

Mass. MUFON NEWS LETTER

Issue #6

February, 1983

TAKE NOTE IMPORTANT

Recently one of our Mass. MUFON members inadvertently discovered that applications for membership in the national MUFON organization are evidently copied and forwarded to the Center for UFO Studies in Illinois. It appears that MUFON Hdqtrs. in Texas accidentally addressed an envelope containing a copy of the application to the wrong address.



We would like to thank Mr. Barry Greenwood for an extremely interesting and informative presentation during the January meeting. The Kirtland documents story continues, and there have been several significant developments. We appreciate Barry's keeping on top of this important case.

PRIORITY

Public information remains a top priority. Recently Fate magazine contained a letter to the editor from a Mass. person who had witnessed a UFO sighting and claimed to have tried unsuccessfully to locate a UFO research organization in Massachusetts. Please give the Hotline number (617-944-0686) to police depts., newspapers, radio & tv stations, civic organizations, etc. in your area. Check first with your Section Director to make sure that it has not already been done. Many sightings go unreported because people do not know whom to call.

NEW CASES ★

Recently MUFON received some media attention. The Channel 7 news team interviewed Marge Christensen and Linda Seal on the 6:00 p.m. news on Thursday, Jan. 20th. That Sunday morning, Jan. 23rd, Marge Christensen was a guest on the Boston Sunday Review program on WBCN radio for one hour.

Following these two programs, we received eleven phone calls on the Hotline, and many of these were related to new cases. Sightings and UFO-related experiences were reported to us in the following locations: Cambridge, Stoughton, Medford, Danvers, Fitchburg, Sagamore, Wareham, in Massachusetts; also, Las Cruces, in New Mexico, as well as central Pennsylvania.

These cases have been assigned to the various State Section Directors, who are in the process of enlisting field investigators in their areas to investigate them. There will be an extensive discussion of these cases at the February meeting, and hopefully, a follow-up discussion in March.

For Income Tax Purposes

The Mutual UFO Network, Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. MUFON is a publicly supported organization of the type described in Section 509(a)(2). Donations to MUFON may be deducted as contributions from Federal income taxes.

Also, investigators may deduct 9¢ per mile for transportation costs incurred with work for MUFON. The activity log in your case report is sufficient verification that you did travel in conjunction with an investigation. (The IRS will accept this.) If you should have to stay overnight during an investigation, you may deduct motel and meals and tolls costs, but you must be able to verify that this was part of your work for MUFON and was not a personal vacation.

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UFO videotape completed

In the late fall, Emerson College student, David Schwartz, began to compile a 30-min. videotape regarding UFO's. He attended a MUFON meeting, together with other students and they videotaped a training session. That tape, however, was not usable, but he did later interview Barry Greenwood as well as Ray Fowler and Betty Andreasson. The videotape was recently shown on WCVB Channel 5 at 2:30 a.m.. Mr. Schwartz has agreed to furnish Barry Greenwood with a copy of the tape, and this will be shown at a MUFON meeting later this year.

Mass. MUFON in Journal

The October issue of the MUFON Journal, in the Director's Message, complimented Mass. MUFON members on our monthly newsletter as well as on our "Make Your Own 'E.T.' Contest" held in Oct. at the Ideas Exchange Fair in Beverly.

According to Walt Andrus, there may be a more detailed article on the E.T. Contest in a later issue of the MUFON Journal.

We are fortunate that Massachusetts has one of the most active groups in the U.S. and one which contains a great deal of talent.

UPI RELEASE

Some time ago, a National Committee on Public Education was appointed by Walt Andrus. Committee members include: Dennis Stacy and Tom Deuley in Texas, and Marge Christensen, Walter Webb, and Joan Thompson, in Massachusetts. One function of committee is to continually write press releases for the UPI news wire services, in order to keep the UFO topic in the national news. The first release, which deals with the govt. documents we have received under the Freedom of Information Act, is slated for release on the weekend of Feb. 19 and 20, according to Walt Andrus. This particular press release was prepared by the Massachusetts members of the committee, with Barry Greenwood acting as a special advisor. Watch your newspapers for this article, and let us know if you see it.

Count Your Blessings

A second letter, dated Jan. 25, 1983, has been received by Marge Christensen, from Cynthia Hind, MUFON's Continental Coordinator for Africa. She relates in the letter how excited she is that at last she has one new case. Her other cases are old cases that have just been reported. Ironically, now that she has a new case, the shortage of gasoline in Zimbabwe is so severe, that she is unable to obtain gasoline for her car, and is therefore unable to travel to do any investigative work on the case.

The new case involves a sighting of a blue light in a place called Chinhoyi, which is 74 miles from Cynthia, who lives in Salisbury. The farmer who sighted the object managed to pinpoint the spot where he thought the light had actually come down on a hill. He found that some of the bushes in the area were flattened and around the bushes there were some thin arrow marks, and what looked like a "bear" imprint. (There are no bears in Africa!) The light had been seen on numerous occasions, and the man's niece wrote to Cynthia to say that she too, had seen the arrow marks in another area where the light landed on another occasion. Strangely enough, the farmer's neighbor then reported waking up one night to find three men in silver suits standing outside his window. Cynthia seems delighted to receive correspondence from the USA. If you would care to write to her, her address is: Cynthia Hind

P.O. Box 768
Harare, Zimbabwe

taxes (Continued)

Costs of items purchased in conjunction with an investigation, such as tape cassettes, compasses, cameras, etc. are not deductible. If the item to be purchased were costly, one should write a check to MUFON, and then have MUFON purchase the item. That way, your check to MUFON will be considered as a deductible contribution. The same rule applies to payments made for lab fees or psychological testing administered for a witness. For your check to be considered deductible on your Federal Income Tax, you should write it to MUFON, and then have the bill for the service submitted to MUFON.

I have spoken with an IRS representative, and have also ordered an IRS publication on this type of deduction. The publication is #526, and may be obtained at the JFK Bldg. in Boston.

You may deduct your MUFON contributions and other case-related expenses which qualify, on your 1982 Federal Income Tax Return.