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MUFON

Mutual UFO Network



ARIZONA CHAPTER

Volume 7, Issue 7

The Truth is Out There . . .

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MEETING DATE: Wednesday, July 22, 1997 ☆ MEETING TIME: 7:30 p.m. SHARP

PROGRAM: Christopher O'Brien: "San Luis — The Mysterious Valley"

SPECIAL PROGRAM ADMISSION: \$5.00

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

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The UFO Awareness Weekend at Chris-Town Mall is fast approaching. If you haven't volunteered as yet to help out, please be sure to sign up at this month's meeting. This is a great opportunity to educate the public, and you don't have to be a UFO expert to take part in the activities. We need help setting up and taking down the exhibit tables as well as people to talk to the public, many of whom just want to recount their own experiences. It's a rewarding experience, so come on out and volunteer to help!

Those who were at last month's meeting got to see a photograph taken by a news photographer of a groundbreaking in Fountain Hills ... with a UFO in the background! Another photograph taken at the same time by a second person was sent to Richard Motzer, and we will have an update on that at this month's meeting.

Alan Morey was our representative this year at the MUFON Symposium held in Denver, Colorado. His report of the Symposium appears elsewhere in this Newsletter. From what I am hearing, our local MUFON group is second only to

California in being the most active. That speaks well of YOU, our members!

We have received a few other sighting reports to investigate this month, but all turned out to be stars.

A few weeks ago an article appeared in the news about a group of 15 scientists who thought more research ought to be done on some of the unexplained UFO cases. Two of these scientists are at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Bill Morris, our Section Director for Pima County, contacted both of these scientists and invited them to the Tucson area MUFON meeting. Bill tells me they both seem to be very interested! We hope to hear from him further about these scientists. Articles on the subject appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

This month's speaker is a well-known UFO researcher and author, and his program promises to be very informative.

Looking forward to seeing you at this month's meeting. Until then ... keep your eyes to the sky!

Tom Taylor
State Director

SCIENTISTS TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT UFO SIGHTINGS

By Dale McFeatters

A panel of reputable scientists has concluded that there's something to those UFO reports and, whatever it is, it's worth studying.

Boy, will they be sorry.

The panel conducted the first independent scientific review of UFO sightings since 1968, the 30-year interval being because serious researchers fear the ridicule of their colleagues for being mixed up with conspiracy nuts and flying saucer freaks. (The review was bankrolled by Laurance Rockefeller, and, of course, we all know the rockefeller's connections with the Trilateral commission. Enough said.)

Braving the "giggle factor," the panel said that a serious study of UFO sightings might yield scientific discoveries about such phenomena as atmospheric radiation and the Earth's magnetic field.

The UFO cult, however, isn't interested in high-altitude lightning or

microwave bursts or wayward weather balloons. The cultists want extra-terrestrials and alien spacecraft, but the scientists say there is absolutely no evidence whatsoever of visitors from outer space.

Before it even issues its first report, the panel is already part of the cover-up.

Arizona Republic
July 5, 1998

1998 MUFON SYMPOSIUM IS HELD IN DENVER

The 29th Annual International MUFON Symposium hosted by Colorado MUFON was held at the Denver Renaissance Hotel June 25-28. The Symposium speakers attending were very informative and gave some new insights into the world of UFOlogy. A very constructive and helpful director's meeting was conducted early Friday morning, lasting nearly eight full hours. Due to this important meeting I missed some of the workshops, but I did get a chance to attend some of the various speaker's programs:

1. Jaimie Maussan, a TV & video producer from Mexico City, gave an update on UFO sightings in Mexico City, including new evidence on the Mexico City sighting that took place last August.
2. Professor Stanley McDaniel gave a lecture on the face on Mars situation. Although nothing new was discussed, it was a very interesting program.
3. Jose Escamilla, the "rod guy," gave new video evidence of what he calls "the smoking gun," to show that something strange is indeed flying in our skies which he refers to as "rods."
4. Dr. Richard Haines, Senior Research Scientist at the NASA-Ames research center, gave an excellent talk on his new research on the CE-5 encounters that he has compiled. CE-5 refers to human-initiated contact with UFOs.
5. Nancy Talbott, from the Cambridge research team which studies the phenomena of crop circles, gave a possible explanation on the construction of crop circles and linked some similarities between crop circles and abductees.

Overall, I felt that the Symposium was a success, and I will be giving more details at the July meeting.

Alan Morey
Assistant State Director

JULY RAFFLE

We will hold a raffle at this month's meeting of Alan Morey's Testors Area S4 UFO model which has not been assembled. Tickets for a chance to win this great item will be just \$1 each. Thanks to Alan for donating the model.

SCIENTISTS' LOOK AT UFOs MAY OPEN PANDORA'S BOX — OR JUST BRING RIDICULE

Tom Teepen
Atlanta Journal & Constitution

I'm afraid no end of mischief will flow from the proposal by a group of scientists that an ongoing process be set up for examining of UFO events. If UFO buffs were hard to keep in the woodwork when science universally scoffed at tales of flying saucers and little green men, you may be sure they will swarm now that science seems to have slipped one shoulder strap and winked.

Never mind that the international panel emphasized it was issuing no come-hither look to kooks eager for a hot date at the local polytechnic. There is, its members wrote, no evidence we are being watched, much less being visited, by space creatures. (They seem to have overlooked the guests on The Jerry Springer Show, but then alien lore always assumes we could be visited only by beings of superior intelligence, so perhaps Springer is a false lead after all.)

Many supposed UFO incidents, the panel says, can be explained by natural forces like electrical activity high above thunderstorms and radar ducting (don't ask). Even so, there remains a stubborn residue of reports that are honestly attested to and that resist obvious explanation by known natural phenomena. Perhaps, the panel says, they bear witness to

extraordinarily rare natural phenomena that could be winkled out of hiding by scientific study, and if so, we presumably would be better off for knowing.

Well, yes, I suppose, but what is to be made of all this by us folks who are just trying to get safely through life without being abducted either by space aliens or by university researchers?

The study was conducted by members of the Society for Scientific Exploration and was published in the society's *Journal for Scientific Exploration*. This may seem a bit incestuous and suspiciously helpful with peer review, but the involved scientists carry impressive pedigrees and their society is based at Stanford University, which is not famous for any institutional whimsy.

Still, riff through the journal's past articles and you find them busy with water witching, ESP, remote viewing and all the rest such business. If the journal had a centerfold, you'd expect to find Shirley MacLaine there, month after month.

These excursions meet the academic sobriety test of dull writing and la-de-da titles that are meant not to scare off respectable folk and perhaps even, with luck, tease a grant or two out of awestruck foundation boards: *Society and Scientific Anomalies*; *Common Knowledge About the Loch Ness Monster*, is one.

Another explores the "psychokinetic action of young chicks." There was a time when I, too, given my keen scientific curiosity, was interested in the psychokinetic action of young chicks, but for some years now my wife has discouraged inquiry along those lines.

Von Eshleman, an expert on the atmosphere of planets and a co-chairman of the UFO review, was asked whether the report might invite ridicule. He said, "We may be opening a Pandora's box of some kind, but I'm a professor emeritus. I don't care."

... there remains a stubborn residue of reports that are honestly attested to and that resist obvious explanation.

However, PLEASE save your articles in one of the following formats: MS Word (any version), WordPerfect 7 for Windows, or Word-Perfect 5.1 for DOS, or ASCII (DOS text). Be sure to put your name on them. Then send either the hard copy or the diskette to Mary Hart, 9048 W. Holly St., Phoenix, AZ 85037, or fax and copy articles to Mary at 907-0609. You can also send them via internet to Mary at:

Mary_Hart@Yahoo.com

MUFON MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Orders are being taken for your MUFON Membership Badges. These are the 1-1/4" x 3" blue badges with 3 lines and white print listing your name on the first line, "Arizona MUFON" on the second line, and a title or phrase such as "The Truth is Out There" on the third line. The cost is \$4.50 each unless we have enough orders to get a price break, and then they'll be less. See the sign-up sheet in the front lobby at the meeting. You can also fax your order to Ruth & Harry at 602/837-0094 or send the order via mail to: Ruth & Harry Hover, 16218 Glenview Place, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268. Their phone number is 602/837-0446 for further details.

NEW ASTEROID FOUND WITHIN EARTH'S ORBIT

Astronomers at the University of Hawaii have discovered an asteroid that they believe represents a hitherto undetected type, a type that could hit Earth without warning.

In a press release distributed Thursday, Dr. David Tholen and a graduate student, Robert Whiteley, reported that the asteroid circles the sun entirely within Earth's orbit. All other known Earth-approaching asteroids travel in orbits that lie at least partly outside Earth's orbit.

The astronomers calculated that 1998 DK36, as the asteroid is designated, is about 40 yards in diameter and that if it hit Earth, it would have about the same effect as that of the asteroid that exploded above the Tunguska River in Siberia in 1908, flattening a vast tract of forest.

Tholen said that 1998 DK36 posed no apparent threat to Earth, but that an asteroid orbit entirely within Earth's orbit opened the possibility that dangerous asteroids might

exist where astronomers did not normally look for them.

"All other efforts to discover asteroids on a collision course with the Earth are being directed at a region of the sky almost opposite the sun," Tholen said.

But Dr. Gareth Williams of the Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams in Cambridge, Massachusetts, cast doubt on the assertion that the asteroid orbits the sun entirely within Earth's orbit.

"That orbital calculation was based on just two brief observations of the object, one lasting seven minutes on the night of February 23, and the other on February 24 for four minutes," Williams said. In any case, "1998 DK36 is nothing to lose sleep over," Tholen said. "It's the ones we haven't found that are of concern."

Arizona Republic
July 2, 1998

MUFON WEBSITE BEING UPDATED

Chris Block continues to work on our MUFON-AZ website. This is a pain-staking process, and we will keep you updated on its progress.

NASA LOSES CONTACT WITH SOHO SPACE OBSERVATORY

On Wednesday, June 24, 1998, at 7:16 p.m., flight controllers at NASA's Goddard Spaceflight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland lost contact with the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) satellite.

Launched on December 2, 1995, SOHO is an orbiting satellite of the "Great Observatories" program and is jointly operated by NASA and the European Space Agency.

According to the NASA press release of June 26, 1998, "SOHO went into emergency sun reacquisition mode, and ground controllers lost contact with the spacecraft at 7:16 p.m.... This mode is activated when an anomaly occurs and the spacecraft loses its orientation towards the Sun. When this happens, the spacecraft automatically tries to point itself toward the Sun again by firing its attitude control thrusters under the guidance of an onboard Sun sensor."

The NASA press release did not describe the nature of the "anomaly."

"Efforts to re-establish contact with SOHO did not succeed, and telemetry was lost. Subsequent attempts using the full NASA Deep Space Network capabilities have so far also not been successful."

"Engineers at NASA and ESA are attempting to re-establish contact with the spacecraft."

(Many thanks to Kent Steadman of the CyberSpace Orbit for forwarding the NASA news release.) (Editor's Note: SOHO is the second major satellite to go haywire in orbit recently. Last month, the communications satellite Galaxy IV rotated out of position and lost contact with Earth. Also, on January 10, 1997, SOHO photographed a mysterious object between Earth and the Sun, which NASA subsequently identified as a sun-grazing "proto-comet." See UFO Roundup, Volume 2, Number 3 for more details.)

UFO Roundup
Volume 3, #26/ 6/28/98
Via the Internet

GREEN FIREBALL AND BLACK HELICOPTERS SIGHTED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

On Wednesday, June 17, 1998, at 9:30 p.m., a waitress, her son and her boyfriend were driving on California Highway 330 from the city of San Bernardino (population 164,164) to the ridgeline town of Running Springs (population 4,195) when a strange green glow illuminated the sky.

"She stated, 'The sky literally lit up,' and about 5,000 feet (1,515 meters) above the mountain road, and 200 yards to the right of her car and over a building with a flagpole hovered a huge 'fireball.'"

According to Jerry Glass of Southern California MUFON, subsequent investigation by members of his group determined that the building was the Running Springs Fresh Water Plant.

The waitress stated, "The fireball was green, luminescent," describing the glow as "forty times brighter than the brightest flashlight I've ever seen, with rays of light shooting out."

According to Jerry Glass, "Her boyfriend was in the passenger seat and he saw the object for 30 seconds while the car continued to drive."

I'm not sure what to make of that attitude scientifically, but as I tumble toward my dotage like a satellite that has slipped orbit, the comment seems wonderfully sane and even sage.

Arizona Republic
July 6, 1998



MEDIA WATCH

Both "X Files" and "Armageddon" pleased audiences throughout the nation when they were released and enjoyed high attendance ratings, which proves the interest of the public in this type of subject matter. See the article entitled "New Asteroid Found Within Earth's Orbit" elsewhere in this Newsletter.

♦♦♦♦

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.

Mysteries Around Us, KTAR Radio (620 AM), 10:00 p.m. Sunday hosted by Frank Baranowski, a well-known hypnotherapist specializing in regression.

WEEKLY TV PROGRAMS:

If you find UFO-related television programs we have not listed, please call Mary Hart at 907-0609 and leave a message containing the title, day, time, and channel of the programs.

X Files - Sundays at 8:00 p.m., Channel 10. Weeknights at 9 p.m., Channel 30 (cable).

Sightings Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m., cable SciFi Channel.

Strange Universe - Mondays thru Fridays at 1:00 p.m. on Channel 45.

After Midnight - Thursdays at midnight on Channel 22.

CALENDAR

Pima County Chapter - July 18, 1 to 4 p.m., Wilnot Library. Contact Bill Morris at 520/762-5625 for meeting details.

Pinal County Chapter - Contact Ken Kerber at 520/836-1185 for further info.

Yuma County Chapter - Meetings are quarterly. Call Joseph Murek at 520/782-3906 for further details.

Maricopa County Chapter - Meeting Wednesday, July 22, usual place and time (see page 1).

Experiencer's Meeting - Call Dr. Ruth Hover for information at 837-0446.

July 20: "Reality Check #3," 6-11 p.m., Tempe Mission Palms Hotel Resort (60 E. 5th St., Tempe). Sponsored by Vision Quest Productions. **Richard Hoagland** will be speaking; this program benefits the Francis Barwood campaign. Tickets are \$85 for dinner & lecture or \$50 for lecture only. Call 704-1040 for details.

August 21-23: MUFON-AZ UFO Awareness Week, Chris Town Shopping Center, 19th Ave. & West Bethany Home. Be sure to sign up this month.

September 26-27, Roswell 1947 Revisited, Roswell, New Mexico. For details call 505/623-8104.

Classified Ads

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]. Call Ruth Hover 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.

50+ YEARS OF ARIZONA SIGHTINGS 1946-1997

Jim Ossipov continues to add to his comprehensive listing of reported Arizona UFO sightings, and they will be for sale at the MUFON-AZ meet-ings for \$6.00. They have been spiral bound with a soft cover and may also be purchased by sending \$7.50 check or Money Order (made payable to Dimitri Ossipov). Send the check or Money Order to Dimitri at 609 E. Tulane, Tempe, AZ 85283. Be sure to include your address. Your Arizona Sightings copy will be sent to you by return mail.



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 lot of time if you can submit your articles on diskette.

The woman's attention returned to the road as their vehicle rounded a sharp turn and nearly "rushed off a cliff. She said two other cars were following closely. One was a California Highway Patrol vehicle, which after the curve raced by her car."

The woman reported her encounter to the local sheriff's department, the Federal Aviation Administration and the National UFO Hotline.

Running Springs is eight miles (11 kilometers) northeast of San Bernardino, a city approximately 63 miles (102 kilometers) east of Los Angeles.

Earlier that afternoon, on June 17, 1998, a woman psychologist from Running Springs was returning home from her office in Redlands when "she observed black military helicopters taking off from Norton Air Force Base at the junction of Highways 30 and 330, traveling up Highway 330 and flying over her jeep."

According to Glass, Norton Air Force Base was reportedly closed during a recent Defense Department phaseout of military bases.

The following day, Thursday, June 18, 1998, at about 3 p.m., the same woman passed "a convoy of six military vehicles carrying troops" on the same road. SoCal MUFON continues to investigate these reports. (Many thanks to Jerry Glass of MUFON for this news story.)

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Volume 3, #26/ 6/28/98
Via the Internet

MORE UFO ACTIVITY IN MARLETTE, MICHIGAN

On Wednesday, June 17, 1998, at 11 p.m., Michigan ufologist Jeff Westover spotted "five star-like objects in the sky moving very fast, three moving due north and two to the south-southeast. One of the southerly-moving objects intersected with a westbound jet. This particular object had a veering movement to it. The other four seemed to go very fast on a straight path."

On Saturday, June 20, 1998, at 11 p.m., Westover was driving into Marlette (population 1924) when he spied "a brilliant reddish-orange light" just above the southern horizon.

"I hurriedly made it through town, past the bright street lights and through

heavy cruising traffic, and out into the south end of town," Jeff reported. "It was still there, 20 degrees above the horizon, almost directly in front of me and bobbing like a boat on

choppy seas. The single light was jumping around slightly. Then it happened. I pulled off onto a side road on a slight hill and parked the car, waiting to see if the light would reappear...binoculars ready."

"Sure enough, it reappeared within two minutes and was flying bright, although not giving off any glow or halo. It seemed to be like a ball of fire, concentrated and bright. Through the binoculars it was a bright ball of reddish orange light, brighter than any star in the sky, and seemed to have a bobbing motion to it. And then it simply vanished before my eyes...It suddenly reappeared at 20 degrees and then dropped to the ground. I lost sight of it at that point." (Many thanks to Jeff Westover of MUFON for this news story.)

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Via the Internet

WRITERS EXPLORE SECRET PROJECT AT EGYPT'S GREAT PYRAMID

A team of three investigators, including Lynn Picknett, Clive Prince and Simon Cox, infiltrated Egypt's Great Pyramid on March 31, 1998 and found evidence of a secret archeological project underway, according to their report in the July 1998 issue of Fortean Times.

Picknett and Prince wrote, "There is secret tunneling in the Great Pyramid. We should know. We found evidence for it--and secretly captured it on camera and video."

Just before the Pyramid closed April 1 for renovations, Picknett, Prince and Cox entered the Pyramid and "were about to duck down the small entrance into the King's Chamber, Simon (Cox) pointed out an anomalous feature. There in the wall was an old, padlocked metal grille where--just a few months before--there was a solid stone block."

The trio found "fresh cement" around the grille, proving that it had been installed recently.

"Shining a torch (flashlight) through the grille, we could see the electric cable

installed by (German archeologist) Rudolf Gantenbrink in the early 1990s, and we could hear the noise of a nearby generator or possibly drill."

"Simon says that this tunnel connects up with the northern 'air shaft' that comes out of the King's Chamber. And up the shaft there's a heap of rubbish--including plastic water bottles--that's too far up to have come from tourists in the King's Chamber, but which has obviously been dropped from the other side by workers in the new tunnel."

"They're also doing other things in the Great Pyramid. A month before (February 28), Simon had managed to get down to the pit in the Subterranean Chamber beneath the pyramid and found that there was a false floor covered with sand and debris to conceal the evidence of recent digging."

"Interestingly, the gaffir (attendant) of the Second Pyramid, after finding out that Simon had already spotted the cover-up, told us that three new chambers had been discovered behind and above the walls of the King's Chamber, which is obviously where the tunnel now leads." (See Fortean Times #112 for July 1998, "Flex, Lies and Videotape" by Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince, page 37.)

(Editor's Comment: Ever since the Great Pyramid closed for renovations back on April 1, rumors have been flying of new chambers discovered, secret UNESCO digs, and a convoy of military vehicles loaded with soldiers in "desert cookie" camouflage uniforms with no national or unit insignia. My favorite is the story of the life-sized statue supposedly discovered in one of the alleged new chambers--a statue of a man with unmistakably African features sitting in the lotus position and gazing up an 'air shaft' at the star Sirius.)

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-- Thanks for your Support!!

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