



# MUFON

## ARIZONA CHAPTER



Ray Maurer - State Director  
Tom Taylor - Section Director/Phoenix  
Bob Dean - Section Director/Tucson  
Mary Hart - Newsletter Producer

Volume 3 / Issue 2

**MEETING DATE: Monday, February 21, 1994 ♦ ♦ MEETING TIME: 7:30 Sharp**  
**LOCATION: 8227 E. Orange Blossom, Scottsdale, AZ (Clubhouse)**  
**PROGRAM: CROP CIRCLES VIDEO**

### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

After two conferences in town with numerous speakers, the Triad Conference and Bob Dean's presentation, I figure it's time again for a meeting featuring a videotape. Jere Castor just acquired a new videotape on Crop Circles which will be shown this month.

I would also like your feedback on the last meeting. We all just talked as a group and shared our own experiences. I need to know if this is something we should do from time to time. Also, is there any other format we might try? As you know, my schedule has become quite busy, and I need all the help I can get from the rest of the group. It looks like I will be traveling quite a lot for the next few months.

I know many people saw the Monteil Williams show where he boasted that he was going to make a trip to Area 51 over the Christmas holidays. Well, we never heard anything and we don't even know if he tried, so one of our members, Janey Lecakes, took it upon herself to call the studio to get an update. What she got was an obnoxious New York brushoff! She was told a lot of people had called after that show and that she would have to put her request in writing, which she did. If she hears anything, we will keep you posted.

As always, I look forward to your ideas and input.

Ray Maurer, State Director

### WHITESIDES HEARING

In last month's newsletter we included a two-page article on Whitesides, which (as most of you know) is the only overlook for Area 51 which is still accessible to the public. The Air Force is attempting to have the BLM close this area to the public.

The following is an excerpt from a Notice distributed by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, which bears our attention:

"This notice sets forth the schedule for a second public meeting/hearing to be held on the Air Force's proposed withdrawal application.

The meeting/hearing will be held at Cashman Field Center, Rooms 203-204; 850 North Las Vegas, Blvd.; Las Vegas, NV on March 2, 1994, from 5-8 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Curtis Tucker, Area Manager, BLM Caliente, Caliente, Nevada 702/726-8100."

*If you can't attend the meeting, call Mr. Tucker to state your opinion!*

### TRIAD AND STARGATE CONFERENCES

We wish to thank all who were involved with the recent conferences held in Scottsdale by the Triad and Stargate groups. Both conferences were very interesting and informative, and those who attended came away with a fascinating array of ideas, images and opinions.

The Triad conference lasted two days and featured scientists as well as laypeople giving a well-rounded picture of the UFO and abduction experience from all angles. The Stargate conference lasted just one day but was packed with fascinating subject matter as well. Ted Loman and Jim Nichols, host and co-host of Tucson Cable's "UFO AZ Talks," were in attendance, as well as Bob Dean, featured speaker, who is the MUFON Section Director for Southern Arizona.

Slide shows, videotapes, facts and figures were made available to attendees at both conferences, and the varied backgrounds of the speakers made for an eclectic but focused agenda. For those who were unable to attend either or both of the conferences, it will be well worth the effort and expense to attend in the future!



Why we see news anchorpersons only from the waist up.

In the interest of keeping the UFO topic before the public, the following is a list of programs on the subject recently aired via television, radio and newspaper in recent weeks. We will attempt to list programs ahead of time whenever possible; unfortunately, we are not notified of the majority of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear or read them. In the case of TV and radio programs, ask at MUFON meetings to see if anyone is aware of someone who may have taped them to share.

**UFO-AZ TALKS:** Ted Loman's show, originating in Tucson, is now carried Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. on Local Channel 22 (Dimension Cable).

KFYI interviewed Bob Dean when he was here for the Stargate conference; we have no details concerning when that interview will be (or was) broadcast.

We have been told that three movies have been/are in the process of being/ made concerning the Roswell incident; one funded by Ted Turner and one by Steven Spielberg (no details yet on the third). Showtime will air one of these movies in the spring (possibly June). More details will be published as they become available; if anyone has any more details on any of these movies, please let me know.

Recently I was fortunate to be included in a group viewing a portion of a movie called "Operation Denial," videotaped from the Sci-Fi channel (not yet available in Phoenix). This movie starred Parker Stevenson and William Shatner, among others, and dealt with abduction by aliens, a UFO crash, and military cover-up. The movie was made in Australia, and I was told "by those who know" that it was very factual in nature. If anyone has a tape of this movie, please contact me; the portion I saw was very interesting, and it might be something of interest to show the whole group at a later time.

### **MARCH 12, 1993 SIGHTING**

[NOTE: Although this sighting took place almost a year ago, the information was not forwarded to our group until last month by MUFON headquarters. Kenneth Calman of Phoenix reported the sighting; the other three people will be left anonymous for purposes of this article.]

On March 12, 1993, at about 2:15 p.m., I and 3 others observed moving lights in the sky near my home in Phoenix, Arizona that may have been an alien spacecraft.

I was in the back yard of my home with 3 family members. The day was warm, around 80°, and sunny with thin, scattered clouds. Our attention was drawn to the sky when one man noted one or more floating objects that had been lifted from the ground by a sudden gust of wind. I looked up and saw a pale beige plastic garbage bag hovering in the air southeast of my home and several feet above the rooftops. The other two watched the object(s) and speculated on whether they saw a garbage bag or a potato chip bag. As the woman looked upwards she exclaimed "Look! A light!"

I looked up at the sky in the direction she had indicated, which was southwest of my house. I saw an elongated white light that was moving upward and westward. The light initially traveled in a straight line but began a gradual counterclockwise turn. The light followed the arc of this curve until it became invisible behind a cloud.

I continued watching until the light came out of the cloud, having completed a circle. After coming out of the cloud the light began to move in a tight clockwise circle. As it did so, it was joined by a second light that had moved into view heading southeasterly. For a short time the two lights traveled parallel to each other at close range in a southeasterly direction heading toward the cloud. As they did so, two things happened: A third light moved into view going northwest and passed the two lights moving southeast at close range. The third light continued moving northwest in a straight line until it moved out of my field of view.

Secondly, the light which had entered the area coming from northwest made several rapid on-off flashes and then resumed showing a steady light.

After a few seconds the two lights traveling southeast went behind the cloud and were lost from my view. As they did so a fourth light traveled into my field of view moving from northwest to southeast. I don't know if this was the light I had earlier seen going toward the northwest or a fourth entity.

Within a few seconds the sighting was over, with all of the craft behind a cloud or otherwise out of view.

As I watched the moving lights I reasoned they were some kind of earthly aircraft making unusual movements as the sun reflected off their sides. A moment after the lights had gone, two actual earthly aircraft flew over, and seeing the difference in their appearance from the moving lights, I was forced to reconsider. The airplanes appeared dark against the sky. One flew over westbound at high altitude and left a vapor trail. The other had just taken off from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport and was gaining altitude as it left the Phoenix area. The sun reflected off a small spot at the nose of the aircraft for a few seconds. Then a momentary reflection of the sun off the top of the fuselage was seen. Wings and tails were clearly visible. There were no similarities in the appearance of the airplanes to the appearance of the moving light.

No wings or tail structures could be seen on the moving lights, and they left no vapor trails. The craft that moved in circles did not change in appearance, an indication that its shape was round. No sounds were heard that could be associated with the light.

Like Air Force Base is located several miles northwest of the sighting, but military planes are not known to practice maneuvers in the area of the sighting; it is too close to the landing pattern of Sky Harbor Airport.

My conclusions: (1) The moving lights were physical craft. (2) The craft were being operated purposefully. (3) The craft glowed with light of their own. (4) The incandescent appearance of the craft and ability to flash on and off is contradictory to the appearance of any earthly aircraft known to me. (5) The location of the sighting and movements observed are not explainable in conventional terms.



## TRAVEL

# "Earthlings Welcome" in Tiny Nevada Town Where Mysterious Aircraft Often Fly Overhead

By ROY J. HARRIS JR.

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
RACHEL, Nev. — Lots of towns get a tourism boost from special attractions: Los Angeles has Hollywood; Washington, the White House and Capitol Hill. And just beyond the jagged brown Groom Mountains, this tiny desert hamlet has its top-secret airstrip.

Aviation buffs study the almost-nightly light show along Rachel's southwest horizon for traces of the elusive Aurora — a futuristic spy plane supposedly flying from "Area 51" of the vast Nellis Air Force Base bombing range. UFO seekers hope to catch a glimpse of even more exotic craft: the captured alien saucers they believe the U.S. is testing out there, near what appears on maps only as Groom Dry Lake.

So when the Air Force recently initiated action to bar the public from hilltops near the hush-hush facility, it drew special attention from Glenn Campbell and Pat and Joe Travis. In this cluster of several dozen mobile homes, with no mayor or chamber of commerce, the three entrepreneurs constitute the town's tourism industry.

The Travises, owners of the Little A'Le'Inn (pronounced a-lee-inn), figure that several thousand extra visitors annually stop at their motel, restaurant and bar because of the aerial phenomena. The inn rewards them with a minimonument to both U.S. and extraterrestrial aviation. Its walls are adorned with UFO snapshots alongside government-issue photos of F-117 Stealth fighters, SR-71s, U-2s and other jets thought to have flown here in their secret days.

And Mr. Campbell's "Viewer's Guide to

*The Little A'Le'Inn*  
(below), a motel,  
restaurant and bar, is  
the center of Rachel,  
Nevada's tourism industry  
and a minimonument  
to both U.S. and  
extraterrestrial aviation.



Area 51," says the recent New England transplant, is "a bestseller — at least in Lincoln County." The 1,000 guidebooks sold, at \$15 apiece, tell how to climb White Sides hill and Freedom Ridge for views of the Groom Lake runway and hangar complex. (A warning is included to avoid the current restricted zone, protected by cameras, sensors and armed guards. "To put it bluntly, they can kill you," the book says.)

The Travises and Mr. Campbell have

actually experienced more business since the Air Force asked the Interior Department to restrict 3,900 acres outside the Nellis boundary—a move the military simply says is "necessary for the safe and secure operation of the activities on the Nellis range." Some visitors come because of publicity, noting that, for now, it's still possible to take a legal peek at a base the government won't confirm exists.

But whatever the longer-term threat to  
Please Turn to Page B4, Column 4





## Earthlings Welcome In Tiny Nevada Town With Aircraft Above

*Continued From Page B1*

this little slice of Nevada tourism, the issue highlights the somewhat delicate symbiosis that exists between the two enterprises. The guidebook writer—a UFO skeptic who is currently engaged in a spat with the nonskeptical Traveses—first came here last year to investigate flying-saucer stories. Having just quit his job as a software designer for Boston Treasury Systems Inc., Mr. Campbell traded his stock in the closely held company for the mutual funds that now support his desktop-publishing business.

Mr. Campbell made some interesting contacts at the inn. One was "Willow," who claimed to be from the Pleiades star cluster. "Her first question was where was I from," he recalls. When he said Boston, he recalls, "she said, 'No, from out there.'"

A walking guidebook himself, Mr. Campbell sometimes takes visitors on hikes to the Groom Lake viewpoints, as do several Californians who make the White Sides hilltop and Little A'Le'Inn part of UFO-oriented tours to this area.

With darkness descending during one

recent hike to Freedom Ridge, Mr. Campbell sees a series of bright orange globes—briefly glowing overhead, fading like fireworks, then reappearing. These, he explains, are special flares that aircraft use during evasive maneuvers in standard Nellis exercises. Eerie white lights that seem to hover above the mountains starting just after 4 a.m. are from a "Janet." That's air-traffic-control lingo, the guidebook says, for the Boeing 737s of a mysterious airline that operates between Las Vegas and Groom Lake each weekday.

Most of Mr. Campbell's energy goes into the guidebook, which is updated regularly. (A Las Vegas guide is also due out soon.) For now, "profit is not our goal," a postscript explains. "Our prices are intended only to reimburse our costs and support our continued research."

As for the Traveses, they pride themselves on being the first of many restaurant operators on this site to operate in the black. The couple came the 150 miles north from Las Vegas in 1988 to buy what was then the prosaically named Rachel Bar & Grill. Their 11 motel rooms—soon to be 14—rent for \$25 a night. Souvenirs bearing the inn's "Earthlings Welcome" slogan are plentiful, and their promotional savvy has led to occasional national publicity. The Traveses even host an annual UFO convention in April. At least one visiting sky-watcher stops by every day, says Mr. Travis, who recommends the \$2.75 Alien

Burger as "out of this world."

No theory about Area 51 is considered strange here. If guests tell of being abducted by a "craft," the innkeepers often spin their own tale of once being startled by a beam of light penetrating the solid back door. "We've had three psychics tell me the entity is still here," Mrs. Travis says, and the presence is now so familiar that "we call him Archibald."

A less-familiar presence these days is Mr. Campbell. While the Little A'Le'Inn sells his book, Mr. Campbell for a time became persona non grata at the motel because of an argument—over a matter that neither he nor the Traveses will discuss. But the couple is known to be less than thrilled with Mr. Campbell's irreverence about the inn and the town. "An amusing pastime," suggests one footnote in the Campbell guidebook, "is to count how many guns you see hidden in nooks and crannies behind the bar." The book's view of Rachel: "a diverse place welcoming people of all political persuasions as long as they are not liberal." And it says locals think environmentalists "taste as good cooked as roast spotted owl."

The Traveses and Mr. Campbell all hope, however, that cutting off public access to the Groom Lake viewpoints won't hurt business. Whatever is being hidden beyond the mountains during the daytime, Mrs. Travis notes, "is being flown right over our heads" at night.

6 Friday, Jan. 14, 1994 THE YUMA (ARIZ.) DAILY SUN

## GAO to look at famous UFO case

Associated Press

### ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

The investigative arm of Congress is looking into a well-known UFO case to determine whether a government cover-up followed the 1947 crash of a mysterious object in New Mexico.

U.S. Rep. Steve Schiff said he asked the General Accounting Office to investigate after receiving letters from people who claimed to have witnessed the wreckage at the crash site. Schiff is a member of the House Government Operations Committee, which oversees the GAO.

The New Mexico Republican said Wednesday he had been told a few days earlier that a GAO investigator had nothing yet to report and was "getting stonewalled" by the Department of Defense.

"That made them that much more interested in the investigation," Schiff said.

The July 2, 1947, crash near the ranching community of Corona is known as the "Roswell Incident" because it happened about 75 miles northwest of Roswell.

The Air Force said the wreckage came from a weather balloon equipped with a radar-reflecting gadget. But others claim it was a flying saucer that crashed.

After the purported crash of the spacecraft, the bodies of the extraterrestrial visitors were said by a local undertaker and other conspiracy theorists to have been autopsied and then secretly flown to a base in Ohio.

The theorists allege the remains of the crash were taken first to Fort Worth, Texas, then to what is now Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. They say the incident was the beginning of a government secrecy program that has hidden proof of the existence of extraterrestrial visitors for more than four decades.

GAO conducted 1,380 inquiries into government operations in 1992. Its budget has risen from \$46.9 million in 1965 to \$490 million last year. The agency has been criticized, especially by Republicans, as the "lap dog of the requesters," producing reports that tend to support whatever conclusion the requesting member of Congress suggests.



# Schiff Reopens UFO Case

## Agency Takes New Look At 'Roswell Incident'

By Steve Brewer

JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

It's been more than 46 years now, and Rep. Steve Schiff thinks it's high time the federal government came clean on whether space aliens crashed their flying saucer in New Mexico.

The Albuquerque Republican has asked the General Accounting Office to investigate whether a government cover-up followed the crash of a mysterious object near the little ranch town of Corona on July 2, 1947. And the GAO, Congress' investigative arm, has begun such a probe.

"It's not a light thing to ask a government agency to look into something, but the government has been accused of a cover-up," Schiff said Wednesday.

The congressman admitted he's curious about the incident, but added, "I would not ask for an investigation of something I was just curious about. The issue is whether the government is being forthright with the American people, and that is a serious issue to me."

MORE: See SCHIFF on PAGE A12

# Schiff Reopens 1947 UFO Case

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL Thursday, January 13, 1994

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The 1947 crash, known as the "Roswell Incident" because it happened about 75 miles northwest of Roswell, has been the focus of UFO books and buffs for years. They claim a flying saucer crashed on a ranch owned by Mac Brazel, and that government teams whisked away the wreckage and, perhaps, the bodies of aliens.

They also assert the remains of the crash were taken first to Fort Worth, Texas, then to what is now Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. The Air Force said the day after the recovery that the material was from a weather balloon equipped with a radar reflecting gadget.

But UFO believers say the incident was the beginning of a government secrecy program that has hidden proof of the existence of extraterrestrial visitors for more than four decades.

"For sort of all-around thoroughness, Roswell's the best case we've got," said Michael Lindemann, a

Santa Barbara, Calif., futurist who does research on UFOs. "If we had no other UFO case at all, the elements of the Roswell case would go a very, very long way to proving we have had alien visitation."

Philip J. Klass, a Washington, D.C., aviation writer who's worked for decades debunking UFO sightings, said, however, that there "isn't a shred of evidence" that a flying saucer was recovered at Roswell. He said declassified military documents show high-ranking Air Force and White House officials never had any knowledge of such a find, and it's absurd to think lower-level operatives could have kept such a secret from their bosses.

But Schiff said long-standing suspicions of such a conspiracy make the GAO investigation worthwhile.

"I just assume that if there were alien bodies at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, somebody would have discovered them during all these years," he said. "On the other hand, you have to say anything is possible as long as the government won't talk. The government

promotes these things with its silence."

The congressman said he decided to look into the allegations after receiving letters from people interested in UFOs, including a couple from people who claimed to have personally witnessed the wreckage at the crash site.

Last March, according to Klass' Skeptic UFO Newsletter, Schiff wrote to Secretary of Defense Les Aspin requesting an Air Force briefing on the Roswell Incident. Schiff said Wednesday that Air Force officials told him later they couldn't brief him because all the documents from the investigation known as Project Blue Book had been sent to the National Archives.

He contacted National Archives officials, who said they're not in the business of giving briefings.

"We went back and forth a little bit and, frankly, I got tired of going back and forth," he said. "I talked to the people at GAO (in October) and I told them about this."

Schiff has frequent contact with GAO officials because he's on the House Government Operations Committee, which oversees the GAO.

"I asked them, 'Is this anything that you might be able to assist me with?'" Schiff recalled. "They said, 'We've never done anything like this before. We mostly look into fiscal matters... but it sounds interesting. Why not give us a stab at it?'"

Since then, said GAO spokeswoman Laura Kopelson, an investigator has begun studying documents and looking into the cover-up allegations. She said the results will be reported back to Schiff.

Schiff said he was told a few days ago the investigator had nothing to report yet, and one of his aides was told the investigator was "getting stonewalled" by the Department of Defense.

"That made them that much more interested in the investigation," he said.

Friday, January 14, 1994

Albuquerque Journal

# Letters Lead to UFO Inquiry

## Schiff Denies Prompt From Aide's Spouse

By Steve Brewer

JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Rep. Steve Schiff says his investigation into the 1947 recovery of a mysterious object in New Mexico was prompted by letters from constituents, not by his aide's UFO-hunting husband.

Placitas resident Karl Pflock, who's married to Schiff's district director, Mary Martinek, has worked vigorously for nearly a year investigating the so-called "Roswell Incident" under a grant from the Fund for UFO Research in Washington, D.C.

Last fall, Schiff asked the General Accounting Office, which he helps oversee from his position on a House committee, to investigate allegations the military pulled off some sort of cover-up after crash debris was recovered on a ranch near Corona in the summer of '47. The investigation is under way.

Pflock said Thursday he didn't prod Schiff into seeking the GAO probe.

"This is his baby," Pflock said. "He's not doing me any favors. He's doing it because he's committed to the idea that this is something that should be brought out in public."

Pflock said he's talked to Schiff in "strictly casual conversations" two or three times about his interest in the case. Schiff said he didn't recall those conversations, and that his interest was sparked by a "flurry" of letters from constituents.

What matters, he said, isn't why the inquiry began, but how the Department of Defense "stonewalled" when he asked for information.

The Pentagon told Schiff it no longer had the records on whatever was recovered from the ranch and steered him to the National Archives.

Archives officials, however, said, "We have not located any documents related to this event in the (Air Force's) Project Blue Book records, or in any other pertinent Defense Department records in our custody."

The Roswell Incident has been the source of debate and research among UFO buffs for decades. Many think the incident is the best case for alien contact with Earth, despite the military's statements at the time that the debris was from a weather balloon.

Schiff said Thursday he doesn't believe a UFO was recovered at the ranch.

"I think, first of all, it could be a weather balloon," he said, "But because of the government's obvious disinterest in giving me the information, that leads me to think it might've been something else."

I like what?

"If I had to guess, I would say some kind of military experiment," he said. "But that's sheerly a guess."

Pflock, too, said he isn't convinced an alien space-

craft was recovered by the military, but "something extraordinary was recovered."

Pflock said he and other UFO researchers first made formal contact with Schiff's staff about the incident in August 1992.

Pflock and fellow researcher Fred Whiting subsequently compiled a 130-page "briefing paper" filled with news accounts, military documents and testimony from witnesses, much of which points toward some sort of government plot to hide whatever really happened in 1947. That paper was given to Schiff's office in December, Pflock said, and "they're going to be giving that to the GAO, if they haven't already done that, to help in the investigation."

Schiff began his search for information in March 1993, when he and Martinek wrote a letter to Secretary of Defense Les Aspin, seeking a "definitive explanation of what transpired and why."

In the three-page letter, they said records and witness testimony make it appear that "the balloon explanation was a cover story" and that "federal authorities sought to intimidate witnesses and their families into silence."

The letter said Martinek, then Schiff's legislative director, would "coordinate all activities concerning this request."

After a series of letters resulted in one dead-end after another, Schiff took his quest to the GAO. Schiff said he hasn't gotten any answers yet from the GAO, but when he does, he'll make them public.

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