

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,720

There seems to be more talk now about flying saucers and unidentified flying objects than

2

00:00:09,720 --> 00:00:11,360

ever before.

3

00:00:11,360 --> 00:00:15,560

This book, Incident at Exeter, has just been published.

4

00:00:15,560 --> 00:00:20,080

It's the new focal point of our national debate about unidentified flying objects.

5

00:00:20,080 --> 00:00:25,440

It's written by a distinguished columnist with the Saturday Review of Literature.

6

00:00:25,440 --> 00:00:27,120

His name is John Fuller.

7

00:00:27,120 --> 00:00:28,960

He's the author.

8

00:00:28,960 --> 00:00:31,920

He's invited him to come on and tell us his side of the story.

9

00:00:31,920 --> 00:00:32,920

So would you all agree?

10

00:00:32,920 --> 00:00:33,920

Mr. John Fuller.

11

00:00:33,920 --> 00:00:38,920

I think they've added my band.

12

00:00:38,920 --> 00:00:50,920

Somebody dropped a bottle over there.

13

00:00:50,920 --> 00:00:54,960

John, how'd you become interested in the subject?

14

00:00:54,960 --> 00:00:58,840

Well, the interesting thing was that I knew nothing about the subject.

15

00:00:58,840 --> 00:01:04,120

I was a complete neophyte on the subject, but I was stuck for an idea for my column

16

00:01:04,120 --> 00:01:07,520

one day that I do for the Saturday Review.

17

00:01:07,520 --> 00:01:11,720

And I happened to pull a little clipping out from the New York Times.

18

00:01:11,720 --> 00:01:13,240

I decided I'd take one case.

19

00:01:13,240 --> 00:01:18,160

I was tired of seeing these cases appear on the paper and then dropping.

20

00:01:18,160 --> 00:01:19,840

I took one case.

21

00:01:19,840 --> 00:01:21,320

I started to follow it down.

22

00:01:21,320 --> 00:01:25,640

I did a short piece and started to review about it.

23

00:01:25,640 --> 00:01:30,480

The book magazine read it and then Pustum read the look piece and the Saturday Review

24

00:01:30,480 --> 00:01:32,520

and asked me to do a book on it.

25

00:01:32,520 --> 00:01:35,520

And I am a complete non-USO expert.

26

00:01:35,520 --> 00:01:37,920

But I'm a good reporter.

27

00:01:37,920 --> 00:01:38,920

Good.

28

00:01:38,920 --> 00:01:39,920

Good.

29

00:01:39,920 --> 00:01:44,920

John, because I've interviewed a lot of people who have seen them and they're usually cuckoo

30

00:01:44,920 --> 00:01:45,920

clocks.

31

00:01:45,920 --> 00:01:46,920

You know, that's right.

32

00:01:46,920 --> 00:01:49,240

And I think I'm not worried about that.

33

00:01:49,240 --> 00:01:50,240

No, no, no.

34

00:01:50,240 --> 00:01:53,520

They're funny to have on and they tell you about little people running around and getting

35

00:01:53,520 --> 00:01:54,520

off of them.

36

00:01:54,520 --> 00:01:59,160

And here's two that might have.

37

00:01:59,160 --> 00:02:04,000

But you are the first man of the Fourth of State, the man of letters, that I have ever

38

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:07,640

met who claims he has seen one.

39

00:02:07,640 --> 00:02:14,360

Well, frankly, if I didn't have a licensed pilot who was also a very cynical newsreel

40

00:02:14,360 --> 00:02:19,720

cameraman with me at the time, I would have never told anybody about it.

41

00:02:19,720 --> 00:02:21,400

Would you see, John?

42

00:02:21,400 --> 00:02:27,400

So one I saw was much less dramatic than the cases that I documented in the book at Exeter.

43

00:02:27,400 --> 00:02:29,400

Well, in New Hampshire.

44

00:02:29,400 --> 00:02:30,400

Yeah, Exeter, New Hampshire.

45

00:02:30,400 --> 00:02:31,400

Yeah.

46

00:02:31,400 --> 00:02:32,400

I know that incident.

47

00:02:32,400 --> 00:02:37,640

And two policemen, the original incident, which I started to, I went up there, if I could

48

00:02:37,640 --> 00:02:39,400

debunk the story, I was going to debunk it.

49

00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:42,840

If I could, they'd get a little ghost story about a New England town, you know, with the

50

00:02:42,840 --> 00:02:45,840

reactions of people with psychological feelings.

51

00:02:45,840 --> 00:02:46,840

That would have been fine too.

52

00:02:47,280 --> 00:02:53,080

But I got up there and I found that this case checked out so thoroughly and was documented

53

00:02:53,080 --> 00:02:59,120

so completely by really tough-minded cynical officers, police officers, one of whom was

54

00:02:59,120 --> 00:03:01,400

an Air Force veteran.

55

00:03:01,400 --> 00:03:06,040

It came so close to him and it was so enormous that he dropped on the ground and pulled his

56

00:03:06,040 --> 00:03:07,040

gun.

57

00:03:07,040 --> 00:03:13,360

Now, police officers of this caliber do not do this, if they see something, you know,

58

00:03:13,360 --> 00:03:14,360

in the sky.

59

00:03:14,360 --> 00:03:24,360

Then I found that I unearthed 60 confident, reliable people whom I checked out as to character,

60

00:03:24,360 --> 00:03:27,840

confidence and capacity for observation.

61

00:03:27,840 --> 00:03:28,840

And I grilled them.

62

00:03:28,840 --> 00:03:29,840

I interrogated them, tape recorded everything.

63

00:03:29,840 --> 00:03:34,840

If I hadn't had a tape recorder, I would have buried the story.

64

00:03:34,840 --> 00:03:35,840

It is a...

65

00:03:35,840 --> 00:03:41,960

I can't help feeling, Merv, that there is a remote possibility that this could be the

66

00:03:41,960 --> 00:03:43,680

biggest news breaking history.

67

00:03:43,680 --> 00:03:44,680

I don't say that.

68

00:03:44,680 --> 00:03:45,680

I say it's a possibility.

69

00:03:45,680 --> 00:03:55,520

Was this not the case, John, where the object was coming in on high tension wires?

70

00:03:55,520 --> 00:03:58,440

They were consistently reported above high tension wires.

71

00:03:58,440 --> 00:04:01,840

I discovered later that the original police incident was near high tension wires.

72

00:04:01,840 --> 00:04:03,640

I didn't realize this was the time.

73

00:04:03,640 --> 00:04:08,000

Do you believe the story that they are manned by space creatures?

74

00:04:08,000 --> 00:04:12,040

Merv, I'll say this.

75

00:04:12,040 --> 00:04:13,040

I'm very cautious.

76

00:04:13,800 --> 00:04:16,880

I don't make rash statements.

77

00:04:16,880 --> 00:04:21,920

I say that there is over-fueling evidence that they exist.

78

00:04:21,920 --> 00:04:29,440

I think this has to be accepted now, because in the US, icecraft.

79

00:04:29,440 --> 00:04:31,320

That, I don't think any longer be denied.

80

00:04:31,320 --> 00:04:35,400

You had Dr. Heineck, the head of the astronomy at Northwestern.

81

00:04:35,400 --> 00:04:42,000

He made a statement to the Optical Society of America, not long ago, that he had to

82

00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:47,880

admit that the evidence was so overwhelming that he was bound down by it. So I think there's

83

00:04:47,880 --> 00:04:54,680

no question that they exist. I think the theory that holds up the most, or the least

84

00:04:54,680 --> 00:05:01,120

holds on, as you consider everything, is the interplanetary theory. But I can't go beyond

85

00:05:01,120 --> 00:05:06,360

that because, you know, I don't know, no one landed on my line yet. What did you see,

86

00:05:06,360 --> 00:05:17,400

can you just clarify? What I saw was a jet fighter plane chasing a dull hind's disc

87

00:05:17,400 --> 00:05:25,160

from the northwest of the southeast at 4,000 to 6,000 feet, moving at approximately 4 to

88

00:05:25,160 --> 00:05:34,360

500 miles an hour. And the disc was about five plane lengths in front of the jet. And

89

00:05:34,360 --> 00:05:42,520

we kept it in sight for about 20 to 30 seconds as this luminous disc moved in front of the

90

00:05:42,520 --> 00:05:48,400

plane. The diameter of the object, again I worked with the pilot on this one, we talked

91

00:05:48,400 --> 00:05:53,320

it out for two hours before we would have accepted what we were seeing, you know, that

92

00:05:53,320 --> 00:06:01,040

we wanted to document it, was about one third the diameter of the plane's fuselage, plane's

93

00:06:01,040 --> 00:06:06,920

running lines were right. Now this is a small one. Because, and the reason why I don't even

94

00:06:06,920 --> 00:06:14,240

play this up deciding up, actually, even in the book, is that the type of documentation

95

00:06:14,240 --> 00:06:19,160

I was getting from solid people, now these are taciturn, laconic Yankees, and they're

96

00:06:19,160 --> 00:06:27,120

a tough, tough out, the New England guy. Whereas people would give me testimony and I would

97

00:06:27,200 --> 00:06:30,720

check them three ways against the middle, ask them the same question three times, try

98

00:06:30,720 --> 00:06:38,960

to trap them, try to throw them off base. And they would say, I was riding down Route

99

00:06:38,960 --> 00:06:43,360

88, 11 o'clock at night, I saw pulsating lights down there and I thought there was an accident

100

00:06:43,360 --> 00:06:49,120

down the road. I speeded up to get near the car and suddenly I realized that this was

101

00:06:49,120 --> 00:06:56,160

an enormous craft hovering silently, 10 or 20 feet above the road, which would wobble

102

00:06:56,240 --> 00:07:00,880

and hug her without a sound and then shoot up into the sky with incredible speed. Now

103

00:07:00,880 --> 00:07:07,360

I got so much that I wanted to go to the paper court and cross examination math bases that

104

00:07:07,360 --> 00:07:11,120

I went back to Look Magazine when I got halfway through the research and I played them these

105

00:07:11,120 --> 00:07:16,480

tapes and I said, listen, I might have gone round the bank. You know, I could have flipped,

106

00:07:16,480 --> 00:07:23,120

right? And so I said, will you send a senior editor up there to check my research? He went

107

00:07:23,120 --> 00:07:28,240

up at the end of three days, he threw his hands up in the air, Gary Zimmerman. Then Reader's

108

00:07:28,240 --> 00:07:34,320

Digest magazine picked up the short look article, the book is much, much more detailed, much more.

109

00:07:34,320 --> 00:07:39,920

And I read your look story. Yeah, well, it fascinated me. I mean, I don't get this fascinated

110

00:07:39,920 --> 00:07:48,880

over a story. And I get bored with lots of them. But so then Reader's Digest picked up the look

111

00:07:48,880 --> 00:07:54,160

article and they sent a researcher on the job for four or five days to check my research.

112

00:07:54,960 --> 00:08:02,320

So no story has been documented so much. And let me ask you this, John, UFO history. You say that

113

00:08:02,320 --> 00:08:07,280

one of our Air Force fighter planes was chasing it. Yes. What is our Air Force to you? Our Air

114

00:08:07,280 --> 00:08:13,360

Force will give us no information at all from the local base. They will hand out very stereotyped.

115

00:08:14,240 --> 00:08:20,000

But you said you talked to the pilot. No, I had a pilot with me, a licensed pilot

116

00:08:20,000 --> 00:08:26,320

with me on the ground who verified the altitude speed. He was both the pilot and a newsreel

117

00:08:26,320 --> 00:08:32,000

camera. He was not the Air Force pilot. Now, on the other hand, I got much off the record stuff

118

00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:37,920

from Air Force officers, radar men, Navy men, and sportsmen, Coast guardsmen who

119

00:08:38,160 --> 00:08:46,000

verified all these happenings as they went along. The radar reports, some radar reports,

120

00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:50,720

one Navy report, not at sportsmen, but another place was clocked at 3,000 knots in the atmosphere.

121

00:08:51,760 --> 00:08:59,360

Now, the Air Force is making a very bad mistake because they are going to, I caught them in an

122

00:08:59,360 --> 00:09:05,200

enormous fabrication in this, that's not, that's a little rougher word, I'd say,

123

00:09:05,200 --> 00:09:11,120

an enormous confusion of the exeter case and presented it to the Colonel in the Public Information

124

00:09:11,120 --> 00:09:16,880

Office in Pentagon and he said, are you calling me a liar? And I said, no, I'm not calling you a

125

00:09:16,880 --> 00:09:22,160

liar. I want to know how can you justify these statements made by your office, these statements

126

00:09:22,160 --> 00:09:29,440

made by your local men and the complete discrepancies. And he said, sir, you were talking to an officer

127

00:09:29,440 --> 00:09:33,840

of the United States Air Force and stamped off. Well, that's not intelligent thinking. I don't

128

00:09:33,840 --> 00:09:38,960

just fascinating subject, and I recommend to you, John Fuller's Incident at Exeter. I'm sure it's

129

00:09:38,960 --> 00:09:42,240

a great book. We'll be right back.