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Mutual UFO Network



ARIZONA CHAPTER

Volume 7, Issue 8

The Truth is Out There . . .

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MEETING DATE: Wednesday, August 26, 1998 ☆ MEETING TIME: 7:30 p.m. SHARP

**PROGRAM: MICHAEL LINDEMANN: UFOs & Space Science:
Extraterrestrial Intelligence Contact: an Illustrated Presentation
Special Program Price: \$8 MUFON Members, \$10 Guests**

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

New Website Up and Bunning!! Visit it at <http://members.tripod.com/~mufonarizona/index.html>

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year again — our annual display at Christown mall the weekend of August 21-23. This is our chance to further inform and educate the public concerning the UFO & related phenomena, and if you haven't yet volunteered to help out, we urge you to do so. If you are unable to spend time helping set up and take down our exhibit and being on hand to speak to the public, we hope you'll at least come out and visit the rest of us. The Tribune will be doing a special article just before our exhibit opens, so we are hoping for a good turnout. Those in the past have been exceptional.

An interesting sighting was reported to me by our Sedona member, Gerda Gallob. We hope to get her report on that sighting from her soon.

If you haven't heard Michael Lindemann speak, be sure to attend this month's meeting. We had a full house several years ago when he was here.

Chris Block continues to work out the final details on our new Web site and membership cards, and he plans to have everything completed soon.

More copies of Jim Ossipov's "Arizona Sightings" list came in, so you can purchase copies at the Christown show or at the meetings. This is a comprehensive list of all the Arizona sightings from the early 1940s.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting and the Christown show. Until then ... keep your eyes to the sky!

Tom Taylor
State Director

COTTONWOOD SIGHTING

Saturday, 6 June, 1998 - 2005 hours - Cottonwood, Arizona. The following is a detailed account of a happening a couple of hours earlier.

About 6 p.m. a neighbor of ours came to our house for a short visit. After about 20 minutes she and my wife Kay went outside and were standing just beyond the south wall of our garage talking. At exactly 6:26 p.m. The neighbor said, "Look! A flying saucer!" Kay looked and saw it immediately. They both agree that it appeared about as a pumpkin would if suspended in the air a hundred yards away ... only this object was much farther away. It seemed to be hanging directly over the large antenna array on the south shelf of

Mingus Mountain about 4 miles distant. It was at approximately 30 degrees elevation and 250 degrees azimuth. It was a brilliant white color. The sun was at 300 degrees azimuth and somewhat higher. The moon, about three quarters full, was high off their left side somewhere around 170 degrees azimuth. The sky was clear, visibility was over 50 miles, and there was no haze. The wind was 5 to 7 knots from the south. Our neighbor had the object in view for about 10 seconds and Kay for less time than that — about 6 seconds. There was no apparent movement before it was gone in an instant.

Kay has been somewhat of a skeptic, even though she has reason not to be. She now says there was no doubt that this was extraordinary.

Lloyd Thompson
MUFON-AZ Member

HOVERS TRAVEL TO U.K. FOR CROP CIRCLE RESEARCH

Ruth & Harry Hover are in the United Kingdom for the month to do crop circle research, and we will prevail upon them to pass along new information at our next meeting.

ARIZONANS HUNT FOR BLACK HELICOPTER BASE

Persistent reports of black helicopters over Sedona, Arizona (population 7,720) have some local residents combing the nearby red rock canyons in search of a secret base.

Justin A. Tribble of citizens for UN Base Disclosure (CUNBD) reported that Sedona, the site of a recent UFO encounter, had been visited by black helicopters several times since a flurry of overflights back in April.

On July 6, 1998, Justin reported on his website, the group came into possession of a document dated April 10, 1998, that refers to unusual military operations in the Sedona area.

In particular, the document mentions "operational bases in Verde Valley," Area 38 in Casper (sic) Mountain," underground facilities near the towns of Hope and Parker, and "Operation White Sword Headquarters between Sterling and Sign (sic) Canyon."

CUNBD pointed out the areas are known locally as Casner Mountain and Bear Sign Canyon.

The group was recently contacted by a Sedona hairdresser named Diane, who wrote, "Do you know where Sycamore Canyon is? Going toward Cottonwood on U.S. Highway 89A, turn right on Loy Butte Road and go as far back as you can. Once you reach the base of the mountain, you have to find the first trail that goes up and over the mountain. From there, all I know is that the 'base' is that little valley."

Diane told the group that a friend of hers, a 21-year-old local man known as "Hot Shot," had made the climb with some friends and some night vision equipment. "When they went out there, it was late at night, and there were black Humvees, and with their night vision equipment they could see the opening into the old volcano where they keep the black helicopters."

Tribble commented, "We assume the area she's referring to is Sycamore Pass.. between Casner Mountain and Black Mountain. here is, in fact, a little valley as she describes, beyond the pass that leads into Sycamore Canyon." (Many thanks to Justin A. Tribble and CUNBD for this news story.) (Editor's Comment: Although this sounds like the usual back helicopter hearsay, I found the reference to an "Operation White Sword" intriguing. Last month's NATO amphibious

training exercise near Stephenville, Newfoundland, Canada had a component called Gold Sword 4. See the Western Star of Newfoundland for June 17, 1998. Also, "Gold" and "Sword" were two of the beaches in the 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy.)

BLUE FIREBALL IN DAYLIGHT STARTLES ARIZONANS

A blindingly-bright blue fireball shot across the sky south of Phoenix, Arizona on Thursday afternoon, June 18, 1998 and was seen by hundreds of amazed onlookers.

Witnesses from the Phoenix suburbs of Chandler and Ahwatukee south to Tucson reported seeing the object pass over, heading west. Some witnesses reported seeing "a blue fireball," others "a reddish or orange streak."

According to the Arizona Star, the event "followed a much-publicized exploding meteor seen by hundreds of Arizonians June 7 and news accounts of meteorites that hit a New Mexico barn and a Tennessee home on June 13.

"I was sitting on the back porch, and I saw the long, red streak coming down from the sky," said John Botimer of Ahwatukee.

Carle on Moore, director of Arizona State University's Center for Meteorite Study, said his office received more than 90 calls Thursday and Friday about the daytime fireball seen south of the Phoenix area.

Astronomers say an asteroid named Oljato may be responsible. Swarms of asteroid chunks strung along the orbit of a large asteroid could theoretically cause a rush of bright meteors when Earth crosses the orbit, says UA (University of Arizona) astronomer Dan Durda.

"Earth was crossing one of the orbits of the asteroid Oljato on June 8," he said. "It's just conceivably possible that the June 7 fireball may have been associated with Oljato," he said. "But it's more likely just a statistical fluke."

Elsewhere in Arizona, a Skywatch group led by Rob Meyer encountered a "large multi-colored light object." Friday night, June 19, 1998 in the Red Rock canyons near Sedona. When one of the party spotted a strange glow in the canyon, Meyer "picked up the night vision equipment and asked everyone to observe the phenomenon." He then began "pulsing his flashlight in the direction the light was coming from." As he kept flashing, another light appeared and flashed back in response. Two in the group saw several orbs pass by which they could see with out the night vision equipment.

Minutes passed and more spherical UFOs appeared. As the evening ended, the group all faced the area where the lights were coming from and observed another sequence of pulsed flashes.

Meyer then asked the group to send love telepathically to where the light was, and all of a sudden, the most spectacular flashing of multi-colored lights appears in the same sequence Rob had flashed with his flashlight. Many thanks to Errol Bruce-Kana for forwarding the Sedona Story.)

AUFON NEWSLETTER
Via the Internet

ARIZONA CATTLE MUTILATIONS

On Monday, July 20, 1998, four cows were found mutilated on a ranch near St. Johns, Arizona (population 3294), a town on Highway 191 about 35 miles (216 kilometers) east of Flagstaff.

According to Mary C. of Concho, Ariz, all four cows were carrying calves at the time. "The blood was gone (from the cattle) and the eyes were gone," she reported, "Also about 30 feet away from them were the unborn calves."

The tongues of the four cows and the unborn calves were removed by the mutilators. The loss was estimated at \$10,000. According to Mary, the Arizona Cattleman's Association plans to investigate the incident.

According to Terry W. Colvin, there have been other mutilations recently in eastern Arizona.

"Something is killing and mutilating cattle, horses and other animals in the southeastern Arizona counties of Cochise, Pima and Santa Cruz."

"Robert Marsett, a cowhand with the Sands ranch, told of a recent kill and mutilation," Colvin reported.

"The carcass appeared where only live cattle were seen the day before, but the dead cow smelled as though dead for several days. Marsett says coyotes and vultures did not approach the carcass. Nearby cows failed to nuzzle the carcass, as usually happens. Some blood was drained, organs were removed, and some samples were taken in the genital/rectal area." (Many thanks to AGETI and Steve Wilson Sr. for these news stories. UFO ROUNDUP, Vol. 3, #30.)

AUFON NEWSLETTER
Via the Internet



MEDIA WATCH

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 - August 22, 1 to 4 p.m., Wilmot Library. Dr. H.J. Melosh, one of the 15 scientists mentioned in recent news articles from the U of A in Tucson is planning to attend. 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, August 26, usual place and time (see page 1).

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

August 21-23: MUFON-AZ UFO Awareness Week, Chris Town Shopping Center, 19th Ave. & West Bethany Home. SEE YOU THERE!

September 11-13: The 17th Leeds International UFO Conference, University of Leeds, Northern England. Speakers include Nick Redfern, one of Britain's most accomplished UFO researchers and author of 'Covert Agenda' and the 'FBI UFO Files', leading American abduction researcher Yvonne Smith, Britain's Russel Callaghan, who will demonstrate how the modern computer has helped unravel several puzzling mysteries concerning alleged UFO footage and photographs, Ananda Sirisens, from Sri Lanka, who will present the latest news and images sent back from Mars Global Surveyor, Graham W. Birdsall, editor of Britain's UFO Magazine, who will focus on NASA's Origins' program and the threat from space of near-Earth objects, Jaime Maussan, who will present images that have set Mexico alight in recent months, including the new footage taken of huge formations of objects, often numbering 50 to 100, recorded by no less than 15 independent eye-witnesses at distances apart.

For details call their general office 01943 850860 (Overseas dial 44 1943 850860)

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

Nov. 7 & 8: 35TH EDITION OF THE NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE (NUFOC is the oldest continuing annual UFO conference in the United States, perhaps the world, and maybe even the Galaxy.) Location: the Days Inn in Bordonton, New Jersey (near Trenton) - on Route 206, just off New Jersey Turnpike Exit 7. This is about 45 miles southwest of Newark Airport, where cars easily can be rented. Speakers will include UFO historian and investigator Karl Pflock; Fate columnist Antonio Huneus on UFOs in Chile and elsewhere; Richard Sauder, PH.D.; Bod Burant; Rick Hilberg; Tom Benson; David Huggins; Curt Sutherley, author of Strange Encounters; and Peter A. Jordan. For information call for more information call 609-883-6921 or 305-294-1873.

NOV. 20-22, Old West Town at Camp Verde, Arizona, which is 25 miles south of Sedona along Interstate 17 (exit 289). Standing Elk & the final Star Knowledge Conference of 1988, featuring an important presentation by Hopi prophecies-keeper Grandfather Martin. In addition, various other tribal spiritual teachers will give their messages. A select number of non-Native experts of the UFO/Star People phenomenon will also speak. To register, contact convener Standing Elk at (605) 384-5152, after August 1.

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.



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. 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 hard copy articles to Mary at 907-0609. You can also send them via internet to Mary at:

Mary_Hart@Yahoo.com

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 meetings 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.

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.

MILE WIDE ASTEROID TRACKED IN FLAGSTAFF

According to several local newspapers and reporting services, a mile-wide asteroid was discovered June 18 by Arizona astronomer Ted Bowell and researchers Brian Skiff and Bruce Koehn in Flagstaff. Beginning in March, the LONEOS (Lowell Observatory's Near-Earth Object Search) project (part of a larger project funded by NASA) scanned the night skies and has discovered "1998 MQ," as the asteroid has been named. Although it is no immediate threat, if it stays in its current orbit, 1998 MQ will pass no closer than 10 million miles to Earth (40 times the distance between the earth and the moon). But because asteroids often do not stay in their orbits due to things such as planets' gravitational pull and collisions with other space objects, it is possible in the very distant future (possibly as long as 100 million years) it could conceivably hit the earth.

Astronomers will continue to track 1998 MQ along with about 500 other known "near Earth objects". More than 100 of these are larger than 5/8 of a mile across — this size could penetrate Earth's atmosphere and cause catastrophic damage and mass extinctions. This type of collision is what is believed to have caused the extinction of dinosaurs 65 million years ago.

The device used by astronomers in the LONEOS project uses a computer to compare electronic images created by an electronic camera attached to a telescope. This scans the entire night sky once every 4 months, but it is being updated to do so once a month. It will be able to detect asteroids as small as a football field — a veritable drop in a very big bucket. The device automatically compares the images taken and notifies researchers when something appears which is not a star, planet, or previously detected asteroid or comet.

1998 MQ is located high in the western sky after sunset, just above the

bright star Arcturus. It moves at more than a mile per second but is 60 million miles from Earth, so it cannot be viewed without a telescope. It travels in an elliptical path once every 2.4 years and moves between the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter to near our own orbit around the sun.

REEL SCIENCE: ASTEROIDS MAKE A BIG HIT David L. Chandler

It has happened before. It will happen again. And, when it happens, it's the most devastating kind of natural disaster - by a long shot - that human beings face.

While the summer's blockbuster movies, "Armageddon" and "Deep Impact," explore the possibility that earth could be struck from above with little warning, it is now becoming clear that this could be far from just a theoretical risk. Our ancestors may have seen similar (though less extreme) cataclysms firsthand.

New geological finds in Australia, for example, show that about 200 years ago large stretches of coastline were devastated by tsunamis (tidal waves) that towered hundreds of feet high and roared at least 20 miles inland; the aborigines still relate vivid accounts of the event, which some geologists say was almost certainly caused by an impact in the ocean - just like the one depicted in "Deep Impact."

And some scientists now argue that historical events ranging from the fall of Rome to the collapse of Babylon and Egypt's Old Kingdom may also have been brought about - or helped along - by the crash of comet fragments that could have triggered earthquakes and climatic shifts.

Until 1980, the idea that earth had suffered any significant effects from impacts after life began was not taken seriously by most scientists. But in that year, physicist Luis Alvarez and others published a paper showing that the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago was caused by a huge cosmic impact. The idea, at first greeted with skepticism, is now widely accepted. Now, scientists are beginning to consider smaller but much more recent impacts.

Astronomers have begun to learn just how commonplace devastating impacts have been in the history of the solar system, and now scientists across a wide range of disciplines have begun to comb through historical, archeological, geological, climatological, and even

mythological records from around the world in search of clues about past bombardment of our planet. And they're striking pay dirt.

While proof is scarce, circumstantial evidence suggests that our planet has suffered a long and terrifying history of cosmic pummeling.

That history, some researchers now think, is deeply ingrained in our psyches and in our folk wisdom. It's no accident, they say, that the very word for the worst kind of occurrences - **disaster** - means "bad star."

Not that such claims are easily accepted. On the contrary, most scientists remain deeply skeptical of any attempt to mine ancient mythologies or oral histories for evidence of cosmic events. For many astronomers, such efforts evoke too vividly the claims of writers such as Immanuel Velikovsky, who insisted he had found evidence from such ancient sources for a series of cataclysmic -- and scientifically impossible -- cosmic encounters during human history.

As a result, the researchers who have been searching for evidence of real cosmic impacts during the last few thousand years face a daunting task.

Peter Schultz, a geologist at Brown University who has been studying a large-impact crater in Argentina that is about 5,000 years old, said in an interview that the first person to make a convincing link between a particular impact event and specific historical, archeological, or mythological accounts will have to do so very convincingly to pass muster with scientific colleagues.

"That first tie has to be so well tied, so irrefutable" that cause-and-effect "has really got to get nailed," he said.

Schultz says he may be close to making such a connection with the Argentine crater, called Rio Cuarto, by pinning down its date with enough precision that it can be tied to specific accounts passed down by the local people. But because he hopes to publish his evidence soon in a major scientific journal, he would not reveal the details of the links he found.

Astronomers know that impacts much smaller than the dinosaur killer 65 million years ago happen much more frequently, and that some of these must have happened within historic times. For example, the explosion of a comet fragment above the Siberian region of Tunguska in 1908 produced effects that could be seen, heard, or felt for thousands of miles. If that object had hit in a different place, it could have flattened a

major city. If it had struck the ocean, it might have devastated hundreds of miles of coastline.

Events of that size, astronomers estimate, happen on average about once every 100 or 200 years. A few dozen such impacts should have taken place within human history, they say, and might have been so destructive and astonishing that accounts of the cataclysm would have been passed down through the generations and their imprints left in the ground. The Australian tsunamis may be just such a case.

Such imprints don't necessarily include a crater, the most recognizable sign of an impact. The Tunguska blast left none, having exploded about 20 miles above the ground. But sediments left by tsunamis, traces of massive earthquakes or of unusually thick layers of dust kicked up by the impact, may have left their telltale traces around the world.

Ted Bryant, a geologist at Wollongong University in Australia, has found evidence of massive tsunamis all around Australia - even on opposite coasts, regions that face different oceans and could not have seen the effects of the same tsunamis. He is convinced that no other known cause - no undersea earthquake or landslide - that could have occurred in that region would have been sufficient to produce the towering waves that the geological deposits reveal.

The evidence shows the waves reached heights of at least 200 feet, and carried large boulders at least 20 miles inland. They apparently took place a little more than 200 years ago - just before European settlers first arrived on the continent.

"We think it must have been an impact slightly bigger" than the Tunguska blast, Bryant said.

And to account for the nearly simultaneous waves on both coasts, he said, the likeliest candidate seems to be a comet that had split into two or more pieces that struck in rapid succession - like the fragments of Comet Shoemaker Levy 9 that hit Jupiter in 1994.

Remarkably, the local aborigines tell tales that describe such an event in great detail, Bryant said. Most people had assumed that the stories of a great white wave crashing from the sky and destroying their civilization were allegories referring to the arrival of white Europeans.

But now that it's clear that there really were waves so high that, especially when they came crashing over a high hill, they would have appeared to come from the sky.

Earlier events that may have been caused by comet impacts are even harder to determine, but many scientists are working hard to establish facts. W. Bruce Masse, an archeologist with the US Air Force and the University of Hawaii, says he has accumulated evidence tying a major impact in 2807 BC with a series of dramatic tsunamis and effects on climate in South America. He hopes to publish the details of this connection later this year in a scientific journal.

And several archeologists, including Benny Peiser of Liverpool John Moore University in England, Harvey Weiss of Yale University, and Marie-Agnes Courty of the French Center for Scientific Research, are working hard to develop evidence that the widespread, sudden collapse of Bronze Age civilizations around the world in about 2345 BC may have been the result of a series of comet impacts, which caused a sudden cooling of the climate, as well as tsunamis and earthquakes.

As a result, they say, civilizations that seemed to be in full flower, including the Egyptian Old Kingdom, the Akkadian empire in Mesopotamia, and the Hongshan culture in China, all declined suddenly and without any trace of external cause such as a military attack.

That, too, according to a few astronomers, could have been the result of multiple impacts from fragments of a comet that disintegrated from coming too close to a planet or the sun. Victor Clube of Oxford University and Bill Napier of the Armagh Observatory in Northern Ireland have written extensively about their theory that a giant comet - perhaps 60 miles across - broke apart thousands of years ago, and that the earth periodically intersects streams of its debris - including chunks large enough to strike with devastating effects.

"It's certainly worth looking" for evidence of impacts in historic times, said David Morrison, head of space research at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Center.

Morrison, author of a NASA study on the danger of impacts, adds that "I'd be surprised" if such evidence is found, because the actual rate of impacts is much lower than suggested by astronomers like Clube and Napier.

But if they are right, he said, the evidence should be easy to find: If the earth does intersect streams of debris that include objects large enough to produce Tunguska-like blasts, then those objects would be found by proposed searches for

objects that might strike earth, such as the Spacguard survey recommended by his study. The answer should be clear within a few years if such a study gets funded, he said.

In the meantime, a growing number of scientists are convinced that looking at the records left by our ancestors - both the physical evidence of arch-eological remains, as well as historical and mythological accounts - could reveal important details about the cosmic impacts the human race has had to deal with, and may even provide clues to the degree of our future risk.

"Most mythology actually encodes celestial events," Masse said. Though such research "is just in its infancy," he said, it is important to explore those sources, as well as the hard data of geology and climatic records.

From the Internet

CROP CIRCLES SHOW UP IN USA AND UK

During the past month, an incredible number of crop circles have appeared in the USA and the United Kingdom.

On Friday, June 19, 1998, a crop circle measuring 180 feet (55meters) in diameter appeared in a wheat field in Eltopia, Washington (population 200), a small town about 225 miles (360 kilometers) east of Seattle.

According to cerealogist Ilyes, the circle was discovered by farmer Craig Schaefer, who discovered it "in a field of Steven's wheat--a 'beaded' variety of winter wheat" which Schaefer planted in October 1997. Ilyes reported "an interesting color variation within the circle, as half of the circle was still green, half about golden ripe." The farmer reportedly told her "that his eye was caught by the circles in the crop, by the precise, well-defined circumference of the circle, and the way the wheat seemed deliberately organized." (Many thanks to Ilyes for this news story.)

Also in June, a crop circle shaped like a dumbbell was reported in Waverly, Nebraska (population 1,869), a town on Highway 6 approximately 11 miles (18 kilometers) northeast of Lincoln, the state capital. Waverly was the site of a crop circle in 1997.

On Friday, July 10, 1998, a giant swastika was found in a cornfield in Washington Township, New Jersey (population 8,000), located 5 miles (8 kilometers) southeast of Princeton.

According to the New York Post, "The swastika is about 100 yards by 100 yards and visible from the air." Washington Township mayor Glen Beebe "said the symbol appeared to have been cut in the field about three weeks ago, judging from the height of corn regrowth."

"The Mercer County prosecutor is investigating the incident as a hate crime. Beebe quoted police as saying they had no suspects."

"Jewish leaders expressed horror yesterday (June 12, 1998) at (the) football-field sized swastika... I'm horrified by this. I can't believe someone in our community could do this," Yvette Kovsky, president of the 650-family Congregation Beth Chaim in (nearby) West Windsor, said." (See the New York Post for July 13, 1998, "Jews appalled by giant swastika in N.J. cornfield.")

Meanwhile, in the United Kingdom, a record number of crop circles have appeared this summer, with 30 of them in Avebury alone. Prominent Avebury crop circles include those at Beckhampton, Bishops Cannings, Avebury Trusloe and West Kennet.

According to cerealogist Paul Vigay, crop circles have appeared elsewhere in the UK, in Dorset, Wiltshire, Hampshire, North Somerset, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, and at Shepton Mallet near Glastonbury.

On Thursday, July 9, 1998, at 7 a.m., a crop circle appeared in Alton Barnes, Wiltshire, UK. According to cerealogist Colin Andrews, the formation was "a Kock Fractal 'Snowflake' pattern, like two others seen nearby during 1997. This one has over 140 small circles surrounding the snowflake and is 300 feet across."

The "snowflake" appeared in East Field in Alton Barnes, at the foot of a prehistoric burial tumulus known locally as Adam's Grave. (Many thanks to Colin Andrews and Eroll Bruce-Knapp for this news story.)

On Monday, July 9, 1998, farmer Brian Roble was running a combine machine through an 18-acre wheat field in Latty, Ohio (population 200), a small town on Route 613 near the Indiana state line when he sighted a crop circle. Roble "said, 'I had seen it from a distance and hadn't known what it was. When I got closer, I could see it was a crop circle. My eight-year old daughter has been looking for crop circles since she and her mom went to see the one at Arend's (in 1996-J.T.). I never thought I'd find one.'"

Roble telephoned the field's owner, Georgia Price, and "she said her family had farmed that field for 45 years and it had never before produced such a crop."

"Sheriff Dave Harrow said his office received a report of crop vandalism at 6:14 p.m. on July 6. He denied the existence of a crop circle in the county, although he said the vandalism was circular in shape. He said his office has no suspects and because the landowner did not want to press charges, the case is closed."

"Roble said the sheriff came out July 6, compared the formation with those in a book, declared it a hoax and recommended they plow the compression under."

On Sunday, July 12, 1998, cerealogists Roger Sugden and Jeffrey Wilson investigated the scene. The men "took measurements, drew a field diagram, checked electromagnetic readings and collected wheat and soil samples." (See the Ohio newspaper Paulding County Progress for July 15, 1998, "Crop circle is discovered in county." Many thanks to Kenneth Young of Tri-States Advocates for Scientific Knowledge, T.A.S.K., for forwarding the newspaper article.)

*UFO Roundup, Volume 3
Via the Internet*

MAGAZINE HAS INTRIGUING PHOTOS FROM THE MARS GLOBAL SURVEYOR

The August 1998 issue of Sky & Telescope has a very interesting selection of photos from the Mars Global Surveyor, as part of a great article by Samantha Parker entitled "The Triumphant Turnaround of Mars Global Surveyor."

After looking at the photos with a trusty magnifying glass, and using a mirror set at 90 degrees for a 3-D effect, some intriguing features were found:

(1) Niagara Falls of Mars - Note the three horseshoe-shaped "bites" out of the plain above Ophir Casma. The semi-circular recession, the outwash debris in the chasm, and the dendritic dried-up riverbeds leading to the edge suggest that a large waterfall, similar to the USA's Niagara Falls or Angel Falls in Venezuela, was present in the planet's distant past. Check the 2 o'clock position in the upper left photo on page 44.

(2) Lake Huron of Mars - The flat plain with the orderly rows of sand dunes in Hebes Chasma is actually a dry lakebed that rivals present-day Lake Huron in size. Note the wave-cut headlands and promontories on the left shore.

(3) Twin Pyramids - The region called Medusa Fossae is full of surprises. Check out the upper left photo on page 45. At a 5 o'clock position relative to the recent impact crater at the top of the photo are two pyramid-shaped features. Nearby are another 10 smaller circular hills or mounds.

(4) Space Baby - Medusa Fossae has an interesting landform. Check out the upper left corner of the photo on page 45, at an 8 o'clock position relative to the large crater with the central peak. From space, the mountain resembles a human baby sucking the thumb of his right hand. It reminded me of the final scene of the movie 2001: A Space Odyssey. (Don't tell me there are Stanley Kubrick fans on Mars--J.T.)

From the Internet



SEDONA SIGHTING

Peter Gersten forwarded us this message from the internet that was sent to CAUS Subscribers. There were four witnesses involved. The first report is from witness Karl:

"On Wednesday, July 15, 1998, in the general time frame of 10 p.m., four of us saw a very large object (several times larger than a passenger airliner such as the Concorde, for example), flying at a slow but steady speed over the general area of Schnebly Hill in Sedona, Arizona. It came from the general direction of Flagstaff and then changed direction. I need a compass to be more specific. It was a dark colored equilateral triangle with a bright white light on each corner and larger light source, a glowing orange red light in the

middle. It made very little, if any, sound. It was not at a particularly low altitude, yet it still looked huge. The entire sighting lasted 5 to 10 minutes, ending when it flew out of visual range. It matched in appearance a highly publicized sighting of a UFO over Phoenix and the Verde Valley area last year 97 that was captured on video and photographed by numerous credible eyewitnesses. I saw a documentary about the sighting in question on the Discovery Channel at that time. My recognition of the similarity was immediate and unquestioning. My perspective typically has been cynical about most UFOs. U.S. military is capable of creating and has created very unusual types of craft, but in this particular instance I saw something that defies my usual arguments against UFOs. What I saw does not remotely resemble any type of aircraft I have ever seen manufactured anywhere. I would like to discuss what I saw with any other possible observers. I feel there must be other people who saw what I saw due to the size and speed of this UFO."

The second report is from Michelle:

"There were no clouds in the sky. It had been a very hot and dry day, so humidity levels were very low. Visibility was extremely good. Star formations that are often hard to see were plainly visible. The triangular-shaped craft was moving across the sky faster than conventional aircraft, but because of the enormous size of the craft it created the impression it was moving in a slow, steady rate. It was a dark amber brown in color, giving the impression of an effervescent gold glow around it helping to define its triangular shape. You could not see the sky behind it as it moved. It came from a northerly direction, and then it abruptly veered off in an easterly direction."

"At the time of the sighting and prior to it, my health had been really good, but the last few days I have had nausea, poor appetite, aches and pains in joints and fatigue, all uncharacteristic for me. My feeling as I saw the craft initially was dumbstruck with shock. I held up a watermelon

at arms' length in front of me, it would not have obscured the triangle from view. It seemed at a high altitude, yet due to its size did not seem far away. Perhaps bigger than a flying football field. The lights, one on each corner and one in the center of the triangle did not blink even once, like on conventional aircraft."

WINONA, AZ. SIGHTING

[From an e-mail to AUFON News]

"I have been following your triangular craft reports from the Sedona area and wish to share an experience. A number of years ago I used to be involved with law enforcement with the Coconino National Forest. We would monitor archaeological sites in the Winona area by staking them out for hours, sometimes late into the night. One such night my partner and I were near a place called Turkey Tanks, off of Leupp Road. We were sitting on top of a cinder hill when suddenly we noticed a bright light heading in our direction. The bigger it got, the more shocked my partner and I became, for we had never experienced something in the sky which we could not identify. As it quietly approached, the light got brighter and then when it was about upon us, it banked. The craft displayed lights on the nose, leading edges and half between. As it banked, we could see its triangular form; and then as it left, we could see two afterburners glowing and a low rumble of an engine. Since this experience, many more have been seen in the Merriam Crater region, near the reservation."

From the Internet

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