

# "Thank You Jean!"

## Words From the State Director



I'd like to start off this newsletter by heartily thanking Jean Waskiewicz for all her hard work and dedication to our Michigan MUFON website over the past several years!

Jean is retiring from the position of MIMUFON webmaster, but thankfully remaining her in her role as our Electronic Data Manager and will continue to maintain and update our membership files and related duties like creating our membership cards and newsletter labels (quite a handful in itself). For the time being, at least, I am maintaining our mimuon.org website.

Thanks so much for everything, Jean and best of luck, as well, in your ongoing efforts as part of the great project to document UFO history for current and future generations!

At this time, I would like to hear from all State Section Directors (by email, phone, or in person) that you are interested in continuing in your roles. There are some officers from whom I haven't heard in a while. I will be shortly sending a letter out to all SSDs, outlining duties as per our MIMUFON Constitution and requesting a confirmation that you will be staying on. Those SSDs who do not indicate an interest in maintaining their roles, either by saying so explicitly or by simply not responding, may have their counties released.

*continued...*

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## NOTICE

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Thank you.

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We need you and need you actively supporting our organization, as our sighting reports are seeing a steady increase. This is an exciting time to be investigating UFOs as things are heating up.

Speaking of things heating up, in some exciting news, if you haven't already heard, Michigan MUFON has been contacted by the History Channel's UFO Hunters program to possibly assist them with an episode about the 1994 Holland Michigan wave of sightings. Still too early to tell, but everything so far seems to be pointing to the idea becoming TV reality.

For September, Michigan MUFON is looking to have another public presentation, similar to the one we did last year at Henry Ford Community College in conjunction with their campus radio station WHFR. This year's program is to feature presentations by members of our state organization (rather than a big ticket like Stanton Friedman) in a drive to maximize fundraising for MIMUFON. Further details will be available very soon.

Also, in October, Michigan MUFON will have a vendors table at the Michigan Paranormal Conference, hosted by the Michigan Ghost Watchers. The conference runs October 18-19 at the Garden City Historical Museum and details can be found at [ghostwatchers.org](http://ghostwatchers.org). I will be presenting on 'UFOs over Michigan' that Sunday afternoon at the event, as well.

In the meantime, over the summer, please consider attending this year's MUFON International UFO Symposium in sunny San Jose, California (July 24-27). This year's theme for the 39<sup>th</sup> annual event is "UFOs – A Worldwide Phenomenon." Details can be found at [mufon.com](http://mufon.com).

Our next MIMUFON meeting is Sunday, May 4, at Walli's East. As is typical for May, the motorcycle group has again reserved the upstairs room, so we will again be downstairs on the main floor, in the room to the back right.

SSD and seasoned Field Investigator Gary Golem will again be leading our morning Field Investigator's training session. If you happen to have a copy of the Field Investigator's Manual, please bring it. Either way, please try to attend.

John Shepard, head of Project STRAT (Special Telemetry Research and Tracking), will be our special afternoon presenter. You may remember Michigan native Shepard presenting his anomaly detection technology to our MIMUFON group, back in the late 90s. He returns to share his research on the recent drone phenomenon that's got everyone buzzing and deliver an overview of the exciting work Project STRAT has done over the past 35 years. For more information on Project STRAT, please visit [projectstrat.com](http://projectstrat.com).

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](mailto:news@mimufon.org).

See you Sunday, May 4, main floor at Walli's for Gary Golem's morning Field Investigation training session and afternoon presenter John Shepard.



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# THE CIA BREAKS ITS SILENCE ON UFOs

Don Berliner, © 2007

In the summer of 1997, the private UFO community was trying to come to grips with two huge, poorly thought out reports issued by the U.S. Air Force. They constituted its desperate attempt to deal with the growing public interest in the Roswell crash which resulted from stories of unusual wreckage and even alien bodies said to have been discovered and quickly spirited away.

The Central Intelligence Agency chose this time to end decades of silence on the subject with its own poorly reasoned report. This one did little more than challenge the Air Force's unwanted leadership in the race to unintentionally raise the stature of UFOs. While clearly intended to do away with the subject, in reality it did quite the opposite.

For several decades, the CIA had insisted that its only official involvement with UFOs was sponsorship of the three-day "Robertson Panel" meeting of scientists in January, 1953. Even when faced with declassified copies of its own documents showing it had been involved in the UFO mystery from 1949 through at least the mid-1970's, the CIA refused to budge from its public position.

It was only after a nervy flying saucer fan publicly challenged CIA Director James Woolsey to look into his agency's UFO activities that it began to admit to its long-term interest. The first 1997 semiannual unclassified edition of the CIA's "Studies in Intelligence", published in June of that year, includes an article by Gerald Haines, historian of the National Reconnaissance Office, an even more secretive organization which controls spy satellites. Entitled, "CIA's Role in the Study of UFOs, 1947-90", it covered only slightly more than what was already known through long-declassified documents.

Then it stumbled badly, adding a highly imaginative tangle of the alleged connection between sightings of U.S. Air Force spy planes (Lockheed U-2s and SR-71s) and UFOs. According to the CIA, over half of all officially-recorded reports of UFO sightings from the mid-1950's through the end of Project Blue Book in late 1969 were merely innocent misidentifications of these spy planes. It then "admitted" that it had conspired with the staff of the Air Force's Project Blue Book UFO investigation to cover up all these sightings of secret spy planes by dishonestly labeling several thousand of them "mirages", "ice crystals" and other atmospheric phenomena.

Much of historian Haines' information apparently came from a censored and only recently declassified CIA study of U-2 operations (The Central Intelligence Agency and Overhead Reconnaissance: The U-2 and OXCART Programs, 1954-1974, by Gregory W. Pedlow and Donald E. Welzenbach), and was repeated without question or qualification. While he is forced to shoulder part of the blame for some egregious errors, one must have sympathy for any historian forced to work within the constraints of such secrecy-obsessed organizations.

## Shortcomings of the "Spy Plane" Explanation

1. There is the flatly incorrect statement that immediately after the first test flight of the prototype Lockheed U-2 spy plane on August 4, 1955, there was "a large increase in UFO sightings", which the CIA presumably felt supported its claim of a direct, cause-and-effect relationship. Since the CIA later admitted it used the data from files of the USAF's Project Blue Book UFO investigation, it has no excuse for its atrocious arithmetic.

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The Project Blue Book files, now in the U.S. National Archives, clearly show that there was a significant decrease in the number of sightings reported during the month immediately following the first U-2 flight, as compared with the month before: down from 89 to 67. And there even was a small decrease in sightings when six-month periods are compared: down from 326 to 316.

2. Both the subsonic U-2 and the later Mach=3+ SR-71 Blackbird were meant for just one type of operational flying: straight-and-level at altitudes well over 70,000 feet, for many hours at a stretch. Under such conditions, they are invisible to the naked eye from the ground. Far larger jumbo airliners flying at half that altitude are noticeable mainly when they are leaving condensation trails. Even if the spy planes could be seen, they would appear not as discs or ovals or spheres, as witnesses reported, but as long, slender airplanes (U-2), and long, oddly-shaped airplanes (SR-71).

About the only times such airplanes can be seen in flight are (1) during take-offs and landings at air bases which are as far removed from prying eyes as possible; and (2) at air shows when there is no question about what is happening.

3. Among the distinguishing and especially baffling characteristics reported for UFOs are their oft-described violent maneuvers, such as right-angle turns at high speed, along with their ability to achieve shocking acceleration after prolonged and silent hovering or slow flight. For a U-2 pilot at high altitude, even level flight is a real challenge, and so any maneuvering must be done very cautiously. For an SR-71 at high speed and high altitude, a simple 180° turn requires close to 200 miles to complete. The entire turn, therefore, cannot be seen from any single location on earth.

As for great acceleration, no known type of airplane can increase or decrease its speed in flight so rapidly that it is more than just barely apparent to the outside observer. This is true even when the maneuvers create g-forces that are great enough to cause considerable discomfort for the crew and any passengers.

4. The CIA doesn't even attempt to explain the 3,000+ reports filed with the Air Force of UFOs that were seen before the first 500mph U-2 flew in 1955. Nor those and many hundreds more seen to fly at great speed before the first predecessor of the SR-71 flew in 1962. Nor, for that matter, all those UFOs that have been radar-tracked at more than the SR-71's presumed top speed of 2,500-2,700 mph. Or all the reports of solitary or formations of UFOs flying faster than Mach=1 over the continental USA, which is permitted only under special circumstances.

5. The CIA claims that it conspired with the staff of Project Blue Book to hide the spy-plane nature of half the 9,000 UFO reports made between 1955 and 1969 by calling them obscure atmospheric phenomena. Had that been done as described, some four-and-a-half thousand reports now in the permanent Project Blue Book files in the National Archives would be so labeled. In fact, such explanations (justified or not) can be found on fewer than 100 reports for that period.

Obviously, anything that appears to be a highly maneuverable, disc-shaped or oval object which displays striking maneuverability and/or acceleration cannot possibly be a misidentified U-2 or SR-71, despite the extravagant claims of the CIA. Nor, except in extremely rare instances, can it be ice crystals or images shifted by mirages, neither of which display high speed, sharp maneuvers, distinct shapes or well-kept formations. Nor can any image shifted by a mirage be seen more than 2/3 of one degree above or below the observer's horizon; hence there can be no such thing as a "high-altitude" or "overhead" mirage.

### **Puzzling CIA Reports of UFOs**

It is a shame that the long-delayed, but nevertheless welcome admission by the CIA of its decades of UFO interest and activity had to be soiled by this inclusion of bad information. It should have been obvious to everyone involved that not even the most extreme exaggeration of U-2 and SR-71 appearance and performance could explain a half dozen, let alone several thousand UFO reports, including these examples contained in long-declassified CIA documents:

1. In a Sept. 21, 1957, memorandum from Herbert Scoville Jr. (Assistant Director of the CIA for Scientific Intelligence), to the Acting Director of the CIA, is this UFO report of the previous day:

"As reported by components of the U.S. Air Defense Command, an unidentified flying object (UFO) was tracked by U.S. radars on a relatively straight course from the eastern tip of Long Island to the vicinity of Buffalo [about 400 miles]. The object was reportedly moving westward at an altitude of 50,000 feet and speed of 2,000 kts. (2,300 mph). 'Jamming' was reported by several radars in this vicinity and as far westward as Chicago."

While the accompanying information suggests Scoville was leaning toward some kind of weather phenomenon as an explanation, the straight course and apparently steady speed make that highly unlikely. Moreover, the jamming (not coincidental mechanical failure) of several radars would have to have been an amazing coincidence for this to have been simply freak weather.

While the CIA had already discounted Soviet missiles and aircraft as the source of the UFO, apparently other aircraft were still being considered. This, despite the speed of the UFO, which was more than four times that of a U-2 and more than double the existing World Air Speed Record. The first flight of the prototype of the Mach=3+ SR-71 was still five years in the future.

2. In a 1964 memorandum for the CIA's Assistant Director for Special Activities, from Donald Chamberlain, the CIA's Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence:

"Relative to the incident during the evening of 19 November (1964), the pilot of the U.S. Navy F-8C (Corsair II jet fighter) was able to distinguish the object as a delta shape about the size of a jet fighter, reported it as having much higher performance, and estimated object speed to be in excess of Mach 3 (2,000 mph). The (censored) reported a radar track in excess of 3500 kts. (4,000 mph)."

Whoever decided there had been a sudden increase in UFO reports following the first flight of a U-2 was either guessing or lying. He or she could not have gotten this from the Air Force records, which the CIA admits using. Whoever decided that thousands of UFO reports had been purposely mis-explained as obscure atmospheric phenomena was being much more creative than honest.

Not even the most misguided CIA employee could imagine that thousands of public spirited American citizens could look at airplanes flying in a straight line, more than 13 miles in the sky, and think they were seeing large, shiny silvery discs performing spectacular maneuvers.

But if the 4,500 or so sightings can't be explained as odd atmospheric phenomena, nor as once-secret spy planes, what did the witnesses see? How many of them should legitimately be classed as "unexplained"? And since that isn't an explanation, what were they?

A request to have the CIA comment on the foregoing was rejected.

Source: [http://mufon.com/fufor\\_frame.htm](http://mufon.com/fufor_frame.htm) and Fund for UFO Research.



## BROOKINGS INSTITUTION REPORT

The December 15, 1960 issue of The New York Times claimed that a Brookings Institution report said Earth's civilization might topple if faced by a race of superior beings. Perhaps that report helped to shape to government policy of denial and cover-up of sightings of unconventional flying objects.

The following is a direct quotation from The New York Times. "Discovery of life on other worlds could cause the earth's civilization to collapse," a Federal report said today (December 14, 1960). This warning was contained in a research report given to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration with the recommendation that the world prepare itself mentally for the eventuality. The report, prepared by the Brookings Institution, said "while the discovery of intelligent life in other parts of the universe is not likely in the immediate future, it could nevertheless happen in time." Discovery of intelligent beings on other planets could lead to an all-out effort by earth to contact them, or it could lead to sweeping changes or even the downfall of civilization, the report said. Even on earth, it added, "societies sure of their own place have disintegrated when confronted by a superior society, and others have survived even though changed."

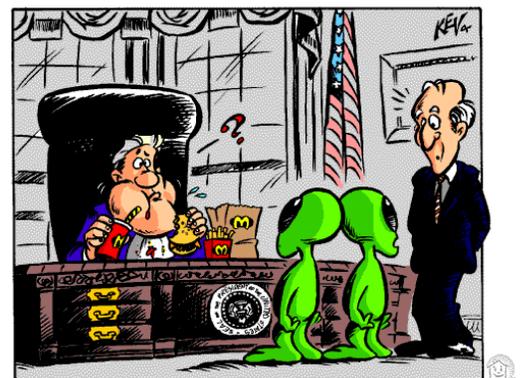
NASA paid Brookings \$96,000 to prepare the report. The authors, headed by Donald N. Michael, also recommended further study of other space activities including the diplomatic and propaganda effects. The study went on to say that if contact was made in the next twenty years it would probably be through radio communications.

The cover-up has gone on so long and has involved so many politicians that any immediate release is highly unlikely. The most likely scenario of disclosure, other than an outright alien invasion, will be some leaks made through the groups trying to use radio telescopes to pick up signals, because an announcement that a signal had been received from a body located at a safe distance from earth, would have very little effect on the peoples of earth. Then the process of releasing more and more information over a period of years would ensure that no one would get in trouble for their past misdeeds.

(Thanks to Loren Gross for supplying the New York Times newspaper clipping)

## KEEPING IT LIGHT

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



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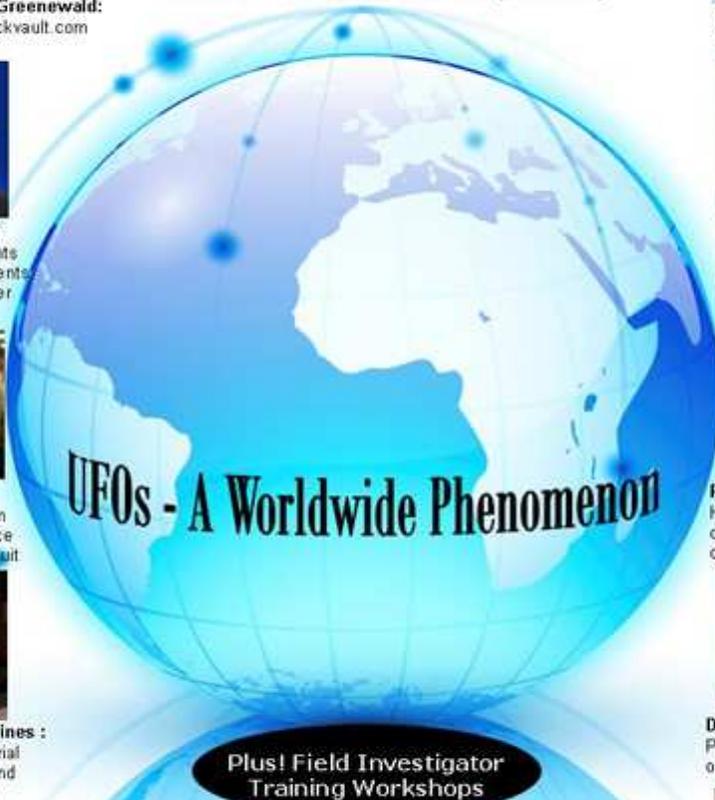
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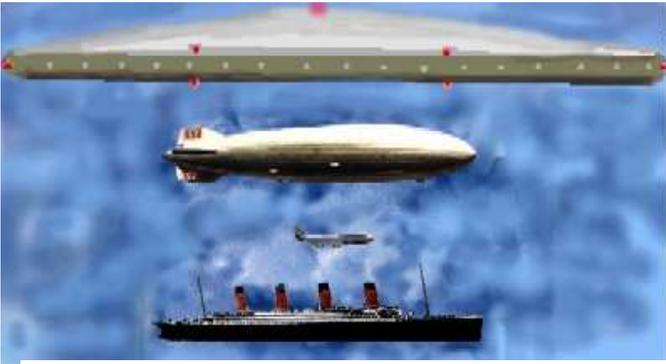
**Peter Robbins**, co-author of "Left at East Gate" will be our guest on **May 3, 2008**. **Ted Phillips** will discuss trace landing evidence on the **June 7, 2008** show.

Tune in on the **first Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM (EST)** with a new show each month.

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# Motherships are Back

## By George Filer



There is a deliberate upswing in UFO sighting reports. During January of 2008, not far from President Bush's ranch a huge Mothership was sighted by witnesses in Texas. Hundreds of reports have been made by all types of people from pilots to police to various businessmen. Steve Allen, a pilot and freight company owner, said: "People wonder what in the world it is because this is the Bible belt, and everyone is afraid it's the end of times." He described the object he saw as a mile long and half a mile wide. "It was positively, absolutely nothing from these parts," he said. Steve and other witnesses claim the Mothership was a mile long.

The German Zeppelin Hindenburg is the largest manmade craft ever built and it was the 804 feet (245.06 meters) with a speed of 84 mph.(2nd Object). My Uncle William J. Garrett flew in the Hindenburg to Germany and returned from Europe in an ocean going ship about the same size. The comparatively small aircraft above the ship is the largest aircraft flown that is built in large numbers the Boeing 747 that measures 232 feet (71 m) long. Over fourteen hundred 747's have been built and one can be seen at almost every major airport in the world. There have been multiple sightings by eyewitnesses claiming to see space ships ten times larger than the 747s.

Numerous independent and credible eye witnesses including pilots claim to have seen craft a thousand feet to a mile long in our skies. Japan Air Lines flight 628, a cargo jet with a pilot, co-pilot and one crew member claim they were intercepted by a UFO just north of Anchorage, Alaska, about 8 PM, on November 7, 1986. It was when a huge UFO many times larger than their 747 that could jump miles in a few seconds. It was picked up by numerous radars and investigated by the FAA. (See Filer's Files #7.) Any alien civilization advanced enough to send starships throughout the universe has certainly mastered nanotechnology. This would mean that their starships do not have to be very large; and they could be sent by the millions to explore inhabited planets. Desolate moons would perhaps be the best bases for such nanoships.

These huge craft that I choose to call Motherships are bigger than any flying machine ever built by man. Frequently they are seen launching smaller generally disc shaped craft estimated to be thirty feet in diameter. One or two eyewitnesses can cause a person in court to be convicted and sentenced to death. We can produce hundreds of eye witnesses who are frequently experienced pilots and police who will testify to gigantic airships bigger than anything ever built by man.

It is logical to assume they are visiting Earth from other planets for important reasons. It is apparent that we have a wonderful world, with plenty of water, crops, vegetation, minerals, energy, excellent temperatures, and various kinds of animals and fish. Our world is a wonderful place to visit, an oasis in space for alien life forms. It is certainly the best planet in our Solar System for building strong life forms. Interestingly, descriptions of alien life forms often describe emaciated, sick, weak and aliens unable to reproduce. Earth may carry the label, as the place to get medical treatment, a warm sun, good water and food the important spark of life, perhaps the most important ability in the universe. Thousands of abductees claim the aliens are mostly interested in our ability to reproduce offspring. The Bible and many ancient scriptures inform us that God made a wonderful Earth that, God saw that it was good. "The sons of God saw that the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose." Genesis 6.



I agree that some UFO sightings are mistakes in identification such as aircraft or satellites. But if you flying a 747 and the craft next to you is ten times larger, you are pretty sure it is not a mistake. If any reasonable person looks at the evidence, it should be obvious that the reality of sightings reported by normal people are real objects. The only reason to deny the existence of these Motherships is psychological reluctance to admit there are fantastic technological craft visiting us.

A survey of prehistoric caverns in southern France and northern Spain has revealed that Stone Age caveman drew detailed pictures of animals on his cave walls, mingled with drawings of UFOs such as the Lascaux, French cave. Some of these drawings are 30,000 years old so it is unlikely the caveman heard about UFOs, but they were important to his life. Assuming these are UFOs they infer the occupants have been with us or visiting for thousands of years.



Interestingly, Aime Michel points out in her book, "Flying Saucers and the Straight-Line Mystery," that only the caverns located on or close to BAVIC line (Bayonne to Vichy), a trajectory that he discovered by tracking straight line sightings in France.

Photo courtesy of Nancy Talbot.

Michel discovered that the reports centered around a vast, illuminated, cigar Mothership near Dijon and Poncey in North-eastern France on October 2, 1954. The former Mayor and his wife saw a vertical cigar flying in a straight line. Twenty eight sightings of UFOs were reported in numerous newspapers along straight lines usually by multiple witnesses. As the capital of the Burgundy region, Dijon reigns over some of the best wine country in the world as well as the famous home of Dijon mustard and a French Air Force Base.

In the village of Les Rousses on the Swiss frontier not far from Lake Geneva, twenty three school children and their teacher reported seeing a huge, cloud cigar moving horizontal to the Earth's surface. It was so large it reminded them of a long railroad train. It moved to a vertical position while hovering and a gleaming yellow disc slipped out of the cigar. Then the cloud train moved to its horizontal position and resumed moving and disappeared at a lively speed.

Michel found that sightings occurring as far apart as 700 miles were located along great-circle routes which are the shortest route between two points and transferred onto flat maps were straight lines. On October 15, 1954, Michel noted there were sightings in Southend - on Sea, in England, Calais and Aire-sur-la-Lys in France on the German border, and Po di Gnocca (Rovigo) in Italy. Michel discovered the five UFO sightings were on a great-circle route 700 miles long, indicating a UFO had flown this straight line route across the heart of Europe, when transferred to a map. (Longest red line.) Most of the UFO sightings in France that were frequently reported in the various newspapers and by French Gendarmes (National Police) could be plotted along the straight lines indicating a grid work or a logical surveillance pattern. Michel, a mathematician, realized the straight lines between multiple UFO sightings were not a coincidence but represented an intelligence conducting a logical surveillance and perhaps mapping of France.



Frequently at the intersection of the straight lines were the huge, cloud cigar Motherships launching and recovering smaller glowing or metallic disks. It was logical to assume these were a type of aircraft carriers conducting military like operations over one of the world's nuclear capable countries. Some craft would hover over key nuclear military facilities for hours until French Fighter aircraft were launched to chase them away.

"Two experienced airline pilots on separate flights saw something up to a mile wide off the coast of Alderney above the English Channel on April 23, 2007. Jersey radar equipment did pick up the object, and an air traffic controller said he had received simultaneous reports from the Aurigny and Blue Islands pilots.

Aurigny's Airlines Captain Ray Bowyer, 50, said he saw the massive strange object during a flight from Southampton. He spotted a bright-yellow light ten miles west of Alderney while his plane was about 30 miles from the island and at 4,000 feet.



Thanks to Filer's Files #13, March 26, 2008



General L.M. Chassin General Air Defense Coordination Allied Air Forces Europe, NATO. Later he became Commanding General of the French Air Force states in the preface to Aime' Michel's book,

"Flying Saucers do exist. The products of an incredibly advanced technology, they have maneuvered in the skies and on the ground of Western Europe in pursuit of some plan whose purpose, origin, and motivation are at present entirely beyond our conjecture. Yet this amazing visitation over our heads, and sometimes on our soil, right among us, took place so quietly that it has left hardly a trace."

## **Illinois MUFON Symposium**

### **Bill Murphy's Column**

On March 29, Illinois MUFON, in conjunction with Chicago's Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), were the gracious hosts for what I believe was a highly successful symposium, held at the Holiday Inn Select Chicago-Tinley Park Convention Center in Tinley Park, Illinois. The all-day event included five local speakers and a panel discussion at its conclusion, and charged a bargain-basement price (especially when the Continental Breakfast held from 8 to 9:30 am is considered) of \$20.00 online (\$25.00 at the door) for some very good information and a lot of fun besides. The Illinois MUFON core group that ran this show strikes me as a capable, impressive -- and, moreover, a good -- bunch of people, and I am extremely pleased to be able to tell you that they will host the 2009 MUFON International Symposium at this same site, conveniently located along Interstate 80 along the southern confines of the great city of Chicago. It seems to me that Illinois State Director Sam Maranto and his organization are going about things in the right way, using this "mini-Symposium" as a test bed for their procedures, and I am looking forward to their next such affair, to be held on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and featuring Peter Davenport and Richard Dolan.

About the only thing that did not go as planned was the fact that more people showed up as walk-ins than had been expected, the group having done a fine job of promoting through six different newspapers and Superstation WGN. Due to the overflow, an additional room had to be procured and the speakers ended up doing two presentations instead of their expected single solo effort (there was just one, concluding panel discussion at Symposium's conclusion). As far as I could tell, there was no qualm about doing this, another example of the phenomenon I've recently noted about the affability and character of ufological presenters. During that last session, a photographer from FOX 2 came by for an evening TV piece.

The Illinois Symposium was founded upon the State's strengths: local spectacular cases and strong presenters. After a welcome and introductions, Illinois Assistant State Director Vic Connor started the presentations off with "A Brief History of UFOlogy from the Beginning". As I was out at the CUFOS table I didn't catch this, but Linda said that Mr. Connor gave an energetic and wide-ranging talk. Center for UFO Studies Director Dr. Mark Rodeghier considered "The State of UFOlogy Today, The Chicago O'Hare Sighting Case Overview, and More". I saw most of the O'Hare sighting portion, and also Mark's question-and-answer after the discussion, both of which were solid and fascinating. Mark noted that the basic sighting frustrated investigation because one cannot really go to the site itself, its being in the middle of the busiest airport in the world. Dr. Rodeghier also proved that the tower personnel, who could have directed action regarding the UFO, must have been telling the truth when they said they could not physically see the apparent object, due to its location directly above them. He further noted the general hardening of the establishment attitude toward UFOs, and had a very good response to a questioner who asked why study the things, if the government doesn't want us to? While I missed Darryl Barker's "The Edge of Reality: Illinois UFO, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2000 and Case Updates", Linda did see this presentation, and also talked at length with the video producer afterwards. His presentation included much more interview footage than appeared in his excellent video of the police-and-citizen-sightings of a huge, triangular UFO early in the new millenium. Sam Maranto delighted the audience with his lively presentation "Mass Sightings in Illinois: Rockford and Tinley Park", and also wowed them with some truly dramatic footage of the Tinley Park object; I had not seen this at the 2007 Symposium, and this alone was worth the trip to Illinois. Sam's forceful coverage of the lack of media attention to a number of Illinois and Midwestern sightings reinforced Mark Rodeghier's assertions regarding the increasing negativity of the establishment towards UFOs.

The presentation by Donald Schmitt, "Witness to Roswell - New Evidence and Deathbed Confessions" was probably the most anticipated of the day's activities, and he did not disappoint. Schmitt was the sole non-Illinois presenter and his the only non-Illinois-focus case, but Donald Schmitt has had a longtime association with the Center for UFO Studies, especially in his collaboration with Kevin Randle in the initial 1988 CUFOS expedition to the New Mexico area that has become so identified with UFOlogy. Schmitt diverged from the title of his talk, at least in his afternoon session, to talk about the efforts made by the government to silence the Roswell witnesses and "kill the story". Schmitt has a dramatic presentation style; his words are carefully chosen and impactful. He has a variety of different presentations he can give on the subject; I remarked to Don's publicist that you could have a "Symposium with Donald Schmitt", and she agreed completely. After the day's activities and panel discussion I had the opportunity to ask

Mr. Schmitt a few questions; he is a willing discussant, looks you directly in the eyes, and you can tell the man has strong convictions on his subject. Roswell in all its variety fascinates him, and he made the point that he is not 100% certain that he has found the answers. If he had, he'd quit. One of the most riveting points of Schmitt's presentation came when he recounted a story from a soldier who said that, on the night after the recovery of whatever-it-was from that New Mexico desert, as he walked beside the barracks on the Army Air Force Base, he could hear men sobbing and praying the Rosary. Weather or Project Mogul balloons, or crash-test dummies from five years hence, most assuredly would not elicit that kind of response. Besides Schmitt's latest book with Thomas J. Carey, Witness to Roswell, to be reviewed two MIMUFON Newsletter columns from now, items were available from Illinois MUFON and also from the CUFOS table, which sold Darryl Barker's video for him, as well as numerous of its own publications. A raffle of ufological items came at the conclusion of the day's events.

Linda and I are planning to attend the June 22<sup>nd</sup> mini-Symposium with Peter Davenport and Richard Dolan, and highly recommend that you also consider this event, and begin making plans for the 2009 International Symposium, as well. It is rare that an International Symposium comes this close to Michigan, unless MIMUFON hosts it, and I believe it's going to be a good one, to boot.

**Herb Prouty Retirement:** The February 2008 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal* had a short thank-you to Herbert J. Prouty, J.D., upon his retirement from the position of Director of Legal Affairs. The article says of Herb "He graciously shared his legal expertise to assure that MUFON was operating in a legal and ethical way. When unscrupulous individuals did things that could be harmful to the future of MUFON, Herb provided the legal direction that defused those attempts". Soon after Linda and I became State Co-Directors in 1995, we and Michigan MUFON had to make use of Herb's expertise, judgment, and direction. We can affirm from personal experience that those words of praise written by the International are fully justified, and that we, too, "appreciate the work that Herb did for MUFON and are proud to call him a friend."

**MIMUFON State Meetings:** Independent paranormal investigator/lecturer John Tenney of Royal Oak gave a fascinating presentation at the March State Meeting. (If you haven't been to one of these meetings recently, you really should consider making the effort. Bill Konkolesky and the other officers of the State organization work hard to secure interesting speakers and provide a variety of items available for purchase or, for members, to borrow from the large MIMUFON library. Besides this, I must always mention that I appreciate the all-you-can-eat brunch!) Tenney talked mostly about the Kinross case where an F-89 "Scorpion" supposedly collided with an unidentified flying object, and added some rather startling new information he had gained from his own efforts. Tenney made an important point several times in his presentation that real research is done, not by repeating or repackaging the work of other researchers, but by doing one's own investigatory work. Tenney mentioned cases where authors, not using primary source material but the output of previous writers, repeated the same or added new errors; this problem is unfortunately rife in the field of UFOlogy and only serves to add confusion and make the field look amateurish to the outside, literate world. Go to [www.weirdlectures.com](http://www.weirdlectures.com) for information on upcoming appearances by Tenney, a capable and interesting presenter.

**Field Investigator Training:** Probably the easiest way the average person can make a contribution to the field is to become a MUFON Field Investigator, and participate in the collection of data about sightings from those of the general public who turn in some kind of report, to MUFON itself, to the National UFO Reporting Center, or to local law enforcement or other public agencies. Probably the major step in becoming a Field Investigator is passing an open-book test that deals with typical things someone should know in order to get the maximum amount of clear information about the sighting, to represent the Mutual UFO Network well, and to treat the witness with respect. Linda and I are taking the training that State Section Director and Field Investigator Gary Golem is presenting before each State Meeting, to help prepare us for the test. We had investigated several cases as Field Investigator Trainees back in the mid-1990s, but got so quickly into the running of the organization end that we never completed the process. Though taking a test is probably something most of us gladly left behind when we got out of school, frankly the stuff that is covered is material that all people who take UFOlogy seriously ought to know. I still get "azimuth" confused with the Sci-Fi author of the Foundation trilogy, but I really should be more knowledgeable about the subject, and this training and study should help in that. Besides, as I mentioned in my last column, doing investigations can be very rewarding personally, and it's a way to assist the organization.



## Alpha Centauri Should Harbor Detectable, Earth-like Planets ScienceDaily (Mar. 7, 2008)

A rocky planet similar to Earth may be orbiting one of our nearest stellar neighbors and could be detected using existing techniques, according to a new study led by astronomers at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The closest stars to our Sun are in the three-star system called Alpha Centauri, a popular destination for interstellar travel in works of science fiction. UCSC graduate student Javiera Guedes used computer simulations of planet formation to show that terrestrial planets are likely to have formed around the star Alpha Centauri B and to be orbiting in the "habitable zone" where liquid water can exist on the planet's surface. The researchers then showed that such planets could be observed using a dedicated telescope.

"If they exist, we can observe them," said Guedes, who is the first author of a paper describing the new findings. The paper has been accepted for publication by the *Astrophysical Journal*.

Coauthor Gregory Laughlin, professor of astronomy and astrophysics at UCSC, said a number of factors converge to make Alpha Centauri B an excellent candidate for finding terrestrial planets. The Doppler detection method, which has revealed the majority of the 228 known extrasolar planets, measures shifts in the light from a star to detect the tiny wobble induced by the gravitational tug of an orbiting planet. Factors that favor the use of this technique for Alpha Centauri B include the brightness of the star and its position in the sky, which gives it a long period of observability each year from the Southern Hemisphere, Laughlin said.

Detecting small, rocky planets the size of Earth is challenging, however, because they induce a relatively small wobble in their host stars. According to Laughlin, five years of observations using a dedicated telescope would be needed to detect an Earth-like planet around Alpha Centauri B.

Coauthor Debra Fischer of San Francisco State University is leading an observational program to intensively monitor Alpha Centauri A and B using the 1.5-meter telescope at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile. The researchers hope to detect real planets similar to the ones that emerged in the computer simulations.

"I think the planets are there, and it's worth a try to have a look," Laughlin said.

To study planet formation around Alpha Centauri B, the team ran repeated computer simulations, evolving the system for the equivalent of 200 million years each time. Because of variations in the initial conditions, each simulation led to the formation of a different planetary system. In every case, however, a system of multiple planets evolved with at least one planet about the size of Earth. In many cases, the simulated planets had orbits lying within the habitable zone of the star.

In addition to Guedes, Laughlin, and Fischer, the authors of the paper include UCSC postdoctoral researcher Eugenio Rivera and graduate student Erica Davis, and Elisa Quintana of the SETI Institute. This research was supported by NASA and the National Science Foundation.

*Adapted from materials provided by UC Santa Cruz.*

Source: Science Daily <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/03/080307121613.htm>



## LAW OFFICER TRACKED TEXAS UFO SPEED WITH RADAR DEVICE

by Steve Hammons of the UFO Digest

Posted: 13:31 April 5, 2008

A Stephenville, Texas, area law enforcement officer on patrol Jan. 8, 2008, used his police radar device for tracking speeders to measure the speed of a huge unidentified object in the sky.

"I had to swivel my radar head up into the sky. And I knew I got a good hit on it. It showed 27 miles per hour and was accelerating slowly."

This aspect of the observation of a UFO by several peace officers and dozens of citizens was reported March 30 on StephenvilleLights.com by journalist and radio station news director Angelia Joiner.

Joiner had previously reported that more than one officer captured images of an unidentified object in the sky on the video cameras mounted on patrol car dashboards.

In this new report by an officer who requested to remain anonymous because of his professional duties and responsibilities, Joiner reports that, "He said he was unable to position his dash cam in a way that video footage could be taken, but he did manage to lock it in on radar."

## **ANONYMOUS OFFICER X**

Joiner calls this public safety officer as "Officer X." He did not step forward when he first spotted a huge object over Stephenville Jan. 8.

However, he casually mentioned it to other officers, then read reports in the local newspaper, the Stephenville Empire-Tribune, by Joiner who was then a reporter at the paper.

"I want people to know that the citizens are telling the truth," Officer X told Joiner.

"They're not lying," he said. "They are telling the truth. There was something there. I think it's stealthy. It has a stealth capability. I think it can change colors with the sky. It was as dark as the sky until it lit up."

He confirms that several other local officers also witnessed the craft.

Referring to a diagram of the craft based on observations by officers and recently made public, Officer X told Joiner, "The diagram I did shows 400 feet [from wing tip to wing tip], but looking back, I think it was larger, maybe between 500 and 600 feet."

In the diagram the craft was described as a somewhat flat octagonal shape with raised portions on the top and bottom. Various light configurations with different colored lights were observed by the officer.

When he first observed it, the craft was hovering in a horizontal position. It was approximately 100 to 500 feet off the ground, based on reports of other officers.

The officer said, "My estimate is the object was about a half mile away at the most. At first, I thought it was a big aircraft, but then I realized it was hovering. I then thought, 'An aircraft that size doesn't hover.'"

Joiner quotes him as saying, "It started out horizontal, went up to the left at 30 to 40 degrees, and stopped for about five seconds. Then it went slowly vertical. It took about another five seconds to do this; then it slowly moved away to the northwest. It was one big craft."

The object eventually slowly moved away from the officer's position, remaining at a low altitude, and he was no longer able to observe it because it went behind tree tops and he was required to respond to an unrelated official police call.

## **NEWS MEDIA, TEXAS AND ARIZONA INCIDENTS**

According to Joiner, the officer began to think more about discussing what he had seen after reading articles in the Empire-Tribune about witness reports of an unidentified object.

The first of a series of articles, written by Joiner, was published in the paper Jan. 10.

Upon learning that other officers were talking about it, he contacted them. One officer was Erath County Constable Lee Roy Gaitan, who was quoted on print articles and appeared on camera in local and national TV news reports at the time.

He told Joiner, "I thought, 'Okay ... Lee Roy (Gaitan) is talking, and he's a good friend of mine. I've known him for years and he's a credible, good person.' The other two officers had already talked about it, so I went straight to them."

"The first night I talked to them was Jan. 12. They described what they saw and I did a drawing on Notepad and took it back to them, and they said it was how they saw it."

Constable Gaitan was not the only local credible witness who had stepped forward early in the incidents. Local businessman and pilot Steve Allen came forward. So did machinist Ricky Sorrells.

Other local citizens and law officers chose a more low-key stance. Some talked only with friends, family and professional associates. Some spoke confidentially and off-the-record with Joiner.

When the Associated Press picked up the story, other major regional, national and international print, broadcast and TV cable news organizations reported professionally on the situation in Stephenville and Erath County.

As Joiner points out in her March 30 article, this resulted in the evaluation by many that the Stephenville case is the most significant public UFO case since the so-called "Phoenix Lights" incident March 13, 1997.

In that case, although some witnesses saw only huge lights in an apparent shape, hundreds or thousands of other Arizonans reportedly saw a huge V-shaped or boomerang-shaped object.

According to witnesses, it cruised slowly and silently at low altitude over rural Arizona and metropolitan Phoenix in the early evening in a southeasterly direction.

As others concluded from the Phoenix Lights case, Officer X in Texas stated, "I think what we saw wanted to be seen."

Another similarity: People considering the Phoenix and Stephenville cases wondered if these craft were advanced U.S. technology of some kind, maybe from classified facilities in the Southwest.

Officer X told Joiner that he and another officer initially felt that the object was military.

However, he said a third officer "was pretty adamant that it was not." That officer's reasons for his conclusion could not be revealed to maintain his anonymity, Joiner reported.

Officer X said, "The more I thought about it... I thought, 'They just don't fly secret projects in free air space.' If it's military, they made a big boo-boo by flying it into Stephenville, Texas. The Air Force knows better than that. It leads me away from the Air Force."

He told Joiner he wasn't sure if the craft was extraterrestrial.

"How does a person know? How do you know without something landing and somebody walking out of it?"

Source: <http://www.ufodigest.com/news/0408/radar-device.html>



## Michigan MUFON State Section Directors Meeting Minutes March 16, 2008

The March 16 state meeting was held at Walli's Restaurant in Flint, Michigan.

Bill Konkolesky, State Director, called the Section Directors' meeting to order at 3:25 PM. In attendance were David Twichell, Rebecca Konkolesky, Darlene and David Bleicher, Linda and Bill Murphy, Gary Golem, Patty Donahue and Wendy Smith.

Bill Konkolesky informed that MUFON International Director James Carrion wishes to be primary contact to the producers of the History Channel's UFO Hunters, who are interested in producing a program on the 1994 Holland Michigan sightings. MIMUFON has collected information about these sightings and will forward this information to Mr. Carrion.

Patty suggested that the Kinross incident might also be of interest to the producers of UFO Hunters, and Dave Twichell suggested we send them a copy of John Tenney's presentation from today's meeting.

Bill Konkolesky reported that a Psychic Fair will be held October 18 and 19, 2008, at the Garden City Historical Society Building. Bill plans to lecture, and MIMUFON will have a table with information about our organization.

The September state meeting may be held at Henry Ford Community College, with MIMUFON members as featured speakers. Dave Twichell will talk with Jay Korinek to finalize a date, and in the meantime Bill plans to formulate a speaker list and plans for advertising.

Gary introduced a general discussion about the role of MIMUFON State Section Directors. The volume of recent sighting reports has reemphasized the importance of the commitment of those members who hold this position. Without their involvement, reports are not investigated or completed in a timely manner, as reflected by the CMS rankings printed in the MUFON Journal. Since many investigations require contact only by telephone or email, Bill Murphy suggested that the Section Director position might be filled on an "at large" basis. Further discussion at the next state meeting in May is expected.

Patty reported that the MIMUFON Store has sales of \$5.50 at today's meeting.

Wendy reported attendance of 30 people, including the featured speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy Smith, April 13, 2008.



### Monthly Statistical MUFON Report - for March 2008:

CMS continues to amass sighting reports from around the globe. In March 2008, there were 333 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS. 305 of these were in the US. Of these, 12 were in Michigan.

Most impressively there were 22 Landings, Hovering, or Takeoffs reported and 23 Entities observed worldwide.

To review the CMS data yourself go to [www.mufon.com](http://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.

"I had started out as an outright 'debunker,' taking great joy in cracking what seemed at first to be puzzling cases. I was the arch enemy of those 'flying saucer groups and enthusiasts' who very dearly wanted UFOs to be interplanetary. My own knowledge of those groups came almost entirely from what I heard from Blue Book personnel: they were all 'crackpots and visionaries.'"

"My transformation was gradual but by the late sixties it was complete. Today I would not spend one further moment on the subject of UFOs if I didn't seriously feel that the UFO phenomenon is real and that efforts to investigate and understand it, and eventually to solve it, could have a profound effect - perhaps even be the springboard to a revolution in mankind's outlook on the universe."

**Dr. J. Allen Hynek, 1977 Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University and technical consultant to the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book for two decades.**

# Recent Michigan Sightings

The following is a report that was just recently filed with CMS. Although it occurred on August 22, 2000, the witnesses have just recently mustered the courage to report it and I feel it is a significant sighting that should be shared with MiMUFON members.

Witness report:

Fishing a quarter mile away from Fermi 2 Nuclear plant in Lake Erie at Point Mouliee and Corp of Engineers man made peninsula at end of Peninsula in the woods is a pond or small lake next to the big Lake Erie. Me and my friend were cat fishing when my friend needed light to put the night crawler on his hook. I went to light up my flashlight and then his hook and the bait suddenly lit up. He started baiting his hook and I knew it wasn't my flashlight because I did not turn it on. I looked over my shoulder and seen this cylindrical bright light rise from the pond and hover above us. I told my friend to look and he got startled. I asked him what it was and he said he didn't know. Then it sped off across Lake Erie at a tremendously fast rate. It had no sound as it was hovering about 250 ft. above us. Since that occurrence, I have returned to fish at the sight and they now have no trespassing signs saying it's a bird sanctuary and they have security guards posted at entrance. I told my wife and children about this when I came home and they laughed at me and my friend. So I don't talk much about it. Funny thing is this is the second time I have had encounters of this type, I just don't want to get into the other encounter. If you want a place to investigate this is the place.

Follow up phone interview with witness # 1:

The witness (who wishes to remain Anonymous) was contacted by phone by this investigator on Dec. 30, 2007. He reiterated the details of his sighting over Lake Erie on 2000-08-22 02:30:00.

At 2:30 AM (EST) he and his son-in-law were fishing from land adjacent the Fermi 2 power plant (A nuclear power plant). The witness was about to turn on his flashlight to bait a hook for his son-in-law when a bright light illuminated the spot where they were standing. The witness described the light as a "round glowing light that was as bright as the sun but it didn't hurt the eyes to look at it."

The witness was facing south in the direction of the power plant.

His son-in-law appeared to be quite frightened by the light and its unknown source. There was no sound associated with the event. The object appeared to be round but was hard to discern due to its brightness. The object hovered for approximately five minutes. The object was almost overhead about 80% from horizon and approximately 150 – 200 Feet above the surface of Lake Erie.

The object began to approach the witness, and then it "shot off" in an easterly direction into space and was gone in less than one second.

Both witnesses told their families about the event upon returning home and were met with ridicule. The witness was even reluctant to talk about the event with me until I convinced him that I would not ridicule him. After he opened up about this encounter, he told me that he had an even more spectacular encounter with a UFO several years before. However, it bothered him to discuss it and might write down his account and email it to me in the future.

He promised to check with his son-in-law to see if I could call him to follow up on the Aug. 22, 2000 sighting but I have not heard back from either witness. It would appear that his son-in-law is still reluctant to discuss the event.

After the reported incident, the witness returned to the area where he found "no trespassing" signs indicating it is a "bird sanctuary" and they have security guards posted at entrance. Reportedly, it remains off limits to this day (2008).

The witness struck me as a sane and sincere individual who would prefer to let the matter drop. Relaying the details of the event still bothers him. Neither witness reported missing time associated with the event.

Follow up phone interview with witness # 2:

I spoke with witness # 2 on January 3, 2008 via telephone. He was the first to see the object as he was facing in the direction (South) of Lake Erie. He caught the object out of the corner of his eye (to the west) and attracted his attention. The witness reiterated the testimony of witness # 1. He stated that a brightly illuminated, disk-shaped object with a bubble top rose up from the ground and hovered at treetop level for about five minutes, bathing them in its brilliant light. The object approached the witnesses before shooting off to the east and into space, leaving a blur of light behind it. The object disappeared from their view within one second.

The witness stated that they both decided to leave the area after this event. The walk back to their car should have taken twenty minutes but it seemed to them that they were back to their car in no time. The witness felt like he was in a daze.

The witness was reluctant to speak with me about the event, stating that every time he told someone about this experience he received ridicule. Once he was convinced that I would not ridicule him, he began relaying the story as if it had been weighing on his mind for some time and was happy to get it off his chest.

The witness said (which is common) "I don't care what other people think, I know what I saw".

# John Shepherd to Speak at May Meeting



John Shepherd, founder of Project S.T.R.A.T. Earth Station One, will speak at the May 4, 2008 meeting in Flint, MI.

In John's own words: Project S.T.R.A.T. stands for: "Special Telemetry Research And Tracking" The effort began in the spring of 1971 and was established in the spring of 1972 as a "sole proprietorship".

In the summer of 1972 the first ULF (ultra-Low Frequency) radio transmitter went on the air. The transmitter at that time 40 hertz to 15 kilohertz radio marker beacon started broadcasting a 150-watt ulf sequence of electronic tone pulses towards the stars. This meager beginning was the start of a 25-year effort to better understand a great mystery.

As the fall of 1973 approached, a large wave of UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) sightings started to occur on a world wide bases. At this time I found myself involved in one of the most intriguing events of my younger life. During this time many UFO reports came in from the local area. Some of these reports were nothing short of astonishing!

I was born in September of 51. I grew up watching TV shows like: "The Outer Limits", "Twilight Zone" and "One Step Beyond". Shows like these left me with a sense of awe and wonder about the universe we live within. I would often take a stroll out under the stars at night thinking about what could be out there.

I feel that it's important to share with others what the value of good creative and thought provoking television can do. TV can enlighten our young people and offer a degree of insight into a far deeper realm of multidimensional thinking that can serve to advance our culture. Sadly today, television has lost some of its "glow" and depth of insight. The primary role that TV plays now is as a pacifier for the masses rather than a tool for the advancement of intellect. I'm not against TV as an entertainment device but it has powerful influence over people. Over the last four decades I have seen many of the changes TV has gone through and not many of them have been for the better!

I have many interests in the areas of science and the arts. One of my primary interests is in the designing and building of large scale pieces of electronic equipment, similar to what you would see in a good sci-fi film. Evidence of some of my work can be found at <http://www.projectstrat.com/photos.html>

I have been featured on national TV programs like: "Looking At Us", "PM Magazine", "Joan Rivers", Turner's, "Searching For UFOs" and many other TV news, interviews etc.

For more information you can email me. [strat@torchlake.com](mailto:strat@torchlake.com)



## MUFON Field Investigator's Training

SSD and seasoned Field Investigator Gary Golem will again be leading our morning Field Investigator's training session. If you happen to have a copy of the Field Investigator's Manual, please bring it. Either way, please try to attend. 10:00 AM.

## Make Your Meeting Reservations Today!

Phone in your reservations to State Director Bill Konkolesky at (248) 515-9568 or email at [wjk@mimufon.org](mailto:wjk@mimufon.org) no later than **Wednesday, April 30**. 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

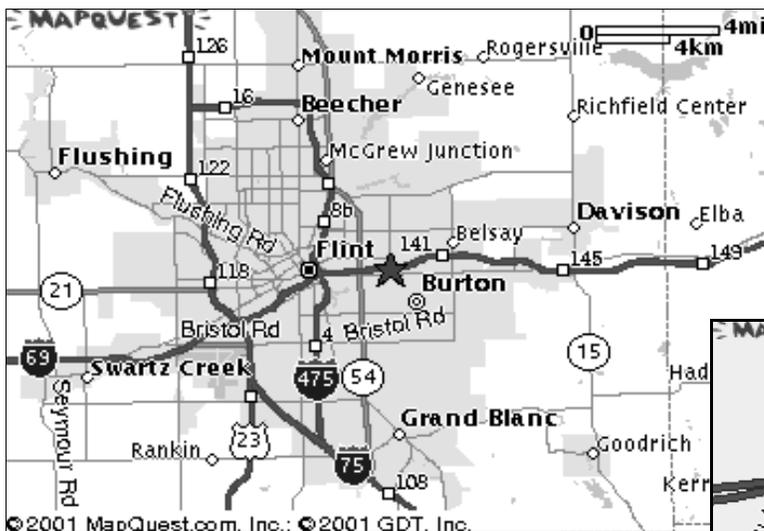
Sunday, May 4, 2008

Members \$13.00 / Non-Members \$15.00

First time guests are \$5.00.

**10am** FI Training: Conducted by SSD Gary Golem  
**12pm** Buffet Lunch  
**1:30pm** **Presentation by John Shepherd**  
**4:00pm** MIMUFON Announcements & Necessary Business

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



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



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

## From The Editor's Desk



David Twichell

## A Few Reasons to Attend The 2008 MUFON Symposium

**July 24 – 27 2008 in San Jose, California.**

**Nick Pope: Britain's X-Files;** The British government has just started to release its archive of UFO files, following a precedent set by the French government in 2007. 160 files are to be released, including some from the ultra-secretive Defence Intelligence Staff. Why is this material being released now? What's in the files? What might this mean for the US government? Nick Pope used to run the UK's UFO project and will discuss the file release and its wider implications.

**Leslie Kean:** Leslie Kean will present the strategy behind the November 12, 2007 press conference in Washington, DC, and comment on the outcome. Moderated by former Arizona Governor Fife Symington, the event featured high level military, aviation and government officials from around the world. Dramatic excerpts from the presentations will be shown, along with an overview of media coverage.

**Wilfried De Brouwer:** The presentation will provide an overview of the so-called Belgian UFO wave which took place from November 1989 until April 1991, including the discussion of the most important sightings, the analysis of a UFO photograph and the actions which were taken by the Belgian Air Force.

**Dr. Richard Haines:** Dr. Richard Haines will discuss the impact of unidentified aerial phenomena and its potential adverse effects on aircraft flight systems and the potential safety hazards to the global aviation community. He will present his research on several aviation related international cases.

**Don Ledger: Pilots Encounters over Canada:** This pilot has long been concerned about what complications may arise as a result of a close encounter with a UAP. Don Ledger will present two cases he has been either directly involved with or researched from documents. He will address his reasons why the comfort zone each pilot likes to see around the aircraft he commands could impact aircraft and passenger safety when this zone is threatened.

**Rodrigo Bravo:** Rodrigo Bravo Garrido, Captain and Pilot for the Aviation Army of Chile was assigned in the year 2000 to conduct an internal study titled "Introduction to Anomalous Aerial Phenomenon and their considerations for aerospace security" involving previous case reports of military planes encounters with UFOs.

**Farah Yurdozu:** Farah Yurdozu will present an overview of her native country's UFO history from the year 312 to today including the latest sightings, videos, photographs and testimonies that will vividly bring Turkey's UFO reality to life.

**Dr. Anthony Choy:** Dr. Anthony Choy is a lawyer and founding member of the Air Anomalous Phenomenon Investigation Office (OIFAA), of the Peruvian Air Force. On October 13, 2001, in the northern city of Chulucanas, eight spheres of light, of an intense red-orange color were flying in an intelligent manner and were recorded on video. On October 25, a luminous tear drop object was recorded over the countryside near the city with small spheres landing in the woods.

**Larry Lemke:** Larry Lemke will discuss his research on the "Hole In Cloud" phenomenon as exemplified in the Chicago O'Hare International Airport on November 7, 2006 case where airport employees reported seeing a saucer shape object hovering over the airport. He will also discuss a nocturnal light UAP case from Hessdalen, Norway.

**George Knapp:** George Knapp is a 14-time Emmy Award-winning journalist whose reporting on Nevada's infamous Area 51 military base was selected by UPI as Best Individual Achievement by a Reporter (1989). Other awards include the Associated Press's Mark Twain Award for news writing and the Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting. George is an anchor and reporter for the CBS affiliate KLAS-TV in Las Vegas and he also writes a weekly column for a Las Vegas newspaper.

**John Greenwald:** John Greenwald hosts the popular website The BlacVault.com. Currently, with over 440,000 pages, The Black Vault is the largest online database of U.S. Government documents in the world. Currently John works both on and off camera producing shows for The History Channel, Discovery Channel, and the National Geographic Channel.

**These presenters and much more. Go to <http://mufon.com/symposia.htm> and make reservations today!**

# Michigan MUFON Contact List

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

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Contact Wendy or Jon Long

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Sunny Young, Chief Investigator. 269-352-7917  
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Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Van Buren, St. Joseph

Isabella, Mecosta, Oseola, Clare  
TBA

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

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

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

## Suggestion Box.

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

What is your interest in the UFO phenomenon?

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What kind of events should MIMUFON sponsor?

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

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Any other comments or suggestions?

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

For the 2008 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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