

2007 Off to a Great Start

Words From the State Director



If you're reading this, that means you've paid your dues for the New Year. Thank you!

We're off to quite a good start in 2007. We had a surprisingly large number of first time attendees to our January meeting and also saw some members we haven't seen in a long time. At that meeting, we were privileged to hear Patty Donahue share her recollections of some fascinating encounters she's had and she brought pictures and even video to boot. Thank you, Patty!

Dr. Chuck Lietzau will be our presenter at our March 11 meeting at Walli's. His topic will be "The Adventure of the Skinwalker Ranch: Scientists Confront the Paranormal." For those of you unfamiliar with Skinwalker, it is a truly bizarre story. Investigators, primarily from NIDS, conducted a five year investigation at a ranch in Utah where just about every paranormal phenomenon you can think of was occurring: UFOs, orbs, strange creature sightings, animal mutilation, poltergeist activity, etc. Dr. Lietzau will give us the details of the research done by those individuals.

Our morning Field Investigator Training will continue with our successful group case

continued...

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Thank you.

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review sessions. We will be reviewing actual cases together with the assistance of our FI Manuals to determine, step-by-step, how best to pursue the investigations. As I've said before about these sessions - without actually going out into the field, I believe this is about as valuable and hands-on as you can get.

Our business meeting will be following the afternoon presentation.

We will be joined at that meeting by an MSU student by the name of Matt Runyun who is working on a documentary about paranormal experiences in Michigan. He will be doing some filming and also interviewing myself and likely others. If you wish to share anything with him, I'm certain he'd appreciate it. If, for some reason, you choose not to appear on camera (whether or not you're sharing with him), please be sure to let either me or Matt know.

Don't forget, Michigan MUFON Newsletter subscribers, if you would prefer to download a printable electronic MI-MUFON Newsletter to your computer in full color, rather than receive a printed black and white copy in the mail, please let our Newsletter Editor David Twichell know and provide him with an email address where he can send you a link to download your newsletter off the internet in PDF format. To contact David by email, write to news@mimufon.org.

See you Sunday March 11 at Walli's for Dr. Chuck Lietzau's "Adventure of the Skinwalker Ranch."

DON'T FORGET: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS MARCH 11 – PLEASE REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR BEFORE GOING TO BED THAT SATURDAY NIGHT.



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Speakers as of February, 2007

Stanton Friedman

Dr. Rudy Schild

Richard Dolan

Timothy Good

Kathleen Marden - New evidence on the Betty and Barney Hill Case

John Greenewald - The UFO Hunters

Sam Maranto - The O'Hare Airport and Tinley Park Sightings

Michael Nelson - Startling new evidence on the Portage UFO case

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In the sky! A bird? A plane? A ... UFO?

Published January 1, 2007 by Jon Hilkevitch of the Chicago Tribune.

It sounds like a tired joke--but a group of airline employees insist they are in earnest, and they are upset that neither their bosses nor the government will take them seriously.

A flying saucer-like object hovered low over O'Hare International Airport for several minutes before bolting through thick clouds with such intense energy that it left an eerie hole in overcast skies, said some United Airlines employees who observed the phenomenon.

Was it an alien spaceship? A weather balloon lost in the airspace over the world's second-busiest airport? A top-secret military craft? Or simply a reflection from lights that played a trick on the eyes?

Officials at United professed no knowledge of the Nov. 7 event--which was reported to the airline by as many as a dozen of its own workers--when the Tribune started asking questions recently. But the Federal Aviation Administration said its air traffic control tower at O'Hare did receive a call from a United supervisor asking if controllers had spotted a mysterious elliptical-shaped craft sitting motionless over Concourse C of the United terminal.

No controllers saw the object, and a preliminary check of radar found nothing out of the ordinary, FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory said.

The FAA is not conducting a further investigation, Cory said. The theory is the sighting was caused by a "weather phenomenon," she said.

The UFO report has sparked some chuckles among controllers in O'Hare tower.

"To fly 7 million light years to O'Hare and then have to turn around and go home because your gate was occupied is simply unacceptable," said O'Hare controller and union official Craig Burzych.

Some of the witnesses, interviewed by the Tribune, said they are upset that neither the government nor the airline is probing the incident.

Whatever the object was, it could have interfered with O'Hare's radar and other equipment, and even created a collision risk, they said.

The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (the term that extraterrestrial-watchers nowadays prefer over Unidentified Flying Object) was first seen by a United ramp worker who was directing back a United plane at Gate C17, according to an account the worker provided to the National UFO Reporting Center.

The sighting occurred during daylight, about 4:30 p.m., just before sunset.

All the witnesses said the object was dark gray and well defined in the overcast skies. They said the craft, estimated by different accounts to be 6 feet to 24 feet in diameter, and did not display any lights.

Some said it looked like a rotating Frisbee, while others said it did not appear to be spinning. All agreed the object made no noise and it was at a fixed position in the sky, just below the 1,900-foot cloud deck, until shooting off into the clouds.

Witnesses shaken by sighting

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"I tend to be scientific by nature, and I don't understand why aliens would hover over a busy airport," said a United mechanic who was in the cockpit of a Boeing 777 that he was taxiing to a maintenance hangar when he observed the metallic-looking object above Gate C17.

"But I know that what I saw and what a lot of other people saw stood out very clearly, and it definitely was not an [Earth] aircraft," the mechanic said.

One United employee appeared emotionally shaken by the sighting and "experienced some religious issues" over it, one co-worker said.

A United manager said he ran outside his office in Concourse B after hearing the report about the sighting on an internal airline radio frequency.

"I stood outside in the gate area not knowing what to think, just trying to figure out what it was," he said. "I knew no one would make a false call like that. But if somebody was bouncing a weather balloon or something else over O'Hare, we had to stop it because it was in very close proximity to our flight operations."

Some joke, others research

The databases of various UFO-watching groups are full of accounts filed by pilots about sightings of unknown aircraft and anomalies that affected navigational equipment onboard planes.

Whether any of the UFO incidents are real or merely the result of individual perceptions, some experts say the events pose a potential safety risk to pilots and their passengers.

"There have been documented cases where safety appears to have been implicated, and more and more we are coming to the point of view that we are dealing with an intelligent phenomenon," said Richard Haines, science director at the National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena, a private agency.

"We must be proactive before an aircraft goes down," said Haines, a former chief of the Space Human Factors Office at NASA's Ames Research Center.

Haines is investigating the O'Hare incident. He said he has determined that no weather balloons were launched in the vicinity of O'Hare on Nov. 7.

"It's absurd that the military would be conducting aerial test flights" near the airport, Haines said.

All the witnesses to the O'Hare event, who included at least several pilots, said they are certain based on the disc's appearance and flight characteristics that it was not an airplane, helicopter, weather balloon or any other craft known to man.

United denies UFO report

They're not sure what was hanging out for several minutes in the restricted airspace, but they are upset that no one in power has taken the matter seriously.

A United spokeswoman said there is no record of the UFO report. She said United officials do not recall discussion of any such incident.

"There's nothing in the duty manager log, which is used to report unusual incidents," said United spokeswoman Megan McCarthy. "I checked around. There's no record of anything."

The pilots of the United plane being directed back from Gate C17 also were notified by United personnel of the sighting, and one of the pilots reportedly opened a windscreen in the cockpit to get a better view of the object estimated to be hovering 1,500 feet above the ground.

The object was seen to suddenly accelerate straight up through the solid overcast skies, which the FAA reported had 1,900-foot cloud ceilings at the time.

"It was like somebody punched a hole in the sky," said one United employee.

Witnesses said they had a hard time visually tracking the object as it streaked through the dense clouds.

It left behind an open hole of clear air in the cloud layer, the witnesses said, adding that the hole disappeared within a few minutes.

The United employees interviewed by the Tribune spoke on condition of anonymity.

WE ARE NOT ALONE:



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Former MiMUFON member and co-author of "The Other Sky", Landi Mellas will be the guest on April 7, 2007. Landi will discuss her new book, "Life in 3D".

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Some said they were interviewed by United officials and instructed to write reports and draw pictures of what they observed, and that they were advised by United officials to refrain from speaking about what they saw.

Federal agency backtracks

Like United, the FAA originally told the Tribune that it had no information on the alleged UFO sighting. But the federal agency quickly reversed its position after the newspaper filed a Freedom of Information Act request.

An internal FAA review of air-traffic communications tapes, a step toward complying with the Tribune request, turned up the call by the United supervisor to an FAA manager in the airport tower, Cory said.

Cory said the weather might have factored into what the witnesses thought they saw.

"Our theory on this is that it was a weather phenomenon," she said. "That night was a perfect atmospheric condition in terms of low [cloud] ceiling and a lot of airport lights. When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things. That's our take on it."

Thanks to Jon Hilkevitch of the Chicago Tribune.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-0701010141jan01,1,3957154.column?page=1&coll=chi-news-hed>



1985 Connecticut UFO: Case Closed

On Thursday, March 21, 1985, a man living in Milford, Connecticut, observed an unidentified craft flying in the sky over his home. In 2004 this witness approached our organization and asked for us to conduct an investigation of the incident to see if we could discover any additional details. Over the course of our investigation our team identified at least 20 others from the surrounding area who had reported the same object, 10 of which were conducted during our investigation. Most of the witnesses we interviewed were not aware that anyone else had observed the same craft that evening. Interestingly, though none of the witnesses had previous contact with each other, they all described the object in the same way.

The object was described as a triangular-shaped craft with bright white and red lights. It was estimated by one witness to be no more than 200 feet off the ground. Several witnesses who had the object fly over them reported that there was no sound as the object passed overhead.

Two of the witnesses have backgrounds in aviation and were convinced that the object they were seeing was not a conventional aircraft. According to these two witnesses the characteristics of the object in flight did not match any known aircraft. The object was said to have been flying too slowly to be an aircraft, as well as reportedly coming to a hover, and turning in place.

Local police departments received a number of calls from residents reporting the object. Some residents expressed concern that the object may have been an aircraft in distress since it was flying so low and since there was an airport in the area.

According to the police reports a call was made to the local airport, however air traffic controllers reported no object on radar or in visual range. The following day two local newspapers published stories about the local reports. Both newspapers said that official suggests were that the object was a stunt plane from a local airport. This explanation does not meet with the descriptions from the witnesses.

Our investigation of this incident reached a point where no further information was being uncovered, and therefore we have decided to close the case. Our conclusion, after examining the information and witness testimony, is that this object was not a conventional aircraft.

Our final report, along with the newspaper articles, can be found in the "Our Cases" section of our UFO Investigation Division (www.sgra-media.org/UFO/). For additional information, or if you have any questions, contact the SGRA at sgra@sgra-media.org.

Thanks to Jon Nowinski of the Smoking Gun Research Agency.

KEEPING IT LIGHT

Special thanks to **Connie O'Very** of **Mi-MUFON** for the "musical aliens"



Mrs. Kenneth Arnold, the world's first debunker

President Ford Passes Away at 93



Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr. died December 26, 2006. He was the 38th President from 1974–1977, and 40th Vice President of the United States. He became the only president in U.S. history to fill that office without having been elected either President or Vice-President. Gerald Ford was the longest-lived president.

I queried President Ford concerning UFOs. He wrote to me saying:

“During my public career in Congress, as Vice President and President. I made various requests for any information on UFOs. The official authorities denied the UFO allegations. As a result, I have no information that would be helpful to you. Signed Gerald R. Ford, March 17, 1998.”

By George Filer

President Gerald R. Ford Was Interested in UFOs

He apparently had interest in UFOs because he asked about them as a Congressman, Vice President and 38th President. Congressman Gerald R. Ford stated, "The American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the U. S. Air Force.

In 1966, Michigan experienced hundreds of UFO sightings and reports by dozens of students of a weird dancing light produced quite a furor. To handle the demands for an explanation the Air Force held a quickly arranged news conference where J. Allen Hynek, an astronomy advisor to Project Blue book, made a statement he would regret the rest of his life. He declared that a sighting made by Frank Mannor on March 16, 1966, in Dexter, Michigan was probably "swamp gas." The comment made Hynek an instant celebrity. One of those who came to the help of the public in their demands for answers from the government was House Republican leader Gerald Ford, who would later become 38th President. Like any good Congressman Ford came to the defense of his constituents.

"In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explanation than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena. I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFOs and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment of the subject."

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

Ford's letter was passed on to the House Armed Services committee and the House Science and Astronautics Committee in hopes that one of the two groups would hold hearings. Neither would do anything to start. One member of the Science and technology Committee explained that as he knew the Air Force didn't come under his jurisdiction. Ford then asked the committee if

flying saucers were under their jurisdiction and received no reply. The Armed Services Committee on the other hand thought that there might be troubles holding hearing. It had been tried before and never took place. The House Committee on Foreign Affairs did take up the issue in response to the call for hearing made by Ford. It was not the full hearings that Ford had asked for but it was an airing of the issue in public. Committee representative Cornelius E. Gallagher had questions for President Johnson's Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara.

McNamara stated: Of course we have an interest in it. We treat each of these reports as though it were a report of a sincere individual, and we seek to find the explanation of what it was that led to the report. It is our responsibility to defend the country against potential aggressors. We don't know what form the aggression might take. We recognize the possibility that it might take a different form than anyone has anticipated in the past. I have complete confidence in the Air Force's objectivity in this area. If anything the investigations are more extensive than actually required.

Gallagher: Is there anything at all to any of this?

McNamara: I think not. I have talked to the Secretary of the Air Force and the (AF) Director of Research and Engineering, and neither of them place any real credence in the reports they have received to date. Snip

Thanks to Frank Warren http://www.presidentialufo.com/gerald_ford_ufo.htm

By George Filer FILER'S FILES # 1 -2007



Michigan MUFON State Section Directors Meeting Minutes November 5, 2006

The January 28 state meeting was held at Walli's Restaurant in Flint, Michigan.

Bill Konkolesky, State Director, called the Section Directors' meeting to order at 11:15 AM. In attendance were David Twichell, Jane and Bob Wagel, Rebecca Konkolesky, Len Keeney and Wendy Smith.

David noted that the process of mailing MIMUFON Newsletters in envelopes went smoothly. The postage was \$0.63, identical to the price without an envelope. He mailed 77 or 78 Newsletters and none of the 149 Invitations that were sent in the past. The group agreed that a self-inking return address stamp should be purchased.

Wendy brought a copy of the Ohio MUFON Newsletter and inquired about using the magazine type format with four pages printed on a single sheet of 11 by 17 inch paper. The format is reader friendly but may be more expensive to print. David did not know whether the Publisher 98 software he uses was capable of this orientation. He delivers an electronic copy plus one hard copy to the printer.

Wendy also noted that on the reverse side of the Ohio membership application there is a space for member comments and suggestions. She suggested that this section could be incorporated into the Michigan application, and will email David with the Ohio verbiage. David will adapt it for Michigan and circulate the changes for Board approval.

Bill noted that he makes available a similar form for people interested in MIMUFON at his lectures, and would like to use the new membership form after approval. The International Director, James Carrion, sent Bill a number of MUFON brochures for handout. James complimented the MIMUFON Newsletter, and also sent five copies of the International Symposium Proceedings from 1997, the year Michigan hosted in Grand Rapids. The brochures will be distributed at public presentations (libraries, etc.) and the Symposium Proceedings will be distributed upon discretion.

Speakers for future MIMUFON meetings were discussed, and popular suggestions included Bruce Maccabee and Linda Moulton Howe.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy Smith, February 4, 2007.

Anatomy of a Phenomenon: Unidentified Objects in Space – A Scientific Appraisal

Bill Murphy's Column

by Jacques Vallee

Chicago: Henry Regnery Company, 1965

Introduction to the Vallee Reviews:

In my review of the recently-published *Grass Roots UFOs*, by Michael Swords *et al.*, I mentioned Dr. Swords' list of a few of the best reading materials in ufology. My reviews will emphasize these works, because they afford the most responsible basic grounding with the elite scholarship on the subject, with all its controversies, personalities, and history. As members of an organization whose express purpose is the scientific study of UFOs, we should be familiar with these seminal books.

There are three books by Dr. Jacques Vallee on this "top twenty" list: *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965), *Challenge to Science* (with Janine Vallee, 1966), and *Passport to Magonia* (1969). It's no accident that Vallee has placed more books on the list than anyone else; the man must be one of the top ten luminaries in the field, has thought longer and more penetratingly on the subject than most anyone else alive, and his development of interests, including his movement away from the ETH (Extraterrestrial Hypothesis) has made him a self-regarded maverick in the field. In many instances Vallee was breaking new ground in the positions we'll consider in these three reviews. There are themes here that will deserve much attention in this column in future. Then, too, *how* Dr. Vallee makes his points – his choice of examples, his use of language – deserves our admiration. All in all, Vallee furnishes some of the clearest, most powerful arguments yet made for taking the ufological subject seriously.

Anatomy of a Phenomenon

Jacques Vallee is a French astrophysicist and computer scientist who became uneasy at the unscientific way in which scientists were regarding the UFO phenomenon. He personally saw anomalous data being discarded because it conflicted with the preconceptions of some scientists. He found that the data, or evidence, if you will, for contact with other intelligences seemed to go far back in time before Kenneth Arnold in 1947. *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* is Vallee's effort to make a scientific argument, in a popular form, that UFO reports (note that I did not say UFOs) are worthy of serious scientific study, and to suggest avenues to prosecute that study.

Anatomy of a Phenomenon contains seven chapters and a longish "Note" at the end. Chapter One covers UFO reports before the "Modern Period", which Vallee begins with the Scandinavian "ghost-rocket" wave of 1946. Chapter Two is a kind of digression on the scientific aspects of the possibility of contact with "Superior Galactic Communities"; the "Note" at the end of the book expands more upon this topic. Chapter Three considers modern UFO reports and documentation, while Four presents what the scientific approach to such reports should be, and proposes, as Vallee does throughout the book (for instance, on page 15), various scientific research strategies. Chapter Five touches upon a subject that is of special interest to Dr. Vallee: the human reaction to the UFO "event". Chapter Six presents the outlines of Vallee's original classification scheme for UFO reports; his "Type II Sightings" of "cloud cigars" apparently generating UFOs will assume particular importance in his early thinking on the subject. The last chapter presents various "Theories and Hypotheses" made by credible researchers on the origin of the perceptions. This last has a certain historical interest in itself, as well as presenting views that may be unfamiliar to many, but are still, after 40 years of ufological study and debate, worthy of consideration.

Along the way, Vallee makes numerous points that deserve note. On page 28 he takes on a portion of Carl Jung's thinking that has been latched onto by debunkers ever since -- the notion that the public generates and propagates UFO rumors as a way of releasing psychological tensions. This "is denied by the absence of correlation between important periods of interest in science fiction and peaks of UFO activity." On page 32 Vallee applies the "Principle of Least Effort" to explain the mental laziness possibly behind both uncritical acceptance of any UFO theory that comes down the pike, on the one hand, and the knee-jerk reaction of debunkers to any UFO report as "It can't be, therefore it isn't":

There seems to be a natural tendency among some groups to attribute to some sort of intelligence any natural phenomenon they are not yet able to understand. An opposite inclination is found among people who will attribute everything to illusion and the imagination of the observer. ... It is less expensive and much easier to accept any phenomenon we do not understand as either the indication of some unknown, "occult" power, such as a divine or intelligent manifestation, or as a pure hallucination than to undertake objective research.

One fascinating fact that comes out of this book is the provinciality of U.S. UFO studies. I think U.S. ufology is nowadays more internationally aware through media attention and improved communications – we see Mexican videos periodically and everyone is familiar with “The KGB UFO files”, for instance. Vallee makes the rather dramatic statement that U.S. sightings (at least up to 1965) are generally less interesting than those made elsewhere (p. 41), a remark that he backs up on page 83 by saying that the 1952 Washington D.C. sightings would be considered “second rate”! He also notes that descriptions by French witnesses are generally more detailed than those made by Americans (p. 92) – an interesting factoid, if true.

Dr. Vallee packs a lot into ten pages of his “The Scientific Problem” Chapter Four. Page 78 takes issue with the Air Force’s conclusion that UFOs pose no threat because they have shown no evidence of hostility; on that and the following page he tackles the “why is there no physical evidence” question. Here Vallee’s answer is dear to my heart as a Quality Control student – he thinks the supposed aliens have likely solved “all problems of hardware reliability.” Of course, many ufologists contend that since 1947 there *is* such evidence, but that it’s been successfully sequestered by security forces across the globe. Page 79 suggests “This is a new occasion for us to wonder if logicians do not restrict a little too much our area of responsibility when they ask us to disregard our emotions and block our imaginations to the bare facts, and to see everything through a microscope with the mind of a machine.” Here Vallee adduces something from his own peculiar area of strength – data processing; his computers perform the logical, unemotional part of his work, but his imagination and emotional mind frame the questions and interpret the answers from the computed statistics. By the way, this is how technical specialists resolve quality problems, detectives solve cases, and historians construct their pictures of past societies. In fact, haven’t all useful endeavors been the products of imagination, hard work, and to some degree, science, logic or ordered thinking? The Apollo program, Thor Heyerdahl’s expeditions, the civil rights movement? Indeed, in Vallee’s later work *Passport to Magonia*, Dr. Vallee goes even further when he says “Human actions are based on imagination, belief, and faith, not on objective observation – as military and political experts know well. Even science, which claims its methods and theories are rationally developed, is really shaped by emotion and fancy, or by fear.” (p. 150).

Continuing with Vallee’s “power-packed” Chapter Four of *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, page 80 describes scientists’ tendencies towards what both J. Allen Hynek and Edward Ruppelt, former head of Project Blue Book, have called a fundamental error of the USAF study of UFOs: the tendency to treat each UFO report separately, on its own, without reference to the larger phenomenon, which makes it easier to explain that isolated report away. Dr. Vallee also notes (p. 88) that “mental processes that today oppose the hypothesis of extraterrestrial intelligence are precisely those we like to suppose were abolished four centuries ago”, having been employed against Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo. Page 81 has one of those priceless examples of supposedly-intelligent scientists making remarkably unintelligent, unscientific pronouncements: in 1957, not long before Sputnik, the British Astronomer Royal declared that “Space travel is utter bilge”. Edward Ruppelt, who can hardly be accused of being a “UFO enthusiast”, has also recorded a few of these stupid sayings in *his Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, and I am collecting these for potential use against CSICO-Per-thinking; I’d appreciate any further contributions you might find along these lines! On page 84 Vallee starts a remarkable and instructive excursus on how the scholars at the Emperor (crowned thus in 800 AD) Charlemagne’s court would have studied a sighting of a fleet of 20th-century atomic bombers. And on pages 87-8 he argues that a “generalist-analyst” (my term), aided by mathematics, would likely have far more success studying UFO reports than the “specialists” have accomplished in (then) twenty years of work.

There is much more of interest in this book. Vallee states that “The scientist’s reaction to the problem [of UFOs] has never been anything but emotional.” (p. 112). He accuses scientists of “neglecting to conform with the basic rules of scientific honesty when confronted with this problem”; finds a basic flaw in SETI-like programs that seek intelligible “radio signals through space because radio waves are a good vehicle of information and because space travel between planetary systems is inconceivable. Both assumptions are extrapolations of conditions existing on earth today.” Vallee criticizes these by making the same point that Dr. Hynek would voice even more clearly the next year, Hynek stating that 20th-century scientists tend to forget “that there will be a 21st-century science, and indeed, a 30th-century science, from which vantage points our knowledge of the universe may appear quite different.” (J. Allen Hynek in “UFOs Merit Scientific Study” in *Science* October 21, 1966, p. 329, quoted in David M. Jacobs, *The UFO Controversy in America*, p. 215). Vallee also observes in *Anatomy* p. 113: “It has been repeatedly affirmed by scientific authorities that what constitutes a scientific subject is not its nature but the way it is treated.” While arguing that scientists shouldn’t be scared of ridicule for taking on the UFO problem, he also does allow that they have career, family, and in general practical reasons for not immersing themselves in the study of UFO reports. So what to do? Page 115 lists the positives and negatives of amateurs undertaking UFO investigations. It’s clear Vallee has misgivings about the way much ufology is prosecuted – he emphasizes his concern about hoaxers and hucksters, and about the agendas of the U.S. UFO organizations of his day. I believe Vallee still maintains these concerns, and has to a large extent opted-out of mainstream ufology (“Beginning as an active researcher, I have become a sorrowful bystander in this field.” he said in a 1995 interview with *Noetic Sciences Review* # 6). However, this passage from the professed open-minded skeptic and religious scholar Christopher Partridge in his *UFO Religions* (2003) gives some more recent perspective on the prosecution of modern ufology:

Whilst there are UFO reports and studies which are little more than ridiculous speculation, even fabrication, there are, as I have discovered when attending gatherings of UFO enthusiasts, ‘ufologists’ who go to great lengths to ensure that

sightings are verified and that hoax encounters and shoddy researchers are exposed. It is my impression that many in the ufology community are hard working and intelligent people who, as far as they are able, are committed to the highest standards of research. Indeed, I have been genuinely impressed by the detailed (if a little obsessive) scrutiny of government documents, the critical discussions of recent publications on UFOs, the dogged determination to thoroughly investigate reported sightings, and the files apparently compiled over many years. (pp. 3f).

Some bits and pieces from the rest of *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*: In Chapter 5 (Flying Saucers and Human Reason) we begin to see Vallee's live interest in folklore behind stories of encounters with UFO occupants, yet he is extremely wary of contactees' claims; it is good that he notes that "similar fancies have been found in all branches of science" (p. 127). He believes (rightly, as per Ruppelt) that "Type I" sightings (perceived as objects on or near to the ground) were more common in the early "modern era" than reported; as with I. Davis, he cannot determine the origin of the term "little green men" (p. 142); and he entertains G. Inglefield's May 1964 *Flying Saucer Review* notion that the miracle at Fatima was not only ufological in origin, but perhaps "a gesture of mocking." (p.151).

On the matter of "ancient astronauts", Vallee avers that "These theories seem to receive more support from traditional texts and legends than from objective archaeological facts." (p. 163), and two pages later argues that "References to 'ancient knowledge' are commonly found in extrascientific literatures, and they are, as a rule, incompetently treated." He considers with favor Aime Michel's four hypotheses on the purpose of UFO exploration and the attitude of the "operators" towards us. Michel's first hypothesis is that contact "may follow one-way channels parallel to the 'contact' between a naturalist and the insects he observes; insects do perceive the contact but only on their level, and they are unable to participate in a voluntary exchange of information." (p. 171). This thought has bothered me; it could explain why in 60 years' efforts we have not unraveled the UFO phenomenon or phenomena. I remember overhearing a speaker at the 1995 MUFON Symposium in Seattle predict in a side conversation that we would have "The Answer" within 5 years; back in the 50's Edward Ruppelt had predicted great progress soon; Vallee himself would say in his later *Challenge to Science* (p.230) that "The Solution is Within Reach" – and, folks – it didn't happen. Of course, as was pointed out to me by a prominent ufologist early last year, such an attitude is not productive of further useful research, and there are very likely levels of "operators" and phenomena "out there", some more intelligible to our senses and intellect than others.

A *propos* of this last discussion, I think Vallee errs in seeking a single, unitary explanation covering all perceived UFO phenomena; while I agree they are related in their strangeness, their "paranormalcy", being outside the pale of common human experience, I do not agree that all must be related in their causation and (potential) purpose. Vallee's eventual disenchantment with the extraterrestrial hypothesis I believe stemmed in part from his inability to make it answer all of the data, to be the Grand Unifying Theory for all UFO phenomena. If in fact UFO events stem from multiple causes, we should not expect one theory to cover all the bases. I also think that the theoretical inference that "UFO's from very distant places would occur just as often as UFO's from nearby stars, but they would be products of much more highly developed technologies" (p. 187) does not take into account the variables that knowledge accrual, innate intelligence, and physical-psychological differences among supposed alien races may play – I think the whole matter of what types of aliens may be visiting us is much more involved.

With *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, Jacques Vallee laid down the groundwork for a sensible, scientific approach to what many considered an "unscientific" subject, and challenged debunkers and unthinking skeptics for their lack of scientific acumen. Many of the arguments in this book have never been successfully attacked by those closed minds, who would just as soon the public didn't read and reflect on this book. I think any thinking person with a shred of interest in the subject should acquire a copy.

Afterward and references on page 13



VANCOUVER ISLAND -- We were fishing near Port McNeill, and we were coming in to get some fuel for the boat at Telegraph Cove. We were going through a channel where a riptide was present and I wanted to get a picture of it. Later on, after downloading the photo onto my computer, my son noticed something weird in the upper left section of this particular photo. I couldn't identify it other than that it appeared to be a UFO. I wasn't going to report it as we didn't witness it in real time, but after hearing about this other one at O'Hare in Chicago, I remembered that I have a picture and decided to send it to you guys. It's not a bad photo, considering that I wasn't focusing on it. I'm sure the photo enhancing software that you guys have would probably be better than what I have. This picture that I have has not been altered or enhanced in any way.

Thanks to Ralf Kauth Thanks to Filer's Files # 2 2007

Air Force colonel reports lights 'not of this world'

Snaps images above Arkansas: 'I have no idea what they were'

By Joe Kovacs

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In the wake of reports of unidentified objects flying over Chicago's O'Hare Airport, a retired Air Force pilot has his own mystery with a rash of bright, colorful lights he photographed hovering in skies over western Arkansas last week.

"I believe these lights were not of this world, and I feel a duty and responsibility to come forward," Col. Brian Fields told WND. "I have no idea what they were."

Fields, 61, was cooking chicken at his Van Buren, Ark., home Jan. 9 when just before 7 p.m., he observed two intensely bright lights as he looked to the southeast close to the horizon.

"At first I thought they were landing lights from an aircraft," he said. "As I continued to observe them they began to slowly disappear, then suddenly one reappeared, followed by two, then three. On at least one occasion four or five appeared. Each time they would slowly fade and eventually disappear. This occurred several times and when they would reappear they might do so in differing numbers and in different positions, sometimes in a triangular shape, sometimes stacked on top of each other, sometimes line abreast, etc. When the objects appeared they might stay illuminated 10 or more minutes."

Fields' wife thought the lights may have been ground-based, but Fields says he's certain they were airborne. The retired colonel spent close to 32 years in the military, flying F-16s as a member of the 188th Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard.

"I'm certain it wasn't an aircraft [from Earth]," said Fields, who also ruled out the possibility of flares, saying they didn't descend like flares typically do. "It's not anything I ever had any experience with. ... They were some kind of energy or something."

Fields grabbed his Canon digital camera with 6 mega pixel resolution to document what he and his wife were seeing, and snapped numerous images of the mysterious lights, which appeared white, yellow and orange.

He says the phenomenon lasted an hour and 15 minutes, and local news agencies have not published or broadcast any reports of what the couple witnessed. WND surveyed local police and sheriffs agencies, as well as Fort Chaffee, a decommissioned Army base in the region, and no one reported anything out of the ordinary.

"I just can't imagine other people didn't see it," Fields said, noting they appeared at 5 to 10 degrees above the horizon.

Earlier this month, the Chicago Tribune reported workers for United Air Lines said they saw a flying saucer-like object hovering "low over O'Hare International Airport for several minutes before bolting through thick clouds with such intense energy that it left an eerie hole in overcast skies."

That Nov. 7 sighting took place just before sunset about 4:30 p.m.

According to Tribune columnist Jon Hilkevitch, "All the witnesses said the object was dark gray and well defined in the overcast skies. They said the craft, estimated by different accounts to be 6 feet to 24 feet in diameter, did not display any lights.

"Some said it looked like a rotating Frisbee, while others said it did not appear to be spinning. All agreed the object made no noise and it was at a fixed position in the sky, just below the 1,900-foot cloud deck, until shooting off into the clouds."

When interviewed on National Public Radio about the story, Hilkevitch indicated the event was anything but a hoax.

"That's what impressed me about this. All aviation professionals, very credible sources and they are very serious," Hilkevitch said. "They are not saying what they saw was a, you know, a spaceship from another planet, but it was unidentified, it was in restricted airspace, and they were concerned from a safety standpoint. That if this was something man-made, they needed to get it out of there because they were having busy flight operations in the early evening hours."

Back in Arkansas, Col. Fields, who says he's a Christian who has not been a believer in alien life forms from other planets, speculated what he saw could possibly be related to ancient texts from the Bible.

One of them is Luke 21:11, where Jesus discusses signs of the End Times, stating, "And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."

Another is even more ancient, going back to the time of Noah's flood.

"That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. ... There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown." (Genesis 6:2-4)

These Old Testament verses have been enigmatic for centuries, but many Christians believe they refer to a time in antiquity when spirit beings, perhaps angels in rebellion against God, visited Earth and had sexual relations with human women, producing "giants," which is translated from the Hebrew word "Nephilim," which some scholars say is better translated as "fallen ones."

"I believe it's prophetic, something to do with what's happening in the Middle East today," said Fields. "If this is some kind of event with visitation, it's entirely possible. When the anti-Christ comes into power, it's not going to be something we expect. The deception that is going to be attached to it is going to be so powerful, you're gonna have to go against your reason to reject it."

While Fields cannot be certain of what it was he saw, he wants to tell people not to be deceived.

"Be awake, be mindful you can be deceived," he said. "There are things that can shake our world."

http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=53820



Bill Murphy's column continued . . .

Afterword: Any contribution to the intelligent public discussion of a subject benefits from responsible review and critique by others, and I would welcome your comments. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife, Linda Murphy, for her observations.

For example, see Vallee, Jacques, *Anatomy of a Phenomenon: Unidentified Objects in Space – A Scientific Appraisal*, Chicago: Henry Regnery Company, 1965, pp. 96-98, 103-104. This book is now (2007) out of print, but can be obtained used from booksellers cheaply, particularly online.

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ibid, p. 92

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Vallee, Jacques, *Passport to Magonia: on UFOs, folklore, and parallel worlds*, Chicago, Contemporary Books, Inc., 1993, p. 150. Originally published Chicago: Henry Regnery Co., 1969

Vallee, *Anatomy*, p. 88

ibid, p. 81

ibid, pp. 84-86

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ibid, p. 112

ibid, p. 112

J. Allen Hynek in "UFOs Merit Scientific Study" in *Science* October 21, 1966, p. 329, quoted in David M. Jacobs, *The UFO Controversy in America*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1975, p. 215

Vallee, *Anatomy*, p. 113

ibid, p. 115

Vallee, Jacques, Consciousness, Culture and UFOs, *Noetic Sciences Review* #36, page 06, Winter 1995, www.noetic.org/publications/review/issue36/main.cfm?page=r36_Vallee.html

Partridge, Christopher, *UFO Religions*, London and New York: Routledge, 2003, pp. 3-4

Vallee, *Anatomy*, p. 127

ibid, p. 133

ibid, p. 142

ibid, p. 151

ibid, p. 163

ibid, p. 165

ibid, pp. 171-173

ibid, p. 172

Vallee, Jacques and Vallee, Janine, *Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma*, New York: Ballantine Books, 1974, pp. 230-233. Originally published Chicago: Henry Regnery, 1966

Vallee, *Anatomy*, p. 181



Abductee's Sister Confirms Seeing is Believing

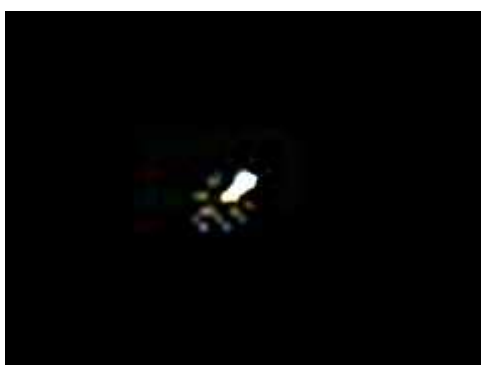
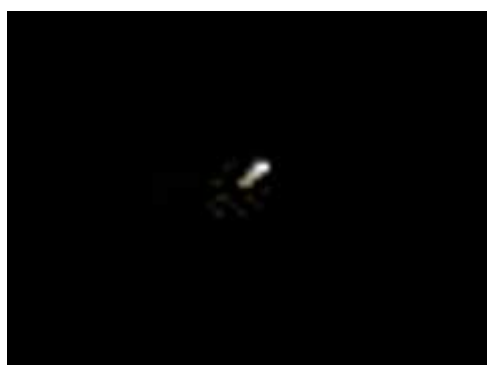
Approx. 12:15 AM Friday Dec. 22.

My sister woke me out of my sleep to tell me she had just spotted a self-luminous, white light, round object hovering above a corn-field on Waits Rd. Owego, New York.

It hovered in one spot for 10 minutes. As it started to move, its light turned to blue and red lights. Then it flew over her home and the lights turned off but the shape was visible against the stars.

All of a sudden, it sped up and made a sound like a big "Swoosh" sound then a sonic boom. She took a picture of it with her camera phone. Doesn't look like much, but it has changed her life and is FINALLY willing to discuss the Bible/UFO connection with me. I haven't spoke to my family in 7 years because of their ridicule. But I think they know they were wrong to do that to me. But I forgive them. I knew the Lord would do something to show how sane I am.

Here is the camera phone photo inverted with my graphic program.



Original cell phone photograph of object

Object cropped and enlarged

Computer enhanced for detail

I've had UFO encounters my entire life. My family thought I was crazy but I knew I wasn't. The Lord is beginning to show them that.

Praise the Lord!
Manarca.

Editor's Note: Manarca Merrifield is a talented artist whose artwork graces the cover of Dr. Barry Downing's book "The Bible and Flying Saucers". Several of her paintings are displayed with permission in my own book, "Global Implications of the UFO Reality" as well. She is a lifelong UFO and alien experiencer and devout Christian who makes the connection between the UFO phenomenon and religion. Her website, "UFOs and the Bible", may be found at: <http://ufosbible.homestead.com/UFOReligiousArt.html>



General Douglas MacArthur:

"Because of the developments of science, all the countries on earth will have to unite to survive and to make a common front against attack by people from other planets. The politics of the future will be cosmic, or interplanetary." (The New York Times, October 8, 1955.)

"You now face a new world - a world of change. The thrust into outer space of the satellite, spheres and missiles marked the beginning of another epoch in the long story of mankind - the chapter of the space age... We speak in strange terms: of harnessing the cosmic energy... of the primary target in war, no longer limited to the armed forces of an enemy, but instead to include his civil populations; of ultimate conflict between a united human race and the sinister forces of some other planetary galaxy...

“(Address by General Douglas MacArthur to the United States Military Academy at West Point, May 12, 1962.)

Recent Michigan Sightings

Brownstown, MI:

The witness was driving home in the vicinity of Pennsylvania and Sibley Rd in Brownstown, when he noticed a bright object moving at a very fast pace from the South. He watched as it came to a dead stop without slowing down. He stopped his car to get a better look and, after hovering a few seconds, it moved toward him and came to rest almost directly above him. The object was oval-shaped and pulsated with a reddish/orange glow. The object hovered silently for another few seconds, and then darted off to the south and straight up. The object was about 30 – 35 feet in diameter and was approximately one quarter of a mile from the witness and about 7 to 800 feet above the ground at its closest point.

Saint Joseph, MI:

The witness states: "I saw bright lights on two occasions over Lake Michigan a little after 10 p.m. on February 7, 2007. I was looking out over Lake Michigan from my bedroom window a little after 10 p.m. on the 7th of February and I saw a rectangular shaped light over the lake for approximately 3 minutes. It was brighter than the airplanes I usually see. It kept "winking" on and off until it finally winked off for good.

"Later that night I looked out again and saw red and white, colored, flashing lights in a shape that seemed oval or saucer shaped. It was so low that it looked like it was hovering directly over the lake. It didn't move for a few minutes and then it suddenly zigzagged back and forth at an angle a couple of times until the flashing stopped and it disappeared."

Jan. 29, 2007 8:20 AM. Monroe, MI

Shape: Cigar

Duration: 10 minutes.

I was driving north on Telegraph Rd going into Monroe on Saturday morning with my 17 yr old daughter. It was approximately 8:20 am and it was just beginning to turn daylight. My daughter and I saw a single bright light in the sky ahead of us, slightly off to the left. It looked slightly smaller than a dime from our view. We watched this bright light. First it looked like it was hovering, but then it was slowly moving real slow. The light was shimmering, not blinking, but like it would dim then grow brighter, dim again, etc. We watched for about 1 min and it just disappeared. Like a light switch, it was on and then it was off and there was nothing there. We saw it again about 2-3 minutes later, except by the second sighting it had moved its position in the sky to where it was directly ahead of us. We watched for about a minute, and again, like a light switch, it just vanished.

It was totally light out at this point now and there was not a cloud in the sky. We found it a third time in the sky, and we could tell it was moving slowly again. We followed it with our eyes, and within a minute, the bright light went totally out again, but this time instead of being nothing there, as soon as the bright light went out, we saw some kind of object (resembled a rocket) with three blinking lights running parallel underneath it (two white, one red). It had two small...wings, for lack of a better word, positioned midway on the object. It looked black or a dark color. The three lights were not the same bright light that we had originally seen when we first spotted it in the sky. These were different lights, much smaller. This object just disappeared in the sky, just like it had the first two times we saw it. No trail, tail, no haze, no nothing. There one minute and gone the next. It didn't fly off; it just disappeared into thin air.

This was unlike any plane I have ever seen. I should also mention that this sighting was near the Fermi Nuclear Power plant in Monroe, Mi. The 'wings' that I mention were very small. It was like this thing had some sort of cloaking device that made it invisible.

Thanks to <http://www.nuforc.org/>

CMS continues to amass sighting reports from around the globe. In January 2007 there were 231 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS. 193 of these cases were within the US. Eleven of which were from the state of Michigan.

Most impressively there were 14 Landings, Hovering, or Takeoffs reported and 25 Entities observed, worldwide.

To review the CMS data yourself go to www.mufon.com and click on "UFO Case Files" to 1.) Easily look at the Last 20 Sightings, or 2.) Do a customized search of the CMS database by date and/or location, or 3.) Logon to CMS for even more detailed UFO sighting information about your State and the World.



Dr. Charles Lietzau to Present on the Skinwalker Ranch March 11

The Adventure of the Skinwalker Ranch: Scientists Confront the Paranormal Presented by Chuck Lietzau



A remote corner of Utah has been forbidden territory to the Native Americans since the beginning of tribal memory. They were wise enough to avoid the "Path of the Skinwalker." However, a team of scientists armed with modern equipment, sets out on a five-year investigation to uncover the truth behind the mystery. Will they succeed, or is it possible that their "Mulder" will be "outFoxed" by an "Alien Wolf?" Come and be a part of this enigmatic, ongoing saga.

For those of you maybe unfamiliar with the whole Skinwalker thing, it is simply bizarre.

Unidentified vehicles

A refrigerator-shaped object about the size of an RV with a white light at the front and a red light at the back was reported by the Gorman family prior to NIDS' arrival. The vehicle allegedly

retreated from Gorman and his nephew as they approached it. It then floated up into the clear sky and flew away. The vehicle bore a limited resemblance to a Chupa, a type of UFO reported in Brazil.

A black triangular object resembling an F-117 Nighthawk stealth fighter was also allegedly witnessed by Mrs. Gorman. The vehicle hovered about 20 feet above her parked car before it vanished.

The locals call those types of lights "ghost lights", and the Gormans claimed the lights can also come towards people in fashion as if to play a game of "chicken".

Orbs and floating lights

Glowing orbs of various colors, particularly orange and blue, were allegedly seen on the property. They were described as ranging from basketball- to baseball-sized, and some contained what appeared to be swirling liquid. These objects were allegedly capable of affecting electrical items, particularly lights merely by their presence, and of melting animals, such as dogs. This was possibly due to extreme heat or radiation that might have emanated from the orbs.

Another phenomena observed by the Gormans were large orange circles that floated in the sky and occasionally expelled orbs and unidentified beings. Mr. Gorman claimed blue sky was visible through one such circle he witnessed at night.

One of them took on a human form and blasted a dog with lightning, causing it to melt.

Cattle mutilations and strange creatures

The Gormans allegedly witnessed numerous cattle mutilations on the ranch during their stay. Some common traits included:

One ear being cut off; Excision of the cattle's genitals; The cattle being cored out from the anus; Exsanguinations, some of which took place very quickly (20 minutes on one occasion).

Numerous encounters with unidentified or strangely behaving creatures allegedly occurred on the ranch. In some tales the creatures were reminiscent of dogs or hyenas.

These and much more unexplainable activity has been witnessed and studied at the Skinwalker ranch. Dr. Lietzau will explore them all.

MUFON Field Investigator's Training

Our morning Field Investigator Training will continue with our successful group case review sessions. We will be reviewing actual cases together with the assistance of our FI Manuals to determine, step-by-step, how best to pursue the investigations.

The training session begins at 10:00 AM.

Make Your Meeting Reservations Today!

Phone in your reservations to State Director Bill Konkolesky at (248) 515-9568 or email at wjk@mimufon.org no later than **Wednesday, March 7**. Please leave your name, number attending in your party, and a telephone number where you can be reached, in case we need to contact you. Please let us know as soon as possible, whether you will be attending. Thank you.

Michigan MUFON Meeting

at Walli's East Restaurant

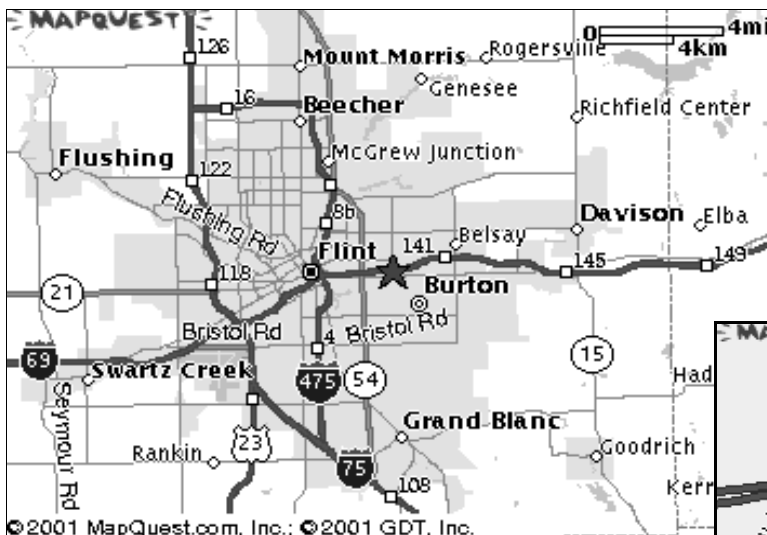
Sunday, March 11, 2007

Members \$13.00 / Non-Members \$15.00

First time guests are \$5.00.

10am	FI Training: Group case reviews
12pm	Buffet Lunch
1:30pm	Dr. Chuck Lietzau on Skinwalker Ranch
4:00pm	MIMUFON Announcements & Necessary Business

MIMUFON Board members: Please plan to attend the brief meeting following the guest speaker.



Walli's East Restaurant
G1341 South Center Rd
Burton, Michigan
(810) 743-9600



- Exit 139 off of I-69
- Just East of I-475
- SE Corner of South Center Rd & Faith Way

From The Editor's Desk



David Twichell

Official Denial Continues

"When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things." This was the best explanation FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory could offer in the O'Hare Airport UFO sighting case that occurred on November 7, 2006. A mere optical illusion! What a great explanation! If it really works, defense attorneys could use this ploy to get bank robbers off the hook. Even if there are a dozen witnesses that identify the defendant, his lawyer could say, "Sometimes the lights from the bank shine onto the thief and make him look like my client! It was a mere optical illusion."

Yeah, that would work!

Official explanations to unexplainable events seem to be getting lamer as time goes on. When I first read it, I couldn't help thinking about my own close encounter sighting in 1962. Even though hundreds of people in the southwest corner of Detroit watched in awe as a gigantic, solid craft silently hovered two hundred feet over their heads in a cloud of smoke, the official explanation was "the northern lights". Those of us who saw it knew the difference, but, for the time being, the rest of the world was placated.

Lame official explanations began with the Roswell incident. When one explanation was challenged, they came up with another. It was originally a "crashed disk." "No, no, just a weather balloon." "No, no, a Mogul balloon." What about the numerous witness testimonies? "They were all lying for the purpose of drawing tourists to their little town." What about the four foot tall bodies that were documented in 1947? "Oh, they were just six foot tall crash test dummies that were dropped from the sky in 1952."

When Harvard University's UFO cynic Susan Clancy took part in a panel discussion on the Larry King show, she was confronted with the famous 1950 Trent photos from McMinnville, Oregon. After being convinced that the object could not have been a hubcap, Frisbee or a clever computer generated hoax, she suggested, "Maybe it was just something weird in the sky that the Trents couldn't explain."

Yes. That would just about cover it!

When the Mexican Department of Defense issued a formal statement that as many as eleven UFOs were tracked and video taped with an infrared FLIER camera by narcotic authorities on a routine patrol, the cynics came out of the woodwork with the explanation that these hot spots were nothing more than "fires from distant oil well rigs". This despite the fact that these trained observers had taken this route daily for months and was quite familiar with the area. If what was observed and captured on video *were* "oil wells", these particular oil wells were obviously *above* the clouds, flying in formation and one of them broke off to chase the patrol plane before disappearing from sight.

If you buy the "oil well" explanation, I have some oceanfront property in Idaho I'd like to talk to you about.

In the case of the Skinwalker Ranch in Utah (the subject of Chuck Lietzau's upcoming presentation), the cynics claim there is no scientific proof of other dimensional activity on the ranch. As Stanton Friedman observed in the January, 2007 issue of the MUFON Journal, demanding hard proof of sporadic and unpredictable phenomena is like "demanding that I produce an eclipse of the moon tomorrow night to prove that such events sometimes occur." Some critics have even claimed the reports on the ranch are a hoax on the part of the Gorman family, aided and abetted by NIDS' Colm Kelleherer and local reporter George Knapp.

And they call UFOlogists "conspiracy theorists"!

I could cite so many examples of lame, official explanations that I could write a book. Oh . . . that's right . . . I did.

The point is that our current lack of understanding of the UFO phenomenon renders mainstream science, our government and military helpless to control the situation. This grievous condition could never be admitted. It frightens them more than it would the general public. In an attempt to maintain the status quo, their explanations tend to become sillier and sillier, and fewer and fewer people are buying into them. When they are challenged to prove their assertions, they simply reply "We don't have to prove anything. You're the ones with the exceptional claims, so you're the ones who must provide the exceptional proof."

The problem with that is that there will never be proof exceptional enough to qualify as such as long as there is someone willing to look foolish enough by saying "When the lights shine up into the clouds, sometimes you can see funny things."

Thanks for letting me vent.

David Twichell

Michigan MUFON Contact List

The following people are the State Section Directors for Michigan. If you have questions, comments, sightings, or any other report, please contact the State Section Director covering your county.

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Caboogie2u@yahoo.com
Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Van Buren, St. Joseph

Isabella, Mecosta, Oseola, Clare
TBA

You will note that not all counties are covered with section directors. In that case you can contact any of the following state officers.

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When possible, contact by e-mail is the best method to reach most of the people on this list, but does not preclude using the telephone numbers if desirable. If you call please be patient as most of the people are not available during the daytime hours. When you leave a message, please speak clearly and leave you telephone number, city, state, and brief message explaining your contact. We will return your call at the earliest convenience.

ATTENTION: If you would like to start receiving your newsletter or invitation via email, please email the editor at news@mimufon.org

Suggestion Box.

Please help us improve our organization with your comments and suggestions.

What is your interest in the UFO phenomenon?

What kind of events should MIMUFON sponsor?

Do you have any suggestions for future speakers at state meetings?

Any other comments or suggestions?

Mail to: Michigan MUFON, PO Box 8532, Kentwood, MI 49518-8532

For the 2007 calendar year memberships (if you are a member) or subscriberships, please use the form below and send it, with a \$25.00 check or money order to:
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