

# UFO

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Editor: David Marler  
Co-Editor: J.D. Scarpellini  
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**Email:** [ufo.news@hotmail.com](mailto:ufo.news@hotmail.com)

### SEATTLE WEEKLY

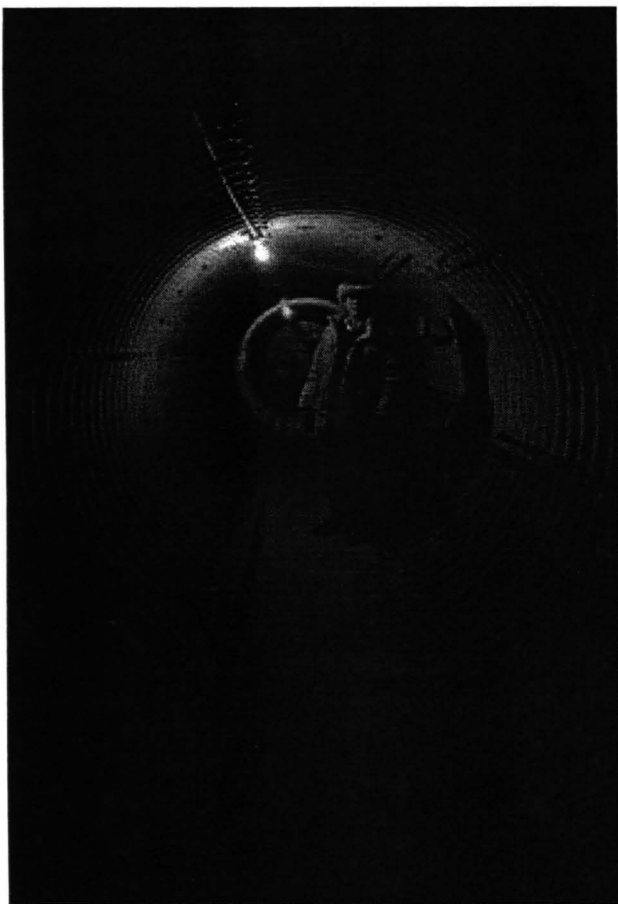
Feb. 9, 1011 Seattle, WA

By Ellis E. Conklin

#### **Peter Davenport Believes in UFOs**

**The respected rural researcher claims the government does too.**

On a bitterly cold mid-January afternoon on the outskirts of Harrington, Wash., a wheat-farming hamlet 50 miles west of Spokane, grain silos sprout on the edges of a snow-bleached horizon. Scrub brush and frozen tumbleweed skitter across a windswept terrain that in the early 1900s Lincoln County residents called a "howling desert." It is home to bobcats, coyotes, and a massive underground nuclear bunker, where once, in its enormous cement-encased womb, a 3.75-megaton intercontinental ballistic missile was pointed straight at the Soviet Union.



Jenn Ireland

**Davenport, shown standing inside the missile bunker he purchased from a convicted murderer's sons in 2006.**



Jenn Ireland

**Davenport is happy to give impromptu tours of his UFO Reporting Center when the snow's not too thick.**

The unholy shrine to the Cold War now belongs to Peter Davenport, a nationally prominent investigator of unidentified flying objects. Over the past decade and a half, Davenport has almost single-handedly put Washington state on the map as a hotbed of UFO research.

Years ago, Ralph H. Benson lived alone in this dark, dank subterranean fortress, an abandoned missile site he purchased in 1983, more than two decades after the government decommissioned the complex and returned its 22 barren acres to the public. An independent trucker, Benson had fallen far behind in his taxes, so agreed to meet at his missile cave with Roger Erdman, a state fuel-tax auditor. On June 12, 2002, Benson proceeded to shoot the tax man in the head and, with a set of flesh knives, dismember his body with such uncanny precision that Washington State Patrol investigators suspected he might have killed before.

"We think there is a high probability there are other victims out there," State Patrol Detective Ken Wade told the Associated Press in 2004, referring specifically to the disappearance of an Illinois trucker, John Warren Deetz, last seen at a Spokane Valley truck stop on December 30, 1988.

Benson thwarted all hopes of additional confessions when he died of natural causes at age 65 in September 2004. Two years later, Davenport, one of the most recognized ufologists in the U.S., bought the missile site from the killer's sons and moved his

extraterrestrial-tracking operation from Seattle to Harrington.

Beneath icy-blue skies this January day, Davenport moves gingerly down a slippery slope that leads to the missile bunker. "Careful, now," he cautions, "there may be wolves out here. Let's stay together." Davenport is the longtime director of the National UFO Reporting Center, an independently operated 24-hour hotline for UFO sightings, which he's run in Washington since 1994. Each year he posts on his website (ufocenter.com) as many as 5,000 sightings, taping callers and making written reports. He figures he has 70,000 sightings on file; he'd surely turn them over to the government, he says, if only they'd ask. Navigating the entryway where the nuclear bomb was gently backed into the cathedral-sized launch room, Davenport posits, "I estimate that 90 to 98 percent of all UFO sightings are explainable events—a satellite, an aircraft, a weather balloon, or a light on a distant airplane. You wouldn't believe the number of calls I get when the International Space Station goes over."

The UFO Reporting Center is known worldwide among UFO enthusiasts, as it is among law-enforcement agencies and 911 emergency dispatch centers. A one-man operation, Davenport, 63, who never married nor had children, works almost every day, "from wake-up to lights-out," and fully funds the hotline out of his own pocket—costs which can range from \$500 to \$5,000 a month, depending on how much he travels.

The small fortune he made selling his stock in BioSyn, a Seattle-area biotech company he helped create in 1983, has enabled Davenport to indulge his compulsive preoccupation with the specter of alien life. In 1994, Robert Gribble, a retired Seattle firefighter who'd run the nonprofit UFO Center for two decades, called Davenport and said it was time to pass the torch. Davenport, whose passion for UFOs germinated after witnessing an unfathomable jumble of lights as a young boy growing up in the northerly suburbs of St. Louis, agreed without hesitation.

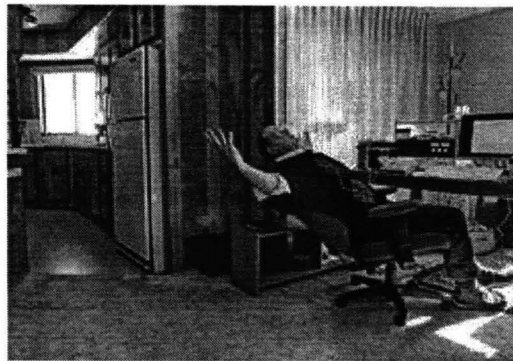
Known for his deep interest in science and his encyclopedic memory in recounting dates, times, locations, and even the most arcane details of a sighting, Davenport is highly respected among peers. "He has an excellent reputation. He's top-flight and extremely intelligent," declares Clifford Clift, international director of the 5,000-member Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), the world's largest UFO organization, based in Greeley, Colo.

Yet there are days when Davenport wonders why he's made the search for alien beings his life's work. "You may ask why do I do this, and I must admit that I do not have an adequate explanation for you," he says in a deep baritone that may be familiar to those who listen to Coast to Coast AM with George Noory, a radio show exploring unexplained phenomena on which Davenport is a frequent guest. (Locally it airs Monday through Friday from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on KIRO-FM, 97.3.)

Davenport grouches that an increasing number of calls in recent years are from foul-mouthed pranksters—kids, mostly, who find the hotline number on the Internet and are out to have some mean-spirited fun at Davenport's expense. "I'd say at least the half the calls I get are crank calls." He concedes that UFO hunters need skin as thick as an elephant's to endure the stinging brunt of ridicule and skepticism. Then there's the added nuisance of the ever-present lunatic fringe and callers who just won't shut up. "People will go on and on say anything. No wonder the monkey house is the loudest place at the zoo."

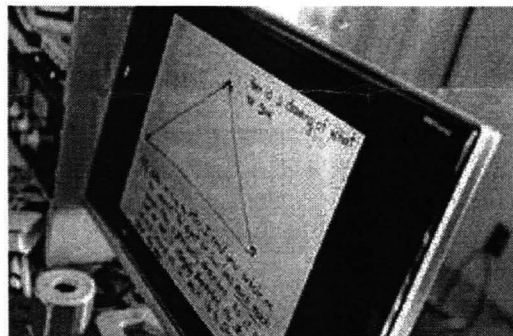
So what keeps him going? "Because I know that this is the greatest scientific question that has ever confronted man. And that question is whether we are alone or not. And I submit to you that we are visited on a frequent basis. This is the biggest story in the world."

Davenport darkly suggests that the government knows full well that UFOs exist. "And I believe, too—though I can't prove it—that the hotline is being monitored by the U.S. government." Indeed, his work has not gone unnoticed by the UFO community, who gather by the hundreds to see him headline such big events as the UFO International Congress in Laughlin, Nev., and the MUFON Symposium each July in Denver.



Jenn Ireland

**Davenport demonstrating, as best he can, the size of the March 1997 "Phoenix Lights" UFO.**



Jenn Ireland

**A drawing of the "Phoenix Lights" UFO.**

The FBI has also taken notice of the high-profile ufologist. In fact, the Bureau reached out to Davenport in the spring of 1997, when two special agents asked him to travel to the East Coast to meet with them. Furthermore, Davenport has been a key source for a number of UFO stories that have been published in various newspapers and magazines, including the *Los Angeles Times* and *USA Today*. He's appeared on the History and Discovery Channels, and his National UFO Center was featured by the late anchor Peter Jennings as part of a two-hour prime-time ABC special, *Seeing Is Believing*, which aired February 24, 2005.

All told, Davenport has achieved what dedicated ufologists crave most: to be taken seriously.

Everything about Harrington (pop. 430) comes in miniature: There is one grocery, one bank, a lone bar (the Harrington Haus Tavern, with its four regular patrons) and a K-12 school, home to the Titans, which last year boasted a graduating class of seven.

And of course, there's one UFO Reporting Center.

Harrington looks to be straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting. Comfortable homes sport turrets and white wraparound porches. Flannel shirts and cowboy hats are the uniform of choice. This well-ordered farming village, which the Great Northern Railway Company's tracks once ran right through, was named in honor of W.P. Harrington, a laconic banker from Colusa, Calif., who became the town's most prolific landowner. Back in the 1920s, the biggest mule show in the country took place in Harrington.

Needless to say, Davenport's presence, at least in the beginning, had more than a few residents scratching their heads. "Yes, it took a while for folks to warm to me," he concedes. "I mean, a UFO investigator moves out here from Seattle and buys an abandoned missile site? Come on!"

Add to that oddball history the other rather eclectic items on his resume: holder of M.S. degrees in genetics and fish biochemistry from the College of Fisheries at the University of Washington, Russian translator/interpreter for the U.S. Army in West Germany, commercial fisherman, flight instructor, marketing consultant, and founding president of the local biotechnology firm.

Still, the ever-engaging and always-provocative Davenport managed to charm the local citizenry. "He's a wild man," says Gene Dietrich, co-owner of the Haus, where Davenport sometimes drops by for a glass of merlot and a cheeseburger. "He's a real asset to the community, a smart little whip, I'll tell you that."

In 2007, just a year after he arrived in Harrington, Davenport was elected to a four-year term on the five-member city council. With a hearty laugh, Dietrich adds, "You know, there are three topics in this town: trading farmland, trading wives, and Peter Davenport."

Harrington's most talked-about resident resides in a spacious modular home. In his living room are a pair of telescopes. Thumbtacked to a wall is a Lincoln County map, with six orange stick-ons to demarcate nearby missile sites. The dwelling sits in the shadows of the old water tower, making it easy for an occasional curiosity-seeker to find him and ask for a tour of the missile site, a request he usually obliges if the snow isn't too deep.

It vexes Davenport that mainstream science is dismissive of UFOs and its believers. "Peter can't get the institutionalized support of the scientific community, and that frustrates him," says Robert B. Frost, former chief engineer for Boeing's portion of the B-2 bomber and a friend of Davenport's for 20 years. "A lot of them believe in the possibility of UFOs, as I do, but they don't want to take the risk of losing their job or credibility by talking about it."

"Hundreds of thousands of people say they've seen a UFO," adds Frost. "Can they all be wrong about what they've seen?"

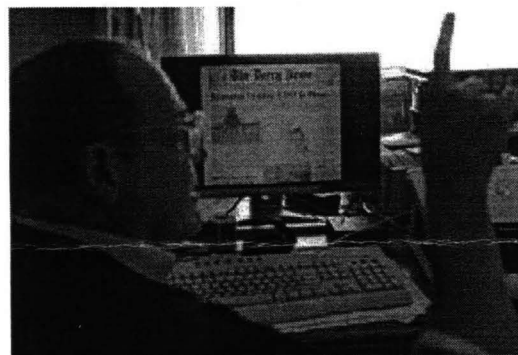
Davenport drips with disdain for the tabloid sensationalism that surrounds the subject of UFOs. Even the more conventional media, he says, are prone to pen stories strewn with stereotypical references to little green men in flying saucers,

despite a 2002 Roper Poll which showed that nearly 60 percent of the American public believes UFOs exist, while 43 percent of respondents said extraterrestrials have visited Earth.

The earliest UFO sighting in recorded history can be found in fourth-century Chinese texts, which claimed that something resembling a "moon boat" hovered above China every 12 years. As *Time* magazine reported in 2009, "A wave of sightings occurred near Rome in 218 B.C. and again in Germany in 1561. During World War II, Allied pilots coined the term "foo fighters" for the bizarre orbs of light that some insisted flew alongside their planes during combat."

"It is a virtual given that we are being visited. We probably live in a galaxy that is teeming with life," Davenport says with the kind of heated passion he often displays when regaling crowds with out-of-this-world stories during speaking engagements at UFO-related events, such as the Little Green Men Festival in Kelly, Ky. (home to a series of close encounters of the third kind, in 1955), and the annual UFO Festival in McMinnville, Ore., both of which generally draw 400 to 500 people.

"It will be a shocking experience for mankind to learn that we are not alone," posits Davenport. "We are not prepared as a species to confront the possibility of other life forms."



Jenn Ireland

**Davenport in front of a computer image of his first article on UFOs, published in 1965.**

Among the famous who have at least prepared themselves for the possibility are Jimmy Carter, anthropologist Margaret Mead, ex-astronaut Gordon Cooper, and psychiatrist Carl Jung—all of whom reported seeing a UFO or professed a belief in extraterrestrial visitations. And let us not forget Dennis Kucinich, who during a presidential debate in 2008 said that in the 1980s he and actress Shirley MacLaine saw a "triangular craft" floating above her home in Graham, Wash. What's more, Ghostbuster Dan Aykroyd, a onetime self-described "Hollywood consultant" for the Mutual UFO Network, has maintained that aliens "are coming and going like taxis."

As Arthur C. Clarke, author of the classic novel 2001: A Space Odyssey, once said: "Either we are alone in the universe or we are not. Both are equally terrifying."

The ice-choked lock to the missile site proves difficult to crack before it finally snaps free; Davenport pushes open the 2,000-pound, foot-thick steel door and squeezes inside. It's as cold as a meat locker, and puddles of moisture are everywhere. Remnants of waterlogged furniture that belonged to Benson lie scattered near the missile's firing pit, where blood from the murderer's victim was found.



Against one wall are several stacks of Davenport's campaign yard signs, bittersweet souvenirs of his last-place finish among a field of five GOP hopefuls in the 2008 House District 7 primary. The state legislative seat was won by Rep. Shelly Short. Asked about his politics, Davenport playfully pontificates, "My brand of politics is like a garage sale: I like to pick and choose my own treasures. But I can tell you the deficit is too high and there's too much government. The more government tries to solve problems, the worse things get."

On owning a place where the deadly game of nuclear brinksmanship was once played, Davenport ruminates: "I always had a hankering to own a missile site. I dreamed of having a place to store all my records, where they would be protected."

In the pale yellow light, Davenport slogs past the still-legible Strategic Air Command insignia, through a metal tube 50 yards long, and into the cavernous guts of what served as the launch-control room. Here, he notes, the ceilings are 16 feet high, the walls 18 inches thick.

"See, over there, that was the crew's quarters. Over there, that's where they showered. Those concrete pads are where the generators were placed. And there, over there, that's the equipment room and day room where Benson set up residence." Then, with a wink and a boyish smile, Davenport quips, "He must have been half-bat."

After a long pause, he gazes around the cold, drippy concrete interior. Wearing one of those muffler hats that Marge Gunderson wore in *Fargo*, he says with a sigh, "What massive government waste. They only used this place for a couple of years."

In the late 1950s and early '60s—the apex of the United States' Communist-fearing, backyard-bomb-shelter-building days—six Atlas missile sites were entombed in Lincoln County. Atlas Missile Site No. 6, the one Davenport proudly possesses, was completed in early 1961 and decommissioned in 1964. It was made of three million tons of concrete, steel, and rebar. Known as the "coffin launcher," those ensconced within the 18,000-square-foot underground battle station would have been able to survive a blast 50 times the power of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

For a dozen years, Davenport ran the UFO Center from the basement of his rented U District apartment, compiling one of the nation's most comprehensive UFO databases, which includes historical records, noteworthy cases, and his own scientific paper on how "passive" radar may someday, as Davenport explains, "radically change the debate over UFOs."

In early 2004, having grown weary of Seattle's liberal proclivities, the staunchly conservative Stanford University graduate penned a letter to the imprisoned Benson at the Monroe Correctional Complex, seeking to know whether Benson might be willing to sell the missile site. Shortly before his death, Benson wrote back to say that he'd turned the site over to his two sons. Davenport contacted them by phone (he never met them in person). After some haggling—initially the sons wanted a half-million dollars—he bought the monstrosity in 2006 for \$100,000. "I even took ownership of two of Benson's old Cadillacs in the deal," Davenport says with a chuckle. Davenport, who drives a 1988 Ford Crown Victoria station wagon, says he's still trying to sell the Caddies.

Upon buying the missile site, Davenport spent weeks pumping out water, which in places had risen to chest level. He thought he might rehab the concrete dungeon and, after making it his home, bring with him all his meticulously labeled UFO files, his computer, phone, tape recorder, metal file cabinets, and the thousands of books (spy novels, mostly) he'd accumulated through the years.

Now that all seems very much a pipe dream. "No, it's going to take far more work than I ever envisioned," he says ruefully. For the time being, his modular home will have to suffice.

Science fiction holds little appeal for Davenport. In fact, he's never watched a full hour of *Star Trek*. Spy novels are his cup of tea. But mention Rod Serling's *Twilight Zone* and his eyes light up.

"It was a cookbook!" he cries with delight, recalling one of his favorite episodes, "To Serve Man." In that show, first aired in 1962, a mysterious race of nine-foot-tall aliens, the Kanamits, come to Earth, bringing with them a book titled *To Serve Man* that promises to solve all the world's ills. When humans, all fattened and happy, board ships to visit the aliens' home planet, Patty, a government cryptographer who cracks the code, screams, "Don't get on the ship . . . It's a cookbook!"

As a flush of quail rush heavenward from a bush in his snowy front yard, Davenport intensely recalls his first UFO sighting. His "seminal moment," as he calls it, came at age 6. The year was 1954. He was at the Jet Cinema Drive-In with his mother and brother near Lambert International Airport in St. Louis.

"I was sitting in our 1953 Studebaker," he begins dramatically. "All of a sudden there were people getting out of their cars and racing around. It was mayhem. I can remember it as if it happened last night. My father was a station manager at American Airlines, and for some reason he was in the tower that night. He saw it too.

"I looked up and there was this red object, the size of the full moon, blindingly bright. Then suddenly it accelerated—*whoosh*—moving across the horizon in an S-shaped pattern in two or three seconds."

Then, his voice lowering, he slowly enunciates the words: "It was not something of man's construction."

Davenport moves to his desk now and fires up his computer. On the screen, some of the more recent sightings appear. A sampling:

*Jan. 5, 2011. 06:00. San Francisco, CA. Black silent triangle hovering over a field.*

*Jan. 4, 2011. 20:05. Powers Lake, WI. Three large fireballs hovering in the sky for least 5 minutes, then raced to the south.*

*Jan. 3, 2011. 05:15, Renton, WA. Flash of light moving toward Lake Washington.*

*Jan. 2, 2011. 23:30. Adrian, PA. There was a green light and a round circle hanging over us.*

*Dec. 31, 2010. 00:00. Arlington, WA. Three pair of glowing red/orange light formations, New Year's Eve at midnight.*



*Dec. 29, 2010. 21:45. Poulsbo, WA. A golden oval appeared to be lit up, skimming the sky above Poulsbo, heading toward Silverdale, WA.*

A number of sightings have enthralled Davenport through the years, but none more than the mysterious case of the Phoenix Lights. For Davenport and many ufologists, the bizarre incident that took place 14 years ago is their Holy Grail.

"What happened over Arizona is the most dramatic event we've seen in more than 50 years," enthuses Davenport. "What we had that day is real. It is the best proof we have that there is something out there."

As usual, he cites the date before he begins to recount the story. "Thirteenth of March, 1997. The time five V-shaped objects the size of Boeing Field hovered over Phoenix, and moved across the horizon," Davenport says, his hands describing the motion. Davenport says thousands of residents that night witnessed two distinct and inexplicable events—a triangular formation of lights that passed over the entire state, and later a series of "bright stationary" lights seen only in Phoenix.

"People sat on their lawns near downtown and watched it, these giant bright orbs of light above them, just hovering in the night sky. No one could believe what they were seeing," says Davenport.

The event received scant media attention in the local press. Then, on June 18, 1997, *USA Today* published an extensive story by Richard Price, who borrowed heavily from eyewitness reports that had been called into Davenport's UFO Center, then based in his Seattle apartment.

Wrote Price: "Arizona authorities routinely refer UFO reports to Davenport's office. The first call that Thursday night came at 8:16 p.m. from a retired police officer in Paulden, 60 miles north of Phoenix. He reported a cluster of five red lights headed south. Less than two minutes later, a call arrived from Prescott, 15 miles south of Paulden. The second report described one red and four white lights.

"One minute after that, Davenport's phones exploded with calls from a succession of cities: Wickenburg, Glendale, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe. Police department phones were jammed. Callers flooded the lines to Luke Air Force Base and media outlets . . . Witnesses generally agree on three things: First, it was enormous. The most conservative estimate describes it as three football fields long. Second, it made no sound. Third, it moved slowly over Phoenix, cruising at 30 mph. Several times it hovered in the sky. Pilots in the region asked air traffic controllers to identify the lights, but controllers couldn't help. Although controllers could see the lights, they say nothing showed up on their radar screens."

The Phoenix Lights case was never investigated by the U.S. government. That kind of probe ended in 1969 when the Air Force shut down Project Blue Book, the UFO investigative service created in 1948, a year after an alleged flying saucer and other extraterrestrial debris was found in Roswell, N.M.

Seated at his living-room desk, Davenport flicks on a tape, and out comes a panicked voice, an eyewitness he recorded that haunting March night in Phoenix. "There were hundreds of streaks of light coming out of it," says the man. "Hundreds of streaks of light being shot right out."

Animated, Davenport goes on, thrilled to relive the many weird, inexplicable events he has on file.

"November 5, 1975, the Travis Walton case. Do you know it? He was a forester, clearing a forest area near Snow Lake, Arizona. The whole sky lit up red, and when he rounded the bend, there was a disc hovering in the sky. Walton walked toward it, and a bolt of lightning blew up in back."

From the so-called "Fireball Case" in Pennsylvania on the night of August 25, 1995: "Listen to this report I received." He clicks on the tape. "It looked like a nuclear explosion," says a woman in a fearful tone.

Davenport interjects: "Can you imagine what some people saw? Large, round streaks of pulsing light, and fireballs." He pauses then and quietly asks, "Am I getting too passionate? I know I sometimes get carried away."

On April 21, 1997, five weeks after the Phoenix Lights, a special agent in the FBI's New York office named Steve Bongardt called and left Davenport a message. "He said, 'We know who you are. We have seen [the sightings] you have posted on your website and we have found them very interesting, and we would like to meet you.'"

Davenport says he met with two agents a month later, for four hours, at a home in Rutherford, N.J. "[Bongardt] said UFOs are for real," Davenport remembers. "Number two, he said, 'We know what UFOs are and what they appear to be, namely sophisticated craft under intelligent control,' and number three, 'The people in government are a bit worried.' I was stunned to silence."

Two weeks ago, on January 27, Bongardt e-mailed *Seattle Weekly* to say that he could confirm only that he was and remains a special agent with the FBI, and that he and the other agent(s), whose names cannot be disclosed, did meet with Davenport in May 1997. Bongardt would not divulge anything further.

Davenport has had no correspondence since that meeting with either agent, both of whom no doubt are aware that our state has long had a reputation as a good place to witness wondrously weird UFO activities—for which we can thank an amateur pilot from Idaho named Kenneth Arnold.

On June 24, 1947, Arnold, who sold and installed firefighting equipment, was flying a CallAir A-2 from Chehalis to Yakima on a business trip. Just north of Mount Rainier, he claimed to see nine crescent-shaped objects in the sky. Arnold landed in Yakima at about 4 p.m. on that memorable day, and told a friend, airport general manager Al Baxter, his amazing story. His tale spread like wildfire. The next day, recounting what he'd seen to the *East Oregonian* in Pendleton, Ore., where he'd flown to attend an air show, Arnold evoked images of "saucers skipping on water" to describe how the objects raced through the air—and the term "flying saucer" was born.

Project Blue Book concluded that the so-called "Arnold Sighting" was nothing more than "mirages." Arnold would complain for the rest of his days about all the bizarre publicity the incident brought him, including a memorable encounter with a woman at a Pendleton cafe who looked at him and ran out screaming, "There's the man who saw the men from Mars!"

Around the same time, in either June or July 1947, a rancher in Roswell came across some debris. Rumors

quickly spread that it had come from an alien craft that had crashed, and that bodies were recovered. The military said the wreckage was nothing more than the remains of an ill-fated weather balloon. There were accusations of a government cover-up, and 54 years later those suspicions have not relented. It hasn't helped that all the government's UFO investigative efforts ended when it shuttered Project Blue Book.

Davenport is convinced the government knows that aliens are among us, but dares not admit it. "I'm not sure I would tell the public, either, if I were a government official," he adds. "Imagine the fear and chaos that this would unleash."

Bob Vun Kannon first met Davenport when the two of them studied Russian together at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., in the late 1960s. They've been friends since. Vun Kannon, who lives in Pasco, spent his career as a design engineer and worked on the first air-data computers for the Boeing 757 and 767. "We definitely have different views on UFOs," says Vun Kannon. "I've listened to his UFO theories and, frankly, he's never proved anything. Sure, he's collected a mind-boggling amount of data, but he hasn't put the nail in the coffin."

Says Frost, Vun Kannon's fellow former Boeing engineer: "It is easy to debunk everything Peter is saying because it is so beyond our normal belief system. No matter what kind of proof he might come up with, the government will refute it. The government cannot take the risk of letting this out, and you really can't blame them."

After locking up the missile site, Davenport looks upward and scans the clear blue skies, where a very identifiable Boeing jet is gliding eastward. "I am aware," he says quietly, "that we have not yet presented irrefutable evidence of [extra-terrestrials] existence." He says the solution may lie in developing a "passive" radar system, whereby remote, real-time detection of UFOs could be accomplished with passive, multistatic, frequency-modulated radar.

"If I were to build such a station in Harrington, for example, I would lay out a grid of our antennas on the golf course and connect them to a radio receiver, which would be turned to a radio or TV station in Seattle," he explains. "The only time I'd hear the reflected signal is when an object which reflects radio waves—such as an airliner, a flight of Canadian geese, a satellite, etc.—was located between the transmitter and the receiver's antennas."

"Once a target is detected by the radio signal, it reflects back to Earth and can be tracked and analyzed in order to determine what its velocity, altitude, and flight path are. The analysis of the object's characteristics will then tell us what it might be."

**Davenport concludes: "We just need to resolve this one way or the other, and I think we will someday."**

## **THE CANADIAN NATIONAL**

**Feb. 13, 2011 Detroit, MI**

### **Michigan witness reports UFO**

**by Roger Marsh**

A Michigan witness reports observing a bright, oval object over the Detroit River on February 3, 2011, according to testimony from the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) witness reporting database.

"There were no navigation lights and I didn't hear any engine noise," the witness stated. "I also looked up to see if there were any stars visible and I couldn't see any. The strange light didn't move, it just sat there and was very white with a silver edge on the right side. I still thought it might be an airplane, but I knew that airplanes don't typically fly over that early. It looked like a sphere, but I could see that it was somewhat oval."

The witness decided to take a couple of images of the object.

"It seemed that the brightness obscured the actual shape, the clearest view was on the right side of the light. I was so sleepy that I decided to take a couple photos of it and get back in the bed."

*The following is the unedited and as yet uninvestigated report filed with MUFON.*

**MI, February 3, 2011**

**I saw a strange light in the sky and took a couple of photos of it. MUFON Case # 27647.**

I live in a house on the Detroit river across from Winsor, Ontario. I woke up at about 7 am on the morning of 2/3/11. I got up to take the trash out to the end of the driveway. I went downstairs and took the trash out, it was still rather dark and very quiet outside. I came back upstairs to get back in the bed.

On my way past the windows that look out over the Detroit river, I noticed a very bright light in the sky. The light was on the Canadian side of the river. It was so bright that I stopped to watch it to see if it was an airplane coming from Winsor, Canada.

There were no navigation lights and I didn't hear any engine noise. I also looked up to see if there were any stars visible and I couldn't see any. The strange light didn't move, it just sat there and was very white with a silver edge on the right side. I still thought it might be an airplane, but I knew that airplanes don't typically fly over that early. It looked like a sphere, but I could see that it was somewhat oval.

It seemed that the brightness obscured the actual shape, the clearest view was on the right side of the light. I was so sleepy that I decided to take a couple photos of it and get back in the bed. After I got in the bed, I listened to see if I could hear or see (through the sky light) an airplane fly over the house, but I didn't hear or see anything over the next few minutes. I went back to sleep.

During the years that I've lived here, I've never seen any light like this in the sky during the morning hours. It didn't flicker like a star and it didn't fluctuate like an airplane light. This light was very still and extremely bright. I don't know what it was but, it's bothered me ever since I saw it. I hope I never see it again!

Feb. 7, 2011 Congress, AZ

## Arizona desert UFO 'morphs' into two lights

An Arizona witness reports an encounter on a lonely desert road with a red orb as close as six feet just west of Congress after midnight on May 19, 2010, according to February 5, 2011, testimony from the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) witness reporting database.

The witness was three miles west of Congress when a light first thought to be a helicopter was spotted after pulling over and getting out of the vehicle. "It was a red light intermittently beaming a brilliant, focused white light down to the ground as if to be looking for someone or something, and I thought what or who would be way out there, and why there were no strobe I.D. lights on the helicopter," the witness stated.

The witness got back into the vehicle and continued to observe the light. "Suddenly, what I thought was a helicopter flying at 500 feet was much smaller and much closer; in fact, it was now just on the other side of the road and was about 10 feet off the ground, hovering." The object appeared to be searching for something on the ground, and then "morphed" into two tiny red lights. "Now as it approached my car, it suddenly morphed back into its former shape: a spherical orb about the size of a softball, bright red (DOT emergency red, like a tail-light). Was this military? Is this a living organism? Perhaps an alien probe? It was now six feet in front of my car, four feet off the ground, just hovering."

The witness described the object.

"I noticed that although the red light emitted from this thing was very bright to my eyes, it wasn't casting shadows and did not reflect from the surrounding bushes or from the polished surface of my hood. I could see the surface of this thing seemed to be fluid-like, and composed of what appeared to be millions of tiny dots of light swirling around very fast and was very hard for my eyes to focus on it. The perimeter seemed to fuzz out at the edges, like an aura or halo. The light seemed to be luminous rather than projected, and was not radiating any heat that I could feel."

The witness considered getting out of the vehicle to investigate further, but fear set in.

"Suddenly, the orb started to move a little closer to me, and my curiosity was overcome by fear... I felt panic consume me and simultaneously engaged the engine and hit the lights. The orb reacted by backing away slightly. Illuminated by my headlights, I could plainly see that there were no mechanical parts or structure. I slammed the gearshift into drive, and floored it. I wanted to put as much distance between that thing and me as fast as possible. I warily glanced in the rear-view mirror and was horrified to realize that it was pursuing me down the road at 90 mph."

The witness attempted to use a cell phone to call for help, but the phone service did not work. The witness eventually reached Congress and pulled over.

"For the next two or three hours, I watched odd lights moving through the dark moonless night. I found that my eyesight had been affected by looking at the orb, and I could not focus on any bright light source. Whatever I tried looking at seemed to move away into periphery. Needless to say, I stayed parked there and tried my best to go to sleep and forget about what I had seen."

No images or video were included with the MUFON report.

*The following is the unedited and as yet uninvestigated report filed with MUFON.*

**AZ, May 19, 2010 - Confronted and chased by a Softball size Red Orb. MUFON Case # 27685.**

Encounter on a Lonely Desert Road By [Witness name removed CMS/dr]

The beams of my headlights seemed to be chasing elusive shadows cast against the desert sage as I drove through the dark moonless night towards Congress, Arizona. Retired now, a gold prospector with the time to fulfill my quest for the big nugget, my thoughts then were of gold and only gold...that was about to change.

Just about midnight and just South of the middle of nowhere, I had stopped and pulled off the road to relieve myself and take a break from driving, and it was at this moment that I first saw what I thought to be a helicopter with a bright searchlight circling the area southwest of me.

Having served with the U.S.A.F., I have seen many types of aircraft, but this was something I had never seen before. It was a red light intermittently beaming a brilliant, focused white light down to the ground as if to be looking for someone or something, and I thought what or who would be way out there, and why there were no strobe I.D. lights on the helicopter. I didn't give it much more thought and got back in the car and grabbed a cigarette, lit up and gazed back towards the southwest. The chopper was now circling closer to me and although my window was down, there was no noise... and I thought that was really strange.

Suddenly, what I thought was a helicopter flying at 500 feet was much smaller and much closer; in fact, it was now just on the other side of the road and was about 10 feet off the ground, hovering. I flicked the cigarette out the window. I rubbed my eyes in disbelief. Am I hallucinating? "What the \_\_\_\_ is that?" My heart beating fast and my mind spinning, I watched as the object as it moved through the sparse vegetation, stopping now and then to illuminate the ground beneath with its powerful beam of white light, and then it appeared to morph into two tiny red lights, like twin LED's (light emitting diodes) and started to cross the road towards me.

Now as it approached my car, it suddenly morphed back into its former shape: a spherical orb about the size of a softball, bright red (DOT emergency red, like a tail-light). Was this military? Is this a living organism? Perhaps an alien probe? It was now six feet in front of my car, four feet off the ground, just hovering. What the \_\_\_\_ is this thing??? Somehow, I don't think it's military...no stars, insignia or guns...(chuckle) I noticed that although the red light emitted from this thing was very bright to my eyes, it wasn't casting shadows and did not reflect from the surrounding bushes or from the polished surface of my hood. I could see the surface of this thing seemed to be fluid-like, and composed of what appeared to be millions of tiny dots of light swirling around very fast and was very hard for my eyes to focus on it. The perimeter seemed to fuzz out at the edges, like an aura or halo. The light seemed to be luminous rather than projected, and was not radiating any heat that I could feel.

It's amazing what goes through your head when confronted with an un-known like this... a memory of Dr. XXXXXXX of S.E.T.I. explaining that most UFO sightings are mostly swamp gas or weather balloons...Hey Doc! Here's one that will fit right up your telescope!



At this moment, I was toying with the idea of getting out of my car to approach the orb and try to communicate with it.

Suddenly, the orb started to move a little closer to me, and my curiosity was overcome by fear... I felt panic consume me and simultaneously engaged the engine and hit the lights. The orb reacted by backing away slightly. Illuminated by my headlights, I could plainly see that there were no mechanical parts or structure. I slammed the gearshift into drive, and floored it. I wanted to put as much distance between that thing and me as fast as possible. I warily glanced in the rear-view mirror and was horrified to realize that it was pursuing me down the road at 90 mph.

I grabbed my cell phone and hurriedly called 911. NO SERVICE. I started laughing out loud. Who the hell would believe me if I reported being chased by a hovering, glowing red softball? They would think I was drunk or stoned out of mind!

The little town of Congress had already rolled up the sidewalks and turned off the lights, and not a soul stirring...well, it was 1:00 a.m. Arizona time. I decided to park in a vacant lot near the Fire Station right off the main highway.

For the next two or three hours, I watched odd lights moving through the dark moonless night. I found that my eyesight had been affected by looking at the orb, and I could not focus on any bright light source. Whatever I tried looking at seemed to move away into periphery. Needless to say, I stayed parked there and tried my best to go to sleep and forget about what I had seen.

Later, when I arrived home in California a couple of days later, I also noticed that my eyesight had not only been temporarily affected, but it had improved to some extent, and now can read small print without the use of my reading glasses.

I have shared this story with a few friends, but I notice that their eyes glaze over and I realize that they don't believe what I saw. If someone told me this story, I don't think that I would believe it myself. All said, I swear that this report is absolutely true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

#### CONCISE REPORT:

DATE: May 19, 2010  
LOCATION: 3 miles West of Congress, Arizona  
34N09'06.16 112W52'50.13  
TIME: approximately 0100hrs  
CONDITIONS: Very dark, clear sky, stars visible, no clouds, wind 0-5mph  
TEMPERATURE: 67 degrees f.  
UFO SHAPE: Perfect sphere, Orb, approx. 4-6 inches in diameter  
UFO COLOR: Bright red (DOT emergency red)  
DISTANCE AT FIRST SIGHT: approximately ½ mile to the Southwest @ 30 degrees  
ELEVATION AT FIRST SIGHT: approximately 500 feet above the ground.  
PROXIMITY: (closeness) 6 feet  
ORIGIN: unknown  
PURPOSE: seemingly searching for something, curious  
COMPOSITION: Plasma, pure light, ability to transform itself, ???  
MODE OF FLIGHT: unknown

## **TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL**

Jan. 26, 2011 Raleigh, NC

### **Report: N.C. man sees UFO 300 feet away**

The morning has gotten off to a slow start, okay? So spare the snickering and read how a North Carolina man claims he or she (no gender specified in the report) saw a triangle-shaped UFO just 300 feet away and it was shining a bright light on the witness' vehicle. Apparently the encounter was recorded with the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON not BUFFOON) and the testimony is for everyone to see.

### **ABC TV Chan 4**

Jan. 28, 2011 Salt Lake City, UT

The ABC Channel 4 news in Utah is reporting that several witnesses saw three red lights in the sky between 7:15pm and 7:30pm on Wednesday night. The witnesses said the unidentified flying objects hovered in formation for several minutes and seemed to be dropping flares.

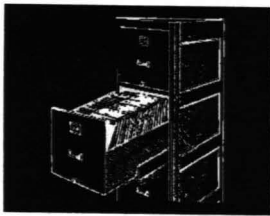
One witness who professed that she does not believe in extraterrestrials said that she had to admit the strange nature of these objects that didn't match any aircraft she knew of. She said there were no blinking lights, no sound and just glowed red the whole time. According to the witness, Lynette Chidester, they began dropping white streams of light, some type of burning objects, however, her husband who once worked for a company that manufactured flares said that they were definitely not flares.

Other witnesses in American Fork and surrounding areas included a member of the Air Force who noticed the objects and began filming them with a cell phone camera. The gentleman in question, Mike Galbraith, said that if they had been military flares, witnesses would have been able to hear them and they would have shot out the sides of planes, but these were objects that flew in formation at an altitude he didn't believe normal aircrafts would maintain and they definitely did not match any aircraft he was aware of. That was a strong comment coming from someone in the military, especially someone in the Air Force.



Additionally, all airports in the area reported not having any airplanes in the area, let alone anything that would have been flying in formation as the witnesses stated. Law enforcement had nothing to say either.

All the witnesses said the objects or lights, eventually just flew away without incident other than a few shaken nerves, photographs and videos, some of which are included with this article. Some witnesses said it was a single triangle formation UFO and others said it was three separate lights in a triangle formation, but either way, for now it's just being called 'the Utah County UFO'.



# FROM THE ARCHIVES

Albuquerque Tribune  
Albuquerque, NM  
Aug. 2, 1952



## The Albuquerque Tribune

Local Forecast: Partly Cloudy with a Chance for Showers Late Tonight. Tomorrow: Possible Increasing Shower Activity.

Vol. 30, No. 128

Published Daily  
Except Sundays

Albuquerque, New Mexico, Saturday, August 2, 1952

Printed at the Albuquerque Tribune  
400 N. 1st St., Albuquerque, N. M.

HOME  
EDITION

PRICE: SEVEN CENTS

# 'OBJECT' SEEN OVER A-CITY

## Jet Planes From Here Gave Chase

An "unidentified object" hovered in the sky near Los Alamos for 30 minutes Tuesday, the Air Force reported in Washington today.

Three jet planes were asked to investigate. Presumably they came from Kirtland AF Base and were units of the 34th Air Defense Division which is charged with tracing and locating such objects in this area if possible.

Observers at Los Alamos, site of a major atomic energy installation, reported watching, through binoculars, something shiny and apparently metallic for about 30 minutes. An Air Force spokesman said the sightings were reported about noon.

### Seen Second Time

While the jet fighters were in the air, the same object or a similar one was observed from the ground for about two minutes, but was not seen by the fighter pilots.

A ground observer said the object made a 360 degree turn to get in the rear of the fighters.

The information was released in Washington in response to queries after Kirtland Air Force Base declined to give out a statement.

In Colorado Springs, nerve center of the nation's air defense, headquarters admitted a recent increase in the number of radar blips which remain unexplained.

And in California, Korea and Japan, reports were received today on saucer sightings.

### Swings Like Pendulum

At Lancaster, Calif., two mys-

terious objects "giving off a bright yellowish light" and one of them swinging over the earth "like a pendulum" for 10 minutes were sighted late last night by two deputies from the sheriff's station.

Deputy Sheriff Tom Morrissey said he and Deputy William D. Mallette spotted the mysterious objects in the night sky about 11:25 while cruising in a patrol car 17 miles west of Lancaster.

Morrissey said the two bright objects were stationary at first, then both moved slowly to the west. He said one of them swung away and disappeared over the southeastern horizon while the other "remained for about 10 minutes, swinging like a pendulum over the earth" before moving out of sight to the west.

### Sighted Near Japan

Near Japan a Canadian destroyer reported sighting two such objects and recorded them on its radar. A Navy report said 40 officers and men of the destroyer Crusader saw the saucers the night of July 10.

The report said the ship's radar registered "fixes" on the objects. It placed them two miles high and seven miles away.

The only previous report of "flying saucer" sightings in the Far East cropped up last February. Crews of two night-flying bombers said they saw saucer-like objects moving over North Korea.

Tokyo, too, had a saucer report. Kosuke Miyazaki, 27, of the central meteorological observatory said he saw a greenish-white thing with a tail flying through the sky Friday night.

Makoto Sakai, 19, a university student, saw it, too. But he said it was bluish-white and split into halves before disappearing.

The Air Defense at Colorado Springs said reports are viewed so seriously that fast interceptor planes are kept on the ready to go aloft to find out what goes on—if possible.

### 'Really Scrambling'

### 'Really Scrambling'

"We've really been scrambling," an ADC spokesman said. "Those planes are kept loaded and ready to go and their pilots are never more than a few feet away. They're in the air within seconds of a report that seems definite enough."

The 34th Air Division (Defense) at Kirtland AF Base, Albuquerque, is a part of the ADC.

CARLSBAD, Aug. 2 (AP)—Now it's a saucer 12 feet high and 7 feet across that goes faster than any jet plane, turns sharply without slowing down and is made of frosted stainless steel.

T. L. Fox, Carlsbad contractor, saw it.

"About 6:30 in the morning, I was standing in my back yard when I noticed an object gliding from the north. I thought it was a balloon and I started for my car to go after it."

"Before I could get to my car, the thing had grown many times its size and had leveled off. It then, to my astonishment, maneuvered and shot forward with a burst of speed toward the Carlsbad airport—a burst of speed which has never been equaled by any jet I know of and no plane with wings attached could have made that sharp a turn." He estimated its speed at 1000 miles an hour.



PICTURE "UNKNOWN OBJECTS"—This photograph, released by the Coast Guard, was made by a Coast Guard photographer, Shell Albert, at the Salem, Mass., Air Station on July 16 through a window after he sighted four "unknown objects." Note the bars of light that seem to extend in front of and behind the round "objects," which appear in "V" formation. (UP TELEPHOTO)





British News Clippings are courtesy of TIMOTHY GOOD

Ipswich Evening Star, Wednesday, December 29, 2010/www.eveningstar.co.uk

## Crowd turns out to mark 30th anniversary of UFO incident

BY TOM POTTER

tom.potter@eveningstar.co.uk

**WOODBIDGE:** An expectant crowd huddled into the town's community hall to take part in the latest chapter of a 30-year saga of the unexplained.

Scores of people, from the curious to the sceptical, turned out for the anniversary of an event which remains rooted in UFO folklore.

The Rendlesham Incident, as it has become known, was the subject of discussion for top experts, commentators and first-hand witnesses.

Enthusiastic truth-seekers Gordon Goodger and David Wright reunited USAF security police officers John Burroughs and Jim



Penniston – two of the airman who first saw the unexplained lights – with internationally renowned experts on the subject Peter Robbins and Linda Moulton, and Nick Pope – the man who once ran the British government's UFO project.

Also present was Larry Warren, a former USAF airman from the Woodbridge base who said he witnessed the incident and wrote extensively on the subject.

Last night, he told The Evening Star: "I never imagined 30 years ago that two people, let alone this many, would be interested in this. But this is 'the one'.

"We're all here to once again tell people the truth about what happened, but we also know there is information that has yet to be disclosed."

Mr Burroughs and Mr Penniston



were patrolling the East Gate at RAF Woodbridge when they saw lights in the forest. What they witnessed has since been the topic of countless books, essays, television documentaries and speculation by conspiracy theorists.

Mr Burroughs was back in the UK for the first time since being in the forces. He said: "This is the most educated crowd of people we have seen together at one time. They have come from all over and seem to know as much about what happened as we do."

Mr Penniston added: "It's wonderful to have so many people here. But this isn't about us getting recognition – it's about something much bigger. This is about the truth."

The audience were given an insight into the entire timeline of events which took place in late December 1980. The gathered experts produced documents, audio and video files and what they conclude is physical evidence of a UFO landing in the Suffolk countryside.

■ Do you believe the incident was a UFO landing? Write to Your Letters, The Evening Star, 30 Lower Brook Street, Ipswich, IP4 1AN or e-mail [eveningstarletters@eveningstar.co.uk](mailto:eveningstarletters@eveningstar.co.uk)

**TRUTH IS OUT THERE:** The Rendlesham Incident reunion at Woodbridge Community Hall. Below, John Burroughs and Jim Penniston, two of the airmen who saw the lights at Rendlesham, and, right, Larry Warren. Bottom left, researcher Peter Robbins and, right, some of the crowd.

Pictures: SIMON PARKER



UFONS





# UFOs blamed for earthquake

UFO investigator is blaming the earthquake that hit the Morecambe and Lancaster area on extra-terrestrial activity.

Pat Regan claims the tremors on Tuesday night last week were warnings that Unidentified Flying Objects were in the area at the time.

He believes there is a relationship between UFOs and earthquakes, claiming that similar things have happened before.

Mr Regan, who has written books on the subject, said: "Apparently, my forewarnings have been well placed, as there has just been a new earthquake."

"I was initially alerted to this situation late on December 21, via a telephone call from my good acquaintance, coastguard officer Paul Harrison."

"Paul excitedly conveyed the story of this latest earthquake which had occurred only minutes prior to his call."

"Shockwaves from the quake were felt along Cumbria's borders with Scotland, Lancashire, Northumberland and North Yorkshire."

"Again, these localities have experienced heightened

by Ingrid Kent

UFO activity during previous months."

Many people experienced the tremors just before 11pm, including Karen Dickinson from Caton, near Lancaster, who said: "The whole house shook. It was very frightening."

Jane and Belinda Bailey from Westgate, in Morecambe, also contacted *The Visitor* to say they had felt the quake.

British Geological Survey (BGS) data showed the epicentre of the quake as Coniston in Cumbria.

Blasting Mr Regan's theory out of the sky, the BGS explained that quakes occur when the upper layers of the Earth's crust are being rammed together or pulled apart.

Tremendous energy is released when these rocks break or grind past each other.

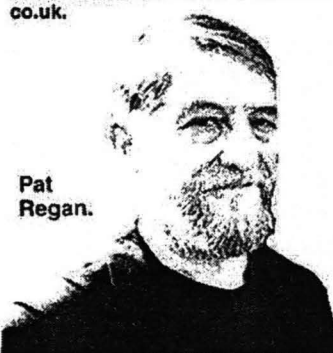
Survey officials are keen to hear from anyone who experienced the quake, as engineers at nuclear power stations such as Heysham 1 and 2 need to understand

how their operations may be affected by tremors.

Mr Regan purports to have taken photographs of UFOs, and that the military is suppressing information about extra-terrestrial activity.

He also writes on the subject on his UFO Research website at [www.ssgb.150m.com/north-west\\_ufo.htm](http://www.ssgb.150m.com/north-west_ufo.htm)

■ What do you think? Have you seen UFOs in the local area? Let us know at Editorial, *The Visitor*, 12, Victoria Street, Morecambe, LA4 4AG or email [visitor@1mnews.co.uk](mailto:visitor@1mnews.co.uk).



Pat Regan.



ALERT: UFOs in UK

## Quake an alien warning

THE earthquake that hit northern England on Monday night was actually a visit from aliens, it is claimed.

Top UFO expert Pat Regan reckons the tremors were warnings that UFOs were in the area.

Regan, who wrote *UFO: Search For The Truth*, said: "There have been many sightings over Cumbria of orange balls which fly off at great speed. Claims they are lanterns have been disproved."

## Second UFO sighting on moorland

ANOTHER UFO sceptic has reported seeing a fast-moving bright light over Rombalds Moor in recent weeks.

An Ilkley man says the object shot past him as he walked his dogs on Ilkley Moor in early December.

Steven Street, who described himself as 'very sceptical' about strange phenomena, says the object flew over from behind him at speed as he walked on the path between moorland landmark the Swastika Stone and Westwood Drive at around 7am on a Thursday morning.

Mr Street says he heard the sound of something travelling fast through the air, but the bright point of light was otherwise silent. It appeared to have been travelling close to the ground.

He lost sight of the light as it went over Panorama Woods.

"It went over the top of my head, as if it was coming from Bradford to Keighley," he said.

Mr Street got in touch with reporters after reading about a Menston man seeing an unidentified flying object over Rombalds Moor last week.

The Menston resident witnessed what he claimed was a light travelling at beyond the speed of sound over Rombalds Moor. He spotted the fast-moving light in the early hours of Wednesday December 22.

He did not believe the object could be a satellite or a meteorite, and did not hear any sound from it.

North Devon Journal (series)  
Dec. 23, 2010  
England

# UFO writer seeks help to probe Saunton craft

By JOEL COOPER  
[jcooper@cdm.co.uk](mailto:jcooper@cdm.co.uk)

A FORMER police detective writing a series of books on UFOs is appealing for information about an unexplained event which happened in North Devon 23 years ago.

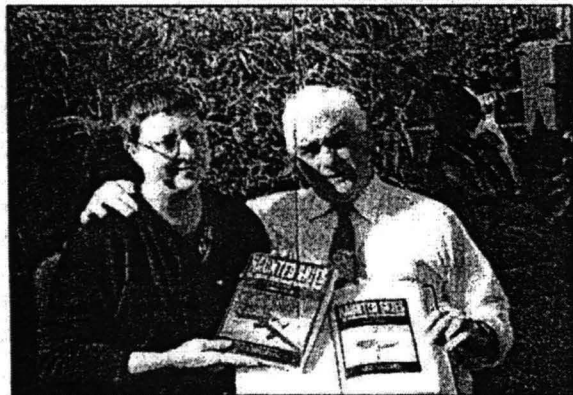
John Hanson, 65, of Alvechurch in Worcestershire, is compiling an encyclopedia of British UFO sightings called *The Haunted Skies*.

The first of 11 volumes in the series was published in July by CFZ Press based at the Centre for Fortean Zoology in Woolsey.

It documents UFO sightings between 1940 and 1959 and is the result of 15 years' research by John and his partner, Dawn Holloway.

For one of his next volumes John is researching a strange incident which allegedly occurred at Saunton Sands in the autumn of 1967.

John, a retired detective with the West Midlands Police, said: "I was contacted by a former Barnstaple fire service officer who wished to remain name-



■ UFO: John Hanson and Dawn Holloway with a copy of their *Haunted Skies* book.

less. His wife persuaded him to call me and, although he felt very silly talking about the incident, he felt better for getting it off his chest.

"He and three crews had been called to reports of a gorse fire at Saunton Sands."

"When they arrived to deal

with the fire, a huge craft appeared above their heads and hovered for about 20 minutes.

"While it was hovering, a smaller craft left the large one and disappeared at an astonishing speed before returning minutes later."

The sighting is one of many

John is researching for the encyclopedia and he is keen to speak to anyone who remembers the incident which was allegedly witnessed by more than 20 people.

The *Haunted Skies* series will also document several other UFO reports from North Devon, including a sighting by two police officers in Holsworthy in 1967.

John said: "As a police officer of 27 years, I was initially sceptical about UFOs."

"But when my son, who is also a police officer, was asked to investigate a sighting in 1995 I became intrigued and have literally spent eight hours a day for the past 15 years carrying out research."

"The whole topic fascinates me. You'd be amazed how many sane, rational people have reported seeing things they just can't explain."

"I'd love to hear from anybody who can help me shed light on the incident at Saunton Sands."

Anyone with information can contact John by emailing [johndawn1@sky.com](mailto:johndawn1@sky.com).

Daily Star  
Jan. 5, 2011  
England

## Scarborough People: Russ Kellett

# Biker's alien encounter

Russ Kellett is well known in the Scarborough area as a UFO investigator but he has also had a variety of jobs before eventually running three small businesses. Reporter IAN DUNCAN spoke to the 47-year-old Bradford-born biker about close encounters, his struggle with dyslexia, dabbling with art and moving to Filey.

IT WAS not long after 10pm in autumn 1988 and Russ Kellett was riding his 750cc chopper motorcycle towards his home in Bradford when he experienced a life-changing event.

He had stopped at a level crossing near Skipton when he was suddenly aware of a very bright light around him.

"It was that time of year - summer was just going and you could smell people burning leaves," he said. "I'd gone to see someone about getting some work done on the bike but he wasn't there. I was at a level crossing and that was the start of everything going wrong with my health."

"I got immersed in this bright light. I thought there was someone in a car behind me who was getting too close but then the light was that big I thought it was a wagon - but when I looked around there was nothing there."

He remembered noticing the light reflected in the instruments of his motorcycle and realised it was coming from above. He added: "I had a feeling of floating. It was a very calm feeling, then the light went out. As soon as the light went out I was just sat there, the barriers were up and I was on the bike in the middle of the road."



Russ Kellett has investigated UFOs since his strange experience while out biking 105217. Picture below shows Russ being interviewed recently by American TV station ABC.

"I felt the wind in my face as I headed for home. But at the side of me there was another light and it was keeping up with me. It was at the side of the road that was just fields, it wasn't a car or a bike, it had travelled across the fields. I pulled over and parked up. I just watched this ball of light head towards Halifax. I was watching it for 10 minutes."

Russ said that when he got home it was later than he expected. "It was unusual because it shouldn't have taken more than half an hour to get home," he said.

But when he went into work the following day people were surprised by his appearance. He said: "People were saying 'have you seen your face?' and when I looked in the mirror they were right. My face was burned as well as the back of my neck and my hands."

He got on with his work but over the next few days his condition became worse. He said: "It became apparent there was something wrong. I had to go to the doctors on a number of occasions. The skin was peeling off my face, it was very painful, I was like a lizard - it wasn't a nice time. But they never got to the bottom of it."

He said he had heard from people who had similar experiences and had also had the sense they had lost track of time.

Since the incident he has investigated UFOs, as well as the paranormal, but came up against a major barrier which stemmed back to problems with his schooling - his inability to read and write.

He enjoyed growing up in Bradford but struggled at school because he suffered from dyslexia. During the 1970s and 1980s it was not a recognised condition and sufferers were branded stupid. He said: "I had a lot

of problems with education, I was being left behind because dyslexia wasn't recognised whatsoever."

Russ said he decided to teach himself to read after his close encounter because he wanted to learn more about the subject. He said: "I started from scratch. You start on Janet and John books. It was a very hard process but I persevered."

He added that the latest theory about the condition was that it somehow affected the sufferer's balance and it could be eased by wearing green tinted lenses. He said: "You need to spend time with people suffering from dyslexia but the teachers didn't have the time back then."

They had big classes and they put all the slower people together with the people who won't learn. It was a recipe for disaster.

"I'm still learning to read. My spelling is abysmal but my reading is coming along. It's something that I have to keep working at."

When he left school he started work the following Monday with overall manufacturer Initial Services before trying his hand at motor mechanics and stonemasonry. He eventually started to study an art foundation course at Bradford's Cathedral Centre.

He said: "That was quite amazing. I had a fantastic teacher and I

realised too late that I should have been an artist. He knew what he was talking about and he would say 'if you don't do anything here or if you don't get anywhere you've only yourself to blame'."

He was very supportive and very helpful."

After the course he decided to work for himself and opened an army surplus shop with separate ventures in a paintball site and the manufacture of military and outdoor clothing.

But by the end of the 1990s his shop was in an area which had become the local red-light district and he reluctantly decided to close the business because of a rise in crime. He said: "Lasses were coming into the shop asking if they could get warm and there was a lot of crime. Because of that I had to move out of my shop. It'd still be going now if it hadn't been for the crime in the area."

In 2001 he moved to the Crescent area of Filey. He said: "It's always been a nice place where we'd been on holiday."

And since then he has become well-known in the area for his investigations into UFO and the paranormal - he recently set up a website where people can file their reports - which has culminated in Yorkshire being named as the latest UFO hotspot. He said that it was important for all reports to be investigated properly rather than just posted onto the internet. He added: "It could be anything - weather balloons, Chinese lanterns or birds."

## QUESTION TIME

Starsign: Sagittarius.

Favourite food: Chicken.

Favourite film: Quadrophonia.

"It was very innovative for its time - it was one of the most

down-to-earth films that I've

seen that portrays people's

lives at the time."

Favourite TV: Sons of Anarchy.

Favourite music: Metallica,

Kid Rock and The Who. "I love

all music from rock to ballads."

Favourite part

of Scarborough: "The sea front

at both Scarborough and Filey. We

have one of the nicest sea fronts in

Britain. To see nice properties being

looked after is lovely. This is why

people come here."

Holiday destination: Loch Ness

or Wales. "I love the mythology of



Wales. It's got some of the best castles in the world."

If you could invite two people to dinner who would they be?

Musician John Lennon and actor James Bolam.

Ambition: "Politics if I was well enough."



**EVERY** time Huw Lloyd ventures on to the peaks above his farmhouse, his thoughts return to a strange night almost 40 years ago — and a UFO mystery that has never been explained.

Huw, then 14, had been watching television with his two older sisters and a neighbour when their hillside home in North Wales was rocked by a "violent thud" that knocked him from his chair.

Within minutes four police officers were at his front door, asking if his father could drive them into the inhospitable Berwyn Mountains in a farm vehicle.

They said a plane had crashed. Huw's father was out so the teenager, who had been driving Land Rovers around the family farm for years, volunteered to take them.

Within minutes he was at the wheel of his dad's Land Rover, driving the officers through the gloom.

Huw said: "Our neighbour, a retired RAF officer, sat in the passenger seat and the policemen were in the back."

As the Land Rover nosed carefully along the track that wound through thick forests and bogs, the officers kept colleagues informed of their progress via their radios.

Meanwhile, Huw began to prepare himself for the grim scene that might lie ahead.

"I was expecting we'd find a blazing aircraft with bodies strewn among wreckage," he said.

The Land Rover was nearing the 2,723ft summit of the highest peak in the Berwyn mountain range — Cadair Berwyn — when they were "blinded" by the brightest light Huw, now 51, has ever seen.

"It must have been about 30 minutes after the explosion we'd heard while we were in the house. Suddenly the whole sky was lit up by the most incredible white light, brighter it seemed than even the sun. For close on 30 seconds the skies were filled with this light for as far as you could see."

The awed youngster quickly composed himself and pressed on, only for the 4x4 to get stuck in a bog.

The officers got out to free it but when they had done so and got back in, one of them said quietly: "Take us back down the mountain, please. We're done here."

The teenager was dumbfounded.

Huw said: "Surely they could have made it to the scene on foot. I estimated we could only have been a few hundred yards away by then."

Huw, now married with three children and still living in the same farmhouse in Llandrillo, near Bala, says barely a day goes by when he doesn't think about the evening of January 23, 1974.

"Looking back, as I have so many times, I think the officers must have taken a message over their radios telling them to back off, for reasons I can only guess at. They certainly didn't want to talk to me about it that night. We drove back down the mountain in silence."

By NIC NORTH

Many have since speculated that the event was Britain's own Roswell Incident, mirroring what conspiracy theorists believe was a cover-up by the US authorities of an alien landing in New Mexico in 1947.

Film that seemed to be an alien corpse being examined was later linked with the Roswell Incident.

UFO investigators in the UK claim to have spoken to witnesses who were in the Berwyn Mountains that night and claim to have seen alien beings emerging dazed from a crashed spaceship.

One UFO specialist, Russ Kellett, who has spent the past 23 years investigating such incidents after his own "close

encounter" believes he has uncovered evidence that the MoD could have been searching for crashed alien craft on that night.

For the first time Russ has shared, with The Sun, a document from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) which suggests a military operation — codenamed Photoflash — was under way.

Russ said: "The Photoflash operation was used to light up the coast so they could see submerged UFO craft in the sea."

"I believe there were three separate craft that were flushed out of the ocean that night, military craft were involved and there was an engagement."



"I spoke to a fisherman who saw one come out near Puffin Island. His colleagues at the time told him to say nothing about it because it was considered bad luck. He never spoke about it for years."

Russ adds that he had correspondence with a group of men who told him they were moved on by military personnel on the roadside at Llandrillo, where one of the craft came down.

He said: "They said they saw aliens getting out of the craft helping two of their own who were injured. They were then loaded onto a flat-bed truck and taken away."

Alas, 47-year-old Russ's "eyewitnesses" are now all dead, he says.

However, he still has a piece of strange-looking metal recovered by witnesses after the incident.

One theory about the event was that a meteor shower coincided with an earthquake, the epicentre of which was at Bala Lake.

A year ago, files released showed the MoD officially backed the meteor theory.

But the MoD's conclusions did not convince many of those who witnessed the incident first hand.

Huw said: "Something's gone on that night that the authorities don't want us to know about."

"Whatever it was, and I think a UFO is a distinct possibility, we'll probably never know."

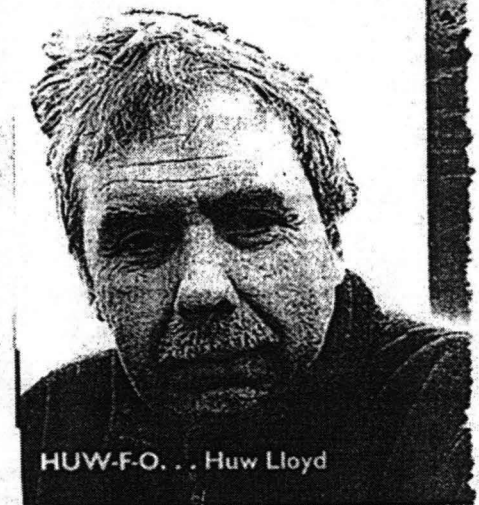
Huw's story has an intriguing end. Days after the cordons preventing people from going up the mountain and legions of "men in black" had disappeared, one of his sisters found a lump of rock at the probable scene of the impact.

"This bit of rock was the size of a man's fist but it was not in keeping with the local geology. It took on a different colour from different angles and its patterns and colours were like oil on water," said Huw.

"I took it to school the next day to show my headmaster, who was a doctor of science and knew a bit about geology."

"He sent it off to a contact at Keele University."

"It was 12 months before I got it back, but I am certain the rock that was returned was not the same one. It didn't look at all like the one we'd sent away."



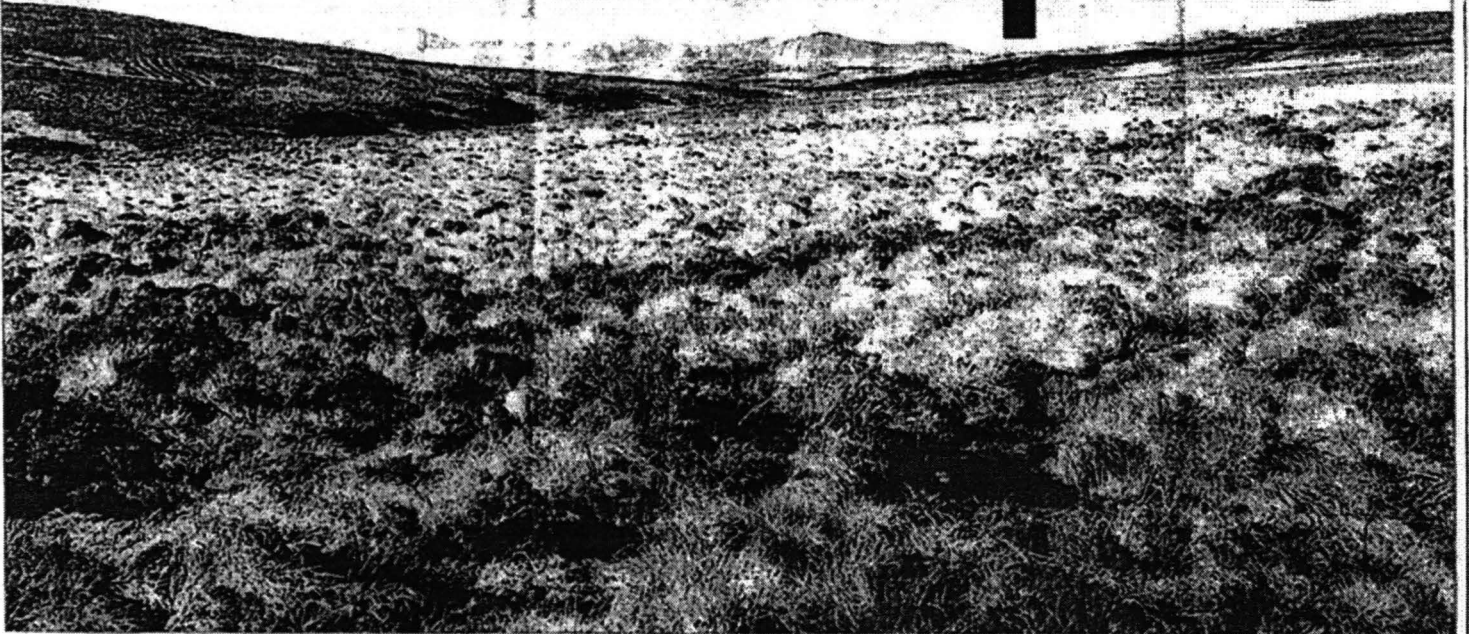
HUW-F.O. . . Huw Lloyd

### News clippings are always appreciated!

We encourage you to submit any UFO-related newspaper clippings to us. Please be sure to include the name and date of the newspaper along with the article itself. We always credit those who submit articles that are used. Please understand that we may not be able to use all articles we receive due to space limitations.



# Mystery of 'Welsh Roswell' deepens



New evidence has been found about the mystery of the Berwyn Mountains (main) 'UFO' sighting – known as the Welsh Roswell – says investigator Russ Kellett (below)

By STEVE BAGNALL

THE mystery behind the famous Berwyn Mountains "UFO" incident has deepened after a document revealed a major military operation was under way that night.

Dubbed the "Welsh Roswell", on January 23 in 1974 locals reported hearing a huge bang, felt earth tremors and saw a brilliant light in the sky over the Berwyn Mountains.

Now a document from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency has surfaced, which reveals a military operation – codenamed Photoflash – was scheduled for that evening.

It involved about 10 military aircraft and a series of powerful flashes across the North Wales coast and Liverpool Bay.

The MCA letter said: "During the late afternoon and early evening of 23rd January 1974 there was an exercise from Jerby Range on the Isle of Man.

"The exercise was called Photoflash' and coastguards were advised to expect at least 10 aircraft taking part and at least 80 flashes around the Liverpool Bay area and the North Wales coastline.

There is no more information from official sources on that specific exercise and why it was commissioned for that night.

Although a spokesman at the RAF Museum Research Department suggested photoflash operations were used for training exercises to illuminate the ground below.

Over the years theories have been put forward to explain the events at Berwyn Mountains.

One suggested there was a combination of events, a meteor shower combined with an earthquake – the epicentre of which was at Bala Lake – and misperception of poachers on the hillside with lamps.

But investigator Russ Kellett, who has been researching the Berwyn Mountains incident extensively, acquiring documents and witness ac-

## Major military op was under way on night of 'sighting'

counts, is convinced UFOs were the focus of a military operation on that night.

He said: "The photoflash operation was used to light up the coast so they could see submerged craft in the sea.

"From my research, there were three separate craft that were flushed out of the ocean that night, military craft were involved and there was an engagement.

"I spoke to a fisherman who saw one come out near Puffin Island, his colleagues at the time told him to say nothing about it because it was considered bad luck, and he never spoke about it for years.

"I have correspondence with a group of men who told me they were moved on by military personnel on the roadside at Llandrillo where one of the craft came down.

"They said they saw aliens getting out the craft who were helping two of their own who were injured.

"They were then loaded onto the back of a flat back truck and taken away.

"The epicentre of the earthquake was at Bala Lake. That is where one of the craft came down.

"The other one smashed into the mountain side at Berwyn."

Earlier this year files released showed the Government officially backed the meteor theory.

Then-junior RAF minister Brynmor John summed up the official position in a letter to North Wales MP Dafydd Elis Thomas in May 1974.

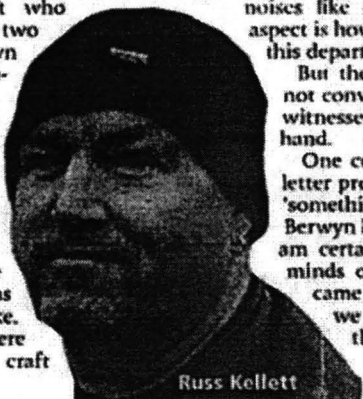
He wrote: "As suggested by the descriptions reported, it seems the phenomena could well have been caused by a meteor descending through the atmosphere burning up and finally disintegrating before it reached the ground.

"Such a hypothesis would also explain the absence of any signs of impact.

"It has also been suggested that at 8.32pm that evening there was an earth tremor in the Berwyn Mountains, which produced a landslide with noises like detonations. This latter aspect is however outside the field of this department."

But the MoD's conclusions did not convince many of those who witnessed the incident first hand.

One correspondent wrote in a letter preserved in the files: "That 'something' came down in the Berwyn Mountains on that night I am certain... It is certain to the minds of both my friends who came with me and to me that we were visited by an object that evening."



Russ Kellett

stevebagnall@dailypost.co.uk

# Radio star sees stars

**UFO:** *Standard's* close encounter on air

■ By MIKE PYLE

STRANGE goings-on in the sky above Bracknell dominated the airwaves this week after the producer of a popular national radio show spotted a possible UFO.

Richie Firth was driving from his Reading home to London, where he works as the producer for DJ Christian O'Connell's breakfast show on Absolute Radio, on Monday when he saw strange lights in the sky above Bracknell.

Richie, 33, said: "It was 3.58am exactly.

"The lights were over Bracknell and they looked like a horizontal light and then three dotted lights above it - it looked like a crown.

"It was there for about two seconds and disappeared."

Richie spoke about what he saw on the radio show and agreed to be interviewed for *The Standard* live on air.

Presenter Christian came up with the idea of letting listeners suggest the headline for this story in an on-air contest judged by reporter Mike Pyle.

'Radio star sees stars', as suggested by Andrew Jacobs, beat competition from suggestions including 'It's life Jim, but not as we know it - say aliens'.

Richie said it is the first time he has ever seen anything like the object he saw hovering above the centre of Bracknell on Monday.

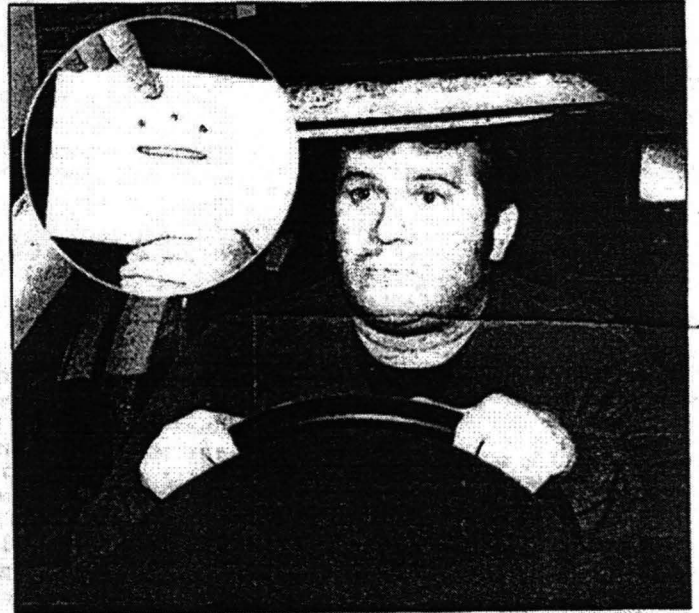
He added: "It's not the kind of thing I would normally be into, it's not my bag at all.

"But the only thing I can think it could have been is a spaceship, there's no doubt in my mind.

"I feel a bit weird saying that."

It is not the first time strange lights have been reported in the sky above Bracknell.

Last year several people spotted what they thought were UFOs above Bracknell during a short space of time.



**CROWN IN THE SKY:** Richie Firth, from Calcot, has produced a drawing of what he saw from his car that morning

Picture by Steve Smyth ep110106

East Anglian Daily Times (series)  
England  
Jan. 5, 2011

# Nuclear theory on forest UFO claims

**RENDLESHAM:** Aliens were 'monitoring USAF weapons'

By Craig Robinson

THE notorious sighting of UFOs in a Suffolk forest could be linked to the presence of nuclear weapons, it was claimed last night.

In December 1980 strange lights were seen by US Air Force personnel at the twin bases of RAF Bentwaters and Woodbridge near Rendlesham Forest.

The event - which recently celebrated its 30th anniversary - has never been explained and attracts a variety of different theories.

Expert Robert Hastings, author of *UFOs and Nukes*, believes the mysterious events had a nuclear weapons connection.

He has spoken to a number of eye witnesses - including base commander Colonel Charles Halt - and said there is evidence to suggest laser-like beams were seen above nuclear storage facilities at Bentwaters.

Mr Hastings, who recently lectured at



Oxford University on the connection between UFOs and nuclear weapons, said: "One of the UFOs hovered over the nuclear Weapons Storage Area (WSA) and directed laser-like beams of light down onto or near it.

"At that time, the WSA held the largest stockpile of tactical nuclear bombs - also known as battlefield nukes - in Western Europe.

"The incident at Bentwaters was hardly unique. Significantly, UFO incursions at WSAs at other USAF bases occurred in the years both preceding and following the incident at Bentwaters."

Mr Hastings said other sightings were recorded above WSAs at Michigan and Montana in 1975, New Mexico in 1980 and in the former Soviet Union in 1989.

He believes the UFOs targeted these areas because their occupants were monitoring the nuclear arms race.

"I am speculating but it appears that whatever their overall agenda may be, part of what they are up to is monitoring the nuclear arms race," he said. "I have interviewed over 120 former military personnel in the US - three-quarters of them are of the opinion that these things are attempting to wag a finger at us. Admonishing us. Telling us that we are playing with fire."

To mark the 30th anniversary of the incident the *East Anglian Daily Times* has teamed up with BBC Radio Suffolk to try to explain the mystery in a continuing investigation called *Rendlesham Revealed*.

craig.robinson@eadt.co.uk



## News feature

www.cambridgefirst.co.uk m.cambridgefirst.co.uk

Thursday, December 23, 2010

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date with the news  
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# Is the truth out there?

HUGH MORRIS meets Cambridge's UFO Skeptics

**A**S BRIGHT lights meander across the night sky and you are sure it is not a plane and it's too slow to be a shooting star, your thoughts turn to things not of this world.

Unfortunately, Cambridge group Skeptics in the Pub - an informal group for discussing the supposedly unexplained - will tell you, and the Ministry of Defence will testify, that 95 per cent of such sightings are either misidentifications or too vague to investigate.

Nevertheless, it does not stop unidentified flying objects (UFOs) being a passion for many - both sceptics and believers.

On December 26 it is the 30th anniversary of The Rendlesham Forest incident, dubbed Britain's Roswell - the American site renowned for its UFO connection.

The Rendlesham Forest incident was one of Britain's most significant UFO sightings.

In the Suffolk forest, for three nights in a row in December 1980, US Air Force staff, based at RAF Woodbridge, observed unexplained lights and

allegedly witnessed the landing of an unknown craft.

Though such a well-known case is interesting, so is the regular flow of everyday reports.

Since July this year, 21 reports of UFOs have been registered in Cambridgeshire on sightings website [uk-ufo.co.uk](http://uk-ufo.co.uk), and more are submitted on a regular basis.

On August 16, one stargazer spotted 18 bright

red lights over Huntingdon which disappeared when she tried to photograph them.

Equally mesmerising was the report on August 11 of a red pulsating object which stopped eight feet away from the witness.

Ian Ridpath, editor of the Oxford Dictionary of Astronomy, and prolific UFO sceptic, spoke in Cambridge to Skeptics in the Pub.

He said the belief that extraterrestrial beings are visiting our skies is based on human delusion and the natural human tendency to delude others.

"People who believe in UFOs are not keen for them to be investigated

because, if the sightings are solved, people will start to lose interest. They do not want the sightings to be explained," he said.

Though Mr Ridpath's approach is from an astronomical viewpoint, he recognises the nature of believers can be anthropological.

Andrew Holding runs Skeptics in the Pub, which has recently launched an offshoot - sister group, Skeptics in the Café.

"It is estimated that 100 UFO sightings are reported a day worldwide and, therefore, we are interested in trying to explain whether these really are little green men from another planet or whether there is a more simple answer," he said.

"We would hope to provide the believers with the ability to recognise logical fallacies or misin-

terpretation of data in the arguments both for and against. This way, even if we disagree, they will have learned from the experience."

Mr Holding said he has met some convincing believers but none has passed investigation.

With regards to alien abductions, he puts it down to a condition called sleep paralysis when people are caught between sleep, dreams and reality.

"This can lead to a terrifying experience and, for those who aren't aware of the condition, it proves what would seem to be evidence of an abduction."

Malcolm Robinson, who runs a website for believers, [crowdedskies.com](http://crowdedskies.com), said it is quite easy to mistake a lot of lights in the sky for UFOs, especially as Chinese lanterns rise in popularity.

He said: "But we're getting reports in of sightings all over the place at the moment. I have been inundated with them."



Phil Hoyle

## County UFO expert's claim

A Shropshire UFO expert is claiming US president Barack Obama will be forced to make a stunning announcement within the next month revealing the world's leading figures are aware of extra-terrestrials visiting earth.

Phil Hoyle, of the UFO Investigation and Research Unit in Shrewsbury, said he had received sensitive information from top US security

intelligence that President Obama would be making the revelation.

He believes there is now undeniable proof of alien activity. "We have contacts linked to security agencies, the CIA and security intel in the US and other parts of the world that know what is going on," he said.

The news comes as Mr Hoyle revealed a staggering increase in reported UFO incidents happening

across the county. After recently starting a Shropshire UFO Casebook to document the incidents Mr Hoyle said he was left with no doubt of the existence of other life forms.

He said: "The Powys and Shropshire border seems to be a hotspot with sightings around Oswestry down to Church Stretton, Craven Arms, Wenlock Edge and Knighton."



# You don't scare us, ET

By David Derbyshire

THE sight of flying saucers over Britain, so science fiction would have us believe, would see panicking mobs in the streets.

But it seems we may be far more worldly than writers, or over-protective governments, have ever given us credit for.

Psychologist Dr Albert Harrison argues that people have become so used to the idea of alien life that they would be 'unfazed' if the proof appeared before their eyes.

He said things have changed dramatically since 1961, when the U.S. Congress was warned evidence of extra-terrestrials would lead to widespread panic.

In North America and Europe at least, neither the discovery of an alien nor the detection of alien radio signals were now likely to

## How hi-tech age has left us unfazed by idea of alien life

lead to 'widespread psychological disintegration and collapse', he concluded.

Advances in our technology have brought civilisation to a point where the idea of other beings travelling through space to Earth no longer seems far-fetched or frightening, Dr Harrison argues in a special edition of the journal *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* devoted to aliens.

People had been getting used to the idea of extra-terrestrials since the Seti (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) project first began listening out for alien radio

signals 50 years ago, he said. Today, surveys suggest that half of the U.S. and Europe believe in aliens, while a 'substantial proportion' are convinced alien spacecraft had already visited the Earth.

A second paper in the same journal argued that the discovery of intelligent alien life was unlikely to threaten the world's faiths.

Ted Peters, theologian at the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, California, surveyed 1,300 people of different faiths around the world.

He wrote: 'It became clear that the vast majority of religious believers,

regardless of religion, see no threat to their personal beliefs caused by potential contact with intelligent neighbours on other worlds.'

He also argues that worshippers would be able to accept that heaven would welcome aliens too.

However, elsewhere in the journal, evolution expert Professor Simon Conway Morris, from Cambridge University, said the chances of intelligent alien life were low.

If evolution were the same throughout the universe it would be unthinkable that advanced space travellers in older parts of the universe should not have reached the Earth by now, he said.

Prof Conway Morris added: 'That did not happen, and it will not happen. We never had any visitors, nor is it worth setting up a reception committee in the hope that one day they might turn up.'

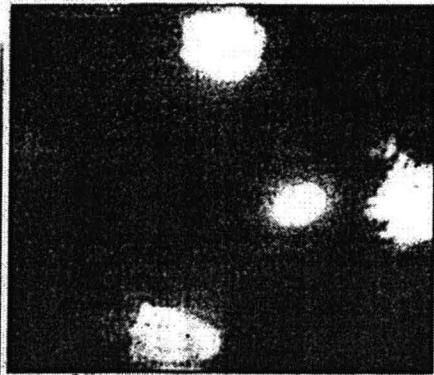
'They are not there, and we are alone.'

d.derbyshire@dailymail.co.uk



The Daily Mail  
England  
Jan. 10, 2011

## Another crisp sighting of Dudley Dorito



The Dudley Dorito photographed in 2007

A fresh sighting of a triangular UFO dubbed the "Dudley Dorito" racing through the skies has been reported in the Black Country - and this time it seemed to bring a friend.

Security officer Glyn Richards was having a cigarette in the garden of his home in Cop-pice Lane, Quarry Bank, when he saw a mysterious object with flashing lights in the sky, appearing to travel towards Dudley from Halesowen.

Moments later, he said, another UFO with a steady white light appeared and seemed to chase it off.

"I never really believed in anything like that, but it was no helicopter or plane that I've ever seen," said father-of-two Mr Richards, aged 33. "I had a perfect view of

### Report by Charlotte Cross

it for around 20 seconds. It had flashing red lights in the centre and white lights at the end. Then another thing with just a bright white light appeared and it looked like it scared it away as it shot off in a perfectly straight line."

It is the third reported sighting of the Dorito in as many years.

Mr Richards said he had called his nine-year-old daughter and seven-year-old son out of the house to see the objects, and following the sighting, which happened at around 7.45pm on Monday, they logged on to the internet and discovered previous sightings of the UFO on the Express & Star

website - along with its own entry on Wikipedia.

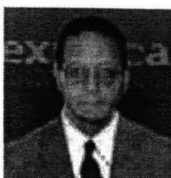
"I was shocked but it was quite exciting as well - it was probably just a military plane or something but it's interesting to think it could be something else," he said.

In November, quality inspector Munesh Mistry reported seeing the triangular-shaped object in the skies near his home in Andrew Road, Tipton.

The object has also been spotted hovering over the Merry Hill Shopping Centre in Brierley Hill - and in February last year a UFO sighting was recorded by Sean Gibbs-Percival over the skies of Oldbury. On April 16, 2009, builders working at West Midland Safari Park were shocked to see a flying saucer-shaped object soaring above them.

Express & Star City Final  
(Wolverhampton West Midlands)  
England  
Jan. 19, 2011

## Air Force Makes Contact with the UFO Phenomenon In Argentina



02/18/2011

**Source: El Tiempo (newspaper) and Planeta UFO**

### By Jorge Nahum

The radar picked up an object of considerable size, flying from Rio Gallegos toward the north. The device is unable to determine its point of origin. But it flies without stopping. There is astonishment and disquiet. However, the decision is quick and unequivocal: two Mirage interceptors are scrambled from the Tandil Base to intercept the object...and they find that it is a weather balloon launched in Australia, winding up in Argentina's airspace.

More or less, this is the story told by Commodore Jorge Tealdi, press officer for the Argentinean Air Force (FAA) which decided in late 2010 to create a commission to investigate celestial phenomena that penetrate the nation's skies.

The incident he recalled took place several years ago, but it helps to explain the goals of this new commission. There was something strange in the air, an unknown object, and it was possible -- by specific actions -- to establish what it was. "The Argentinean Air Force's main mission is to safeguard Argentinean airspace, and we admit that our skies have cases involving objects or phenomena that cannot be explained. This does not necessarily mean that they are alien spacecraft, but they are indeed unidentified flying objects," explained Tealdi, a resident of Córdoba, born in Morteros, in a statement to Día a Día.

The new commission already has the authorization of the Ministry of Defense and will operate out of the Condor Building as the Comisión de Estudios de Fenómenos Aeroespaciales o Celestes (Aerospatial or Heavenly Phenomena Study Commission). Its members have not yet been appointed, but will include specialists in a variety of disciplines, such as meteorologists, air traffic controllers, pilots and radar experts. Collaborators will also be invited to participate -- Ufologists, for example -- under the command of military personnel.

"This is the first time that the Air Force makes a similar move. Based on sighting reports, we are going to create an official statistical base aimed at creating a sightings map, to know where we need to pay attention. The idea is to have the official Air Force website have a link to any reports and photos

we may receive, and that also provides news regarding investigations," said Tealdi.

While the goal is to receive all possible information, he explained that "the experiences of a group of hikers at Mount Uritorco do not have the same weight as those of a trained pilot flying an aircraft with instruments." He added: "And I say this respectfully, because we know that expectations are considerable. Many people send us their concerns, photos and videos and want us to provide an explanation immediately. We are in no position to provide rapid responses, but we can say that the decision to investigate has already been made."

Air safety. In June of last year, a Chinese airport interrupted its activities and cancelled flights for three hours due to a UFO manifestation. Its exact nature remains unknown. In this regard, Commodore Tealdi said: "In the history of Argentinean aviation, there has never been an aerial phenomenon that jeopardized air safety. With the creation of this investigative commission, the priority shall be to deal with cases that may affect this safety beyond any anomalies in the sky."

In the region, Brazil and Uruguay have already implemented commissions of this sort, and in South America, only Perú and Argentina have not opened their files regarding UFO phenomena. "We have nothing to hide and I have no evidence that there is classified or secret information. I repeat, these concerns are precisely [the reason] for the creation of an official statistical database, not only to satisfy general curiosity. We are also charged with guarding our airspace," stressed the military official.

Regarding the protocol to be followed by Air Force pilots in the event of a sighting, Tealdi explained that "a traditional procedure of alerting authorities" is followed.

Brazil's air force published a new regulation for pilots, should they have a "close encounter"

Regarding expectations in the new undertaking, Tealdi was enthusiastic and prudent all at once. "We cannot dismiss anything, or steer ourselves by preconceptions. We know that we are going to come across all manner of information, from natural phenomena such as light refraction and glow against the clouds, to space junk and burned out satellites. Not to mention jokes, such as tricked photos or hoaxed videos. There will be everything. I look at the sky all day and never saw anything [unusual], and even so, I'm convinced that we have taken a major step."

**(Translation (c) 2011, S. Corrales, IHU. Special thanks to Guillermo Gimenez, Planeta UFO)**



**Milwaukee Journal Sentinel**  
Milwaukee, WI  
Jan. 7, 2011

Article Courtesy of  
Richard Heiden

## Madison lab solves blackbird die-off

### Blunt-force trauma from flying into homes, cars cited as cause

By **LEE BERGQUIST**  
lbergquist@journalsentinel.com

The mystery of the deaths of thousands of blackbirds in Arkansas this month has been solved.

They died of blunt-force trauma, according to the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison. Samples of the blackbirds — and other blackbirds from a separate mass die-off about the same time in Louisiana — were brought to the little-known laboratory on Madison's west side for necropsies.

"They died of impact force to their bodies," said Scott Wright, chief of disease investigations at the center.

He said the birds clearly showed signs of bruises.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Please see **BIRDS, 5A**

Dead birds lie on the ground after being thrown off the roof of a home by a worker in Beebe, Ark., on Sunday.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission said tests for evidence of pesticide poisoning were negative.

At least 3,000 red-winged blackbirds died on New Year's Eve near Beebe, Ark. Fireworks probably sent them flying from their roost sites.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission said the agency began receiving reports of blackbirds falling from the sky about 11:30 p.m. Dec. 31 in a 1-square-mile area of Beebe.

The mass kill spawned speculation that their demise was caused by a chemical pollutant - a fear heightened by the arrival in Beebe of workers combing neighborhoods in hazmat suits. As the story spread, other theories ranged from biblical apocalypse to proof of the presence of UFOs.

"It's believed that the noise startled them - they are poor night fliers - and they were in close proximity to neighborhoods, and they flew into homes and cars (and other objects)," Wright said.

A separate incident near Baton Rouge, La., involving about 450 blackbirds is still under investigation by the center, Wright said.

"I think the two events are a coincidence," Wright said.

Also unrelated, he said, is the death of more than 80,000 freshwater drum, and a few yellow bass, white bass and sauger in the Arkansas River reported on Jan. 3.

#### Deaths not uncommon

Wright said large-scale deaths of birds and other species are not uncommon.

Storms, for instances, wreak havoc on bird populations. Birds are also vulnerable to chemical pollution and biological poisoning from natural toxins.

For the blackbird species alone, there have been 16 incidents in which 1,000 or more birds have died in single events over the past five years, he said.

The lab analyzes 300 to 500 large die-off events each year. The deaths involve all wildlife - deaths in 2010 are as varied as the demise of 4,500 bats from a fungal infection known as white-nose syndrome in Bucks County, Pa., to the death of 150 raccoons, striped skunks, coyotes and red fox in Los Angeles County.

The lab's website shows nine separate mortality events since December alone. Eight of those events involved bird species and one involved the gunshot deaths of dozens of Brazilian free-tailed bats near Pima, Ariz.

The National Wildlife Health Center also played a key role in the study of chronic wasting disease in Wisconsin's white-tailed deer population after an outbreak in February 2002.

"We don't know what we are going to get tomorrow, or the next day, but it will be something," Wright said.



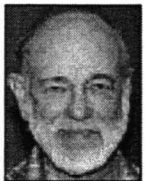
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Article Courtesy of  
Richard Heiden

# Signs of contact or con game?

## Retired agronomist suspects crop circles due to aliens or another dimension

By **STEVE CAHALAN**  
scahalan@lacrossetribune.com



Greub

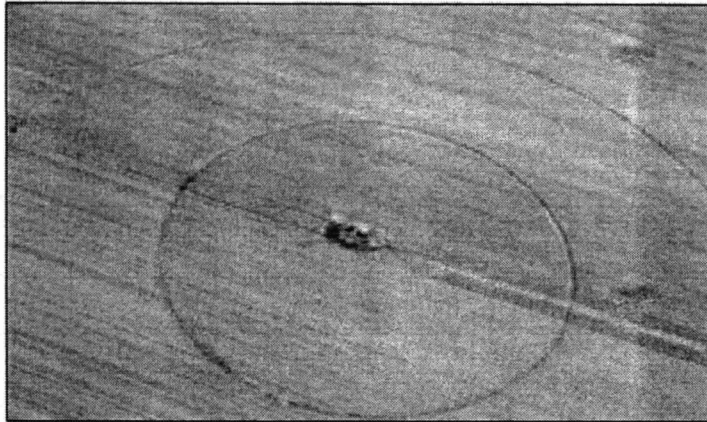
Some of the crop circles reported around the world obviously were made by pranksters, a retired University of Wisconsin-River Falls agronomy professor said Wednesday at the Midwest Farm Show at the La Crosse Center.

But Lou Greub says aliens or another dimension seem to be the most likely explanation for others.

His presentation on crop circles will be repeated from noon to 12:30 p.m. today in the center's arena as part of the two-day farm show.

Greub acknowledged crop circles are a controversial topic.

"It's interesting," said Bob Redig, a rural Winona, Minn., farmer who lis-



Lou Greub, a retired University of Wisconsin-River Falls agronomy professor, estimated that 80 percent of reported crop circles are in England.

THINKSTOCK IMAGE

tened to Greub's PowerPoint presentation. "I tend to believe it's done by people," he said, adding it would be easy for someone to use a rope to knock down plants and create a circle.

But Greub says he is curious and open-minded.

Greub became interested in crop circles when news media first reported their mysterious appearances in the English countryside in the late 1970s and early 1980s. They began as simple

See **GREUB**, A11

circles, but the designs have become increasingly complex over the years.

He visited crop circles for the first time in August, as part of a tour group in England led by Barbara Lamb, a long-time crop circle investigator and author from California. The tour group visited eight formations, which were anywhere from two weeks to 12 hours or less old.

Greub estimated 80 percent of reported crop circles are in England. English farmers who allow the public to see the circles usually have a collection box where people typically deposit the equivalent of about \$3, he said. That helps offset the loss of the crop that was laid down in the circle and trampled by visitors. But some farmers detest the circles, prohibit visitors and quickly destroy the formations, Greub said.

"There are some fakes" among England's crop circles, he said. "There's one group, especially, that's kind of organized and they go out (creating crop circles) for the sport of it."

Crop circles in England usually are created at night, Greub said. Witnesses sometimes report seeing bright flashes of light or balls and columns of light in the fields where the formations are found the next day.

Greub said he knows of no government research into crop circles. The consensus among private researchers, he said, seems to be that crop circles have been made by someone or something that is trying to communicate something.

While he thinks aliens or another dimension of some kind are the two most likely causes, Greub doesn't rule out other possible explanations: "People talk about another dimension that's actually right here around us somewhere, and things can come out of it or go back into it and we really have no understanding of it."

Greub estimated 9,000 to 10,000 crop circles have been reported in the world since 1980. He knows of two reported in Wisconsin in the summer of 2004, one in an oat field near Tilden and the other in a barley field near Wausau.