

At tomb of Christ

Jerusalem pilgrims sight UFO during vigil

RN

From the Associated Press

Thousands of Christian pilgrims to Jerusalem held candlelight prayers at the tomb of Christ in a Holy Saturday Easter vigil, and many reported seeing an unidentified flying object (UFO) round and brightly glowing, high in the sky near the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Excitement and speculation about possible religious significance of the UFO sighting was later quelled when a resident of the area called police to say his son had released a large silver balloon, bought at a children's fair in Tel Aviv, about the time of the sightings.

At the U...

UFO reports 'warp out' night shift

RN

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Livingston
County
Press

Howell March 5, 1980

Where were you on the night of March 2?

If you weren't looking at the sky over Livingston County Airport but were gobbling up "Alien" on network TV, you had your priorities wrong.

The real aliens, it seems, were warping around over rows of tied-down Cessnas west of Howell.

About 10 p.m. Sunday night, Mike Bignell was working the late night shift at WHMI when he got a call reporting a multi-colored, blinking object in the night sky west of the city.

Bignell said Monday he looked out the window but couldn't see that part of the sky from his location. Then the lady, whom Bignell said seemed in quite good control of herself, called back, reporting that the object had taken off at tremendous speed.

Come on, now. It's the late night shift. A sci-fi movie is on the boob tube. What else do you expect?

Certainly not a retired naval pilot calling in to second the story. But that's what Bignell got. The man, also calm

and collected, said he had watched the UFO for 15 minutes with his binoculars. He confirmed that when it took off, it really did take off. No slow-moving helicopter this.

Bignell put in calls to Lansing and Detroit. Nix on radar, nix on sightings, but...

But Detroit Metro said the air control tower in Windsor had called them, asking about an unidentified object in the air southeast of the Canadian city.

Contacted Monday, Howell police had no UFO sightings to report.

Livingston County Airport Manager Spencer Hardy was out at the airport at 10:30 that night, but said he didn't see a thing. He said a mechanic was out at the field until 10:30, but didn't see a thing.

A plane did go up from the field late Sunday night, though.

Zonnie Fritsche, team supervisor at the Capitol City Airport tower in Lansing said Monday this was the first UFO sighting he's heard about in three weeks.

"These things run in streaks," Fritsche said, "usually corresponding to television movies. Last night was clear, with Venus very prominent."

But Fritsche did have a trace of regret in his voice.

"Even if you really got one no one'd believe you," he said.

Detroit NEWS

J. ALLEN HYNEK, the UFO activist, told a weekend audience in Fremont, Ohio, that he probably wouldn't report a UFO sighting unless someone else was along with him to verify it, because, "People would probably think that I'd been involved in this so long it finally got to me." Hynek was a consultant for "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." Even though Hynek said he wouldn't report a UFO without a second witness, he contended that "a lot of scientific evidence is going down the drain because people are afraid to report UFO's, fearing that other people will think they're crazy."

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