

## Lights in the sky fuel UFO interest

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ASPEN — Earthlings might not be the only tourists visiting western Colorado this summer, UFO aficionados said yesterday.

Bright, multicolored lights that appeared on the horizon northwest of Glenwood Springs last week prompted about 25 people to gather yesterday in Aspen for a talk by Bruce Maccabee, a research physicist with the Navy and chairman of the Fund for UFO Research.

"We have to rethink our position in the universe," said Maccabee, who has studied UFO sightings for about 20 years.

The colored dots of light spotted between 11 p.m. and midnight high above the Glenwood Springs Mall last Monday and Wednesday have not reappeared, said Lt. Don Williams of the Glenwood Springs Police Department.

"It's been cloudy every single night since then," Williams said. "I know, because I've been standing out there, in the buff sometimes, looking."

A military spokesman said last week it was unlikely the lights were reflections from satellites, and astronomers ruled out the aurora borealis, or northern lights.

"About half the town," including several police officers, saw the dots of light, Williams said.

Williams said he is "neither a believer or a disbeliever" in UFOs.

"I don't think we should be vain enough to think we are the only people in our universe," he said. "But one of those little creatures is going to have to come on down and talk to me and wave its finger at me and levitate to convince me for good."

Maccabee said that's not impossible.

Visitors from other parts of the universe have become increasingly daring over the past four decades, even abducting some humans, he said.

"It seems there are some sort of biological experiments going on on the people of this planet, carried out by someone else," Maccabee said.

He said a recent public opinion poll showed two-thirds of Americans believe that UFOs might or probably exist.

Remaining skeptics will be convinced, Maccabee said, when scientists from 12 countries gather at the International Symposium on Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon in Washington, D.C., June 26-28.

They will present evidence that the U.S. government has orchestrated a coverup of UFO sightings, he said.