

WE'RE BACK! THE MAGAZINE FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO THINK DIFFERENTLY

SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

WHERE YOUR SEARCH FOR ANSWERS BEGIN

VOL.1 #8

THE UAP TASK FORCE

What exactly is the role of the new Pentagon investigation into UFOs?

'OFF-WORLD VEHICLES'

Our in-depth discussion about the revelations in the recent New York Times articles

#SAVE

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

Flying Saucers! Russian spies! Secret Black Projects! We talk with tv series creator David O'Leary and what the future holds for Hynek and Quinn

REMOTE VIEWING

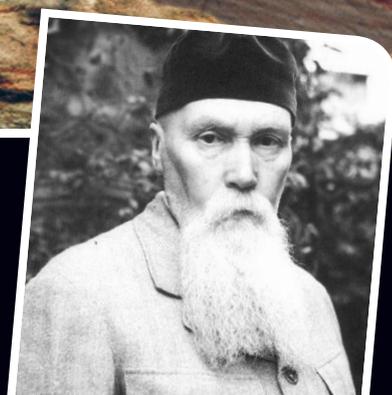
Walking through the basics with Tracey Garbutt Dolan

NICHOLAS ROERICH

The artist who went looking for the mythical Shambhala

LUIS BARROSO FERNANDES

A case of UFO interaction which ended in tragedy



WELCOME



“This is pretty big news, it’s important to know. And that’s why I’m bothering telling you so.”

Dr. Seuss’ Sleep Book (1962)

I’m not even going to pretend I know where the last two months have gone. I had just finished the last issue, put my feet up for a cup of tea and then it was September! Time seems to be moving a helluva lot quicker than it used to, and so does the drip-feed of ‘official’ UAP information. No sooner had we finished aforementioned cup of tea than two news articles dropped in *The New York Times* which heavily suggested that the US government had in its possession crashed vehicles ‘not made on this Earth’. That was pretty big news (hence the Dr. Seuss quote above from my daughter’s favourite book!) and is the focus of one of our features this issue, as we invited some friends of the magazine to weigh in with their thoughts - you can read that on **page 46**.

In other related news the US Department of Defense also confirmed a new **UAP Task Force** would be doing proper investigations and relaying their findings to the public. What form that information will take, or whether they’ll dust off the old *Project Blue Book UFO Explanation Handbook*, we will hopefully find out sooner than later. If you don’t know what the UAPTF is yet, then head over to **page 40** where a new contributor, Warren Price, tries to boil it down for everyone.

Talking of **Project Blue Book**, there’s our cover feature, an interview with David O’Leary on **page 28**, the talented creator of the hit TV series which brought the name J. Allen Hynek into mainstream public consciousness. Having been cancelled after two seasons, a mass online campaign began, **#SaveBlueBook**, to get it renewed began and we are throwing our weight behind that to find the show a new home.

Elsewhere, we have a fascinating introduction to remote viewing with **Tracey Garbutt Dolan**. We also have a great feature on the Russian artist **Nicholas Roerich**, who went looking for the mythical city of Shambhala. And then there’s two contrasting sides to alien abduction cases too. One tragic, the other... well you’ll see.

Finally, I just want to thank everybody for the amazing reception to the magazine’s return. With the exception of a handful of submitted articles, for which I am truly grateful, I do this passion project by myself for the most part. It’s a hard slog at times, but sharing this information to like-minded people like you, with no thought of reward, it’s totally worth it. We’re all in this together and it’s a good time to be involved in this subject.

Dave Partridge, Editor

What’s floated our boat recently

Somewhere In The Skies (2nd edition)

Ryan Sprague

Lovecraft Country

Sky Atlantic/HBO

Unidentified Season 2

History Channel UK

Wonders In The Sky

Jacques Vallée/Chris Aubek

Missing 411: The Hunted

Amazon Prime

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SPARE A CUP OF COFFEE?

This magazine has always been free to download and free to read. However, it does take a lot of time and effort to produce every issue. If you would like to donate a cup of coffee so I can stay awake for those long distance interviews in the small hours, that would be amazing.



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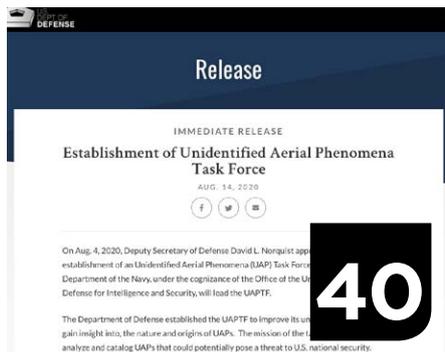
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p70 ©Fer Gregory/Shutterstock

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NEWS ROUND-UP

GET INVOLVED

Have an opinion on any of our features? Is there a topic you want to see covered? Get in touch below



A round-up of the latest news you may have missed....

US SPACE FORCE AND NASA IN SATELLITE LINK-UP

The CHPS project was recently announced to design and launch a satellite capable of tracking objects heading to Earth.

The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) is designing a pathfinder satellite to find and track objects in the vast area of cislunar space, as well as those orbiting the Moon, says Col. Eric Felt, head of AFRL's Space Vehicles Directorate.

"Its mission will be to find fix and track attract objects that are out there near the Moon that might not otherwise be known, and just in general mature our confidence in being able to operate in that region since we don't have a lot of satellites that have been up in that region before," Felt explained.

In a presentation at the annual AMOS space situational awareness (SSA) conference on Friday, Felt called the region of space stretching between the outer edges of Earth's orbit to the outer edges of the Moon's orbit (the most comprehensive definition of cislunar space) a "cone of shame" because the US has little ability to monitor space objects there.

"What we need to do is learn how we can keep track of those things because we have commercial operators and our peer competitors operating up there. So, we certainly need to maintain domain awareness," he said.

AFRL's Cislunar Highway Patrol System — or CHPS, pronounced 'chips,' - will be a small satellite orbiting near the Moon, he said:



"We then want CHPS to be able to tip and queue other assets, whether they be on the surface of the Earth or other assets in space, to make sure we can maintain custody of assets that are of high interest."

Space Force chief Gen. Jay Raymond and NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine spoke at the Mitchell Institute on September 22 about the effort, which will "include support for human spaceflight, emerging space transportation, standards and best practices for safe operations in space, scientific research, and planetary defense," according to NASA's press release.

The Space Force operates an assortment of radar and optical telescopes that, while aimed at keeping tabs on enemy satellites, also track asteroids coming close to the Earth. **For the full article click here.**

666: NO LONGER THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST

To the great relief, or great disappointment, depending on which way you draw your cross, the number long associated with Satan himself, 666, has been sanctified and is no longer considered evil.

According to ancient-origins.net it has transpired that the 'number of the beast' was actually pointing at the number of animals which were sacrificed in sacred ceremonial offerings in the Old Testament. The number of animals was said to be indicative to secret calendrical knowledge which pointed to a predicted Messiah.

We now eagerly await the inclusion of Iron Maiden's classic hit *Number Of The Beast* to the hymn sheets.

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OUR NEIGHBOURING PLANETS SHOW SIGNS OF LIFE

Organic molecules in the clouds of Venus, large bodies of liquid under the Martian South Pole, it seems that life may be everywhere.



©Vadim Sadovski/Shutterstock

Unless your were hiding under a rock these past couple of weeks you couldn't have missed the news that scientists have discovered possible signs of life in the acidic clouds of our sister planet, Venus. A rare, toxic gas known as Phosphine (PH₃) was first detected by an international team of researchers led by Professor Jane Greaves of the University of Cardiff, Wales nearly two years ago, but the results weren't confirmed until earlier this year.

While it's not absolute confirmation of extraterrestrial life in our solar system, the fact that PH₃ has actually been detected has caused something of a stir. Here on Earth, the only way that PH₃ can exist is through the decaying of organic matter - which gives it a foul rotting fish odour; it can be created by anaerobic organisms such as bacteria or microbes and is found in penguin guano. The only other way it can form is by chemical synthesis in a laboratory setting. Now last time we checked, there were no labs on Venus.

However the team caution that there is no way to know exactly what the findings mean, concluding that the detection "is not robust evidence for life, only for anomalous and unexplained chemistry". On the plus side

they have ruled out all other explanations based on what we know about the planet. "Either phosphine is produced by some sort of chemical or geological process that no one knows about - or there could be a biological reason," said Emily Drabek-Maunder, an astrophysicist from the Royal Observatory Greenwich and an author on the paper.

Meanwhile on Mars... A major new study using similar techniques to those used to study lakes beneath Antarctica has detected several liquid bodies under the south pole of the Red Planet. A research team, led by Professor Elena Pettinelli from Roma Tre University, were able to analyse data from the Mars Advanced Radar for Subsurface and Ionosphere Sounding (MARSIS) using these techniques and confirmed that it indicated large areas of 'hypersaline solutions'.

"The main lake is surrounded by smaller bodies of liquid water, but because of the technical characteristics of the radar, and of its distance from the Martian surface, we cannot conclusively determine whether they are interconnected," said Professor Pettinelli in a statement. Could these vast lakes hold life? Only one way to find out...

LARGE MYSTERY PAW PRINTS IN SCOTLAND

Police called in to search after possible big cat sightings

It's not unusual to hear reports of big cats roaming the Scottish Highlands, it's a big place and largely free of people. Recently, though police and government scientists have been working together to try to identify a "mystery predator" following reports from the north coast. In November 2018 a police officer wrote to SASA (Science & Advice for Scottish Agriculture) asking for help in identifying a large paw print. They discussed the frequency of big cat reports of the past three years, mainly in the Bettyhill area of Sutherland county, an area already famous for big cat sightings. Dead or injured sheep with large bite wounds were also reported, and it's commonly thought that a large predator is responsible. While many sceptics will point to the existence of larger examples of local wildcats, the paw prints - some measuring over 7cm in length are suggestive of something bigger. There's a lot of empty space up there so who knows?

THE TOP 10 PROPERTY HOTSPOTS IN US FOR ALIEN ENCOUNTERS RELEASED

A new report by ISoldMyHouse.com conducted the research



Tucson, Arizona: Desert? Check. Mountains? Check. UFOs? Perfect.

©Chris Rubino/Shutterstock

It's one of the most important questions we have when looking for a new property. Forget what the local transport links or schools are like, or how near the local pub is, the burning question for 2020 is apparently is this area a UFO hotspot?

A 2019 national survey in the United States reported that 52% of American adults believe in the existence of extraterrestrials with almost 30% believing that Earth has been visited by our galactic visitors. This led online real estate brokers ISoldMyHouse.com to conduct its own research into the areas most likely to see extraterrestrial activity.

Using data from the National UFO Reporting Center and the website's own knowledge of current real estate prices the company researchers revealed the most affordable places in the US for UFO spotters to put down some roots. They even added a helpful interactive map to their website to help potential house buyers make their decision which you can view [here](#).

The Top 10 locations by affordability are as follows:

LOCATION	PRICE
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina	\$167,958
Columbus, Ohio	\$174,109
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	\$187,772
Houston, Texas	\$191,907
Tucson, Arizona	\$215,965
Albuquerque, New Mexico	\$216,090
Dallas, Texas	\$226,145
Orlando, Florida	\$260,915
Phoenix, Arizona	\$269,175
Mesa, Arizona	\$278,497

With an increase in the number of people reporting UFO sightings in the last few years, it might just be the right time to consider moving to one of these popular hotspots before the prices start to rise quicker than a Tic-Tac.

N-BRIEF

THE X-FILES BOOK ALL FANS HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR

Recently published by Abrams Books is one of the most exciting tv series tie-in books we've ever wanted to own. *The X-Files: The Official Archives* is a fully authorized, richly illustrated inside look into 50 of FBI Agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully's most memorable monster cases.

Authored by Paul Terry, no stranger to tv series books having also written the *Lost: Encyclopaedia* has put together every 'X-Files' dream compendium. Designed to mimic actual FBI case notes, Terry has collated autopsy reports, mug shots, lab results, handwritten notes, newspaper clippings, pages ripped from antique books on the occult, and security camera printouts - basically Mulder and Scully's case notes from their most famous cases. It also has a handy instruction guide for wannabe agents.

To buy it click here.

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SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UAP VIDEOS RELEASED ONLINE

Press release from the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies details their findings.

In April of 2020, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), in an unprecedented step, posted to their public website three videos of Unidentified Aerospace Phenomena (UAPs) obtained during military operations. These videos were already in public circulation. The impact of the publication and official classification of these videos as containing “unidentified” phenomena have made a significant and historic impact in the larger public debate on this subject. For example, based on these videos and subsequent reports and interviews of the eye-witnesses published by *The New York Times*, other news outlets, and on various television documentaries, earlier this year the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence requested an unclassified report from the Director of National Intelligence which analyzes and summarizes data from the Office of Naval Intelligence and its UAP Task Force, the FBI, and which establishes a detailed description of data collection among various federal agencies. These are the most significant¹ governmental responses to the UAP question since the establishment of Project Blue Book over 60 years ago. The Scientific Coalition for Unidentified Aerospace Phenomena Studies (SCU) applauds the official release of these data by the DoD and hopes that it might indicate a willingness to engage the public research community.

SCU's prior work related to these three videos is as follows:

- **Nov. 14, 2004** The USS Nimitz and the USS Princeton encountered a UAP off the coast of southern California. This encounter included radar contacts, an engagement by an F/A-18F, and two hours later this video was taken of a UAP. An SCU research group thoroughly analyzed the Nov. 14, 2004 video of the UAP and all publicly available data from the related incident, and produced a peer reviewed evaluation² as well as a peer reviewed scientific paper: “Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles in the 2004 Nimitz Encounter” by Knuth, Powell, and Reali³. The 3 conclusions in these papers point towards a UAP technology with capabilities exhibited that do not match any known technology in the public domain, and call for the release of additional data collected by the military during the event.



- **Jan. 26, 2015** Video known as the “Gimbal” video involving the USS Carrier Strike Group Roosevelt that was operating off the U.S. eastern coast;
- **Jan. 26, 2015** Video known as the “Go Fast” video involving the USS Carrier Strike Group Roosevelt that was operating off the U.S. eastern coast.

SCU has insufficient supporting data to develop a full analysis of either of these two videos and the surrounding events of Jan 26, 2015, and would welcome any related radar data, EM transmissions or witness testimony that could be provided by those involved with the incident.

The SCU uses scientific methods informed by validated data. We include a thorough investigation of witnesses, source channels, video recording with valid EXIF files, technical instrument data files and corroborated witness testimony, and cross-check all information back to the sources, dates and times of the incidents. From analysis of these data we generate hypotheses, recommendations and questions for further study.

The SCU believes that all unclassified technical or government data regarding unidentified aerospace objects should be made available to the public to be openly investigated by the broader scientific community. A full scientific investigation of such data would be able to uncover valuable information relating to both national security and advancement of our understanding of physics, aerospace engineering, and our world.

The SCU can be contacted **here**.

Above: The ‘Go Fast’ video taken from the USS Carrier Strike Group Roosevelt from 2015. Click to view it.

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/116/crpt/srpt233/CRPT-116srpt233.pdf>

² https://www.explorescu.org/post/nimitz_strike_group_2004

³ <https://www.mdpi.com/2504-3900/33/1/26>

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RADIO UFO

BROADCASTING ON ALL CHANNELS



THIS ISSUE: PROJECT UNITY

In a new regular feature we introduce some of the best podcasts, radio shows or YouTube channels that are covering the UFO and paranormal subject.

NAME: Jay Anderson
BASED: Nottingham, UK
PLATFORMS: YouTube
TWITTER: @ProjectUnity

“The actual channel first started something like two years ago. Prior to me even being interested in the UFO subject I’d always entertained the idea that this is a very big universe and that UFOs probably do exist. By the time I was maybe 20 years old I was trying to figure out where I was wanting to go in life and at that point I didn’t have much of a grounding in any sort of spirituality.

I read some books, which weirdly enough, really brought me out of a psychological rut and I was able to expand on different ideas and different concepts about consciousness, and that kind of led into quantum mechanics. Just a very layman’s approach to both really, but just intuitively grasping different concepts and that led to remote viewing research and digging through FOIA libraries, which then led me to find things out about UFOs at the same time, so that was the first little spark.

Then my friend introduced me to the documentary *Unacknowledged* by Steven Greer. I didn’t know who he was at the time, so I watched it and was really interested by all the military testimonials, all the people who were involved in it, and I was pretty convinced that there was something legit here so I started looking into it. I started going outside and looking up at the stars, just getting myself into a clear state of mind and essentially asking something to come by and visit me. In terms of what I saw through CE5, I had some pretty insane experiences and that catalysed my drive to make content for Project Unity.

At first I was uploading random CE5 clips that I felt were very convincing and different UFO footage, there was no real direction to it. Then I started looking into more nuts and bolts stuff, and after Richard Dolan did his ‘UFO Leak of the Century’ video about the Wilson/Davis documents I started looking at those and got really interested in that whole subject. I did a 3 hour plus breakdown analysis of those documents, with a guy who wishes to remain anonymous, and he goes

through it word for word and adds a lot of information and gives a lot of additional names that aren’t included in the document. Within 24 hours of it being online, I got in contact with Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal, they politely asked if I would be willing to take my video down for a brief period because they were looking into this for *The New York Times*. After some back and forth emails with them both, I agreed to take the video down, however my prerequisite for doing so was that I get the first interview with them both following the publication of the article.”



Click the image above to head over to Project Unity on YouTube. For more great content and channels see our Show Guide on page 44.

THE TRAGIC
CASE OF

LUIS BARROSO FERNANDES

Did a beam of light from a UFO cause the death of Luis Barroso Fernandes? Brazilian author and investigator **Thiago Luiz Ticchetti** takes a look at the evidence.

At dawn of April 3rd, 1976, one of the most impressive cases in Brazilian ufology history occurred. On this date, several residents of the city of Quixadá, Ceará, witnessed the arrival of an unidentified flying object over the city. For one of these witnesses, this case would mean much more than a simple UFO sighting, so commonplace in the region. It represented a radical change in the life of one of these witnesses. Before the sighting he was in perfect physical condition but afterwards he was struck down by an illness that no doctor diagnose.

The events of that day began around 4.30 in the morning when shooting practice took place at an outdoor physical education association which was part of the military. Those taking part all stared in amazement at the appearance of a large flying object shaped like a disk appeared out of nowhere. The disk emitted an intense bright light and was completely silent. The military personnel present thought the UFO was some sort of device launched from another nearby military installation.

At the same time as the military sighting, in another part of the city, a gentleman by the name of Luis Barroso Fernandes was preparing to travel to a location just a few kilometers from the city. He took a map, mounted his donkey and cart and said goodbye to his wife, and continued on his journey. As it was just about dawn it was still dark when he set off.

After walking for a few kilometers, Fernandes heard a buzzing sound like a swarm of bees. He looked around but saw nothing, and resolved to continue on his journey. Suddenly, a unidentified flying object about 3 meters in diameter appeared above him. Scared, Luis Barroso pulled on the reins of his donkey and stopped to watch the strange device that was now slowly descending in front of him, some 30 meters away. At that moment, the animal stepped back, seemingly frightened by the presence of the object. Suddenly, the device emitted a beam of light that struck the animal and Luis Fernandes, who immediately become paralyzed.

Now a door opened on the UFO through which came two small beings. One of them held an object similar to a flashlight, with which he aimed and fired a beam of light that struck Luis Fernandes in the face. With that, Luis Fernandes immediately lost consciousness. Upon regaining consciousness he realized that he was some distance away

THIAGO LUIZ THICHETTI

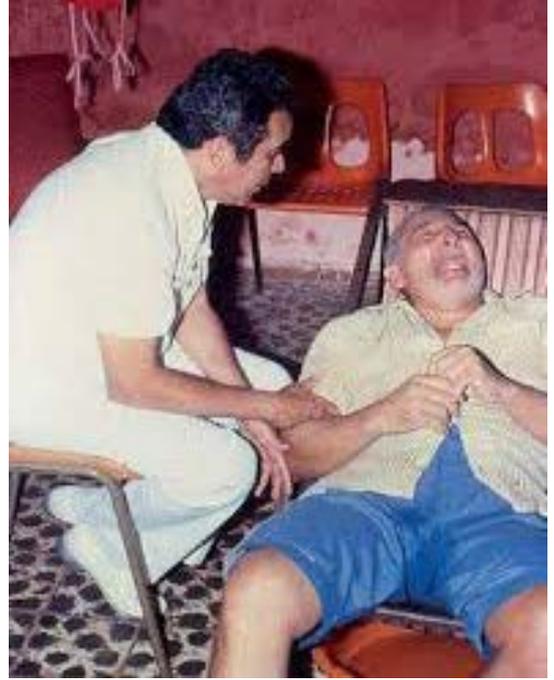
from the place where the horse and cart had stopped. He felt dizzy, he was trembling and he had a burning on his face. He also trouble breathing and had an intense headache. He noticed that the skin on his left hand side had a reddish tint to it and he struggled physically to get up and get his horse and cart moving.

Shortly after, a cowboy was passing through the area and realized that Luis Fernandes was not well and asked him what was happening. Luis asked the cowboy to take him home, where, on his arrival, he told of his extraordinary experience. Still feeling ill he asked his wife to take him to be examined by Dr. Antônio Moreira Magalhães, one of the most respected doctors in the city. Dr. Magalhães listened intently to Luis Barroso's account and although he did not believe in flying saucers at the time, he considered that something very serious must have happened to the farmer, who was well respected by all that knew him in the city. The doctor recorded all the information in the medical record and prescribed an anti-allergy drug, a tranquilizer and absolute rest for Luis.

“A few days after the encounter Luis' hair turned gray. He felt very unwell and had lapses of memory.”

When he returned home, Luis Fernandes continued to feel ill, with severe pain throughout his body. His eyes burned a lot and the left side of his body was still red. His account spread throughout the city, and several people went to the witness house to hear his story firsthand. Somehow, the news of his sighting made its way to the state capital, Fortaleza, where local radio stations and newspapers publicized the event. As a result, ufologists from the UFO Research Center in Fortaleza went to the city to investigate the encounter. The researchers found a worried Luis Fernandes, who tried to dodge interviews and photographs, asking everyone to forget about his case. Even though annoyed by the situation, Luis Fernandes's family attended to all the curious researchers with politeness and respect. After some time, the story faded away and apparently the life of Luis Fernandes returned to normal.

However, Luis Fernandes's life would never be the same again. A few days after the



©Revista UFO magazine

encounter his hair turned gray. He felt very unwell and had lapses of memory all of which left his family very worried about him. Faced with this, they took Luis Fernandes to once again see Dr. Magalhães. The doctor answered all of their questions and tried to treat his patient as best he could but all was to no avail. In the following days, the symptoms intensified, surprising the experienced doctor who referred the patient to the capital, Fortaleza, where he could be better attended. On the medical information sheet, on the hospital chart, he included Luis Fernandes's report, including quoting verbatim that he "had been kidnapped by a flying saucer".

In Fortaleza, Luis was attended by physicians José Pelegrino Alves and Glaubo Lobo, who were specialists in neurology and psychiatry. Upon reading the medical records, they criticized the comments involving Luis Fernandes's report and the doctor's position for having believed in his story and attributed the fact to a common psychic problem. In the period that followed, the doctors did not get a clear and precise diagnosis and returned Luis home without being able to solve his medical problems. They just informed him to stay away from work for a while until he got better. With Luis Fernandes's conditions getting worse his relatives decided to hospitalize him in a psychiatric hospital in Fortaleza, located in the São Geraldo neighborhood, where he was attended by 16 specialized doctors all of whom also failed to make an accurate diagnosis.

The UFO Research Center (CPU) followed the family drama and the worsening of Luis Fernandes's clinical condition. The ufologists of the group interviewed people connected to the case and tried to provide regressive hypnosis. At the time, there were two people who could carry out the procedure: a Jesuit priest who refused to do hypnosis on a person who had contact with flying saucers,

and a dentist who asked for a high price that the group could not afford. Thus, there was no regressive hypnosis with Luis Fernandes.

Dr. Magalhães also began to follow the health of Luis Barroso Fernandes and helped him with his medical conditions in any way he could. The doctor was thus able to verify the worsening medical condition of Luis Fernandes and his worsening mental capacity.

Further attempts to clarify or diagnose his strange illness were carried out without a conclusion being reached. Electroencephalogram, urine, glucose and cholesterol tests were performed, among other clinical tests that proved that Fernandes's health was perfect, except for his abnormal brain that was affected in some way. In the best possible description, Fernandes showed a seemingly irreversible regression of the mind. In time he came to act like a child. At the end of his life, in 1993, he pronounced only three words: "mom", "give" and "fear". This last one he always spoke when someone was taking a photograph with a flash, evidence perhaps of some type of trauma related to a strong or intense light.

Luis Barroso Fernandes died on April 1st, 1993. At the time of his death in 1993, he had soft skin like a baby's.

In addition to the physiological effects observed in Luis Barroso Fernandes, there were other direct and indirect confirmation of his testimony. The donkey pulling the cart that morning also appeared debilitated after the event. For a few days he did not eat, but recovered after a short while.

According to research done by the CPU, other people witnessed the presence of a UFO in the skies of Quixadá. The most significant sighting involved two people: student Francisca Rosete da Silva, 23, and her brother Antônio Leudo da Silva, age 12. Both went to class at the State College of Quixadá. Shortly after they had left the house, they observed a very intense floating light in the middle of the forest. From the light came a lightning bolt that struck Francisca in the face. Feeling dizzy they decided to go back home. Antonio helped his brother by the arm. Francisca fainted at the front door, leaving her father and her brother astonished. She was taken by her father, Antônio Fernandes da Silva, to the hospital where she was attended by the nurse on call. He found that Francisca had swollen eyes and had several bruises on her body, as well as scratches produced by local



Left: Newspapers of the time published the news of the contact of Luis Barroso

plants. According to Dr. Laércio de Castro, then director of the hospital, Francisca "was very nervous and her eyes were numb, as if they were affected by strong heat."

Francisca's brother, Antônio Leudo, had no wounds or bruises. However, he presented a psychological traumatic process resulting from the experience. "What I saw I do not want to see ever again, it was not a plane, it was not a helicopter or something else, it was strange and threatening."

Another case involved radio broadcaster José Sival, a radio announcer at Monolitos, who watched a round object with multicolored lights around it, floating alongside the runway at the Quixadá airfield. Gonçalo Costa and João Rosa de Almeida observed a similar object between the cities of Quixadá and Jaburu.

Contact with a UFO is not common at all but when the UFO in question shoots a beam of light at you, a light that hits you full in the face is extremely rare. This is what happened to Luis Barroso Fernandes. The illnesses that followed his immediately after this encounter are bizarre to say the least and went undiagnosed by a number of different doctors. Did the beam of light that hit him cause these illnesses and eventually his death? We will probably never know but this is one of the most bizarre and rarest such close encounters on record, of that there is no doubt. 🌍



UFO CONTACTS IN BRAZIL is out now from Flying Disk Press Click the cover above to purchase.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO REMOTE VIEWING

Tracey Garbutt Dolan walks us through the basic fundamentals of remote viewing - what it is, how to do it and shares her own experiences.

Remote viewing. We all like to think we know a little bit about what it is. It's someone sitting on a desk, making scribbles or auto-writing on a pad of paper while their eyelids flicker as if they're in 'contact' with something otherworldly. Or it's a man in a military uniform staring at a goat. Well, no. According to Tracey Garbutt Dolan, wife of UFO historian Richard Dolan, remote viewing is something that anyone can become proficient in with the right training, the right intent and the desire to be as accurate as you can.

What started as an experimental ESP project funded by the US military during the 1960s soon branched off into the academic field, most notably at the Stanford Research Institute under the stewardship of Dr's Hal Puthoff (known today for his association with To The Stars Academy) and Russell Targ. There were also studies undertaken at Princeton University in New Jersey and at the Mobius laboratories in Los Angeles, California, with all three institutes approaching the subject differently. Project Star Gate (1978-1995 according to publically available CIA documents) is the most often referenced with regards remote viewing, but that's a story for another time.

Among the most well known remote viewers, names such as Ingo Swann, Lyn Buchanan, Pat Price, Judith Orloff and Joe McMoneagle are familiar to most people interested in the subject with Swann being perhaps the more familiar. Joe McMoneagle however holds the prestigious US Army Legion of Merit, such was his accuracy and effectiveness in providing intelligence information using remote viewing techniques.

So whether you class remote viewing in the parapsychology, telekinesis, electro-sensory perception or psychic categories - or all of the above - with Tracey's help, hopefully your perception will be a little clearer by the end of this feature.

“Remote viewing is actually something that's really simple. It's when we get perceptions about a target that's hidden from us, only using the mind. A target could be anything—a person, place, thing, an event, just about anything. The main thing is that it's hidden from the remote viewer. Many people think it is like clear images coming in to a TV screen, but there's so much more to the perceptions. It really just falls under the broad category of extrasensory perception, We are going into a state of deeper self awareness to interpret our deeper senses and what they're able to perceive.

What I find about remote viewing is it's easier for people to talk about and to digest, rather than UFOs or the paranormal for example. I think that is because it was developed at Stanford Research Institute, and was developed using scientific protocols. You can take people who are non-psychic and you can pull this ability out of them. It is fascinating how this area of study came about and I would love to go deeper into the prehistory of all this. There's this long fantastic history of undeniable proof in so many different areas.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF REMOTE VIEWING
There's controlled—or coordinate—remote viewing, called CRV. This is the classic type that was used in the military. Then there's associative remote viewing, which typically might be used for, say, predicting whether



Portrait by Joey Gutierrez/Josephsignaturearts.com

the stock market would go up or down. That can be done with two images, like a yes or a no, and the remote viewer will associate two completely different images with two different outcomes. Then there's Extended Remote Viewing (ERV). That's kind of a hybrid that they experimented with, which I did a lot of in fact, where sometimes binaural beats will be used. The person is guided into a more relaxed state to try to achieve deeper information about a target. Officially it wasn't found to be any more effective than the other methods.



Dr Hal Puthoff

The former Research Director at the Monroe Institute, Skip Atwater, was training a well known remote viewer called Joe McMoneagle, who was part of Project Star Gate. I believe Skip tried this deeper version of remote viewing with him first just to see if it would enhance Joe's training at all. Essentially they were using binaural beats and putting Joe into a hypnogogic state to see if there were deeper perceptions available to him.



Ingo Swann

Joe McMoneagle is really at the center of remote viewing and someone who's results many have counted on, simply because he's that good. One of his famous Mars remote views came out of an ERV session where he was in this deep deep trance-like state. Joe has spoken about this in public lectures, and it is absolutely fascinating, particularly when you know his track record. It's not fresh in my mind but I believe his target was certain co-ordinates but a billion years or so ago. It's reported he came across a civilization that had gone underground because of an impending environmental cataclysm, and they were in some sort of cryogenic stasis but had since died because too much time had passed. So many people are interested in remote viewing these days because they want to know if people have remote viewed extraterrestrials, how many of them have done this, and whether you can use remote viewing for this purpose. People want to know if humanity is alone or not.



Skip Atwater

We can't say if Joe's results are true of course because we don't have feedback. We can't verify it. We just don't know. But with Joe being one of the best remote viewers in the world, it's at least something to consider.



Joe McMoneagle

I think if you're going to experiment with remote viewing and have the self discipline

to work at it for a long time, its worth trying the longer, more extended method as well.

I would say each type involves going into a very relaxed state of mind. If you can't do that, it will be difficult to allow the desired signals through, signals that you're trying to tune into.

The other thing that's important to mention is that there's also a component of self permission to succeed, although that's not always the case. I'm talking to those people reading this who want to try remote viewing. It is important for them to allow themselves, even if for just that moment, to believe that they can do it. If you go in there completely skeptical that you're not going to be able to do it, you're probably going to stay in the Beta (or waking) brain state, and that won't allow you to get into the proper state of mind.

In other words, if you don't think you can do it, you've already put up a mental barrier which will restrict you from seeing what you should be seeing.

FIRST STEPS INTO THE RV WORLD

I was trained in Canada by Paul Elder, who teaches for the Monroe Institute. He was trained with the likes of Joe McMoneagle, so his line of remote viewing teaching adheres closely to controlled remote viewing. I was already having quite a few unusual experiences when I finally stumbled into remote viewing and just tried it out, I think maybe around 2006. I found that I was OK at it, but there was definitely something there. When I tried future remote viewing, that was when I had this interesting success. It captured me because it helped me to understand a way of making sense out of the many paranormal experiences I was having. These were experiences that I had never really spoken about to anyone, but remote viewing offered a framework that I could understand and enabled me to have some control over my psi experiences.

There was one experience, before I started remote viewing, in which I was lying in my bed. It was daylight out, and I was looking to the side, just staring at a wall in my bedroom. Suddenly I saw my father getting into the back of my car and giving me this look. You could call this a vision, I suppose. I call them overlays, since they appear to me like a separate layer of reality overlaying the one we normally experience.

In this overlay, or vision, of my father, I somehow had a deep sense of what was going on, and I knew that this was my father saying goodbye. At the time, my father was

full of life and totally vibrant, so I thought there would be no reason for him to be ill. Now, my sister would also tend to have dreams of this sort of nature, including some that definitely were precognitive. So I called her. It turned out that she had had a couple of dreams about him, so we phoned my mother. We didn't want to alarm her and just brushed it off to her as a dream. All we told her was that we were just checking in to see if he was okay. He's absolutely fine, she told us. Perfect health.

My sister and I wondered why would we be so arrogant to tell our mother otherwise? However, within two months of that conversation, with no warning at all, our father became seriously ill and passed away from pancreatic cancer.

That was one of these odd experiences that I was frequently having. Remote viewing was suddenly offering this thing I didn't even realize I was longing for. When those overlays and those experiences of, say, my father coming to pass, when I had that vision that I had no control over, remote viewing suddenly offered a framework for me to say: 'Can I control this? Can I point this ability at some target that I want? Can I help someone? Can I do something good with this? Is it repeatable and is it controllable?'

For me, it's not as much about using remote viewing as a way to see what the government or some other person is up to. For me and my life journey, remote viewing is more about discovering our innate abilities as humans. It seems to me that everybody has this ability and there is probably nothing magical about it. It's about discovering what we can actually do. Can we use it as a part of our spirituality? If we really study this part of ourselves, what more can we open up? And of course, I'm super curious like everybody else. How far has the government or these 'special access programs' explored remote viewing, or for that matter any number of private organizations? What have they done with this since the U.S. military allegedly shut down the remote viewing program in the 1990s?

It's 2020 right now. I'm pretty sure that some amazing things have been achieved that we know nothing about. And here we are, people are starting to hear about remote viewing and are becoming interested.

-So for me, it's much more about discovering who we are and what we can really do with our mind, consciousness, and spirit. It prompts me to ask how can each of us experiment with remote viewing? How can we go deeper into what others have already

discovered? For any of this, it's important that we know about the protocols of remote viewing, which involves a process of probing our mind with questions. It's a process of discovering the difference between a psychic signal and the ego's mind chatter. How can we take that information and learn more about our own humanity and what we can be? It just feels as though we have so much room to evolve our minds and we just don't pay any attention to this. How can we use it in a practical way for ourselves on a daily basis? I'm becoming much more interested in that, looking at how we can evolve our own minds. I think it's possible that we could get back to living a more intuitive life, being able to guide ourselves through our lives more intuitively.

“How far has the government, or these ‘special access projects’, and different private organizations explored this?”

There's something to connecting into that deeper part of us that changes us fundamentally, and the thing I noticed the most in myself is that when I meditate a lot, there's this interesting switch that occurs in daily life where the foreground becomes the background and the background becoming foreground. You'll notice nature more and all of the banter and craziness starts to relax and fade out, and the right things come forward. I think that really sets the stage for what we're talking about, a state that works for remote viewing. It's about embracing your intuition and being truly available to receive those psychic signals or the messages from the subconscious mind.

I think that's partly why many people don't try remote viewing. It's because all that busyness, all that internal chatter has become a comfort of sorts. That attachment to our mind's internal dialogue can be difficult for people who want to try remote viewing because it's not like something you want to do one time. If you're serious about it, you'll want to do a large series of remote views for a long time like months or years. This is especially so if you're like me and it's more about self discovery. If you pursue it, you can find that remote viewing is an incredible discipline to track your own mental patterns.

Think of it this way. In remote viewing, we have this thing called 'analytical overlay,' which is important because the ego mind,

TRACEY GARBUTT DOLAN

the conscious mind, the analytical part of our self will be offering up guesses regarding whatever is being remote viewed. You might get a real perception but there's that part of the mind that's like this helper, it's always trying to help put clues together, but it actually gets in the way. Remote viewing is about learning how to recognize and control for that part of the mind, the part that craves control, and we have to learn to set that aside. When we realize our mind has offered up a guess, we still track it but label it as an analytical overlay.

Some people think you can just learn remote viewing and do it, but it doesn't quite work like that. It requires a process of letting go and not thinking, of having patience and being disciplined, because you have to train with these protocols. You have to learn to differentiate the raw perceptions of your actual intuitive signal versus the mind's will. You have to nail down the technique of probing your mind, to be able to accurately determine which is which, if it's our mind or if it's that intuitive signal.

BENEFITS OF GROUP LEARNING

Typically it's done in kind of a class or small group and there's something really good to that. The main benefit, it seems to me, if you're there in the spirit of learning about your mind, is that you have vastly more information to work with because of the other remote viewers. In other words, if everyone is trying to remote view the same thing, you quickly see how people perceive things differently. And that's really powerful information.

You get a better understanding with remote viewing when you see what your strengths and weaknesses are. It's powerful. Say your target is people playing Scrabble. Some of us might perceive or mentally attach to the physical board and we might pick up these squares and repeating patterns. We would get information that's very geometric, colors, this type of thing, whereas other people might have completely missed that and their mind attached to an emotional element of competition. It's almost like your subconscious mind is trying to play charades with you. So the more you do it, the more you get to understand the two players, you and your subconscious mind. You see what your capabilities and limitations are. With that knowledge, we don't fool ourselves as often.

You can't really compare yourself to other people, but for me I learned that if I could feel a target, or if there was a very strong repeating pattern of some sort on the target, my mind could perceive it more easily.



Above: Tracey with husband Richard Dolan

A lot of people make it sound like some of us get all the targets and we have this really high average but it's really not like that. And there is an entire psychological aspect with yourself that I have not really even touched upon that is akin to winning and losing streaks / mentality such as baseball players speak of.

You can strengthen your abilities to a certain degree. But can you fully claim another area that you're not good at? Not necessarily. I think you can broaden what you've come in with. I know what my strengths are, and I will break through into other areas sometimes, but they're still not my number one strength.

CONDUCTING AN RV SESSION

To begin with, when you are assigned a target, which is usually a number that is associated with the target, you start by putting yourself into a quiet area where you're not going to be distracted, making sure that everything is completely off, door shut, no interruptions. You're just using paper, a pen or pencil, and your mind. Typically, you write some information on the top of the paper, like administrative information. In other words, you want to be tracking everything about your remote views like the date and time it was done. Not only that, but you also track things like how you feel at the time of the remote view such as if you are feeling particularly tired, if you had too much coffee, or if you have a headache and feel distracted. These may seem unimportant, but they're very important.

There's another thing that I do as part of my ritual in the beginning phase. Some people do this, some don't, but I have

“It's almost like your subconscious mind is trying to play charades with you.”

statements that I will make to myself. This is basically a psychological tactic where I will say something along the lines of 'I will now perceive and bring back any accurate and important information about the target from the exact place and time intended', something like that.

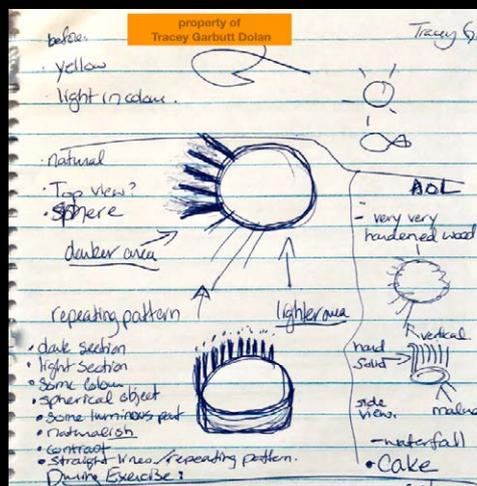
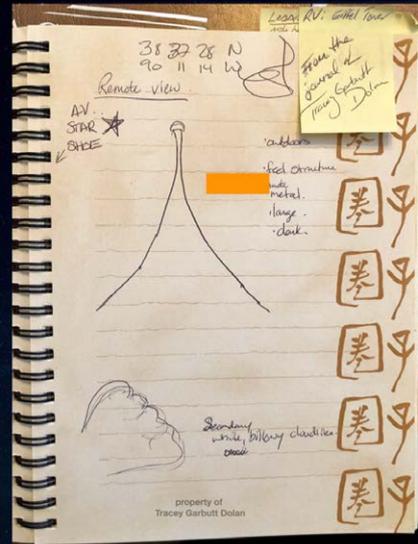
I highly recommend doing that. There's something to getting every fibre of yourself pointing in a very concise direction. I take the affirmation very seriously, because it sets the tone. When you're in that part of the remote view where you're probing yourself with questions, you're still holding that mantra, that conviction that you are going to bring back accurate information about the target. This is maintaining a state of mind.

Then you get your target number, which you also write down. Sometimes when you get a target number, it can be natural for your brain to spit out some images immediately before you're really into your session, and we will typically account for those. Whatever your brain is spitting out initially, you will write them or draw them.

I always write the target number twice. I do this because it's just part of my ritual to say I'm calming down now. I'm going into the state of remote viewing. Everyone develops their own process when they've been doing remote viewing for a long time. For me, the first time I'm writing the number, I'm thinking of beginning the process, of sinking in and letting the rest of the world go. When I write it the second time, I'm committing on a deeper level. And then what I do at the very last number, I will create an ideogram, which is just sort of a mindless childlike freeform squiggle. No thinking, it's just an absolute squiggle. The idea for this was originally developed by Ingo Swann and is believed to be an expression of the subconscious mind.

Different forms of remote viewing will use the ideogram in different ways. Some remote viewers will use the method of touching the ideogram drawing repeatedly with their pencil or whatever they are using, because it is believed this act assists in accessing the subconscious information already available about the target. Psychologically, in my opinion, we are talking about permission. When you touch it you give yourself permission to go back into that deeper state and bring back more information. It's a method of them touching into what they believe is the signal.

Some people just draw it out and then go through a process of making observations about the ideogram, it's a fascinating little process. I always find it amazing when



Above: The original notes from Tracey's remote viewing sessions.

you go through your whole remote view protocol and then you have the reveal or get your feedback and find out how close your ideogram was to some part of the structure of the target. It's fascinating how it's in there, even if it's just a small part of the target, that was just as an expression that came out of your subconscious speaking to you.

Anyway, after you write down some initial impressions, then you really sink into your actual remote view. You're dropping into an alpha or deeper brainwave state, a more relaxed state, and then essentially you're going through a process of probing your own mind about the target with preset questions and prompts. And that's really what the body of the remote view is. For example, you ask yourself, is the target man made or natural? Or you may touch the ideogram again, almost like a psychological ritual that you just train yourself to respond to. It's all about this relationship of the conscious you and the unconscious you. The conscious you will touch the ideogram and expect that the unconscious you to give accurate information about the target.

TRACEY GARBUTT DOLAN

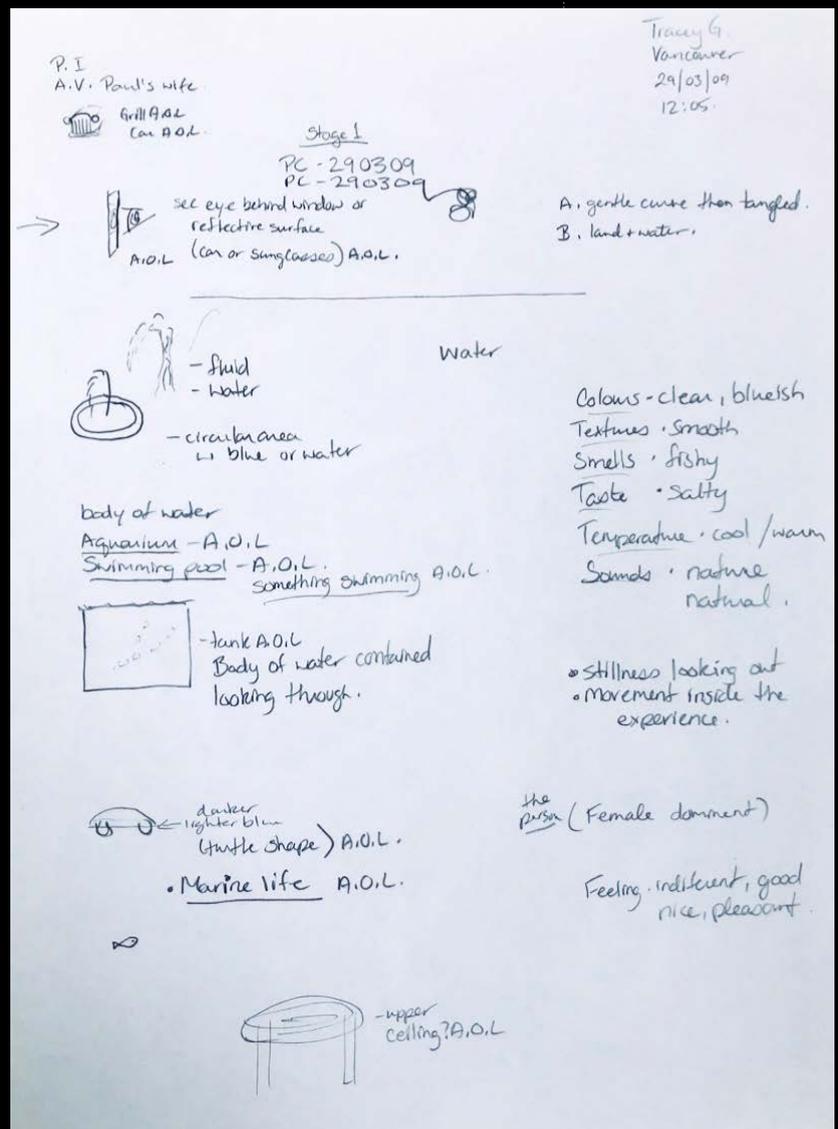
You go through these different questions where you're looking for shapes, you're looking for smells, you're asking yourself each question, if this is how you find you work the best. And if an impression doesn't rise up immediately, you simply repeat the process of taking a breath, dropping down into your relaxed state again and clearing everything off to a blank screen.

I'm sure some people use tricks in which they'll have an actual screen in their mind, like a blank TV, or some people will open curtains. But for me, it's just always important that if there's anything in my mind I just push it aside to a complete blank and then I let something emerge out of that. Never chase it. If you're chasing after the answers, that is a 'left brain' ego thing that you're doing. This should be the opposite, absolutely passive. A process of letting go and something then emerges in the empty space. That's how the information comes up, it's almost like the left brain asked the question and the right brain answers with its impressions, then the left brain has to interpret it. Honestly, it is this fascinating balance between the conscious and subconscious, the left brain and the right brain.

INADVERTENTLY LEAVING 'DOORS' OPEN

As I mentioned, I was having interesting, you could say paranormal, experiences happen prior to my involvement in remote viewing, which is why I attached to it. However, once I engaged in remote viewing in a serious manner, my experiences intensified in a different way. They were a little more serious and unusual. I thought they were unusual before, but afterwards, to be honest... I'm a little suspicious of it. Do I feel like I opened anything? I don't know. I feel like it may have already been open. But there's so much we don't know about. I feel as though it's possible that I got the attention of something. When your consciousness is more actively out there traveling around, perhaps it's more visible. I don't know for sure.

I don't feel I have any sort of hitchhikers with me, I guess I feel lucky in that way. I do feel, honestly, that things kind of intensified after I got into remote viewing, but nothing that has been unmanageable. I don't know if this is the case for everyone, but I do feel that engaging modalities so deeply like that empowered me in some way. It doesn't mean that I wouldn't still feel scared, but so far I feel very comfortable with it, and I feel that in exploring and understanding my abilities, I feel more empowered. I certainly prefer that over feeling like a sitting duck without any degree of control.



It's personally important to me to understand my mind more deeply and what my capabilities are, and I believe remote viewing helps me to cultivate a degree of control over that process. That might sound naive, and some people who have really terrible experiences might feel that way, but I'd rather be actively pursuing becoming stronger in the subconscious area.

Above: Tracey's 'Orlando' session notes with everything she remote viewed, including the eye in the reflective surface in the top left.

The truth is we don't know what we're dealing with as much as we think we do. We have these other modalities such as channelling, and we have mediums and we think we know what we're dealing with, but how could we actually know? We can never verify who we're actually talking to or how we're actually doing this. Science doesn't or can't explain it.

THE 'ORLANDO' REMOTE VIEW

The Orlando remote view was an 'outbounder' exercise. By that I mean I was remote viewing a person who was placed somewhere in the world, and I had to determine whether this person was male or female and to learn as much information as I could about the environment that this person was experiencing and their senses. This was a deeper level of engagement than other forms of remote viewing, because I wasn't having to probe my mind with the questions, it was like I was there. My eyes were closed and all of my senses started to come online. The first thing I sensed was the smell of water. I began to feel everything that this person was feeling. I'm feeling the water droplets in the air and smelling the very fine details of this enclosed water park. It was fresh water, but it smelled stale and there were lots of ducks, including the smell of duck poop. So it was really kind of gross, right? Yeah. I mean, that is specific, you know, but it was because I was having such an immersive experience that I was able to get so much information.

“You anchor into a place and then you start to get impressions. They're not necessarily visual, it's more a subtle, sensory thing.”

This next part is hard to explain. However, say you're standing in a field and you can tell that everything around you is flat for a while, but there's a wall at the boundary of the field, right? You can feel there's a wall. Well, I could feel that there was a barrier that contained the water. So I knew that this was not an ocean. I could feel there were tall buildings surrounding this body of water. I could feel the wind and I could feel water spray on my face, like a big fountain was spraying. But this is the thing about remote viewing, how it builds out in this way. You anchor into the place and then you start to get impressions. Again they're not necessarily visual impressions, it's more a subtle sensory thing going on so the little

creatures that are around, you can feel them. I sensed a structure in the middle of the water that was circular and tall in the middle.

Then, I saw this reflective surface. I didn't feel it. It was very, very clear. I saw this perfect reflection of a woman's eye looking at me.

Then we get to the reveal, when you learn what the target was. In this particular instance, my remote view was uncannily accurate. It was of a water park in Orlando, Florida, thousands of miles from my location at the time in Vancouver, Canada. When they did the reveal, the woman phoned in, and described the situation, what she was doing, how she was feeling. She never mentioned anything about a reflective surface.

It wasn't until years later, through a weird chain of events, that I meet this woman. I really wanted to ask her everything I could, especially from her perspective. It wasn't because I cared that I got a "hit," but I was just so curious about these skills for myself as a human being and what we are capable of. I wanted every piece of information I could get from her in order to compare with what I was feeling during the session. I had brought my remote view notes to show her and I said to her 'I saw this reflection and I saw your eye perfectly'.

Then she said, 'I never told anyone, but I pulled a compact out of my purse and was looking at myself in case it helped anyone'. That experience alone changed everything, because it tells us that we don't have the limits that we think we do. I was using another person's senses to perceive her environment live—in the moment. And not only could I perceive them, I could smell her environment, I could feel it, and I could also actually see out of her eye! Seeing her from her perspective, looking at herself. That tells me that we have gone on believing our minds are so much less than what they actually are. But they are more, far more, and we're not talking about it.

I feel we ought to know about these capabilities of ours and we should have the option to explore them if we want to. Part of being savvy human beings is knowing the innate capabilities we have. One of the biggest problems we have with technology is that we're becoming 'external stimuli' addicts. We have no attention span anymore, but you have to make a conscious decision to avoid all of that. My biggest regret would be if I just followed that current instead of trying to understand the language of the subconscious mind, what it's capable of and what it's trying to communicate with us. ■

NICHOLAS ROERICH

AND THE INACCESSIBLE UNDERGROUND KINGDOM

The artist who searched for an underground kingdom in the heart of Asia. **Words: Federico Bellini**

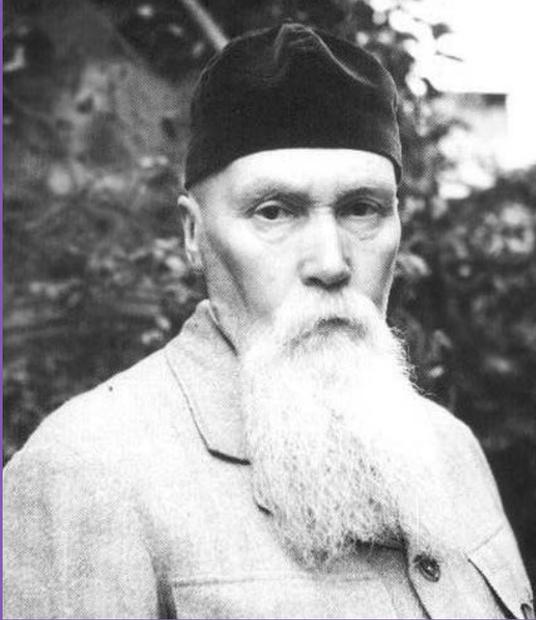
Explorer, archaeologist, anthropologist, painter, draftsman, costume designer, writer, traveler, diplomat, lecturer and occultist, these are the many roles that **Nicholas Konstantinovic Roerich has personified throughout his life.** Born in St. Petersburg in 1874, and encouraged by the painter Mikhail O. Mikhesine, he began to paint and then enrolled at the Academy of Fine Arts, at the same time he also continued his law studies, by the will of his father who was a lawyer. In 1898 he obtained a professorship in the Imperial Archaeological Institute; three years later he married Elena Ivanovna Shaposnikov, granddaughter of the famous musician Modest Mussorgskij, and who bore him two children.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Roerich was already a leading figure in the cultural world of the Russian capital, taking an interest of various disciplines including archeology, painting, scenography.

He designed sets and costumes for the theatrical impresario Sergej Djagilev, for the famous ballet by Igor Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*. From 1909 he was a member of the Russian Imperial Academy of Fine Arts, and for a very short time in 1917 he was also president of the Committee of Artists – created by the writer Maxim Gorky – a group which met in the historic Winter Palace in St. Petersburg (briefly renamed Petrograd in 1914, at the outbreak of the First World War).

After the October Revolution, Roerich first moved his family to Finland, then, in 1920, he decided to accept the invitation of the director of the Art Institute of Chicago and emigrated to the United States, which became his second home. In 1923 some of his admirers founded the Roerich Museum, which was enriched with a large number of the artist's works. Shortly after that he left, together with his wife, for a long journey to the innermost and less known regions of Central Asia, visiting India, Sikkim, Tibet, China and finally Mongolia.

Main pic: Just one of Nicholas Roerich's paintings of the Himalayas, from 1933.



THE PEOPLE OF AGHARTHA

His writings of his great exploratory journey between the mountains and deserts of Central Asia are available, and have re-proposed the now “classic” themes linked to the mythical Shambala and the underground kingdom of Aghartha, of which great Polish traveler, Ferdinand Ossendowski has also spoken, especially in his famous book, *Beasts, Men and Gods*.

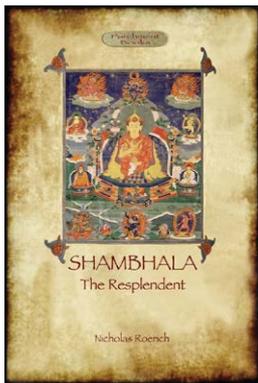
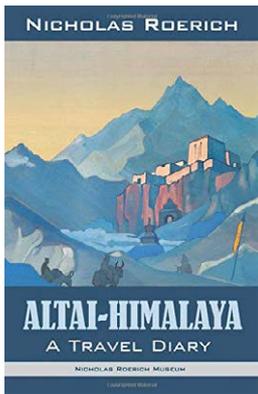
Roerich writes that in Kashmir, in Srinagar, there is the tomb of the great Issa, or none other than Jesus Christ. The local populations tell of how the Messiah was crucified but did not die, and that after having brought him to safety, the disciples helped him to go in search of the Lost Tribe of Israel, preaching the Gospel along the way. In Kashgar, however, there is the tomb of Issa’s mother, the Virgin Mary, where she seems to have died after taking refuge there. It tells, also in this book, of how each cave suggests that someone has already entered it, and of how each stream, especially the

“In different areas of Central Asia there is talk of the Agharti, the people who dwell within the Earth.

underground ones, makes the imagination turn towards parallel and unexplored worlds.

In different areas of Central Asia there is talk of the Agharti, the people who dwell within the Earth, and many legends outline the story that tells of when they left the surface, seeking salvation in hidden lands in which to acquire renewed, strong and powerful energies. It was in the Altai mountains, in the beautiful valley of Uimon, that a venerable old man revealed to him about this fantastic kingdom:

“Once, in this valley, lived the powerful and flourishing tribe of Chud. The Chuds were able to do mineral prospecting and obtain the best crops. Truly peaceful and industrious was this tribe. But one day came a White Tsar, with countless



Below: A depiction of the mythical Shambhala from the video game *Uncharted 2*.

Opposite: *Command of Rigden Djapo, 1933* by Nicholas Roerich.

hordes of cruel warriors. The peaceful and industrious Chuds were unable to resist the onslaught of the conquerors, and since they did not want to lose their freedom, they remained as servants of the White Tsar. Then, for the first time, a white birch grew in that region, and according to ancient prophecies, the Chuds knew it was time to leave. And the Chuds, not wanting to remain under the yoke of the White Tsar, went underground."

Shambhala: in Search of the New Era (1930).

THE TIME OF THE GIANTS

On the way he saw huge tombs surrounded by large stones. In Khotan, the horses' hooves echoed as if they were riding over caves or cavities, and each story referred to the belief of this great Kingdom and the people who live inside, because throughout Asia, across the vast deserts, from the Pacific to the Urals, the same legends can always be heard and told. Sometimes the City of Santa is submerged, as in the folklore of the Netherlands and Switzerland, and this legend not only gave rise to numerous variations, but also inspired many modern composers and artists, and Roerich, a man of great culture, was reminded of the beautiful work of the Russian Rimsky-Korsakoff, *The City of Kitezh*. In Siberia, Russia, Lithuania and Poland, he recalled the numerous legends and fairy tales about the Giants who once lived in those countries, but which later, not loving the new habits and customs of the new populations, disappeared. The countless Kurgan of the southern steppes are surrounded by many stories about the appearance of an unknown warrior whose origin no one remembers, just as the Carpathian Mountains in Hungary

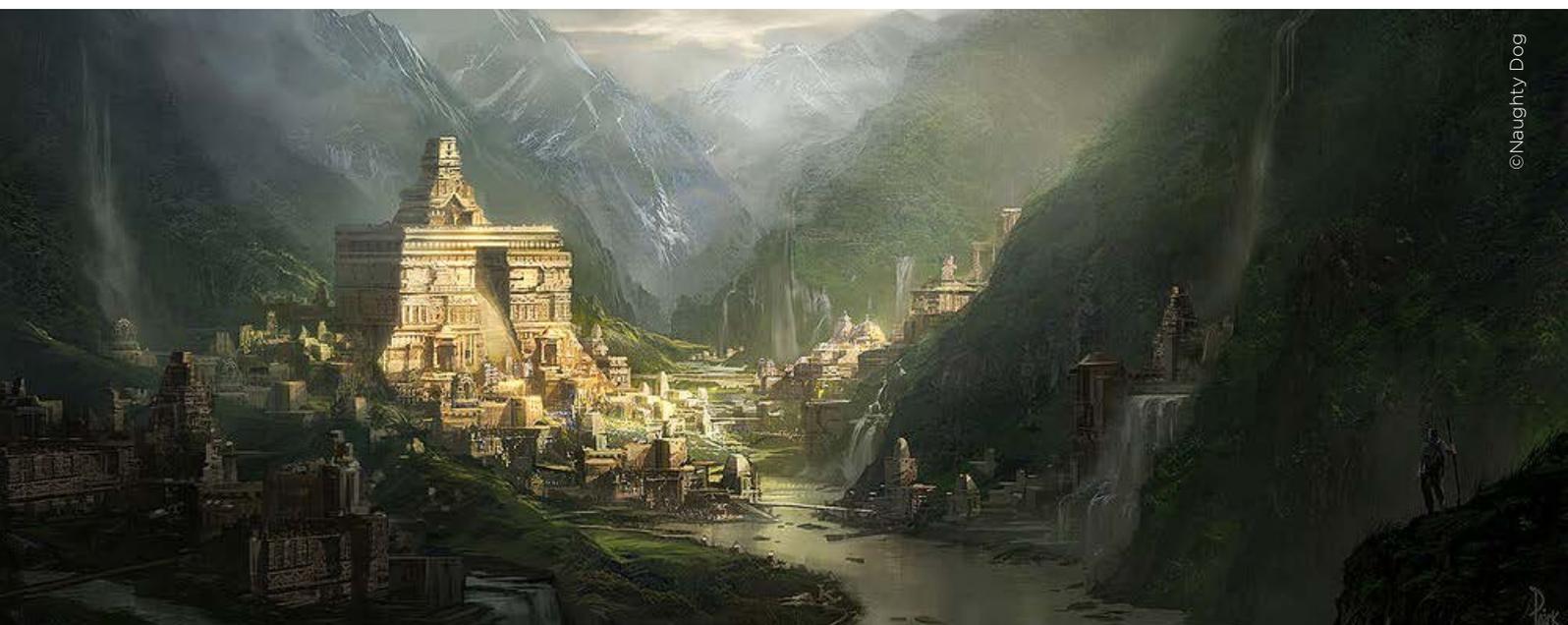
hold similar stories of unknown tribes, Giant warriors and mysterious cities.

One day, Roerich met an old Catholic missionary who casually told him that the place where Lhasa stands (the capital of Tibet, home to the Dalai Lama's Potala Palace) was once called Gotha, while in the Trans-Himalayan region, at an 'altitude between fifteen thousand and sixteen thousand feet', his expedition found several groups of menhirs, previously unknown to the rest of the world: *"What are those stones on that slope?" we asked our Tibetan guide. 'Oh,' he replied 'they are doring, long stones. An ancient sacred place. It is very useful to put [animal] fat on top of the stones, so the local deities help travelers.'* *'Who put these stones here?' - 'Nobody knows. But, since ancient times, this district has always called Doring, 'the long stones. People say that, a long time ago, an unknown people passed through here.'"*

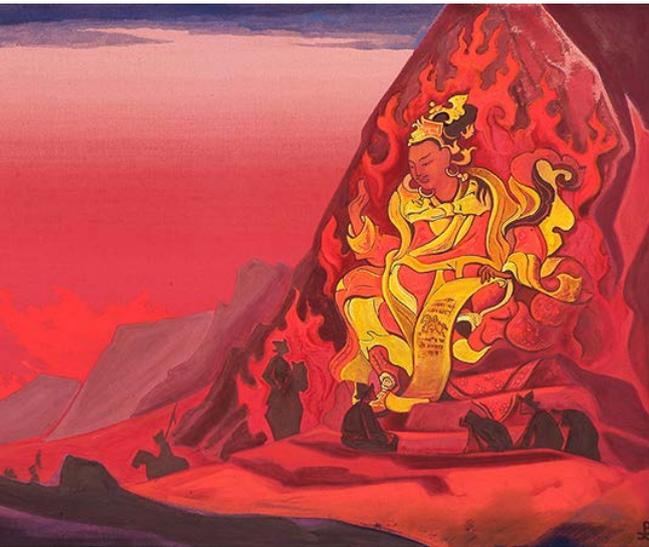
IN THE HEART OF ASIA

To the south of the Tarim Basin are the Altyn-Tagh mountains and, continuing towards Mongolia, the Altai mountains. To the west are the Karakorum, the Pamir and the Hindukush, while further south are the mountains of Kunlun and the Himalayas. Located north of Taklamakan and the Tien Shan mountains, on the border between China, Russia and Mongolia, you will find, in addition to the Altai mountains, the Five Sacred Mountains.

The Altai and the Himalayas are actually a single system of mountains, where the historical picture of the ancient migrations of peoples became clearer with the discovery, on the Altai mountains, of Menhirs and rock



©Naughty Dog



paintings of deer and ibex, so dissimilar from the same drawings found in European caves. At the foot of these mountains, on the south-eastern side, in Xinjiang, on the border with Mongolia, scattered across the prairie are most of these vestiges. The Bayan-Olgiy area alone has more than hundreds, perhaps thousands of stones carved in human form. Menhirs engraved with deer figures, and as many thousands of ancient tombs, so much so that even today, expanses of Central Asia remain the largest open-air museum in the world.

Roerich wrote, admired and amazed at what he saw in the course of the expedition to the Himalayan mountains: *“If you observe these Tibetans, you will be deeply impressed if, from under the fur hat, the face of a Spanish, a Hungarian or a Frenchman from the south clearly appears. It must be admitted that they have somewhat distorted features, but they bear no relation to the Mongolian or Chinese type. You can only recognise Europeans...”* The small district of Lahaul-Spiti is located in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, a mountainous area between Ladakh and Tibet to the north and the Kullu Valley to the south: the language, the culture of these populations are Tibetan and Indo-Aryan. Roerich wrote about these places in *Urusvati*: *“Two figures of a man and a woman are engraved on the stones of Lahaul, nine feet high (2.7 meters), which indicate the ancient stature of the men who in the distant past stopped in those places. The great Arjuna created an underground passage from Naggar to Manikaran, from the Silver Valley to the hot springs. Further to the north is the village of Manali.”* It is said that this was the stature of the ancient inhabitants of those places.

In the Mahabharata it is said that, after the war, Arjuna and his men walked towards

Lake Manasarovar, located at the foot of Kailash, the great and legendary sacred mountain. From there they reached an ancient place, in Naggar, in the Valley of Kullu, where you can still see the ruins of their castle. In his book *Heart of Asia* (1928), Roerich again says: *“We noticed something bright, flying very high from north-east to south. We take three powerful binoculars in the tents and we observe the huge spheroid that shines in the rays of the Sun, clearly visible against the blue background of the Sky, while it moves at great speed. Shortly after we notice that it abruptly changes direction flying from south to southwest, and disappears behind the snow-covered peaks of the Humboldt chain. The whole camp follows the unusual apparition and the lamas whisper: The Sign of Shamballah.”* No aircraft of that shape, size and speed had yet been invented in 1928!

THE LOST WORLD

Tunnels, passages, caves and kingdoms or underground worlds are present in the many Asian legends and stories, as well as the myth of Agartha (also called Aghartta or Aghartha, “the inaccessible”, better known also with the name of Shamballa or Śambhala), which is said to be a legendary kingdom found inside the Earth. It was described for the first time in the works of the writer Willis George Emerson (1856-1918), although in that same period various authors, although not knowing each other, also began to talk about it in a synchronic way that even today is quite perplexing. Emerson, in his 1908 book *The Smoky God - A Voyage to the Inner World*, reported a story that would have been told to him by a Norwegian fisherman named Olaf Jansen, who had reached this internal continent, with his father, by boat. They remained for two years visiting the cities of the kingdom that were there (later identified in works with Agartha); they exited, then, on the side opposite the South Pole. Upon their return, Jansen said that his father had been killed during the journey, while he was hospitalized as mad.

It was after his discharge from the sanatorium, and after settling in California, that Jansen, now in his nineties, decided to make the story public. But the legend of

“The Bayan-Olgiy area alone has more than hundreds, perhaps thousands of stones carved in human form.”

Author



Federico Bellini is a writer, lecturer, consultant and blogger of the very popular blog *Alien Consciousness*, he is also the creator of the project *“Il Cammino del Viandante”*, an innovative multi-part course book that has the ambitious goal of collecting all research produced in recent decades, which starting from the origins of the Cosmos leads us to the discovery of Man.

This article first appeared in issue 122 of the Italian magazine *X-Times*. For back issues click on the cover below.





Above: Maitreya The Conqueror, 1925-26

this kingdom had already appeared a few decades earlier, in the book *The Coming Race*, written in 1871 by Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton, a writer, politician and esotericist. He claimed that inside the Earth there was a race of supermen, which survived mythological cataclysms. Still in the field of science fiction, this myth was then further expanded in the years 1945-49, when the magazine *Amazing Stories* supported the idea of a Hollow Earth. Editor Ray Palmer published a series of stories by Richard Sharpe Shaver, in which the story of a Prehistoric Greater Race was presented as realistic, and which would survive by taking refuge in the hollows of the Earth; the descendants of this race, known as Dero, would still live in caves using fantastic machines, abandoned by unknown and ancient races. Following Shaver's claims, supported only by hypothetical 'rumors', thousands of people wrote to the newspaper claiming to hear 'hellish whispers'. Coming from the underground.

THE LAND OF FLYING SAUCERS

The argument was then re-proposed in the following years on several occasions. Between 1947 and 1948 William and Gladys Hefferlin published their 'Hefferlin Manuscript' in which was described Rainbow City, a fabulous city located under the icy expanses of Antarctica. They also claimed, that it was from here that the famous flying saucers came. In 1959, Francis Amadeo Giannini, published *Worlds Beyond the*

Poles: Physical Continuity of the Universe, in which he claimed that in 1928 some famous US polar expeditions had found unknown lands beyond the poles, and that in 1956 a Navy unit retried the enterprise. When the Soviets took an interest in the 'bottomless pit of Azerbaijan, several decades ago, they discovered a labyrinth of galleries corresponding to those of the Caucasus region, with a series of graffiti representing the swastika, the spiral and other symbols;

Many tunnels traced into the interior of the mountains could not be explored because they were blocked by landslides. In Mongolia and Azerbaijan, according to Kolosimo, other Russian scholars discovered tunnels connected with others in Georgia and the Caucasus, as well as further underground tunnels that seem to continue under the ocean floor; even in Nigeria there is talk of a tunnel that would reach the Atlantic Ocean. Moreover, Ossendowski himself, described in his famous book, *Beasts, Men and Gods*, that the inhabitants of this underground world make use of "mysterious and unknown vehicles, used by the people of Agartha, which whiz through the narrow passages inside the our planet" According to many researchers, the people living on the continent of Agartha may even use these flying saucers to navigate the network of tunnels and occasionally appear in our skies; a theory that would offer, perhaps not completely, a curious solution to the UFO riddle. 

TOP SECRET

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Marfa Lights

Mysterious glowing orbs, roughly the size of a basketball, have been mystifying the residents and visitors to a West Texas town for generations.

Marfa is a small, quiet desert town in West Texas, with two pretty cool claims to fame. The first, actor James Dean stayed in Marfa while filming his final movie *Giant*, before his tragic death; the second is the mysterious lights which have been seen in the area for over 140 years. In 1883, a young cowhand by the name of Robert Reed Ellison reported dancing lights on the prairie as he drove his cattle through the area. The incident scared him so much he reported it to the local townsfolk. At first he assumed it was Apache campfires, but upon investigating, settlers found no evidence of any ash or burnt material. Years later, during World War II, servicemen from the nearby Midland Army Air Field tried to locate the source of the lights without success, adding fuel to the local legend of the lights. The most common description of the lights report orbs, roughly the size of basketballs, darting wildly about the desert plain or sometimes they just hover and pulsate. Colours vary too from red, blue, white, orange and yellow and the lights have been known to merge, split, float and anything else that unnatural glowing orbs tend to do. Theories abound as to their identity with UFOs; car headlights reflected through natural gas ejections; ghosts of Spanish conquistadors and the debunkers old favourite - temperature inversions. In 2004 a group of physics students from the University of Texas in Dallas conducted experiments in an attempt to recreate the Marfa Lights and credit



Car headlights?
Temperature inversions?
Lost ghosts? Or dancing
plasma balls?

where credit's due, succeeded. Sort of. Parking their cars and then flashing their headlights from the nearby US Highway 67 they did manage to obtain results which could explain *some* of the reported sightings however - not all the sightings come from the direction of Highway 67, and cars with headlights were not exactly the regular occurrence they are now, compared with 1883 when the reports first started. So what are they? Truth is, no one knows for sure. They could be a variation of the Project Blue Book explanation of swamp gas, although there are no marshes in the desert it's not too much of a stretch to believe that the significant reserves of natural gas, which may include methane, is responsible. And atmospheric conditions in the area can lend some favour to the refraction of light theory. Underground lightning is also another plausible theory - or 'piezoelectric charge' for science boffins. To be honest though we prefer the dancing balls of plasma theory, an al fresco disco for the local land spirits.

SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF THE MARFA LIGHTS

For a truly fascinating in-depth scientific study on the Marfa Lights, a new research paper has been made available online at www.academia.edu Authored by Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Manuel Borraz who have analysed seven pictures taken by Marfa Lights expert James Bunnell between 2003-07, it's a pretty darn interesting and informative read.

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DAVID O'LEARY

#SAVE

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

We talk to creator and writer David O'Leary about the TV series that brought Dr. J Allen Hynek to the mainstream public consciousness.

Images provided by David O'Leary & History Channel

“What if I did a real life *X-Files*, set in the time of *Mad Men*, through the eyes of Dr. J Allen Hynek?”

David O'Leary



The first we knew about *Project Blue Book* airing in the UK was walking past a giant billboard, in a less than glamorous Bristol neighbourhood, on our way to the local tin-pot train station. There were Aidan Gillen and Michael Malarkey looking moody, bathed in a neon blue light cast by the huge UFO flying overhead. Here it was at last, *Project Blue Book*. Would it be as good as we'd heard? Would it do justice to the legacy of Dr. J Allen Hynek and his investigation into a subject I was passionate about? Thankfully, yes.

When it aired we felt the same kind of euphoria as we'd felt when *The X-Files* aired back when we were in high school. Here was a mainstream tv program showing respect to the subject of UFOs, which is generally lacking, and it has Mayor Carcetti from *The Wire* as Dr. Hynek! From that moment on we were sold. Yes, there were inaccuracies at times but this is TV land and sometimes it's necessary in the name of entertainment. The show has a post-war American uneasy charm, you have picket fences; children playing in their front yard; but McCarthyism was starting to ramp up and reports of flying saucers were only adding to the paranoia. We get to visit Wright-Patterson airbase; witness secret meetings with non-descript Generals in darkened, smoky rooms and even Donald Keyhoe pops up once or twice with his 'roving reporter' hat on.

But that wasn't all, it felt like *The X-Files* used to and as we sat watching Dr. Hynek and his partner Captain Michael Quinn investigate case we are so familiar with,

we felt a pang of jealousy. Not because we wanted to be in Hynek's tweed jacket and rain coat, but we were jealous of all those viewers experiencing these cases for the first time, going in fresh and embarking on that great voyage into UFO lore. And then, out of the blue, the show was cancelled following an almighty cliffhanger at the end of season two. Apparently, despite *Blue Book's* success, and averaging 2.5 million viewers per episode, History Channel had decided that it's new business model didn't include dramatized serials. WTF!? We had to know what was going to happen next, and fortunately, we knew we could speak to. So we reached out to creator David O'Leary, native New Yorker and general nice guy. At this point the world was in the grip of this Coronavirus pandemic (leave your conspiracy theories at the door. Please) and most of us were experiencing some sort of lockdown but we made it work and got the low down on the series' creation, including a tease of what was in store for Dr. Hynek in Season three.

But before all that, here's a disclaimer. If you haven't seen *Project Blue Book* yet, stop reading and go watch both seasons (streaming on [peacocktv.com](https://www.peacocktv.com) in the US or [SyFy](https://www.syfy.com) in the UK) as there are spoilers contained throughout. If you're ok with that though, read on!

SOYM: Where did the original idea for doing a tv series about Project Blue Book first come about for you?

David O'Leary: "I've had a lifelong interest in UFOs, as far back as I can remember. I used to freak myself out reading various



Far Left: David O'Leary on location with his episode notes. Left: Smiles on set with Mimi Hynek, played by Laura Mennell.

alien abduction books in high school, and it was always something that was just a passion of mine. I would watch all the documentaries and the thing I always credit that gave me my first introduction into Dr. J Allen Hynek was when I watched a two hour documentary on ABC hosted by the late Peter Jennings about America's bizarre history with UFOs, this is in 2005 I think. They went back and they they looked at Project Blue Book and spoke about Hynek. And I remember in the piece they singled him out as a civilian astrophysicist, a total UFO skeptic, who over the course of his tenure shifted sides. He accepted the reality that UFOs represent a true scientific mystery that we have yet to understand, given the paradigm of how we comprehend our reality in which we live in, and that always stuck with me.

"When I moved to Los Angeles and became a writer, I was trying to break into television. I had been working in movies and I'd set things up and sold some things, but nothing had gotten made yet. I wanted to write a television sample that sort of really reflected my voice and spoke about things I'm passionate about. One night I'm having a glass of wine with my wife and we're just brainstorming ideas, and I was thinking about American history, our history with UFOs, Project Blue Book, what if I did like a real life *X-Files* set in the time of *Mad Men* through the eyes of Dr. J Allen Hynek who went from this skeptic to believer path, and that became the beginnings of *Blue Book*. "I was very excited about the idea and

scribbled it down on a napkin - that I still have - this is probably 2014, and that was the beginning of the process."

SOYM: Were you conscious about people maybe drawing comparisons with *The X-Files*? Or, did you see that this could serve as kind of a prequel to *The X-Files*?

DO: "I loved *The X-Files*! The tone and the feeling of it, especially the episodes that stuck to their base UFO conspiracy mythology. I thought the first movie (1998) specifically was great, and so I was influenced by that for sure. I'd always considered *Blue Book* as a bit 'noir', you know, just in terms of it being set in the '50s, involving a mystery. I always think of *Dark City* (1998) too, this movie that I think that had an influence as well, just in terms of aliens with fedoras, a mishmash of various things, and I always see *Blue Book* as a 'sci-fi noir'.

"But then also approached it from my love of all the UFO cases which were so great and rich back then, and I thought it would be a different way to look at the phenomena by doing a UFO story against the backdrop of a more innocent time, although slightly more dangerous because it's set during the early days of the Cold War.

"We're seeing things in our sky that we can't explain. And it becomes a bit of a political drama in a sense. Is it the Russians? Do they have technology that we're unaware

Below: Fun on set with Aidan Gillen (Hynek), Michael Malarkey (Quinn) and Ksenia Solo (Susie).



DAVID O'LEARY

of? Are the Russians thinking the same thing about the United States?

“So that provided another outlet for us that would make the show feel more Three-Dimensional within 1950s America, that there would be an interest from our enemies, from other global superpowers about what was really going on here and would allow us to always kind of cloak it in. And this was true of the UFOs at the time. Even now with the Nimitz and the TicTacs it's like, are we seeing top secret drone technology from China or Russia that we don't understand? Or are we seeing something otherworldly?”

“So that became the thought process, taking a little bit of liberty with the facts, and thinking about it through the lens of Blue Book and looking into the nature of this phenomenon. So no matter what the answer would be there, whether it be Russian or otherwise, I think the Russians would have a deep interest in that. And that became the genesis of building up the Susie character; who would she target and how would you try to infiltrate the Hynek home and all that? I thought that would be an interesting element to explore, to become friends with Hynek's wife. So amidst this sort of family drama, there's all these different things dancing in synergy with one another.”

SOYM: When the show was first announced, people interested in UFOs were really excited and were thinking that maybe they'll get a little bit more information

about some of these well known cases. As you mentioned some liberties had to be taken in the name of entertainment, did you get much blowback from that?

DO: “Yeah (laughs). We definitely did and you know, that was really hard for me at first. I'm by no means a UFO historian, but I am somebody who tries to sift through what's real and what's not real to kind of understand what's really going on with regards to the phenomena. It hurt, but I understood I knew that that there was going to be some expectations There's a certain level of purists who are going to criticize the show and not enjoy it because it does take these dramatic liberties. That was what

“ This is not a documentary, this a show rooted in historical fact that takes plenty of liberties.

we what we tried to always be clear with our audience. This is not a documentary. This is a show rooted in historical fact that takes plenty of liberties. And we always tried to draw a clear line in the sand with that. I always tried to hope that they would meet us on our own terms and realize, we're trying to create this entertaining television series that's like a UFO conspiracy show in the 1950s, rooted in real life cases, that hopefully evokes and promotes research and questioning and doing your own digging.

PROJECT BLUE BOOK: WHO'S WHO (pics©HistoryChannel)

DR. J ALLEN HYNEK



AIDAN GILLEN
(*Game Of Thrones; The Wire; Peaky Blinders; Bohemian Rhapsody*)

Dr Hynek is appointed to Project Blue Book by General Harding to debunk the reports of flying saucers that are flooding in to the U.S. Air Force offices. As time progresses though he becomes less sceptical.

CAPTAIN MICHAEL QUINN



MICHAEL MALARKEY
(*The Vampire Diaries; The Oath*)

Captain Quinn is assigned to work alongside Dr Hynek on Project Blue Book. A decorated USAF pilot he has an experience of his own in the skies over Washington. His whereabouts are currently unknown.

MIMI HYNEK



LAURA MENNELL
(*Haven; The Man In The High Castle; Van Helsing; Watchmen*)

Portrayed mainly as the 'stay-at-home' wife during season one, Mimi's story expands greatly in season two as she joins a UFO group and even assists her husband on the odd case or two.

"Once we landed with History Channel, I pitched that we should do a 'to learn more about the real-life case that inspired this week's episode tune in after the show' kind of thing. So after the credits, there would be sort of like a two minute, little documentary piece - hosted by UFO historian Richard Dolan - that would give you the real life facts about the case in question. I also live-tweeted the show every episode for the 20 episodes that we ran and I would always try to fill that with information about the books we looked at, articles on the subject, we took the information from one case and put it somewhere else; things like that and just try to have people understand that the ingredients we were taking were largely real, but we threw them in a blender to tell a compelling narrative."

SOYM: Yeah, we remember being particularly amused by seeing *Skinwalker Ranch* (S2: 07) being translocated from the desert scrubland of Utah into a forest.

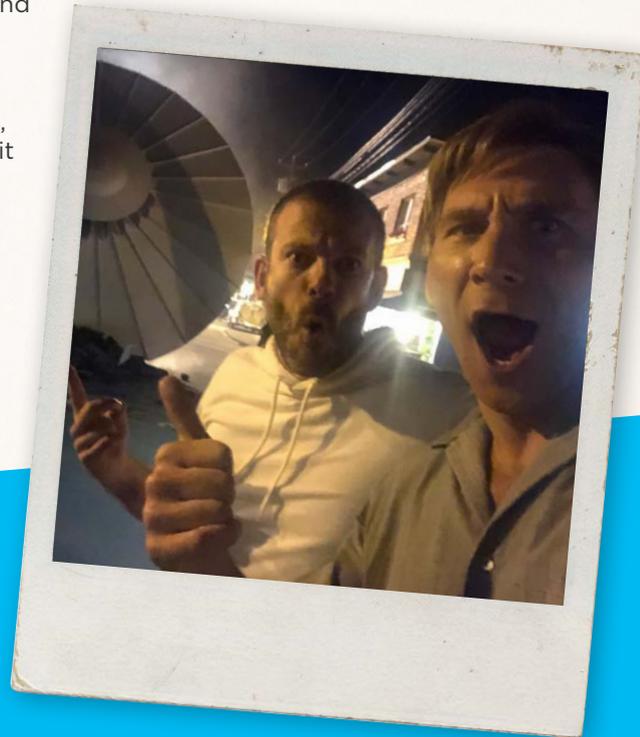
DO: "Part of that honestly came down to the fact that we shoot in Vancouver, and having to do what we could with what we had with locations and things like that. "There is a great website that I think is called Skinwalkerranch.org that kind of lists out every different type of phenomena that is witnessed there. And if you comb through that, you'll see we tried to take a bunch of those things like tremors, orbs of light, the dark creature, all those different things and had a little fun with it, too. You never know how long you will be on the air - obviously,

as we've now learned - and we didn't want to get to a certain point with a cool case, where we thought 'do we wait?' or do we kind of cheat history a little bit and let our guys go there? And at the end of the day, we just felt like we were always trying to kind of cover as much ground as we could."

SOYM: The relationship between Hynek and Quinn in the show, the success of that was mainly down to Aidan Gillen and Michael Malarkey, who based on Edward Ruppelt, we assume?

DO: "Yes, but also a composite of a few different directors of Project Blue Book, but Edward Ruppelt for sure. In the initial script, I called everybody by their real names, 'Quinn' was Ruppelt, and eventually we realized that if we're going to take dramatic liberties outside of the Hynek's, and outside of calling it *Project Blue Book*, we don't want to confuse people that, and so that we understand we're dealing in a bit of historical fiction essentially. But you hit it absolutely on the head, the chemistry between Aidan and Michael, their friendship - both onscreen and offscreen - is what

Below: David with Zach McGowan on set with crashed 'flying saucer' from the Roswell two-parter (S2: 01/02).



GENERAL HARDING



NEAL MCDONOUGH
(*DC's Legends Of Tomorrow; Van Helsing; Suits; Arrow; Captain America*)

General Harding is tasked with making sure Hynek and Quinn doing their job and keep the truth about flyign saucers from the US public. Has a major role in the secret 'black' projects of the US government.

SUSIE MILLER



KSENIA SOLO
(*TURN: Washington's Spies; Lost Girl; Orphan Black; Black Swan*)

Russian femme-fatale who infiltrates the Hynek household by befriending Mimi and eventually gets close and personal with Capt. Quinn. Her assignment is to discover what the US government knows about UFOs.

GENERAL VALENTINE



MICHAEL HARNEY
(*Deadwood; Orange Is The New Black; Weeds; Space Command*)

High-ranking US General worked alongside Genral Harding in the founding of Project Blue Book. Takes a somewhat tougher line than Harding in trying to keep government secrets hidden.

DAVID O'LEARY

drove the ship. It made the show what it was. We scoured the earth to find who we felt were the best people and we cast Aidan before anybody because we needed to find our Hynek first. Right after that, it was like 'Who's our Quinn?'

"It's funny because Michael Malarkey's audition tape - which I've been telling fans I will share someday - was incredible. It was so different than everything else that we'd seen because he played it edgier and rougher and with more intrigue and charm, and a bit of darkness, than we had initially conceived the character. I had initially written Quinn more like a young Paul Walker, clean cut like in that football movie *Varsity Blues* (1999), very salt of the earth, an 'Ohio' boy basically, which funnily enough is where Michael is from.

"Once we saw his performance, we realized it was actually so much more appropriate that he bring in some some emotional pain and some darkness. Quinn was always envisioned as a Vet, but it just took us a while to figure out that he's gotta be rough around the edges, quick to throw a fist, you know what I mean? Things that eventually the character became. Then we had to go through the process of convincing people at the network and the studio who had envisioned the character another way, the way we had originally. But we saw Michael's tape, we pivoted and realized that this is how the show was going to be so much more interesting."

SOYM: What was that first script reading like, with all the cast?

DO: "It was a little hard because we all arrived up in Vancouver. We got everybody together and the chemistry was instantly there. But we had two different sets of people that weren't in Vancouver chiming in via technology, one in New York and one in Los Angeles, and they kept having technical issues, so the flow of it was a little disrupted. Once we started shooting though and got these guys in costumes and everything was up and running, we could all feel it, and it felt really good. I think it felt how I how I envisioned it to feel, it didn't feel like people were forcing it.

"And I was thinking, is it just me wanting it to feel really good because I wrote it? Or *is* it feeling good? I think the reason it worked is that we cast great actors. We did our homework on everybody that we cast, especially our six leads, Aidan (McGillen), Michael (Malarkey), Laura (Mennell), Ksenia (Solo), the two generals, Michael (Harney) and Neal (McDonough). The cast is who you imagine them to be, they are down to earth, amazing talents that bring the goods, do the



Above: Aidan Gillen and Michael Malarkey in character as Dr. Hynek and Captain Quinn, the Mulder and Scully for the 1950s.

work and rally the troops. Aidan and Michael were like the spiritual heart of the show onset as well, which is what you want. But all the six leads were amazing."

SOYM: How much did you have to sit down with Aidan and Michael and kind of talk through the cases that they were investigating?

DO: "A fair amount, but they also enjoyed doing their own research and we would recommend books for them to read. When their characters were coming into a case, they don't know what's around the next corner, so I think Aidan and Michael did the research they needed to do. But they also liked to keep that element of surprise and waited for the scripts to come in. But sure, they would have questions, asking for links and what they should be looking at. Michael Harney (General Hugh Valentine) is somebody who I recall being very into it, like his character. He really wanted to know everything we're looking at. He did a deep dive on the general on which he's based (*USAF General Hoyt Vandenberg, Chief Of Staff For The USAF - Ed*). I'd say everyone did their fair amount of research and came at it with their opinion on the subject, they were great!

"Dr Hynek's son, Paul, became a great resource on the show too, and ended up being a consulting producer. We would send him the scripts and he was really good at

“It took us a while to figure out that Quinn has gotta be rough around the edges and quick to throw a fist.”

pointing out things like; 'My father would never say it like this' or 'as a scientist, he would never make this deductive leap', which was great. 99 out of 100 times, we would take on Paul's notes, especially on things that really were important, for example, 'Dr. Hynek would never make this radical a claim' or things like that."

SOYM: How did Paul and Joel Hynek react to seeing their father being this famous, fictionalized superhero.

DO: "I got a chance to meet them very soon after the show had gotten picked up. We needed to bring in the people who knew him best into this process. First, we wanted to see if they wanted to get involved, to frankly bless the show. I don't think that we could have done it without their involvement. Nobody wanted to go forward with the show and have them hating it. What's great is they both have a background in entertainment and media storytelling and understood that while we were going to root it in historical cases and things like that, we were going to take some liberties and dramatize things.

"And I think the thing that really stuck with me was always something Paul said, because I would ask and I was like, what would Dr. Allen Hynek think of the show, honestly? And he said, *"Honestly? I think he a) would have really appreciated that the show shines a light on all these cases years and years later that are still a genuine mystery. And b) he was always the lover of a good tale. He would have sat down with his bowl of popcorn every week and watched Project Blue Book and enjoyed it for what it was."*

SOYM: You ended both seasons in Antarctica. The end of the first season with the mystery obelisk, and the second season ends with Hynek on his way to continue his search for Quinn. There is a great deal of UFO mythology about Antarctica, do you think personally some of it could have a modicum of truth?

DO: "That's a great question. What I love about Antarctica is that it's the last untapped mysterious place on this planet, right? And I've certainly looked into things like the rumors that the Nazis were running experimental, UFO testing launches over there, or that we have found pyramids buried in the ice and things of that nature. It always just felt like, if this is going on, we have to go somewhere where this could be happening or there could be answers that aren't right in front of your face. So it felt like a natural place to go.

"The obelisk came out of Sean (Jablonski) and I thinking about where are we headed, and how can we connect certain clues along the way to something larger? That moment

at the end of season one where we come over a hill and you're thinking: Is this Hynek? Is it Quinn? Is it Ian Tracey's character - who it ended up becoming - and then we see this black obelisk, sort of mirroring it with the obelisk in Washington D.C. But this one has these symbols on it evoking this otherworldly nature.

"If the show continues Antarctica is a piece of our deeper mythology, we connected it to the numbers that are playing on that film reel in season one. I know there's an argument to be made that at the end, when it's glowing that we're entering 'Marvel' territory, you know? We were a little worried about that, but ultimately we knew we needed a big bang to end the season. Obviously in Season Two, after Hynek deciphers that map and realizes there's a pattern to these sightings, they're sort of headed there believing that that's where Quinn may be.

"Our show is a tricky one in that you can only peek behind the curtain a little bit. If we tip it all the way and show you what's going on, it becomes a different show. Personally, I think that there is some stuff going on down there. I think it's fascinating no matter what, so I'm glad that we got the chance to put it in our greater mythology. We quickly realized we had to thrust our guys into the deep end and into the action, even when, the more fantastical elements of the case were true to the reports at the time."

"And that came to be the biggest challenges of the show. Like you want to show all these great moments, but you always want to cover yourself with the cloak of deniability, so that you're always asking questions. Otherwise your audience is going to be like, 'How are Hynek and Quinn even debating this? It's so clear what's going on?'

Below: Laura Mennell as Mimi Hynek. Season two saw Mimi joining a local UFO group and getting more involved with Allen's work.



DAVID O'LEARY

"And I think that even when they do understand there really is something here, they will leave enough room for doubt."

SOYM: Of the two seasons, which were your favorite episodes or cases to work on?

DO: "I really liked Operation Paperclip. That was in episode 1:04, where we got to explore America's dark history of recruiting former Nazi scientists for our own endeavors at the end of World War II, so being able to turn an Alabama town into a 'little Germany', that was really fun!

"There was also a 'body' in a vat that Hynek found when eventually he and Quinn break onto the base that Werner Von Braun is overseeing, and they see what they think might be an extraterrestrial which we sort of explain away as a decaying body of a monkey that they shot into space. If we flat out said it's an alien body, then in a weird way, the show's not *over*, but it's tipped over into something else. We were always treading that line of 51/49 real/not real.

"With the events in Washington in 1952 at the end of season one, we had to figure out a way to have Vancouver feel like D.C. People who know their UFO history know that our nation's capital was not only buzzed by unidentified flying objects in restricted airspace that summer, but that USAF jets were scrambled to chase after these things! I wasn't sure how we could get bigger than that, but in season two, when we went to Roswell, that was a real privilege. We obviously fabricated a plot device so our guys could explore Roswell, but all

the details about the clues they uncover along the way were things that we literally ripped out of what we felt were the most authoritative texts on the incident. I read the book *Witness to Roswell* (Donald Schmidt/Thomas Carey - 2007) which is such a well researched, rounded historical document that it reaffirmed to me that something very strange definitely happened in the summer of 1947 in New Mexico. So for me, getting to tell that story - albeit in a dramatized way - but going back and looking at the granddaddy of UFO cases and getting to tell that story for mass audience television, I remember thinking it was such a privilege, and I hope we did it service. |

SOYM: I think one of the biggest surprises of Season two would have been the introduction of a young Senator John F. Kennedy. We don't think many people would have realized how interested he really was in the subject?

DO: "That was a very fine element to explore. For those who know about Kennedy's alleged involvement in this - there are many who believe that the disclosure of UFOs was the reason for his assassination - it's just fascinating that a public and well-known figure like JFK had such a deep interest in the subject, and so we just wanted to shine a light on that. We had such a wonderful actor, Caspar Phillipson playing Kennedy and he looks so much like him, but he captures him to it was just a great way to place us in history with the young senator, and we have continued plans for Kennedy! (*Phillipson also played JFK alongside Natalie Portman in Jackie (2016) too - Ed*)

PROJECT BLUE BOOK: Our Favourite Episodes

OPERATION PAPERCLIP



SEASON 1 EPISODE 4

While on a routine UFO investigation in Alabama, Hynek and Quinn discover the local military base is run by Werner Von Braun, a former Nazi scientist leading the fledgling US Space Program. Suspicions arise, naturally, and the climax shows one of Von Braun's 'special projects.'

AREA 51



SEASON 2 EPISODE 3

Hynek and Quinn are called to Area 51 at Groom Lake - by of all things, the CIA - to investigate the disappearance of a soldier who may have been abducted. One for the UFO buffs, we have human and animal mutilations, hidden bases in mountains, secret projects and more.

WHAT LIES BENEATH



SEASON 2 EPISODE 8

'HyneQuinn' investigate the theft of sensitive classified material from General's Harding and Valentine. When the culprit is finally revealed during a stand-off at ch ez Hynek, what follows is probably the most dramatic heartbreaking sequence and best acting of the series.

“With our seasons finale, Operation, (or Exercise) Mainbrace was sort of like Nimitz 1.0. and allowed us to dip our toes into USO’s (unidentified submerged objects) and look at a UFO event that occurred amidst a major NATO naval exercise. But I kind of love them all. It’s such a multi-faceted phenomena with so many different ways to look at it. You have crop circles, contactees, debris, we always tried to make each episode feel as different as it could from any other episode.”

SOYM: It was great to see to have the Robertson panel hearing in the ‘Close Encounters’ episode (S2:06) as well,

DO: “That episode is a beast! We had the Robertson Panel, which was basically the CIA trying to wrestle control of Project Blue Book from the Air Force; we have the George Adamski-esque contactee case; and then there’s the whole *Close Encounters...* angle! That was a special one, I think, both Sean and I would say it’s probably our favorite or one of our favorites. There’s aspects of that one that made me feel like it could’ve been the finale, because the way it kind of wraps up and ends, it comes full circle and I like that. But then we went on because we all had the hope that we had more seasons to go! I still hope that we do. You know, in one form or another.”



“UFOlogy is such a multi-faceted phenomena with so many different ways to look at it.

SOYM: So when did you find out that History weren’t going to renew for a third season? That must have been tough given the success of the first two seasons?

DO: “I found out maybe a week before they announced it, I think it was like early May, And at that point, there was already a ‘renew *Blue Book*’ campaign online and stuff like that - and I just knew that was going to become ‘Save *Blue Book*’!”

“I had been through all the good things with the show like the announcement that I had a show going straight to series, and the renewal of the second season, and obviously making the show itself. There’s so many great aspects about having a show that you create get made but I hadn’t experienced anything negative and now everyone was going to know it’s cancelled! People were reaching out saying sorry, and it was hard at the time but I’m glad I had a little private time to digest it personally and emotionally. Honestly, it was a mega blow to us because we had already had a writers room for season three from January to mid March,

and we were already living at the end of season three in our heads.

“It’s especially hard because we know what we’re not doing, we know where the story goes, and that is also my hope that somebody will read something like this article, and want to talk more about it and pick us up because we are so excited by what we’ve come up with so far for Season 3. So we’re just sitting on it and hoping that sooner or later, we’ll find a platform somewhere or another to tell that story. We have a season three and it’ll be a freaking graphic novel before I die if that is what it has to be! But I hope that it gets to be more.

SOYM: Well, we certainly believe it should! You just have to look at the public response to the #SaveBluebook campaign, it’s been great!

DO: Yes! The fans have been incredible! I think we have over 20,000 signatures on our campaign. (add link) We also had a number of journalists reach out to us who were fans of the show and they’ve covered our efforts to save the show. Probably the biggest one we were in was *TV Guide*, the magazine that gets printed and distributed across the country and online and SyFy has been wonderful, and a bunch of other places have been really great in covering *Blue Book*. But it’s the fans who are really great. I collect the fan art all the time show it every Friday, like a ‘fan art Friday’ on Twitter.

“It’s a wonderful thing just to know that the show did touch people the way it touched us. We deeply care about it, and miss it definitely. It’s one of those things that was a true blessing. If I didn’t work on *Project Blue Book*, I would have been a consumer of it and I would’ve been really upset that it got canceled too because it spoke about a lot of things that I’m already interested in. I’ve written a tonne of stuff but I felt so fortunate that this is the one that that got made because this was the one that I was most passionate about.

SOYM: Would it fit into a one-off special or possibly two parts, to tie it all up?

DO: “It could... We could go back to History or somebody and say we could wrap it up in four hours over two nights. We’re not adverse to that and we would find a way to make it work. I think for me personally, and I can only speak for myself, it’s the lack of closure that makes it so hard. We left it on such a cliffhanger with the confidence of thinking that we had more to tell. But these things happen. I don’t know if the pandemic had an impact, that probably didn’t help us either. In America, networks change their business model all the time. I mean, it’s a tricky thing doing a scripted show on basic

cable with commercials which is largely a model which is going away. Who wants to cut to commercials anymore? Nobody. Everybody loves things like Netflix, and I do too, when you're into something you don't want to be interrupted. Unfortunately those networks, like History, still depend on a model that is definitely changing quickly. We had five commercial breaks on the show, which is a lot, and it's not the kind of show that you want to get interrupted, right?

"When I was live-tweeting during the show I would always target when the commercials started, and drop a whole bunch of stuff like 'here's some context for you to read'."

SOYM: Can we get any hints about where season three went after Hynek's 'King of The World' Titanic moment on the front of the icebreaker in Antarctica?

DO: "I can tease a couple of things, because I think we've teased these things already elsewhere. Quinn *will* be found. How we find Quinn and where we find him, I honestly cannot talk about. We understand that for fans who were like, "Oh my God! They killed Quinn!" I hope it was clear by the end of the season finale, we didn't. Everyone thinks he's dead, except Hynek who still has faith that he's out there. Maybe I shouldn't be saying we will find him. But I guess maybe I should be saying that Hynek's deep assumptions usually tend to turn out to be true.

"The other thing I think I can tease is that the show moves into 1954, when there was an explosion of UFO events worldwide, many of which were investigated by Project Blue Book. That was something we were very excited about as well, the show beginning to take a more global aspect. We start it with Mainbrace as that was a joint coalition of many different countries, so we're off the coast of Norway, but we definitely wanted to expand the show and travel globally.

"We're not abandoning anything we set up or anything like that, but definitely get out there for some of the season and stuff like that. So those were the two kind of headlines that I think we have already teased, which is that we go worldwide, and Hynek and Quinn - **#Hynequinn** - continues so that's a bit of where we're heading. And there's also some wonderful cases we explore. If people want to Google '1954 UFO wave', they're going to start to see some of the things that we want to delve into. It was just a crazy year for UFO sightings across the world, in Italy and Brazil, the UK, and France also."

Unfortunately, a Google search is about as close as we're going to get to Season Three at the time of writing, and as we bid



Above: Aidan Gillen as Dr. J. Allen Hynek contemplates the bigger questions in life. Who pilots UFOs? What projects are the USAF working on? Where is Quinn?

a lockdown adieu to David, if anyone from Syfy, Amazon, Netflix, Starz, Sky Atlantic, Apple TV+, Channel 4, even History Channel, reads this, we cannot recommend enough that you pick up this series. What's not to love? Ready made fanbase, quality writing, awesome cast and it's educational too.

There's bigger questions relating to the disappearance of Captain Quinn, like does consciousness play a part? Do we need to watch the classic sci-fi film *The Abyss* again to make sense of it all? And what's going to happen to Susie, now that she's incarcerated somewhere? Will we see Hynek meet a young Jacques Vallée? These are questions we need answers too! We could do with some good news at the moment and a *Blue Book* renewal could just be the perfect antidote to 2020 as interest in the history of UFO investigations gathers pace. 🍀

#SAVEBLUEBOOK ON CHANGE.ORG

To add your voice to the thousands who have already signed the **#SaveProjectBlueBook** campaign click the screenshot below.

The screenshot shows a Change.org petition page titled "Save 'Project Blue Book' The TV Series (Proyecto Libro Azul)". It features a banner image with the text "WHERE THE CONSPIRACY BEGINS" and "#SAVEBLUEBOOK PROJECT BLUE BOOK". The page indicates that 21,557 people have signed the petition. There are input fields for "First name", "Last name", and "Email". A dropdown menu shows "Brazil, USA, United Kingdom". There are radio buttons for "Yes! Tell me if this petition wins, and how I can help other relevant petitions" and "No, I do not want to hear about this petition's progress or other relevant petitions". A red button says "Sign this petition". At the bottom, there is a text box with the following text: "History has regrettably cancelled the series in May 2020 after two seasons as the company is pursuing mini-series only from now on. According to executive producers David O'Leary (creator) and Sean Jablonski (showrunner) as well as leading actor Michael Malarkey who portrays 'Captain Michael Quinn' season 3 is ready to go as it has already been fleshed out in early 2020!"

THE UFO PHENOMENON BEING TREATED SERIOUSLY

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THE UAP TASK FORCE

WHAT EXACTLY IS IT?

On August 14th 2020, the US Department of Defense issued a press statement confirming the establishment of a UAP 'Task Force'. We take a look at what that actually means. **Words: Warren Price**

Below: The current status of Senate Bill S.4049 which passed the US Senate on July 23, 2020. The fate of the Intelligence Authorization component and its linked UAPTF report language is uncertain.

Thanks to @DDeanJohnson for the updated information.

For the first time since Project Blue Book was closed by the U.S. Air Force in 1969 and since the Pentagon confirmed the existence of the AATIP program in 2017, the U.S. government is officially back in the UFO investigation business, and this time promising more transparency and accountability than ever before, at least on paper. While the U.S. Navy and Pentagon both publicly acknowledged the existence of "Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon" (UAP) following the release of three UAP videos captured by U.S. Navy F-18 fighter aircraft during separate incidents in 2004 and 2015, the new Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force (UAPTF) has been directed by Senate to "standardize collection and reporting on unidentified aerial phenomena,"

the Senate Intelligence Committee's June 2020 report to congress states. The formation of the UAPTF (2018) has largely been heralded by the UFO community and the To The Stars Academy of Arts and Sciences (TTSA), a multimedia and research company formed by former Blink182 lead Tom DeLonge, as a leap forward in the UFO disclosure movement, which has argued for decades that the U.S. government has hidden what it knows about UFOs/UAPs from the public and may even be hiding recovered metamaterials. So, what is the UAPTF really about?

An August 4, 2020 Pentagon press release [you can read it **here**] issued on behalf of Deputy Secretary of Defense David Norquist states the UAPT was formed, "to

BILL Hide Overview ✕

Sponsor: [Sen. Inhofe, James M. \[R-OK\]](#) (Introduced 06/23/2020)

Committees: Senate - Armed Services

Committee Reports: [S. Rept. 116-236](#)

Latest Action: House - 08/07/2020 Held at the desk. ([All Actions](#))

Roll Call Votes: There have been [12 roll call votes](#)

Tracker:

Introduced → **Passed Senate** → Passed House → To President → Became Law

improve its understanding of, and gain sight into, the nature and origins of UAPs.” The announcement of the task force appears to be a direct result of a June 2020 vote by the Senate Intelligence Committee (SIC) to “require U.S. intelligence agencies and the Defense Department to compile a detailed public analysis of all data collected on UAPs [...],” according to Politico. Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman, Senator Marco Rubio stated, “We have things flying over our military bases and places where we’re conducting military exercises and we don’t know what it is and it isn’t ours,” according to a July 26th CBS News interview. Rubio added, “Frankly, if it’s something outside this planet that might actually be better than the fact that we’ve seen some sort of technological leap from the Chinese or Russians or some other adversary that allows them to conduct this sort of activity,” according to CBS News.

These comments followed classified briefings during which Rubio and other members of Congress were provided information on the subject of UAPs. After these briefings, Senator Rubio’s Committee “directed” the Director of National Intelligence “in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,” to submit a report to Congress within 180 days of enactment of an Intelligence Authorization Act (IAA). The SSCI report, including the UAPTF language and its parent bill, the Intelligence Authorization Act, were later linked to S.4049 (National Defense Authorization Act) which passed the U.S. Senate on July 23, 2020. The combo-bill now awaits a conference with the House of Representatives, the date of which may occur in late November or in December, 2020. However, the chances for enactment of the IAA portion are quite uncertain. Whether or not the IAA is enacted, the fate of the proposed DNI report on UAP will depend mostly on who is running what in mid-2021, and what they think of the subject. The Committee report also references an apparently already existing ‘Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force’ that was run through the Office of Naval Intelligence, “to standardize collection and reporting on unidentified aerial phenomenon.”

Despite the pre-existence of a UAP task force when the committee met back in June, the Senate Intelligence Committee found the existing task force to be inadequate for the job. “The Committee remains concerned that there is no unified, comprehensive process within the Federal Government for collecting and analyzing intelligence on [UAPs], despite the potential threat,” according to the Committee report. So,



Above: Congressman Marco Rubio onboard a helicopter during a tour at Elgin Air Force base in September 2020. Photo from rubio.senate.gov.

even though the Navy had already formed a task force to investigate UAPs when the Senate Intelligence Committee met in June, Congress has insisted that while the Navy will continue to lead the UAPTF, that task force will now be under the direction and authority of the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense, both of whom work directly for the President of the United States. The other major difference of course is that Congress has now also directed what it wants the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense to provide in a report to Congress, which has presumably resulted in the formation of the UAPTF to get a head start.

So, just what is Congress asking the newly formed UAPTF to do now that it is empowered with the broad authority and interagency influence of two cabinet level officials? Here are the highlights of the Senate Intelligence Committee’s directives to the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense:

- Provide a “detailed analysis” of all the UAP and related intelligence reporting data gathered by the already existing UAPTF housed within the Office of Naval Intelligence. In other words, Congress wants the already existing UAPTF to report everything it’s found out.
- Provide UAP data collected by geospatial intelligence, signals intelligence, human intelligence, and “measurement and signals” intelligence.
- Hand over any UAP analysis the FBI has “derived from investigations of intrusions

“The UAP task force will now be under the direction of the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defence.”

Right: Project SIGN leaders meet in a conference room at Wright Patterson Airforce Base, ca. 1948.

Photo from History of the United States Air Force UFO Programs, Thomas Tullen.



of [UAP] data over restricted United States airspace.”

- *A description of the interagency process for timely data collection and centralized processing of UAP reporting for the government, “regardless of which service or agency acquired the information,” and “identification of the official accountable for the process” of gathering and analysis of interagency data.*
- *Identification of the UAP threat to national security along with an assessment of whether UAPs may come from earthbound /known foreign adversaries and whether one of our adversaries may have obtained some type of “breakthrough aerospace capabilities.”*
- *Recommendations for increased data collection, better research, and potential additional funding for these activities.*

government counter-intelligence office lamented, “[...] After an hour briefing and showing videos and having pilots come in and give their testimony at the end of that discussion, I had this complete blank stare on this person’s face, and they asked me how the Miami Hurricanes were doing this football season.” (0:37:22 to 0:37:44, Sara Carter Show Podcast, *What the Pentagon Really Knows About UFOs*).

While TTSA personnel, including Elizondo have routinely described the UFO/UAP phenomenon as a potential national security threat, the Director of Government Programs for TTSA was not all doom and gloom on Sara Carter’s podcast, “I think with every challenge comes opportunity. I think it could absolutely be concerning. I also think there could be some benefits, if that was the case.” Many questions remain however, as to just what the public and congress can expect to learn from the UAPTF, and while the laundry list of directives issued by Rubio’s Senate Intelligence Committee are impressive, Congress still faces the daunting prospect of trying to obtain reliable information through the veil of the U.S. government’s black budget machinery, estimated to account for over \$80 billion in budget allocations for the coming fiscal year.

“Declassified documents indicate the U.S. Air Force has been investigating UFOs, starting in 1948 with Project Saucer/Sign.

Senator Rubio’s committee directed that the report to Congress answering this impressive list of inquiries be in unclassified form with classified “annexes” to the report as required. The exact make-up, leadership, structure, and methodology of the UAPTF remains a mystery, but so far, according to the former director of the Pentagon’s Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP), Luis Elizondo, briefings with high level government leaders on the subject have bordered on the surreal. In an August 24, 2020 podcast where Elizondo appeared on the Sara Carter show and described briefing a “very high level” DoD official on UFOs/UAPs, the former

So, while the text of the SIC’s directives to the DNI and Pentagon are impressive and certainly sound like UFO/UAP disclosure, it’s worth noting that we’ve been down the government UFO investigation path before. Thanks to documents declassified in the 1990s, we know that the U.S. Air Force investigation of UFOs started in 1948 with Project Saucer/Sign, followed by Project Grudge, then Blue Book, then AATIP, and there were other programs in between. For instance, declassified documents indicate the Air Force has been investigating “fast-walkers,” unidentified, physics-defying objects caught on videos from the U.S. space program, including Apollo, the Space

Shuttle program, and the International Space Station, since at least 1972. Keep in mind, those are the investigations the American public “knows” about.

Given the now 70+ years of UFO investigation, secrecy, and misinformation, at least one well known UFO researcher and author, Richard Dolan, has a much more tempered view of the UAPTF, “that’s supposed to, we’re told, report to congress and presumably to the public.” Dolan adds, “Well, that would be nice to get some new confirmed data on all of this. We will see how all that turns out.” (**Richard Dolan Show**, YouTube, Sep. 8 2020, *The Future of UFO Research*, 0:19:39 to 0:19:59). Despite his cautious optimism, Dolan describes the formation of the UAPTF in terms of, “[...] baby steps, so let’s not get too excited but, there’s something that’s been going on and it’s important. What we need definitely is much greater transparency relating to UFOs coming from all the world governments, [...] especially that of the United States.” (0:18:57 to 0:19:15, Id.)

So, what can the UFO community, the public, and the world expect from the UAPTF when and if it produces a report to Congress? At this point, no one can be sure, but according to Richard Dolan on his YouTube show, it might be a little too soon to start holding our collective breath, “I don’t know how much information we’re really ever going to get out of that. But if such a task force exists, it could actually serve as a kind of wedge for the public to pry open more information. Project Blue Book served that role in the 50s and 60s when it existed as an official UFO body. Blue Book spokespeople lied about UFOs all the time, but Blue Book was still valuable to have, and I think the UAPTF similarly could be quite valuable to have for a lot of reasons.”

Dolan’s comparison of the new UAPTF to Project Blue Book, widely regarded by the UFO community as a disinformation engine, will no doubt be disappointing to some. Surely one would hope that the new UAPTF will produce more earth shattering results than the long dead Project Blue Book of the 1950s and 60s, right? Recent Tweets by TTSA founder Tom DeLonge and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense and TTSA advisory board member Chris Mellon have spoken to TTSA’s “enormous gratification” for the DoD, the Senate Intelligence Committee, New York Times, and others for exposing UAP/UFO information that led to the formation of the UAPTF. In other words, TTSA’s messaging makes clear that the TTSA feels the UAPTF is a major step towards disclosure and hasn’t



Above: Tom DeLonge and Lue Elizondo, along with Christopher Mellon, have been a strong voice in getting the UAP topic in front of the Senate. ©TTSA

been afraid to take credit for its formation. In an August 16, 2020 tweet regarding the UAPTF, DeLonge says, “Chris [Mellon, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Intelligence], you strategized so much of this. People need to know you are a hero.”

Only time will tell if TTSA’s efforts were in fact heroic, at least in terms of the actual results the public can expect to see from the UAPTF. The end result, and just how transparent the UAPTF remain complete unknowns. Even so, attention drawn to the UFO subject in the form of officially released videos, congressional briefings, and the acknowledgement that the government has been secretly investigating UFOs all along, can no doubt be considered dramatic and significant steps in the right direction.

The issues at stake are perhaps best summed up by Luis Elizondo in his recent appearance on the *Sara Carter Show*, “Just look around you. Life is everywhere. On this one little rock we call earth, life is in the deepest part of the Antarctic ice, it’s in the darkest and deepest places of the oceans, it’s on the tallest mountains, it’s everywhere. I think maybe what we need to do is a sit back a little bit and maybe reevaluate what life is and what it means to be a living thing.” (0:58:05 to 0:58:35). Indeed--- what does it mean to be a living thing? Are we alone or is someone here with us? Who are they? Why are they here?

Will the UAPTF help us finally answer these fundamental questions or like Project Saucer, Project Sign, Project Grudge, Project Blue Book, and ATTIP before it, will the UAPTF be just another fork in the road-- another acronym in the alphabet soup of the UFO phenomenon? At this point, while there is plenty of cautious optimism in the UFO community, as with the phenomenon itself, we just don’t know. 🍌

Author



Warren Price is an attorney, former City Manager Dayton Ohio, and the former Director of Public Safety and Service of the City of Canton, Ohio. In addition to his legal practice, Warren operates the **AlasBabylon News** blog. He is a lifelong aviation enthusiast and has studied the UFO/ UAP phenomena for the last twenty years.

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Host: Shannon LeGro

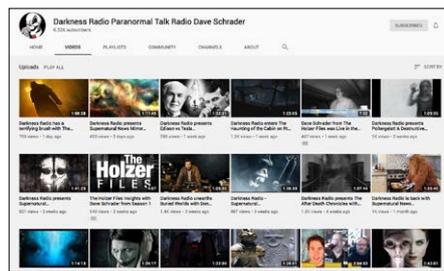


Host Shannon LeGro has been interested in the paranormal since she was a teen, when she had her own personal experience. She strives to bring a fresh perspective and an open mind to the most intriguing mysteries in our universe. The radio show airs weekly with all episodes available on the website. She also runs her own publishing company, Into The Fray Books.

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Host: Dave Schrader

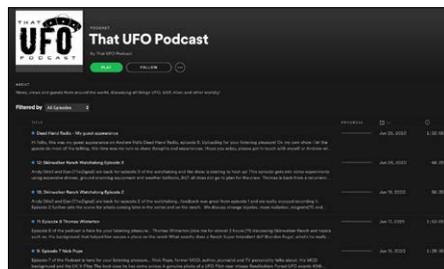


Veteran ghost hunter and radio personality Dave Schrader returned to Darkness Radio earlier this year after a stint filling Art Bell's legacy over at the latter's *Midnight In The Desert* show. *Beyond The Darkness* is a heady mix of paranormal and high strangeness and airs live every Saturday and Sunday. The vast archives are well worth a look too.

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That UFO Podcast

Host: Andy McGrillen



A brand new show available on most streaming platforms, *That UFO Podcast* has already boasted some impressive and informative interviews since launching in May this year. Based in the north of the UK, host Andy McGrillen has an easy approach to the interviews and the conversations lead where they lead with a natural flow. Definitely one to add to your permanent UFO playlist. See page 5 for further details.

Richard Dolan Show

Host: Richard Dolan

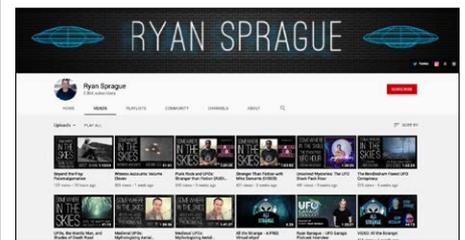


Richard Dolan is one of the world's leading researchers and writers on UFOs. Richard is a mine of information when it comes to the history of UFO cases and his background as a historian makes him one of the most respected authoritarians on the subject. His YouTube channel contains a huge catalogue of interviews and UFO cases, some you've never heard of.

Visit: richarddolanmembers.com

Somewhere In The Skies Podcast

Host: Ryan Sprague



Ryan Sprague is an investigative journalist, author and host of the TV show *Mysteries Decoded*. He's interviewed witnesses from all walks of life, including military officials, about UFO sightings and possible encounters with extraterrestrials many of which he reported on in his book *Somewhere in the Skies: A Human Approach to an Alien Phenomenon*.

Visit: somerewhereintheskies.com

Looking for information about esoteric topics not normally covered by mainstream radio shows? It's difficult to know where to start. YouTube offers up shows of varying quality and talk radio broadcasts are often full of adverts so you only get 20 minutes or so of discussion. Podcasts are ten a penny these days so how do you work out which ones are worth your time, and on which platform? From experience we've found that the reputation of the host, as well as the guests, speaks volumes. These are some we've been listening to recently. Click the images and do the same!

The Undead Gaucho

Host: The Undead Gaucho



Bitesized videos more your thing? Head over to The Undead Gaucho, an Argentinian filmmaker, photographer and UFO enthusiast who manages to offer up an incredible amount of information in such a small amount of time. Each video is a carefully considered conversation starter which leaves you still thinking about what you've digested for hours afterwards. **Visit: twitter.com/theundeadgaucho**

TTSA Talks

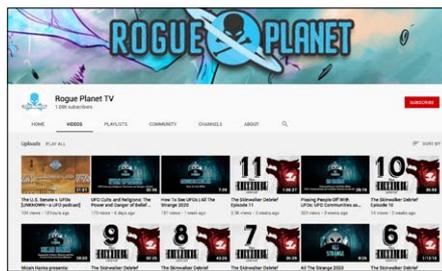
Host: Various



The official podcast of To The Stars Academy of Arts and Sciences hosted by co-founder and rockstar Tom DeLonge. Available as Spotify and Apple podcasts the first three episodes focus on the age-old problems of accessing and analysing data related to UAP sightings. If the second season of *Unidentified* left you hungry for more, this is the place to stay up to date with TTSA. **Visit: tothestarsacademy.com**

Rogue Planet TV

Hosts: Various



Hosts Maureen Elsberry, Caleb Hanks, Jason McClellan, and friends muse about UFOs, the paranormal, geek culture, outer space, booze, music, and the future. Having recently featured a number of shows dedicated to *The Secret Of Skinwalker Ranch* tv show on History Channel, this is the place to go if you want the best in the new breed of UFO researchers and commentators. **Visit: rogueplanet.tv**

UFO Chronicles

Host: Nik Hunter



A host of videos for your listening delight from the UK based UFO Chronicles and available on most platforms. Eye witness interviews covering all manners of phenomena, from UFOs and cryptids, to phantoms and demons. With a new episode uploaded every week there's a huge back catalogue of amazing interviews for anyone who is interested in high strangeness. **Visit: twitter.com/UFOChroniclesUK**

Coast To Coast AM

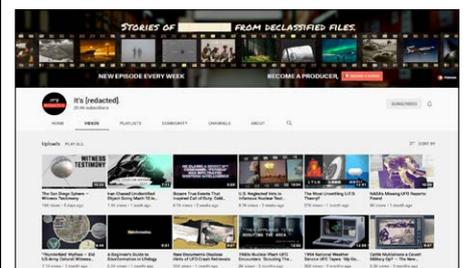
Hosts: Various



Since the 1990's *Coast to Coast AM* has been captivating listeners young and old with tales of paranormal phenomena, Bigfoot, alien abductions, conspiracies and anything else unexplained. The two Georges, Noory and Knapp, continue to the host the granddaddy of paranormal radio shows which airs on more than 600 radio stations worldwide. **Visit: coasttocoastam.com**

It's Redacted

Created by: Jake Mann



Considering the channel only launched in November 2019 the quality of the information on offer is superb. Taking it's often valuable information from historical declassified agency files which often go unnoticed under the radar, the channel is fast becoming one of the more important contributors to the UAP conversation. **Visit: twitter.com/itsredacted**

NOT MADE OF THIS EARTH

When *The New York Times* published an article in July 2020 which mentioned potential UFO crash retrievals, we thought we'd invite some friends to sit down and discuss what we'd all just read.

We all knew it was coming. #UFOTwitter had been ablaze for weeks with rumours of a new article from *The New York Times* which was to cover not only the controversial Wilson-Davis documents, but also that Holy Grail topic of UFO investigations, crash retrievals. As per the bombshell revelations of December 16, 2017 in which it was disclosed the US government did in fact have a UAP investigation program, known as AATIP (Advanced Aerial Threat Identification Program), this article was authored by Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal.

This new piece, published barely a week after our last issue came out - typical - ran with the headline "No Longer In Shadows, Pentagon's U.F.O. Unit Will Make Some Findings Public." Its content was, to say the least, varied, and at first glance it felt like we'd just been told to hold up some aluminium foil and balsa wood in front of a load of flashing cameras. This wasn't the article we had been expecting, it felt incomplete, sanitised. It felt like the collective

hopes of thousands of angry Twitter souls had been brought back down to Earth with an unceremonial bump. But then we read it again, and again, and it slowly dawned on us that this was in fact leading up to something bigger, much bigger.

It referenced the recent senate hearings, where a motion by Florida senator Marco Rubio to include potential threats from UAP in a new Defense bill was passed. It confirmed that AATIP, or a variation of, continued despite Pentagon protests to the contrary. A UAP Task Force was announced "to standardize collection and reporting" on UFO sightings - with some of those findings being made publicly available 180 days after the enactment of the intelligence authorization act. And then there were two separate quotes, one from former Senate majority Leader Harry Reid who was originally quoted as saying "crashes had occurred and that retrieved materials had been studied secretly for decades."

The other came Dr Eric Davis, an astrophysicist, occasional Pentagon consultant and former member of

Robert Bigelow's NIDS (National Institute of Discovery Science) group, in which he reported to having recently given a classified briefing to a 'Defense Department agency' during which he told them about retrievals of "off-world vehicles not made on this earth." Mind. Blown.

So as we let all this information sink in, grabbed some popcorn and quietly watched the fun unfold on social media, our earlier suspicions of sanitisation appeared to have a sound base. Claims were made that the piece had had 1,000 words cut out of it; that there'd been pressure from high ranking officials on the NYT editor-in-chief to nix the article; other sections were blaming other individuals in the Twittersphere for overhyping the article, which ultimately caused the article to be hacked to pieces; others threw Kean and Blumenthal under the bus saying they'd bottled it; more fingers were pointed and then the news came out that Senator Harry Reid hadn't actually said what had been attributed to him which led *The New York Times* to print this correction the following day:

"An earlier version of this article inaccurately rendered remarks attributed to Harry Reid, the retired Senate majority leader from Nevada. Mr. Reid said he believed that crashes of objects of unknown origin may have occurred and that retrieved materials should be studied; he did not say that

“This wasn't the article we had been expecting. It felt incomplete, sanitised. But then we read it again, and again.

crashes had occurred and that retrieved materials had been studied secretly for decades."

Which naturally lead to Round 2 in the wild, wild west frontier town that is #UFOTwitter.

Then, on July 25th, both Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal appeared on Jay Anderson's *Project Unity* YouTube channel where they faced some pretty tough questions, in part contributed by the UFO community on social media, which we believe led to a follow-up article in *The New York Times* released on July 28th. This new article, in our opinion, was almost written in response to that interview - we may be wrong, we'll freely admit we might be. The tone

of the content felt to us like they were almost justifying their position to the UFO community about what they'd written, what they hadn't, and how hard they were working to actually get these stories out to a public domain with an audience of *millions*, rather than a few thousand subscribers or followers. Fair play to them, they didn't have to, and if we read that wrong, that's on us.

And that's why we wanted to get a second opinion, and a third, fourth and fifth. So we emailed some of the brightest young minds in the UAP subject to see what they made of it all. Are those two articles the next steps towards full confirmation that we have been visited by beings from other planets, in craft that are

significantly superior to anything we could build here on Earth? Do the public care whether these claims are true and the Government have been keeping it a secret since 1947, or earlier? What will come out next?

So kick back, turn the page and settle in to see what these fine gentleman have to say. If you have no idea what we're talking about then these links below should get you up to speed.

NEW YORK TIMES JULY 23 Article	PROJECT UNITY JULY 25 Interview	NEW YORK TIMES JULY 28 Article
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THE ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS

 <p>RYAN SPRAGUE Author, Podcast host, TV presenter</p> <p>Ryan Sprague is the author of the best-selling book <i>Somewhere in the Skies: A Human Approach to an Alien Phenomenon</i> and is also the creator and host of the <i>Somewhere in the Skies</i> podcast. His UFO research finds him interviewing witnesses in all walks of life about UFO sightings and claimed close encounters. He's also interviewed military and intelligence officials directly on UFOs. Ryan is also a lead investigator and co-host of the CW television series, <i>Mysteries Decoded</i>.</p> <p> @SomewhereSkies</p>	 <p>ANDREAS FREEMAN STAHL Writer, UAP 'activist'</p> <p>Andreas has been writing for 'The Unidentified' website for almost two years. Previously he was part of the UAPinfo group that first released the infamous Luis Elizondo resignation letter (before retracting it). In recent months he has worked as a 'UAP Activist', spearheading the 'Outreach Program' and 'End UAP Secrecy' campaigns to pressure media, congress and Ufology into taking action over the UFO military incursions. For more info see the-unidentified.net.</p> <p> @AFSUnidentified</p>	 <p>JAY ANDERSON YouTube content creator</p> <p>Jay is the creator of <i>The Project Unity</i> Youtube channel (see p9) and exploded into the UFO community these past twelve months. Despite being just 25 years old, he has held his own in live online discussions with such UFO luminaries as Grant Cameron and Richard Dolan, displaying an intelligence and courteous manner rarely seen in this community. He also secured the first post-publication interview with the authors of the <i>New York Times</i> article, Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal.</p> <p> @TheProjectUnity</p>	 <p>ANDY MCGRILLEN Podcast host</p> <p>Andy McGrillen is an affable Scotsman, who created <i>That UFO Podcast</i> earlier this year when the worldwide pandemic lockdown was first enforced. Boasting an impressive line-up of guests for a fledgling show, including crew members of the 2004 USS Nimitz 'TicTac' incident, Andy is becoming well known for his comfortable, yet no-nonsense approach to interviews and his podcast is definitely one of the better ones out there.</p> <p> @ufouapam</p>	 <p>DANNY SILVA Citizen journalist</p> <p>Danny Silva is a citizen journalist with a focus on UFOs and related phenomena. He has written about <i>To the Stars Academy</i> and AATIP among other aspects of 'Disclosure.' A highly recommended and extensive volume of Danny's work on these subjects can be found at SilvaRecord.com. He has also appeared on <i>Coast To Coast AM</i> as well as George Knapp's <i>Mystery Wire</i> and Alejandro Rojas' <i>Open Minds</i> radio shows.</p> <p> @SilvaRecord</p>
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WHAT WERE YOUR IMMEDIATE IMPRESSIONS OF THE NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON JULY 23RD?

ANDREAS: Everyone in #UFOTwitter world knew it was coming. My immediate impressions were negative, one source and contextual errors taking on the biggest story in human history. For me, the article's focus should have been 'US officially investigates UFOs' (UAP-Task Force), but instead was overshadowed by the 'off-world crash retrieval' headline. But maybe crash retrieval is where this is all heading, regardless.

DANNY: I thought it was amazing the *New York Times* were talking about crash retrievals. I also thought the article didn't live up to the rumors about it, but it was still a win for the UFO community. The article was for the public, not us.

RYAN: I was in the first few minutes of recording an interview with Anthony Lappé, the executive producer and show runner of the History Channel television series, *Unidentified: Inside America's UFO Investigation*. We stopped the interview to literally read the article together sentence-by-sentence. Once we reached the end, we both sort of shrugged, and agreed that almost everything in the article had already been circulating in the media for some time. Almost everything. The paragraphs covering "Off-world vehicles" by Eric Davis and the claims of "actual materials that the government and the private sector had in their possession" by Senator Harry Reid (below) were definitely compelling and raised an eyebrow. I actually thought the confirmation that the UFO program was tucked



“For people in the UFO community it's nothing new. From a public/mainstream perspective though, this is actually game changing.” Jay Anderson

in to the Office of Naval Intelligence was one of the most interesting contributions to the article.

ANDY: I was excited when I saw it. It had been hyped and hyped and hyped by many people. When I first got onto the article the first thing I did was to scroll through just to see how long it was and it was pretty short, which surprised me. I was thinking whether other people are going to question this; it's not got what a lot of us were expecting or feeling it might have. It's not as sensational, maybe, as some were saying it was going to be but that was fine for me because I think it's just part of that slower process.

JAY: First of all I was like holy shit, it's dropped! I'd been anticipating it for a while and it kinda took everyone out of the blue including myself. I got an email from Leslie Kean saying that it had dropped so I jumped on Twitter and when I read it I was a bit taken aback, I must admit as I had been expecting Admiral Wilson content. Obviously from my perspective I'd been keeping quiet under the auspices that this was going to be included in the article, so I was really excited about that. But when I was reading through it, and you've got these quotes from Harry Reid, you've got these quotes from Eric Davis... I had to take a step back because for people in the UFO community it's nothing new. From a public/mainstream perspective though, this is actually game changing.

DO YOU BELIEVE THE ARTICLE MAY HAVE BEEN DILUTED DURING THE EDITORIAL PROCESS DUE TO THE SUBJECT MATTER?

ANDY: We heard what Leslie and Ralph think in their interview with Jay when they spoke about the process involving multiple editors. With that many people at that level making the decision... a story like this must be hard enough to get past one, let alone several people.

And I would say definitely outside sources as well, because there's no way that whoever's in charge of the programs now will have also confirmed they're still running. It was always going to get heavily scrutinised by a lot of different areas and different angles.

ANDREAS: Possibly, there wasn't enough meat on the bones to include the WD (Wilson/Davis) and 1961 claims. As Andy mentioned, maybe getting it past the editors is a very difficult ask considering the questionable and unverified subject matter.

RYAN: I do believe there was much more to this article than *The New York Times* would have us believe. In fact, several colleagues have been told that it's possible that large portions of the article were edited out. I assume it's mostly because of quotes, claims, and facts that simply could not be substantiated or confirmed according to *The New York Times* strict editorial and vetting requirements. I don't, in any way believe the article was walked back by government or military officials.

JAY: If I was going to speculate and assume that there had been some degree of sanitisation of the article, then it would have happened through the editorial process. I know Leslie and Ralph definitely wanted to have more included in the story and it's just whether or not that was key information. During my interview with them they kind of hinted that there were more people who were willing to go on the record, specifically about retrieval programmes and for whatever reason they weren't included.

WHAT DID YOU MAKE OF THE CORRECTIONS THAT WERE MADE TO THE ARTICLE, AND ALSO ERIC DAVIS AND SEN. HARRY REID'S COMMENTS POST-PUBLICATION?

DANNY: Harry Reid is a legend and obviously has to feel like his

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thoughts were translated in the article 100% accurately. It's his right to comment on it, and clear things up. It was unfortunate that there was miscommunication between the authors and Reid.

RYAN: The corrections were a little disheartening, but necessary. If we're going to rely on facts, and have major publications covering this topic, it needs to be a solid steel case. As for Reid's comments, I think they were sound and justifiable. The fact that *The New York Times* didn't include direct quotes from Reid is very odd, in my opinion. As for Davis, I believe him when he says he had a meeting with Admiral Wilson, and I believe he has probably been privy to aerospace companies and different scientists studying possible meta-materials, or possibly even exotic craft. Unfortunately Davis may no longer speak about any of this for reasons we may never know and possibly reasons we shouldn't know for security purposes.

ANDY: Their names were attributed to the piece, which they were obviously happy with but then they've got a plausible deniability by coming out with those statements, don't they? 'No, that's not quite what I said.' So they're still holding back that bit of credibility, I suppose, at their end by distancing themselves a little bit from some of the comments. For 99.9% of the world Eric Davis is no-one, so regardless of what he comes out and says, for the 0.1% on Twitter and Facebook, reading your magazine and listening to podcasts, his word holds some weight, but for everyone else, the majority reading that article... who's Eric Davis?

ANDREAS: The Sen. Harry Reid situation was bizarre, he was either was mis-quoted (which Leslie Kean and Ralph Blumenthal reject) or he stated something he shouldn't have. Either way it felt like a massive walk-back from crash retrievals.

WITH THE MENTION OF CRASH RETRIEVALS, SHOULD THIS HAVE BEEN ON THE FRONT PAGE, IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING ELSE WE'VE BEEN THROUGH IN 2020?

JAY: Most of us have a grasp of the fact that there are likely to be retrieval programmes, reverse engineering... at least many of us are suspicious of that. But at the

same time the mainstream not so much, even the speculation of them existing in the first place is still very much on the table. We have one of the biggest media distribution platforms in the world – *The New York Times* – bringing out an article, even if it wasn't too detailed, regarding crash-retrievals. From a mainstream perspective, if someone wasn't informed on this subject whatsoever, if they were just picking up the Times and reading that, no matter where it is, then that's really going to open their eyes.

ANDREAS: I don't think it should be counted as being in the same standard as the NYT article from December 2017. That very first article was historic because it showed the US Government had officially acknowledged a UFO program in AATIP. That article also had testimony on record from the director Luis Elizondo, which again

possible alien wreckage or "off world vehicles" and the editors pulled back on that entire aspect of the article because they probably felt it didn't meet their standards. But what I appreciate and respect about Kean and Blumenthal is that they were still able to get a piece of that in to the article. And supposedly there is more to come, and I am excited to see what happens next.

DANNY: I always think the UFO subject should be front page news. I agree that I'm not sure if this story had enough meat on the bone from *The Time's* perspective to be front page, however.

ANDY: No, I'm not surprised. Remember that this is for an American audience. The first article was heavily weighted with military confirmation, US Navy, Department of Defence. It had Elizondo and pilot testimony, loads of official videos: there was none of that this time.

“We have one of the biggest media distribution platforms in the world bringing out an article regarding crash retrievals.”

Andy McGrillen

was officially acknowledged by the US Government (at the time). The most recent article (23/07/2020) however, failed to establish a burden of proof that is equal to the claims of the single source used (Dr. Eric Davis). And whilst what was claimed is probably true, it means little to a public who are naturally pseudo-sceptics from the offset.

RYAN: Absolutely, while the article was insightful, in my opinion, it didn't hold the weight and power of the 2017 bombshell article where an entire secret program was carefully laid out to the public. And by carefully, I mean every single word in that article was there for a reason. It was a huge story. With this new story, it seemed as though not as much care was put in to it, given the corrections made a day later. And also, the claims of "off world vehicles" was buried so deeply, perhaps on purpose by the authors, that it seemed almost a throwaway paragraph. That being said, what I believe happened was that much, much more was written about the

But then I don't know how much that really matters nowadays? I don't remember the last time I bought a newspaper. A lot more publications are now online and digital, and as Leslie Kean pointed out many times, it was trending number one on *The New York Times* website for days and days and days, and it's been picked up by multiple other mainstream news outlets as well. So for me it's had its impact regardless of where it was placed in the paper.

DO YOU THINK THEREFORE THAT THE MAINSTREAM PUBLIC MAY BE MORE INTERESTED THE UFO SUBJECT FOLLOWING IT'S PUBLICATION?

ANDREAS: Yes. I believe the article has pushed the conversation further into the mainstream. The coverage is the most read and most discussed topic on *NYTimes.com*. UFOs was trending on twitter. And personally, I've had (non-ufo) people come to me to ask me about it. The BBC reached out to Jeremy Corbell,

and then Chris Mellon was on CNN who took this issue seriously. So despite a few errors, and questions about timing over ‘crash retrieval disclosure’, this overall has been a positive step in pushing forward the core story.

DANNY: There needs to be more to go along with the story in regards to proof or more prominent declarations in order to sway the public. Talking about UFO debris in government hands is a huge step for the mainstream media, though. What’s going on in Washington D.C. right now with UAPTF, the Intelligence Bill, and more politicians getting involved and being interested is a huge step.

RYAN: I think the public perception is always changing. I’ve never been one for “Disclosure”. And by that, I only mean that I don’t believe the U.S. Government, or any world government, will ever announce that they know the true source and intention of whatever lay behind UAP or UFOs. But if we are to get more substantial evidence or documentation on these supposed “off world vehicles”, that’s an entirely new conversation to have.

WHAT DID YOU MAKE OF RALPH BLUMENTHAL’S COMMENTS THAT THERE WAS AN ‘INTERNET UFO FRENZY’ WHICH, HE BELIEVES, ULTIMATELY HAMPERED THE JOB HE AND LESLIE KEAN SET OUT TO DO?

RYAN: I struggle on both ends. I completely understand the frustrations by Kean and Blumenthal (right). They were hounded by members of the UFO community for any teases of what they were working on. And when some of the information did get out, it made the expectations so high that nothing would have satisfied a portion of the UFO community that firmly believes we are in possession of alien craft. It also gave other mainstream outlets information that should have remained with the authors of *The New York Times* article and the story they were planning to break. That being said, I don’t think the “frenzy” was as big a detriment as they made it out to be. They don’t own the topic and they don’t own the information. If researchers were able to track down leads and come out with articles pertaining to similar



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“There were critical errors made in the first article which are common knowledge within the UFO blog-o-sphere.

Andreas Freeman Stahl

ANDY: I agree that things are speeding up a little bit. To The Stars Academy came out almost three years ago and they had that initial splash, and they’ve kept their momentum going and that’s allowed a group of us to jump on that particular bandwagon and jump along for the ride. I think we’ve always then looked to the general public to see how far behind they are, so what we now have is the public getting these big newspaper articles. I would love the general public to be listening to my podcast and you’d love millions to be downloading your magazine, but they’re still attached to a Joe Rogan podcast or a *New York Times* app. It’s bringing them along slowly and I think that we’ll see more people starting to catch up.

topics, that’s life. However, I believe that if those who did write these other articles had a well-thought out line of communication, they could have mediated this entire ordeal. Nobody was fully right or wrong. It is what it is, and I respect both ends of the debate.

DANNY: Blumenthal is entitled to his opinion. I’m not an employee of the *New York Times* so I don’t have knowledge about what happened behind the scenes. They talked to, and interviewed a lot of people. I’m not sure how they thought the fact they were working on something wouldn’t leak eventually.

ANDY: I think some of the comments were fair... from the point of view I would understand their frustration if I were working on a piece and bits of it start getting out there it can take

away from a final impact but, given the audience they were going for and the reach that that newspaper has – and this is no offence to some of those independent interviewers – but they’re basically unknown to most of the world, so it’s only effecting a small portion of the UFO community.

ANDREAS: Whilst I think there are lessons to be learnt from not overhyping ‘disclosure’, I feel the vilification of some researchers was probably unjust from a certain perspective. For example, if you are tackling the huge monster of crash retrievals, you need to pinpoint irrefutable data and verified sources. There were critical errors made in the first article which are common knowledge within the UFO blog-o-sphere. *The New York Times* shouldn’t really be beaten for accuracy on data by #UFOTwitter bloggers.

JAY: Yeah. I’m part of the community so I interact and communicate with a lot of these people and, without naming anyone, I do, to an extent understand their opinion. When you’re working on an

article of this size with the level of potential stigma and risks behind it professionally, you're dealing with potentially classified information, lots of secret handshakes and so on. I get that it's a really serious article and to have some information leaked out or information hinted at that maybe wasn't totally accurate, that could have swayed people off of the narrative that they were trying to go for. That could have genuinely damaged the story and maybe to a point where they may have even pulled it due to that speculation. With regards our perspective in the UFO community, we are all desperate to get information out, to have things addressed in a momentous format; we want things fast and we want things now. A lot of us have been pushing this ball forward year after year and only now are things starting to get recognised within the mainstream. When things like this are put forward there are going to be people that want to inform the community before these things drop, but I can also see why two *New York Times* journalists would like to keep the lid on their story until it drops and blows the world away.

FOLLOWING YOUR POST-ARTICLE INTERVIEW WITH LESLIE KEAN AND RALPH BLUMENTHAL, JAY, WHAT DID YOU MAKE OF THEIR FOLLOW UP ARTICLE OF JULY 28TH?

JAY: Personally, it felt that maybe there was a bit of reflection following my interview with them, because of the questions. I asked people on Twitter to help me out with things and I really did formulate the interview with the community in mind. I think the following article Leslie and Ralph trying to hint, to give us a little nudge, like 'there's definitely more coming, we're trying our hardest'... They're operating in a very bureaucratic system and they're talking about radical things; even for us crash retrievals is a radical thing to see in the news but for the mainstream, it's beyond insane. They had some interesting quotes, that their sources told them that AAV (Advanced Aerospace Vehicle) does *not* refer to vehicles made in any country - not Russian, not Chinese - but is used to mean technology in the realm of the truly unexplained.

They using terminology, they're dropping hints they're talking to certain people, it seemed to be surreptitiously directed more at the UFO community to let people know that things were on the horizon.

ANDY: Yeah, I agree with that but I don't think they had to. I've read back through the article a few times and the more I look at it there is some of that, that it's justifying it to people like us; here's why we did what we did, and why what's not there isn't there. But then I also think there's a potential there that that piece is for those of the general public who didn't have much of an interest before. It's piqued their interest a little bit.

ANDREAS: The second article didn't suffer the same contextual errors (or alleged misquotes) as the first, although relied on anonymous

“Crash retrievals alone are a huge deal, probably the most important thing *The New York Times* can talk about.

Danny Silva

sources (keep in mind the *NYT* editorial verification process is regarded as being one of the best in the world). As Jay mentioned, the second article provides probably the key quotation going forward: *'Our sources told us that "A.A.V." does not refer to vehicles made in any country — not Russian or Chinese — but is used to mean technology in the realm of the truly unexplained.'*

This second article also faced some unjust cowboy debunking regarding the slides at the end of the article, but thankfully such claims were dismissed just as quickly.

RYAN: I thought it was interesting and cleared up some of the claims in the previous article. And I do appreciate that both authors stressed that what they report on is in no way reflective of their personal beliefs, or the beliefs of those they interviewed. Everything they report is based on fact. Not belief. While it may be hard to set our beliefs aside, it is essential in reporting to be as objective as possible. And I think both journalists are the epitome of this approach.

WE'VE MENTIONED THERE MAY BE A PLANNED SERIES OF ARTICLES, WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE CONTENT OF THOSE?

ANDREAS: I would have thought crash retrievals and the evidence material could be used as a form of indoctrination, allowing people to slowly come to their own conclusions. I was careful about considering what materials might be included, but with TTSA's meta-material research and Tom Delonge hinting at an anti-gravity experiment we might be seeing something unique in the next *NYT* article. A piece by piece approach to building up the jigsaw.

DANNY: I know some of the things they have been looking into along with many other people following this story, but I'm not sure what

will make it in the articles. Crash retrievals alone are a huge deal, probably the most important thing they can talk about. If they continue looking into them, I'll be happy.

JAY: We know that they have more sources who were willing to go on the record, specifically about retrieval programmes and for whatever reason they weren't included in the original story. This is the beginning of crash retrievals being talked about and I would say within the next year, the next two years, it's going to be a solidified discussion, absolutely.

RYAN: I can't even pretend to know. But my hope is that we learn more about these off world vehicles or we get clarification on just exactly who briefed the Pentagon, to what extent, and perhaps even incidents that are connected to these claims. However, if even Sen. Harry Reid claims he couldn't find that information or wasn't let in on any of it, I doubt a journalists will either. But, it's 2020... anything can happen!

ANDY: I still think we're still going to see the drip-feed of information. I'd love to see some kind of follow-

up on the Wilson-Davis documents but, again, to most of the world, the general public, does that have much of an impact? Who is Admiral Wilson and who is Eric Davis? And without that context are people going to care? I think what we need to maybe see more of next is the more well known cases to get a little more out there, like Bob Lazar, or something that is already out there. Leslie Kean, in the follow-up article, mentioned about, you know, 'We never said aliens; we're saying it's unidentified' and that was always Luis Elizondo's route of discussion yet, in the new series of *Unidentified*, he's actually said the word 'alien' a couple of times.

IF THERE HAVE BEEN CRASH RETRIEVALS OF 'OFF WORLD' CRAFT, DO YOU BELIEVE IT'S FROM A WELL KNOWN CASE?

RYAN: Yes and no. And I think we must keep in mind that the crash retrievals may not have just been in the United States. In fact, George Knapp has brought forth not only information, but physical evidence of exotic materials from Russia. After speaking with other researchers,

“ I don't think we should just be focussing on crashes in the U.S. This entire UFO topic always gets painted as a very 'western' issue, but this is a global phenomenon. Ryan Sprague

journalists, and individuals in the military and intelligence communities, I don't think we should just be focussing on crashes in the U.S. such as Roswell or Kecksburg. This entire UFO topic always gets painted as a very 'Western' issue, but this is a global phenomenon. Keep your eyes and ears on other nations. I have a feeling we will hear some very interesting things coming out of South America and Russia in the future.

ANDY: There's talk of an 'ET Super Highway' over South America. You know, the Nazca Lines, the way a lot of the pyramids and temples out that way. *Unidentified* on History Channel had an episode in the recent series called 'Inter-Planetary

Threat' and it's heavily based in South America. I don't know if we're too far gone from Roswell. For me the Nimitz and Princeton event of 2004 has almost overtaken Roswell. We had the Brazil incident not too long ago, which kind of came and went very quickly. Again, it's third-hand testimony but when I spoke to Buddy from Alien Protocols he said there was a crash in which biological entities were killed. Again, that's kind of going into the 'out there' a little bit with potential facts, from someone who's remote viewing. But some of the local testimony about what was going on with the military presence, and the US Military turning up then disappearing very quickly with trucks and helicopters. So potentially it's happened recently.

DANNY: There have been many crashes. Some I'm sure have come from well known cases while the majority are probably not known. I think there have been more crashes than many people realize.

JAY: The most important people asking that question will be academics, the Senators, the lawmakers, and people that want to actually start integrating this and learning about it. Especially scientists who continue to ridicule the subject and any related sciences that are considered pseudo-science.

ANDREAS: I guess there is complexity with using some famously known cases. Take Roswell, for example. You use meta-materials from Roswell and you invite a host of logistical issues, the onset of blatant lies that were told in the interest of national security, the questions about the remains of possible extraterrestrial biological entities, the instant stigmatised conspiracy and so on. And this all stems from proving 'off world materials' came directly from Roswell. Initially, you might choose an obscure case that had 'molten slag', like Maury Island,



or small parts that have come from it, rather than a case in which an entire disc was discovered - which brings about a whole host of other concerns to do with secret SAP. That way you still show evidence of UAP without the complexities.

DO YOU THINK WE COULD FINALLY BE NEARING OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION THAT EARTH HAS BEEN VISITED BY EXTRATERRESTRIAL BEINGS?

DANNY: I'm not sure. We seem to be headed that way. *New York Times* articles aside, a lot is riding on this Intelligence Bill, the report due after 180 days and the UAPTF being successful. However, TTSA has been generally very successful and have proven they can bounce back from setbacks, if they occur. They have changed the world already and I don't see that stopping anytime soon, if ever.

ANDREAS: I think we are closer than we have been in the past 70 years. Although I think it won't be a case of being told, per say, I think it will be a case of us (the western world) slowly coming to that conclusion on our own alongside governments. Arguably, most governments will play the plausible deniability card or the negligence card and then internally have a tough conversation about how such information has been handled.

RYAN: I don't think we are nearing confirmation. I think we're now living in acknowledgement and acceptance of UFOs/UAPs being a worthy and potentially threatening and non-threatening issue to study. I do not believe the government possesses enough solid information of the what, who, or why of the UFO question. At least here in the U.S, it is quite clear we can't control our skies when it comes to UFOs. But our government has and will continue to control the information that gets out. Until their hand is forced, which could definitely happen some day, I don't think that confirmation is coming any time soon. But I hope I am wrong.

ANDY: I think you'd see a massive surge of interest from Congress and the Senate if we're talking about America. I'm speculating but I would imagine the reaction to a confirmation through mainstream media... unless the President was

announcing it on live TV like some people feel disclosure should go down... unless that happened and it was broadcast to everyone at once to let everyone know and everyone's pulled into it at once, that might be different. But if it just circulates as media I think people would just take it on.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE GENERAL PUBLIC REACTION WOULD BE TO THE ADMISSION THAT GOVERNMENTS AROUND THE WORLD HAVE KEPT THIS SECRET?

JAY: I think everyone always expects it to be a proper 'torches and pitchforks' moment and I don't think it would be. I think it would be exactly the same as what's happening right now. Obviously there would be some people who'd lose their shit and you're always going to have a percentage of the population that, when it comes to this information, can't deal

consider whether the general public would accept it, or think it's 'fake news'.

ANDY: I don't think the public, for the most part, would necessarily care that the government's been keeping it secret. I think people within the UFO community, and potentially conspiracy theorists, would go crazy. But what's the point of being angry about that? I'd like to know why, but you can already think of plenty of reasons why it's been kept the way it has. Until we know what's going on and how much they know, then I would understand why it was kept potentially secret, as frustrating as it is. But I think the general public's perception of that sort of announcement would be a little bit of panic, a little bit of frenzy, but I think where we're at, especially the way 2020 has prepared us for almost anything! I'm not religious but for me the big thing has always been is going to be how the religious aspect of it gets fitted in and how people maybe try to warp the story.

“Everyone always expects a proper ‘torches and pitchforks’ moment but I don’t think it would be. It will be exactly the same as it is now. Jay Anderson

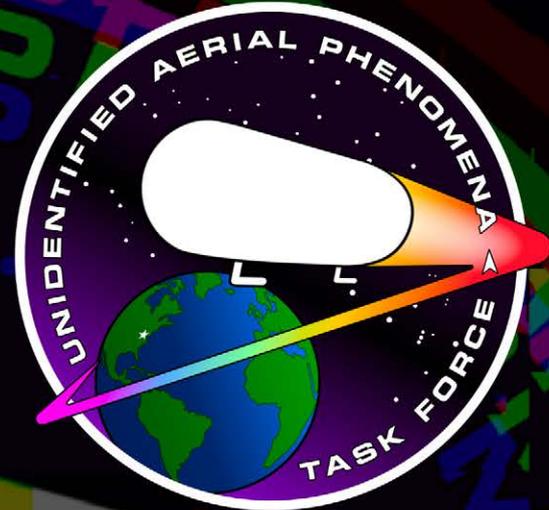
with it and will not deal with it appropriately. Unfortunately some people are just going to have to bite the bullet and take this information when it comes.

ANDREAS: Muted enthusiasm seems to be how it is going so far. As far as I can tell the needle has been moved slowly for a reason. Whether intentional or not, the information coming out has seemingly been controlled to protect national security rather than disable it. That's maybe why we don't see the big 'event disclosure'. Unfortunately, some people see this as a 'limited hangout' or a 'psy-op' but as time has progressed that perspective has become redundant.

DANNY: There is a varying set of emotions that could take place. Ranging from early days of COVID-like panic to not really caring. It's going to depend on how the message is delivered and how people take it. Also we have to

RYAN: Exactly, just like our reaction to a pandemic, I think there would be good and bad. This never was and never will be a black and white reaction. Some things will be good. Some not. But things will change. And that is what is most important. Our world is hurting right now. Tremendously. Something needs to change. And we need to be willing to negotiate that change and be willing to make sacrifices as a species to do so. If that admission of secrecy ever happens, everything we know breaks in to millions of pieces. But we will pick up those pieces and rebuild in a whole new light.

SHADOWS: Gentleman, it's been an absolute pleasure getting your opinions on the *New York Times* articles, thank you for your time and input. Could we be on the cusp of something big? No doubt we'll find out after the upcoming US elections, whatever they may bring! 🍀

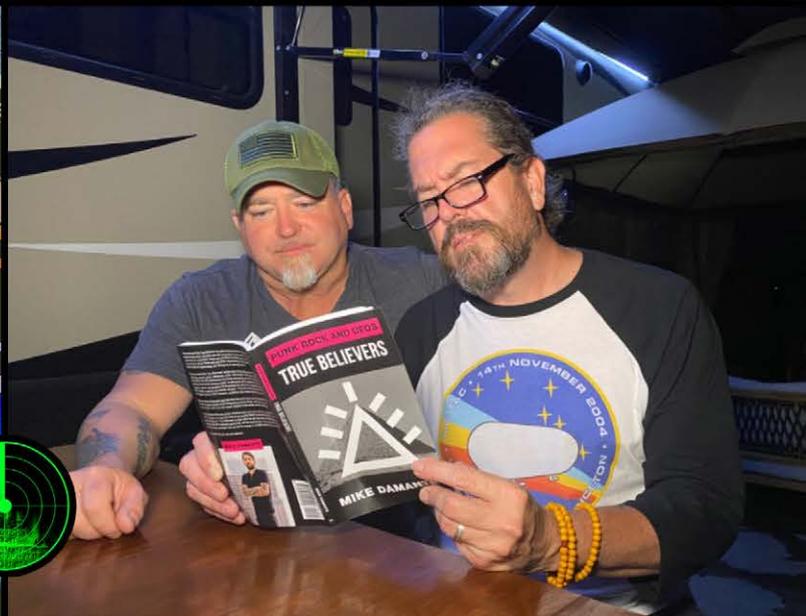


SPREAD THE WORD IN STYLE

Dan (@TheZignal on twitter) is a UAP activist & experimenter from Wales, UK.

His eye catching, disclosure inspired art is created not only for you to wear proudly, but to help start a conversation!

Dan's art is available as holographic stickers, shirts, mugs, wall prints and everything in between. Click on the images to buy!



The Gods & an Ancient Andean Calendrical System

Did the ancient Incas display a complex knowledge of astronomy to help with their harvests?

Within an expedition developed in February 2020 by the Akakor Geographical Exploring team under the direction of Lorenzo Epis, the imposing salar of Uyuni and surrounding areas, in Bolivia, was covered, elaborating the preliminary study of some archaeological sites.

THE SALAR OF UYUNI

Located in the Andean highlands at around 3650 meters above sea level is the Salar of Uyuni. It is the largest and highest continuous salt desert, with a surface that measures 10,582 km². In the past, the Salar of Uyuni salt was known as the Salar of Tunupa. This toponymy is very significant because to the south of the Department of Oruro, in the Municipality of Salinas de Garci Mendoza and bordering precisely with the Salar of Uyuni, the volcano of Tunupa (5432 masl) is located, which is the residence and altar of the local Aymaran deity of Thunder and the Lightning, Tunupa. Other phonemes of Tunupa are Tuapaca or Taguapaca. Its Castilianization is Tarapacá. These are evocations of Tauapácac Ticci Viracocha, the God of the Staffs.

Around 40,000 years ago this area sheltered Lake Minchinnota and, later, 11,000 years

Author



Rafael Videla Eissmann is a historian from Chile who has written several books and articles about the Antarctic origins of mankind, the vestiges of the primal civilization of the Americas and its symbols, as well as other fields of the Pre-Columbian cultures. He has recently returned from a trip to the Bolivian Highlands.

ago, Lake Tauca. It is during this period that a humid climatic phase allowed these lakes to reach a height of around 100 m above the current level. However, a dry and warm period generated a significant reduction in the surface and volume of these lakes, consequently forming the salars of Uyuni and Coipasa and the current lagoons. The Poopó and Uru-Uru lakes are also residues of these large lakes.

The landscape of the Uyuni salt flat is simply impressive. In the central part of the salar the Island of Incahuasi -the Casa del Inca or "House of the Inca" in Quechua- is located, with an area of 0.2434 km², home to numerous giant cactuses (*Echinopsis atacamensis*) that even reach 10 m in height. The highest point of Incahuasi is 3822 masl.

SILENT VESTIGES

In the Tanilvinto area, located in the geographical region of the Salar of Uyuni there are vestiges in a grotto of the remote culture of the Chullpas whose closest descendants today are the Chipayas. The vestiges correspond to "mummies" -they are four individuals: Three adults and one infant- and some magical-religious objects. The "mummies" are not such but correspond to skeletons. The trousseau of these individuals is minimal: It is limited to the first two



Above: Vases, plates and Aguayos that accompany the “mummies” in the grotto.

Right: One of the “mummies” with her infant child.

“mummies” and consists of two vessels in each.

In the grotto, originally there were two adults and the infant – the first from left to right depending on the direction of entry – while the third “mummy” was about 200m “to the right”, outside the grotto. These “mummies”, revealingly, have elongated skulls – commonly called “deformed skulls” – standing out, in this sense, the female that shelters the infant next to herself.

It is worth mentioning that the contemporary rituality of the inhabitants of the area has meant the deposit in the grotto of propitiatory vessels – with offerings such as coca leaves (*Erythroxylum coca*), cigarettes and alcohol – along with Aguayos – textiles with Andean ritual symbolism. Likewise, the ancestral Ko’a rite – in honor of the earth goddess, Pachamama – a kind of propitiatory offering/sacrifice, is celebrated on August 1.



design are also unknown: It is a spiral symbol that has 316 pieces carved from bones and ceramics – some of which were detached and they were replaced by ceramic or glass fragments of European and colonial origin.

The calendrical system was made of fired clay and has a diameter of 54.5 cm. Its thickness is 7.5 cm. The fragmentary information that we have known was communicated to us by Mr. Iván Quispe – grandson of Mrs. Quispe Barco, who died in 2013. Mr. Quispe himself has stated the existence of other “mummies” in the surrounding ancient sacred mountains. In addition, there are some petroglyphs and “small hands” stamped in the area.

Near this site there is another grotto called the *Cueva del Infierno* (“Grotto of Hell”) – a beautiful and surprising coral formation – inhabited by “spirits” and by the “Devil” as the grandparents (*los abuelos*) of the area expressed due to the “underground noises” that were heard inside.

THE ANCESTORS

Who were the individuals with elongated skulls that today rest in the grotto? What culture do they belong to? What is their age? Where did they come from? What were the characteristics of their society?

“A fundamental element of ancestral rituality is the preservation of an astronomical calendrical system.”

A fundamental element of ancestral rituality and its projection in the contemporary community is the preservation of an astronomical calendrical system of sowing and harvesting, an object that was kept by Mrs. Eleuteria Quispe Barco and inherited by her descendants. Unfortunately, the origin of this calendrical system has been lost and its function and the reason for its peculiar

What were their cosmogonic, religious, and political views? What was their language? Was there some kind of relationship with the indigenous populations (brachycephalic)? What was their destiny? There are many questions.

For now it is only possible to verify the existence of this extraordinary site and an approximation to the remains that are found there, especially the “mummies” of long skulls¹. In this respect, in relation to the nature of these individuals, an approximation to that remote past is granted by the manifestations of art as a source of history. To this regard, it can be seen that many of the representations of the Hówen or “spirits” that descended from the stars in the initiatory tradition of the Háin of the Selk’nam of Tierra del Fuego, present conical headdresses. Something similar occurs in the Mesoamerican cultures with the Kukulkanes – the “Mighty Ones of Heaven” –, of Quetzalcóatl or the “Feathered Serpent” – the god of Venus –, as well as the four B’aaah kab, those who “hold the pillars of the heaven” – all of them arrived from the sky.

Likewise, this characteristic is observed in Olmec, Colima, Chupicuaro, Jama-Coaque sculptural representations and also in some magical-religious representations of the Arikara-Tanish, Hopis and Tlingit among others. The phenomenon is certainly not exclusive to the Americas as the German-Scandinavian folklore also has references to celestial beings such as Wotan (Odin), Týr (Tiwaz) and Thor (Þunraz). Meanwhile, Egyptian myths refer to Horus, Nut, and Hathor as deities of heaven. The Indus Valley civilization accounts for Dyaus Pita, Indra, and Aditi.

Undoubtedly, the list of Heaven Gods worldwide is extensive. Now, suggestive enough in all the mentioned cultures is the fact that the representation of the gods has a common factor: They are anthropomorphic figures with the particular characteristic of a conical headdress, bonnet or cap. Why? What was its meaning? How to explain and understand the undeniable similarity in all these cultures and civilizations that did not have contact with each other? This is when the information from a Mesoamerican source that was able to evade the fire of the implacable Inquisition in Mexico provides the fundamental key to understand the meaning of this symbolic outfit: It is the *Códice Ramírez. Relación del origen de los indios que habitan en la Nueva España según sus historias* (“Codex Ramírez. A Relation of the Origin of the Indians That Live in New Spain According to Their Accounts (Ca. 1585) – known too as the *Manuscript Tovar* – which

Right: Quetzalcóatl, the winged god, with the ocelocopilli conical headdress, symbol of Venus. Illustration from page 132 of the Codex Ramírez (John Carter Brown Library)



was written by the Jesuit Juan de Tovar (Ca. 1546 - Ca. 1626) – son of the conqueror Juan de Tovar and a mestizo woman, descendant of the conqueror Diego de Colio. For these reasons, De Tovar spoke the Nahuatl, Otomi and Mazahua languages and was knowledgeable not only of the general cultural fields of the natives but also of their magical-religious and esoteric traditions.

In this way, about one of the most important Mesoamerican deities, the Kukulkán Quetzalcóatl – “Quetzalcóatl, particular god of the Chulula” – who had his main temple in the Cholula pyramid, Juan de Tovar described him with a shield, a cap, a curved knife and the *Ocelocopilli*.

The *Ocelocopilli* is a conical headdress made of jaguar skin and decorated with jewels and corresponds to a symbol of the star of Venus. In Venus inhabit the gods Tlahuizcalpantecuhtli and Xólotl – a region called Ilhuicatl-Huitztlán (“Place of the Path of the Sun”), one of the Thirteen Heavens or Ilhuicatl lohtlatoquiliz of the Aztec cosmogony.

The association, thus, of the conical headdress as an emblem of the gods of the firmament and the elongated skulls, is decisive. And these skulls are precisely the evidence that shows the reality of the iconographic representations of the gods. It is the iconographic-symbolic key – not arbitrary or interpretable but the expression of an idea (ἰδέα, idea = “form”) that is



Above and opposite: Tanilvinto's fantastic calendrical system. It is a fired clay disc with a diameter of 54.5cm. It has a spiral symbol whose design is made up of numerous pieces, some of them with runic symbols and others of unknown meaning.

practically verified on a global scale about the gods and their primordial civilization.

IN THE UNKNOWN PAST

An aspect to consider in order glimpse the fascinating past of this area, it is necessary to know what its environmental condition was. What were the bioclimatic characteristics? What were the rainfall rates? What have been the climatic variations in the area? What flora and fauna were there? In relation to the occupational factors of the area: When did the first inhabitants arrive in this area? What are the oldest vestiges? Has there been cultural overlap? What characteristics did this place have to have become the habitat of this cultural substrate?

The "mummies" have the characteristic elongated cranial feature. This particularity, as we have outlined in a previous study, is a direct relationship with the gods, practically from Tierra del Fuego to Alaska. This cultural

substratum is remote and, by the way The Gods and the Calendrical System. It is a unique piece. Enigmatically fascinating. As it has been expressed, its origin, function and the reason for its design is unknown. The only information about this extraordinary object is its calendrical nature of sowing and harvesting, a fact that implies seasonal and astronomical observation and the knowledge of approximate and recommended dates for planting, transplanting and harvesting horticultural species and other plants in the annual cycle that we seek to cultivate.

The direction of the spiral is left-handed, that is to say, *sinistroversa*, its direction is oriented counterclockwise and predates the indigenous population.

What was the origin of the knowledge embodied in the calendrical system? What is its age? What was the original model? What was its primary function and meaning? Was it a solar, lunar, or a lunisolar calendar? What was the meaning and function of the pieces that make up the design? How was the knowledge of the calendrical system transmitted? Is there another similar piece? Is this calendar an inheritance from the ancient gods?

Along with the elongated skulls, the fundamental key is provided by the presence

“ It is a spiral symbol that has 316 pieces carved from bone and ceramics, although some pieces have been replaced by glass.



of runic symbols –and rune-like– in some of the pieces that make up the spiral design. Against all historiographical premises, the runic symbols of America are observed in the cultural substrates of Araucanos, Tiahuanacotas, Guayakiés, Quimbayas, Incas, Kunas, Chupicuaros, Chumash, Anazasis, Navajos, Sinagua, Sac, Cherokees and Pima, among other groups. Do these ideographies correspond to the ancient alphabet of the gods?

The spiral symbol, from its earliest known representations in megalithism –a worldwide cultural phenomenon– is associated with the Sun as an expression of the birth-death-rebirth cycle and, therefore, with the forces of life. It can be inferred, based on the calendrical function and its cyclical dimension expressed as a symbol of the spiral together with the objects that make it up, that this system has a magical-religious nature of great importance since it itself shelters and projects the cycle of life – expressed precisely by the symbol of the spiral.

A vast horizon extends into the remotest past of South America in which the presence of a civilizing substratum –the gods– burst forth to start the foundations of culture, that is, the development of mankind. ☮

FOOTNOTES

1. On the origin of man in America and the irradiation of civilization from America, see the fundamental work of the scholar from La Paz, Emeterio Villamil de Rada, La lengua de Adán y el hombre de Tiaguanaco ("The Language of Adam and the Man from Tiahuanaco", 1888).
2. See also the Códice Vaticano Latino 3738 where Quetzalcóatl appears on a pyramid. He is painted in black as a priest and wears the Ocelocopilli, a cap with red crosses and also carried a curved scepter.
3. Fernández, A. Dioses prehispánicos de México. Pages 82 and 153.
4. An approximation to the word Ocelocopilli is "conical cap of jaguar fur"; Ocelotl "jaguar" and copilli "conical head piece".
5. See my book Los Dioses Extraterrestres y el regreso de B'olon Yokte'K'uh ("The Extraterrestrial Gods and the Return of B'olon Yokte'K'uh". 2015).
6. See my book Símbolos rúnicos en América. El regreso a la tierra ancestral ("Runic Symbols in America. The Return to the Ancestral Land", 2011).

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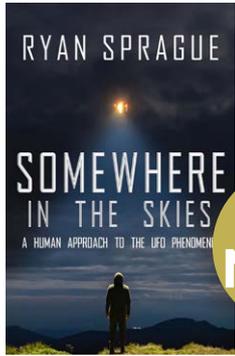
Flying Disk Press

Book covers include: ONCE UPON A MISSING TIME, FUTURE HUMANS AND THE UFOs, PORTAL, UFOs Today, UFOs OVER POLAND, THE DIGITAL DEMON, ROSWELL ALIEN AUTOPSY, THE BEST OF PROJECT BLUE BOOK, THE UFO TRILOGY, SACRED CORRIDORS, HYPER-civilizations, PHOTO, TRAVELER, THE MYSTERY OF UTSURO-BUNE, PASCAGOULA, UFOs OVER ROMANIA, WITHOUT CONSENT, CALVIN PARKER, CALVIN PARKER, THE RENDLESHAM FILE Britain's Roswell?, PREORDAINED, UFO CONTACTS IN ITALY VOLUME ONE, UFO CONTACTS IN ITALY VOLUME TWO, INTRODUCING UFOs A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE, UFO Landings UK, and UFO CONTACTS BY BRAZIL.

REVIEWS



We look at some truly disturbing encounters from both sides of the Atlantic and hunt spooks and spectres on an Irish ghost tour.



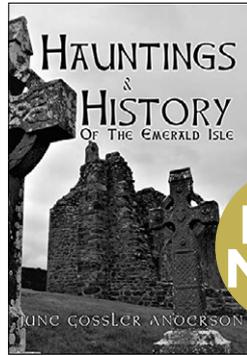
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Somewhere In The Skies (2nd edition)

Ryan Sprague
Beyond The Fray Publishing

Author Ryan Sprague sets out his book in a way that focuses on the 'humanistic' element to the UFO phenomenon. Essentially, this is a qualitative approach to both understanding and re-living the very personal experiences of normal, every day people. To me, this is an important part of 'Ufology', which is often underplayed and too easily dismissed by sceptics. Whereas statistics and quants are important, the human story telling of incursions always provide a window into the mind of the observers, they allow us to see vital parts of a report that can otherwise be missed. Throughout, Ryan Sprague finds himself coming up close and personal with a variety of colourful individuals who have a unique story to tell. Meeting various credible individuals who have not sold their story for money or fame, but instead told their story because it is the truth as they see it, and arguably, the right thing to do. Their stories are of the weirdly vast and wonderful UFO encounters, and equally their devastating effects that these people have had to carry with them for years. He writes as though he himself was re-living the experience and by extension, allows us as the reader to do the same.

Andreas Freeman Stahl



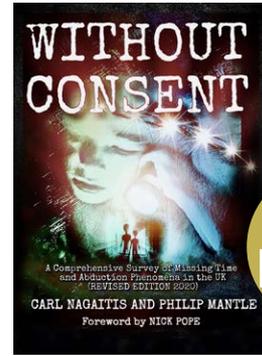
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Hauntings & History of the Emerald Isle

June Gossler Anderson
Beyond The Fray Publishing

The Emerald Isle has always been on our list of places to spend some time, wandering around the old castles and Neolithic burial mounds and moreso having read this book from Minnesota native June Anderson. Whilst on a paranormal tour of Ireland, the author treats us to her experiences around its famous haunted locations. Starting in County Sligo she learns of the Celtic pagan beliefs and folklore, she then visits Muckross Abbey, once haunted (sorry) by a young Bram Stoker who is rumoured to have used it as inspiration for his masterpiece, *Dracula*. From there she visits Leap Castle, 17th century forts in Kinsale and Wexford - each with a tragic tale of unrequited love; she experiences the incredible paranormal activity of Ennisworthy Castle before ending up at Wicklow Gaol and the infamous Dublin Hellfire Club, where Satan himself is said to have played cards with the scurrilous elitists of the 19th century. But what makes this book great is the snippets of Irish history, highlighting the brutal persecution suffered under various European invaders; the English protestant monarchy; religious civil wars and famine, all of which contribute to the atmosphere of restless spirits.

Dave Partridge



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Without Consent

Carl Nagaitis/Philip Mantle
Flying Disk Press

At long last a reissue that is worth every penny of its purchase price. This book was first issued 1994, but this revised and updated version is even better. It shows that Alien Abduction is not confined to the USA and occurs in the rest of the world as well. All of the cases in this book occurred in the UK and some of them are truly breath-taking in their scope and implications, because all of them involve the weird phenomenon of 'missing time'. This usually only emerges later, when the unfortunate abductee realises that there is a section of their lives for which they cannot account and only under hypnosis do they remember what occurred to them. Although spoiled for choice here, some of the cases are relatively straightforward, but others, well, this is when the term 'high strangeness' applies. The events that occurred at Whistlebury Hill in Somerset are a case in point, as is what occurred to the Day family. This reviewer actually knows one of the people involved in one of the most iconic cases of all, the A70 Abduction in Scotland and the account given in this book really tells it like it is. It's a classic of its kind, and source of valuable information and inspiration for all.

Brian Allan

SHADOWS OF | YOUR | MIND

WHERE YOUR SEARCH FOR THE ANSWERS BEGIN

NEXT ISSUE

A UFO case anniversary and anomalous artifacts

RENDLESHAM: 40 YEARS ON

We take an indepth look at the theories and the evidence from the most famous UK UFO case.

CHASE KLOETZKE

From the Malibu underwater 'base' to working with MUFON and forensic approaches to testing artifacts

THE END OF THE BEGINNING...

An original new video game said to offer players a glimpse into the reality of alien life on Earth, we talk with the creators.

ARTIFACTS FROM MEXICO

Engraved artifacts featuring star maps and alien depictions in Mexico, are they real?



TOP 10 'ALIEN INVASION' TV SERIES

It's 2020 so we're not counting out a last minute alien invasion - we check out likely scenarios

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The 2013 'NIACIN' CROP CIRCLE

A CHEMICAL PERSPECTIVE

It's time to get our science on as we examine the correlation between crop circles and molecular chemistry. **Words: Dr Brett I. Cohen Ph.D**

Below: The 'Melatonin' crop circle that appeared at Roundway Hill, near Devizes, Wiltshire UK on July 23rd, 2011. ©Randell/CropCircleUniversity.com

A crop circle or crop formation is a pattern created by flattening a crop found in a field (Thomas, 2015). The crops are usually composed of a cereal in structure. In order to appreciate or recognize the full worth of a crop circle formation, it must be viewed from the air (where photos can be taken and studied).

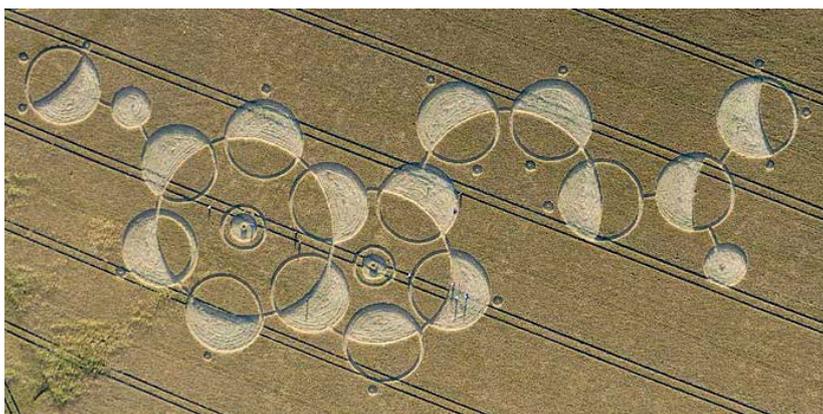
There are a few examples of reports in the literature of crop circles in early history (before Ca. 1900). For example, a 1678 news pamphlet, *The Mowing-Devil: or, Strange News Out of Hartfordshire* is claimed by some cereologists (a person who studies crop circles, especially one who believes that they are not man-made or formed by other terrestrial processes) to be the first depiction of a crop circle (Margry & Roodenburg, 2007).

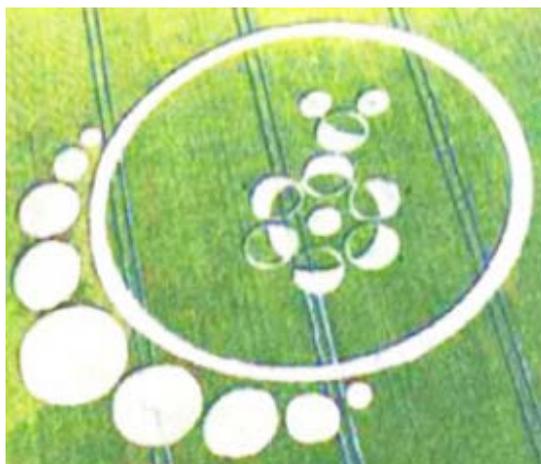
In 1686, British naturalist Robert Plott reported on rings or arcs of mushrooms in *The Natural History of Stafford-Shire* and proposed air flows from the sky as a possible

cause (Plott, 1686). Lastly, a 1880 letter to the editor of *Nature* by amateur scientist John Rand Capron describes how a recent storm had created several circles of flattened crops in a field (Fuller, 2014). The term (crop circle) was first coined in the early 1980's (Andrews & Delgado, 1991). Although obscure natural causes or alien origins of crop circles are suggested, however, there is no scientific evidence for such explanations. The number of crop circles around the world has substantially increased from the 1970's to today. There have been very few scientific studies (mainstream studies) of crop circles throughout the world.

Crop circles in the United Kingdom are not distributed randomly across the landscape but appear near roads. Also, many crop circles in the United Kingdom are also observed near cultural heritage monuments, such as Stonehenge or Avebury (Fowler, 1995; Thomas, 2015). Formations are usually created overnight, although some are reported to have appeared during the day (Fowler, 1995; Thomas, 2015). In 1991, two hoaxers, Bower and Chorley, took credit for having created many crop circles throughout the United Kingdom (Schmidt, 1991).

Many of the crop circles observed around the world involve patterns which contain circles or circles within circles, stars or stars within stars, rods, half moons as well as other elaborate geometric shapes (Thomas, 2015). Strangely, a few crop circles however, are found to be chemical molecules. For example, there was an amazing crop circle that appeared on July 23rd, 2011 in Wiltshire, United Kingdom. This crop circle





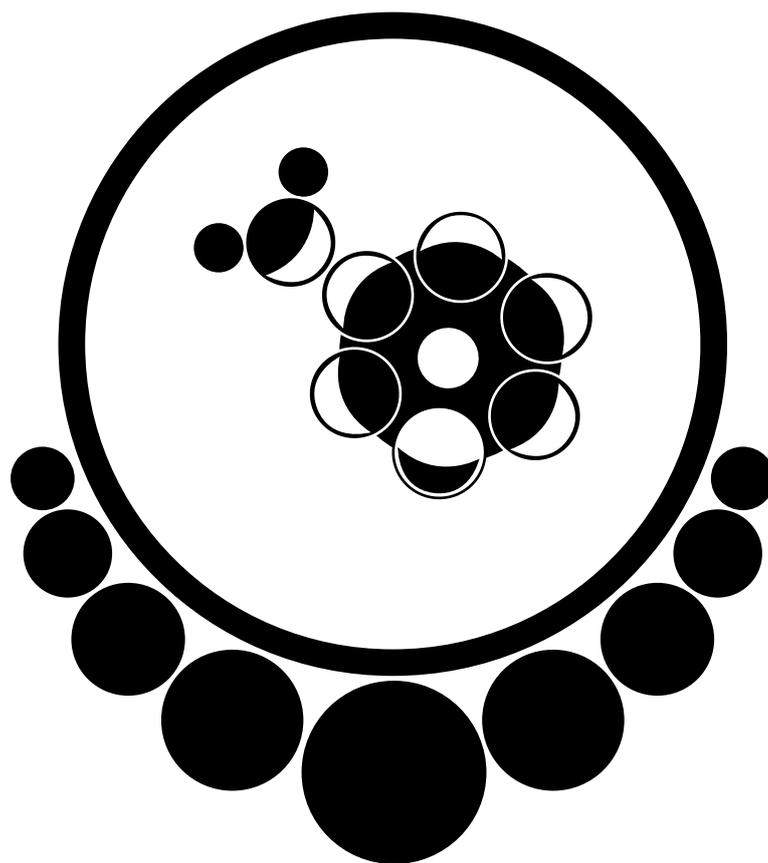
that appeared in 2011 had the structure of melatonin (a hormone, produced by the pineal gland among other locations in the human body). Also, very close to Wiltshire, United Kingdom near Stonehenge (located at Amesbury, Salisbury) on August 1, 2013, a crop circle of niacin (also known as vitamin B3) was also observed (see Figure 1) (Daily Mail, 2013). It is interesting to note, that the 2011 melatonin crop circle was only of melatonin with no other circles or other geometric shapes around or encompassing the melatonin molecule. The niacin crop circle found in Figure 1, however, is much more interesting because the niacin molecule is found in a large circle and outside of the larger circle are nine other smaller circles.

Since minimal research and study can be found in the literature for this United Kingdom niacin crop circle in 2013, this article will attempt to interpret this crop circle chemically using a chemical approach (since the molecule inside of the crop circle is a chemical compound, niacin).

THE MOLECULE NIACIN

Niacin, is also known as nicotinic acid. Niacin is an organic compound and a form of vitamin B3 which is an essential human nutrient. It has the chemical formula of $C_6H_5NO_2$ and belongs to the group, pyridinecarboxylic acid. Niacin is obtained in the diet from a variety of whole and processed foods. The highest contents of niacin are found in fortified packaged foods, such as tuna and some vegetables and other animal sources.

Medication and supplemental niacin are primarily used to treat high blood cholesterol and pellagra (niacin deficiency). Insufficient niacin (in the body) from poor diet can cause nausea, skin and mouth lesions, anemia, headaches, and tiredness (WebMD). The lack of niacin may also be



observed in pandemic deficiency diseases, which are caused by a lack of five crucial vitamins (niacin, vitamin C, thiamin, vitamin D, and vitamin A) and are usually found in areas of widespread poverty and malnutrition (WebMD).

Niacin is a colorless, water-soluble solid which is a derivative of pyridine, with a carboxyl group (COOH) at the 3-position (see Figure 2). Other forms of vitamin B3 include the corresponding amide nicotinamide (niacinamide), where the carboxyl group has been replaced by a carboxamide group (CONH₂). Niacin derivatives also include more complex amides and a variety of esters (see below for further description of inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)).

NIACIN CHEMICAL INTERPRETATION FROM THE NIACIN CROP CIRCLE.

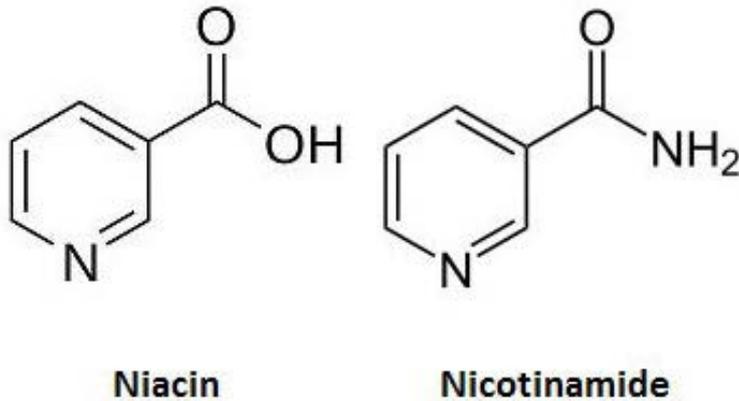
On inspection of the niacin crop circle in above, there is a niacin molecule in the

Above left: Figure 1. The 'Niacin' crop circle as discovered at Roundway Hill, near Devizes, Wiltshire on August 1st 2013 before the farmer did a hatchet job on it.

Above left: Illustration of the formation with the niacin molecule inside the larger circle.

“Niacin, also known as nicotinic acid, is an organic compound and a form of vitamin B3, an essential human nutrient.”

Figure 2



Above: 'Figure 2' - The Niacin molecule.

Above right: 'Figure 3' - The Inositol Hexanicotinate (IHN) molecule.

Opposite: 'Figure 4' - Possible nine isomers for Inositol Hexanicotinate (IHN).

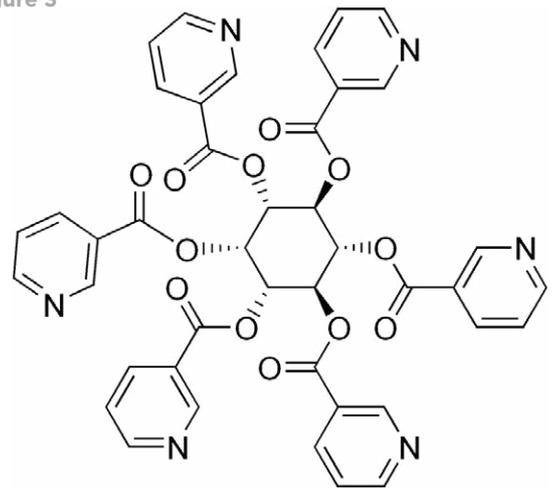
Please note: The alcohol (for inositol) is shown for simplicity where the hydrogen are replaced by niacin like that illustrated in Figure 3.

center of the large circle. The niacin ring involves 5 carbon atoms with 1 nitrogen atom (chemical formula of $C_6H_5NO_2$ - see Figure 2 overleaf). The 5 carbon atoms are all orientated in the same direction where the light and dark portions of the crop circle are all the same. The nitrogen atom however, is orientated differently with the light and dark portions being different (hence in a different direction) from the carbon atoms.

The two remaining oxygens are shown in the crop circle as solid white indicating a carboxylic acid group ($C(=O)OH$) found for niacin. The dark small dots found outside of the carbon atoms on the niacin ring represent hydrogen. It should be noted, that the niacin atoms are all chemically correct as depicted in the niacin crop circle. Clearly, some intelligence with the the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills was at work here and the niacin molecule could not be produced via chance (such as a storm).

On inspection of the niacin crop circle, the carboxylic acid group ($C(=O)OH$) is missing a hydrogen (a small dark spot should be seen outside of the solid white oxygen atom in the crop circle). This lack of hydrogen for the carboxylic acid group ($C(=O)OH$) suggests that the niacin molecule is chemically reacting. The niacin is therefore, negatively charged ($C(=O)O^-$) and highly reactive. If the niacin in the crop circle is reacting, it is also suggested in this article, that the reason it is found within a larger

Figure 3



circle within the crop circle is to illustrate that the niacin is reacting in a circular fashion. Figure 3, illustrates the reactivity of six niacin molecules (which represents a circle) which has been esterified (which also results in a loss of six water molecules) with a ring from an alcohol to give a derivative form of a dietary supplement which is inositol hexanicotinate (IHN). Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is a compound made of niacin (vitamin B3) and inositol. Inositol occurs naturally in the body and can also be made in the laboratory. Therefore, this form of dietary supplement is inositol hexanicotinate (IHN), where inositol has been esterified with niacin on all six of inositol's alcohol groups. IHN is usually sold as "flush-free" or "no-flush" niacin in units of 250, 500, or 1000 mg per tablets or capsules. Inositol, is a carbocyclic sugar that is abundant in brain and other mammalian tissues and mediates cell signal transduction in response to a variety of hormones, neurotransmitters and growth factors.

This form of supplement (inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)) could be drawn on paper using different isomers. Isomers are three dimensional representations (within a X, Y, and Z coordinate planar system) with two of the inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) isomers being inositol enantiomers (see Figure 4). The molecules L- and D-chiro inositol enantiomers are mirror images of each other. If you inspect the nine circles outside of the larger circle for the niacin crop circle many are mirror images of each other. In other words, if an imagery or visually symbolic mirror is placed in the middle of the largest circle (of the nine) separate circles found outside of the largest circle which contains the niacin molecule) the remaining four smaller circles are mirror images on each side. This could be a clue to describe the esterified process from the supplement (inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)).

“Clearly some intelligence with the ability to acquire and apply knowledge was at work here and couldn't be produced by chance.

Figure 4

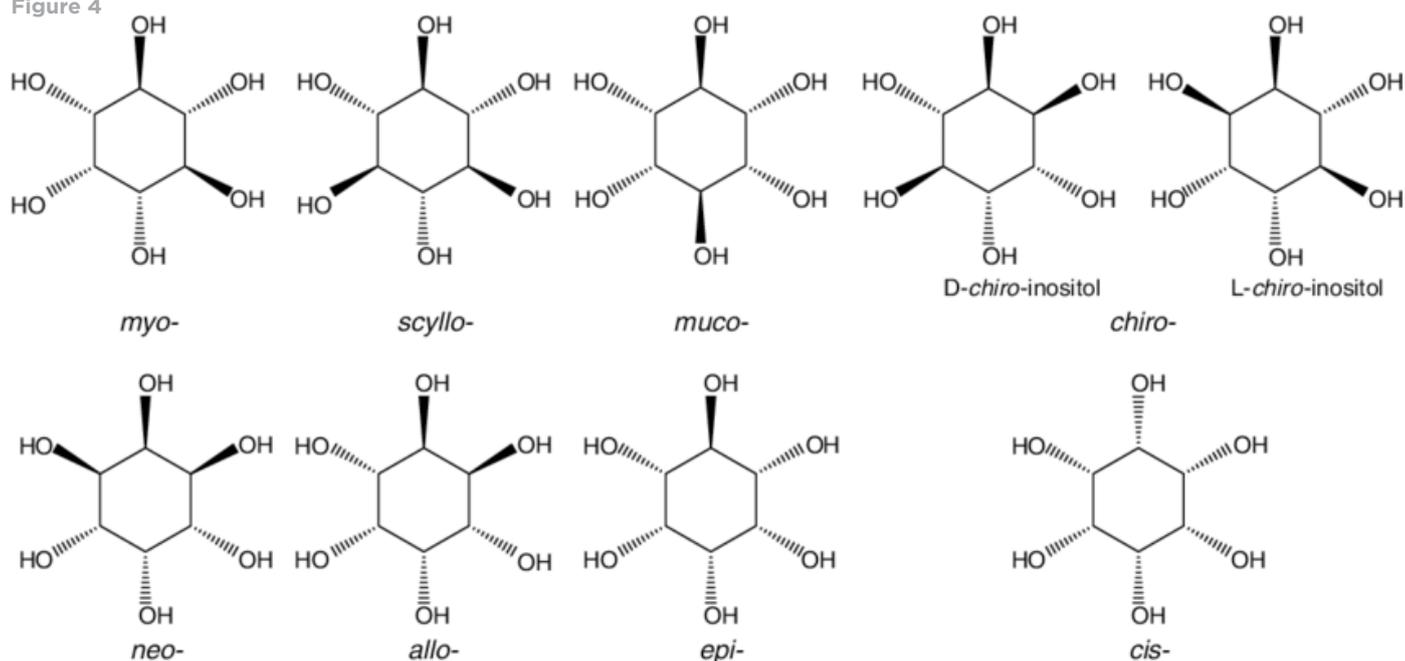


Figure 4, summarizes the possible isomers (nine) for inositol hexanicotinate (IHN), the alcohol (from inositol) is shown for simplicity in Figure 4 (where the hydrogen are replaced by niacin like that illustrated in Figure 3). On inspection of Figure 1, the niacin crop circle also has 9 (nine) smaller circles outside of the larger circle. These nine smaller circles found in the niacin crop circle could represent the possible nine isomer of inositol hexanicotinate (IHN).

Isomer structures for *myo*-inositol is a meso compound, and hence optically inactive, because it has a plane of symmetry. For this reason, *meso*-inositol is an obsolete name for this compound. Besides *myo*-inositol, the other naturally occurring stereoisomers are *scyllo*-, *muco*-, *D-chiro*-, and *neo*-inositol, although they occur in minimal quantities in nature. The other possible isomers are *L-chiro*-, *allo*-, *epi*-, and *cis*-inositol (see Figure 4). As their names denote, *L*- and *D-chiro* inositol are the only pair of inositol enantiomers (which are stereo-isomers and are mirror images of each other). In its most stable conformation (inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)), the *myo*-inositol isomer (the first isomer found in Figure 4) assumes the chair conformation (which is a very stable conformation structure). Figure 5, illustrates the geometry of the chair formation (most stable isomer of inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)) where for simplicity the P represent the niacin molecule (illustrated in Figure 3).

It is also suggested in this article, that the size of the 9 (nine) smaller circles outside of the larger circle in the niacin crop circle (see Figure 1), could represent the probabilities (as it relates to the given sizes of the 9 (nine) smaller circles in the

crop circle itself) of these 9 (nine) isomers of inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) and the largest circle (found in the middle) could also represent the *myo*-inositol isomer found for the chair conformation (see Figure 5). Also, the smaller sizes circles (found within the 9 (nine) circles) could represent stereoisomers of inositol hexanicotinate (IHN); *scyllo*-, *muco*-, *D-chiro*-, and *neo*-inositol, which occur in minimal quantities in nature (Figure 4). It is also important to understand, that it is extremely rare that any organic compound would have the possibility of 9 (nine) separate isomers. This adds more credibility or belief in the detailed chemical interpretation found in this article concerning the niacin crop circle.

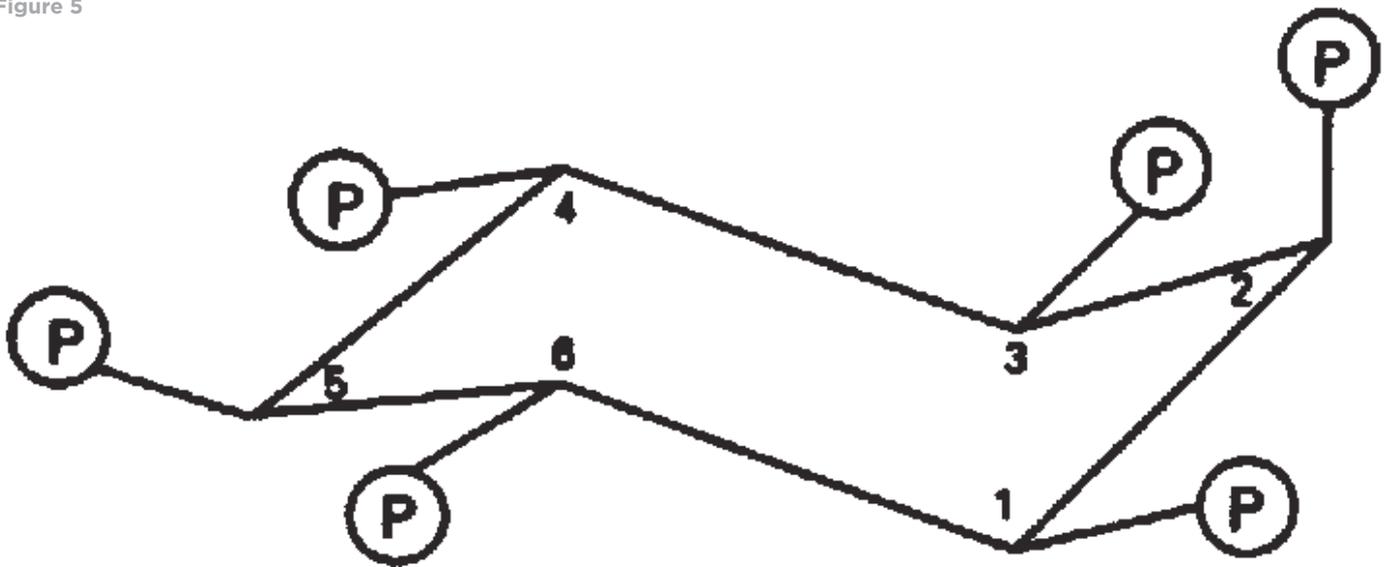
It should be noted that, inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is used for treating blood circulation problems, including pain when walking due to poor circulation in the legs (intermittent claudication); skin changes caused by pooling of the blood in the legs (stasis dermatitis) when veins are ineffective in returning blood to the heart; narrowing of the blood vessels leading to cold fingers and toes (Raynaud's disease); and blood flow problems in the brain (cerebral vascular disease) (WebMD). Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) has been used in conventional medical practice in the United Kingdom for improving symptoms of poor circulation for many years. In addition, inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is also used for high cholesterol; high blood pressure; sleep problems (insomnia); migraines related to "hardening of the arteries" (atherosclerosis); skin conditions, including scleroderma, acne, dermatitis, psoriasis, and others; inflammation of the tongue (exfoliative glossitis); restless leg syndrome;

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Dr Cohen can be reached via email ebicbis@aol.com

Figure 5



Above: 'Figure 5' - Chair conformation of the myo-inositol isomer of Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN).

Please note: P represent the niacin molecule (like that illustrated in Figure 3).

and schizophrenia and other mental illnesses (WebMD). In other words, it could be said that Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) could be used for life extension and/or longevity. Implications of the Niacin Crop Circle

This article postulates a detailed chemical interpretation of the 2013 niacin crop circle. Since, niacin and its chemical derivative, inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is essential to human health, the health implications are obvious and easy to perceive and understand. As stated above, inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is a derivative form of vitamin B3 which is an essential human nutrient. The lack of niacin may also be observed in pandemic deficiency diseases, which are caused by a lack of five crucial vitamins (niacin, vitamin C, thiamin, vitamin D, and vitamin A) and are usually found in areas of widespread poverty and malnutrition (WebMD).

In addition, inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) is also used for high cholesterol; high blood pressure; sleep problems (insomnia); migraines related to "hardening of the arteries" (atherosclerosis); inflammation of the tongue (exfoliative glossitis); restless leg syndrome; and schizophrenia and other mental illnesses (WebMD). Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) could be used for life extension or longevity. In conclusion, a very stable isomer (myo-inositol isomer)

and a chemical derivative of niacin (Inositol hexanicotinate (IHN) with a chair conformation is described in detail where 6 (six) niacin molecules could be delivered to the patient efficiently.

Interesting, there is a correlation between niacin (vitamin B3) and space, where scientist discovered in 2014 that niacin (vitamin B3) might have been produced in space and delivered to earth via meteorites. NASA funded researchers for example, have discovered that an extra-terrestrial supply of vitamin B3 (and other pyridine carboxylic acids compounds) was delivered by carbon-rich meteorites (NASA News). Also, as an aside, the pyridine moiety found for niacin (see Figure 1 and above) is a precursor for copper proteins of early life on Earth. These copper proteins (Hemocyanin and Tyrosinase) are found for Molluscs and Arthropods (invertebrates animals such as mussels, octopus, sellfish and lobsters) and are all based on pyridine protein derivatives (Karlín & Cohen, 1985; Cohen, 1987).

Could it be that extra-terrestrial beings produced this very unusual and remarkable crop circle and are they trying to educate mankind regarding the use of this niacin derivative supplement (inositol hexanicotinate (IHN)) or is this niacin crop circle an extraordinary man-made hoax? For now the question remains unanswered.

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WITNESS REPORT

THE GOWER SALT MARSH UFO OF 2010

If you've seen something strange in the skies and would like to report your sighting then drop an email to contact@shadowsmagazine.co.uk or get in touch with us via Twitter

Glowing orbs hovering over a neighbour's tennis court before landing on marshland, mysterious black vans, is the Gower Peninsula a UFO hotspot?

On the evening of October 7th 2010, Jonathan Davies was in the conservatory of his house with his young daughter, in the small Welsh coastal village of Landimore. When she alerted him to a bright light in the sky and he saw a large orange light hovering by his neighbour's house, it was an event that would lead to more mysteries in this beautiful little corner of Wales of which we are more than familiar with. Here, he tells us exactly what went down.

"I lived in the small coastal village of Landimore on the Gower Peninsula, overlooking the Loughor Estuary. I lived at the top of the hill, I don't think it's fair to give the barn name as I no longer live there, and don't want people bothering the new tenants. On Thursday 7th October 2010, between 8 pm and 9 pm I witnessed a ufo hover, then land.

"My daughter who was 2 years old at the time was standing pointing

out the conservatory window saying 'bright'. I walked over and took a look and their hovering in the sky next to my neighbor's large tree and corner of his tennis court was a egg shape orange object/orb about the size of a transit van just hovering, it looked like a small sun and it was as bright as the sun, but did not hurt my eyes when looking at it, the object was to the west of my house and across the estuary from Burryport and Llanelli in South Wales, UK.

"At the time I had thought the tide was in over the salt marsh but I think but I might have been wrong about this, as it was dark and the pics I took do not show any water reflection.

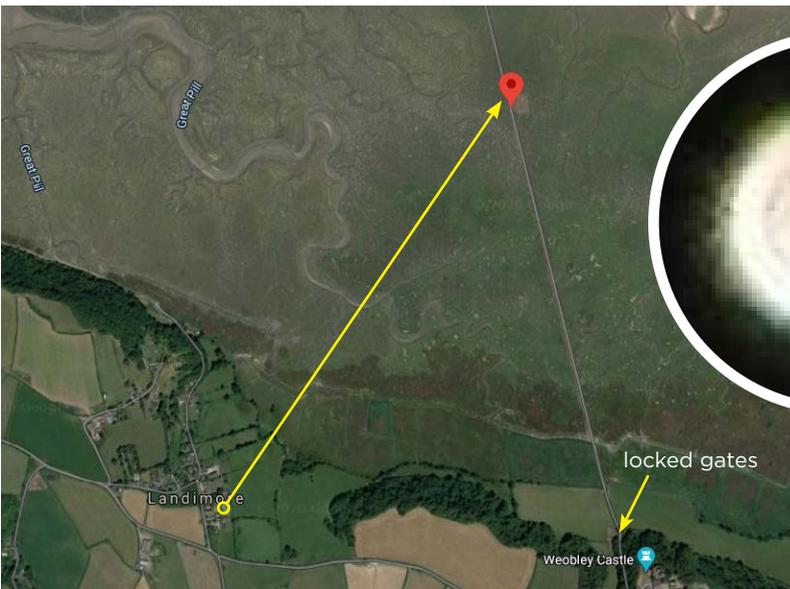
"After being stationary for a few moments the object shot downwards and to the right and it landed, it happened and moved so fast I thought it had crashed or was in trouble. Then the bright orange light went out and was replaced

by a much smaller light blue color but every few seconds I'd say at 5-second intervals it would emit massive pulsing flashes of various colors and the colors were very very bright, they were as bright like a lighthouse, the colors kept changing Green, Red, Orange, Blue, White - I had binoculars and I had to take my eyes away from them every time the colors changed as the flashes were so bright, I remember saying wow my god every time they changed, as they were so shocking to watch.

"This all happened for over an hour. I took pictures with a new camera I had just bought for use for my business, I had not yet learned how to use it and was not then aware it had a video function (idiot). About 15 minutes after it arrived another similar but much larger object appeared, it was bright white and round - it was opposite to me on the other side of the coast and above Burryport / Llanelli (I took more pics) the sky was overcast so it was not stars and not Chinese lanterns.



©S.Hoener/Shutterstock



Above: The spot where Jonathan first viewed the object and the site of the landing. The causeway that the vans traveled on leads from the castle. The gates on the road were locked when Jonathan went to the castle for a visit and found out from the farmer that the gates are always locked. ©Google Maps

Above: Some of Jonathans images of the mysterious orbs.

“Once the original object had landed or was hovering, (dependant on the tide) I heard what I thought was a twin-rotor helicopter very noisy, it came from the direction of Gowerton, this headed towards the object, it had 2 lights on it, it came up to the object quite slowly and it had a strange-looking spotlight on it like a very straight beam, but as soon as the light reached the 1st object the spotlight went out and the helicopter would disappear only to reappear where it had originally appeared this happened at least 5 times, it was very strange, I have thought about this since and I believe it was used as a distraction for anyone watching the original landed craft, and I think the helicopter was not real and was a type of holographic image with sound - I think the landed craft was in some sort of difficulty and the false helicopter was simply to distract.

“Another green colored craft came in from the south (direction of the sea) and seemed to be like a rescue mission for the landed object, they both moved off slowly in the direction of the sea - south. as they moved away this all came to an end and the large white object over Llanelli vanished at the same time, the helicopter vanished, there are pics that show this and you can see that they are moving from the

“A couple of days after this all happened I watched two black vans driving along the causeway.

different pics of the background orange lights of the opposite coast street lights.

“That night I phoned the police and asked if they were aware of any crash or had they had any other reports of the incident they said no other reports and it was not their helicopter and they had no other reports of anything strange in the area., The next morning I contacted the coast guard and had the same response as the police, I also contacted the two local air bases at Pembrey and St. Athan both bases close at 5.30 pm and they said nothing to do with them and finally I contacted Swansea airport and they knew nothing.

“I worked from home and the office overlooked where the ufo landed, a couple of days after this all happened I watched two black vans driving along the causeway across the marsh to the approximate location where the object had landed and they stopped and 3 men got out and seemed to be searching around the area. This was very

unusual in itself because in 2 years of living at the property I had very rarely seen anyone in that remote area and only ever seen the farmer who had salt marsh sheep/lambs on the land when the tide was out.

“As a follow up a few weeks after this all happened I asked the farmer who holds the key to the locked gate over the track to the causeway, and he told me that he had not opened it for anybody ever as there was no need to and it was private land, and he was very surprised to hear by what I told him about the vans and men. I checked the gates they were chained and locked.

“At the time this happened I sent some pictures to Nick Pope who headed up the investigation into UFOs at the Ministry of Defence. He replied and said the pictures are baffling and intriguing and asked me to get them analyzed with the BUFORA which I have done, but never had a reply.”

You can follow you Jonathan on Twitter @IWANTTOKNOW2020

“I PUNCHED A GRAY IN THE FACE.”

It's been whispered in certain alien abduction circles that not everybody is taken without a fight. Author and investigator **Preston Dennett** looks at some of these incredible claims.

Above: Yes, we know. It's the kind of tabloid attention-grabbing headline you'd see in the *National Enquirer* in the US, or *The Sun* if you live in the UK, and if we're honest we were going to do a big sensationalist 'red top' newspaper front page mock-up with a boxing glove punching a grey to introduce this feature, but it would do a disservice. The abduction scenario is scary enough for some, but it's nice to know that sometimes the 'greys' or whoever don't always have it their own way.

As a general rule, when someone is visited by the gray ETs, they find themselves paralyzed, unable to move any part of their body except perhaps their eyes. “Don't worry, we won't hurt you,” the greys say. “Come with us.” For every rule, however, there are exceptions. In some rare outlying cases, witnesses are able to break free from their paralysis. And in a few of these cases, witnesses react by attacking their kidnapers and punching them in the face, choking them around the neck, or getting into some sort of physical altercation. It happens more often than one might think.

Perhaps the most famous example comes from Travis Walton, a woodcutter from Arizona. On November 3, 1975, Travis and six other men encountered a UFO hovering at tree-top level in the Sitgreaves National Forest. While the others stayed in their pick-up truck, Travis got out and ran under the object. He was struck by a beam of light and taken onboard. Missing for five days, Travis finally returned with an incredible story. His experience of meeting greys and human-like ETs onboard the craft is well-known. One of the most unusual aspects of his case is that he physically fought with the ETs. After being struck by the beam of light, Travis woke up and initially thought he was in a hospital. Only after seeing that he was lying on a table surrounded by greys did he try to fight back.



“There were three of them,” Travis recalled. “Hysteria overcame me instantly. I struck out at the two on my right, hitting one with the back of my arms, knocking it into the other one. My swing was more of a push than a blow, I was so weakened.”

“The one I touched felt soft through the cloth of its garment. The muscles of its puny physique yielded with a sponginess that was more like fat than sinew. The creature was light and had fallen back easily.”

Could it be that the greys are physically weak and fragile? Consider this next case from the files of the Mutual UFO Network. Around 4:00 a.m., on April 5, 2017, a young man from Del Valle, Texas was woken by the sound of his family's dogs barking. Overcome with a “weird feeling,” he searched the house. Checking the room where his mom and her boyfriend slept, he was shocked to see two greys, each about six feet tall, standing by the beds. At the



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same time, another gray, this one just under seven feet tall, came floating in through the window.

Says the witness, "My first reaction was to grab the nearest one. I flipped him and punched him in the head. The other figure grabbed me. I turned and swung at it and punched it in the head. As soon as I looked back to the third figure, it was floating back out the window. Both my mom and her friend started to float up, and I blacked out. I woke up back in bed sweating, panting heavily, and my fists were red and in pain. The dogs were barking really violently outside."

Another case of a person punching a gray comes from MUFON field investigator, Ben Moss. The witness is Sarah (pseudonym), a young woman from Virginia. One evening in 2010, Sarah was driving when a triangular-shaped object dropped from the sky and hovered about twenty-five feet over her car. The object was about twenty feet long, totally silent, with white lights on the corners and a single red light in the center. It paced her car for about a half minute, then took off straight up.

Sarah had never seen a UFO before, but both her father and her grandmother had. It looked as though they were following her family, including herself. Evidence of this came about six years later.

On October 17, 2016, Sarah was alone in bed. It was around 4:00 a.m., and her husband had just left for work when Sarah was woken by strange shuffling footsteps coming from the back of the house. She wondered if it was an intruder, but at the same time, had an awful feeling that it might be ETs. Slowly the footsteps came closer. Terrified, she lay motionless in bed. Suddenly, the intruder was in the room. She felt three small figures grab her and try to pull her from her bed. Sarah immediately began to fight. "It was very hard for me to get my right arm free," Sarah says, "but I did and I started fighting and punching them as much and as hard as I could. I made contact with the bottom of my fist on one of them a few times and I remember that it felt almost like

I was hitting a rubbery tire like material, but it wasn't as dense of a material as a tire is. It was like a mix of flesh and rubber. They suddenly let me go and I got my feet under me."

Sarah sat back on the bed, terrified and angry. A few seconds passed when she suddenly blacked out. "The next thing that I remember," Sarah says, "is my alarm going off in the morning to wake me up for work. I noticed that I had a lot of pain and soreness all over my body, almost like severe aching muscles and joints from a bad flu. I felt like I had a lot of bloating and inflammation in my body as well, and had a bad headache... it took approximately two weeks to recover from the physical effects. When I saw things that had been knocked on the floor by the bed during the fight with them earlier, I just began crying because it was a reminder that what had happened was real."

While Sarah was able to punch the aliens, she wasn't able to prevent herself from being taken. Only a few months after the encounter, she went under hypnosis and recalled a full-blown abduction by the grays.

A classic case of a human alien fistfight, comes from researchers Don Worley and Ann Druffel. The main witness, Patsy Wingate of Knoxville, Tennessee, has had many encounters with grays throughout her life. One winter evening in 1985, Patsy woke up in the middle of the night to see three grays enter her bedroom through the wall. Patsy, who was pregnant, mentally shouted, "Leave me alone!"

When the three grays continued to advance, Patsy became enraged. Ann Druffel, who interviewed Patsy, writes what happened next: "She jumped out of bed and ran toward them, attacking the one in the center, who was slightly taller than the other two. Without thinking, she seized its neck and squeezed firmly...To her astonishment, the thin neck snapped and the entity's oversized head fell onto its back. She heard the sound of its neck snapping."

Patsy was horrified. She had only meant to stop the ET, not kill it. "His neck just broke like a twig," Patsy said. "Just, psst, like that. And its head fell straight backward. Now the other two got this look on their faces, like, 'Huh!'...you could see their eyes lift slightly in surprise...It was like, 'How did she do that?' Like, 'How come we couldn't stop her?'"

The two other grays scooped up their fallen companion and exited the same way they had arrived: through the wall.

“It was very hard for me to get my right arm free but I did and I started fighting and punching them as much as I could.”

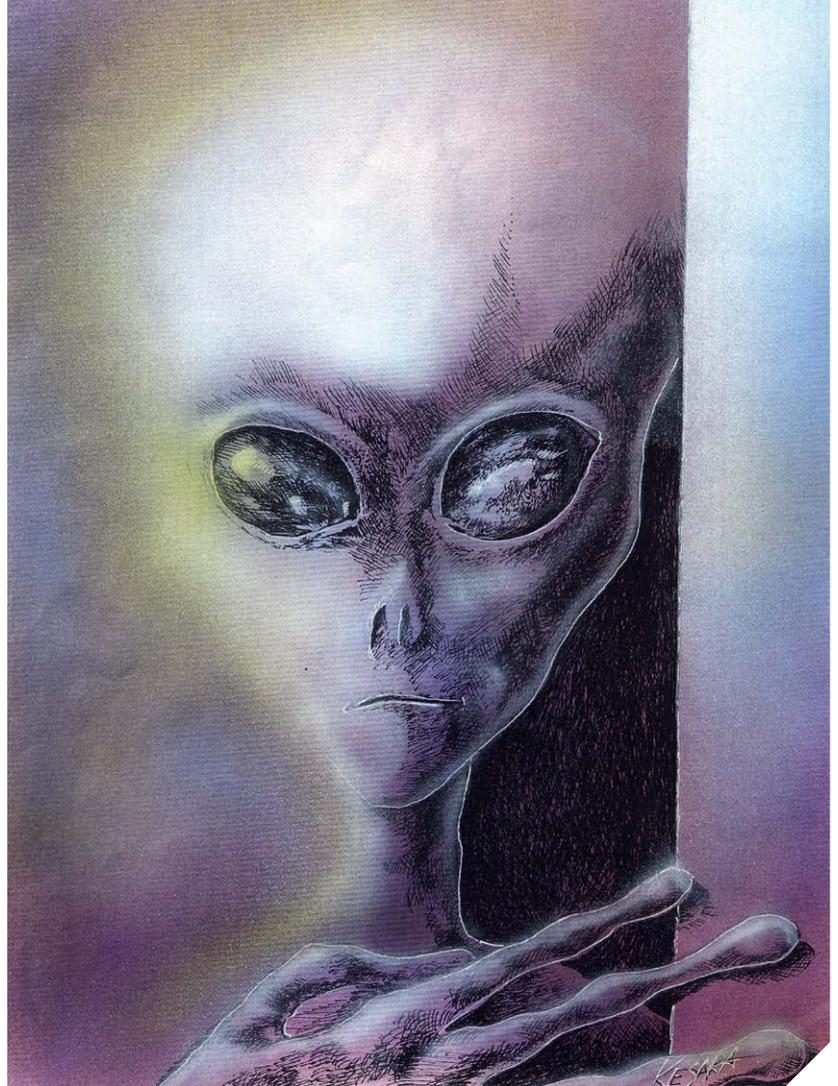
In my own UFO research, cases of people punching aliens are rare, and yet, it does happen. One example comes from “Tim,” a sports instructor from New Iberia, Louisiana. As a boy, Tim had a series of close-up UFO sightings and missing time incidents. He began having dreams at night that he was onboard a craft, though he wasn’t sure if these were just dreams or actual encounters. The encounters continued into his teenage years. It was during one of these teenage encounters that Tim had a physical altercation with one of the grays.

Around age twenty, he had another alien dream. Only on this occasion, he had proof that it wasn’t a dream at all. It was real. This was his one truly fearful experience.

“I had what I thought was a dream, where the aliens had taken me up into the spaceship, and they had restrained me on a table, and they left the room. I got loose somehow; they hadn’t restrained me fully, and I got loose. And I got up and I started walking around. And when they noticed I was walking around, well, one of them came at me. And I punched him in the head. His head was soft, like a beanbag almost. When I punched him in the head, he went down. I think it killed him. Suddenly, I was fighting several of them. I was fighting them, and I was beating them, physically hitting them. I remember one of them jumping toward me, and he had like three or four fingers on each hand. I remember him jumping toward me. And then I remember seeing like seven or eight other ones right behind him, all coming at me at the same time. And I remember seeing his eyes, his big black eyes right in front of my face. And I remember going backwards, and that’s the last thing I remember.”

When he woke up, Tim instantly recalled the “dream.” Then looking down at his arm, he saw that he was hurt. “I had a cut on my arm, like a scratch or a scrape. It took a long time to heal, but it finally did heal up.”

He wanted to believe that he had hurt himself while sleeping, but he knew it couldn’t be true. He couldn’t have cut himself that badly. It was one of what would



Above: Having an unexpected visitor standing in the doorway to your room or closet is not a sight you want to see in the small hours.

become many encounters. But it was the only time he ever punched a gray in the face.

Another case comes from “Gary” (pseudonym) from England. When Gary was a young boy, Gary and his parents took a vacation from their home in Cumbria, England. On their return trip, they were followed home by a UFO.

They soon began having more UFO sightings. Meanwhile Gary reported seeing short, dark figures come into his bedroom at night. This began a life-long series of encounters with the grays.

Numerous times throughout his life, Gary found himself paralyzed and floating from his bed and out the window. He had many conscious memories of being onboard a UFO. In most of these memories he is paralyzed or is strangely obedient.

Sometimes, however, Gary has fought back. On several occasions, Gary woke up to find the grays in his bedroom, or walking around inside his house. While most of his abductions occurred in the middle of the night, Gary recalls one incident from 2016 that occurred in the morning. Gary walked downstairs, and to his shock, there was a gray standing in the living room, next to the base of the stairs.

“I remember seeing his big black eyes right in front of my face. And I remember going backwards, that’s the last thing I remember.”

He instantly remembered an earlier incident when he had come upon a gray in the living room, standing like a scolded schoolboy. On that occasion, Gary had passed out before he had a chance to react.

This time, events unfolded very differently. Gary lunged forward, wrapped his hands around the gray's neck, and began choking it. "This time it wasn't as quick," Gary says, "but I was. I grabbed it by the throat. In a single moment, a thousand thoughts went through my head. I remember thinking, how surreal! I've got some creature from another world by the throat. What the hell do I do now? Its skin felt cold, firm and leathery. It was a split-second, because then its spindly little arms were spinning around like windmills, desperately trying to get rid of me. It was screaming in my head, 'Get off me! Get off me, now!'"

Without warning, something rushed at Gary from behind. He instantly lost consciousness. "That's all I remember," Gary says. "I have no idea what happened after that, where I went, or for how long. I have no idea. But looking back, it's nice to make those bastards panic for a change."

More encounters followed this one. Then, during late December 2018, Gary was lying in bed when he suddenly began to sense the grays coming. "Sometimes there's an energy that precedes them, just before they enter the room," Gary says. "I don't know if it's to make it easier for them to move, or to subdue me. It's kind of a heaviness. It's hard to explain."

The heaviness was strong. If it was meant to paralyze him, it wasn't working on him. But it did let him know that the grays were actually in the room. This time, he was ready for them.

Says Gary, "I waited until it had pulled the covers right back, and I punched it in the face. And I can tell you now, they may look small and cute to some people sometimes, but this thing suddenly changed. It was furious. It hissed loudly and lunged for me. Its face changed. Suddenly it looked nothing like a gray. It looked like something completely different. Its small narrow mouth went from a tiny slit to a wide gaping thing with spiky teeth. It was something that in all intent and purposes seems to try to come across as innocent, frail and harmless, but in fact has the teeth of a predator for gripping, shredding and ripping. And when I punched it, it was like its mask slipped for a moment, revealing its true identity. I shot up in bed. I thought I was going to die. I threw my fist

right back. I was going to punch it through the wall. I thought I was fighting for my life."

The experience abruptly ended. Upon awakening, Gary remembered the confrontation, the leathery feel of the gray's skin, the way it had opened its mouth to reveal small pointed teeth. He was about to punch it again, when he passed out. He was amazed at how he had been able to fight back against the grays. They were no longer able to paralyze him with their energy. Next time, he vowed to fight back again.

Only a few months later, he was lying in bed when he felt their energy fill the room. They were here. He thought to himself, this time he wouldn't punch them, he would kick them with more power. "As soon as I thought that," says Gary, "I was out cold. I think I'm now in their bad books," he says. Gary's encounters continue.

Another case of humans fighting grays comes from Ramon, a now-retired United States Marine officer from Palmdale, California. Starting at age six, Ramon experienced a series of abductions by gray ETs. More abductions occurred throughout his teen-age years.

In his mid-thirties, in December 1982, Ramon had his most extensive abduction, during which he was physically examined, saw hybrid aliens and more. It was during this incident that he got in a physical fight with one of the grays. He had just seen the hybrid babies, and the grays were now taking him to be physically examined.

Ramon was unable to resist, and he sat down. "Out of the air," Ramon says, "a table top floats up right to me over my knees and just stays there." On the table was a petri-dish type container.

At that moment, a taller gray walked in. "He comes over and tries to put a cup over my genitals," Ramon says. "They started to take off my shirt and unbuckle my pants."

At this point, Ramon broke free from the semi-paralysis and tried to fight them.

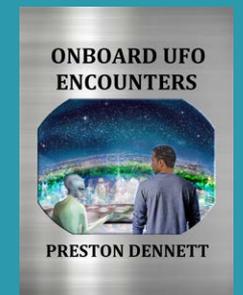
"Calm down," the doctor gray said. "Calm down. Everything will be okay." He pushed Ramon back into the chair.

Ramon felt a surge of anger. And summoning his Marine combat training, he lifted his arms and pushed the gray forcefully down onto the floor. The gray quickly stood back up. Suddenly Ramon found himself by a half-dozen more grays.

Author



Preston Dennett began investigating UFOs in the 1980s. Since then, he has interviewed hundreds of witnesses and investigated a wide variety of paranormal phenomena. He is the author of 26 books and more than 100 articles on UFOs and the paranormal and has appeared on numerous radio and television programs, including *Midnight in the Desert* with Art Bell, *Coast-to-Coast* and also the History Channel's *Deep Sea UFOs* and *UFO Hunters*. He has taught classes on various paranormal subjects and lectures across the United States. He currently resides in southern California.



To buy Preston Dennett's latest book click the cover above.



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Above: ‘Physical resistance’, if you can convince your mind that you are in control, is one way of preventing an abduction scenario.

The doctor gray told the other grays, “Hold him down.”

“They started to push me down into the dental chair,” Ramon says. “And I was fighting back.”

The doctor gray then tried to place a mask-like device over Ramon’s face, presumably to sedate him so they could obtain their sperm sample, Ramon thought. He saw that the doctor’s fingers were twice as long as a human’s, and appeared almost claw-like. Ramon again lost consciousness. Important here is that he was able to resist.

There are many other examples. One lady I interviewed woke up to find grays surrounding her bed. She jumped up and kicked one of them in the neck. Its neck snapped and the creature fell to the ground. Instantly the other grays scooped up their companion and disappeared through the wall.

These types of accounts are rare, but they show us that it is possible to physically resist the grays. In fact, researcher Ann Druffel maintains that there are several methods people can use to defend themselves against alien abduction, with “physical resistance” being one of them.

“What is all important here,” Druffel writes, “is the ability of an ordinary-size human to attack and disable a UFO entity. It shows that physical struggle is sometimes possible even in the worst of abduction scenarios, and indicates the so-called grays are not physically superior to humans.”

These cases show us that grays are not invulnerable. They may be mentally powerful and technologically advanced, but physically, they are very weak. They also conform with the grays’ intense interest in examining humans and obtaining genetical material to make hybrid babies. Many abductees have been told that the reason for this is to revitalize their race. Apparently, the grays know that they are physically weak. This would also explain why the grays almost always render people paralyzed before they approach. They are apparently afraid of humans and their physical superiority. If humans are truly physically stronger than grays, this information could prove to be very useful during an abduction scenario. That alone makes cases like these very important. 🛡️

👉 For more information on Preston Dennett’s other numerous articles and books visit www.prestondennett.weebly.com

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So long, and thanks for all the spirits...

We find out from current landlady and paranormal investigator, Ellie Boiling, that the spirits at The Dolphin Hotel aren't restricted to the optics.

The Dolphin Hotel in Littlehampton, West Sussex, is said to be one of the most haunted pubs in the UK. Dating back to 1735, this former coaching inn and stables experiences its fair share of paranormal activity and acts as a base for the paranormal group L.I.G.H.T.S (Littlehampton Investigative Ghost Hunting Team) formed by current landladies Ellie Boiling and her partner Emma.

"I saw my first ghost when I was nine years old." Ellie tells us. "My dad had died three years earlier, which mum hadn't told us -

she just said he'd gone away. I was looking out of an upstairs window in our house and I saw him in the garden, sitting in a dekchair." Thinking he'd returned home she ran off to tell her mother who finally had to come clean, but little Ellie's interest in the paranormal had been sparked.

Some year's later she found herself working as a barmaid at The Dolphin and early on she realised that there was a malevolent spirit in residence.

"I was staying in Room Two, a part time bar person was staying next door in Room One.

THE DOLPHIN HOTEL

I heard a scream at 4am, and I remember this clear as day, I went into a room and I noticed the window was open and I said, 'Katrina, where are you?' Turns out she'd jumped out the window! She never came back to work, and I asked her why she hadn't come to me, thinking she was suicidal. She told me that she was physically pushed out of that window! Now, about a year ago I was sent a newspaper clipping from 1937 about a former landlord that jumped out that very window. Katrina just broke her leg, but he'd died. So I don't know if it was residual energy that made them both do it, or was it his energies that made her do it? It was just the strangest thing."

While she was there, Ellie discovered that the lease was due to expire and, seizing this unmissable opportunity, she did everything she could to make The Dolphin hers. Being interested in the paranormal certainly prepared her for some interesting experiences.

"The first experience here after I'd bought it, I was lying in bed and in the early hours of the morning I heard running going through the hotel. I didn't have anybody staying in the hotel at the time so I was thinking I've been broken into. I picked up a baseball bat I kept in my room and I was walking in the long corridor upstairs. Now, those corridors, they're the type that lend themselves to a horror movie, they're long and dark, very foreboding and very tight. My imagination is running wild, then I heard running right up behind me and a child laugh and I swung round and there's absolutely nothing there.

"We've got a ghost child here, a girl called 'Little Dolly' who was the landlord's daughter, her grave is just up the road. How we found out about her was through celebrity medium Derek Acorah (now sadly deceased) when he came here. I found her picture, after they'd gone, wrapped in

muslin in Room Seven. She was actually called Ada Constance Parish and she died in 1906 of diphtheria and is buried in the local cemetery but her actual spirit is here.

"About three days later I'd had a guest in Room Four and he'd checked out so I sent the staff up to clean the room. This guest had been a chunky little rugby player and he'd come down for a game. Well, the cleaner hears voices in the room, even though I'd told her he'd left, and knocks on the door before opening it. And there in the room was a big tanned bald head who walked straight through her! I had to give her time off work after that, but that was when things started to really happen at The Dolphin. It's an amazing place, absolutely teeming with not just spirits, but ghosts, residual energies.

"I do ghost hunts in the pub so normally there's lots of different people in the pub, lots of different energies here. But during lockdown, there was only me here so I was the only person these spirits could tag on to. There's a real nasty spirit here, who really doesn't like me! I've been livestreaming ghost hunts, just me on my own but as restrictions were eased I did a 'socially distanced' ghost hunt, with somebody from Stabbed In The Back paranormal.

"He was over the other side of Room Seven, the old nursery and I was just getting my bag, still livestreaming. This thing, this hostile energy, whatever it is, lifted me off the ground - according to this guy I was in the room with who witnessed this - and I was pushed back into the wall, into the cot and into this highchair. And I could not move. I was seen to be pinned against the wall and I was scared! I thought if he's that strong to lift somebody my size, and pin me against that wall? That was the first time I've actually been scared of this place and thought, it's getting a little bit hairy."

THE STRANGE GOINGS ON AT THE DOLPHIN

Floating half-women and laughing children aren't the only strange happenings on the premises.

- There's a spirit called William, a former landlord's brother who was hanged for raping and murdering his niece, who was a cook in the pub.
- A man in RAF uniform with a burnt face floats through from the men's toilets.
- Customers have had mini chocolate eggs thrown at them from no discernible source.
- 20p coins will be left in strange places, Ellie thinks the children's spirits like the shape.
- A pool of water has been known to form on the bar, with children's footprints going in and coming out of it.
- Pool balls will roll by themselves, Ellie admits the table is on an uneven floor, but the balls roll *up* the slight slope.
- One of the cellars was used as a 'Gentleman's Club' during the 1950s & '60 where ladies would often entertain the patrons. It's said that one of these ladies 'disappeared' and that her body still remains in a blocked off room with thick concrete walls. Ellie has had this confirmed by a psychic sketch artist and by a woman who used to work at the pub.



The Dolphin Hotel has seven rooms available for paying guests, although not everyone is brave enough stay through the night as Ellie explains.

“There was this woman who came down from *Love It!* magazine. She’d heard that this is the most haunted building in Britain or something and wanted to come and stay the night? So I showed her around and there’s a few things happening, but nothing I’d consider frightening. So she upstairs to bed about 10pm and she was gone two hours later, just left. I did try to warn her! That’s the thing about The Dolphin, it either gives you a warm hug or it spits you out, and it does spit quite a lot of people out. It seems to be very fussy about who comes in.”

“About seven years ago, a couple booked in for a week. The first night the guy came down and asked to be moved from the room. He said that a woman just walked through his door but I told him there was no one else staying in the hotel. I asked him if it was a staff member. But he said no, that this woman had floated through the door, through the bed and out through the window. Oh, and she had no bottom half! Now this intrigued me because an Army captain that came down to stay a few years before, stayed in that very room in the 1990s and he saw the same thing.

“I have documented evidence from him to say he was in the room and he saw a woman walk through the door, through the bed and out through the window. And she had no bottom half. To me that’s amazing because that’s two documented cases where people are seeing the same thing without prior knowledge. So anyway, I moved this couple up to Room Six. The next morning, I knocked

“This guest said that this woman had floated through his door, through the bed and out through the window.”

on their door, about 8am, to call them for breakfast, but they weren’t there, the room was empty. I checked my CCTV, and saw them leaving at 4am. They’d packed all their stuff and left. I e-mailed him the guy asking if he wanted his money back, but he replied no, they didn’t want anything to do with the place. They ended up selling their story to the papers because two weeks later, I saw in a national paper about a ‘woman in white’ at my pub! So that’s the sort of thing that happens here.”

But now it appears that Ellie’s time at The Dolphin is coming to a close, it is the coronavirus pandemic rather than hostile spirits that may have finally called time on her residency, but before she goes, there’s one final thing we want to ask. When she eventually passes over, is her spirit going to come back and haunt The Dolphin?

“Well, if it’s not going to be here, I’m definitely going to haunt something! I’d love it. I would love people trying look for me and I’d be playing tricks. Yeah, I think I’d definitely like that.” 👁

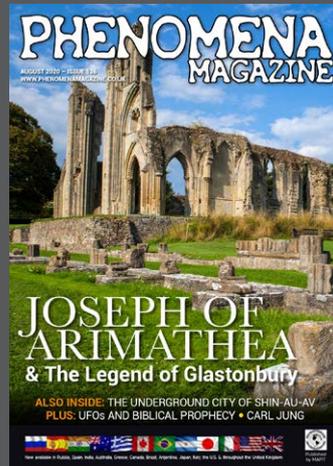
👉 You can watch Ellie’s ghost hunts and see more images from The Dolphin by [clicking here.](#)

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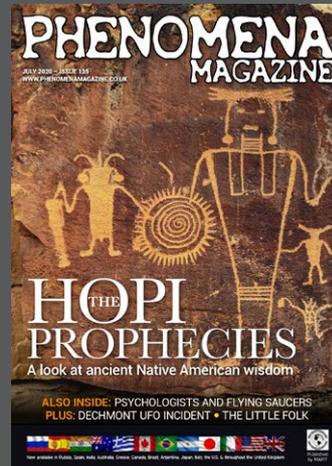
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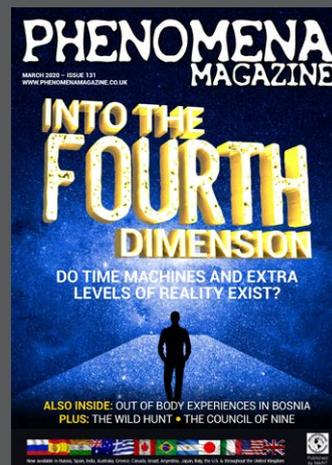
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