



# MUFON

Mutual UFO Network

**UFO HOTLINE:**  
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(to report sightings)

## ARIZONA CHAPTER

Volume 6 / Issue 7

*The Truth is Out There . . .*

**MEETING DATE: Wednesday, July 23, 1997 ♦ MEETING TIME: 7:30 p.m. SHARP**  
**PROGRAM: OPEN FORUM**

**LOCATION: 5636 E. McDowell Road - National Guard Armory**  
(east of 52nd St. on McDowell; then north on Bushmaster Blvd. into Armory)

**Tom Taylor**  
State Director  
602/967-6265

**Jim Ossipov**  
Asst. State Director  
602/752-2280

**Dr. Ruth Hover**  
Abduction Support Group  
602/837-0446

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520/836-1185

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602/375-1942

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Pima County Sect. Dir.  
520/326-0078

**Bobbie Jones**  
Yuma County Sect. Dir.  
520/627-2461

**Mary Hart**  
Newsletter Producer  
602/907-0609

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Cochise Co. Sect. Dir.  
520/378-3024

**Mike Hayes**  
Mojave Co. Sect. Dir.  
520/692-1233

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This month's meeting will be something a little different. It's going to be an "open forum" and YOU will have a chance to put in your 2¢ worth! With all the UFO events going on in the last month or so -- The Phoenix Lights, Roswell's 50th Anniversary (did anyone from our group attend?) the presentation July 14 by Richard Hoagland and the Monuments of Mars, Philip Corso and his new book *The Day After Roswell*, new UFO related movies "Men in Black" and "Contact" -- there's plenty out there to talk about. So bring your thoughts and questions!

This will be the last chance to sign up for Chris Town's "UFO Awareness Weekend." So if you are a MUFON-AZ member and have a few hours to give us, this will be an exciting event. With all the news items going on, there will be lots of public interest. Dr. Ruth Hover will have some abductees there; Richard Motzer will have several videos to show; so all we need is YOU!

Sightings continue over the Central Arizona area. We had a report today of something seen out Queen Creek way over the weekend.

Peter Davenport at the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, tells me there are other flaps going on in southern California, in the Midwest, and a big one in Georgia. See you at the meeting, and...

Keep your eyes to the sky!

Tom Taylor  
State Director



### Media Watch

*by Tom Taylor*

There's so much going on in the media these days it's hard to catch it all. Bill Strauss and his Strauss's Place on KTAR Radio had Richard Motzer on recently to talk about the "Phoenix Lights." A few nights later Jim Dilettoso gave *his* version . . . on the same topic.

Tamara Dietrich, a reporter from the Tribune newspaper, did an excellent series, reporting daily from Roswell, of the goings on there.

The Arizona Republic newspaper did a front page article on July 12 concerning Art Bell and his radio program which was very interesting.

The New Times ran an interesting article on Mitch Stanley written by Tony Ortez. Mitch reports that what he saw through his telescope on March 13th were aircraft. He was contacted by our own MUFON investigator Ruth Hover, and the report appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Thomas Ropp, a writer for the Arizona Republic, did several articles. On June 26th he interviewed Selman Graves, an eyewitness to the 1947 crash in Paradise Valley, and before that he did a very good article on July 13 involving an interview with Allen Hynek just before he died.

If you haven't seen the new film "Contact," be sure to see it!! It is nothing like "Independence Day" or "Men in Black," which is also a very good film but has a comedy angle to it.

On Erskin's radio talk show, he interviewed Richard Motzer and Cal Corp on different nights concerning the Phoenix Lights.

And then, to top it all off, Richard Hoagland, Art Bell, Councilwoman Francis Barwood and Vance Davis conducted a "6-hour marathon" on



the Monuments of Mars July 14th at the Phoenix Civic Plaza attended by over 1,500 people. "Strange Universe" was there to tape a segment, and several locals were interviewed, including Richard Motzer and Councilwoman Barwood.

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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 often not notified of programs until it is too late to publish them in the Newsletter in time for members to view, hear, or read them. *If you know of additions, deletions or changes to the list of programs presented, please notify Tom Taylor in time for the listing to be changed for the next newsletter.* 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.

***Always be sure to check current TV listings before viewing!***

#### WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMS:

**DREAMLAND** - KFYI Radio, 910 AM, Sunday evenings, 8:00 p.m. - Art Bell hosts this interesting radio program. The program is aired on the following stations in other cities in Arizona: Globe: 1240 AM; Safford: 1230 AM; Tucson: 1400 AM; Kingman: 1230 AM; Yuma: 560 AM; and Flagstaff: 600 AM. Art also hosts "Coast to Coast" weeknights at 11 p.m. and often features UFO related guests and/or topics. A "Dreamland" repeat is also broadcast at 8 p.m. on Saturdays.

**Erskin Overnight**, KXAM Radio, 1310 on the AM dial, Saturdays from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**UFO-AZ Radio Show** - In the Tucson area on KTUC, 1400 AM, 10:00 p.m. Sundays (after "Dreamland").

**Mysteries Around Us**, KTAR Radio (620 AM), 10:00 p.m. Sunday (*note day/time change*), hosted by Frank

Baranowski, a well-known hypno-therapist specializing in regression.

#### WEEKLY TV PROGRAMS:

**UFO AZ/UFO TALKS**: Scottsdale TCI Cable, Channel 28, Thursdays, 4:00-5:00 p.m. and Channel 22, Dimension Cable, Monday and Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.; now also in Prescott on Channel 13 Friday nights at 9 p.m. and repeated on Tuesday at 3 p.m. Co-produced by Alan Morey. Ted, Peggy and Jim co-host this continuing series featuring interesting guests and topics related to all aspects of the UFO experience.

**Unsolved Mysteries** - Fridays at 7:00 p.m., Channel 12.

**X Files** - Sundays at 8:00 p.m., Channel 10.

**Sightings** (cable only - SciFi Channel) moved to **Wednesdays, 8 p.m. and 12 midnight** according to a MUFON member and viewer in California. Be sure to check your local cable guide for this broadcast.

**Strange Universe** - every weeknight at 11:00 p.m. on Channel 45 and repeated at 1:00 p.m.

**Late Night Cosmic Contact** - Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:00 p.m., Channel 61 [TCI Tucson Public Access]. This new talk show features host Chris Maynard and guests who believe they have experienced contact with life from other worlds. Chris also examines national contact cases to evaluate facts, comparisons and trends of this growing phenomenon.

#### 50 YEARS OF ARIZONA SIGHTINGS 1947-1997

Jim Ossipov has given us yet more updates to his comprehensive listing of reported Arizona sightings since 1947. New copies containing these updates may be purchased at MUFON-AZ meetings for \$5.00 or ordered by mail for \$6.50. Contact Tom Taylor for details.

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Be smart and advertise in the MUFON-AZ Newsletter!! Ads up to three lines long are \$5.00; business-card sized ads are \$10 [we can reproduce your business card as the ad]. See Tom Taylor for prices on larger ads. Submit your ad and payment by the first of the month to have it appear in that month's newsletter issue.



Many thanks to those submitting articles and book reviews, and if you haven't done so, here's an invitation to add to YOUR newsletter by doing so. Handwritten articles and those typed on a typewriter are fine, but if you do have a computer, it saves a

MUFON-AZ WEB ADDRESS: <http://www.idowebpages.com/mufon.html>

MUFON (INTERNATIONAL) WEB ADDRESS: <http://www.rutgers.edu:80/~mcgrew/mufon/index.html>

MUFON (INTERNATIONAL) E-MAIL ADDRESS: [mufonhq@aol.com](mailto:mufonhq@aol.com)



lot of time if you can submit your articles on diskette. However, PLEASE save your articles in Word-Perfect 5.1 software or in ASCII (DOS text) format and put your name on them. Then send them (either the hard copy or the diskette) to Tom at 1433 W. Huntington, Tempe, AZ 85282 or fax hard copy articles to Mary Hart at 907-0609. You can also send them via internet to her husband's internet address, which is: taz7211@ix.netcom.com

## Calendar

**Cochise County Chapter** - Call Herb at 520/378-3024 for information.

**Pima County Chapter** - Call June at 520/326-0078 for information.

**Yuma County Chapter** - No meetings for the rest of the summer.

**Maricopa County Chapter** - Meeting Wednesday, July 23, usual place and time (see page 1).

August 10-16 - International UFO Congress, 1st Annual "Summer Seminar," Laughlin NV. For info phone or fax 303/543-9443.

August 15-17 - UFO Awareness Week. We will have our usual display in Christown mall. To volunteer some of your time at our display, sign up on the special sign-up sheet that will be at this month's meeting.

### PHOENIX LIGHTS SIGHTING OF MARCH 13, 1997 (Anecdotal Evidence)

Further reports of sightings of the brilliant lights seen by hundreds of people over Phoenix on the night of March 13, 1997, continue to trickle in even yet!

Amateur astronomer Mitch Stanley of Scottsdale was interviewed and remains staunch in his belief that the objects he saw using his 10-inch professional grade telescope were indeed airplanes flying in very close formation. As such, they did not capture his interest particularly, and he states that the only remarkable thing he observed was the extreme brightness of the lights. He stated that there

were five airplanes with three underside lights on each, and their altitude was "really high." He could not identify the type of aircraft. No noise was reported by the witness, but another observer (who prefers to remain anonymous), a qualified private plane pilot, saw a formation of what he believes to be A-10 "Warthog" aircraft. These were viewed from the vicinity north of Tatum and Shea in Paradise Valley. This witness reports sound and said the aircraft appeared to be at approximately 3,000 ft. in altitude, low in the sky, moving southeast, and climbing. Estimated time of the sighting was 8:35 p.m.

Mitch Stanley's sighting occurred between 8 and 9 p.m. in the vicinity of 64th St. and Shea (probably the same event as reported above).

Both Luke AFB and Sky Harbor Air Traffic Control state that no radar signatures, other than explainable air traffic, were noted that night and that so far, no military base in the Southwest has acknowledged any flights, test vehicles, or military experimental craft on that date and time.

Mitch Stanley's certitude of the fact that the lights were attributable to conventional aircraft is supported by the second witness, the private plane pilot.

Anomalous to this 9 - 9 p.m. event is the extreme brightness of the lights, no transponder signature on radar, and no military or other acknowledgment of these purported planes (flying in tight formation) is indicative of military maneuvers, but this possibility is denied by Gila Bend AFB, Luke AFB, and even Albuquerque Air Traffic Control Center.

Hoax? Test flights of experimental craft? UFOs? Secret military movements? The controversy continues.

Ruth Hover  
Field Investigator  
MUFON-AZ

**FOR EACH EXPERT ...  
A "COUNTER-EXPERT"**

We see this in the courts . . . and in UFOlogy.

Roswell: The June issue of the MUFON Journal was almost entirely devoted to a long article, "Roswell: Anatomy of a Myth," authored by researcher Kent Jeffrey. Having interviewed an impressive number of distinguished Generals and Colonels, and for other reasons, he came to the conclusion that "Roswell," as we understand it . . . never happened.

Also in June, the MUFON-AZ Newsletter contained a review of a book entitled The Day After Roswell written by Colonel Philip Corso in which, as the reviewer says, "he blows the lid off Roswell." In this book Col. Corso affirms that he saw the aliens' bodies and other interesting details.

On July 4, Nightline (ABC-TV) presented two "experts," Kent Jeffrey and Kevin Randle. Both cited their own Generals and Colonels as referenced and politely disagreed on everything. This was a typical "expert/counter-expert" situation.

Then, on the one hand, there are several researchers who spent years to find out what occurred in Roswell. Even though they are in the habit of quarreling among themselves, at least they come to the same conclusions. On the other hand, there are unconvincing statements by the Air Force and the military.

And we, simple folks, sit in the middle and try to figure out which General or Colonel to believe, which of the "experts" is right on the button, which is the truth, which is the hoax, and which is disinformation.

For another example, on June 23 the TV show "Strange Universe" presented again a silly segment "Alien Interrogation." It actually presented . . . nothing. All we could see was the "alien's" head and a group of "experts" oohing and aahing over what they saw. (We did not.) Half of them thought the film was genuine, and others were convinced that this was a clever hoax. The only sure fact is that the producer who bought the film, and the mysterious "Victor" who sold it, will make a bundle. Remember Santilli with "Alien autopsy?" I don't see how



aliens, greys or others, who reportedly walk through walls and other solid matters, would submit themselves to such indignities unless this alien is a masochist or not too bright. If Col. Corso speaks the truth -- that aliens supplied us with computer chips and other goodies, then why torture one of them? Was he of another race? Nah, that's silly.

Finally, on the local scene, sparks still fly about the sightings of March 13: UFOs or flares. Again, the "expert/counter-expert."

"Experts" have a tendency to see or hear the same thing and explain in their own way. Just try: assemble 10 of them, give them a page of any book to explain, and you wind up with 10 different interpretations.

And to end, I got myself in trouble. On June 25, before my glorious five second stunt on ABC-TV, I was introduced as none other than . . . an expert! Moi? Not guilty! Unlike some, with UFOs, all I know is that I know nothing. Was I the "expert" or the "counter-expert"? Even this I don't know.

Jim Ossipov  
Asst. State Director

## REPORT OF 7/4/97 SIGHTING

As my wife, son and I returned from dinner on Friday night, 7/4/97, at approximately 9:15 p.m., we saw some fireworks go off in the sky directly in front of us as we traveled west on Osborn Road. We noticed after the fireworks had faded that there was a red, glowing ball in the sky. Thinking it was a plane or helicopter, we didn't give it much

thought. We then turned north up 67th St. to Indian School Rd. where we turned west to see if we could see more fireworks. At this point we saw the red, pulsating ball paralleling us in the sky.

We went on for perhaps a mile when the object shot out two white lights on its axis east and west. I turned into a park just before 56th St. and got out of my truck. We observed the object hanging motionless in the sky for perhaps two minutes; I then decided the object was not an airplane or helicopter. We got back in our truck and went back east on Indian School to our apartment to get my camcorder and binoculars, at which time we noticed the object returning east and almost following us. I got home and got my equipment out of my apartment. The object continued east at about 35-40 degrees high in the sky. I managed to get about 50 seconds of video.

My wife looked through the binoculars and saw that the object was oval in shape with a domed top and what looked to be red light bulbs all around the edge. Also at this time the object had begun to give off a white glow from the bottom. At this point I tried to put the date stamp on in my camera, and while I was fiddling with that, the object disappeared. My wife saw it do so through the binoculars. She said it blinked and then disappeared. The binoculars were 20x60; the camcorder was set at infinity with an 8x zoom lens.

[Report taken and written by Ruth Hover; witness unnamed]

# Asteroid is 'little brother' to moon

Houston Chronicle

Earth has a newly recognized celestial companion, a sort of vagabond little brother to the moon, a Canadian astronomer reports.

The object is a small asteroid, about 2½ miles wide, with an unusual wandering solar orbit. The orbital path brings the object, known formally as asteroid 3753, so under the influence of Earth's gravity that it qualifies as a natural companion like the moon, says Paul Wiegert, a postdoctoral fellow at Canada's York University.

The astronomer reports on the six-month computer analysis uncovering the previously unknown link between the object and Earth in today's edition of *Nature*, the British science journal. Another astronomer discovered the asteroid in 1986 at an Australian observatory.

"So far as we know, it's unique," Wiegert said of the asteroid in a telephone interview. "There may be others, but this is the first one we know of."

The object travels in what astronomers call a horseshoe pattern that spirals forward along the solar orbital path of Earth. At its farthest point from the sun, the asteroid comes close to Mars. Its closest solar pass approaches Mercury.

The origin and composition of the asteroid are a mystery.

The object belongs to a class of small "near-Earth" asteroids. Like 3753, many of these objects cross Earth's orbital path, posing a threat of collision. But Earth's gravitational forces so strongly push and pull on 3753 at various junctures that the potential for an impact with it are very small, Wiegert said.

The closest 3753 comes to Earth is 9 million to 10 million miles, once every 385 years. The last such passing was about a century ago, according to the analysis by Wiegert and his colleagues.

"It's hard to tell exactly what we will learn about this," Wiegert said of the implications of the findings for the larger architecture of the solar system.

"But it's a very important clue to how the solar system formed and

# Not to probe UFOs above Phoenix fosters a cover-up

**D**ear Sec. Sheila Widnall: I don't make a habit of asking favors, but as secretary of the U.S. Air Force, you are uniquely qualified to rectify a big mistake.

Those who are prone to conspiracy theories would prefer a different word. Like cover-up.

But not me.

I see a great opportunity for the Air Force to redeem itself, to lay to rest the increasingly popular myth of extraterrestrial spacecraft landing on Earth and of aliens, alive and dead, being seen.

You probably would have to admit that the Air Force hasn't covered itself in glory. First it said the shiny debris found in the desolate desert near Roswell, N.M., in July,



**JOEL NILSSON**  
Editorial Writer  
The Arizona Republic

1947, was from a flying disc; then almost immediately the story line changed to a weather balloon; and then, in 1994 — after a 47-year fib — came the admission that it was

really debris from a top-secret, system of atomic espionage.

How can government expect its people to pledge allegiance if its own credibility is suspect? Waiting as long as the Air Force did was destined to feed the imaginations of all conspiracy theorists, and it did.

Now, on the 50th anniversary, the Air Force has released another report, presumably the final words it'll have to say about extraterrestrial beings, entitled "Case Closed."

Aliens? What aliens? At a Pentagon briefing, Col. John Haynes said that over the years dummies had been dropped from weather balloons 19 miles high to test parachutes. Some never were recovered. People who saw them might have thought they were aliens. In another

instance, a captain's head swelled from injuries, perhaps causing confusion among those who saw him to think an extraterrestrial was being escorted into a hospital.

This will close the file? This will turn legions of doubters into believers that the only ET is an adorable creation of Hollywood?

That's a stretch as far and wide as the Milky Way Galaxy. You know it. Just wait until the 100,000 true believers show up in Roswell next week for the anniversary celebrations. They'll take the "Case Closed" report and cite it as evidence of the cover-up.

Let's face it. Government has the habit of issuing a report to close a case. But in the case of Roswell, the government waited too long.

That brings me to the reason for writing to you. In the skies one March night over Phoenix, thousands of people saw the same thing: bright lights in a V-shape.

Everybody is talking about it. But nobody is doing anything about it.

At his Pentagon briefing, Col. Haynes wasn't especially sympathetic, suggesting that local authorities ought to be contacted "because the Air Force no longer does any investigation of UFOs."

That's an incredible statement. It means that regardless of how many people see the same unexplained phenomena, the Air Force isn't interested. Doesn't the Air Force care about truth? If not science, what about the nation's security?

I confess that I'm mystified. Even Sen. John McCain, who someday may be president, believes the "people deserve an answer."

Madame secretary, you ought to reconsider. A full investigation would be good for the soul, good for the country, good for aliens.

Surely you realize that not to seek the truth only fuels more suspicion, aids and abets conspiracy theorists and could turn the Valley of the Sun into another Roswell.

I can see it now. Welcome to the Valley of the Body Snatchers.

Oh no! Too late. Here they come

Joel Nilsson is an editorial writer at The Arizona Republic. He can be reached at 444-4411 or Joel.Nilsson@PNI.com on the Internet.

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