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EYE Magazine

Watching Them, Watching Us!

GRIMSBY UFO FLAP-IS IT RESTARTING?

The Strange Case of
Captain Thomas Mantell Jr.

Alien Autopsy Film Footage
Update.

Kenneth Arnold 1947 Radio
Interview.

All the latest reports and details
relevant to the East Yorkshire area,
from two of the counties leading
UFOlogists, G. Anthony & C. Evers

NEW QUARTERLY
PUBLICATION

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Editorial Comment

Welcome to EYE magazine, an endeavour born from the zeal of two UFO researchers to provide a more balanced view of UFOlogy and other similar topics by finding a middle ground between two extremes.

In this we hope to walk a tightrope and avoid the bigger part of the 'fringe,' something my poor balding head no longer possesses. A phoenix reborn from the now defunct 'Faster Than Light' magazine. Future issues of EYE can boast relevant articles due to put in a first appearance here, and guarantee some will tantalise, challenge your opinions and refine your viewpoints, perhaps cause occasional head scratching or even Zen-like illumination, as well as bring you the latest information in UFOlogy. Please be patient and stick with us because we aim to please, if bringing the facts can do such a thing to the UFOlogically curious? There are revealing interviews and contributions set to feature in EYE from a local, national and international perspective, past and present. So watch out for whatever takes your fancy.

In this particular issue we lean slightly towards American and ETH, because we are kicking off with some of the most controversial cases on record, and noted players, however, multicultural and opposing viewpoints and articles will appear later on – as we perceive the magazine as a continuum ready to suit most palettes. If you have an article or viewpoint, or even a viewpoint about an article and would like to express it in EYE, then please send it along and we'll try to incorporate it if the bribe is big enough.

Continued opposite —————>>>>>>

Over time we'll be making more reports and theories of UFO sightings and expertise accessible to the readership and improve the quality of the magazine greatly as we progress. This will include current research and investigations and also recount a concise UFOlogical history of East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, as far as it is known with many old and newly found or submitted case reports currently being re-investigated, not just by us, but by some of the country's best and dedicated researchers.

When most people open a general book about UFOs, it begins like an alphabeticised index with A, as in Arnold, Kenneth; a well known published starting point. In this issue EYE features a past radio interview with the man himself and details of his 1947 Mount Rainier UFO encounter, a stone that has gathered a little moss since and which sparked the whole modern era buzzing with stories of 'Flying Saucers' right up to a recent debate on UFO Updates Mailing List -- as to whether the whole encounter was not just a bunch of migrating pelicans (?) – in fact a new UFOlogical word for the sceptical approach was coined in the process, *pelicanism*. Though I readily admit healthy sceptical aspirations, personally I prefer turkey, it's a lot drier to the taste and easier to catch!

Philip Mantle takes us back to the Alien Autopsy and brings us up to date with his research. What were you doing in the mid 90's when the Autopsy aired on national television? I was abroad soaking up the sun in better climes, eating ice-cream watching a miniature TV and trying to figure out what the heck I was watching? Is it a dummy, isn't it a dummy and why does the alien have better shades than me?

We've included an interesting article by Paul Urbahns on the Thomas Mantell Jr, pilot case from a local angle, which I recall was one of the first dramatic deadly UFO cases I read about many years ago; begging an answer to the question was it a Skyhook balloon which Mantell encountered? The evidence looks favourable, but what's your verdict?

What are they putting in the water in Grimsby nowadays, no end of people are willing to report sightings there, recent flurries of reports suggest something weird is being sighted out to sea on a regular basis? (See page 27 for more information on Grimsby sightings)

Also, do you know anyone who is keeping a top secret triangular flying thingy in their shed? Geoff Richardson searches for the 'truth' about Aurora and makes some relevant and noteworthy points, not sure I agree with your idea about the UFOlogical community finding truth by ignoring possible secret aircraft transits though Geoff? A reason for this could stem from my less myopic days, namely August 1987 through to September 1988 when David Clarke, I and many other then BUFORA investigators followed up triangle shaped and other UFO reports in two big UK flaps. At the time we were told (actually leaked by someone reliable at Binbrook) that a revolutionary new aircraft undergoing testing in Britain could have been responsible for many of the reports -- namely possible X S prototype Stealth technology and later guess what happened (?) – they (those dodgy U.S. military and gov't chaps) unveiled both the bomber and the F117A fighter not to slightly mention the many triangular-shaped-thingy-me-jigs being sighted around Nevada and elsewhere before and after... (Two very concise and large reports were put together, and if the authors are willing, I may venture what possibility exists of making them available to interested parties for a limited period?) But don't sweat it; that's just my opinion!

Chris and I hope you enjoy EYE.

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EYE on Reviews by Gary Anthony

Roswell Inconvenient Facts and the Will To Believe.

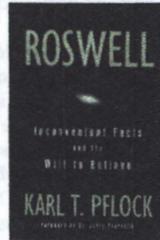
Author Karl T. Pflock

Published by Prometheus Books 2001. Available at all good bookstores priced £16.07p, July 2001.

Karl Pflock is not your average UFO author, he was a former deputy assistant secretary of defence and a CIA intelligence officer and in recent years has honed a keen interest, focusing on the Roswell incident challenging some of the controversial and long held views and proponents of this case, by getting at the facts and proverbial heart of the matter. Describing himself as a 'Pro-UFOlogists', Karl Pflock has contributed an enormous effort with this book, which may subject him to some slight derision in ufological circles and perhaps cries of "Sceptic" or "Government Plant," despite his being New Mexico state director of MUFON -- an organisation long-regarded as being somewhat non-sceptical on occasion. Roswell' includes information on every aspect of the Roswell story from alpha to omega and the witnesses own words do most of the revealing tale telling, all the way through, with Pflock's inimitable intelligence gathering style and useful insight.

Included in this marvellous book is the metamorphosis of a UFO crash case and it's obvious mythological aspects, as they have occurred over a fifty-year plus period to tracking their status today in the culture of our new millennium. Karl charts the Mogul project from it's conception and how this is also inextricably meshed into the Roswell story, whether we like it or not. The photo section has some curious photographs featuring all the usual contenders and a few additions like the Members of US Air Force Office of Special Investigations District 17 with Roswell witnesses; there are also the alleged markings of the beam as remem-

bered by J Marcel Snr and Jr. Professor C.B Moore holding a balloon and one of Karl in debate in 1997 with other noted Roswell researcher Kevin Randle. There is also a cap-sporting photograph of Philip Corso. The appendices are rich, replete with affidavits and official papers, real and phoney. Particularly noteworthy, and relevant to my own researches into alleged alien semiotics and symbols, there is a sketch on page 243 by Frank Kaufman, showing the Roswell craft even possessing a strange insignia. A book like this could not have been compiled without pooling the research and assistance of a lot of people connected with the Roswell incident, it is a must buy for anyone truly interested in Roswell, it is probably the real story... Dr. Jerry Pournelle, who writes an interesting foreword for the book has this to say -- "When you finish ... you will know everything you need to know about Roswell. You may not like the conclusions Pflock draws, but it is hard to quarrel with them. They aren't the conclusions that he ... hoped to come to. Seeking the truth means taking the truth seriously and following the facts where they lead, no matter what you want to believe. That takes courage." I agree wholeheartedly 100% and recommend the same approach to anyone thinking of tackling the problematic topic of UFOs. Pages could be spent on the merits of this book; and how these may be ignored by the gullible or fool hardy, but that would spoil and detract from it. As an echo -- get this book before making your mind up on any aspect of the Roswell story, because 'Roswell -- Inconvenient Facts and the Will to Believe' is a TEN out of TEN



EYE on UFO Internet Web Sites

A Personal View Of Internet UFO Sites By Chris Evers

It is a known fact, one of the main uses of the internet, is in the quest for knowledge of the paranormal and Ufological type, with literally thousands of websites dedicated to UFO's alone. In this bewildering field just where do we find information that is trustworthy and more importantly as accurate as possible?

I shall not attempt here the almost impossible task of reviewing every site dedicated to UFO's, that would take an encyclopaedia to do that correctly, all I shall outline within this article are the sites that I browse on a more personal, regular basis, if you know of others and perhaps find them more interesting, then please feel free to send us your suggestions and tell us why you like them, and we can share this information with our readers. Also, do please remember this is not a critical appraisal of these sites just my own personal viewing choice.

Some Of My Favourite Sites

<http://www.bufora.org.uk/> The newly spruced up site of perhaps Britain's longest serving continuously in the public eye UFO group, offers a comprehensive list of information all available from this, its home page address. With details on how to join the British UFO Research Association to details of Sky-watch's to up and coming lectures to celebrate BUFORA's 40 years in existence. With reports on research undertaken by it's accredited investigators, for us to check out and details of the publications available to keep ourselves up to

date with reports on their investigations. With of course the links section to other sites. This site is worth a look. And I personally give it a 7 out of 10.

<http://www.ufomag.co.uk/> Is the internet address of the countries only newsstand publication dedicated to UFOlogy it contains items on up and coming features for future editions of the British version of UFO Magazine. With a series of sections for the latest news, and details of speakers for the up and coming 21st Leeds UFO Conference, a UFO Superstore, where its possible to purchase videos and other items. Also on the site is a online competition with details how to enter (correct at time of writing this article, Feb 2002). All in all good to check out the up and coming magazine details, but it would be nice to see more reports and articles on the site. Even so I would give it 7 out of 10.

<http://www.flyingsaucery.com/mod/home.htm> is the home of Andy Roberts and Dr. David Clarke on the net. Both David and Andy are long time investigators of the unusual from, "The Big Grey Man of Ben McDhui (and other mountain panics)" to "Alleged crashed saucers in the UK." This site is well worth a visit if you want a no nonsense down to earth approach to the subject of Fortean and UFOlogy. With the usual links to other sites and details on classic 'UFO Brigantia' articles (a former magazine production of noted British UFOlogists) this is well worth anyone's attention.

Both Andy and David recently brought to the publics interest first, the latest details concerning the perennial Rendlesham UFO case, if your not aware of these details then check out their site. I give this site an amazing 8 out of 10 as I find it always entertaining and informa-

EYE on UFO Internet Web Sites

tive, if you do not believe me take a look your self.

<http://www.ufology.org.uk/>
 UFOlogy UK is precisely what it says it is, a web site dedicated to British UFOlogy, as it says in its opening statement "many people think that the UFO phenomenon occurs only in the USA - This site shows that UFOlogy is thriving in the United Kingdom and that sightings are widespread. We take your views and thoughts seriously." Chris Whitlock as set up an amazing site and this should be visited by ALL who have a serious interest in British UFOlogy, with forums, video clips, facilities to report sightings, and soon to be realised details and bio's of some of the UK's foremost UFO investigators included on the site, its well worth a visit miss it if you dare. Running in step so to speak is the associated UFOLOGYINUK smartgroups site jointly run by Chris and Joe McGonagle where all are welcome to exchange information and ideas with some of the worlds most renowned UFOlogists. Details of how to find this group are on the website. A very well deserved 8 out of 10 too. Well done Chris/Joe.

Well, those are just a few of the literally thousands and thousands of internet based sites dedicated to the world of UFOlogy, and once again, I point out these are just some of the sites I visit regularly, the views here expressed are my humble opinion of these sites and are not intended as a critique of said sites in any way shape or form, if you disagree with my opinions well by all means that is your choice... But if you do disagree then why not share your views with us here at EYE Magazine and let us know just what interests you in the world of UFOlogy Internet wise.

© Chris Evers, 2002

EYE MAGAZINE is an attempt by two UFO researchers, to give the world of UFOlogy a balanced view of this subject and will only survive and flourish with your help. For subscribing to the magazine we (Gary Anthony & Chris Evers) wish to express our thanks and gratitude to you, and we ask if you have enjoyed this our first issue then encourage others to subscribe and help give **EYE MAGAZINE** the chance to give British UFOlogy a balanced view and all involved in the subject, whether sceptical or ETH believing a fair chance to air their views. To aid in this endeavour we have enclosed a brochure for you to pass on to someone you know who may be interested in subscribing, to future issues of **EYE MAGAZINE**, just pass the form to them and for this we thank you once again.

The next issue will be available in early June 2002.

Thank you.
 CE&GA

Advertisement

Out of the Shadows UFOs, the Establishment & the official Cover-up

Out of the Shadows: UFOs, the Establishment & the official Cover-up is the new UFO book by David Clarke and Andy Roberts, published by Piatkus in 2002.

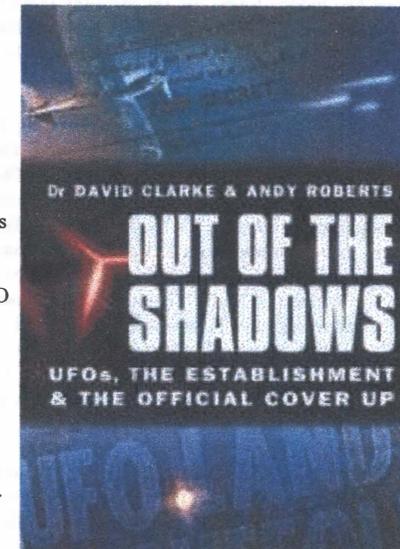
Out of the Shadows takes a fresh look at the subject of UFOs, focussing upon the British Ministry of Defence's investigations into the phenomena since 1940. Clarke and Roberts have spent two years researching the book and have uncovered hundreds of previously unseen MOD documents relating to UFO activity in the UK.

The book sets the MOD policy on UFOs alongside the beliefs and attitudes of the British UFO community and the wider media towards both the subject and allegations of an official 'cover up'.

Out of the Shadows is not a sceptical book, nor is it written for 'believers.' We see it as a social history of the flying saucer/UFO phenomenon in the UK. It objectively traces the development of official interest and investigations into UFOs and reaches some startling conclusions.

Among its many and varied contents, the book features:

- Important new material on WWII UFO sightings and investigations
- Hitherto unseen Ministry of Defence and RAF files on UFO reports by service personnel.
- Interviews with and comments with numerous individuals who have worked at the highest level of governmental UFO investigation
- The MOD file on the Rendlesham Forest UFO case of 1980
- New information on the Men In Black mystery
- The involvement of the Royal Family, aristocracy and politicians in UFO studies



Coming May 2002

EYE on Space.

MARS: NEUROSCIENTIST FINDS LIFE ON MARS IN DECADES-OLD DATA
 SAN DIEGO, July 29, 2001 -University of Southern California announced Experiments done more than two decades ago on Martian soil collected by the Viking Landers 1 and 2 provided evidence that life might exist on Mars, says Joseph Miller, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Cell and Neurobiology at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. Miller recently did a re-analysis of data collected by the Landers, and found that something in the collected soil was apparently metabolising nutrients-and doing so with a distinct biological rhythm that, he says, can only be found in a living cell. Miller presented his findings at an astrobiology symposium held during the International Society for Optical Engineering.

In August and September of 1975, the Viking spacecraft were launched from Cape Canaveral. After travelling for nearly a year, each was deployed to the planet's surface. Once there, they performed a series of experiments-including one in which a robotic arm scooped up samples of soil and deposited them in petri dishes, along with a drop of a nutrient solution that had been labelled with radioactive carbon. The idea, explains Miller, was that if there were any living organisms in the sample, they would take up the carbon-labelled nutrients and process them, eventually releasing the radioactive carbon in a gas form. A radiation detector was set up near the covered dish, connected to it by a tube through which any released gases would travel. There was definite evidence of a gas release. It seemed Levin and Straat had indeed found life on Mars-but other scientists felt the release might be better explained as the result of chemical reactions with highly reactive compounds like uperoxides and peroxides. Unable to prove that the gas was definitely being released by living organisms, the NASA scientists let the matter drop.

Based on new discoveries Miller started studying the old data and after reviewing just 30 percent of the data, Miller was able to find something remarkable-something, he says, that went un-remarked-upon in the original papers. "The signal itself not only had a circadian rhythm," declares Miller, "but it had a precise circadian rhythm of 24.66 hours-which is particularly significant, because it's the length of a Martian day." The fluctuations in gas emissions seem to be entrained to a 2 degrees C fluctuation inside the Lander, which in turn reflected not-quite-total shielding from the 50 degrees C. fluctuation in temperature that occurs daily on the surface of Mars. Temperature-entrained circadian rhythms, even to a mere 2-degree C fluctuation, have been observed repeatedly on earth. As for the original concerns of the dubious chemists, who thought the same sort of signal could simply be coming from highly reactive, non-organic compounds in the soil, Miller says such a scenario! o would be almost impossible to imagine. The circadian rhythms from the Martian soil persisted for nine straight weeks."

"There is no reason for a purely chemical reaction to be so strongly synchronized to such a small temperature fluctuation," he adds. "We think that in conjunction with the strong indications from Mars Observer images that show water flowed on the surface in the recent past. I think back in 1976, the Viking researchers had an excellent reason to believe they'd discovered life; I'd say it was a good 75 percent certain. Now, with this discovery, I'd say it's over 90 percent."

EYE on Brief Encounters.

ROSWELL CRASH RESEARCH FINDINGS

Bond Johnson writes, "After more than three years of eye straining research of comparing the computer enhanced and carefully dissected Ramey Office Photos (ROP) with the blueprints of RAWIN/MOGUL and to other weather devices circa 1947 -- and with extensive consultation of UFO experts from Klass to Rudiak to Friedman -- The Roswell Photo Interpretation Team (RPIT) has concluded that there is NOTHING to be seen in the ROP that can be matched to ANYTHING expected to be found in the crash of a RAWIN/MOGUL or any other known "weather device." Further, in spite of frequent and widespread invitations for such, no one -- from dedicated sceptic to devout believer -- has SUGGESTED that ANY piece of wreckage to be seen in the ROP has any specific terrestrial genesis.

Also, after more than a half century the US government has produced NO documented evidence as to the aetiology of the Roswell crash -- even when RPIT and others requested such documents under FOIA. Finally, after its extensive research -- including discussions by three team members w Prof. Charles Moore -- RPIT has concluded that there is NO evidence that ANY known RAWIN/MOGUL launch could account for the strange with the Roswell crash of 1947. Thanks to Colonel James Bond Johnson RPIT Project Director.

MAINE LIGHTS CHANGING SHAPES

John Thompson writes

OAKLAND -- My girl friend and I saw two UFO's on August 11, 2001, at 2:00 AM. They looked about 3-4 miles away near the horizon and very bright. The light they emitted was a white light and cast a reflection on the lake. It had 3 different shapes that it kept alternating into every few minutes. The first shape looked like two balls that were stuck together, then it appeared to move closer to me and would turn into a five pointed star, and moving farther away it became a fine point of light. The light had an aura around it. The light appeared to be stationary. A few times it did move rather rapidly, but would stay near the same place. The first time it made a figure 8, then a few "sparkles" when other aircraft came near it. I saw 6 planes go near the two objects. It looked like a military plane shot a missile at it, that is when I saw the first "sparkle"). The second UFO was higher in the sky and stayed in the same spot the whole time I was watching. It was not as bright and was half the size as the first. It had a shape of the two balls stuck together the whole time. I had watched them for a couple hours and the desire for sleep took over. Thanks to Peter Davenport NU-FORC

Coming soon the EYE Website

CIGAR SHAPED UFO's ARE THEY MAKING A COMEBACK?

Dog Walker Spots Cigar-Shaped UFO In Yorkshire, England

[Original headline: Fireman spots UFO]

Another strange object has been spotted in the skies above Keighley, west Yorkshire. A man out walking his dog late on Wednesday evening [July 31] saw a bright cigar-shaped craft fly northwards over the town.

Retired fireman Leslie Howard, 61, said the object was definitely not an aircraft. He was in fields close to his home at Coppy Road, Steeton, at about 11.15PM when he noticed the puzzling projectile. Keighley is a renowned hotspot for UFO sightings, with countless reports being received over the years of unexplained happenings in the district's skies.

Mr Howard told us: "The object was a very bright silvery colour and was moving through the sky quite quickly. It was fairly long and went behind cloud at one point, but it was not a plane. There were no flashing lights.

"I reported it to the police and also contacted Leeds-Bradford Airport, which said there were no aircraft in that vicinity at the time. It's a mystery."

Story originally published by: Telegraph & Argus via This is Bradford], Yorkshire / England - Aug 03.01 All Copyrights are acknowledged. Material reproduced here is for educational and research purposes only.

NEW YORK CIGAR

PLEASANTVILLE -- On November 11, 2001, at 11:20 PM the witness saw a very large cigar shaped object travelling very fast. The witness reports, "I was looking at the sky while my dogs got their nightly exercise. Very dim lights travelling across the sky caught my peripheral vision. There were 4 or 5 of them that came from a long object travelling south very quickly at about 60 degrees above the horizon. It was silent. I could see the lights for 4 or 5 seconds then lost it in the glare from the Ford dealership lights. Thanks to Peter B. Davenport, NUFORC www.UFOCENTER.com Reporting Hotline:(206) 722-3000

NEW JERSEY CIGAR SIMILAR EARLIER REPORT

CARNEYS POINT -- At 12:35 PM, a veteran police officer and private pilot, accompanied by a legal professional saw a brownish black cylinder shaped object flew over their vehicle at 250 feet altitude on May 18, 1996. The sighting lasted five seconds before it vanished. One 50 feet long cylinder shaped object, dull brownish black in colour, with a metal tail structure, crossed S.W. to N.E. across dual highway at moderate speed over our vehicle. The sighting lasted about five seconds, after which object vanished. The leading edges of structure appeared to display the dull pattern typical of "re-entry burn" on the space shuttle. Local weather verified to be: Bar: 29.99, Visibility: 2 miles, ceiling 800 feet, Temp: 66 Deg. F, Dew Point: 63F, Hum: 90%, Wind: SSE 6 mph. Thanks to Peter B. Davenport, NUFORC, www.UFOCENTER.com.

Coming soon the EYE Website

GRIMSBY UFO FLAP IS IT RESTARTING?

BY

G. ANTHONY & C. EVERS

Saturday, 8 - September, 2001.

A telephone call, alerted me to the strange sighting of a ball bearing like, silver object, travelling in the skies over the East Coast of the United Kingdom.

Mr. H. D. who lives near Grimsby on the East coast of the United Kingdom, telephoned on Monday evening to discuss this unusual sighting. Our reporter who is ex R.A. F. said the silver object was has big as a 5 pence coin held at arms length, as it travelled from a west / northwest direction. The object passed directly over him, he went on to say "It was perfectly round with what looked like extremely small stubby wings just protruding from its circular body." He continued, " the object sped past me at least four times faster than a Jumbo Jet. It crossed from horizon to horizon in a matter of 6 - 8 seconds. I was a complete sceptic until I saw this, but now am convinced of the existence of UFO's." He continued, " People can think what they like but as a local radio, weather watcher I am constantly checking the skies and the weather/cloud conditions, I know what I Saw was something strange."

Another interesting report from the Grimsby area was given to my colleague, Gary Anthony who continues the story opposite:-
"I also received a report of a UFO later on this same day and seen by other witnesses from the Grimsby area, I presume these sightings may be connected. The report I received came from a Mr. D.T and his wife who sighted several objects out to the East over the North Sea at approximately 6.20 PM on Saturday 8 September. The objects were described as being silver-white coloured resembling round orbs, later changing shape to appear roughly saucer-shaped (perspective views perhaps) and performing

aerial maneuvers likened to those executed by stunt kites.

The sighting lasted approximately 2-3 minutes before all objects disappeared. Currently, I'm looking into this report and have approached various aviation and other relevant organizations for information. However, due to the recent indescribably horrific incidents in America, I am given to understand many such organizations are on high alert status and though they may consider any UFO reports seriously; some may not take time to respond due to extra duties and such."

Also this found on The Monolith Yahoo news group site:" On Saturday the 8th of September my wife and i was returning from Bridlington after doing some last minute gift shopping, we were travelling along the light-house road and had just turned into Green-acres camp site at 11.30 am when i saw a metallic sphere moving steadily high in the sky, at first we thought it was a plane as that area is near to an air base i believe is in Naferton which is close by, but the sphere suddenly stopped in mid air and hovered then another metallic sphere seemed to drop from the clouds hover some 500 ft behind the first sphere and then they both moved off at the same speed and disappeared into the distance. Later that day at around 1.00 pm we were travelling through Driffield when i saw another metallic sphere appear from behind the clouds travelling at a steady speed but unfortunately it disappeared behind cloud cover after only a few minutes and we never saw them again."

For a report on the March to May 2000 Grimsby Flap send £2.50 to editorial address, see page 27. You can rest assured that we here at EYE Magazine will keep you informed of any and all relevant information regarding these sightings in future issues of this publication.

EYE ON ALIEN AUTOPSY

EYE ON ALIEN AUTOPSY

By Philip Mantle

In 1995 London based businessman Ray Santilli caused what has been arguably the biggest controversy in the entire history of UFO research when he launched his 'Alien Autopsy' film across the front pages of magazines and via the TV screen in over 20 different countries. By far the most popular TV documentary made at the time was the Fox Network's 'Alien Autopsy - Fact or Fiction?' which has often been repeated on numerous cable and satellite stations.

RECAP

To for those who are unaware of this controversial film a brief recap might be in order. London video producer Ray Santilli claimed that in 1992 he was in Cleveland, Ohio in the USA looking for vintage film clips of rock-n-roll performers from the 1950's. People like Elvis Presley and Pat Boone were at the top of his list. Santilli claimed that he met an elderly gentleman from who he purchased a rare clip of the late Elvis live on stage. The elderly chap had filmed the piece himself while working as a freelance cameraman in 1950's. Shortly before returning home Santilli was contacted by this elderly cameraman again who this time had something different to offer. The story he told was that prior to being a freelance cameraman he was a cameraman with the US Army and in 1947 he had been flown to Roswell, New Mexico on a special assignment. Initially he was informed that he was to film the crash of a Soviet spy plane but on arrival it became clear that this was no Russian plane. Instead he claimed to have filmed the UFO crash at Roswell in 1947 and not only that, but the actual autopsy of 2 of the dead aliens.

Quite naturally Santilli was more than interested and at a later date he visited the cameraman at his home to view this other footage. To his amazement it did indeed appear to show the autopsy of an alien. Santilli immediately agreed to buy the film for cash, the only other condition being that he was never to reveal the identity of the cameraman himself. Santilli, not having the amount of money involved, reported to be around \$150,000, but never confirmed, eventually turned to his German business partner Volker Spielberg for assistance. Over the next couple of years Santilli purchased the film and transported it to the UK where it was transferred to video. In 1993 Santilli contacted myself to see if I might be able to assist in the making of a UFO documentary. Eventually he told me of the film he had purchased and his plans to commercialise it. It was not until early 1995 that I first saw any of the film. My wife Sue and I visited Santilli's offices in London on several occasions to view the film. At the time I was the conference organiser for the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and already had a conference planned for August 1995. I asked Santilli if he would show the film at the conference and he agreed to do so. In the meantime, after a private screening organised by Santilli in London to an invited audience only, he set about selling the rights to the film to a wide variety of publishers and TV companies around the world. First to publish stills from the film was VSD in France and soon copies were flying around the world via the internet. The day after our conference in August 1995 saw the film broadcast on TV around the world. And the rest they say is history.

CLAIMS

There have been numerous claims and counter claims surrounding this film and there simply is

EYE ON ALIEN AUTOPSY

not enough room to cover all of these here. But a brief look at one or two of them are included here. Santilli has always claimed that the film has been tested and dated as being 1947 vintage, This is in fact incorrect. Snippets of film have been seen and tested but none of them had any scenes on them from the film broadcast on TV or seen on video. Therefore, the exact date of the film still remains open to question. Claims by Santilli about other scenes such a the crash site being on the film have also proven to unfounded. Most UFO researchers have dismissed the film as a fake, usually accusing Santilli as the hoaxer and in some instances even with my assistance. The fact remains however, that there is no proof that Santilli is a hoaxer and there may even be some evidence to the contrary.

ON-GOING RESEARCH

For the last 3 years or so I have been assisted in further research into the so-called 'Alien Autopsy' film by my colleague Tim Matthews. Tim is a well known UFO sceptic in Britain as well as an author and lecturer on the subject. In order to keep the research into this film balanced I felt that Tim was the ideal researcher to ask for assistance. Prior to this I had worked with the German researcher Michael Hesemann and together we co-authored 'BEYOND ROSWELL' which featured some of the early research into the film. What I am to attempt now is to look at some new and old information to see if it either supports the authenticity of the film or adds to the weight of it being a fraud.

SGT CLIFFORD STONE

First off is a segment of information that seems to have gone largely unnoticed in our book 'BEYOND ROSWELL'. Earlier this year US research Steven Greer held a special event in the USA as part of his Disclosure Project. Many military personnel stood up in front of a media audience telling of their involvement or knowledge of the UFO phenomena. One such witness was Sgt Clifford Stone, US Army (retired). Stone was interviewed in 1996 by US researcher Ted Loman and he claimed that in 1969 he was stationed at Fort Ley, Virginia. He was part of a Quick Reaction Team. During

his work he had to take a Lieutenant to Fort Belvoir . While at Fort Belvoir he and another person, an airman with the USAF, went for a walk around the base. While on a tour of the base they came across an auditorium, a bit like a small theatre. They were looking down through a Plexiglas window into this auditorium which was filled with military personnel who seemed to be watching UFO films. Stone and his colleague thought they must be trailers for Science Fiction movies of some kind. Stone also saw a film depicting bodies of creatures that were not human. Eventually Stone and his colleague were caught and were 'debriefed' in an extremely firm manner. Basically, they were ordered not to reveal anything and that they had indeed seen nothing. Reluctantly, both parties agreed to this. It was not until 1995 when Stone saw the 'Alien Autopsy' film that he made the connection between it and what he had seen back in 1969. Stone was convinced that the film he saw in 1969 and the Santilli film were one of the same.

Obviously if Santilli had faked the film Sgt Clifford Stone could not have seen it in the apparent ownership of the US military in 1969. Sgt Stone is only one of several former US military personnel who claim to have seen the film while on active duty long in advance of Santilli's ownership.

FRANK SALAS

Many so-called experts have argued against the films authenticity

(Continued on page 16)

EYE on "Kenneth Arnold 1947 Radio Interview"

The following is believed to be the first radio interview which Kenneth Arnold gave regarding his sighting. The interview was with KWRC in Pendleton, Oregon.

NEWSCASTER:

The nation, every newscaster, and every newspaper across the nation has made headlines out of it, and this afternoon we are honoured, indeed, to have here in our studio this man, Kenneth Arnold, who, we believe, may be able to give us a firsthand account and give you the same on what happened. Kenneth, first of all if you'll move up here to the microphone just a little closer, we'll ask you to just tell in your own fashion, as you told us last night in your hotel room, and again this morning, what you were doing there and how this entire thing started. Go ahead, Kenneth.

KENNETH ARNOLD:

Well, about 2:15 I took off from Chehalis, Washington, en route to Yakima, and, of course, every time that any of us fly over the country near Mt. Rainier, we spend an hour or two in search of the Marine plane that's never been found that they believe is in the snow someplace southwest of that particular area. That area is located at about, it's elevation is about 10,000 feet, and I had made one sweep in close to Mt. Rainier and down one of the canyons and was dragging it for any types of objects that might prove to be the Marine ship, and as I come out of the canyon there, was about 15 minutes, I was approximately 25 to 28 miles from Mt. Rainier, I climbed back up to 9200 feet and I noticed to the left of me a chain which looked to me like the tail of a Chinese kite, kind of weaving and going at a terrific speed across the face of Mt. Rainier. I, at



first, thought they were geese because it flew like geese, but it was going so fast that I immediately changed my mind and decided it was a bunch of new jet planes in formation. Well, as the planes come to the edge of Mt. Rainier flying at about 160 degrees south, I thought I would clock them because it was such a clear day, and I didn't know where their destination was, but due to the fact that I had Mt. Saint Helens and Mt. Adams to clock them by, I just thought I'd see just how fast they were going, since among pilots we argue about speed so much. And, they seemed to flip and flash in the sun, just like a mirror, and, in fact, I happened to be in an angle from the sun that seemed to hit the tops of these peculiar looking things in such a way that it almost blinded you when you looked at them through your Plexiglas windshield.

Well, it was about one minute to three when I started clocking them on my sweep second hand clock, and as I kept looking at them, I kept looking for their tails, and they didn't have any tail. I thought, well, maybe something's wrong with my eyes and I turned the plane around and opened the window, and looked out the window, and sure enough, I couldn't find any tails on 'them. And, the whole, our observation of these particular ships, didn't last more than about two and a half minutes and I could see them only plainly when they seemed to tip their wing, or whatever it was, and the sun flashed on them. They looked something like a pie plate that was cut in half with a sort of a convex triangle in the rear. Now, I thought, well, that maybe they're jet planes with just the tails painted green or brown or something, and I didn't think too much of it, but kept on watching them. They didn't fly in a conventional formation that's taught in our army, they seemed to kind of weave in and out right above the mountain tops, and I would say that they even went down into the canyons in several instances, oh, probably a hundred feet, but I could see

them against the snow, of course, on Mt. Rainier and against the snow on Mt. Adams as they were flashing, and against a high ridge that happens to lay in between Mt. Rainier and Mt. Adams. But when I observed the tail end of the last one passing Mt. Adams, and I was at an angle near Mt. Rainier from it, but I looked at my watch and it showed one minute and 42 seconds. Well, I felt that was pretty fast and I didn't stop to think what the distance was between the two mountains. Well, I landed at Yakima, Washington, and Al Baxter was there to greet me and he said ... [unintelligible]... and, he told me, I guess I better change my brand, but he kind of gave me a mysterious sort of a look that maybe I had seen something, he didn't know, and well, I just kind of forgot it then, until I got down to Pendleton and I began looking at my map and taking measurements on it and the best calculation I could figure out, now even in spite of error, would be around 1200 miles an hour, because making the distance from Mt. Rainier to Mt. Adams, in, we'll say approximately two minutes, it's almost, well, it'd be around 25 miles per minute. Now allowing for air, we can give them three minutes or four minutes to make it, and they're still going more than 800 miles an hour, and to my knowledge, there isn't anything that I've read about, outside of some of the German rockets, that would go that fast. These were flying in more or less a level, constant altitude. They weren't going up and they weren't going down. They were just simply flying straight and level and I, I laughed ... [unintelligible]..., they sure must have had a tailwind. But it didn't seem to help me much. But to the best of my knowledge, and the best of my description, that is what I actually saw, and, like I told the Associated Press, I'll, I'd be glad to confirm it with my hands on a Bible because I did see it, and whether it has anything to do with our army or our intelligence or whether it has to do with some foreign country, I don't know. But I

did see it and I did clock it and I just happened to be in a beautiful position to do it and it's just as much a mystery to me as it is to everyone else who's been calling me the last 24 hours, wondering what it was.

NEWSCASTER:

Well, Kenneth, thank you very much. I know that you've certainly been busy these last 24 hours, 'cause I've spent some of the time with you myself, and I know that the press associations, both Associated Press and our press, the United Press, has been right after you every minute. The Associated and the United Press, all over the nation, have been after this story. It's been on every newscast, over the air, and in every newspaper I know of. The United Press in Portland has made several telephone calls here at Pendleton to me, and to you this morning, and from New York I understand, they are after this story, and that we may have an answer ... [unintelligible]... because, if it is some new type of army or navy secret missile, there would probably a story come out on it from the army or navy asking, saying that it is a new secret plane and that will be all there is to it, and they will hush up the story, or perhaps that we will finally get a definite answer to it. I understand the United Press is checking on it out of New York now with the Army, and also with the Navy, and we hope to have some concrete answer before nightfall. We certainly want to thank you, Kenneth for coming into our studio. We feel very pleased that this news which is making nationwide news across the country, we are able to give our listeners over KWRC a first hand report direct from you, of what you saw. And we urge our listeners to keep tuned to this station, because anytime this afternoon or this evening, and we get something on it on our United Press teletype, which is in direct communications with New York, Chicago, Portland, in fact, every United Press bureau across the nation, why, we'll have it on the air.

EYE ON ALIEN AUTOPSY

(Continued from page 13)

stating that it was filmed on video and not 16mm film as claimed. All the genuine film and photographic experts that we have been in contact with disagree and are more than convinced that there is enough evidence to suggest it was indeed shot on 16mm. One man outside of Santilli's company who knows this for sure is Mr Frank Salas. The reason for this being that Salas is the technician who transferred the original 16mm film onto video at his place of work in London. We have 2 taped interviews with Salas and he informed us that at the request of Santilli's company he was sent the film and transferred it onto video. It was transferred on to both VHS and Beta cam. He told us that some of the film was in pretty poor quality but other parts of it were not too bad at all. Salas gave us detailed information of how he transferred the 16mm film onto video including the types of equipment he used etc. He was in no doubt that it was indeed 16mm but he would not guess at its age as this was not his area of expertise. Salas went on to state that it was indeed the autopsy film he transferred and that he was under no added pressure to keep this secret other than the normal client confidentiality. In fact, Salas would only agree to answer our questions after receiving a fax giving him permission to do so by Ray Santilli himself. Santilli did this at our request. As far as Salas was concerned, if this was a hoax, it was a very, very good one, but he did not think it was. So, for the first time we have someone outside of Santilli's company who actually handled the 16mm film and saw the autopsy images on it. This, according to many, was not possible as it was a contemporary hoax filmed only on video. A military witness from 1969, a civilian film technician, but is there anyone else who can support either of these stories ?

MIKE MALONEY

Mike Maloney is the Group Chief Photographer at Mirror Group Newspapers and is the only working press photographer to be awarded fellowships from both the Royal Photographic Society and the British Institute of Professional Photographers. To date, Maloney has collected 96 major photographic awards including Press Photographer of the Year three times. He is in fact the most highly awarded photographer in the UK. He has mingled with the powerful and the famous including dinner in the Kremlin with President Gorbachev, dinner at the White House with President Regan, lunch in Monte Carlo with Grace Kelly and dinner with Jaki Onassis in New York. Maloney has informed on tape that in the 1970's he was covering a couple of movies at the Disney Corporation in California. While dining with the head of the Disney studios Maloney was introduced to 4 of the original Disney animators. While chatting with them he was introduced to another person who in turn invited him to the viewing of some most unusual films. He was invited to this mans house which had an old projector. On the screen came film clips of UFOs and, you guessed it, scenes from the alien autopsy. It was 16mm film and these films were not created by Disney or anyone else for that matter. They were the genuine article. Maloney claims to have seen other reels of film from the same batch rather than exactly the same scenes in the Santilli film. He has no doubt though that they are of the same thing. We asked him whether he felt the Santilli film was a fake ? "I am convinced Philip, it's not a fake. It am convinced it's not a hoax." Perhaps one section that has been most vocally against the authenticity of the film has been Special Effects experts. Most, but not all, are convinced that we are dealing with rubber and latex and not flesh and blood. Again, our research has brought us into contact with many FX experts and their expert testimony cannot be ignored.

ROB TOWNSHEND

One recent such FX expert to comment on the film is Rob Townshend. Townshend has been

working on the blockbuster movie 'Lord of the Rings' in New Zealand although he is from the UK. Having an interest in the UFO subject he happened across our book 'BEYOND ROSWELL' in New Zealand and he has had these comments to say regarding the 'Alien Autopsy' film. " As for the alien itself, this would be a huge undertaking for the special make-up effects crew. I have spent quite some time thinking over many ways that this could be created. Once the look of the creature had been established it is then a fairly standard procedure to build. From the completed moulds its outer skin and all other internal anatomy can be made. For most its outer skin and 'guts' gelatine could and would make a very realistic and organic appearance. It would also behave like flesh as it can be tinted to what ever colour is needed and has the translucent quality of real skin and flesh. There are many materials available to the effects artist, gelatine and its formula's have been around and in use in the film industry for many years, also it would be one of the most cost effective options in terms of part of the materials budget.Having been asked over the years to supply horror and gore effects it is a point to note that the "real thing" on film and in life for that matter, looks like a badly made dummy. About 10 years ago I supplied the make-up effects for a film titled 'Seven Days under Mavis'. It told the true story of a macabre depiction of love in the autumn years. The bond between a married couple is tested in the extreme when Mavis collapses and dies on her husband pinning him to the floor for a week. I made all the prosthetic body bits to loo real with the colour being matched and yet it looked fake. I had to redo the cosmetic look of the make-up so that it would 'read' better on film so it looked 'cool'. Here was decomposition make-up copied from life (or death for that matter) and yet it still looked fake. The point I'm making is that the Santilli creature could very well be real due to the fact that it does tend to behave in the way a real cadaver would". Special effects experts like Mr Townshend and other can only base their opinions on what they see on the film and no one can be sure which one of them is right and which one wrong. If the film is a hoax then what did Stone and Maloney see and why has no one involved in its creation yet stepped forward ?

Not knowing what our research would uncover has indeed dealt us a few surprises. A former US Army Sergeant who observed the film on a US military base in 1969, the UK's highest award winning professional photographer views other scenes from the film in the 1970's in the USA, the film technician confirms it was on 16mm film before he transferred it on to video, and a UK special effects artist disagreeing with many of his colleagues and stating on the record for the first time that the creature could well be a real cadaver.

BACK WITH SANTILLI

But what of Ray Santilli, after all, he is the man who started all of this controversy in the first place. In August of 2001 I caught up with him and interviewed him on tape for the first time in many years. I asked Santilli if he stuck to his story of how he obtained the film, " Yes I do. Absolutely. There's no reason to change it because the story is the truth". Santilli went it to state yet again that he believes the cameraman's story and that he is hopeful that either the cameraman or members of his family will eventually go public. Until they do, Santilli will not reveal his identity. The film is housed in Europe and Santilli and his colleagues are not against releasing the remainder of the film to A TV company should they receive the right offer. Santilli did however impart some further information that he had not previously made public as far as I'm aware. I asked him if he had any other film that he had not shown or discussed with anyone. He told me " Well the only film that most people want to have access to, and I think it will probably have more interest to the UFO community, is obviously the footage from the debris site itself. There are many reels

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and pieces of film that haven't been examined yet even by us, you know that is something that can be commercialised at a later date. We've always made it clear that we have many reels of film and that some of it is relevant and some of it is not. Some of it has got material on the film that does not relate to the alien but helps to qualify the period of time and what the cameraman was doing during those few weeks". And what does Santilli himself believe the film depicts. " I think there are only 2 possibilities. One is that it is the real thing, that this creature is from a vehicle that comes from another world, or the other explanation is that it was an experiment that was being conducted by the Americans in that area after the war using German expertise and shows some kind of biological experiment and that the creature is a deformed or created creature for the purpose of testing secret weapons. In my opinion these are the only 2 possibilities". While most UFO researchers and members of the public alike have assigned the 'Alien Autopsy' film to the hoax bin, this short article has shown that it is not as clear cut as some would have you believe. The comments from Salas, Maloney and Townshend are published here for the very first time and this article only represents the tip of the iceberg as far as on-going research into the film is concerned. Myself and my colleague Tim Matthews have compiled all of research into one tome entitled 'Alien Autopsy Inquest' (contact from publishers welcomed) and our literary agent in the USA is busying himself as we speak in trying to find us the correct publisher. Until then research into the film will continue.

INFORMATION REQUEST

If anyone has any information concerning Ray Santilli's controversial 'Alien Autopsy' film I would like to hear from them. You can contact me in confidence via: Philip Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, England, WF17 7SW. E-mail: philipmantle@email.com

About the author:

Philip Mantle is the former Director of Investigations for the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and MUFON Representative for England. An international lecturer and broadcaster he is the co-author of 'Without Consent' and 'Beyond Roswell'.

More information concerning the 'Alien Autopsy' film can be located on the Alien Autopsy Archive section of our web site at: www.beyondroswell.com

Editors note: more information on the film can also be found at the Society Of Operating Cameraman's website here:

http://www.soc.org/opcam/a_autopsy/alienautopsy.html

Eye On AURORA

Flight of Fancy? **By Geoff Richardson.**

"We heard Aurora two days in a row – you can almost feel it beating against your chest more than you actually hear it – you feel the pulsation on your body. It's like one of the lowest notes on a pipe organ, about thirty-two cycles per second. Once you have heard it you will never forget it, it's very low and very, very loud. Bob Lazar told me he had seen it – he was on a bus with opaque windows when he first heard it".

So spoke Area 51 observer Walt Andrews, describing his encounter with a mystical hypersonic craft developed by Lockheed and flight tested at Area 51 – reputedly the home of crashed or captured UFOs and reverse engineering. According to Ben Goodall, an Andrews' co-observer, "I called Ben Rich (the former head of Lockheed's top secret development site – Skunk Works) just before he died and he told me he was disappointed in the mach 12

Aurora because of its incredible fuel consumption (liquid methane)". Chuck Clark, who replaced Glenn Campbell as Arch expert on all things Area 51, claims to have seen Aurora, remarking "I even saw Aurora taking off one night in February 1994 and I managed to videotape it through a telescope with a five hundred millimetre f4 lens coupled via a c-ring to a high-eight digital video camera with five hundred and twenty scan lines and that is better than T.V."

Clark also remarked that when the Military reveal the existence of the craft his video tape will also be revealed – until then it is in safe keeping. However, Aurora has not only been seen in the wastelands of Nevada but, in effect, in many other parts of the World. A spate of sightings of dark triangular craft over Belgium in the late 1980s was explained away as the U.S. Military testing their new Top secret aircraft. Initially described as stealth but when this was obviously not so, Aurora provided an ideal solution. Another wave of sightings (this time Boomerang shaped craft) in the Hudson Valley resulted in similar opinions being made. Web sites appeared on the Internet dedicated to Aurora – artistic impressions of this illusive craft became available and it is also alleged that R.A.F. Machrihanish in Scotland (regarded by some as the U.K.'s Area 51) is hosting the hypersonic craft. Indeed, Aurora has been test flown over the North Sea, along the East coast of the U.K. in 1989 – according to a qualified witness.

But just what caused the initial interest in this fascinating aircraft?

The original reference to Aurora was a censor's error in a military budget relating to a request for production funding in 1985 – some person with a very observant eye picked it up and the quest began.

But apart from the investigations and observations made by apparent UFO experts, who else could possibly throw some light on the matter? Is there any other source of reference to who we can look for definitive evidence regarding the reality of Aurora? Perhaps the man himself Ben R. Rich – the former head of Lockheed's Skunk Works - had something to say in the matter. In his book – Skunk Works – Ben Rich writes, "A young colonel working in the Air Force "black program" office at the Pentagon, named Buzz Carpenter, arbitrarily assigned the code name "Aurora" to an article of funding. Somehow this name leaked out during congressional appropriation hearings, the media picked up the Aurora item in the budget, and the rumour surfaced that it was a top secret project assigned to the Skunk Works – to build a hypersonic plane.

That story persists to this day even though Aurora was the code name for the B2 competition funding. Although I expect few in the media to believe me, there is no code name for the hypersonic plane, because it simply does not exist".

Words that have "the ring of truth"!

No wonder that, after almost twenty years, all we have are artistic impressions of this hypersonic craft. The concept of an incredibly powerful, fast aircraft linked to Area 51 and the possibility of reverse engineering is indeed a fascinating subject - but in the case of Aurora a futile one. But has this endless and futile search for the mythical Aurora caused any harm? Of course it has – the subject of UFOlogy is difficult and complex enough without the addition of false and time consuming information.

The regular sightings of "Black Triangles", for instance, can easily be explained away - "it must have been Aurora". Even though Black Triangles have capabilities that are very much outside our current technological envelope – it is easy and convenient to make Aurora "fit the bill". Also, the hours spent in researching, hypothesising and writing about Aurora must be incalculable. Not least the false statements made by some relating to Ben Rich and his opinions of this hypersonic craft. The incessant search for this mythical craft surely must stop and then, perhaps, the World of UFOlogy will make a step closer to the truth.

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EYE ON THE STRANGE CASE OF CPT. THOMAS MANTELL Jr.

By Paul Urbahns
PRESIDENT, ANCESTRAL TRAILS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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In this issue we examine a unique piece of Fort Knox history, which deals with the death of Captain Thomas F. Mantell, Jr. and is based on official documents, but those files were based on human interpretation of the facts. Captain Mantell was considered a "hero" according to Courier Journal newspaper reports of the day.

A graduate of Louisville Male High School entered the Air Force soon after his graduation. He took part in the invasion of Normandy and numerous other missions. Mantell was one of the first flyers to cross the Cherbourg Peninsula on D-Day. He won the distinguished Flying Cross for services over Holland. Enemy fire severed the rudder and elevator controls and set fire to the tail sections while the plane was 100 miles from the target. Mantell succeeded in completing his mission and getting plane and crew home safely. Mantell separated from the Air Force about a year before the incident we are studying here and since that time had been associated with the Kentucky Air National Guard.

In the little town of Maysville, Kentucky, on January 7, 1948 at approximately 1400 hours, a number of people saw a strange-looking object in the sky. Similar to the opening credits of the old Superman television show, the people looked heavenly in amazement. But unlike the television series, the witnesses could not identify what they saw. These were post World War 2 years and many people were still concerned about attack by foreign countries. Anything unusual was noted and discussed. The Kentucky State Police were called and reports were made.

Meanwhile, other reports of the same craft started pouring in from a variety of locations, describing the unknown craft in similar terms: It was round, between 250 and

300 feet in diameter, metallic in colour and glowing brightly. Many informants contended it was moving westward at "a pretty good clip". Members of the Kentucky State Police confirmed the sighting of an unusual aircraft or object flying through the air. This in turn was reported to the Commanding Officer, Godman Field, Fort Knox, Kentucky. The Commander in turn called the Godman Tower and ask them to have Flight Service check with Flight Test at Wright Field (now Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) to see if they had any experimental aircraft in that area.

Captain Hooper, at Flight Test Operations stated, "We have no experimental aircraft in that area, however, we do have a B-29 and an A-26 on photo missions in that area. "By this time the personnel at Godman Tower had seen the object in question and reported "...a disc or balloon, or some strange object was seen hovering in the vicinity of Godman Field" according to the report filed by Captain Arthur T. Jehli, Shift Supervisor. The object was seen by both the Commanding Officer, Col. Guy F. Hix, and Captain Gary W. Carter, Operations Officer of Godman Field, who advised they would attempt to send aircraft to ascertain the size and shape of the object. PFC Stanley Oliver, who was on duty that afternoon in the Control Tower, stated, "I saw the object but thought I was imagining I saw it." Oliver looked again and stated, "...to me it had the resemblance of an ice cream cone topped with red."

This is where the story turns into a case of being in the wrong place at the wrong



time. We will quote fairly heavily from Captain Jehli's report because it is probably the most complete chronological account of the events of that day. Additional information from other sources will continue to be inserted where necessary to fill in the gaps and will be identified as such.

Captain Jehli's report continues. "At this time there was a flight of 4 P-51's enroute from Marietta Georgia to Standiford Field, Louisville, Kentucky. The lead ship was NG3869, pilot Mantell. The Commanding Officer, Godman Field contacted this pilot and requested that he investigate the object overhead."

The P-51 was a propeller driven airplane commonly referred to as a "Mustang". Actually, contact was made by Tech. Sergeant Quinton A. Blackwell, another eye witness and chief operator in the Control Tower, who reported about the P-51's, "As they passed over the tower I called them on "B" channel, VHF and asked the flight leader, NG 3869, if he had enough gas and if so, would he mind trying to identify an object in the sky to the South of Godman Field. He replied in the affirmative...."

By this time reports of sightings were coming in from other communities such as Irvington, Kentucky.

"One of the ships in the formation NG336 pilot Hendrichs, landed at Standiford Field, the other 3 aircraft started to climb toward the object."

According to the report filed by Capt. James F. Duesler, Jr., another eyewitness of the object over Godman Field, Captain Mantell "reported his position at 7,500 feet and climbing. Immediately following the Flight Leader's transmission, another member of the Flight asked "Where in the hell are we going?" In a few minutes the Flight Leader called out an object "twelve o'clock high." Asked to describe this object, he said that it was bright and that it was climbing away from him.

When asked about its speed, the Flight leader stated it was going about half his speed, approximately 180 MPH."

Tech Sgt. Blackwell's statement quotes the flight member's (identified as a wing man) question as, "What the Hell are we looking for?" the reports agree on Mantell's reply.

"At 22,000 feet pilot Hammond, NG 737, advised Clements, NG 800, that he had no oxygen equipment. Both pilots then returned to Standiford Field; pilot Mantell, NG 3869, continued climbing.

Tech Sgt Blackwell's statement quoted Mantell as saying, "I'm still climbing, the object is above and ahead of me moving at about my speed or faster. I'm trying to close in for a better look."

"Pilot Clements, NG800, refuelled and went back up to 32,000 feet but did not see either the strange object or the aircraft NG3869 again, and so returned to Standiford Field."

Starting to sound like an alien abduction, doesn't it? Well that was not to be Captain Mantell's fate that day.

"At 1750 Eastern Time, Standiford Field advised that NG3869, pilot Mantell, crashed 5 miles SW Franklin, Kentucky at approximately 1645 Central Time."

Godman then notified Maxwell Flight Service Centre that Mantell's plane had crashed. Maxwell Flight Service Centre in turn made a long distance telephone call to Franklin Kentucky and spoke to police officer Joe Walker. It was officer Walker that took charge at the scene of the accident.

According to Captain Jehli's report, "Officer Walker stated that when he arrived the pilot's body had been removed from the aircraft. Upon questioning eye witnesses, Officer Walker learned that the aircraft had exploded in the air before it hit the ground, but, that the aircraft did not burn upon contact with the ground. The wreckage was scattered over an area of about one mile, and at that time the tail sec-

tion, one wing, and the propeller had not been located."

There you have the basic facts and circumstances surrounding the death of Captain Thomas Mantell, the first recorded casualty due to a UFO.

Most of the information in this article comes from declassified Air Force Operation Blue Book reports. Operation Blue Book was established in 1947 (under the name Project Sign) by the government to investigate reports of unexplained phenomenon during those years of post-war nerves.

Blue Book officers were stationed at every Air Force base in the nation. They were responsible for investigating all reported sightings of UFOs; to determine whether UFOs pose any security threat to the United States; and to

determine if UFOs exhibit any advanced technology which the U.S. could utilize. Blue Book headquarters was at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, but the bulk of the investigations was interpreted by field officers. The results of this investigation led officials to determine that most people see not extraterrestrial spacecraft, but bright stars, balloons, satellites, comets, fireballs, conventional aircraft, moving clouds, vapour trails, missiles, reflections, mirages, searchlights, birds, kites, spurious radar indications, fireworks, or flares.

What was this large glowing object seen by hundreds of people "hovering over Godman Field"? Was Captain Mantell "shot down" by an alien spaceship? Were the citizens of Maysville, Irvington, Madisonville, and Owensboro, Kentucky crazy for seeing the object. What about the sanity of the Godman Field eyewitnesses?

Captain Arthur T. Jehli, Shift Supervisor at Godman; Col. Guy F. Hix, Commanding Officer; Captain Gary W. Carter, Operations Officer at Godman; Captain James F. Duesler, Jr.; Tech Sergeant Quinton A. Blackwell, chief operator in the Control Tower; and PFC Stanley Oliver all gave statements as to the object they eye witnessed that day. Were these airfield professionals duped?

The Courier Journal reported on January 9, 1948, "Chase for Flying Disk Blamed In Crash Death". The newspaper reported Mantell was following something described as a "star" by fellow flyers.

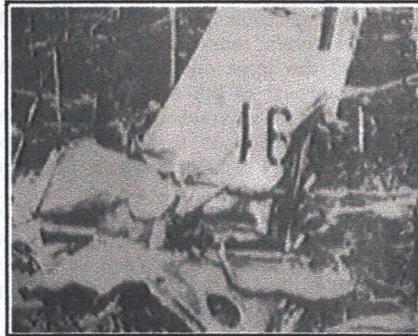
To add more questions to the puzzle, in addition to the sighting involving Captain Mantell, the statement signed by Captain Jehli included the following:

"So much for the accident - now hold on to your hat!"

"Godman Tower again contacted us to report that there was a large light in the sky in the approximate position of the object seen earlier. Then Lockborne Tower and Clinton County Tower advised a great ball of light was travelling southwest across the sky....."

"Later we received a call from St. Louis Tower advising that a great ball of light was passing directly over the field - Scott Tower also verified this. We then received a call from Air Defence Command through Olmstead Flight Service Centre advising us to alert Coffeyville, Kansas, Ft Smith, Arkansas and Kansas City Missouri, and they plotted the object as moving WSW at 250 miles per hour."

You can see the description of the second object is radically different that the object Captain Mantell was chasing.



The Blue Book investigators in their final report on the Godman Field activities took information from four incidents reported on January 7, 1948 numbered 30, 33 (Godman Field); 32; 48; and considered them as one investigation.

Based on their investigation, the Blue Book report states, "...all these times and bearing agree closely with the time and place of the setting of Venus.

" The stellar magnitude of Venus on January 7, was - 3.4 which makes it 30 times brighter than the bright star Arcturus."

Justification for this conclusion continued with three reasons: First, Venus shining through clouds could very easily give the effect of a flaming object with a tail. Second, the motion of clouds past the object (Venus) could give the illusion of rapid movement. Finally, a third though admittedly remote possibility, according to the report, is based on a rarely-observed phenomenon, is that owing to thermo-inversions in the atmosphere, stars near the horizon have been known to jump about erratically through arcs of two or three times the moon's apparent diameter. Venus, when very close to the horizon, has been known to twinkle brilliantly with rapidly changing colours."

Needless to say, the "official" government explanation that Captain Mantell lost his life chasing Venus did not set well with locals or the national interest this case caused. It was widely reported in many early UFO books as an example of a government cover-up.

The report of Captain Jehli stated "The Military Police at the scene of the accident called back and advised Godman Field that someone in Madisonville, Kentucky had observed, through a Finch telescope, an object described as a cone shaped , 100 feet from top to bottom, 43 feet across, and 4 miles high proceeding SW at 10 miles per hour."

You may remember PFC Stanley Oliver's description from the first article in this series, that the object appeared to resemble "an ice cream cone topped with red".

"St. Louis ATC advised of an article printed in the "Edwardsville Intelligencer," Edwardsville, Illinois, describing an object, over the town at 07200, of aluminium appearance without apparent wings or

control surfaces which was moving southwest."

Another report, apparently ignored by investigators, was from Dr. Seyfert, an astronomer at Vanderbilt University, that had spotted an object SSE of Nashville, Tennessee that he identified as " a pear shaped balloon with cables and a basket attached, moving first South Southeast, then West, at a speed of 10 miles per hour at 25,000 feet."

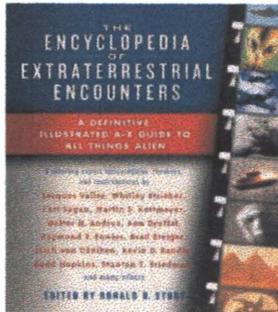
Does this sound like the planet Venus to you?

What the government did not acknowledge in their conclusions was that there was such an object over Godman Field on January 7th that fit that and the descriptions of other airfield professionals that witnessed that days events.

Declassified at this time, we now know, almost fifty years later, about a large balloon used for high altitude experimental flights and known as "sky hooks." Sky Hook balloons fly at altitudes in excess of 60,000 feet and reach diameters of approximately 100 feet.

During the period of this sighting at Godman Field, the Navy was conducting a program utilizing "sky hook" balloons. The Navy program was classified at that time.

It was subsequently determined that on the date of the Godman sighting a



EYE ON REVIEWS by Gary Anthony

A Book and CD ROM Review by Gary Anthony
'The Encyclopedia of Extraterrestrial Encounters' Edited by Ronald D. Story
 New American Library Publications 2001 (\$19 US). Available from http://www.ronaldstory.com/ronald_story.htm

A weighty compilation of nearly 700 pages, featuring alphabetical articles by various authors on a multitude of cases and aspects of the UFO phenomenon with 'expert speculations and theories.' Interesting inclusions will grab anyone, whether clued in to UFOs or not, one of these comprises the 'alien gallery' which hosts illustrations of 'alleged ET's in all their artistic glory and another is the 'apocalyptic thought connected with UFOs and ETs' and 'Parallel Time Line spanning 60 years of UFO history' to mention just a few. Another prominent feature are the 'position statements' on entries for the 'UFOlogically' famous and controversial - telling what Fred Bloggs currently thinks of the UFO topic at the moment.

Continued on page 21



balloon was released by the Navy from Clinton County airport in Ohio. The release time of the balloon was related to a wind plot for 7 January 1948, and it revealed that the balloon would have been in the area of Godman at the time of the sightings. It is the (Air Technical Information Command) opinion that Captain Mantell lost consciousness due to oxygen starvation, the aircraft being trimmed continued to climb until increasing altitude caused a sufficient loss of power for it to level out. The aircraft then began a turn to the left due to torque and as the wing drooped so did the nose until the aircraft was in a tight diving spiral. The uncontrolled descent resulted in excessive speed causing the aircraft to disintegrate. It is believed that Captain Mantell never regained consciousness. This is born out by the fact that the canopy lock was still in place after the crash, discounting any attempt to abandon the aircraft.

The object pursued by Captain Mantell is believed to have been the "sky hook" balloon and this was probably the object seen by other eye witnesses and described as pear shaped and metallic. Numerous books are available at local public libraries on the UFO Phenomenon and contain references to the Mantell Case. Modern books as a rule do not mention it as much as older books because a satisfactory explanation has been presented for the incident. The Mantell Case was also presented on the syndicated television series, "Sightings", which is currently aired on the SCI-FI Channel. Though explained, the events almost fifty years ago at Godman Field on Fort Knox still present an interesting and unique slant on the history of our area. Captain Mantell's place in history is assured whenever the subject of UFO's is discussed.
 ANCESTRAL TRAILS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 ANCESTRAL NEWS - WINTER 1998.

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EYE ON REVIEWS by Gary Anthony

Continued from page 20
 UFO topic at the moment. But my personal favourite is undoubtedly the brief book note entries, if there's a UFO book you are thinking of reading there may be an entry in 'The Encyclopedia of Extraterrestrial Encounters' (TEOEE) worth checking out - this also covers now out of print titles and gives brief synoptic details of the contents of these books. The whole book is a massive revision of the original 'The Encyclopedia of UFOs' done by Doubleday 1980, compare this new version with the other of 21 years and you may find this book even more fascinating. TEOEE is perhaps one of the most accessible books on the UFO phenomenon and tries, sometimes earnestly, to cover all bases and ranks easily alongside Jerome Clark's 'The UFO Book' for sheer indulgence and content - which is a fair lot. The reader will not be bored going through many of the pertinent articles, although the more UFO research minded reader may be surprised by several entries. If you are new to the subject this is an ideal introduction and it also has enough curious content to occupy the already tainted. Ronald Story has brought together a very tantalising montage packed with illustrations and original sketches and photographs. There is a wealth of information that will direct devotee and newcomer, not only to relevant literature on the topic but even to the author or source themselves, as the author has gone to considerable trouble in including the authors email or mail addresses wherever possible, a very good idea for putting UFO research within the grasp of the ordinary person. There's a web page index provided at the rear where the few sites included encapsulate a 'spirit of the UFO phenomenon' which at first appearance seems predominantly ETH oriented, however a second glance at the sites link sections and content may take you online to many other 'UFOlogically' related web locations. For those not bothered by Internet buying or wanting to go to the trouble of sending overseas to America for the book, do not panic I am informed an English version under the stable of Constable and Robinson will publish the U.K. edition in August

2002, under the title: "The Mammoth Encyclopedia of Extraterrestrial Encounters." The CD ROM version has much more on offer, especially for those who can't



seem to shy away from the computer and resort to more antiquated methods of reading. It is also excellent value at only \$9.99 (works out less than £10.00) and believe it or not this includes price and postage to anywhere in the world. The book on CD ROM and images come in Adobe PDF format, with fully searchable features, useful for locating that bit you couldn't remember the article of.

This is a must reference work for anyone into UFOs, especially if you don't have a copy of Ronald Story's earlier encyclopedia. I would give it a 9 plus, and though it stands alone, I would venture that if read in conjunction with books like 'UFOs and Popular Culture' by James R Lewis, 'Other Worlds' by Hilary Evans and 'UFOs & UFOlogy' by Peter Brookesmith and Paul Devereux, this would place a formidable amount of knowledge of the topic into the hands of any enquirer. Go and buy it or the CD ROM, or lose out on probably the most informative and best value book and CD of last year. Else invest in the English version due out this summer.

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• **SPI & BUFORA MEETINGS FOR**
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• VENUE: The Sols Arms, 65-68 Hampstead Road, London, NW1 2PN. (Near Euston Tower).

• Saturday 16th March. Roy Lake, London UFO Cases: (Also) Steve Gerrard: A Lifetime In UFOlogy & David Sherrif, 'UFOs Explained'.

• Saturday 13th April. Maxine Pearson, The Truth About Remote Viewing.

• Saturday 11th May. Carol Cochrane, Crop Circles & Encoded Information.

• SPI & BUFORA cannot be held responsible for the cancellation of a speaker, should this occur, we will ensure an alternative speaker is arranged. For further information on the above meetings, please contact; Malcolm Robinson, 41 Castlebar Road, Ealing, London, England, W5 2DJ. Tel: (Home) 020 8998 4936. (Mobile) 07949 178 835). SPI Web Site: www.fsreview.net/spi/spihome.htm

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The Grimsby UFO Flap

April - May 2000

A Special Report by G. Anthony & C. Evers



A Detailed investigative colour report into the strange events of April to May of 2000. Written by those that investigated the details and interviewed the witnesses.

Gary Anthony became an Accredited Investigator for BUFORA in 1986 after making an observation of a UFO while out pursuing his astronomical hobby. He has since been a feature editor for 'UFO Times' and was an astronomical consultant to BUFORA from 1990 - 1995 running the Astronomical Reference Point Project. Gary was also an investigator for the Independent UFO Network (IUN) and was a contributor to 'UFO Brigantia' and Northern UFO News (NUFON). Gary, like myself, is an associate member of the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS), he is also member of the UFO Investigations Network (UFOIN) and is currently researching aspects relating to alleged 'alien languages' and symbols to be professionally analysed by experts in various fields including linguistics and cryptography. Gary has investigated UFO sightings in the Hull and East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire regions and nationally for over fifteen years and his interest in UFOlogy has taken him and his researches into other countries.

Chris Evers interest in UFOlogy began in 1973 after sighting a UFO which subsequently led him to read books by von Daniken, Keyhoe and Le Poer Trench. Since then Chris has followed reports of UFO's in the Hull and East Yorkshire region with great interest and in 1994, after investigating a controversial local case, he became a representative for 'UFO Magazine' and started his own newsletter & web site, called 'Faster Than Light' focusing on aspects of UFOlogy and the paranormal. In 1996 with the help of colleagues, he founded the Hull UFO Society (HUFOS), as a focal point for local people's involvement in UFOlogy and in 1997 organised his first successful mini conference in this endeavour. Chris is now an associate member of the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS) and continues to interview noted ufologists and witnesses in his researches.

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