



Marilyn Ruben presents at MAY Meeting

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN MUTUAL UFO NETWORK

MICHIGAN MUFON

Words From the State Director



On April 6, I had the pleasure of delivering a UFO presentation and promoting MUFON at the Caroline Kennedy Library. The event was quite well attended and well-received. Thank you Gary Golem for joining in during the question and answer period of the talk.

Our next meeting will be May 2 at Wallis in Flint.

MIMUFON Chief Investigator Gary Golem will be conducting the morning Field Investigator's Training.

Our afternoon presentation will be from abduction researcher Marilyn Ruben of abduct.com.

In addition, Bill Murphy will again be offering for sale classic issues of the Center for UFO Studies' publication "International UFO Reporter." The IUR is filled with in-depth articles of scientific UFO research from

the great organization founded by the late J. Allen Hynek.

As my wife Becky's due date is May 14, my attendance at the May meeting will be up to the stork, however, either way, the meeting should run pretty much just the same as always.

Board members: please plan to meet between the meal and the afternoon presentation to discuss organization business.

Also, let me just please ask that if you see someone don't know at our meetings, please take a minute to introduce yourself. Especially if you know that it's that person's first meeting.

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MUFON's mission is the scientific systematic collection and analysis of UFO / Abduction data, with the ultimate goal of learning the origin and nature and purpose of the UFO / Abduction phenomenon.

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Coming to a UFO meeting can understandably be a big step outside the comfort zone for many and a friendly face and welcoming attitude much appreciated. Thanks so much.

Also, I'm very pleased to announce that for our September 19 MIMUFON Meeting, we will have prominent UFO investigator Peter Robbins (co-author of "Left at Eastgate" about the Rendlesham Forest event). For that meeting, to help cover Mr. Robbins travel from New York, entrance cost will likely be slightly higher than that of our regular meetings. I believe that being able to host someone of Robbins' caliber is well worth it.

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

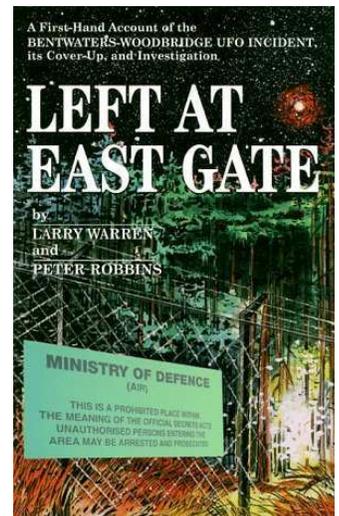
See you Sunday, May 2 at Walli's for our morning Field Investigator Training and afternoon presentation by Marilyn Ruben.



Peter Robbins Coming to MiMUFON in September

Peter Robbins is one of the best known and most respected investigative writers and speakers with regard to the study of UFOs and their implications. He's been involved in this field for more than thirty years, as a researcher, investigator, writer, lecturer, activist and author. A regular fixture on radio shows around the country, he has also appeared as a guest on and been consultant to numerous television shows and documentaries. He is also co-author of the British best-seller, *Left at East Gate: A First-Hand Account of the Rendlesham Forest UFO Incident, Its Cover-Up and Investigation*.

Plan to be with us in Flint, Michigan September 19, 2010 for this "must see" presentation.



Monthly Statistical MUFON Report - for March 2010:

CMS continues to amass sighting reports from around the globe. In March 2010 there were 504 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS worldwide. Of these, 433 were in the United States, of which 16 were in Michigan. Most impressively there were 21 Landings, Hovering, or Takeoffs reported and 9 Entities observed worldwide.

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

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Aliens Gave me Weird Skin Rash

From *AFP* correspondents in London February 18, 2010

HUNDREDS of UFO sightings by Britons, including one who developed a skin condition after a supernatural encounter, emerged in files released today which also showed Winston Churchill's interest in the issue.

The most unusual of the newly declassified Ministry of Defence files tells how a man in Ebbw Vale, south Wales, claimed his car was surrounded for five minutes by a "tube of light" in 1997. The man, who reported the incident to police, was sick the next day and also developed a mysterious skin condition.

"First sighting seemed like a massive star moving towards the car," the previously top secret police report said. "Having stopped the car and switched the lights off, the light encircled the car, remaining for perhaps five minutes." (The man) was able to walk through the light which was very bright. There was no sound, no aircraft or helicopter noise, and besides feeling ill (he) was very frightened."

The newly released files span 6000 pages and cover the period 1994 to 2000. They were released alongside another file dating back to 1952 which showed then British Prime Minister Winston Churchill requesting a briefing on UFOs from his secretary of state for air. "What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to? What can it mean? What is the truth?" he wrote. "Let me have a report at your convenience."

In the reply, Churchill was told that alleged UFO sightings could be explained by earthly phenomena such as optical illusions, mistaken identification of planes, birds and balloons. The more recent files detailed reams of other UFO spottings.

A policeman said he saw one flying over Chelsea Football Club's Stamford Bridge ground in south-west London in 1999, while a man in Birmingham, central England, saw a blue triangle hovering over his garden late one night in 1997. That alleged alien craft flew off quickly, leaving behind a "silky-white" substance on nearby treetops which the man collected in a jam jar.

One UFOlogist, David Clarke of Sheffield Hallam University in northern England, said the latest files showed how the shape of reported flying saucers had changed in recent decades. This could be linked to sci-fi television shows and films like *The X Files* and *Independence Day*, he said. "One interpretation could be that the latest advances in technology may be influencing what people see in the sky," he said.

Source: <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/wacky/aliens-gave-me-weird-skin-rash/story-e6frev20-1225831730282>



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Deny all knowledge: How the Ministry of Defence Now Handles Reported UFO Sightings

By [Daily Mail Reporter](#)
28th February 2010

The murky world of alleged alien activity has become even more secretive because defence officials have been instructed to destroy all UFO reports they receive, it was revealed today. The bid to prevent publication of the sightings is contained in a previously secret memo.

Britain's official UFO investigation unit and hotline were closed down at the start of December. Since then reports of strange sights in the skies sent to the MoD have been kept for 30 days before being thrown out, the newly released policy document shows.

This stance was adopted so defence officials would not have to publish the information in response to freedom of information (FOI) requests or pass it to the National Archives. The memo, dated November 11, 2009, sets out the MoD's reasons for shutting its UFO unit and ceasing to invite the public to send in details of sightings. It notes that the number of reports the department received soared last year, taking up extra resources and diverting staff from "more valuable" defence-related activities.

The MoD recorded 634 UFO sightings in 2009, the second-highest annual total after 1978, when there were 750, according to UFO expert Dr David Clarke. This compares with an average of about 150 reports a year over the past decade. The memo states: "The dedicated UFO hotline answer phone service and e-mail address serve no defence purpose, and merely encourage the generation of correspondence of no defence value. Accordingly these facilities should be withdrawn as soon as possible."

The official document covers what defence officials should do when they receive reports of UFOs in the future. It says: "Reported sightings received from other sources should be answered by a standard letter and... should be retained for 30 days and then destroyed, largely removing any future FOI liability and negating the need to release future files post-November 30 2009."



Reported sighting: A drawing of an alleged UFO, recently released by the National Archives. Such releases will not be possible in the future due to new MoD rules

The memo reveals that MoD chiefs made a point of not discussing their plans to close the UFO unit with other countries because of fears this could be perceived as part of a global cover-up. It states: "We have deliberately avoided formal approaches to other Governments on this issue. Such approaches would become public when the relevant UFO files are released, and would be viewed by 'ufologists' as evidence of international collaboration and conspiracy." But the document includes as an annex a printout from the US Department of Defence website explaining that the American government stopped collecting reports of UFO sightings in December 1969.

Dr Clarke, a lecturer in journalism at Sheffield Hallam University, obtained the memo through an FOI request. He said: "This is the final rubber-stamping of the decision - they just want to totally wash their hands of the UFO business altogether. It's just been a millstone around their necks ever since the Cold War. They have decided that whatever they do, it reflects badly on them."

The expert said the MoD's new policy on destroying UFO reports would make it much more difficult to uncover the truth about incidents in the future. "It's like they're desperately trying to avoid having to answer FOI requests on this subject," he said. "Even if something quite serious happened, perhaps where there was a near-miss with an airline, the MoD will say, 'we may have had a report on it, but we've destroyed it!'"

The MoD is releasing its historic UFO files gradually through the National Archives. Five installments have been made public so far, amounting to about a third of the total.

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1254369/Deny-knowledge-How-Ministry-Defence-handles-reported-UFO-sightings.html#>



Some Examples of Files Already Released by The MoD:

The File DEFE 24/1988 (p266-67) reports that a man driving home through Ebbw Vale on 27 January 1997 saw a 'tube of light come down from the sky' towards him. The driver stopped the car and the light surrounded him for up to 5 minutes. During this time both his radio and mobile phone stopped working. The man reported feeling "very frightened and ill". Later he vomited and developed "a skin condition" and was advised to see a doctor. He reported the incident to the local police and a subsequent investigation by the RAF found his car to be "covered in dirt and dust".

"Silky-white substance" left by Birmingham UFO

The file DEFE 24/1988 (p189, 185-86) reports that a man observed a triangular UFO hovering over his back garden in Kingstanding, in Birmingham. He claimed that as it moved the object left behind a "silky white substance" on the tree tops. The observer collected some specimens and stored them in a jar at his home. The file does not reveal what happened to the jar.

Secret UFO film

The file DEFE 24/1966 features a letter (p220-222) from a Senior MoD official Ralph Noyes in which he describes seeing gun camera film of UFOs captured by RAF fighter pilots in 1956. He claims this was shown at a secret sub ground film-show arranged for Air Defence staff at the MoD Main Building in 1970. Despite a search of the archives by MoD staff in 1993-94 no trace of these films could be found and it was assumed that they had not survived or that the images had been "pinched" for someone's private collection of curiosities.

UFO sightings near home of the Home Secretary 1997

The file DEFE 24/1994 (p174-210) refers to newspaper reports and an investigation by the RAF in March 1997 which came about following sightings by several members of the public of a large triangular 'humming' object in the sky close to the home of the (former) Home Secretary, Michael Howard in Folkestone in Kent (p195). It was claimed that the UFO hovered for several minutes above a field before shooting off in a flash of light. An investigation by the RAF found that there was no evidence of unauthorised air activity or any security alert in the area at the time.

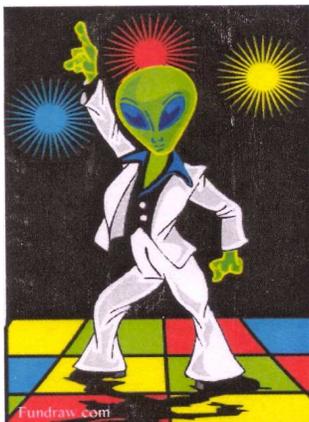
UFO letters to John Major and Tony Blair - DEFE 24/1994, (p261-285, 136-38); DEFE 24/1967,(p11); DEFE 24/1968, (p107, 104-5); DEFE 24/2011, (p103-105); DEFE 24/1969,(p213-217) This file features a series of letters from UFO believers asking first, John Major and then the newly elected Tony Blair for their views on UFOs and ET life; others request the release of secret documents on UFOs that they believe are being with-held from the public.

UFO captured on video and on radar

The file DEFE 24/1977 (p229-240) refers to sightings of strange rotating red, blue, green and white flashing lights in the sky made by police officers in Boston and Skegness and captured on video. The UFOs appeared to be originating from an area above the North Sea and this was reported to the coastguards who in turn alerted ships in North Sea. The lights were also observed by the crew of a ship in The Wash.

Simultaneously RAF air defence radars at RAF Neatishead in Norfolk detected an unidentified blip over Boston. Press coverage of this incident led to a detailed RAF investigation and a report which identified some of the lights as stars and bright planets such as Venus. The radar blip was identified as a "permanent echo" created by a tall church spire in the Lincolnshire Wolds. The RAF report includes a transcript of conversation between the coastguards and the police.

KEEPING IT LIGHT



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UFO on the radar

The file DEFE 24/2008, (p344) refers to testimony from a senior air traffic controller from Prestwick airport in Glasgow. In February 1999 the Controller tracked a fast moving and unexplained UFO on the airport radar. This led to an extensive investigation by RAF air defence staff who impounded Radar tapes from a number of airports around the UK. However no additional evidence was found which could corroborate the Glasgow incident.

File DEFE 24/1989, (p154) features reports that four members of the crew of a fishing trawler in North Sea spotted a flat, shiny round object hovering 19 miles North East of Fraserburgh on the 18 August 1997. They tracked the mysterious UFO on their surface radar for several seconds before it vanished.

Bonnybridge, Scotland, UFO "flap", 1994-95

The file DEFE 24/2017 (p5-19), features correspondence between Cllr William Buchanan from Falkirk District Council and the MoD. Buchanan wrote to John Major in 1994 to request an inquiry into a series of unexplained UFO sightings in and around Bonnybridge (a small town between Glasgow and Edinburgh). Press reports had described this region as "the Bonnybridge Triangle". Buchanan claimed that there had been more than 600 separate UFO incidents recorded in the Falkirk area within two years. In response the MoD questioned the number of sightings and said that there were no plans to investigate this further.

Additional correspondences requesting an inquiry is also recorded from Buchanan to the newly elected Tony Blair in 1997. Alien Abductions: DEFE 24/1979 (p102); DEFE 24/1980, (p262-63); DEFE 24/1994, (p 164) - contains policy statements from the MoD in response to reports of "alien abductions" in 1996. The issue is considered not proven and no further investigation required. It is advised that reports of further abductions should be reported to the police or Home office who can investigate if there is sufficient evidence.

Allegations: crashed UFOs studied at military bases in the UK:

The file DEFE 24/1981, (p71,81, 211 ,310-11) makes reference to RAF Menwith Hill, the joint US/UK electronic monitoring base in North Yorkshire. In 1997 it was claimed by local farmers that they saw a mysterious disc-shaped object within the RAF base perimeter which was surrounded by military personnel. The farmers claimed that they were then ordered to move away from the perimeter fence. The file contains a joint statement from the base and the MoD confirming that "no UFO/flying saucer has landed in the vicinity of Menwith Hill and the base had no connection with UFO research".

Rendlesham Forest incident - DEFE 24/2011, (p222-327) - this features the original written testimony from USAF security policemen who reported a UFO landing outside the perimeter fence at RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk, in December 1980. In 1999 a leading UFOlogist published copies of the original witness statements made by the USAF airmen and further reports made in January 1981. Copies of these statements were also sent to the MoD in 1998 and placed on a departmental file.

Crop Circles - DEFE 24/1979, (p134-38)

This features a 1996 letter from the cosmologist Professor Carl Sagan of Cornell University in New York, to the MoD. Sagan asking for official comment in response to conspiracy theories about their alleged role in debunking the crop circles phenomena.

Incidents involving UFOs and aircraft

The files DEFE 24/1979 (p229, 82); DEFE 24/1980, (p191-94) DEFE 24/1981, (p249) contain information concerning a 'near miss' that occurred between a 737 approaching Manchester airport and a UFO on 6 January 1995. This incident was the subject of an investigation by the Civil Aviation Authority that failed to identify the object seen by the captain and a crew member.

There is additional material in file DEFE 24/1977, (p60-64) concerning a close encounter between a UFO and an airliner near Glasgow Airport in December 1996.

The file DEFE 24/1988 (p123) refers to UFO sighting by the crew of an Aer Lingus flight en route from Dublin to Amsterdam in April 1997.

The file DEFE 24/1980 (p253-54) contains the MoD response to a News of the World story which reported that a UFO was spotted over the Royal Estate at Balmoral Royal in 1996 and was pursued by RAF jets. This incident was explained by the MoD as a night-time exercise by Harrier jump jets.



WE ARE NOT ALONE

Awarded the Silver Mic in the category of "Interviews" for 2010 by The Michigan Association of Educational Broadcasters.



Tune in to David Twichell's one-hour radio talk show, "We Are Not Alone" on WHFR, broadcast from Henry Ford Community College (89.3 FM).

Travis Walton (Fire in The Sky) will guest on June 1, 2010.

Investigator and Author Frank Feschino (Shoot Them Down) will guest on July 6, 2010.

Tune in on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM (EST) with a new show each month.

Out of the area? Go to: <http://whfr.fm/index.php> and click on "Listen Live now". The latest shows are now archived. Click on "The Forum" button on WHFR's Homepage and click on the earliest date of each month.

Is There Life on Mars?

Maybe, say Scots scientists who have discovered that microbes in an arctic crater could have survived conditions four million years ago.

Scots scientists have moved a step closer to revealing whether or not there is life on Mars. Researchers made the breakthrough after discovering the remains of organisms which survived while the earth was being bombarded by meteorites around four million years ago.

It was thought that primitive life could not have survived the hostile period known as “the heavy bombardment” immediately after the birth of the solar system. But studies of a microbe thought to be amongst the earliest to inhabit Earth by the University of Aberdeen have revealed that life could have endured the conditions.

The samples, taken from a crater on an uninhabited island in the Canadian High Arctic could have survived temperatures close to boiling point. The tests also showed that the microbes were able to live deep underground in the darkness known as the ‘deep biosphere’.

Professor John Parnell from the University of Aberdeen says the discovery could explain much about the evolution of life on Earth as well as Mars which is covered in craters similar to those found here. He said, “When the Earth was young, over four billion years ago, it was repeatedly hit by large meteorites which would have shocked and melted the planet’s surface. Up until now scientists have imagined that primitive life would not have been able to withstand this pummeling.

“But our analysis of the mineral told us that this ancient microbe could have been able to survive meteorite bombardment through a combination of living underground and reinvading the surface rock while it was still very hot. Our findings add to a growing body of evidence that there is much life on our planet that lives deep below out of sight and that this is where early life on Earth may have started.

“Similar meteorite craters with similar minerals occur on Mars, and this work highlights an approach that could help us look for evidence of life there.”

The research is due to be published in this month’s *Geology* – the leading international publication from the Geological Society of America.

Source: <http://news.stv.tv/scotland/north/163021-is-there-life-on-mars/>

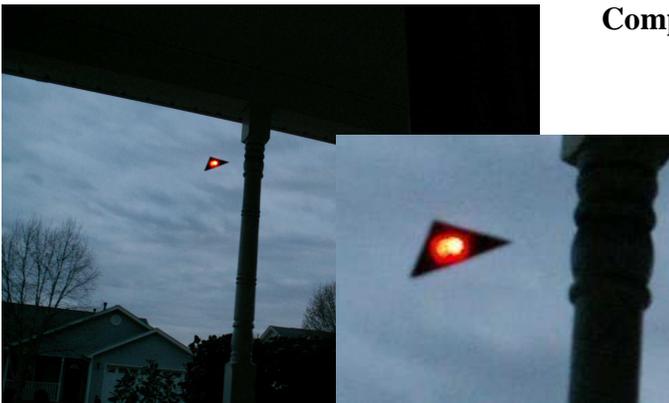


Boyne City, MI

On the way home from my son's soccer practice we saw about six yellow circular lights in a row. They appeared for about five seconds and then disappeared from the ends towards the center. One remained and then it disappeared. This happened six times until about 8:30 PM. They all faded out at the same time. They appeared to be a couple miles away, which would have made their actual size very large. The lights did not move once they appeared, but would hover in place until their disappearance. I spoke to a neighbor who has said that he has seen the same thing in the southeastern sky before. I stopped my car, got out my phone, and took a picture.

Thanks to MUFON

Compelling Photographs of Triangle Taken over Greenville, South Carolina Greenville, SC - 03-16-10



On March 16, 2010... I saw a bright red light coming from a distance. I thought that maybe an airline plane was on fire, and grabbed my camera. Instead, it was a large triangle plane with a very bright, red strobe in the center of it, (almost like it was on fire). It seemed to be climbing in altitude. By the time I went to the backyard, it already entered the clouds and was gone!

This happened in Greenville, South Carolina at 8:03 PM.

Source: <http://www.ufocasebook.com/2010/greenvillesc031610.html>



Context and Perspective

Bill Murphy's Column

Context and perspective – these are two words that we need to think more about in ufology, because they help us understand some of the factors that militate against our study being accepted as a serious discipline by the wider community. And I have argued that that lack of respect may help explain why, after 60-plus years of the “modern UFO era”, we haven’t made more progress in understanding the phenomenon -- because our insularity and perceived “fringiness” have denied ufology the technical and scientific talent, focus, and funds needed to prosecute our studies in a cutting-edge manner.

I am reminded of a television commercial that focuses on the rather innocent, almost cherubic face of a kid of eight or ten years of age, then ratchets out to a wider view in which we see he’s holding an AK-47 assault rifle. You get a very different impression from the scene depending upon how wide your field of view is – how much context there is. Ufology is plagued by a lack of context, for several reasons. The result is that all too often ufologists do not take into account basic scientific and historical facts in their explanations, causing those explanations often to seem silly and illogical.

Context: The Great Pyramid isn’t so “special”: I want to address the issue that some “Ancient Astronauts” writers hold up the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Egypt as an example of aliens at work, creating or at least instructing the poor backward ancient Egyptians in its construction, because the monument is so outstandingly unique that the Nile dwellers couldn’t have possibly dreamed up the blueprints by themselves. I feel qualified to delve into this subject because for years I taught courses in archaeology and Egyptology, and have visited Khufu’s Pyramid and the rest of the Gizeh (or Giza) group multiple times during three trips to Egypt. Now, it seems to me that “Ancient Astronauts” is one of those peripheral areas that have some prima facie justification to be included in ufology. If we are willing seriously to entertain the possibility of current E-T visitation, we must assume it possible that the earth may have experienced such incursions in the past. The problem in my opinion is that most of the “mysteries” held up for display as support for this theory dissolve when the hard light of scrutiny falls upon them. In particular, there are some basic facts about the Great Pyramid and its context that must be borne in mind when examining “special” theories about its creation and/or purpose.

The “Great Pyramid” of Khufu (Cheops) is indeed the largest pyramid in Egypt – but not by much. Its companion Pyramid of Khafre (Chephren) is almost as large, and three others elsewhere are not far inferior. Khafre’s Pyramid actually looks taller than Khufu’s, in part because it’s located on a higher part of the Gizeh plateau, and because the top 30 feet of the Great Pyramid now reside in downtown Cairo, carted there over the years as building material. Also, a monument’s reflection will make it clear that *some* pyramid had to be the biggest, so why does that make Khufu’s so special?

The “Great Pyramid” was *not* the first pyramid built; not nearly so. The 3rd Dynasty (beginning of the Old Kingdom) Step Pyramid of Djoser (Zoser) was older, and between it and Khufu’s 4th Dynasty monument exist three well-preserved and huge structures, as well as a few poorly-preserved step pyramids.

There is an evolution of architectural fits and starts, failures and innovations, between Djoser’s and Khufu’s monument. Khufu’s Pyramid did not just “happen” because someone thought up perfect plans ab initio. This gradual development doesn’t square at all well with advanced outsiders coming in with their finished plans to create the Great Pyramid.

The Old Kingdom pyramids themselves fit into a millennia-long tradition of burial of Egypt’s most powerful elite; they make sense within that larger context; they are not as special as some would want you to believe. The last I knew, there were 96 pyramids in Egypt; the “Big Three” at Gizeh aren’t even the only pyramids on that site. And pyramid-building would continue for more than 2500 years after the Gizeh monuments had already become old.

Khufu's Pyramid was not the only building in its immediate area. In fact, a pyramid was the largest and focal building in what Egyptologists call a "pyramid complex", which involved subsidiary pyramids for the king's wives, high officials, and top kids, as well as a mortuary temple near the pyramid, a valley building by an outlet to the Nile, a causeway-ramp connecting these last two buildings, boat burials, and a special altar. Any explanation which seeks to explain the Great Pyramid and its purpose without reference to these obviously allied structures is taking the pyramid out of its context.

Khufu's structure does have an interesting internal arrangement, both above the level of the plateau at its base, and below "ground" level, but the chambers and passageways beneath Djoser's pyramid were far more elaborate, and the Middle Kingdom pyramid of Amenemhet III was more complicated in its burial chamber area.

Much is made of the earth coordinates of the Great Pyramid and their mystical meaning. It was natural that the ancient Egyptians built the Gizeh Pyramids where they did, due to the availability of a great plateau on the west side of the Nile (where the kings and local rulers and their officials usually were buried) and an excellent source of limestone in the Mokattam hills just to the east of the River. Also, the Gizeh site was near the boundary of the two ancient geographic and political entities we call "Upper" and "Lower" Egypt, that had been relatively recently joined as "The Two Lands", and near the unified capital. Further, the builders of the previous monuments had already chosen other areas for their structures; if the spot where Gizeh lies were so absolutely critical, why wasn't it chosen first?

Much is also made about how well the Gizeh plateau bedrock was leveled, and how well the sides of the Great Pyramid are aligned with the various compass points. These are considerable achievements, but Khafre's and Menkaure's pyramids were also well aligned, and we do not have to invoke special pleading to explain how or even why these feats were accomplished. The fact is that the ancient Egyptians, indeed like the Maya and the builders of Stonehenge and many, many other monuments that were architecturally aligned with the equinoxes and solstices and compass points, were just as smart as we. Though they possessed less "power tools", they perhaps better understood the basic laws of physics, were closer to the earth, and were much better observers of nature and its cyclical changes than we Westerners of today. Even Egyptologists have figured out relatively easy and low-energy ways to achieve these feats I've described above.

How could the Egyptians have moved the blocks for the pyramids without help? I've snapped a picture of an Egyptian tomb painting done 3400 years ago showing how the Egyptians moved heavy objects. It's done by wood rollers, a sledge, sometimes an earthen (stone, brick, etc.) ramp, and always lots of human energy. Contrary to popular belief, the Egyptians did have some wood, both locally and through trade; check out the one-hundred-foot-plus boat beside Khufu's Pyramid, or the smaller but still huge one in the Field Museum in Chicago, for proof. Some Egyptologists believe that we've still not figured out the details of getting the stones up more than about halfway the height of some of the largest pyramids, but this current explanatory imperfection should not make us leap to an extra-terrestrial conclusion. We surely haven't figured out all there is to know about physics, and the mysteries of human nature still are only dimly lit before us after all these years of science; why should we expect Egyptologists to have everything figured out in their area of study? As it is, step pyramids and the much later First Pylon of the great temple of Karnak at Luxor have the remains of such ramps still in place, as construction stopped on both these structures before they were completed and the ramps were not removed. I mention these 2600 to 4700-year-old instances of not cleaning up sometimes when my wife wants me to put one of my work areas in order right away.

The Great Pyramid of Khufu is a marvelous structure. But failure to take it in context with centuries of Egyptian history, as divined by generations of archaeologists working without some "conspiratorial purpose" to hide ancient Egyptian history from the rest of us, does injustice to its true nature and importance. Ascribing its construction necessarily to alien intervention is flatly illogical and not supported by the evidence.



Prince Phillip, His Royal Highness, Duke of Edinburgh. Having been interested in the subject of UFOs since the early 1950s, he has stated:

"There are many reasons to believe that they (UFOs) do exist: there is so much evidence from reliable witnesses." (Sunday Dispatch, London, March 28, 1954.)

Michigan MUFON

State Section Directors Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2010

The March 14th State meeting, held at Walli's Restaurant in Flint, Michigan, was called to order at 1:15 PM. In attendance were Bill Konkolesky, David Twichell, David Bleicher, Gary Golem and Wendy Smith.

Bill introduced the possibility of hosting a nationally known speaker at one of our fall 2010 meetings, possibly in a venue other than Walli's. He suggested inviting Peter Robbins, a colleague of Budd Hopkins at the Intruders Foundation in New York. Robbins' fees and expenses would total approximately \$1000.00. Gary suggested that the event could be held at Walli's, with an additional \$5.00 added to the regular meeting price. The first time attendee special price of \$5.00 would not be allowed for this event. Bill decided to poll the members present today during his afternoon introductory remarks.

The fall State meeting dates were established as September 19 and November 7, 2010.

Publicity for a featured speaker was briefly discussed. The MUFON Journal is requesting information concerning State meetings, though this effort would reach only a small number of potential attendees. A Detroit newspaper interview shortly before his lecture proved effective for the Stanton Friedman presentation. The Detroit Free Press also publishes a local events section in the Saturday Sports section.

Regarding another Poker Weekend fund raiser, David Bleicher reported that the Davison Poker Room on the east side of Flint is another alternative, though the room is smaller than the MVP Sports Grill, the site of MIMUFON's first fund raiser. David Twichell volunteered to check for locations in his area.

Bill noted that he may not attend the May 2 meeting. Gary will offer Field Investigator's training in the morning, and offered to sub for Bill with the afternoon's announcements and speaker introduction. Marilyn Ruben is the featured presenter.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy Smith, April 5, 2010.



'Alien invasion' April Fool's Day prank sparks panic in Jordan

By Tom Phillips - 6th April, 2010

The Al Ghad newspaper's front-page article on April 1 claimed that UFOs had landed near the town of Jafr, about 185 miles from the capital, Amman.

According to the spoof report, the UFOs lit up the whole town, interrupted communications and sent frightened residents pouring into the streets.

But the gag hasn't gone down well in Jafr, where the mayor, Mohammed Mleihan, was himself fooled by the paper's prank - leading him to send security authorities in search of the aliens.

"Students didn't go to school, their parents were frightened and I almost evacuated the town's 13,000 residents," Mleihan told The Associated Press. "People were scared that aliens would attack them."

A Jordanian security official, speaking on condition of anonymity in order to discuss security issues, said an emergency plan was almost enacted in Jafr.

Mleihan said he may sue the daily for its "big lie," but added that the paper had called to apologize for the inconvenience caused by the joke.

Al Ghad's managing editor, Moussa Barhoume, tried to defuse the situation, saying the report has been blown out of proportion. "We meant to entertain, not scare people," he said.

The panic is reminiscent of the famous incident in the USA in 1938, when Orson Welles adapted H.G. Wells' novel "The War of the Worlds" for radio. The live drama's fake news reports about a Martian invasion sparked hysteria among listeners, who thought its reports of the attack was true.

Source: <http://www.metro.co.uk/weird/820495-alien-invasion-april-fools-day-prank-sparks-panic-in-jordan>

Thanks to Bill Konkolesky for this submission.



Post Graduate UFO Dissertation Survey on UFology

Posted: March 19, 2010

Greetings!

I am a PhD graduate student (Virginia Tech) in the philosophy of science. I have a day job, and I have been at this for 8 long years! All that is left for me now to get my PhD is to finish my dissertation. I am conducting epistemological (of or pertaining to the study of knowledge) and sociological research for my dissertation on how knowledge claims are made, with a particular focus on what counts as evidence and how we prove and then know that things are "true."

This survey will help me understand how those involved in the scientific study of anomalies such as UFOs evaluate and "certify" evidence, assess anomalous phenomena, and what effect this activity has on the progress of science. As such, I have chosen to focus on the nature of evidence, and to explore what counts as "proof" and how evidence is constructed, documented, and certified in several different communities:

- 1) UFO community with a scientific bent (I am trained but not yet certified as a MUFON investigator);
- 2) Communities such as those who are interested in IUFOC and its work;
- 3) The UFO community with a presence on the web; 4) scientists employed as scientists; and 5) the general public.

I will be attending the X conference in May. Last year, I went to the MUFON annual Meeting in Colorado and I just came back from the February IUFOC held in Laughlin, Nevada. My research problem right now is that I am really, horribly, data poor. If I am EVER to finish my work, I will need more people to respond to my survey on the web.

This survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Some questions are multiple choice or short answer, while others allow you more room for comment. If you would be willing to be interviewed, please fill out the address section and/or contact me by email. You are more than welcome to forward this request to your friends and colleagues with similar interests. If you would prefer to print this survey for distribution to a group you may be involved with, please feel free to do so.

Completed surveys may be mailed to:

Diana P. Hoyt
UFO Research Associates
Box 40
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

The survey is posted on the web and it's completely anonymous. The URL is:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PFTV8TK>

Many thanks in advance for sharing your knowledge with me. I need your help for my research! With much gratitude for your kindness and help. If you have any questions, you may reach me at

Diana Hoyt

ufo.researchinc@gmail.com



Source: <http://www.ufodigest.com/news/0310/hoyt.php>

Wilbert Smith, Senior radio engineer with the Department of Transport, headed Project Magnet, the first Canadian government UFO investigation in the 1950s. He stated in a Top Secret Memorandum:

"The matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States Government, rating higher even than the H-bomb. Flying saucers exist. Their modus operandi is unknown but a concentrated effort is being made by a small group headed by Doctor Vannevar Bush. The entire matter is considered by the United States authorities to be of tremendous significance." (Department of Transport memorandum on "Geo-Magnetics," November 21, 1950.)

The Multiplying Mystery of Moonwater

March 18, 2010:

Moonwater. Look it up. You won't find it. It's not in the dictionary.

That's because we thought, until recently, that the Moon was just about the driest place in the solar system. Then reports of moonwater started "pouring" in – starting with estimates of scant amounts on the lunar surface, then gallons in a single crater, and now 600 million metric tons distributed among 40 craters near the lunar North Pole.

"We thought we understood the Moon, but we don't," says Paul Spudis of the Lunar and Planetary Institute. "It's clear now that water exists up there in a variety of concentrations and geologic settings. And who'd have thought that today we'd be pondering the Moon's hydrosphere?"

Spudis is principal investigator of NASA's Mini-SAR team – the group with the latest and greatest moonwater "strike." Their instrument, a radar probe on India's Chandrayaan-1, found 40 craters each containing water ice at least 2 meters deep.

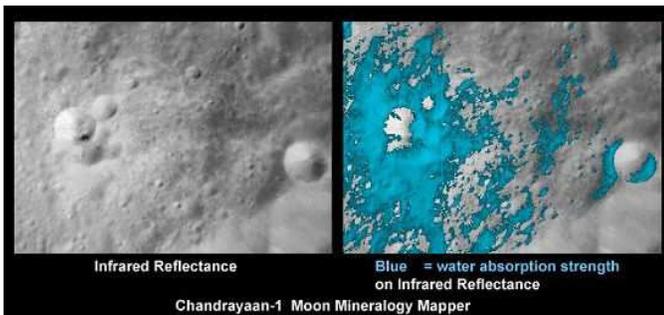
"If you converted those craters' water into rocket fuel, you'd have enough fuel to launch the equivalent of one space shuttle per day for more than 2000 years. But our observations are just a part of an even more tantalizing story about what's going on up on the Moon."

It's the story of a lunar water cycle, and it's based on the seemingly disparate – but perhaps connectable – results from Mini-SAR and NASA's recent LCROSS mission and Moon Mineralogy Mapper (M³ or "M-cubed") instrument also on Chandrayaan-1.

"So far we've found three types of moonwater," says Spudis. "We have Mini-SAR's thick lenses of nearly pure crater ice, LCROSS's fluffy mix of ice crystals and dirt, and M-cube's thin layer that comes and goes all across the surface of the Moon."

On October 9, 2009, LCROSS, short for Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, struck water in a cold, permanently dark crater at the lunar south pole. Since then, the science team has been thoroughly mining their data.

"It looks as though at least two different layers of our crater soil contain water, and they represent two different time epochs," explains Anthony Colaprete, LCROSS principal investigator. "The first layer, ejected in the first 2 seconds from the crater after impact, contains water and hydroxyl bound up in the minerals, and even tiny pieces of pure ice mixed in. This layer is a thin film and may be relatively 'fresh,' perhaps recently replenished."



Above: Shown in false-color blue, a thin layer of water-rich minerals cover an expanse of terrain around a young lunar crater. Credit: Chandrayaan-1/Moon Mineralogy Mapper.

According to Colaprete, this brand of moonwater resembles the moonwater M³ discovered last year in scant but widespread amounts, bound to the rocks and dust in the very top millimeters of lunar soil.

The second layer is different. "It contains even more water ice plus a treasure chest of other compounds we weren't even looking for," he says. "So far the tally includes sulfur dioxide (SO₂), methanol (CH₃OH), and the curious organic molecule diacetylene (H₂C₄). This layer seems to extend below at least 0.5 meters and is probably older than the ice we're finding on the surface."

They don't know why some craters contain loads of pure ice while others are dominated by an ice-soil mixture. It's probably a sign that the moonwater comes from more than one source.

"Some of the water may be made right there on the Moon," says Spudis. "Protons in the solar wind can make small amounts of water continuously on the lunar surface by interacting with metal oxides in the rocks. But some of the water is probably deposited on the Moon from other places in the solar system."

The Moon is constantly bombarded by impactors that add to the lunar water budget. Asteroids contain hydrated minerals, and comet cores are nearly pure ice.

The researchers also think that much of the crater water migrates to the poles from the Moon's warmer, lower latitudes. "All our findings are telling us there's an active water cycle on the Moon," marvels Colaprete.

Think about it. The "driest place in the solar system" has a *water cycle*.

"It's a different world up there," says Spudis, "and we've barely scratched the surface. Who knows what discoveries lie ahead?"

Moonwater. Add it to the dictionary.

Source: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2010/18mar_moonwater.htm?list149424



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Budd Hopkins

The Ongoing Nature of UFO Abductions as Seen in Recent Cases



Richard Dolan

A.D. (After Disclosure): Outlining the Contours of Our Society After the Great Change

Donald Schmitt

Roswell On Trial; Witnesses Speak Out



Kathleen Marden

The Conundrum of Alien Abduction



Kevin Randle

Len Stringfield and Crash Retrieval History



Nick Redfern

Mysterious Landscape: A Personal Investigation of the Crop Circle Phenomenon.

Michael Schrott

Bombshell UFO Cases Files Revealed



Marc D'Antonio

Drawn in Stone- Cosmic Hints of the Petroglyphs



George Filer

Personal UFO Encounters while in the Air Force



John Greenwald

"UFOs - 101"



Linda Moulton Howe John Burroughs

Update December 1980 RAF Bentwaters: Telepathic Lights



To register for the 41st. International MUFON Symposium July 22—25, 2010, go to <http://mufon.com/symposia.htm>

This is one you won't want to miss!

Recent Michigan Sightings

Manistee, MI, March 3, 2010: 8:03 PM

MUFON case number 22243

I was outside of my home smoking a cigarette at 8:03 pm when I noticed a triangle shaped object flying from west to southwest at a high rate of speed with different lights flashing and was sure it was not an airplane because of the way it was flying. I screamed for my girl friend to come outside and she saw the object disappear. I then called my friend Don at 8:06pm because he was out on the ice fishing for smelt but he was inside of his shanty. I never have seen anything in the sky and I was a skeptic until that night. I didn't report the object but told several people about the object and then on Tue. March 9th a half mile from where I live, a family had seen the same object and reported it. That is why I am letting you know what they saw was real and I will confirm the sighting. That night it was so clear that the stars are very rarely that bright, one of those rare nights that you can see every star and I was only taking in the beauty of the night not looking for a UFO. Manistee Lakeshore resident

Manistee, MI, March 6, 2010: (Time unknown.)

MUFON case number 22199

I took my kids out to watch the stars at Orchard Beach north of Manistee. We were finding constellations and learning some names of stars. We saw an orange blinking light. It moved from East to West across the sky blinking in uneven intervals. It appeared as if there were more than one point of light. My daughter said "oh that is an airplane" "I said have you ever seen an airplane marked with only orange lights?" At this point I was still kinda joking about saying. "nope. UFO. Not an airplane." and we were laughing about it. The lights stopped and remained stationary out over Lake Michigan. We continued to look at stars. I decided to get out the binoculars. I looked at the orange lights and saw that it was a perfect triangle of three lights. We all took turns and confirmed what we saw. I did not state to them what I had seen first but asked them to tell me what they saw so I would not implant what I was seeing into their responses. All of us, my wife, my son (12) and my daughter (14). After a few minutes the lights started moving again, it happened as if it was in response to us having realized that it was no airplane, planet, or star that we were looking at. It moved at high speed from West to east, at least 10x faster than the airplanes (blinking with red and blue lights, easily discernible with naked eye and binoculars). When I realized how fast it had to actually be going I ran up a small sand dune so I could continue to watch it and it was nowhere in sight after only about 5 seconds of having went behind the dune. (The night before my wife and I had seen another strange object that did almost the same thing from Sirius traveling to the south west, hovering for a long time and then returning to where it started. WE were wondering why there were so many orange stars in the sky that we never noticed as kids, they could not all be heading toward supernova.) We looked around the sky and started to look at other orange stars. Several of them were actually triangles made of three orange lights. My daughter and I were watching one just off of north, we turned around briefly to respond to something being said and in the few seconds it took to listen, when we turned around there was one coming fast and low, it had a row of perfectly straight orange lights, it was moving at extremely high speed. As it flew over we could hear the sound of it cutting through the atmosphere. When it was directly over head there was a visible central light concentrically located between the other three that was not visible before. It was triangular. There was a bubble of distorted light or energy of some kind pulsating from beneath the craft. This was like a purplish or blackish dark cloud or bubble beneath the thing. As it passed the row of lights looked more curved as it moved away as if the back were more of an eye shape. We watched the orange lights flying around, far off, for about another 15 minutes until the kids got cold. My wife and I went back down there but nothing spectacular was happening then.

Central Lake, MI, March 5, 2010; 9:15 PM

My friend and I noticed the lights over the trees as we pulled into his driveway north of Central Lake near M-88 and US -31. The triangle was slowly gliding north towards Ellsworth. It appeared to be flying above the Chain of Lakes. It was followed by a swooshing, sucking noise. It was a triangle of white lights with the wide end towards the North. The flashing red light was between the leading two white lights. We are both avid sky watchers and saw it at the same time. We watched it for a minute or so, commented on how strange it was and just went inside. We knew it was not an airplane. Neither of us mentioned it to his mother for several hours. It was as if it were "normal".

Editor's Note: Manistee is 101 miles south of Central Lake on Michigan's west coast – both on Lake Michigan. Special thanks to MiMUFON investigator Robert Nolan for his follow up work with the Coast Guard and Camp Grayling. The result indicated that whatever was witnessed was NOT ours.



Marilyn Ruben Will Present at May 2nd Meeting



Longtime MiMUFON member Marilyn Ruben will present at the May 2, 2010 meeting at Walli's East in Flint, MI.

Marilyn has been an alien experiencer since childhood and has much to offer in the way of personal accounts as well as how others can learn to deal with the unthinkable prospect of being abducted by otherworldly beings.

Marilyn's website, Alien Abduction Experience and Research (AAER), is the world's oldest and largest website into the alien abduction experience. The website is comprised of international researchers, scientists, physicians, psychologists, abductees, contactees, and experiencers.

AAER features surveys, personal experiences, articles of interest, reports of current research, and areas related into this phenomena. The abduction phenomena is a worldwide event occurring in every country in the world. The reader may find out more about the abduction phenomenon, find books and CDs and much more by visiting her site at <http://www.abduct.com/>

Marilyn's presentation promises to be entertaining and very informative.

The world's largest web site on alien abductions has compiled this excellent online e-book for learning about alien abductions in your life. The AAER staff explore ways for readers to discover their repressed memories of alien abduction. How long do you want to keep being afraid? You be the judge by reading our e-book.

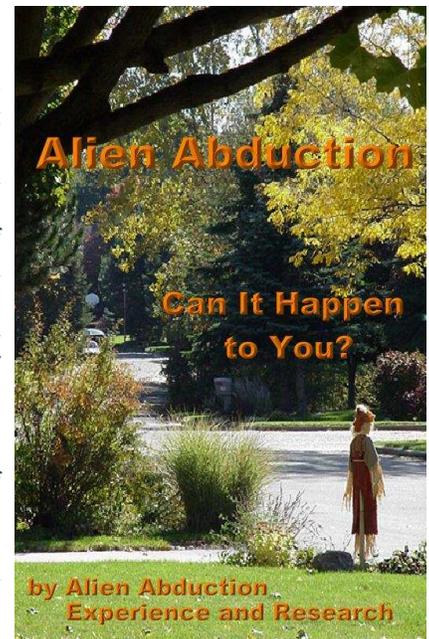
For some readers, life is not simple. These readers grow up haunted with fragmented memories of events so bizarre it is impossible to blend them in with modern life.

Although marriage, parenthood and careers can often mask the haunted memories of the past, buried memories can resurface as terrifying nightmares or waking fears of being in certain places.

AAER explores current beliefs and myths about aliens and why the public has such a diverse opinion on their reality. Coupled with military denials, the seesaw of acceptance or denial of other intelligent life forms, can take its toll on readers wanting to know what is true.

The book provides the Alien Abduction Survey in depth with fully explained answers and what they signify. Readers can answer the questions and compare how similar their experiences are to other abductees. Are you ready to find out your true history? You be the judge of our e-book and whether aliens have played a role in your life.

Anyone living through these experiences or is interested in the abduction phenomenon will not want to miss Marilyn's presentation.



MUFON Field Investigator's Training

MIMUFON Chief Investigator Gary Golem will be conducting the morning Field Investigator's Training, 10:00 AM. All Field Investigators and those wishing to become Field Investigators are urged to attend.

Make Your Meeting Reservations Today!

Phone in your reservations to State Director Bill Konkolesky at (248) 515-9568 or email at wjk@mimufon.org no later than **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**. Please leave your name, number attending in your party, and a telephone number where you can be reached, in case we need to contact you. Please let us know as soon as possible, whether you will be attending. Thank you.

Michigan MUFON Meeting

at Walli's East Restaurant

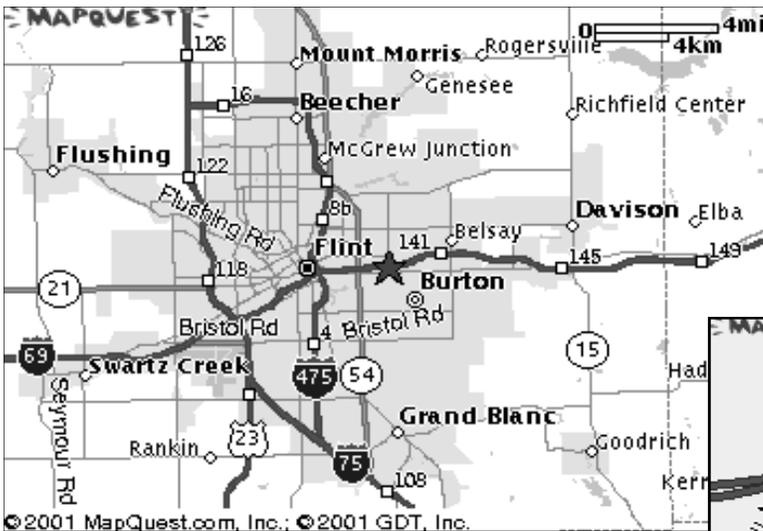
Sunday, May 2, 2010

Members \$14.00 / Non-Members \$16.00

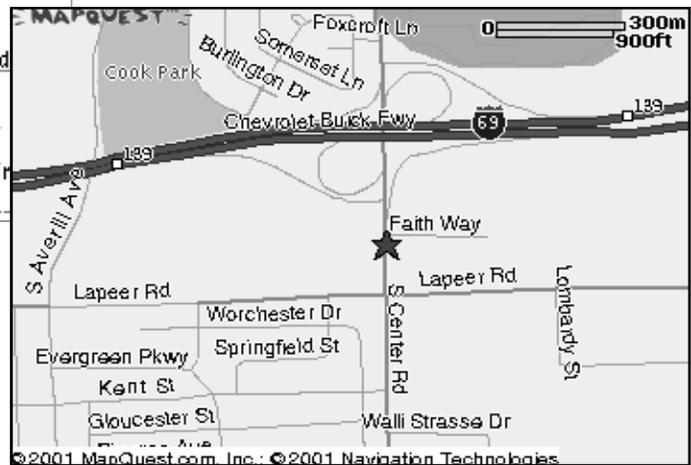
First time guests are \$5.00.

10am FI Training: CI Gary Golem
12pm Buffet Lunch
1:30pm Presentation by Marilyn Ruben
4:00pm MIMUFON Announcements & Necessary Business

MIMUFON Board members: Please plan to attend the brief at 1:00 PM before the presentation.



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



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

From The Editor's Desk



David Twichell

Are We Running Out of UFO Reports?

In reading the MUFON Journal for January, February and March, 2010, I am beginning to think that UFO reports and related articles are becoming scarce. The cover story for the January issue was "2012 End Times Prophecy" by Pennsylvania and West Virginia's MUFON State Director John Ventre from his book "12/21/2012 A Prophecy". Mr. Ventre is a valued member of the MUFON team, a dedicated investigator and gifted author. That said, we're talking about *The MUFON Journal* folks – you know, UFOs and such.

End Times prophecies have been around pretty much since the *beginning* of time and here we are today. In the 1800's a preacher in a rural town in America

convinced his whole congregation that the second coming of Christ would occur the following year. Farmers didn't plant their crops that year. What was the use? They weren't going to need food next year anyway! The end *did* come for some of them the next year because they starved to death! "Planet X" was supposed to collide with Earth or pass so closely that it would cause such catastrophic events on our planet that two thirds of all life would be wiped out. This was in 1997. When nothing happened, they moved the date to 2002. Now it is scheduled for 2012.

Planet X isn't the only prediction for this dreaded year; Christians predict Christ will return – Muslims say Mohamed will return – Hindus think Buddha will return. Some think formal contact will be made with the occupants of UFOs. Some think the world will tip over on its axis. One interpretation is that we will discover time travel, thus a chronological calendar will become useless. The theories go on and on.

Remember Y2K? Microsoft made yet another fortune by selling software to protect your computers from the Y2K monster. Books were sold instructing us how to survive when Y2K put us all back to the Stone Age (the 1950's). Several teenagers committed suicide before the New Year because they didn't want to live in a world without computers and electricity. When nothing happened, the theorists tried to convince people that it *would* happen in 2001. Nothing happened then either. I agree that being forewarned is being forearmed, but at what point does forewarning become irresponsible?

Yet another prediction is that the "Antichrist" would turn fifty years old in 2012. Mr. Ventre mentioned the fact – just in passing of course – that President Obama would be fifty in 2012. That's when the bleating squabble began. "How dare you suggest that our president could be the Antichrist?" writes Catherine O'Kelly in a letter to the editor in February's issue. "I consider this to be a serious misstep by MUFON," writes Beverly Trout in another. Eight out of twelve responses to the article were negative toward the perceived implication.

Fact is, the world's faithful have been handing us Antichrists by the sack full for the past two thousand years. Ironically, Pope John Paul II declared George W. Bush was the antichrist in 2003 after he had declared war in Iraq. Conversely, just about every pope since the middle ages has been given the title by this group or that. During the 1980s when Ronald Wilson Reagan was President, there was talk going around about the fact that he had six letters in all three of his names. At the 1956 Democratic convention, John F. Kennedy received 666 votes. When Kennedy was shot to death in Dallas, several people waited for his fatal wounds to heal. Roman Emperor Nero, Charlemagne, Napoleon, Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, Henry Kissinger and Mikhail Gorbachev, just to name a few, were also candidates for the position.

Incidentally, actor Tom Cruise will be fifty in 2012. Maybe we should keep an eye on him.

This latest Antichrist rumor has even spurred unstable individuals into homicidal action. Members of the Michigan-based, pseudo-Christian group calling themselves the "Hutaree militia" planned to kill a police officer and bomb his funeral procession hoping the attack would instigate a wider uprising against the United States government. Fortunately, the group was infiltrated and the plan was thwarted. How many other like-minded, homegrown terrorists are out there who will not be found out in time before their misguided plans are carried out?

I'm not saying that people don't have a right to voice their opinion, regardless of how far left or how far right they might seem. I'm not saying that people don't have the right to entertain their chosen superstitions, regardless of how baseless they might be. What I *am* saying is that The MUFON Journal is *not* the forum for the predictions of soothsayers or religious or political banter. Our mission statement is "The scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of humanity."

Let's stay focused folks.

David Twichell

MiMUFON Newsletter Editor

References: <http://www.raptureready.com/rr-antichrist.html>
http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0MKY/is_9_27/ai_108881880/



Michigan MUFON Contact List

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

If there is no specific State Section Director listed for your county, please contact one of the following three Regional State Section Directors:

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Regional State Section Director for SE MI.

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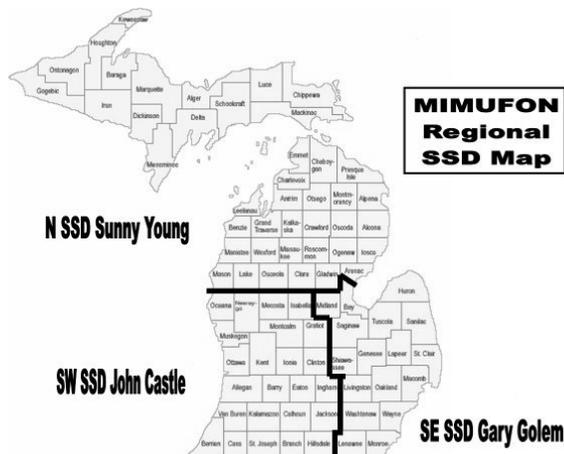
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Chief Investigator

Bill and Linda Murphy
Michigan MUFON Consultants

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



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

Suggestion Box.

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

What is your interest in the UFO phenomenon?

What kind of events should MIMUFON sponsor?

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

Any other comments or suggestions?

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

For the 2010 calendar year memberships (if you are a member) or subscriberships, please use the form below and send it, with a \$25.00 check or money order to:
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