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MUFON

Mutual UFO Network



ARIZONA CHAPTER Volume 8, Issue 2

The Truth is Out There . . .

MUFON's Mission Is The Systematic Collection and Analysis of UFO Data
With The Ultimate Goal of Learning the Origin and Nature of the UFO Phenomenon.

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MARY HART
Newsletter Producer
602/907-0609

MEETING DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1999 – MEETING TIME: 7:30 SHARP
Admission: \$3 for Members and \$5 for Non-Members

PROGRAM: AAGE NOST, Former NASA Scientist & Author
"What is Really Going On – On The Moon?"

Meeting Location: 5635 E. McDowell Road – National Guard Armory
(east of 52nd St. on McDowell; then North on Bushmaster Blvd. into Armory)

Visit the MUFON-AZ Website at <http://welcome.to/mufon-az>

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This month we have a special program. Our speaker is Aage Nost, who will present evidence that there is more to the moon than meets the eye -- structures and unusual forms on the surface, as well as other information about the moon that you didn't get to see or hear from the media. Mr. Nost has also written a book entitled "Alien Encounters in America's Midwest." His book will be available at the meeting. I think you will find the presentation informative and interesting -- some people think we never actually went to the moon! Others are suspicious about the pictures and film footage shown to the public concerning some moon missions. Perhaps Aage can clear up some doubts you may have, so bring your questions!

Alan Morey
State Director



MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Following are our income and expenses for the month of January 1999:

INCOME:
Meeting admission \$223.00
Raffle 56.00
Memberships 225.00
TOTAL INCOME \$504.00

EXPENSES:
Newsletter (copying double-sided & insert: \$77.76
Postage: 52.86
Room Reservation (Leir) 68.00
KFYI Ad 40.30
Service charge 6.50
Facility Rent 99.00
TOTAL EXPENSES: \$318.94

ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$661.51

Many thanks to Bill Goodman and Tom Ulick for their donations.



FEBRUARY RAFFLE

The tape "Aliens Are Here -- Excerpts from Strange Universe" will be raffled off at this month's meeting. Tickets are only \$1.00 -- be sure to buy plenty to increase your chances to win this great prize.



Copies of records & receipts are always available upon request.





MEDIA WATCH

In the interest of keeping the UFO topic before the public, the following is a list of programs on the subject recently aired via television, radio and newspaper in recent weeks. We will attempt to list programs ahead of time whenever possible; unfortunately, we are often not notified of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear, or read them. In the case of TV and radio programs you may have missed, ask at MUFON-AZ meetings to see if anyone has taped them to share.

If you find UFO-related television or radio programs we have not listed, please call Mary Hart at 907-0609 and leave a message containing the title, day, time, whether TV or radio, and the channel where the program can be found.

Always be sure to check current TV listings — times and channels change!

Bufo Calvin lists TV programs of UFO & related subjects, which we try to pass along in this newsletter when we receive them in time. If you'd like to receive them from Bufo Calvin directly via e-mail, e-mail him at BufoCalvin@aol.com and tell him you'd like him to send you the list via e-mail.

WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMS:

DREAMLAND - KFYI Radio, 910 AM, Sunday evenings, 8:00 p.m. - Art Bell hosts this interesting radio program. The program is aired on the following stations in other cities in Arizona: Globe: 1240 AM; Safford: 1230 AM; Tucson: 1400 AM; Kingman: 1230 AM; Yuma: 560 AM; and Flagstaff: 600 AM. Art also hosts "Coast to Coast" weeknights at 11 p.m. and often features UFO related guests and/or topics. A "Dreamland" repeat is also broadcast at 8 p.m. on Saturdays

SPACECRAFT NEWS with Franklin Carter, Mondays at 10 a.m. on KFNX radio (1100 AM).

UFO LIVE with Dr. Duncan Bowen, Tuesdays at 11 p.m. on KFNX radio (1100 AM on the dial).

FRACTAL DIMENSIONS with Dr. Simeon Hein, Thursdays at 5 p.m. on KFNX radio (1100am.)

MYSTERIES AROUND US, KTAR Radio (620 AM), 10:00 p.m. Sunday hosted by Frank Baranowski, a well-known hypnotherapist specializing in regression.

Now thru March 28, 1999 - "Splendors of Ancient Egypt," Phoenix Art Museum, 1625 N. Central, Phoenix. Tickets are \$12. Call Dillards to order tickets (602) 503-5555 or (800) 638-4263. Tickets are for a specific date and time.

WEEKLY TV PROGRAMS:

X FILES - Sundays at 8:00 p.m., Channel 10. Weeknights at 9 p.m., Channel 30 (cable).

SIGHTINGS Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m., cable SciFi Channel.

STRANGE UNIVERSE - Mondays thru Fridays at 1:00 p.m. on Channel 45.

AFTER MIDNIGHT - Thursdays at midnight on Channel 22.

Tuesday, March 2, 1999 - FOX Channel (probably 7 or 8 pm Arizona time); "Live from Egypt" featuring the opening of a tomb or pyramid. Check TV guide for details.

Calendar

Pima County Chapter: Saturday, Feb. 20, Wilmot Library: Aage Nost, 1-4pm: "What NASA Doesn't Want You To Know About the Moon." Contact Bill Morris at 520/762-5625 for meeting details.

Pinal County Chapter: Saturday, March 13, 1pm: Casa Grande Public Library, "Video-Rama." Contact Ken Kerber at 520/836-1185 for further info.

Yuma County Chapter: Meetings are quarterly. Call Joseph Murek at 520/782-3906 for further details.

Maricopa County Chapter: Wednesday, February 24, 1999; usual place and time, admission \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members (see page 1).

Experiencer's Meeting - For information call Dr. Ruth Hover at 837-0446.

February 21-27, 1999: 8th Annual International UFO Congress Convention, Laughlin, NV. Call 303/643-9443 for program information.

February 26-28, 1999: "Earth Mysteries & The Millennium" featuring Edgar Mitchell, Zecharia Sitchin, Jim Morris, Linda Moulton Howe. Doubletree-Sedona Resort, 90 Ridge Trail Dr., Sedona, AZ 86351. For more information contact Dr. Chet Snow. P.O. Box 1788, Sedona, AZ 86399-1788.

March 16, 1999: Greater Phoenix Sitchin Studies Group, 7pm, 6514 N. 85th Pl, Scottsdale. Call 948-9209 for more info.

April 10, 1999: UFO Abduction Conference, New York City. See article elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

July 2-4, 1999: 30th annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, VA. See MUFON Journal for details.

Classified Ads

Advertise in the MUFON-AZ Newsletter!! Ads up to three lines long are \$5.00; business-card sized ads are \$10 [we can reproduce your business card as the ad]. Call Ruth Hover for prices on larger ads. Submit your ad and payment by the first of the month to have it appear in that month's newsletter issue.





ARIZONA SIGHTINGS

Don't forget to get your updated copy of "Arizona Sightings 1899-1998" — a wonderful compilation by our own Dimitri "Jim" Ossipov. For many years Dimitri has worked on this comprehensive list, and it's a great addition to everyone's UFO library. The Sightings booklet can be purchased at the monthly meeting, or you can call Tom Taylor at 967-6265 to order your copy today! Out of town members can order their own copy for \$7.50 by sending a check to Tom at 1433 W. Huntington, Tempe, AZ 85282.



ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Many thanks to those submitting articles and book reviews, and if you haven't contributed yet, here's an invitation to add to YOUR newsletter by doing so. Handwritten articles and those typed on a typewriter are fine, but if you do have a computer, it saves a lot of time if you can submit your articles on diskette. Please save your articles in one of the following formats: MS Word (any version), WordPerfect 7 for Windows, Word-Perfect 5.1 for DOS, or ASCII (DOS text). Be sure to put your name on them. Then send the diskette to Mary Hart, 9048 W. Holly St., Phoenix, AZ 85037, or fax hard copy articles to Mary at 907-0609. You can also send them via internet to Mary at:

Mary_Hart@Yahoo.com

MUFON MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Orders are being taken for your MUFON Membership Badges. These are the 1-1/4" x 3" blue badges with 3 lines and white print listing

your name on the first line, "Arizona MUFON" on the second line, and a title or phrase such as "The Truth is Out There" on the third line. The cost is \$4.50 each unless we have enough orders to get a price break, and then they'll be less. See the sign-up sheet in the front lobby at the meeting. You can also fax your order to Ruth & Harry at 602/837-0094 or send the order via mail to: Ruth & Harry Hover, 16218 Glenview Place, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. Their phone number is 602/837-0446 for further details.

RESPONSE TO JOHN SCHUESSLER'S ARTICLE CONCERNING UFO ON GUN CAMERA FILM

The following article appeared in last month's newsletter. Below that article we are printing Tom Taylor's response.

ANOTHER UFO ON GUN CAMERA FILM

Peter B. Davenport, Director of the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, received a telephone report at 3:20 a.m. on March 14, 1997, relating to the UFO sightings over Phoenix. The text of the caller's report is as follows:

"That's correct. Uh, the, Luke Air Force Base is actually in Litchfield. I'm, I'm, all ... I got off shift about 30 minutes ago. At, uh, 8:15, ah, the F-... "Ready Alert" at Luke Air Force Base, which is the F-15 ... two F15s that we keep on "Ready Alert" ... they're part of the Air Force One and Air Force Two "Protection Group" ... to protect 'em when they come west of the Rockies, whenever the President or any dignitary is on board.

"They were launched because ... all hell broke loose, basically. Apparently, we got a call from, ah, Prescott Valley Airport, a small airport, um, north of us ... I'm sorry, northwest. And reporting an object that had

a near miss with a small Cessna ... aircraft.

The call came up once: "Ready Alert." Approximately 8:32, uh, from my understanding, that they encountered something over the sky ... over Phoenix, Arizona, over the area of Seventh Avenue and Indian School Road.

"They don't know what it was. The description that the pilot ... one of the pilots stated that they had a visual on it, they've got gun camera film of it, they have no radar tape of it. It scared the hell out of them. I've never seen ... this [name deleted] I'm talking about, he, uh ... the command pilot of this particular flight, he'll never talk to you. He's a real professional. I've never seen this man, oh ... I've never seen this man scared.

"Are you familiar with the term "white noise" ... blanking out radar? My understanding is, that's what they got, was strictly white noise.

The caller concluded the report by saying the pilot was scared to death. "He's not sure what it was. After they landed, the base was ... we had a complete 'lock down.' The facility was closed."

NOTE: The full text of the report can be found at:

<http://www.nwlink.com/~ufo-cntr/CB970313a.html>

John Schuessler
UFO Potpourri
December 1998

RESPONSE:

[Letter to John Schuessler]

I found the 1941 Crash at Cape Girardeau [article in December 1998 issue of "UFO Potpourri"] most interesting. But I take exception to the UFO on Gun Camera Film [article].

Peter Davenport gave me the name, address, and phone number of this person at the time. Repeated attempts by another of our investigators and

me failed to get any sort of response, and we were never to locate any person at the address given.

Since hundreds of reports were coming in at the time, and since no response or confirmation could ever be made concerning this rather interesting report, as MUFON State Director for Arizona [at the time] I have to disregard this report.

Peter Davenport made this report on one of our radio talk shows here in Phoenix and on Art Bell's radio program. I phoned Peter after I heard the report and said I thought it was a rather misleading report to give, since nothing could be confirmed. Anyone could have phoned him making the same claim. Without some sort of confirmation, it is simply misinformation - and because there was plenty of that going around at the time - and now, with the publication of your article, the misinformation continues!

Tom Taylor
MUFON-AZ Member

THE 1999 UFO ABDUCTION CONFERENCE: - WHAT WE KNOW - AND HOW WE KNOW IT

On Saturday, April 10, 1999, New York City will be the site of a day-long national conference on the UFO abduction phenomenon. Four of America's most respected UFO researchers - Budd Hopkins, Stanton Friedman, David Jacobs and Jerome Clark - welcome the public to a cutting-edge presentation of current evidence for the reality and possible future of alien abductions. The conference will be held at the O. Henry Learning Center, at 333 West 17th Street in Manhattan, and will start at 10 am. Admission to all events is \$60, purchased in advance, or \$80 at the door. For tickets and further information phone the Intruders Foundation, 212 645-5278.

The conference is planned as both a crash course in the ongoing UFO abduction phenomenon - what we know and how we know it - and

an illustrated presentation of the latest research findings.

Bob Long
NY MUFON

CONFIRMATION: THE HARD EVIDENCE OF ALIENS AMONG US?

Listed for the first time [in BUFO Calvin's listing of UFO- and Paranormal-Related Programming] is what may be one of the most significant network specials on UFOs and abduction. It's called **CONFIRMATION: THE HARD EVIDENCE OF ALIENS AMONG US?** (yes, NBC weaseled out by using the question mark at the end). It's based on the book of the same name (although I believe the hard back didn't use the question mark, I think the paperback did...The author of the book, Whitley Strieber, is also the co-Executive Producer of the special. Strieber's first book on the topic, is a genre-transcending must-read that spent an amazing amount of time on the New York Times Bestseller list. He was lauded by much of ufology for mainstreaming the topic, but rejected by some because he would not embrace the extra-terrestrial hypothesis. Contrary to the way he was typically introduced on talk shows, he did not claim to be abducted by aliens (in the sense of physical beings that evolved on another planet). The first book was truly frightening in part because it did not come to neat and easy conclusions. The special will include video footage of an implant removal, police witnesses, etc.

BUFO Calvin
From the Internet



ZECHARIA SITCHIN NATIONAL LECTURE TOURS

Zecharia Sitchin, whose work challenges everything we thought we knew about human Civilization, will be touring the US this coming August & October. The Prophets Conference, the organization presenting his extraordinary work, is in the process of determining which communities would be most appropriate for the Sitchin lectures, and we are looking for your suggestions.

If you have ideas to share please feel free to do so. As part of this process, we wish to receive information regarding resources in and around the city suggested - alternative and regular media, volunteer promotional help, bookstore contacts, affinity groups, and possible venues.

If you are interested in being a part of this Zecharia Sitchin tour, please email your thoughts to: http://www.sitchin@greatmystery.org. For information on the spring equinox Prophets Conference - Caribbean visit: <http://www.greatmystery.org> or call toll-free 1-888-777-5981.

ONE MYSTERY SOLVED

They might have been UFOs, the startlingly bright flashes of light that began appearing in the sky in 1997. But sky-watchers traced the flares to a constellation of low Earth-orbit satellites launched by Iridium, a telecommunications company. Sunlight striking the silver-plated Teflon coating of the satellites' main antennas causes reflections visible to the naked eye, "like a distant plane with its landing lights on," said one observer. Experts monitoring the 485-mile-high orbits of Iridium's satellites - now numbering more than 80 - devised computer programs to predict where flares

would occur. They posted the programs on the internet, to the joy of satellite buffs everywhere.

National Geographic
January 1999

RESPONSE TO DAN WRIGHT'S CASE OF THE MONTH (MUFON JOURNAL, 12/98)

In the December issue of the MUFON Journal, Dan Wright's column entitled "Case of the Month" concerned a sighting in Yuma. Mr. Wright is being presumptuous concerning a lot of the surrounding events - he never even called Doris Barley, the MUFON Section Director at that time who handled the investigation and reporting of the case, to get first-hand information concerning the sighting. He made assumptions and statements through hearsay only, and had he contacted Ms. Barley directly, he would have found her a very responsible and conscientious individual and an excellent investigator. We wonder: if he botched this particular article so badly, how can we believe the rest of what he writes? Even his letters to Ms. Barley (and Mr. Murek, her successor as Section Director) in response to her letter to him upon seeing this column contained errors, typos and misspellings - they were apparently not even proofread.

Mr. Wright's letter follows:

Dear Ms. Barley & Mr. Murek:

Walt Andrus asked that I reply to you concerning my "Case of the Month" article in the January 1999 issue of the Journal and your e-mails in reaction to that article.

First, I apologize for misstating the Yuma sightings as occurring in August 1998 rather than August 1993. By way of explanation (not excuse), soon after resuming the deputy directorship, in December 1998 I received two boxes of case reports from the outgoing deputy which had not yet been evaluated and encoded. It was my early

impression that these were all from 1998, as the first several above the Yuma report and more below it indeed were. When I reached that report, I mistook 1993 as 1998. Obviously, this report should have been reviewed long ago, but misreading the date was my oversight.

I discovered the error recently in a phone conversation with the current State Director for Arizona, Alan Morey. As I indicated to him, I plan to include a correction in my next case-of-the-month submittal for the March issue of the Journal. Based on the content of your e-mail, Ms. Barley, I will likewise mention the inquiries you had made to police and airport officials and to the then State Director to correct that misimpression.

Certainly you were in an untenable position at that time, not having MUFON sighting forms, a Field Investigator's Manual of procedures, or investigative training - then being politely rebuffed when you asked for help. "Do the best you can" - without inquiring as to what materials you might need or offering advice and assistance - is just not sufficient.

Please understand that a case is only as strong as the documentation in the report. Inexperienced investigators, especially those without a manual, very often assume that accepting and recording the assertions made by a witness is sufficient.

In assessing a report, I make the assumption that the investigator has included all contacts initiated and other actions taken, that anything not mentioned was not done. That is, I adopt a skeptical attitude and decide, based on the materials present, the likelihood of a possible misidentification. After all, when a Phil Klass or other UFO debunker looks into an event, we do not expect him to accept undocumented claims.

In the report, you did paraphrase the statements from an impressive number of callers. However, as illustrated by the secondary event in the recent "Phoenix Lights" case, large

numbers of people can be fooled - in that instance, by what may well have been an effort by the military to cover up an actual UFO flyover earlier that evening.

As you point out, your case report did not include completed MUFON forms. In their absence, it was essential to have, at a minimum, handwritten statements and drawings signed by witnesses. Personal interviews with some might have shed light on variations in their descriptions. A log of your investigative efforts, most importantly the checks you made to rule out natural and man-made objects, would also have been instructive. (As to the absence of documented follow-up, in the article I used "apparently" and "presumably", for that was the appearance in the report. Finally, a complete case report should have a section evaluating the event, detailing how and why you concluded that the incident described was not likely something prosaic.

These factors are not things I have conjured up. They are presented in the chapter "Writing the Report" by Ray Fowler, which has been in our manual for many years. Had your then State Director helped in the report preparation, this likely would be a very strong case. It is frustrating to assess such a promising event as incomplete as reported.

When doing evaluations, I contact the State Director to request additional input if an incomplete report is both (a) of considerable substance; and (b) submitted within a month or two of the event (while witness memories are still fairly fresh). From past experience, recollection of details after that can do more to cloud than clarify actual circumstances. In reviewing and assessing the hundreds of reports in those two boxes, my obligation is to enter into our computer catalog only those reports that would hold up under scrutiny.

The article's intent was to briefly offer an example of a missed opportunity without embarrassing anyone. To that end, I purposely did not include your name or that of any other Arizona MUFON member. I do wish you to understand, though, that the purpose of my articles is not to celebrate phenomenal claims, but rather to emphasize investigative groundwork objectively pursued as essential to sorting out events as either IFO or UFO occurrences. Indeed, the article for February will feature a case in which the investigator's careful examination of the site raised doubts concerning the witnesses' claim.

Investigative legwork and documentation can strengthen a sighting account. I hope you will both reconsider your decision to leave MUFON. Alan Morey assures me that he will be doing all he can to improve the network in your state and afford you and all members the assistance you need.

IS SOMEONE RINGING YOUR BELL?

I recently re-joined the millions of people who study the UFO phenomena. It is at a much higher-tech yet no more credible level than say, 12 years ago, with one noticeable caveat: there is a certain talk show host who, for all intents and purposes, we could refer to as "P.T. Barnum." This individual hosts a show that, in my opinion, is the only international forum relating to this subject. Its audience is somewhere between 5 through 15 million worldwide. The host has had well over 12 years of broadcast experience; he has transmitted hundreds of stories, experiences, alleged sightings and prophecies to his millions of listeners, now worldwide.

Why, then, has he never thought to use his vast experience in order to form his own, well-educated opinions? Need I refer back to the notorious P.T. Barnum? I must discuss the topic of "Prophecies."

On Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1998, the latter portion of his show addressed the subject of the "Third Prophecy of Fatima," a *cataclysmic event* to occur on or around November 30, 1999. Our host was virtually certain this event would happen based upon prior prophecies of two of his other "regular guests." One, I believe, had predicted November 19, 1999; the other November 30, 1999. Apparently Fatima's prophecy also alluded to that same November 30th date.

What type of effect might that discussion have had on his worldwide audience? In my opinion, this is pretty heavy stuff. The host need be aware that in his audience there are believers! There are also zealots, depressed and religious persons, and perhaps a young and impressionable segment. Mr. Host, you must have a conscience! Do you not remember the "Heaven's Gate" prophecies that were aired on your show? Shouldn't that have guided you in handling your November 26th broadcast?

The host posts all pertinent documents, photos, etc. on his web site for the audience to view while the show is being aired. He even mentions that documents and/or film were "analyzed," not through his resources, but those of the guests! I view this as being most strange and unprofessional. I recently was able to view some film and photos from a show relating to an alien supposedly killed by the guest and kept in his garage, in a cooler, for several days.

Well, it seems that MUFON's Arizona investigators were able to quickly analyze and classify this incident as a hoax, a very poor one at that. I can confirm this, since I have personally seen the evidence. Why would a man with so much experience allow such hoaxes to be aired on his show? One might ask if our talk show host has an agenda. Is he on more than one payroll (a cut-out), is he gullible, is he of good conscience, or is he simply a modern day "P.T. Barnum"? In my opinion, this show does not lend itself towards credibility, not at all. It does not help our quest for the truth. Is this show entertainment, or a sabotage of our

cause? In closing, I predict that I will be listening to his show on the night of December 1, 1999!

Eric Lewis

UFO SIGHTING REPORT

November 24, 1998:

A young (sounding) woman called and asked for Ruth. I told her that Ruth was not available, but that I was her husband and could take a message. She declined to give her name or telephone number, but related the following message:

She said she had just seen the Channel 12 News at 6:00p.m. that evening, and she and her grandson had seen a similar object to the one shown as the "Fountain Hills UFO".

On the prior Sunday afternoon, November 22, 1998 she and her grandson were driving from the Pinetop area (south) towards Fountain Hills on the Beeline Highway (Hwy. 87), approximately 2:00-2:30p.m., when they observed the object to their left (east) as they approached Shea Blvd. She did not judge the distance, but it was beyond the first low hills along Highway 87. She estimated the size as "as big as a football field," and her grandson said it was as big as "two football fields". It remained visible for a short period of time, and then she lost visibility behind one of the low hills. She said that there also was what looked like a small cloud where it disappeared.

She said she felt funny about saying anything and still preferred not giving her name or phone number when I suggested that Ruth would be happy to talk to her. I asked her to call back tomorrow.

She apparently called Channel 12 to get Ruth's phone number and asked that group was Ruth with. I told her that Ruth was a psychologist and a consultant for the AZ Mutual UFO Network, which is interested in and investigates the phenomena of UFO's. I then encouraged her to call back.

Confirming the above report, the following is added: The specific location was south of Saguaro Lake, southbound along Highway 87. The object appeared to be "hovering, not flying," at an altitude below 3,000 ft., as this is the elevation of the mountains at this point, according to a pilot friend of hers. The grandson, 11 years old, also saw the object and added that it was "...very large" and "had no lights or windows."

Harry C Hover, Field Investigator
AZ MUFON

Reported Discovery of a 'Buried UFO' in Estonia

By Gordon Creighton
(Translated from
Spanish & Russian)

In the very first issue (1994) of his review EVIDENCIA OVNI, our Puerto Rican friend and Consultant Jorge Martin published a translation of the following weird story, which he had received from the American (Russian-born) investigator Paul Stonehill who runs the RUSSIAN UFOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE (5700 Etiwanda St., Tarzana, California 91356).

The report concerns Estonia, one of the three small Baltic States that had a brief taste of independence after the Russian Revolution in 1917, only to be temporarily gobbled up again by Stalin when he saw his opportunity at the outbreak of World War II. (Today they are all free again and anxiously waiting to join the European Union).

As you study this very queer account, which seems to date from the 1980's, when the Soviets still ruled Estonia, remember the equally weird report about strange metallic cauldron-or globe-shaped objects, buried or half-buried in the snow bound wastes of Yakutia (Far North-Eastern Siberia), which I published last year (Mysterious "Power-Plants" in Siberia). (See FSR 42/1).
EDITOR

The report indicates that at about a depth of 3m. below the surface of the ground, on a collective farm near Tallin, the Capitol of Estonia, workmen were digging out a shaft for a well had struck a mysterious great metallic body which was believed to be of "alien origin" - possibly a "flying saucer", or "some sort of device for interstellar communications" [sic] The report said that individuals who had tried to dig the thing out had shortly afterwards died in mysterious circumstances, and that others who had gone to Moscow carrying some samples of water from the site of the excavation had "suffered paralysis". Also, that a piece of alleged UFO had been pried off and then confiscated by the Russian Military "because they knew that it was part of an object from another world".

Paul Stonehill had reported that, as far as could be ascertained, the truth was that in 1984, Soviet academician Nikolai Nikolayevich Sochevanov, a specialist in geology and mineralogy, was visited by a friend of his - an Estonian inventor - who brought a piece of dense silvery metallic material, and the following story"

"On a collective farm just outside Tallin, a well was being dug and at a depth of some 3 meters or so, the workers hit upon something metallic and very solid, and on digging deeper, they came upon the rim of a metallic plate sticking out from the wall of the well. The thickness of the metal at that spot was only 2 cms, but even so the drill could not penetrate the metal.

"A compressor was brought along and, using a pneumatic drill, the workers were able to break off a piece of the metal plate, and the piece was sent off to Tallin, where two institutions both made an analysis of it - but arrived at contradicting results! One institute said the metal was a complicated alloy, while the other one said it was simply cast iron!

"The Estonians requested Sochevanov have it analyzed in the leading laboratories of Moscow, so a number of smaller fragments

were cut from the piece with diamond saws (two of which were damaged in the process). According to the V.I.A.M. (United Institute of Aviation Materials - VSYESOUZNIY INSTITUT AVIATIONIKH MATERIALOV) it was established, in the testing, that the sample of mystery metal had a micro-solidity varying between 330 and 1,500 kg/mm.

"In appearance the metal was dense and hard, and of a silvery colour. Its specific gravity was 6.3 to 6.6. The various laboratories which did these tests on the small fragments were: The Moscow Institute of Physical Engineering, the United Institute for Raw Mineral Materials, and the VIAM mentioned above, plus several other laboratories.

"According to Sochevanov, the leading Soviet scientists "had no doubt whatever as regards the extraterrestrial origin of the artifact". Among these scientists was Professor Mitin.

Contributed by
Harry & Ruth Hover
MUFON-AZ

PLUTO RETAINS ITS PLANET STATUS

Although news reports had said Pluto was to be demoted to a minor Planet -- or worse, a Trans-Neptunian Object, Earth's top astronomical organization, the International Astronomical Union (the final authority on astronomical matters), has ruled that Pluto is still a planet. The IAU stated that the actual definition of "planet" and what qualifies a body as a planet is not clear. Discussions are being held to create a potential numbering system for Trans-Neptunian Objects those beyond Neptune in the Solar System). some of which have some similarities to Pluto, including the type of orbit and "possibly other properties."



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