

Photos from Symposium, page 12

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In this issue

Stephenville lights: a radar & witness study 3

Locating UFOs on the celestial sphere 10

Symposium photos 12

Identified Object Website 15

Regular Features

Director's Message 2

MUFON Volunteer:
Bill McNeff 14

Calendar 13

Stan Friedman:
Strange attacks 16

Filer's Files 18

CMS Rankings 21

Night Sky 24

The redacted logbook from Carswell Air Force base on January 8, 2008, the night of many of the Stephenville, Texas sightings. Page 3.

What did radar data indicate for the night of January 8 in Erath County, Texas?

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Director's Message

By James Carrion

I just returned from the MUFON 2008 annual symposium in San Jose, California, and am happy to report that it was a great success. Sponsored by Northern California MUFON under the leadership of Lester Velez and Ruben Uriarte, the Symposium drew over 500 attendees who were treated to a stellar lineup of speakers. In addition to the excellent presentations, there were many opportunities for catching up with old friends and networking with like-minded individuals.

The MUFON Field Investigator training workshops were especially a big hit and the conference room was filled to capacity with people who learned how MUFON's ten step investigative process works, how to conduct a radiological survey, how to deal effectively with the media, and how easy it is for digital photos to be faked. Each attendee received a copy of the revised *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* version 5. The DVDs of the workshops and the

conference speakers as well as the new manual will be available for sale on MUFON's online store at <http://store.mufon.com>.

I want to personally thank all of the hard working Symposium volunteers whose enthusiasm and dedication made the Symposium one of the best I have attended. Next year's Symposium will be in Chicago where we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of MUFON—you will not want to miss this historical event.

MUFON presented three awards at the Symposium: **Mary Margaret Zimmer** of Florida received the MUFON Field Investigator of the Year award, **Ken Cherry** of Texas received



James Carrion

Continued on page 22

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Summary Report

Stephenville Lights: A Radar and Witness Study of the Events of January 8, 2008

By Glen Schulze and Robert Powell

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a lengthy and detailed analysis made into the sightings of an unidentified flying object on the evening and night of January 8, 2008, in the Dublin-Stephenville area of north Texas. Radar data from five different radar sites as well as witness testimony was reviewed in an attempt to understand what did and did not occur on the night of January 8.

This is an abridged version of the full 76-page report, which can be found on the MUFON home page (www.mufon.com).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report deals specifically with radar as well as witness sightings of an unidentified object seen on January 8, 2008, between the times of 6pm to 9:30pm. This unidentified object was seen by multiple individuals in the skies near the Texas cities of Dublin and Stephenville. What makes this sighting unusual is that radar data has been obtained that provides precise information on the location of all military and commercial aircraft in the airspace of interest (AOI) at all times during 4pm to 8pm on January 8, 2008.

Additionally, data was obtained that indicates unidentified flying aircraft—without transponder beacons and that were not military jets—were found in the same compass direction and time frame as cited by the witnesses. These sightings occurred on a cloudless day with 10+ miles visibility, no wind, and temperatures in the upper 40s. This report concentrates on the events of January 8th and contains much more substantiated information than has been reported in the media during the five months following these sightings.

Abbreviations used in Summary Report

AOI – Airspace of Interest
AWACS – Airborne Warning and Command System
CAFB – Carswell Air Force Base
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration
FOIA – Freedom of Information Act
FTW – primary and secondary radar unit in Fort Worth, Texas
MARSA – Military Assumes Responsibility for Separation
MOA – Military Operating Area
MTR – Military Training Area
NWS – National Weather Service

Data to support this report was obtained from ten different Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests¹ to the FAA, the National Weather Service (NWS), all nearby military bases, the U.S. Customs & Border Protection Services, and the 21st and 30th Air Force Space Wing Commands. The NWS and the FAA were very responsive in their FOIA replies. The FAA provided 2.8 million radar returns that covered 4pm to 8pm and that were extracted from five different radar sites.

Additionally, Carswell AFB (CAFB) provided the logbook of the 457th Fighter Squadron. Most of the logbook was manually blacked out. (This group flies the F-16C/D, also known as the Fighting Falcon.) The remainder of the FOIA requests were returned with almost identical statements, as follows: “We have found no records responsive to your request.” This is the reply given to the straightforward questions: “Did you have aircraft flying within 50 miles of Stephenville on January 8, 2008?” and “Can you provide copies of radar images from any military aircraft operating within 50 miles of Stephenville on Jan 8, 2008?” Apparently, it is difficult to answer “yes” or “no” to those questions.

This object was traveling to the southeast on a direct course towards the Crawford Ranch, also known as President Bush's western White House. The last time the object was seen on radar at 8:00 pm, it was only 10 miles away.

Witness testimony was obtained from MUFON's investigations into these sightings. This investigation began in Dublin on January 19, 2008. Seventeen different reports were obtained regarding sightings on January 8th. This is a very large number of sightings to occur during only one day and within a four-hour period of time. Eight of these reports provided sufficient detail to identify a time and direction of the sighting of the object. Witnesses in these reports included a constable, a chief of police, a private pilot and a former air traffic control operator. Those reports also provided enough information to calculate a gross approximation of the object's size and altitude.

Continued on page 4

1. Copies of the FOIA request letters and the response letters are included in the appendix of the full report which can be read at www.mufon.com.



Logbook for January 8, 2008, from Carswell Air Force Base, with redactions. Authors' notations on left read, from top: Logbook covers one day; ?Earlier than 4pm; 10 jets found on radar; and ?After 8pm.

Miss #	MissType	Miss Start (Z)	Miss End (Z)	Miss Start (L)	Miss End (L)
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Radar and Witness Report

Continued from page 3

Evaluation of radar data

The authors of this report first verified the quality of the radar data. The data was correlated between radar sites to determine accuracy between radar, ability of the radar to accurately measure the speed of known aircraft, and to determine the various radars' minimum altitude detection capability. (Unfortunately, the FAA primary radar does not measure the size of an object.) The results of this work indicated that the Ft. Worth based radar, antenna FTW, was the most sensitive of the five radar systems in the area of Dublin-Stephenville. Good correlation was obtained between radar antennas and a minimum detection altitude of 2500-3000 feet in the Dublin-Stephenville area. This limit is caused by earth curvature as the distance from the radar site increases.

Military activity in the area

The first step in the radar analysis was to determine the extent of military activity and the location of military aircraft operating in the area of Dublin-Stephenville. The authors began with an examination of the redacted logbook from Carswell AFB. (See logbook above.) The logbook shows a sortie of four aircraft leaving at 6:00pm and another sortie of four aircraft leaving at 6:15pm, with both sorties returning at 7:30pm and 7:45pm respectively. Radar data shows take offs of 5:52pm and 6:15pm with returns of 7:14pm and 7:27pm. Radar data also shows a 9th and 10th jet leaving Carswell at 6:29pm and returning at about 8:00pm. These last two flights are most likely the two rows redacted in the logbook after the entries for the other eight jets. There are two more rows redacted after the 9th and 10th flight, but it is difficult to tell if those flights took place. Also appearing on the logbook are 10 redacted rows which appear to be flights on the same day and prior to the eight flights already mentioned. These

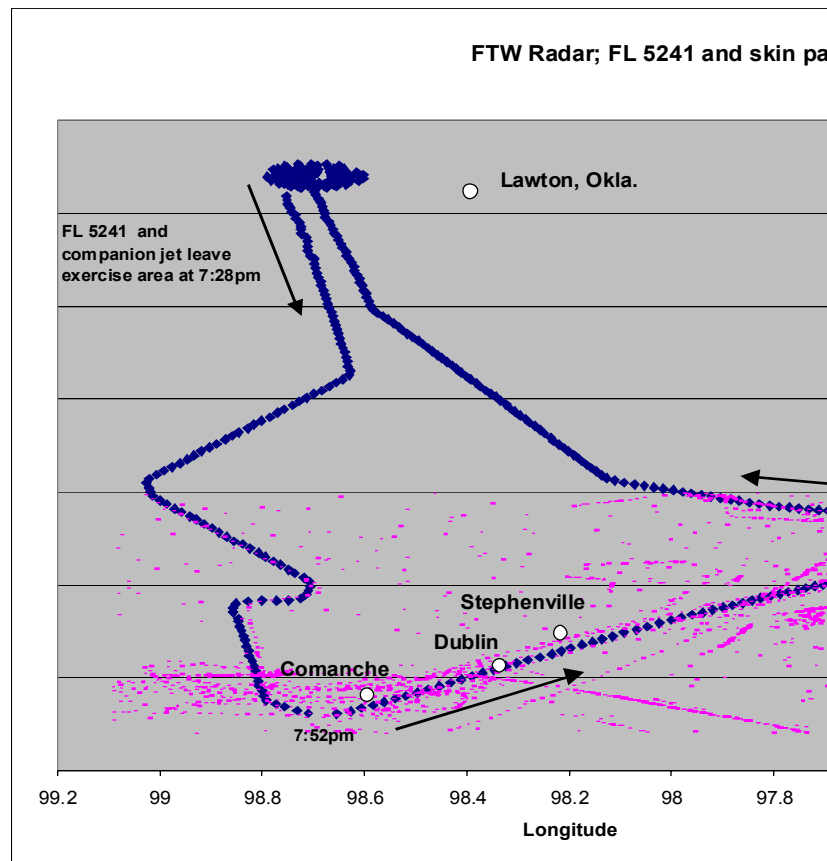
additional 10 earlier flights cannot be verified because the radar data from FOIA requests is only from 4pm to 8pm. It is reasonable to assume that aircraft from Carswell from earlier flights may have also been in the area. All of the eight jets identified on this logbook and the two redacted flights flew into the Dublin-Stephenville area. This logbook highlights a high level of military aircraft for this area over a time period of less than two hours.

The radar data shows a total of ten jets from CAFB traveling through the Dublin-Stephenville area. The ten jets consist of two sorties of four aircraft and a final sortie of two aircraft. The lead aircraft in each sortie had an active transponder with the other three aircraft without transponders, following close behind. Altitudes of all aircraft with transponders varied between 15,000 feet to 17,000 feet when these aircraft flew over the Dublin-Stephenville area. The locations of all these aircraft have been identified during the entirety of their flights. The first eight aircraft participated in military maneuvers in the Brownwood military operating areas (MOA). No unusual flight changes were seen until the aircraft left the MOA on their return to CAFB. Two jets in each sortie turned on a new transponder beacon and then veered to the east of the normal Military Training Route (MTR) by 15 to 30 miles. These jets encroached into civilian airspace and the reason for their diverted path is not known. Flights 9 and 10 initially left Carswell to the north at 6:29pm and flew to a military operating area in south central

Oklahoma. They departed their MOA at around 7:28 and rather than return to CAFB, they headed south. They did not travel to the Brownwood MOA but instead made a loop around Comanche, Dublin and Stephenville before returning to CAFB. It is odd why these aircraft flew this circuit far to the south prior to returning to base and why these two aircraft were redacted in the CAFB logbooks. See Graph #1.

The Radar also shows what appears to be an AWACS (Airborne Warning and Command System) aircraft in the area of interest. An aircraft using transponder code 1462 was altitude profiled and ground track profiled for the full 4-hour time period, during which time it produced a ground track best described as a modified racetrack course formed by several precise 180 degree north/south turns as if it were on a search or monitoring mission. Its altitude was 41,000 feet for most of this time period. This is consistent with the high altitude mission of a military aircraft such as an AWACS. Only such military aircraft can afford to fly for over four hours at high altitude and go nowhere in particular. Using radar, an AWACS can detect other aircraft at distances of 250 miles. We can only speculate on its purpose. One purpose may have been to monitor the F-16 training exercises in the MOA. However, that does not explain why it was in the area of interest for over 4 hours while the ten military jets were in the MOAs and MTRs for only 70 minutes.

Continued on page 6



Graph 1.

Radar and Witness Report

Continued from page 5

Witness sightings of unknown flying object

Six witnesses in four different instances between the times of 6:00pm to 6:25pm reported an unknown flying object near Stephenville. Radar detected an unknown target in the same area. The object was described as very bright, large and silent. Two of the four reports indicated the object moved at a very high rate of speed and was also stationary at times. One witness only saw a stationary object and one only saw the object moving at high speed. These reports came from witnesses located at different perspectives of the object. The witnesses were located to the southeast in Selden and Chalk Mountain, to the southwest near Lake Proctor, and to the west near Gorman. Because these sightings came at about the same time and from very different locations and distances, it would be difficult to assign a single explanation to all four reports. See image below which uses a pinhead to represent the location of the witness, a white arrow to locate the direction the object was sighted, and a straight yellow line to represent the radar trace.

Some of the explanations circulated in the media, such as

a commercial airliners or military jets, are simply not tenable. The glint of sunlight on a commercial jet cannot be seen from four different angles due to the varied locations, nor can it explain an object that remains stationary. The military F-16s in the area maintained standard flight paths at elevations of 16,000-17,000 feet. One sortie of four jets flew over the Dublin-Stephenville area between 6:14-6:15pm and another sortie of four jets at 6:23-6:25pm. Only two of the four witnesses were close enough to Stephenville to have seen the jets. The closest witnesses to the jets were in Selden. They would have seen them taking up only 0.08 degrees of sky or about 38 times smaller than the unknown object as described by the witness.

1. Selden Witnesses. Radar detected an unknown object 7 miles due north of Selden at 3 seconds after 6:15pm. Radar detected a second unknown object 20 seconds later that was northwest of the first detection and about 9 miles north of Stephenville. This movement mimics what the primary Selden witnesses saw when they described the object coming in from the northeast then moving to north of their position and then to the northwest of their position, before becoming stationary to the west. If the two unknown objects that were picked up on radar are one and the same,

Gorman 6:20

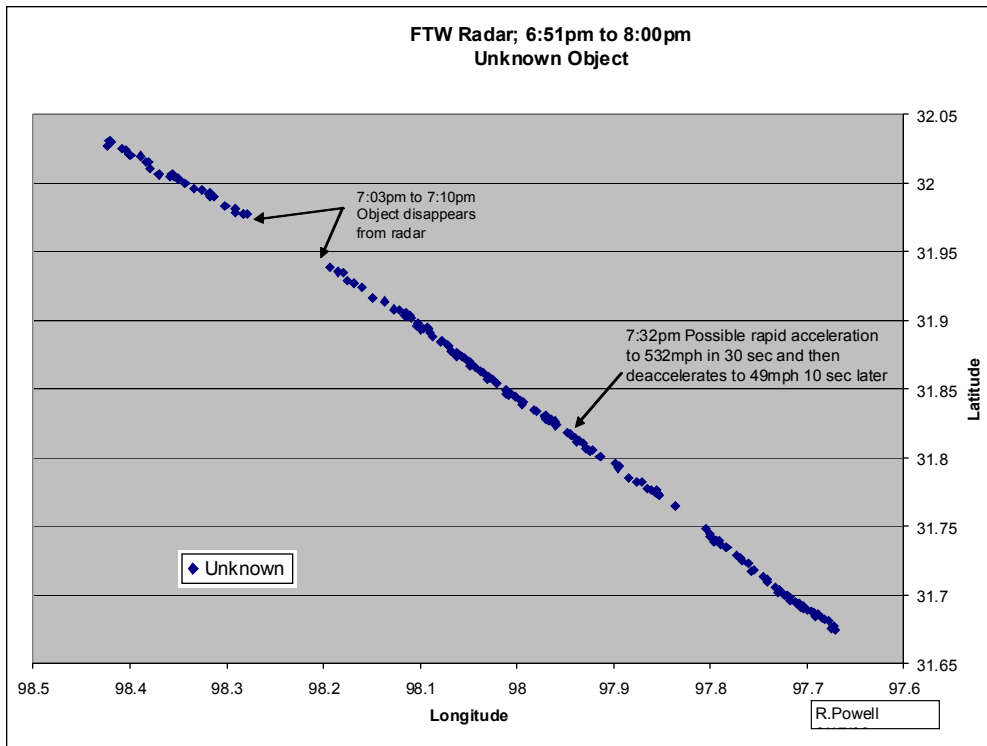
Chalk Mtn. 6:20 pm

Selden 6:15 pm

Proctor 6:20 pm

Proctor 6:20pm





then the object moved at about 2100 mph. The Selden witnesses also indicated that the unknown object returned and was being chased by jets at very low altitude. These chase jets do not show up on radar. If their altitude was below 2000 feet, as described by the witnesses, then they would have been too low to be detected by the nearest FAA radar.

2. Dublin to Comanche Sighting. Another group of four witnesses saw the object between 6:40pm to 7:15pm in the Dublin area, with the final sighting at 9:30pm near Comanche. There were two radar tracks of an unknown object during this time period. The witness at 6:40pm saw an object in the sky to the southwest that she described as two large glowing amber lights similar in size and color to what you would see if behind a school bus at night. She saw the object in a stationary position for just a few seconds and then it disappeared. Radar detected a slow moving object 11 miles to the west-southwest of her position at 6:51pm and then 6 miles southwest of her position at 7:02pm. This object had no transponder and was tracked on radar for over an hour. Most of the time, the object was either stationary or moving at speeds of less than 60 mph. At 7:32pm, the object was tracked accelerating to 532mph in 30 seconds and then slowing to 49 mph only 10 seconds later. It is possible that some of this speed variation could be due to imprecision with the radar. This is covered in more detail in the main body of this document.

The authors are not aware of any publicized military craft capable of traveling at very low speeds for extended periods of time, accelerating rapidly to such a high speed, and then suddenly decelerating in what might best be described as a controlled crash. The closest capability would be a Harrier type jet, but it would not be able to maintain slow speeds for such extended periods of time nor decelerate

so rapidly.

Much more important than the possible sudden acceleration shown by the object is its trajectory heading. This object was traveling to the southeast on a direct course towards the Crawford Ranch, also known as President Bush's western White House. The last time the object was seen on radar at 8:00pm, it was continuing on a direct path to the Crawford Ranch and was only 10 miles away. During this entire episode of over an hour, there is no indication that any of the military jets reacted to this unknown aircraft, *that was without a required transponder*, and that was headed directly to Western White House.

3. The constable's sighting. At 7:15pm a constable saw an unknown object south of his home,

which is located 4 miles southwest of Dublin. He described the object as two amber lights that were initially stationary. This is similar to the description given by the witness at 6:40pm. He then described the lights as changing to a random movement of 9 to 11 white lights overhead that then departed at a very fast rate of speed to the northeast. Radar detects an object at 7:20pm only 2.8 miles south southwest of the constable's home and traveling slowly in a southeastern direction. This matches very well with the time and direction of the constable's sighting. At 7:26pm, radar shows the object suddenly veering to the north at 1900 mph and then returning a minute later to continue on its southeastern course. It is possible that the radar detection of an object to the north was coincidental in time and was not the same object as was traveling to the south of the constable's home. However, the object traveling north matches the constable's description of a fast moving object traveling towards the northeast. This object finally disappeared from radar at 7:35 about 10 miles southeast of the constable's home.

4. The air traffic controller, near Comanche. The last time the object was seen on January 8th was by a former air traffic controller to the west of downtown Comanche. His description of the object was very similar to the constable's. He saw multiple lights moving around in a random fashion for almost a minute and then they disappeared as if someone turned off a light switch. 10-15 minutes later he saw military jets in the same area that he compared to the unknown object as raisins to a grapefruit. The FOIA radar data obtained by the authors only covered through 8pm, thus this sighting could not be confirmed with radar. However, due to its similarity to the previous sightings and the quality of the witness, this report is definitely noteworthy.

Continued on page 8

Radar and Witness Report

Continued from page 7

SUMMARIZATION

There are several conclusions that the authors have reached with this report and its supporting analysis.

Unknown object was real

The first and primary conclusion is that there was definitely a real and physical object that appeared and was witnessed on January 8, 2008, in the Dublin-Stephenville area.

Reports of unidentified flying objects occur all the time. Most of those reports are from single individuals or a group of individuals who see an unexplained object at a given location and time. These types of reports are easier to explain away because there is usually, whether likely or not, some type of explanation that can be constructed to explain away the event at a specific time and place. What makes the Dublin-Stephenville event unique is that there are multiple witnesses at different locations and the sightings occur over a three-hour time period. Additionally, radar data identifies unknown aircraft in the sky at the same time as many of the witness sightings.

So in the Dublin-Stephenville case, one would have to attempt several varied low probability explanations to try and explain away all of the various sightings. The likelihood that all of these witnesses mis-identified separate known objects

...it is clear to the authors that the unknown object was real and not imaginary.

at different times, in different but closely associated geographic locations, all within a 3½ hour time period is extremely low. It is much more reasonable to believe that these witnesses truly saw an object that could not be explained by any objects with which they are familiar.

As to what these witnesses saw, it is difficult to determine. It was not any known aircraft. The enormous size of the object, its complete silence, and its ability to travel at high rates of speed and to also remain stationary or travel at slow speeds, is not explained by any known aircraft. The smallest size calculated from witness descriptions was 524 feet and most of the calculations based on approximate distance of the object and witness descriptions of degrees of sky covered by the object indicated an object closer to 1,000 feet in size.

Twice, radar picked up an unknown object flying at 1,900-2,100 mph. Admittedly, it could have been a coincidental radar hit...but in both cases that coincidence occurred when a witness saw a very fast moving object in the same direction as an object painted by radar. Twice, radar tracked slow moving objects, for extended periods of time, that were very near the witness' location, in the direction

described by the witness, and at approximately the same time that the witness saw the unknown object. It is very difficult to dismiss witness testimony that is corroborated by radar. And to further augment the strangeness of these events, radar tracked one of those two objects for over an hour as it traveled directly toward Crawford Ranch. The authors cannot comment on the source or origin of this object, but it is clear to the authors that the unknown object was real and not imaginary.

Military aircraft did not react overtly

The second conclusion of this report is that the military did not react overtly to the presence of these unknown objects. In light of the disaster of Sept. 11, 2001, the authors of this report have concerns with how the military reacted to an unknown aircraft(s) in U.S. air space. It is clear that there was an unknown object without any transponder beacon traveling along a path that began south of Dublin and that proceeded on a direct path to Crawford Ranch. This object was tracked by the FTW radar for over an hour. Military jets flew within a mile of this object on their way to the Brownwood MOA. The F-16s had to have seen this object on their radar and the suspected AWACS that was circling this area must have detected and recorded this object on its state-of-the-art radar. This must have raised concerns, yet the radar tracks of the military jets, indicates that there was no reaction by them to this object during the hour of time in question.

What could explain this lack of reaction? One possibility is that the military knew the identity of the object and instructed the F-16 pilots to ignore it and stay on course to the MOA. But this possibility is countered by all of the military replies to the FOIAs that indicated the military had no aircraft in the area other than the F16s from CAFB that have already been identified. Secondly, if it was a military aircraft then it was violating FAA and military MARSA² rules by not having a transponder beacon code activated while being outside of a MOA. This leaves us with the possibility that the military either did not see the object or just ignored it. In light of what happened on 9/11, what if the unknown object had been a terrorist aircraft? The Air Force should explain what their radar detected on the evening of January 8, 2008, and refute the contents of this report or explain the reason as to why the military jets in the area did not react.

Military aircraft activity unusually heavy

The third conclusion is that military aircraft traffic in the area was unusually heavy and twice military aircraft strayed out of their standard Military Training Routes and into civilian airspace. Ten F-16 jets from Carswell AFB were documented as flying into the Dublin-Stephenville area within a 2 hour time period as well as a probable AWACS that circled the area

2. MARSA – stands for Military Assumes Responsibility for Separation. See page 54 of the complete report at www.mufon.com for further clarification.

for over 4 hours. A FOIA requesting information to determine how unique this level of jet activity may be was sent to the 10th Air Force in Ft. Worth on May 7th, 2008. An acknowledgement of the correspondence has been received but a formal reply is still pending.

Two CAFB sorties, a total of 4 F-16s, returning to CAFB belatedly activated military beacons and veered unexpectedly eastward over Stephenville toward DFW civilian aircraft arrival traffic patterns. There is no explanation as to why the military jets strayed from their normal MTR. Since they did not initially leave CAFB with beacons, it is reasonable to assume that something occurred that caused those aircraft to break away from their lead aircraft and request a beacon code so that they could veer away from the standard MTR.

FOIA responses often not informative

The last conclusion is that there are indications that requests submitted under the Freedom of Information Act are not considered seriously by the U.S. military and were completely ignored by the Dept. of Homeland Security's branch, U.S. Customs & Border Patrol. If true, this would be a violation of a law passed by the Congress of the United States. FOIA requests are usually handled by a clerk who is

...military aircraft traffic in the area was unusually heavy and twice military aircraft strayed out of their standard Military Training Routes and into civilian airspace.

an intermediary between the submitter and who ever within the military decides what information can be provided. The reply is uniformly the same from military base to military base. The standard reply has obviously been crafted specifically in the manner that the military should use to deal with FOIAs from the public. The standard reply is "There are no responsive records that meet your request."

With the events of September 11, 2001, it is understandable that the military would choose caution in dealing with any release of information regarding their operational activities. But in this case, we are discussing military activities within the United States, during a four-hour period of time, on a specific date, and in a small and specific area of Texas. One would be hard pressed to argue that release of this type of information would be a threat to national security. And exactly what complicated information was requested? Only the following: "Do you have any evidence to support if Military Base "X" was flying aircraft within 50 miles of Stephenville, Texas, on Jan.8, 2008?" "Can you provide copies of radar images from any military aircraft operating within 50 miles of Stephenville on Jan 8, 2008?" Surely the military can say, "No, we had no aircraft in the area" or perhaps, "We cannot release this information

due to reasons of national security." But, no, instead we receive: "We found no documents responsive to your request."

On the other hand, we would like to again express our sincere thanks to the National Weather Service and the Federal Aviation Administration for their excellent responses and their willingness to abide by the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. They communicated effectively and if they did not have the required information, they readily said so.

We are a nation of freedom that is based on a set of principals designed to maintain our individual liberties. When our governmental bodies reach a point that they do not feel compelled to honor the requests of their citizenry, as defined by the laws of this nation, we have taken a path that allows the government to arbitrarily and secretly decide what we should and should not know. The American people have a right to know what did or did not occur on January 8, 2008, in the Dublin-Stephenville area.

Glen Schulze received his BSEE from Washington University in 1952. While in the U.S. Army he was assigned to White Sands Proving Grounds (WSPG). There, he participated in evaluating and improving a five antenna site Cooperative Chain Radar System for tracking high performance long range missile launches. His contributions to the WSPG radar system resulted in earning a letter of commendation from the Commanding General of the USA 4TH Army. In the 1960s Mr. Schulze provided a major service to the CIA/NSA in the successful recording of high powered Russian radar signals arriving at the Caribbean Island of Antigua after being reflected from the surface of the moon.

Robert Powell is the current Director of Research at MUFON. He received his BS in Chemistry from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1976. He worked in the semiconductor field from 1978 to 2006, where he gained experience in device physics, statistical analysis, and relational algorithms used to improve the performance of semiconductor chips. From 2001-2003, he was the manager of AMD's research group, the Analytical Development Lab. The group was responsible for developing new techniques for use in failure analysis of semiconductor circuits at nanoscale dimensions of 45-90 nanometers. He is also an amateur astronomer.

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Locating Possible UFOs on the Celestial Sphere

By Tom Arnold

The need for accurate and reliable data on UFO sightings is critical to the analysis and documentation of events. It follows then that the better the data, the more valuable the observation becomes.

To this end, in the May issue of the *Journal*, Dr. Donald Burleson presented some simple procedures for determining speed, direction, distance, etc. of an object. Following this work, it is important to be able to position the observation on the celestial sphere. This not only adds to the data quality but it allows the determination that the observation wasn't a natural celestial object. It is important to understand that even the most knowledgeable observer can be fooled by some seemingly obvious natural or manmade object. That is why it is important to be able to gather as much data about the sightings as possible in order to eliminate observations of this type.

When observations are made of objects in the sky that can't be identified, people rarely have immediate access to instruments that can specifically position that object on the celestial sphere. However by knowing a few simple techniques, a good estimate of the location of an object can be made. These techniques are based on the horizon coordinate system. This fundamental system uses *altitude* and *azimuth* as the defining factors. By using nothing more than your fingers, hand, and out-stretched arm, along with the rest of your body, we will show how the altitude and azimuth of an object can be determined.

Definitions

Altitude is defined as the position of an object, measured in degrees, above the horizon. This measurement begins at 0 degrees on the horizon, that is where the sky meets the earth, and extends to the point directly over your head at 90 degrees. Therefore, all measurements will be in the range of between 0 to 90 degrees. In addition, the point directly over your head at 90 degrees is referred to as your *Zenith*.

Azimuth is the measurement in degrees along the horizon forming a complete circle around the observer. The circle begins at North, continues to the East, South then West, and finally back to North once more forming the 360 degrees of a circle. This means the North is both 0 and 360 degrees. Due East is 90 degrees. South is 180 degrees. And finally West is 270 degrees. Later we will discuss how to estimate angles between the Cardinal points.

With Altitude and Azimuth defined we can now identify some techniques that can be used to provide an estimate of the position of an object within the Horizon coordinate system.

Determination of Altitude

Since we defined Altitude first, let's proceed by finding the Altitude of an object. The adult human hand provides a good measure of degrees on the celestial sphere. Stretched at



Tom Arnold, with the 14 inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope in his observatory.

arms length and turned parallel to the horizon, the hand is about 5 degrees wide on the celestial sphere. Since we have five fingers, unlike our alien friends, this means that each finger is about 1 degree wide at arms length. Therefore, if we count the number of hand widths up from the horizon to the position of our sighting and multiply by 5 degrees we are able to determine an estimate of the altitude of the object. For example, if we stretch out our arm and turn our hand parallel to the horizon, placing one hand on top of the other counting 5 hands high this would equal to an Altitude of about 25 degrees. Note that if a partial hand width is necessary just remember that the fingers are about 1 degree wide. Simply add this additional measurement to the total number of degrees found with your hands. This way you can get a rough idea of the Altitude of an object above the horizon.

Determining Azimuth

Azimuth is equally simple if you know which way is North. By facing North you will find East immediately to your right. This will be 90 degrees of Azimuth. South is behind you at 180 degrees of Azimuth. West will be off your left shoulder at 270 degrees of Azimuth.

Obviously the actual location of an object will most likely fall between two of these Cardinal points. You will have to interpolate within the quadrant of the circle where the object is located to determine your estimate of Azimuth. For example, if an object were located 1/3 of the way between East and South, you could estimate that by taking 1/3 of 90

degrees, which is 30 degrees, and add that to 90 degrees for East to find an Azimuth of 120 degrees.

Or another example might be if the object were located halfway between West and North. Since due west is 270 degrees and the object was $\frac{1}{2}$ way between West and North that is $\frac{1}{2}$ of 90 degrees or 45 degrees. Adding 45 to degrees to 270 degrees gives an Azimuth of 315 degrees. Clearly these can be interpreted only as rough estimates of the location of objects in Azimuth and Altitude, however it does provides a starting point in being able to identify the object.

Finding North

Finding North at night is not a problem if the stars are visible. Finding North during the day can be a little more challenging. Clearly if you are able to see the sunrise or sunset the task becomes much easier. This defines roughly east and west respectively. If your observation is after the sun is well up in the sky, your task is a bit more complex. If the day is overcast and the sun is not visible, the task is even harder. Unfortunately the rising and setting positions of the sun vary through out the year slightly north and south of due east and west. This is due to the seasons on Earth and is beyond the scope of this article.

Finding North at night with the stars is a simple matter as long as you can locate one of three Constellations, Ursa Major (the Big Bear, known as the Big Dipper), Cassiopeia or Cygnus the Swan. Most books on elementary astronomy can provide a discussion of using one of these Constellations to locate the North Star, Polaris. Once you have found Polaris and are looking at the star, East will be off your right shoulder, South will be directly behind you, and West will be off your left shoulder. From here you can then determine the Azimuth of the object using the technique defined previously.

The good news is that with the common tools available to most people today, finding North is not nearly as much of a problem as it used to be. Most vehicles have a compass as part of the equipment. Global Positioning Systems are commonly available both in handheld models and as part of newer vehicles. These readily available devices along with a simple compass will quickly solve the problem of finding directions. If all else fails, ask a local resident which way is North.

Time of observation

In addition to the Altitude and Azimuth of the observed object, it is also important to know the time the observation occurred. The time is important in assisting in defining when the observation occurred and might assist in determining what the object could have been.

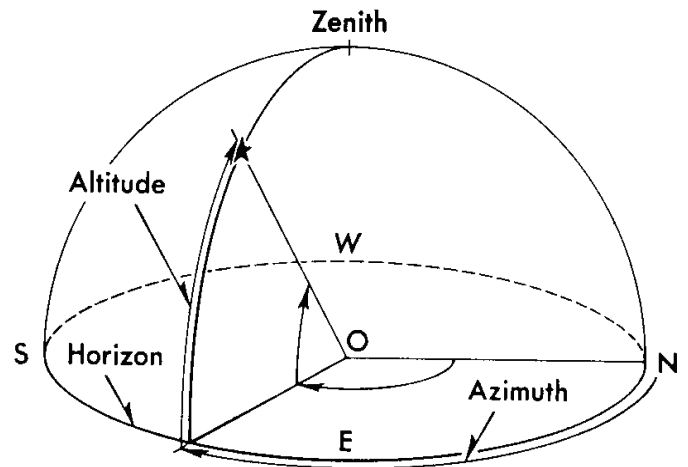
Longitude and latitude

It is also very good to know the longitude and latitude to even better define the location of the observation. Longitude and Latitude can be determined using a GPS as discussed previously or it can be found from other sources. On the internet, you can use Google Earth to locate an earth based

location. By using satellite imaging of the whole earth, you can locate objects on the ground as small as a car. From here you can read the Longitude and Latitude directly from the software. An older and still viable technique is to use a quadrangle map of an area allowing you to read the coordinates directly. These maps are found in most large sporting goods outlets.

Using the Data

If we are lucky enough to have a determination of the Altitude and Azimuth of an object in the sky, the time of the observation, and the Longitude and Latitude, this information can be put into a computer program to determine the celestial coordinates of the observed object. Using these coordinates and finding them in a star chart, it can be quickly determined if the observed object was a natural astronomical object or



something else. You might also use one of the many available planetarium programs and locate your observed altitude and azimuth at the time and location of the observation.

No matter what method you use to locate known objects, the same fundamental observation data we have discussed will be necessary to eliminate the possibility of what was seen was a natural celestial object.

As with any scientific investigation, the more data that is available on a specific event the easier it is to determine what phenomena is occurring.

Tom Arnold is a MUFON Field Investigator and Astronomer. He has served as director of several planetariums and currently lives in Oklahoma City.

MUFON Members Message Board

mufonmembers.proboards55.com

Password: Hynek1947

(case sensitive)

Scenes from the 39th Annual International Symposium...



Mary Margaret Zimmer, Florida, was named Field Investigator of the Year.



Texas State Director Ken Cherry was named State Director of the Year. Ken's team investigated the Stephenville case, which involved hundreds of reports over a period of a few months.

*Photos by
Nicholas Roesler,
Asst. State Director,
Wisconsin*



Nick Roesler, photographer and MUFON Benefactor, James Carrion, International Director, and John Greenewald, Jr., Symposium emcee. Roesler gifted Greenewald with a Benefactor membership.



Richards Haines, shown with his wife Carol, was awarded the prestigious MUFON Award for Excellence in Ufology.

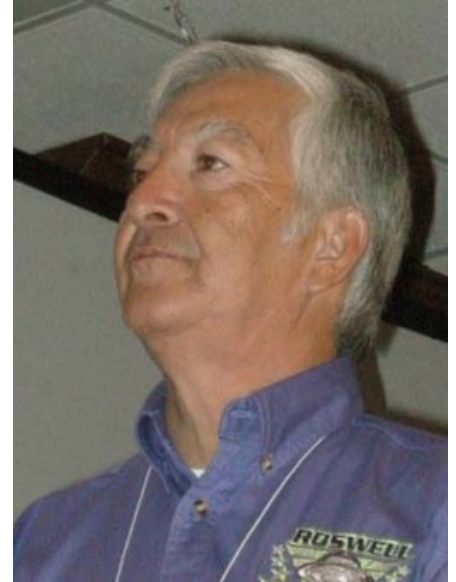
UFOs—A Worldwide Phenomenon



Farah Yurdozu, Turkey, speaker



Maj. Gen. Wilfried DeBrouwer (Belgian Air Force, Ret.)



Jeronimo Flores, President of Mexico UFO research organization, OMIFO



International Director James Carrion. Looking on are Ruben Uriarte (Northern CA SD) and Les Velez (Northern CA ASD)



Silent Auction items.

Calendar . . .

August 16–17. Central Coast Science-UFO Symposium. George Noory, Whitley Streiber, Dr. Roger Leir, Ton VanFlandern, Bill Birnes, Jordan Maxwell, Horace Drew PhD, Jose Escamilla, John Alexander PhD, Yvonne Smith, CHT, Paola Harris and more. Santa Maria, CA. www.centralcoastscience-ufosymposium.com. 877-937-7UFO

August 29–31. Alamo conference—A Desert UFO Experience. Charles James Hall, Jim Sparks, Paolo Harris, Ike Bishop. Alamo, Nevada, near Area 51. www.freewebs.com/alamo-ufoconference/ (208) 484-1574. ibishop@hotmail.com

September 18–21. 2008 Culture of Contact Arts & Speaker

Festival: *Mythology is Reality*. New York City area TBA. <http://cultureofcontact.squarespace.com/culture-of-contact-main-page/>

September 27–28. 10th Annual Bay Area Expo. Santa Clara, CA. www.thebayareafoexpo.com/

October 25. Pennsylvania MUFON Conference. John Ventre, Stan Gordon, Rick Fischer near Kecksbug PA. www.pamufon.com (412) 251 2734.

November 9–11. 6th Annual Crash Retrieval Conference: The Truth. Las Vegas, NV. www.ufoconference.com. (720) 887-8171.

Bill McNeff Assistant State Director, Minnesota

By Lorna Hunter

William (Bill) McNeff is a MUFON lifetime member and has been with MUFON for 22 years. As Minnesota State Director in 1987, Bill decided it would be a good idea to have all the MUFON members in the state (all five of them) get together to exchange ideas and information on the UFO phenomenon. Bill organized monthly meetings for the group and these meetings have continued each month for the past 21 years, with membership increasing significantly!

It was because of Bill's forethought and vision that MUFON Minnesota is what it is today—a vital contributor to MUFON with our increasing membership and excellent team of Field Investigators.

Bill was born and raised on a farm in Central Nebraska. His interest in UFOs began in 1947 when he read of the Kenneth Arnold sighting. He has had two sightings of his own; one in the 1950s on the Nebraska farm; the other in the early 1960s in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of Northern Minnesota.

Bill volunteered for the draft in 1955, joined the US Army, and received a Top Secret clearance. Upon completion of his tour of duty, Bill attended the University of Nebraska, receiving a BS in Electrical Engineering. Bill retired in 2000, having worked for several large electronics companies in Minnesota, including the Mayo Research Group, in his 40 years as an electrical engineer.

As MUFON Minnesota Assistant State Director, Bill is active in promoting MUFON, tirelessly writing to the major newspapers and television stations in our area in attempts to gain more coverage for UFO incidents. Bill was featured in the April 2008 issue of *Thisweek Newspapers* online and *Dakota County Tribune*, Burnsville,

Minnesota. In the article "UFOs over Dakota County?" Bill did an excellent job of explaining the role of MUFON and its Field Investigators. Prior to joining MUFON, Bill was a member of NICAP and was involved in several investigations with that organization. With his many years of investigative experience he has been a mentor and valuable resource to new Field Investigators.

For the past 22 years, Richard Moss and Bill McNeff have shared in the leadership position of the state; and seamlessly and flawlessly passed it between themselves as needed. Without these two there wouldn't be a MUFON MN as we know it. It is their tireless dedication to the cause that has inspired me, amongst many, to step up and follow in their footsteps.

Bill has investigated and studied UFO and ET reports for over five decades and studies several other areas on the frontier of science. When not investigating UFOs, Bill can be found performing with local musical groups, both vocal and instrumental. An accomplished musician, Bill plays trombone in a community band and has even



Bill McNeff

composed his own symphony "Nebraska Fantasia." He is active in his church, enjoys spending time with family, and is co-author of a soon-to-be-released book. He is also a regular contributor to the online *Minnesota MUFON Journal*.

Lorna Hunter says she is just a humble field investigator who's happy to have quality people to work with!

Volunteers wanted

MUFON is creating a Field Investigator Training team to design and develop a FI Training Program based on the new Field Investigator Manual (FIM) and related material. One must be a Certified Mufon Field Investigator and a MUFON member in good standing to be considered as a member of the team.

If you are interested in being part of this working group please contact Chuck Reever.

Chuck Reever, Director of Investigations
wizard@telis.org
Tel: 530.582.8339

Letters to the Director . . .



Richard Lang named new member of STAR team

Richard Lang of Mooresville, North Carolina, has been named to the MUFON Strike Team for Area Research, or STAR team.

Lang was appointed Chief Investigator for MUFON of North Carolina in March 2008. In June he participated in the Discovery Channel TV project about MUFON investigators which was filmed in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

In the 1990s, he was the Assistant State Director in Virginia.

Lang holds a degree in Aeronautical Studies from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. He holds an FAA commercial pilot certification, and once was a private investigator.

After 9-11, he went into government service, working for Homeland Security as a liaison for the Transportation Security Administration.

Three years ago, he moved to South Carolina and resumed his occupation in the financial industry.

July 31, 2008

To: James Carrion, MUFON International Director

Re: Letter of Appreciation to MUFON Volunteers and Security Workers, MUFON 39th Annual International UFO Symposium

Dear James,

I would like to take this opportunity to formally recognize and thank the following individuals who volunteered time and energy. Their spirit resulted in many compliments by members, guests, and friends of the Mutual UFO Network.

Chuck Reeve
Les Velez
Jacquie Bockius

Ruben Uriarte
John Bodnar
Jay Clements

Nancy Felipe
Eileen Bray
Marilyn Templeton
Lia McVicker
Brenda Guinn
Larry Boston
Steve Reichmuth
Cynthia Siegel
Kim Combs

Victoria Jack
Jess Fritch
Dr. Michael Brein
Shirley Wheeler
Michael Mace
Lou Padgug
Cynthia Watson
Lori Steele

Everyone did a very professional job, and made my efforts with organization and security an easy experience. The friendships I made are very valuable to me. Please accept my apologies if I forgot anyone's name.

Sincerely,
Jim DeManche
Deputy Director of Investigations
Mutual UFO Network

Identified Object Website in progress; members still needed

By William Simmons


The identified object encyclopedia project has taken off. The primary purpose of the project is to design a website to assist the field investigator, researcher, and general public when investigating an observed object in order to confirm or eliminate a known object as the potential source of the object witnessed.

Photos and/or video clips of known objects, as normally observed, will be presented along with the object when appearing unusual or when reported as unidentified. Basic educational information, photo and video descriptions,

tools, and links to tools will be provided to assist the user. The projection is to have the basic website functional at the end of 2008. The project will be ongoing as new photos, video clips, tools, and information become available. Team members will be gathering photos, video clips, writing descriptions, finding or developing tools, and more.

Team members, whose native language is non-English, will assist in translating the pages into their native language. Bill Simmons (Scottsdale, AZ, USA) has assumed the role of project manager. Art Giannetti (Kingston, NH, USA) and Gavin McLeod (New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada) are team members.

New team members are always welcome regardless of the amount of time that can be dedicated to the project. Non-team members can submit photos, video clips, descriptions, tools, links, and other information to be used on the site.



Membership questions? Change of address?
 Call MUFON headquarters 970-232-3110

Now accepting VISA & MasterCard for merchandise and membership.
 Also order online at <http://store.mufon.com>

PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

Strange attacks on UFOs

June 30, 2008—I guess flooding and tornadoes and other difficulties seem to come in clusters. Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, where I have lived for 28 years, had a record flood recently causing serious damage to many homes near the beautiful St. John River. They were the worst in more than 30 years and mostly the result of the melting of the most snowfall—more than 12 feet. The US Midwest has also hit a terrible and destructive season of tornadoes and floods. So I suppose I shouldn't be surprised by the deluge of silly stuff on UFOs. Within a few days I noted several seriously amiss claims from some of the bright people who post on UFO updates.

One that caught my immediate attention was by Joe McGonagle, an Englishman, who has worked hard to get the British Ministry of Defense to release its old UFO files. The MOD is slowly coming around and many media articles have made it sound as though they were releasing loads of highly classified materials, which is nonsense according to those who have been looking at the files. What is even sillier is the contention that because of these releases, there is nothing more, no highly classified items. This is silly as we know from the USAF release of more than 10,000 UFO case reports from Project Blue Book more than 30 years ago. Most were very badly investigated and highly classified material is absent. This is not surprising in view of General Bolender's comments that reports which could affect national security are not part of the Blue Book System. In any event, Joe has been insistent and in a recent posting said: "The Public will never support ufology. To them we are all cranks." Not a shred of evidence is provided for this proclamation. So naturally I posted

a strong response:

I have over the last 41 years given more than 700 illustrated lectures, mostly "Flying Saucers ARE Real" and mostly to college and professional groups in all 50 states, 9 Canadian provinces, 8 cities in the UK, about 9 in Australia, and in 14 other countries. I have done hundreds of radio and TV programs and am definitely not treated as a crank.

Joe responded: *What proportion of these presentations was to groups with no declared interest in the paranormal or UFOs?*

I said, "College and professional groups, so certainly fewer than 10%. If they had no interest in what a scientist has to say about UFOs, they wouldn't have invited me. They invite all sorts of speakers on all sorts of subjects.

How many presentations in the 41 years have been to purely academic, engineering, or military groups, and not to minority interest groups?

Better than 90%. Why would you think otherwise? Do I have to provide a list? My congressional testimony back in 1968 indicated a bunch of professional groups. (Joe just can't imagine that well educated, thinking people could be interested in "Flying Saucers ARE Real.")

Crowds have been as large as 2000. I have never been treated as a crank.

For reasons unknown, he said. Again, you are mainly talking about closed interest groups.

Totally and completely untrue, I wrote. What effort have you made to collect facts instead of making proclamations?

He replied, *... you have even spoken at events organised by the Exopolitics movement, lending support (just by your participation) to people*

like Stephen Bassett, Jaime Maussan, Michael Salla, Richard Hoagland, Thomas Van Flandern, Philip Corso, Steven Greer, Roger Leir, just to name a few of the people who also made presentations at your venues.

Association with many of them dilutes your own and ufology's

credibility in general in the minds of some ufologists, let alone the "public mind."

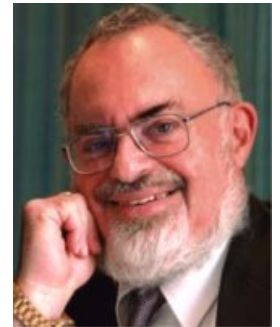
I couldn't let that go. Says who? I get many emails from people thanking me for providing a voice of reason. Did I lend credibility to Michael Shermer and Seth Shostak when I debated them on *Coast to Coast* radio? Or to Peter Brookesmith when I debated him at Oxford or to debunker James Magaha when we debated at Middle Tennessee State University? Many have called me a voice of reason and were glad that I didn't stand back from the fray.

Joe claimed that unless "serious" ufologists refuse to participate at events where some of the more dubious elements are given a platform, we will always be seen as one and the same.

Some evidence please, Joe. Proclamation from you doesn't do it.

As for TV programmes, generally they are for entertainment, not education—subject to the commercial constraints of airtime limits, viewing audience, advertising revenue, etc. In general they provide a distorted view of ufology which is for the most part very boring and not very entertaining.

Oh really? I think Paul Kimball's "The Best Evidence," "Stanton Fried-



Stanton Friedman

man is Real” and “Do You Believe in Majic?” were quite educational and hardly boring and the same for “UFOs Are Real.” Have you seen them?

There is an entire chapter in my new book *Flying Saucers and Science* covering a load of polls. An interesting one was conducted by ITV in the UK in the course of a TV debate on June 27, 1997, between Nick Pope, Tim Good, and myself vs. three PhDs: a psychologist, a physicist, and an astronomer. 100,000 people called in to say *yes* or *no* to the question “Are aliens visiting Earth?” 92% said *yes*. In the large studio audience “only” 75% said *yes*.

Joe’s strange response was that *80% of a hundred thousand people is only in the order of 0.14% of a population of 60 million. Many of the viewers will already have been interested in UFOs, so the result is hardly surprising, is it?*

What a splendid example of non science. He assumes that everybody else in the country—besides the 92% of the sample who voted *yes*—thought we winners were cranks! Most Gallup polls involve fewer than 2000 people being polled.

He noted: *More people [than that] will vote on the next person to be evicted from the Big Brother House. It’s just entertainment, and you were part of the show.*

So what? These votes were during the show...

My team won a debate at the Oxford University Debating Society getting 60% of the member votes, even though it was clear from my 40+ interviews during that trip that the media and public knew very little about the subject. I have had only 11 hecklers in over 700 lectures despite my coming on very strong (and two of them were drunk).

The public and the media are used to the cranks being in the spotlight, occasionally with supporting acts by “serious” ufologists—small wonder they know little about the subject.

I noted that the main reason they know little about the subject is that debunkers like you have created a climate of ridicule by misrepresenting

the facts, such as telling people that most people think all ufologists are cranks.

Let us not substitute proclamation for investigation though that seems the norm for debunkers.

Nice cliché or sound bite, but getting a little stale. Stale because it is true.

As far as I can tell the crank label belongs on the debunkers. The definition for crank is “often one overzealous or fanatical in advocating his beliefs.” Sounds right to me when one sees a refusal to look at the evidence, the large scale scientific studies etc.

It also applies to those who insist that one cannot say that some UFOs are of Extraterrestrial Origin. One must only talk of the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis. What can one make of the notion as expressed recently that “Just because somebody says an alien told that person he was from Zeta Reticuli, we must believe him. He must be able to be cross examined.”

I have been talking about the base stars in the Betty and Barney Hill case star map being Zeta 1 and Zeta 2 Reticuli since publishing the first article about Marjorie Fish’s outstandingly objective work involving 26 3D models of the local neighborhood. No alien ever told Betty he was from Zeta Reticuli. Brad Sparks, a very bright guy, also recently declaimed one can’t say a craft is from Zeta Reticuli unless one can track it all the way here from there. It is hard to imagine how one might do that or why. We can’t yet directly observe Earthlike planets out there, much less a very large mothership.

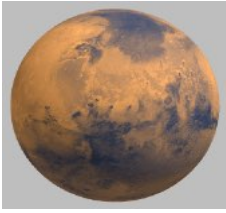
There were a number of other thunderstorms. One was from Paul Kimball saying one good reason to

disbelieve that an alien spacecraft crashed at Roswell is the US Marine Code of honor “Leave no one behind.” He believes that they would never have left advanced technology behind. Frankly this objection is pretty silly. Paul was never a US Marine. We have no idea of what the alien manual says. We do know there were other sightings right after Roswell in Southeastern New Mexico. They may have been looking. The communications gear might have been destroyed when the explosion occurred that dumped a lot of small pieces of wreckage on the Foster Ranch covering a large area, but producing no crater. They may not have worried much about our back engineering a very sophisticated alien vehicle, considering how crude our rockets and radar and airplanes were. Christopher Columbus could not have back engineered a digital wristwatch or a nuclear submarine.

Paul also claimed in a blog (he disapproves of us old guys not using blogs) that I was the Godfather of the Exopolitics movement because they and I agree aliens are visiting, there is a cosmic Watergate. So if communists and the Pope are against birth control, the Pope is a communist or the Communists are Catholic? I have written quite a bit about Exopolitics, none of it favorable, so this is also pretty silly stuff. I am not a big fan of blogs since so many I have read seem to be top-of-the-head venting.

There are other minor squalls...no permanent damage to the thinking man.

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



FILER'S FILES

By George Filer
Director, MUFON Eastern Region



Ancient British barrows resemble disc UFOs, motherships

...I found an authoritative historical work by William Long (Esq., M.A., F.S.A) titled "Stonehenge and its Barrows," published by Devides in 1876 in the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, vol. xvi.



George Filer

Barrows are 5000-year-old disc-shaped burial mounds.

The book has a survey map of the barrows which surround Stonehenge to a maximum distance of about 2 to 2 1/2 miles around the Stonehenge central stone circle.

These barrows are not scattered randomly throughout the countryside but are clumped together in definite groups, some of which look very much like known constellations of the stellar heavens.... At the Stonehenge Barrows, this unmistakable similarity holds particularly true for the stars of Scorpio, which in prehistoric times marked the line of the Equinoxes.

Archeologists William Long and Andis Kaulins think that the Stonehenge Barrows mark stars of the sky in an organized formation called a planisphere, a hermetic practice evidenced for example among the archaic traditions of Native American Indian tribes. The barrows support an Astronomical Interpretation of Stonehenge.

The identified star groups for the Stonehenge Barrows are located at the same relative geographic positions on the ground and with respect to the sky as the

positions of the sarsens and trilithons of the main Stonehenge circle. Simply put, the position of Scorpio on the main Stonehenge Circle matches the position of Scorpio in the barrows.

It's apparent the ancient Bronze Age men were fascinated by stars and visiting space ships. Ancient Sumarian and Indo texts claim the space ships and their occupants were worshipped as gods or as messengers of god. There was no electric lighting and the stars and space ships shown brightly.

The Bronze Age culture flourished some 5000 years ago with the main temples at Avebury, Silbury, and Stonehenge, which lie on a generally north-south path. Some 18,000 round burial mounds called barrows or tumuli are scattered around Britain. Each is constructed on a precise plan that follows the design of various disc-shaped UFOs. Bronze Age archaeology shows that



Britain, Ireland and Europe were dominated by the disc shape.

Archeologists explain that the Bronze Age people worshipped the sun chariot or actually the Sun chariot's wheels, therefore they built barrows to symbolize the sun. I suggest this is far-fetched reasoning if you accept the validity of disc-shaped UFOs. I personally feel the Bronze Age people, like us, saw the UFOs—the disc-shaped ones, the mother ships, and the cylinders that are copied in detail all over Europe. I chased them while

in the Air Force and had them on my radar and have seen them visually.

Assuming the archeologists are correct and the barrows are positioned to represent the stars in the Milky Way, then [their builders] may have attempted to get the UFOs to land, to provide gifts such as healings....To entice the ancient



astronauts to land the Bronze Age men may have built landing sites.

Silbury Hill, part of the complex of Neolithic monuments around Avebury in Wiltshire..., is the tallest prehistoric man-made mound in Europe, and one of the world's largest. It is 130 feet (40 m.) high, with a circular base circumference of 1640 feet. Composed of over 12 million cubic feet (339,600 cubic m.) of chalk and earth, it covers over 5 acres and must have taken years to build. The mound consists of thousands of chalk bricks forming walls enclosing terraced infill at three levels. Each of the six steps was concealed within the overall profile of the mound, except the last one at the top which was left as a terrace or ledge about 17 feet below the [flat-top] summit. This terrace or ledge makes an ideal spot to watch a UFO land. The mound was then graded with chalk to an angle which is coincidentally the same as the pyramids at Giza. Quartz crystals have been found in the surface soil. ...

The original purpose of Silbury is

Filer's Files

Continued from page 18

unknown, although various explanations have been [presented] over the years. Recently, Michael Dames has suggested that the hill is a symbolic effigy of the ancient Mother Goddess, an earth-sculpture of the pregnant Great Goddess, a fertility symbol par excellence.... Folklore has claimed it to be the burial place of King Sil, or the place where the Devil dropped his large sack of dirt. I suggest this largest man-made prehistoric mound in Europe is a landing place for space ships.

Bronze Age people apparently had many UFO sightings and possible landings. Their murals, burial artifacts, shields, all point to standard UFO shapes, sizes, and structure.

Another object that has confused the archeologists is the Cursus, which are 1.3 miles long and 100–150 meters wide, about the size and shape of a standard Mothership, as shown below. Nearby are numerous barrows that were made of white chalk and stone and would have been far more conspicuous than they are today.

In addition to the Cursus are long barrows that were used for burials but most of the building was used for other purposes.

Below is a recent photo taken above Eccles, England showing a similar shaped UFO.

I feel the Bronze Age long barrows and their cluster of disc-shaped mounds represent cylinder and disc-shaped UFOs. Bronze Age man apparently also

recognized the huge Motherships and designed the cursus to match their size and shape. They likely saw the same objects we see today and they chose to worship the UFOs passing over. Silbury Hill and the stone circles were likely designed to call the UFOs down to land.

New York - Sphere

PORT JEFFERSON — This event happened on the East End of Long Island New York, in the Village of Port Jefferson on July 4, 2008. I was with two other friends when we had our first sighting at 10:15 PM. Two bright orange balls of light were flying in close formation at around four thousand feet heading from the south. The crafts hovered over for a short period of time, then flew a little farther and in the blink of an eye disappeared straight up into the sky. A gentleman stood by, saying “those were definitely not helicopters.”

Next sighting at 10:35 PM, three bright orange balls of light were flying in close formation from the south. They started to hover at about the same height as the first sighting. These crafts moved up and down in a very speedy fashion, the light would fade as they moved up and would glow brighter as they came down. These were very fast moving objects.

A plane was flying in from the west toward the craft and at this point at least 50–60 people were pointing up at the sky wondering what the objects were. Moments later all three crafts dimmed their lights completely but the objects didn't disappear. As they flew by, you could tell without a doubt what the objects were once the glow was gone. They were light gray in color round disks (sphere like), not small from what I could tell (maybe around half the size of a football field). They were moving at a relatively fast cruising speed; one craft flew up ahead while the other two trailed close together but all three in formation. They flew north over the water.

One friend took some camera phone photos, but they're worthless. I have an MBA and work in the lab

plastics business. My other friend is a speech therapist and the other works for Allstate Insurance. Thanks to Peter Davenport Director National Reporting Center <http://www.ufocenter.com/>

Ohio - Disc

MEDINA—The night of the occurrence my husband, two children and I were in our pool on July 18, 2008. I had looked up (as an avid star gazer) and saw a very bright singular light, miles away in the sky. The object was possibly spherical, and was moving and in a silent descent. It was similar to that of the spotlight from a helicopter. I pointed it out to my family and continued to think it was a helicopter but and I noticed it didn't have any of the other lighting required for that type of craft. As it came closer its light went black and it stopped—just hovered over us at an angle. At this point we all had realized this was not a helicopter and we were trying to come up with an explanation.

We could still see the shadow of the object in the night sky and at that point there was one rotary reddish-orange light rotating slowly around the saucer/spherical shadow. It was within a range at this point that any engine would be heard. There wasn't a sound. As it maintained its descent we had decided to hop in the car as we lost it in the silhouette of the neighbor's rooftop. We could not locate it again. Thanks to MUFON CMS

Pennsylvania - UFO Photos

LEVITTOWN—I was out in the yard with my dog at 4:10 AM, on July 8, 2008, and I looked up in the sky and saw four lights. Three that looked like two eyes and a nose with bright headlights. A little farther away it was part of a pink color light at the front of the object. I saw a blue fog that came out of the back of the object. It was shining lights around and I watched for over 40 minutes as it moved slowly through the sky. I thought I saw silver flakes falling down into the tree tops and after a while the flakes went back up to the object. It was like lightning bugs or fireflies, but it went back up near the Craft. It was still up there when I went to bed, I tried to take pictures again but they look black. It made no noise. This is

Continued on page 20



The Cursus, cutting through the trees, and the Cursus barrows in the foreground



Filer's Files

Continued from page 19

the fourth time I have seen UFOs in the Levittown area since April. It was very overcast so I couldn't get a good look at the sides of the object, every once in awhile a quick glimpse.

The object emitted a metallic pixie-dust-like substance that landed in a tree next to the witness' townhouse and was sucked back up into the craft. A robin that was living in the tree was found dead on the patio the next morning. An 18" branch from the tree was sent off to Dr. Levengood c/o Pinelandia Biophysical Lab in Michigan to be tested.

The witness was interviewed by Bob Gardner and State Director John Ventre for the Discovery Channel Special, "UFOs over the Earth." The witness also had three other sightings. Thanks to MUFON CMS

Washington — Disc Photo

MT. ADAMS — On July 13, 2008, at 9:48 AM, there were planes in the area. In fact there were three of them looping around the mountain at this time, when the smoke already started. I might have a picture of at least one of them. There was one large red plane and two smaller ones. When the UFO appeared above the top of the mountain, I thought that it was a plane too because from the distance it looked like one shining on the Sun, except that it didn't move anywhere. It was just hovering above the top of the mountain and then disappeared. I remember wondering: How did this plane appear there so fast and where did it go? The apparent clouds could be smoke given that a forest fire was in the area at the time

Another Statement from Witness: We were just staying on James' ranch in the tent on this Saturday night and the picture was taken on the Sunday morning at the day when the fire happened on the mountain. It appeared above the Mt. Adams and then disappeared instantly.

Comments: Whew! What is this thing? I have no explanation. Many investigators don't take reports from the Mt. Adams area because the area attracts visitors who specifically look for UFOs. It looks like this witness found one.



Thanks to William Puckett Director UFOs Northwest <http://ufosnw.com/>

UK/England - UFOs

NORTHENDEN MANCHESTER M22 — Just pulled up in my car at home when my neighbor called me over. We stood and looked in complete amazement on July 12, 2008, at 10:40 PM at ten circular objects traveling towards East-South-East. The ten objects were traveling in a straight line occasionally crossing over or veering to one side. These objects were very bright and circular in shape, traveling at high speed under the cloud base no noise very quiet. We all saw this and it was as clear as a bell. There were no signs of flashing or other lighting associated with aircraft.

LEICESTER — I was walking back from the shop about 9:50 PM, on July 12, 2008, when I glanced up and saw at first what I thought was a flock of birds. I took another few looks and noticed an orange light on at least two of them. They made no sound whatsoever and were moving quite fast. I raced home and called my wife to see them too and she is still somewhat freaked out at what she saw as has always been a realist and found an explanation for things. They were heading towards Leicester City Centre so surely someone else must have seen them? We live 15 miles from East Midlands airport and are used to planes, these were not engine craft, and they seemed to glide. Did anyone else notice these "crafts" as well?

MOUNTS BAY, PENZANCE, CORNWALL — On July 12, 2008, at 10:49

PM, I noticed a bright point of light through the window above roof level. I went outside and noticed there were two lights. Both were white with a red centre, moving slowly across the bay about two miles from my house, with no sound at all. Both lights then came towards each other until they were both at the same height, then stopped still at the exact same height in the sky for 2-3 minutes. Both lights then moved off towards Marazion whilst rising in altitude, both lights faded in brightness and vanished as though fading out. Thanks to Brian Vike, Director HBCC UFO Research <http://www.hbccufo.org>

BRISTOL, WALES — On July 19, 2008, two red glowing and pulsating objects were seen near Bristol/Avonmouth visible from South Wales. These objects were just red pulsating glowing spheres which maneuvered in roughly 5-10 minute loops. They seemed to move further away as each reached greater altitude. A circling formation was made by both objects at several miles away. Circling motion was smooth, not any rapid movements or spurts and they flew west, and climbing up and slightly away from me before vanishing, and then reappearing again from the east. Thanks to MUFON CMS.

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

This month's Filer's Files includes excerpts from File #30, July 23, 2008. Filer's Files is copyrighted 2008 by George A. Filer, all rights reserved. Send your letters to majorstar@aol.com

Field Investigator's Corner: CMS Rankings

By Chuck Reeve

MUFON Director of Investigations

Here is July's CMS Ranking Report for all State Directors. Congratulations to **John Ventre** (Pennsylvania), **Cheryl Ann Gilmore** (South Carolina), **Tracey C. Smith** (Kansas), and **Donald R. Burleson** (New Mexico) for being at 100%! The top 10 State Directors are highlighted.

The report is based on our two measures of UFO Investigation effectiveness: assigning reports within 72 hours of receipt, and completing all investigations within 90 days of being assigned.

The "Assigned" column is a six-month running average of the number of cases assigned within 72 hours divided by the total number of cases received in that six month period. The "Completed" column is the number of cases completed beginning sixty-two (62) days back and going back six months from there (for a total of eight months back) divided by the total number of cases reported in the same period. The "Weighted Rank" is just the average of the two columns expressed as a percent.

State Directors can improve their scores by being sure to assign all cases within 72 hours, and to follow up with their Field Investigators to ensure all reports are completed within 90 days. To be considered complete, a report must have been investigated and placed in one of the three completed status codes (Unknown, Hoax or IFO) by the State Director.

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

Rank	State	Director	Weighted Rank (50/50)	Assigned	Completed
1	Pennsylvania	John Ventre	100 %	94/94	60/60
2	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	100 %	27/27	28/28
3	Kansas	Tracey C. Smith	100 %	20/20	19/19
4	New Mexico	Donald R. Burleson	100 %	46/46	37/37
5	Minnesota	Richard D. Moss	98 %	26/26	26/27
6	Florida	Bland Pugh	98 %	139/141	133/134
7	West Virginia	John Ventre	97 %	17/18	18/18
8	California	Ruben J. Uriarte	96 %	88/94	110/111
9	Georgia	Walter Sheets	95 %	33/33	33/36
10	Texas	Kenneth E. Cherry	93 %	365/368	298/339
11	Utah	Elaine Douglass	93 %	17/17	14/16
12	Iowa	Jim King	93 %	24/24	25/29
13	Indiana	Jerry L. Sievers	92 %	105/106	81/94
14	California	Georgeanne Cifarelli	91 %	204/210	167/194
15	Michigan	William J. Konkolesky	88 %	58/71	58/61
16	Arizona	George C. Parks	82 %	44/67	114/114
17	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	80 %	63/66	38/58
18	Colorado	Leslie H. Varnicle	80 %	87/87	45/73
19	Washington	Marilyn Childs	78 %	46/57	34/44
20	South Dakota	Lorna Hunter	75 %	1/2	2/2
21	Ohio	William Jones	74 %	53/62	32/51
22	Louisiana	Michael D. Sandras	73 %	19/19	12/26
23	New Jersey	George A. Filer, III	73 %	20/35	37/41
24	Oklahoma	Charles L. Pine	65 %	8/26	22/22
25	Idaho	Robert Gates	63 %	3/11	10/10
26	Massachusetts	Greg S. Berghorn	61 %	20/55	36/42
27	Nebraska	John C. Kasher	54 %	3/10	11/14
28	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	51 %	35/56	23/56
29	Kentucky	Earle T. Benezet	50 %	14/26	13/27
30	New York	James G. Bouck, Jr.	48 %	69/79	7/75
31	Wisconsin	Timothy G. Whiteagle	45 %	22/32	6/28
32	Maryland	Bruce S. Maccabee	41 %	6/31	17/27
33	North Carolina	George E. Lund, III	40 %	19/49	25/58
34	Connecticut	Erik Kubik	40 %	13/20	3/18
35	New Hampshire	Peter R. Geremia	38 %	4/7	1/5
36	Arkansas	Norman D. Walker	38 %	8/16	5/19
37	Nevada	Mark Easter	37 %	7/46	30/50
38	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	18 %	1/5	1/6
39	Alabama	Roy E. Patterson, Jr.	16 %	0/11	3/9
40	Missouri	Bruce A. Widaman	10 %	9/42	0/38
41	Tennessee	Eddie Middleton	4 %	1/33	2/29
42	Hawaii	Puuloa M. Teves	0 %	0/9	0/9
43	Virginia	Susan L. Swiatek	0 %	0/31	0/31
44	Rhode Island	Richard Lynch	0 %	0/7	0/9
45	North Dakota	Kurt Pflieger	0 %	0/3	0/5
46	Delaware	Ralph P. Flegal	0 %	0/0	0/0

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Director's Message

continued from page 2

the State Director of the Year award, and **Dick Haines** received the MUFON Award for Excellence in Ufology for his many years of outstanding research. See photos of these winners, page 12.

Position Announcements

State Directors:

Janet Bunke is the new State Director for **Idaho**, replacing **Robert Gates** who has retired. **Bruce Maccabee** is moving to Ohio and the State Director position for **Maryland** is vacant at this time.

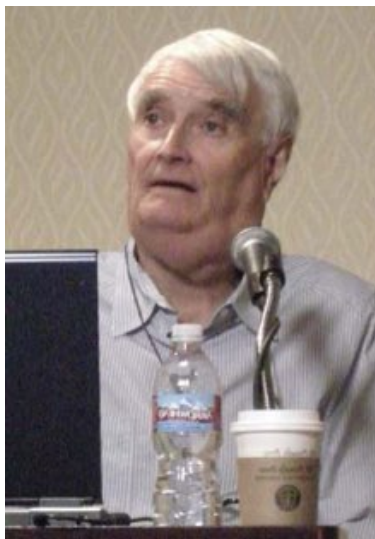
State Section Directors:

Dee Gragg is the new State Section Director for **Otero County, New Mexico**.

New Field Investigators:

Joseph Burkes MD of Arcata, California; **Larry Boston** of Livermore, California; **Michael Moore** of Inverness, Florida; **Larry Cates** of Apopka, Florida; **Joe Alexander** of Marietta, Georgia; **Natalie MacDonald** of Edgewood, Kentucky; **Karen**

Bravata of Waggaman, Louisiana; **Joshua Wabindato** of Battle Creek, Michigan; **Michael Bohrer** of Foley, Missouri; **Keith Danskin of Amherst, New Hampshire**; **Bernard Mendez** of Staten Island, New York; **Erik Eppler** of Staten Island, New York; **James Dennis** of Delaware, Ohio; **Tracy Roy** of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.



Budd Hopkins fields questions during the training seminar at the Symposium.

Monthly Statistical MUFON Report for July 2008

CMS continues to amass sighting reports from around the globe. In July 2008 there were 369 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS from the following countries:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Number of Reports</u>
United States	411
Canada	26
United Kingdom	16
Mexico	8
Australia	4
Germany	3
Spain	3
India	3
Guam	2
Netherlands	2
El Salvador	1
Serbia and Montenegro	1
Puerto Rico	1
Slovakia	1
China	1
France	1
Israel	1
Japan	1
TOTAL	486

September Night Sky

Continued from page 24

visible from very dark locations. Zodiacal light is 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 morning sky somewhat in appearance to the light from a city or town just over the horizon.

Autumnal Equinox: September 22nd.

Planetary Conjunction

Conjunction of Moon Mercury Venus Mars Saturn

Conjunctions and Occultations

September 1st Venus 5 degrees north of the Moon.

September 1st: Mercury 3 degrees north of the Moon

September 1st: Mars 5 degrees north of the Moon

August 2008

September 7th: Antares 0.3 degrees north of the Moon

September 9th: Jupiter 3 degrees north of the Moon

September 11th: Mercury 4 degrees south of Venus

September 11th: Venus 0.3 degrees north of Mars

September 27th: Saturn 5 degrees north of the Moon

September 30th: Mercury 1.1 degrees north of the Moon

The Allies of Humanity

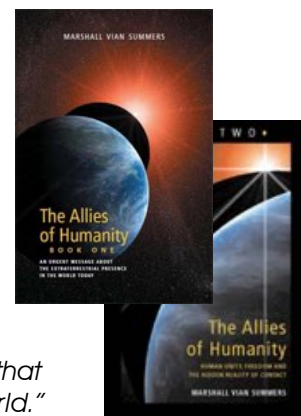
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By Marshall Vian Summers

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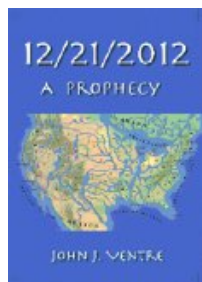
2008 Symposium Proceedings and DVDs

Since 1971, MUFON has published the proceedings of the annual MUFON International UFO Symposium. The 2008 proceedings are available from MUFON Headquarters, 155 E. Boardwalk Drive, Suite 300, Fort Collins, CO 80525, for \$33 postpaid in the U.S. and \$42 outside of the U.S. Prices do not include shipping. DVDs, videos, and audio CDs of each symposium speaker are available from: The International UFO Conference, 6160 Firestone Blvd., Suite #104-373, Firestone, CO 80505-6427. 303-651-7136. Web store: www.ufocongressstore.com.

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The Night Sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

September 2008 Sky

Moon Phases

First Quarter September 7th
Full Moon September 15th
Last Quarter September 22nd
New Moon September 29th

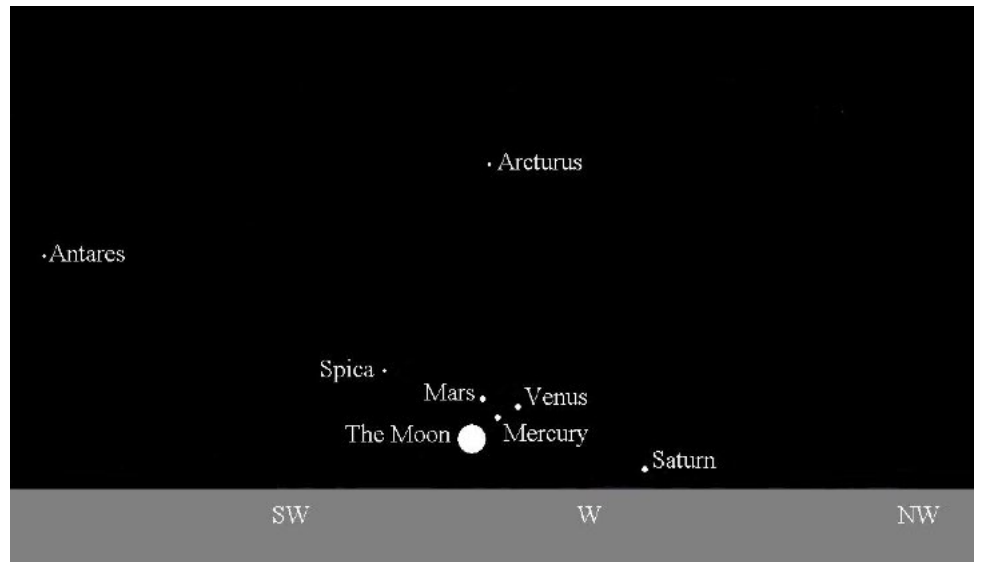
Bright Planets (Evening Sky)

Mercury (magnitude 0.0 to 0.2 to 0.5): In Virgo. For northern hemisphere observers, Mercury will begin the month low above the west-southwest horizon; as the month passes Mercury will descend toward the western horizon where it will be lost in the glare of the Sun. For southern hemisphere observers, Mercury will begin the month above the west-southwest horizon; as the month passes Mercury will ascend toward the western horizon reaching maximum altitude by midmonth after which it will slowly descend towards the western horizon.

Venus (magnitude -3.8): In Virgo. For northern hemisphere observers, Venus will begin the above the western horizon; as the month passes Venus will slowly climb above the southwest horizon. For southern hemisphere observers, Venus will begin the above the west-northwest horizon; as the month passes Venus will slowly climb above the western horizon.

Mars (magnitude 1.7): In Virgo. For northern hemisphere observers, Mars will be found standing low over the western horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about one hour later. For southern hemisphere observers, Mars will be found standing over the west-southwest horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 1 hour later.

Jupiter: (magnitude -2.5 to -2.4). In Sagittarius. For northern hemisphere observers, Jupiter will begin the month high above the east-southeast horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the



Looking low above the western horizon after sunset on September 1, 2008

horizon about 6 hours later. By the end of the month Jupiter will be found high above the southern horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 5 hours later. For southern hemisphere observers, Jupiter will begin the month very high above the northeast horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 10 hours later. By the end of the month Jupiter will be found high above the northern horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 8 hours later.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky)

Saturn (magnitude 0.8 to 0.9): In Leo. For northern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month lost in the glare of the rising Sun; by midmonth Saturn will rise before the Sun until, by month end, it will rise above the eastern horizon about 2 hours before the morning Sun. For southern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month lost in the glare of the rising Sun; by the third week Saturn will rise before the Sun until, by month end, it will rise above the eastern horizon about 1/2 hour before the morning Sun.

Other Celestial Phenomena

Zodiacal Light

Zodiacal light will be visible in northern latitudes in the East before the start of morning twilight from September 27th to October 11th. The phenomenon is only

Continued on page 22

