disc of light was bright red, but did not glare as much, and I could see what appeared to be maybe 30 or more bulbs. The actual count could be higher.

This craft appeared as though it was waiting to be inspected, but was so close I couldn't see it all.

The craft continued to fall behind at the 2 MPH rate until it was well behind the trailer, then slowed considerably as I continued at 60 MPH.

When a mild hill and then another overpass came, I could still see the brilliant white light glowing upward in my mirror, even though I was possibly a mile or so away and over the hill.

That was Tuesday, and I wasn't routed that way all the rest of that week. The following Sunday I drove down there to investigate the area during daylight.

The ditch in that area extends approximately 50' over to a row of utility poles that are about 35'-40' in height all along the area where this occurred. Since all during the event I could not see the size or shape of the craft, this may help in some way.

Also, I didn't get the precise locations of these. However, I noticed there are a few lines coming from the utility poles and crossing I-29 at various points and appear to be elevated only about 2/3 the way up these poles.

Maybe that explains why the craft backed off when it did. I think it might have had to stay below radar or something.

When I first saw it bank and drop, it went over to I-29 almost hugging the ground, and I think it may have dropped where Loess Hills protrudes upwards just east of the interstate.

Also, I forgot to mention the craft moved along like it was on rails, not even a wobble or bump, nor did it have

an angle of attack. It was perfectly level.

I couldn't roll down the right window (it isn't powered and it isn't safe to reach that far), but I had on an empty trailer and was on fairly flat ground, and the motor wasn't real noisy, and I did not hear any noise from the craft over the moderate motor and tire noise of the truck.

(NUFORC Note: We spoke with this witness via telephone, and he sounded exceptionally credible to us. PD)

Two witnesses to same object

Date of incident: 29 Aug 2003

Time of incident: 10:30 to 10:40 PM, Pacific Daylight Time

Atmospheric conditions: clear sky, moderate temperature, near 60° F

Investigator: Tom Bowden, MUFON Oregon State Director

Summary:

A large black triangular object with lights near the corners was seen flying slowly over a residential neighborhood. Two known independent witnesses appear to have observed the same object. Additional witnesses were seen by the first witness, but these witnesses were never located.

Witness #1 and #2 are not known to one another, and have never met. I have not provided either witness with any specific information about the identity of the other witness. Both witnesses seem credible, and I could find no reason to suspect a hoax or collusion between them.

Narrative - Witness #1

This narrative is based on the witness' original account, with corrections and clarifications based on subsequent interviews with the investigator.

Witness #1 was driving west on Division St. in Gresham, OR, when he noticed what he first thought were bright landing lights on an aircraft, including one white light and one red light. By the time he approached the corner of N. Main St. and Division St., he noticed that the lighted object did not appear to behave like a conventional aircraft, because it appeared to be stationary in the air.

As the witness continued driving west on Division St., he continued trying to observe the lighted object to the

left of his direction of travel. He could not maintain continuous visual observation due to watching his driving, and due to tall trees in the area.

As he reached the proximity of NW Wallula Ave. he could see that the object was nearly directly to his left and partially hidden by the tops of the tall fir trees in the residential neighborhood along the south side of Division St.

Knowing he had a digital camera in the car with him, he decided to try to get closer to the object in a place where he could stop and photograph it.

He turned left (south) on NW Angeline Ave., where he turned off his radio and fan, and rolled down all the car windows to see if he could hear any sound. He could hear no sound from the object at this point.

He proceeded to SW 5th St and turned left (east), where he had a very clear view of the object directly ahead through his windshield, unobstructed by the tall fir trees in the area. This street runs due east.

In this quiet residential block, he slowed down to take a good look. He saw a triangular shape with bright white lights on the bottom side at the three corners. When asked about the red light initially observed, the witness said he could not explain why the red light was no longer visible from this vantage point.

(Note: This detail does not agree with his original statement.) Between the lights, the witness could discern a dark gray or black object with straight edges forming the sides of the triangle shape.

The witness noticed that the body of the object seemed solid, because it

eclipsed stars that were behind it. The object hovered completely silently and very steadily, with no wobbling or drifting motion.

The witness tried to compare the object with a known type of airplane or helicopter, but found that it did not look or behave anything like any known conventional aircraft.

At this time he noticed other people who also appeared to be looking at the object. Two men on NW 5th Street had stopped what they were doing and were looking up at the object.

Two girls were running down the street, yelling and pointing toward the object, and a man driving in the direction of the object was sticking his head out the open window of his car, looking up at the object. None of these other potential witnesses have been located.

From this location the witness observed the object hovering for 10 to 15 seconds. He stated that he had a clock on the dashboard of his car to help him judge the elapsed time.

Based on the reference of NW 5th Street, which runs due east, the witness states that the object was almost exactly east of his position, or just slightly to the left (north) of due east.

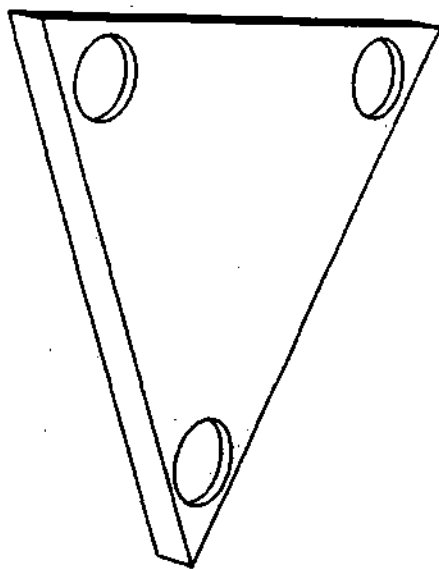
The witness was about to reach for his camera and get out of his car to take a photograph when the object began to execute a slight lateral rotation without banking or wobbling, then began accelerating off toward the northwest.

He then decided to follow it. He proceeded to NW Towle Ave., and turned left. He had to slow down for several speed bumps on that street, and by the time he reached Division St. again the object was receding in the distance toward the northwest.

He turned left on Division St., drove a block or two west to a place where he had a clear view to the north and northwest. From this location, he observed two white lights at the tail of the object as it glided rapidly off toward the northwestern horizon and disappeared in the distance within a few seconds.

(Note: In his original narrative, the witness incorrectly stated this direction as northeast. He realized that mistake afterward, and made the correction.)

After losing sight of the object, the



Computer drawing by Witness #1

witness drove home and wrote notes about the incident. He later contacted the National UFO Reporting Center.

Narrative – Witness #2

Witness #2 contacted me in response to flyers I posted in the vicinity. These flyers depicted a wire-frame style drawing of the object made by witness #1, and gave the time/date of the sighting.

The witness claims she and her sister (also a witness, but declined interview) had an immediate strong reaction to the picture because it looked just like what they had seen.

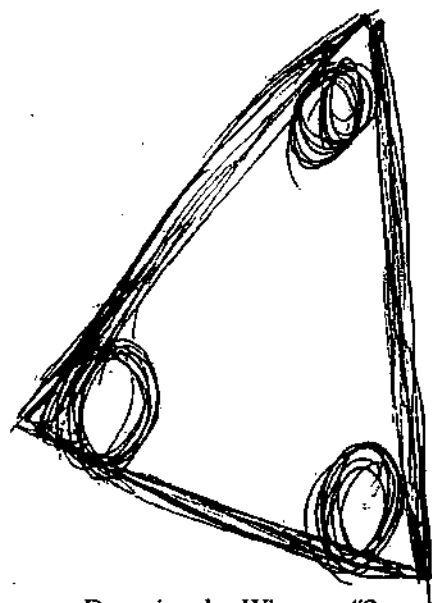
Although they were initially not sure about the date, I questioned her about what she was doing the night of the sighting, thus establishing associations with other events in the time frame from which they were able to verify the date.

Witness #2 was sitting in the front yard of her duplex apartment talking to her sister when she noticed a bright light above her illuminating some objects around her.

She looked up and saw a large object with three brilliant white lights arranged in a triangular pattern moving from behind the branches of a large Douglas Fir tree.

She noticed that the apparent body of the object was dark and apparently non-reflective, and that it eclipsed stars as it moved across the sky. The witness reported that no sound was heard.

The object glided smoothly toward the north for about 3 seconds, then



Drawing by Witness #2

stopped and hovered for about 2 to 4 seconds in a position toward the northeast, above a medium size tree.

During this time the witness, who wears a pacemaker, states that she felt a disturbance in her chest similar to the effect of a magnetometer (metal detector) on her pacemaker.

Next the object executed a slight lateral rotation without banking or wobbling, and quickly moved out of sight behind the treetops toward the north.

She is really not certain if the object moved away quickly, or if it simply vanished, but she thinks it just moved quickly out of sight behind the trees.

When asked what time the sighting occurred, the witness said that she spent about five more minutes outdoors, watching the sky, and that when she went indoors it was 10:45 PM.

During further questioning about the presence of conventional aircraft in the area, this witness stated that between one and five minutes after the departure of the triangular object, she saw and heard a large airliner fly over her location on a general heading toward the north, probably on approach to Portland International Air-port (PDX).

The witness easily and accurately described the characteristic lighting configuration of the airliner, and pointed out that the triangular object's lights were nothing like the airliner's lights.

Analysis

I interviewed witness #1 at his home

on Sept. 9, collecting background information, and reviewing and clarifying his original statements. On Sept. 16 I conducted a walk-through of the sighting with him, visiting the locations where the observations were made.

While the witness raised his arm to indicate the angular elevation of the sighting, I measured the estimated angles using a tiltmeter.

Compass directions were provided separately by the witness, based on a compass in his car. I added the correction of 17 degrees for the local magnetic deviation from true north. The due east-west orientation of NW 5th St. was verified.

I interviewed witness #2 on Sept. 28 at her home and measured angular observations from her front yard, where the sighting occurred. She identified two trees and a utility pole as landmarks to help her remember where she observed the object.

Observational data from Witness #1: Total duration of sighting was about 8 minutes from beginning to end of the narrative. The estimated angular size of the object as seen by witness #1 from NW 5th St. was about 2 inches at 16 inches from the eyes.

Observational data from Witness #2: The object was observed from a few feet outside the front door of her apartment, approximately 975 feet from the location of witness #1 at point B. The total duration of the sighting was estimated at about 8 seconds. The moment when the object seemed to hover lasted an estimated 2 to 4 seconds. The apparent angular size was 3.5 to 4 inches at 18 inches from eyes.

Air traffic in the vicinity:

Eric Byler of Oregon UFO Research obtained an air traffic map from Jerry Gerspach of the Port of Portland Airport Noise Abatement department.

The map shows commercial aircraft equipped with air traffic control transponders, and gives altitude, airspeed, and aircraft type information for all known flights. It also displays a date and time stamp.

The following aircraft are marked on the report:

DH8D (De Havilland-8 turboprop) has departed PDX and is turning northeast over Vancouver, WA, at airspeed

231, and altitude 5,666. This aircraft is out of the observational area and can safely be excluded as a cause for the sighting.

B734 (a Boeing 737-400) is on final approach to PDX, at 1,486 feet and a speed of 163. This aircraft would have been far to the north and traveling on a west-northwesterly approach path, with the landing lights aimed toward the west. Also, it would have landed by the time of the sighting. This aircraft can also be safely excluded as a cause for the sighting.

MD80 (an MD-80) is approaching from 10 miles to the south at 4,961 feet and at a speed of 274. The path of this aircraft would have taken it over the sighting location during the time in question. It would have covered the 10-mile distance in about 2 to 3 minutes. This aircraft must be considered as a possible cause for the sighting. The chart shows its path passing nearly directly over the vicinity of the sighting.

B763 (a Boeing 767-300) is approaching from 14 miles to the west at 6,998 feet and at a speed of 231. The path of this aircraft would have taken it over the sighting location during the time in question. It would have covered the 14-mile distance in roughly 3 to 4 minutes. The chart shows its path passing about one mile east of the sighting location. This aircraft must also be considered as a possible cause for the sighting.

Conclusion:

Both witnesses claim to have seen and heard many aircraft in the Gresham area at various times of any given day or night. The Gresham area is a busy air corridor with a lot of traffic to and from Portland International Airport and Troutdale Airport.

Both witnesses were able to easily describe typical aircraft lighting configurations, and both witnesses stated that when they first saw the object, they compared it to a conventional aircraft in an attempt to rationalize what they saw, but then concluded that it was not a normal aircraft.

Witness #2 remembered seeing a commercial jetliner heading north about one to five minutes after the sighting of the triangular object. There is not enough information to definitively say

which aircraft she saw, but she described the aircraft lighting configuration as clearly different from the unknown object, and also stated that she could hear the aircraft, and that it was quite loud.

Although witness #2 stated that the hovering UFO seemed to cause a fluttering feeling in her chest, it is not possible to determine whether this was in fact a physical effect upon her pace-maker. It is also possible that she experienced a startled feeling upon realizing that the object was performing a maneuver not possible for any conventional aircraft she knew about.

At the time of the closest observation by witness #1, he describes maneuvers and an estimated altitude on the part of the object that would be totally inconsistent with any known commercial aircraft.

He estimated the altitude at 500 to 800 feet, which would have been well below the altitude permitted for a commercial aircraft over the area in question.

At this time, I maintain the opinion that both witnesses saw the same unidentified flying object. Both witnesses reported the same structural details and the same time frame (around 10:30 PM), although they disagree about the length of time the object hovered steadily.

Both witnesses agree that, after hovering, the object executed a slight lateral rotation just before moving suddenly to the north and then disappear.

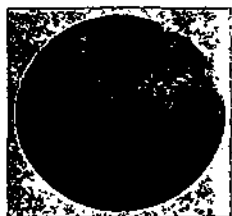
Additional calculations are included in the full report.

Acknowledgments

Peter Davenport, director of the National UFO Reporting Center, initially received and posted this report and some of the follow-up communications on the NUFORC website.

Eric Byler of Oregon UFO Research initially referred this case to me. Eric also investigated the possibility of the misidentification of a commercial airliner, and has concluded that the sighting of witness #1 can be attributed to a misidentification of one of the aircraft.

Jerry Gerspach of the Port of Portland Airport Noise Abatement office provided the chart of air traffic in the vicinity of the sighting.



FILER'S FILES

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 reports have not been officially investigated.

California youth shoots at UFO

ANZA – Jack writes, “In 1956 my parents bought a small piece of desert property in California. At the time the area was a real hot spot for UFOs. I did a lot of hunting for rabbits and other varmints while we owned the property.

“I was going along a river bed looking for something to shoot with my .22 auto rifle when I heard a noise. Looking in the direction of the sound, I saw a disc in the Manzanita brush just hovering about a foot off the ground.

“It scared the hell out of me at first, and I shot at it with my 22 rifle (probably not the thing to do). There was no effect, and I fell on my butt trying to get back away from it.

“When I fell, I was only three feet from the disk, so I know what I was looking at. I saw no aliens, and within a few seconds it rose up to about 20 feet and shot away quickly.

“It was only about 8 feet across and 3.5 feet high, kind of small. It was the color of those Ruger guns that they call target gray. I did not see any insignia on the craft. I took off back to the cabin and told my parents what had happened.

“The only reason that they believed my story, I was shaking like a leaf in a wind storm. Later my stepfather and I went back to the spot and found some small prints about 4 inches in length, and a Manzanita branch that was burned on one end.

“I never went back to that spot again, and did not report it to anybody else. I did not want to sound like some of the locals that reported men from Mars. I was 13 at the time and remember it like it was yesterday.”

New Hampshire UFO video

Paul Spera writes, “On Dec. 17 my girlfriend and I were sky watching through our glass sliding doors. We had several sightings over the weekend and were just getting restless when I noticed a large cluster of lights flying over our back yard. It was traveling southwest, and was at an altitude of approximately 1,000 to 2,000 feet.



George Filer

“I had filmed the same object the night before, but this time it was closer. It appeared to have one large light surrounded by smaller lights which were all bright white, forming the shape of a ramp.

“It had no strobes, and was completely silent. I had my camera, so I went on the deck and taped the object as it slowly flew between the gap of trees in my back yard.

“It continued west, and can clearly be seen flying behind the trees in the video. Frame by frame analysis shows that the lights independently changed from white to several different colors quite rapidly. More images can be seen at my website.” Paul Spera New Hampshire UFO Hunter Website

Australia disc

URANIA, S.A. – The witness reports, “One night in April, 1975, a friend of mine called me and asked if I wanted to go spotlighting for foxes. I said yes, and traveled to his farm 10 miles south of Maitland, arriving there about 9 PM.

“After going inside and chatting for a while with my friend Brad, his mother Pam, and another friend Michael, I said that I was going outside to get things

ready to go spotlighting. As I walked out the back door (facing east) I noticed what I initially thought was a large shooting star coming down from the east and to the south east.

“But the shooting star stopped dead at about 20 degrees above the horizon and began traveling across the sky towards the east and flashing blue red and white lights at 9:15 PM.

“I yelled to the others, ‘Come Out Here NOW! Look At This!’ They came running out, and we all stood in the back yard watching as the UFO traversed the horizon. I got my rifle out of my car and began watching it through the telescopic sight, and was amazed to see it was about 40 meters across and about 20 meters high.

“It was disc-shaped with windows around the edge of the disc and a flashing dome on top. It had a polished aluminum top, and it looked so close that I had to move the scope to see all of it.

“Brad went to get his binoculars while Pam, Michael, and I took turns watching through the rifle scope. After about 5 minutes Brad came back. He had been watching it through the binoculars, and I could see from the porch light that he was as white as a ghost.

“The UFO was now around 1,000 meters away and traveling towards us. I got scared and was going to have a shot at it, but was told off by Pam, so I lowered the rifle. As I did, the UFO started to retreat and slowly move off to the north towards Maitland.

“We kept watching as it became just a red flashing light until it was over the eastern side of Maitland, where it hovered. Four other little red lights seemed to enter the (mother ship) UFO, and then the UFO took off in a slight arc to the east and disappeared in less than a second. Pam, Brad’s mom, said, ‘Oh I’ve seen them before. They’ll be back!’” Thanks to Brian Vike and AUFORN (Australian UFO Network).

Increased UFO activity in Iran

The flights of unidentified objects and phenomena in the skies over Iran have increased in recent weeks," according to a news report.

Iranian observers are not vexed by the possibility of extraterrestrial invasion, but by the more proximate threat of aerial reconnaissance and intelligence collection by foreign adversaries.

See "An increase in the number of unidentified flying objects in the country's sky," from the daily newspaper *E'temad*, Dec. 25, 2004 (translated by the CIA's Foreign Broadcast Information Service).

Half of Mexican hill disappears

HERMOSILLO, Sonora – Luis Gonzalez reports, "More than half of a hill located on the Hermosillo coast apparently 'vanished' after a UFO was spotted. The event was classified by Sonoran scientists as 'strange and surprising'.

"According to a series of images taken by EL IMPARCIAL which were classified as 'historically significant,' a hill belonging to the Sierra de Cirios range near Puerto Libertad ceased to exist in a matter of hours.

"At 8:54 AM on Jan. 10, 2005, a reporter and photographer from this newsroom saw what they took to be a UFO as they drove along Route 36 north along the coastline. After this sighting there occurred a strange phenomenon in which rocky formations changed composition.

"At 2:08 PM. as shown by photographs taken at the site, a considerable part of the hill had disappeared."

Translation (c) 2004 by Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology (IHU). Special thanks to Guillermo Gimenez, *Inexplicata, The Journal of Hispanic Ufology*, Jan. 11, 2005

New Jersey Miniature UFO

MOUNT HOLLY – Jane reports, "I was sleeping next to my husband and awakened about 3 AM on Dec. 11, 2004, seeing two red basketball size lights floating in the corner of the bedroom. I watched their movement as they generally floated or hovered in the corner.

"A third red plasma like disk entered the room and flew towards the bed and hovered over my husband. The red ball with red lights shining down stayed over him for about a minute and then flew outside through the wall. (See drawing at right.) The disk was about one foot in diameter."

On Jan. 6, 2005, two red plasma-like basketballs again appeared about 2 AM, and Jane was wide awake. "Then a miniature disc-shaped UFO appeared from the left wall and slowly flew across the room to above my husband's head," she reports. "The disc hovered and eventually flew through the wall.

"The disc was gray and white, and appeared to have windows around its center and a second set circling the bottom of the craft. It was two feet in diameter and one foot high, and was perfect in detail.

"Once the craft left, the other red balls departed with it. My husband's health remains good except for a cold." Thanks to Jane for her drawings.

Note: We have many similar reports of miniature UFOs. Some reports indicate the UFOs have an ability to enlarge and miniaturize when needed.

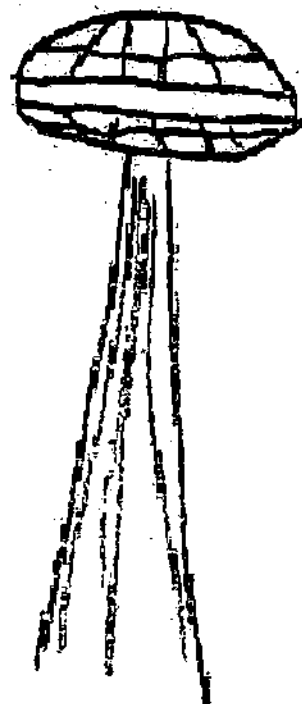
Round ball in room in Ohio

STRONGSVILLE – Diane writes, "We spoke a few months ago about the sightings in Olmsted Falls in September. I get the feeling that something or someone does not like my telling you anything about this. I have now really seen a UFO several different times, the last one being Dec. 21, 2004, as I was leaving the post office in Strongsville.

"Driving home I saw the lights in the sky, which were very much like our pictures that were taken in Olmsted Falls by the police.

"A few days before that, I was sitting at my computer and heard a static kind of sound and turned around to see a round ball. It was about the size of a large grapefruit or small melon that looked like the sun—yellow and orangey bright, about 10 inches or so above the floor.

"It moved along the wall across from me in a straight line, doubled back to about the middle of the wall, then disappeared—gone just like that. That night



I had such strange things happen in my sleep. They are bizarre but I can't get them out of my mind.

"I am a nervous wreck. I feel angry, cranky, scared, and very concerned, so much so that I have had bumps on my back for about a week now. I am putting antibiotic ointment and cortisone cream on them, and they seem to be responding.

"My husband thinks I am crazy and need to see a doctor, and he's right. I am angry. They did not like me wearing gold, and my beautiful ring has a crack in it and it is bent. My bracelet is squished by the clasp. I will try to tell more at another time." Thanks to Diane in Olmstead, OH.

Oregon object shoots sparks

DALLAS – At 7 PM on Jan. 5, 2005, four witnesses saw an object that was shooting sparks from the bottom as it hovered and moved one way then the other.

The first witness saw a bright light that would beam up to the sky, and sparks and balls of light that were coming from the bottom of the craft!

It was moving south, then just shot away fast. Witness 2 saw an orange sphere/cigar standing up, then sideways, going back and forth, very bright and shooting sparks from the bottom. Then about 15 minutes later, helicopters!

Witness 3 stated, "I saw lights, one above the other, on this bright, moving, cigar-shaped object as I watched for two or three minutes."

Witness 4 reports seeing "shooting sparks that were falling to the ground from a large, silent object. Then there were helicopters flying around looking for something. We tried to video tape it, but couldn't get it! It was amazing."

Thanks to Peter Davenport, www.UFOCENTER.com.

Mississippi boomerang UFO

BILOXI – The witness was standing outside watching the meteor shower on Dec. 14, 2004, at midnight when a boomerang of lights seemed to appear out of nowhere. It was close to the ground, but made no sound.

It turned in different directions rapidly, then just disappeared. The witness says, "I live close to Keesler Air Force Base and figured it was probably just a plane, but I could see no outline of a plane, even though it was close to the ground, and I could hear no engines." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Friedman...

(Continued from Page 21)

USAF General Carroll Bolender's statement (October, 1969) that "reports of UFOs which could affect National Security are made in accordance with JANAP 146 or Air Force Manual 55-11 and ARE NOT PART OF THE BLUE BOOK SYSTEM." (My emphasis.)

If not Blue Book, then who was doing the investigation? Nobody has picked up on the heavily whited out and blacked out NSA and CIA UFO documents. There is a Cosmic Watergate being treated like Alice's Tea Party.

The tabloids benefit because they know the public is very interested, and the "Respectable Media" shed little light on the UFO topic. They can get away with nonsense, as can a number of specialty TV channels. The History Channel has had several rotten programs on UFOs, and only a few good ones.

The SETI Cultists benefit from having the press lap up their nonsense to the effect that they are doing "impor-

tant" science, as opposed to the UFO junk. This helps in fund raising. Their "scientific respectability" means contributions are tax deductible as well.

How much support would they be getting if, as is the case, it turned out that aliens are indeed visiting, and that there is no scientific basis for SETI as presently practiced? It would spoil a lot of careers of people who probably dream of passing the torch for the unscientific search to the next generation.

As an aside, research groups connected with nuclear fusion for power production have for 50 years been saying that we will have fusion power plants in 40 years. The goal never seems to get any closer. But the budgets keep on.

The ancient academics and fossilized physicists, who often make negative UFO pronouncements, don't need to be bothered with developing a college level course on UFOs or sponsoring theses, though some very few brave souls have done so. No point in wasting time on the evidence or admitting they have been wrong, wrong, wrong.

The military can keep others in society from knowing what is going on, or duplicating technology benefits, and keep their budgets going by not having to admit they can't prevent alien overflights, and that their weapon systems can't compare.

They can sponsor highly-classified research using the best detection and communications tools with no complaints from the public, which, because of the compliant press, has no idea what they have been doing.

As long as the press and the public believe that there is nothing to UFOs, then the intelligence agencies such as the NSA, CIA, NRO, DIA, ONI, OSI etc don't need to expose their UFO activities to criticism from the public or each other.

I have found that most people have no idea how large the Intelligence budgets are, and that the agencies are rarely accountable even to Congress. The first three have multibillion-dollar highly classified annual budgets. The NRO was around for decades before the public even became aware of it.

A CIA historian published an article about the history of the CIA and UFOs

that got wide distribution for the totally wrong notion that most sightings, after the U-2 and SR 71 began flying, were caused by observations of these secret platforms. The data show this is nonsense; there was no increase.

Certain fundamentalist religious leaders such as Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson would be up a religious creek without a paddle if the truth about flying saucers came out, since they insist there are no intelligent beings other than on Earth. UFOs represent the work of the devil, they claim. They have certainly had support from people in high places.

Sci-Fi stalwarts have persistently attacked UFOs, despite their clear unwillingness to look at the evidence. Obviously, they, for reasons unknown, consider themselves (Asimov, Bova, Clark, etc) experts on alien and Earthling behavior, and have labored long and hard to make space travel respectable.

They don't want to be tarred with the kook brush, or admit how they have ignored the evidence. After all, if there were any, they would have known about it.

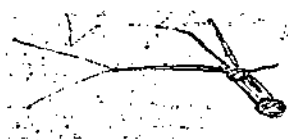
Far out contactees—liars and charlatans about their supposed UFO experiences—also benefit from public ridicule, since, if the subject were taken seriously by the media and academia, they would be denied their often profitable platforms.

The debunkers benefit from lectures and books attacking "This nonsense." Prometheus, a publisher specializing in debunkery, has already published three anti-Roswell books.

CSICOP has raised a lot of money to continue their debunkery, with a new facility, income, and prestige from the *Skeptical Inquirer*. Their income and status would certainly be hurt if they had to admit they had been totally wrong.

I am still an optimist. Max Planck, a great physicist, once said that new ideas come to be accepted, not because their opponents come to believe in them, but because their opponents die and a new generation grows up that is accustomed to them. It will happen.

Stan Friedman fsphys@rogers.com
www.stanfriedman.com



PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

Why still the ridicule?

A contributor to an internet discussion group was wondering why there is still so much fear of ridicule associated with reporting a UFO sighting, or just discussing the subject.

He noted that there is a load of evidence from all over the world describing people seeing UFOs from the ground, on the sea, and from the air. The opinion polls seem to show a significant fraction of the public believes that aliens are visiting.

So why the ridicule, or at least fear of ridicule? He could understand back a half century ago before the space age.

I think back to a survey I took in a college classroom after asking the roughly 100 students to vote with their hands, but with their eyes shut so they wouldn't be influenced by the other members of the class. Their instructor and I would tally the results.

Turns out that about 80% of the students thought that most people didn't believe in UFOs, but that 80% of the students did. My observation would be that as long as most people believe that most others do NOT accept flying saucer reality, they will be less likely to report a sighting or discuss it.

I have had several instances where a person hadn't even told his or her spouse about a sighting because of fear of ridicule.

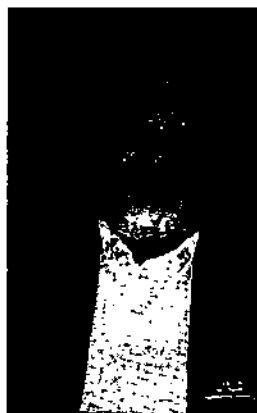
On a more sophisticated level, if the news media and the scientific community share this notion that most people don't believe in UFOs, they will be less likely to sponsor a thesis about UFOs, less likely to assign reporters to do a serious article, less likely to demand that their congressman or news media treat the subject fairly, and less likely to teach a course about UFOs.

I think there are a number of reasons why the fear of ridicule is legitimate. There are plenty ready to ridicule. As with crimes, one must ask who benefits? As it happens there are a number of groups which benefit from keeping the

laughter curtain in place.

I believe that all the groups I will deal with here honestly believe that if, indeed, some UFOs are alien spacecraft, that would be a very big story, perhaps the biggest of the millenium.

However, since they take great pride in their knowledge (whether journalistic, scientific, or religious) of important stories, they have no reason to accept the idea of alien visits.



Stan Friedman

If the story were true, they would know about it. They don't know anything that would lead them to such a belief, so there is no reason to waste time studying this silly subject. A kind of Catch 22 with ignorance being bliss.

The mass media have a great influence on public beliefs, which are highly dependent on the manner of presentation.

After all, there was a time in the recent past where I am sure most Americans believed that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, was directly connected with the 9/11 events, and was a clear and present danger to the rest of the world in general, and the US in particular. I am sure that some few people still believe these notions despite the absence of evidence. They have been brainwashed.

When it comes to UFOs, the major news media have been derelict in their responsibility to the public. They don't make any effort to have reporters become knowledgeable, or to find people who are knowledgeable. They will blindly accept the "explanations" provided by the rent-a-debunker groups or the ignorant astronomy department

spokesmen. It took a lot of people working with Woodward and Bernstein to blow the lid off the political Watergate, but neither the *NY Times* nor *Washington Post* has spent a reasonable effort to get at the truth about UFOs, despite the facts and the importance.

William Broad is a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer for the *NY Times*. Yet he essentially bought the USAF nonsense about Project Mogul explaining Roswell.

He had written an important article on nuclear explosions which had not been publicly announced, so he knows there are cover-ups, but blindly accepted the baloney about Project Mogul without even bothering to talk to any people connected with Roswell, despite their ready availability through the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell.

His 60-column-inch article started in the upper left hand quadrant of the front page of the *Sunday Times*, one of the best possible locations for news or propaganda, and was carried by other papers.

Are there benefits from maintaining the laughter curtain? Surprisingly, there are a number of groups that benefit.

The press benefits by not having to spend any effort to become knowledgeable, by not having to admit they missed such a big story of far out technology and government cover-up, and by not having to admit they had ridiculed "believers" and witnesses.

TIME Magazine, a supposed bastion of respectability, published a cover story on Roswell which became their biggest seller that year (1997, Roswell 50th Anniversary) until Princess Di died. They were certainly not concerned about accuracy.

I have noted cover stories by *Popular Mechanics* and *Sceptic* that were very short on accuracy and very long on sensationalism. I don't know of any, for example, that have followed up on

(Continued on Page 20)

Director's Message

worked with a Frontier Airlines pilot to investigate the experiences of Vietnam era Air Force veteran Charles James Hall when he was working at a highly classified area in Nevada.

Astrophysicist **Alan C. Holt**, one of the leading researchers of advanced propulsion technologies, will bring us up to date on this exciting area of study.

Dr. Roger K. Leir has continued to remove implants from human abductees. He will present the latest results of the analysis of these artifacts.

Dr. Edgar Mitchell, sixth NASA astronaut to walk on the Moon, founder of the Institute for Noetic Science, will provide his insight on extraterrestrial life, space exploration, and new areas of science that he has researched.

Engineer and company vice president **Scott Ramsey** will present the real details of the March 25, 1948, UFO crash at Aztec, NM. It really happened.

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, respected university professor, author, and long-time consultant to the now defunct Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), will present the results of his continuing work with abductees.

Dr. Claude Swanson, educated as a physicist at M.I.T. and Princeton Universities, found that modern physics has suppressed and ignored the paranormal. He will provide the laboratory data that is beginning to shake the very foundation of physics.

In addition to the exciting line-up of speakers on Saturday and Sunday, there will be a dinner and program on Friday night and a special luncheon with a speaker on Saturday.

An additional benefit of the weekend event is the opportunity for guests to mingle, talk, meet other researchers, and set up networking opportunities for the coming year.

Position Announcements

James Bouck, MUFON State Director for New York, has appointed **Sam Falvo** of Utica, NY, to the position of State Section Director for Oneida and Herkimer Counties, and **Tom Nesser** of Rochester, NY, as State Section Director for Monroe County.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director of Field Investigator Training, has announced that **T. Bernadette Gibson**, of Kaneohe, HI; **Charles W. Harmon, Jr.**, of New York, NY; **Jerry Pirie**, of Creston, BC, Canada; and **Naomi West** of Copperas Cove, TX, have passed the MUFON Field Investigator's Exam and are now MUFON Field Investigators.

All Field Investigator Trainees are urged to self-study the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* and take the exam. State Directors are a good resource to assist in Field Investigator training and to help with the difficult parts of the exam.

The manual is available from MUFON Headquarters for \$25 plus \$3.50 p&h in the U.S. Total price for delivery outside of the U.S. is \$32.50. It may also be purchased via the Internet at www.mufon.com using PayPal.

New Lifetime Members

MUFON has two new Lifetime Members. It is a pleasure to announce that **David Hnath** of Ashland, WI, and **Kathleen Marden** of Stratham, NH, are now Lifetime Members. Kathleen's donation was in memory of her aunt, **Betty Hill**.

We are extremely grateful for this vote of confidence and level of support for MUFON. Thank you, David and Kathleen.

New Media by MUFON

Members

Lifetime MUFON Member **Christopher Cisneros** (working under the name Cristobal) recently released his new CD, "Guitarra Contenta."

The CD is a unique combination of Latin grooves with splashes of jazz and rock guitar, blended with flamenco influence and foot-tapping calypso beats. For sample clips and ordering information, visit www.GuitarraContenta.com.

On the Internet

www.mufon.com

CALENDAR

March 6-12—International UFO Congress Convention and Film Festival, Laughlin, NV, featuring Delores Cannon, Joe Lewells, Barbara Lamb, Ann and Jason Andrews, Wendelle Stevens, A.J. Gevaerd, Paola Harris, Donald Ware, Dr. Nick Begich, Sean David Morton, Dr. Tom Valone, Dr. Rudy Schild, William Henry, Dr. Simeon Hein, Dr. Michael Salla, Freddy Silva, Jaime Maussan, Steve Jones, Ron Russell, Dr. Roger Leir, Charles Hall, Jim Marrs, Dr. Thomas VanFlandern, and others to be confirmed. www.ufocongress.com.

April 1-3—Aztec UFO Symposium, Aztec, NM, featuring Linda Moulton Howe, John Greenwald Jr, Rob Swiatek, Susan Swiatek, Dr. David Rudiak, Moreen Skully, Travis Walton, and Dennis Balthaser. 877-823-5810 aztecufo@sina.com, www.aztecufo.com.

April 8-10—17th annual Ozark UFO Conference, Eureka Springs, AR, featuring Wendelle Stevens, Grant Cameron, Linda Moulton Howe, Timothy Good, David Marler, Nancy Talbott, and others to be confirmed. ozarkufo@webtv.net, 501-354-2558.

April 22-24—Second Annual Exopolitics Expo (X-Conference), featuring Stephen Bassett, Cheryl Jones, Paul Davids, Richard Dolan, Stanton Friedman, John Greenwald Jr, Paola Harris, Dr. Michael S. Heiser, Dr. Lynne Kitei, Jaime Maussan, Dr. Richard Sauder, David Sereda, Alfred L. Webre, Dr. Robert Wood, & Ryan Wood. www.paradigmclock.com, 202-215-8344, ParadigmRG@aol.com.

July 22-24—36th annual MUFON UFO Symposium, Marriott Tech Center Hotel, Denver, CO, featuring Phyllis Budinger, Richard Dolan, Elaine Douglass, Frank Feschino Jr, Stanton Friedman, Paola Harris, Alan C. Holt, Dr. Roger Leir, Dr. Edgar Mitchell, Scott Ramsey, Dr. Leo Sprinkle, & Dr. Claude Swanson, 303-932-7709, www.mufon.com.

UFO MARKETPLACE

For advertising, contact John Schuessler, schuessler@mho.net, 303-948-6224.

MUFON 2004 International UFO Symposium Proceedings

Includes all of the papers published for the MUFON Symposium in Denver, CO, July 16-18, 2004:

John Schuessler on "UFOs—The Body of Technological Evidence"; Steve Bassett on "Deception, Denial, and Disclosure"; Grant Cameron on "Seeking a Checkmate Move: A Search for Conclusive Technological Evidence"; Peter Davenport on "Using Multistatic Passive Radar for Real-time Detection of UFOs in the Near-Earth Environment"; Deborah Lindemann on "Signatures of Extraordinary Technology in Abduction"; Budd Hopkins on "UFO Abduction Cases: The Medical Evidence"; David Sereda on "Has NASA Made Contact with Extraterrestrial Intelligence?"; Nick Redfern on "Flying Triangles in British Airspace: Evidence of Advanced Technology"; Ryan Wood on "Evidence for the Existence of TOP SECRET/MJ-12—A Forensic Examination of Leaked Classified Documents"; Leslie Kean on "Combating Medi Ridicule and Searching for Evidence on the 1965 Kecksburg Crash Case"; Paul Davids on "Profiles in UFO Courage"; and John Greenwald on "The U.S. Government's Present Day UFO Interest."

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The Cash-Landrum UFO Incident

By John Schuessler (forward by Bob Pratt), 323 pages, soft cover, 5 1/2 X 8 1/2, \$20.00 plus \$2.50 post. Please add \$4 additional for shipping outside the U.S. Available from MUFON, Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369.

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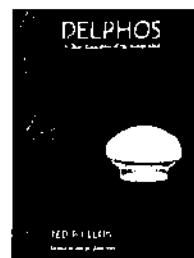
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Delphos, A Close Encounter of the Second Kind

MUFON has this book available for immediate delivery. It was written by Ted Phillips and published by the UFO Research Coalition. 8 1/2 x 11 format, soft cover, 177 pages. \$20 + \$2.50 S&H.

Please add \$4 additional for shipping outside the U.S. Order from MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369.

Advertising rates

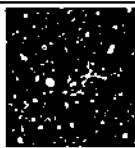
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Full page	\$350	\$325	\$300
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1/4 page	\$150	\$125	\$100
"Calling card"	\$55	\$50	\$45

Advertising deadlines

Issue	Ads due
March, 2005	2-1-05
April, 2005	3-1-05
May, 2005	4-1-05
June, 2005	5-1-05
July, 2005	6-1-05

(Occasionally these deadlines can be modified. Please check.)

The MUFON UFO Journal reserves the right to refuse advertising for any reason.



The Night Sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

March 2005

Moon Phases:

Last Quarter March 3
New Moon March 10
First Quarter March 17
Full Moon March 25

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mercury (magnitude -1.2 to -0.5): In Pisces. Mercury will emerge in the evening twilight sky in the west during the first half of the month. By the third week of the month Mercury will fade quickly as it descends into the bright twilight sky.

Venus (magnitude -3.8): Moving from Aquarius into Pisces. Venus will be very difficult to observe this month, due to its proximity to the Sun, and will remain so until early May.

Jupiter (magnitude -2.4): In Virgo. Jupiter will rise at the end of evening twilight in the east, ascend to about 40 degrees high near 1:30 AM, then descend to about 25 degrees high in the southwest at the beginning of morning twilight.

Saturn (-0.1 to 0.0): In Gemini. Saturn will stand nearly 70 degrees high in the east at the end of evening twilight and will set by about 3:30 AM in the west-northwest.

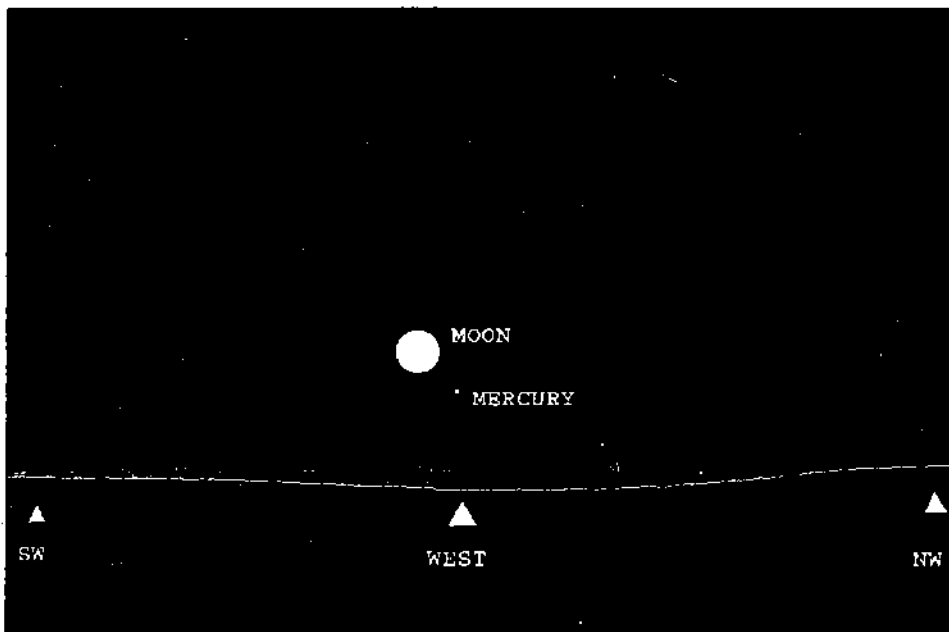
Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mars (magnitude 1.83 to 1.68): Moving from Sagittarius to Capricornus. Mars will rise about 2.5 hours before the Sun in the east-southeast and will be very low in the southeast at the beginning of morning twilight.

Other Celestial Phenomena:

Spring Equinox: March 20 (Sunday)

Zodiacal Light: Zodiacal light will be visible in northern latitudes in the West after evening twilight beginning Monday, March 28 and lasting two weeks. The phenomenon is visible only



March 11—Looking west just after sunset.

The Moon has been altered in appearance from its actual phase for the purpose of clarity in printing.

Mercury is usually difficult to observe at Northern latitudes.

Conjunctions and occultation's:

March 3 (Thursday): Antares will be 0.8 degrees south of the Moon.

March 26 (Saturday): Jupiter will be 1.0 degrees north of the Moon.

March 30 (Wednesday): Antares will be 0.7 degrees south of the Moon.

from very dark locations.

Zodiacal light is the result of sunlight bouncing off dust grains in our solar system. These grains lie mostly in the plane of the solar system.

Look for a pyramid of light in the evening sky somewhat in appearance to the light from a city or town just over the horizon.

Estate Planning

Planned giving can be beneficial both to MUFON and to your own tax and estate situation.

If you wish to have more information on various options and benefits, please contact MUFON headquarters.