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January, 2009

## NEWSLETTER

### Seventh Annual Mothman Festival, Point Pleasant, WV, September 20th - 21st 2008

By Scott Santa, MUFON of Ohio



I arrived at the historic and haunted (or so I have been told) Lowe Hotel in Point Pleasant West Virginia at 3:30 pm on September 19, 2008. The hotel is located in the historic part of the city and overlooks the Ohio River. It's located at the intersection where the Mothman Festival takes place. We can walk right out the front door and we are there! In attendance along with me are my wife Faith, my youngest daughter Emily, 24 and my oldest daughter Sarah 27 and her husband Levi. Vendors and guests are setting up and checking in for the festival which will commence on Saturday morning and continue through Sunday.

We have been billeted on the third floor of the hotel in room 311 with two queen beds, 1 king bed and a huge shared bathroom. There are three lunch bags on the table with an image of the Mothman on them filled containing cookies and chocolates. Wow, Mothman Festival Goodie Bags!

As we are settling in, Emily opens the TV desk drawer and finds a handwritten note which reads, "If you are reading this now, I am probably dead! Do not look under the rug". Ha! Ha! We all had a good laugh at that. As we continued to unpack, curiosity got the better of Emily. She could not help herself, so she looked under the rug below the TV desk. There was another note; "You dumbass! I told you not to look!" That had us all in stitches; a clever humorist had been in our room! She placed both notes back where she found them. No telling how long they'd been there.

Ate dinner at Emma's Galley; Tasty Treats and Home Cooked Eats! It is approximately two blocks down the street from the Lowe. The food was surprisingly good – the Graham cracker pie was delicious. We purchased the Point Pleasant Register newspaper which contained a schedule of events for the festival and planned for the exciting events ahead.

Saturday morning!

No paranormal happenings occurred during our first night in the hotel although the Lowe definitely has its own ambience of creepiness. Walking the hallways by oneself does create a certain sense of wariness and expectation of seeing one of the oft reported ghosts; a little girl riding a tricycle down the hallway; a woman swirling about as though dancing to unheard music, or the Captain looking out the window waiting for his boat. The beds are comfortable, rooms spacious - most certainly not your typical "box" hotel offering. Everything is old except for the TV!

Today will be a full day as the Festival kicks off. I am up early and outside having coffee and smoking my pipe watching the vendors finish up preparing for the onslaught. I met and chatted with Jeff Wamsley, curator of the Mothman Museum and author of "Mothman - The Facts Behind the Legend." A very personable fellow in that he came right up to me, introduced himself, and welcomed me to Point Pleasant. This is going to be good time I thought. We spoke briefly and went on his way as he was of course a busy man.

Ate breakfast at Emma's Galley - not much of a dining option in the historic downtown, besides the food was good, prices very reasonable.

Breakfast done - the Festival is in full swing! As we were on our way back down the street to start off our day at the Mothman Museum, we ran into a group giving psychic readings. There are five different psychics - we each picked one and had a reading done; what the hell! I chose Georgia Rudolf, famous from the Court TV hit series "Psychic Detectives". She's also been on Unsolved Mysteries and a host of other shows of that ilk. Without side tracking into this, I will tell you that after meeting her and having her do her thing, I am extremely impressed. She nailed me and all I told her was my birthday!!! I will leave the rest for another time perhaps.

We officially kicked off the day by entering the Mothman Museum. With lots and lots of stuff and information, it is not very big place. The museum is almost right next door to the Lowe, so I'm guessing it's in what used to be a small store. Memorabilia from the Mothman Prophecies movie with Richard Gere and Will Patton abound. There are also original hand written police reports from the original witnesses, news articles from Mary Hyre and John Keel, continuous loop TV clips from Mothman segments from Unsolved Mysteries, Paranormal State, Weird West Virginia, and Sci-Fi Investigates are playing on monitors all over. This is about as good as I've ever seen for a museum of this genre. Paraphernalia and gifts are everywhere including T-shirts, coffee cups, masks, and you name it.

Saturday 1:00 pm

Frank Feschino is giving a presentation on the Flatwoods Monster down at the pavilion on the river (directly behind our hotel). Let me add at this point, everything is within walking distance. The festival encompasses about two city blocks and two half streets that intersect historic main street.

Frank's presentation is very informative. He spoke for approximately 50 minutes followed by a question and answer session. He then went to his vendor table. I introduced myself and struck up a conversation with him, mainly about his talk and his previous book *The Braxton County Monster*. Well, I found out that that book was a disaster. It was not the book he submitted to the publisher and he eventually lost his rights to the book itself. He wanted to take that book back and publicly apologize for the contents, much of which were edited out and reshuffled to his and Stanton Friedman's dismay. The long and short of it is that his new book, *SHOOT THEM DOWN; The Flying Saucer Air Wars of 1952* is what the Braxton County monster book was supposed to be. He was aided and assisted with this work by Bill Birnes of UFO Magazine.

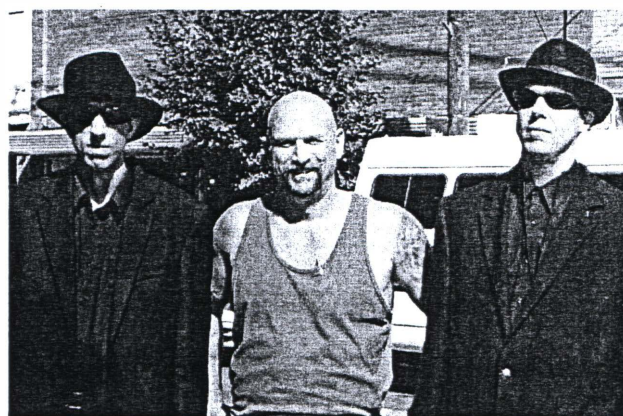


I found out that his talk was to be a 70 slide Power Point presentation, but he was called by Jeff Wamsley about two hours prior who told him that he was going to have to wing it - no slides, just a microphone! He said that this was the first time he ever had to make a presentation without any props, but I told him he did just fine. No one in the audience knew the difference. Although finding that out afterwards made sense because I noted that he was just a tad rattled, but of course none of us knew why at the time.

As I was thumbing through his Blue Book documentation that he had available, I noticed that much declassified military message traffic examples were included. I asked Frank if he knew what the content of the headings and addresses meant, other than the plain text at the bottom of each page, and he replied that he did not. He said he just kind of glossed over that stuff. So I told him I was a retired military communicator and had held a TS clearance for 18 of my 20 year career. I could tell him what all of it meant and how to read it. He was incredulous. Needless to say, and much to the dismay of my family, I spent much of the rest of the afternoon at Frank's table going through all of that with him. I also mentioned that I was a longtime MUFON member and had written UFO book reviews for UFO Magazine. We hit it off and traded our UFO experiences and stories. After awhile, perhaps two hours, I told Frank I had to go to re-team up with my family, or I would be in danger of being left behind. He then gave me a free signed copy of his book in exchange for me writing a book review for him and sending him some examples of how to interpret military messages, classifications, etc. I definitely got the better of that exchange. I bought one of his T-shirts just to try and make it even. I told him I would stop by again the next day and continue our chat. He is a very gracious and personable chap, and very serious about his work.

We roamed around the festivities for the remains of the afternoon, checking out each and every vendor. There was a karaoke station and the Crick Brothers, John and Tim, decked out as the

MIBs!!! They are staying at the Lowe also, two rooms down. What nice guys they are. I asked John if they had ever had any experiences with the real MIB since they portray MIBs. He replied not really, but ever since he and his brother met John Keel at the 2003 festival, they have had some creepy things happen, but nothing threatening. So John and Tim just roam around the festival getting their pictures taken with everyone and basically being rather stoic in their personas. They certainly fit the bill.



There's also someone, I presume it's a guy, walking around in a Mothman rubber outfit. I bet this guy dumped 20 pounds of sweat over the two day event. Whew!!! Face painting and Mothman temporary tattoos were seen everywhere. The stainless steel statue of the Mothman is in the dead center of the activities. This is a very well done piece of art. Everyone gets their picture taken in front of this monstrosity! Not sure of the dimensions, but it's about 20 feet high sitting on a pedestal with a short description of the events on a plaque. Oh yeah, I got my picture there also!

We purchased tickets to take a hayride out to the TNT area that night at 11:30 pm. The TNT area is where notably the now demolished power plant was where the Mothman was first sighted and where this Mothman story began. I can't wait for this one!! It's now late afternoon, the weather has been perfect, and we head back to our room to freshen up and get some real dinner. Not much on the funnel cakes and hot dogs scene! We eat at

where? Emma's Galley of course! We now have our own table.

At 10:45 pm we we're off to the TNT hayride. It's about a seven mile drive from the hotel out to the Mason County Fairgrounds where we will embark on our night time tour through the TNT area. Surprise of all surprises! Our tour guide for the hay ride is Ashley Wamsley, Jeff's daughter. The ride is approximately 20 minutes long. Along with some great Mothman insider tidbits that weren't written about in Jeff's book, the night is a perfect one, clear as bell, just a hint of chill in the air.

The Mothman Band (Rock N' Roll) is playing on a makeshift stage as we embark for the ride. The guy in the rubber Mothman suit jumps out at us about 20 yards into the trip, scaring the daylights out of the ladies mostly! There are some lighted effects out in the woods, outlines of UFO's to be precise, that are well done! As we make a turn to head another direction there's a commotion in the trees above us just ahead. It's a Mothman flying right over our wagon, bright red eyes and a very loud screeching effect That one got me good, I damned near died...well done again!!! Other than the effects there wasn't much to see at night, but the information we got from Ms. Wamsley was well worth it. We are informed that there would be a daytime bus tour of the TNT area, along with walking visits to the ammunition igloos and the sight of the demolished power plant area, tomorrow. We're in!!!

Sunday

This morning we decide to eat at the Harris Steakhouse, across the street and just caddy corner from our hotel. This is the "Mothman Diner" so prominently portrayed in the movie. Yes, Mrs. Harris is still there, still very pleasant, and still serving great food as she has been since 1969. The place is a virtual throw-back - the quintessential greasy spoon diner, not very organized or clean inside, but looks can be deceiving. We really had the impression that this was going to be an epicurean challenge, but appearances aside, the food was good! This is the

place where everybody who is anybody involved in the Mothman legacy meets, from authors to investigators, TV personalities to documentarian - this is the MOTHMAN diner!

After breakfast, we hustled over to get our tickets for the afternoon bus ride into the TNT area, limited seating and first come first serve! We sign up for the 4:30 pm tour so we can spend the afternoon at the festival. We didn't have to drive out there as we did for the hay ride. We were picked up in a bus - actually a passenger van - right across the street from our hotel.

It was hot and cloudless, another perfect day. Good turn out from our perspective. Chatted some more with Frank Feschino and Jeff Wamsley. Jeff assures me that this is the biggest festival yet, getting bigger and better each year. The Mothman Costume contest underway and more guest speakers are at the Riverfront pavilion. There are two sheltie dogs dressed up with Mothman wings and red eye patches being walked around. They must be used to it as they are very accommodating and appear to be enjoying the attention.



Sunday 4 o'clock

We board the passenger van and we luck out once again. Ashley Wamsley will be leading this tour. I find out that this passenger van was purchased by her dad specifically for this event. We depart! Along the way, Ashley gives up some of the same info we heard last night on the hayride, but we



don't mind, it was much better in the daylight where we weren't looking for things jumping out at us!

We arrive at our first stop, not too far from where we took the hayride, but down a different road. We debark from the van and start our walk toward the first igloo. The igloos, and there are lots of them, are completely brush covered as to be damn near invisible. If you were not aware of their existence you'd walk either right into one or pass it by, not knowing it was even there. They are very creepy inside. Shaped just like an igloo, domed and round. Ashley's uncle Dave (Jeff's brother we find out) is our van driver and accompanies us on our walk. There are ten people not including Ashley and Dave. The first igloo is littered with what look like metal boxes, most dented and crumpled with a circular opening in them. It is unknown what they were used for and were just left there when the government departed after WWII. Dave swears that each time he has been out here today doing the tour thing with his niece that the cans were scattered about and in different locations in the igloo. It is clear that he is spooked by this as is Ashley.

These are two people who grew up here and are quite familiar with everything involved. It is my and my families' opinion that their reaction is NOT part of the tour. They are genuinely "creeped out" about this. There isn't anyone out here in between the tours we are assured. We go on, down the path to the 2nd igloo, where we are told that there is an image of the Mothman on the wall and it is NOT a painted image! Ashley assumes it is from water seepage. She is right. It is an uncanny image of what we all know and are familiar with as the Mothman. Now the hairs are standing up on my arms. If my tour guides are "creeped out"; we are more so! This place is remote. 30,000 square acres of nothing! You are given advice that if one gets lost back here, to head for the smoke stacks - each having a red light on them...!!!

We arrive at what was once the North Power Plant. It's now demolished, but this is where

Mothman was first sighted and where the witnesses ran from it in their car, reaching speeds of 100 mph trying to get away. For the entire story, I recommend Jeff Wamsley's book mentioned above.

Finally back at the hotel we are presented with a "I Survived the Mothman TNT Tour" certificate and are granted official Mothman search team membership status and a TNT Security Clearance, personally signed as we get off the van by Jeff Wamsley. He then gives us a Mothman Search Team bumper sticker. As an aside, before we drove off Jeff stuck his head in the window, smiled, and said; "Nice knowin' you"!!!

What a great time we had! It all ended too suddenly and went by way too fast. That always seems to be the case doesn't it? If you have ANY interest whatsoever in the Mothman Legacy, this festival is a MUST. I highly recommend it for a relaxing and inexpensive weekend. It is great family entertainment, but with a serious enough edge to it for the researcher like me.

#### Our last night in the Lowe Hotel

So far nothing paranormal has happened. Tonight my daughters ask me if I will come with them to walk around the hotel and try and catch some EVP (Electronic Voice Phenomena). Sure, what the hell - that'll be fun! So about 10:30 pm or so and in our pajamas, we head out. I believe we are the last remaining guests still staying at the hotel. Most everyone else had checked out and left Sunday evening. Sarah has a small digital recorder about the size of a cell phone. We test it and are on our way. We check out the 2nd floor, each hallway, up to the 3rd floor, again walk each hallway, then finally up to the top floor, which is an old ballroom, not used anymore. We go up the stairways, it's very dark, and it's starting to get very hot. She takes a couple of pictures and we head back down to our room. There was no prompting from any of us, we just walked and left the recorder on. We were just a tad disappointed nothing happened, until we played back the recorder! There were three distinct whispering

voices at three different times that the recorder picked up. HOO - BOY!! Hairs on everyone's body stood up when we heard that! We played that tape back about twenty times and there is definitely something talking. We cannot quite decipher what the words being spoken are, but they are definitely there. The first one sounded like someone is saying, "Where are you?" The other two we cannot agree on what is said, but again, someone or something is speaking!!!

Well, none of us were going to be getting a good night's sleep that night. We are all "creeped out" so we put the Animal Planet channel on the TV trying to take our minds off of being very much spooked. What a way to end the weekend!

## UFO Hits Wind Turbine

*This article is reprinted from 08 Jan 2009 issue of "THE Sun". Their reporters are Virginia Wheeler and Jennifer Brain. At the end are comments from Nick Pope and the Cleveland Ufology Project..*

A WIND turbine stood wrecked yesterday with one of its giant 65ft blades torn off — after it was hit by a UFO.

Locals were woken by the 4am smash after strange lights were spotted streaking towards the 290ft-tall generator on a wind farm.

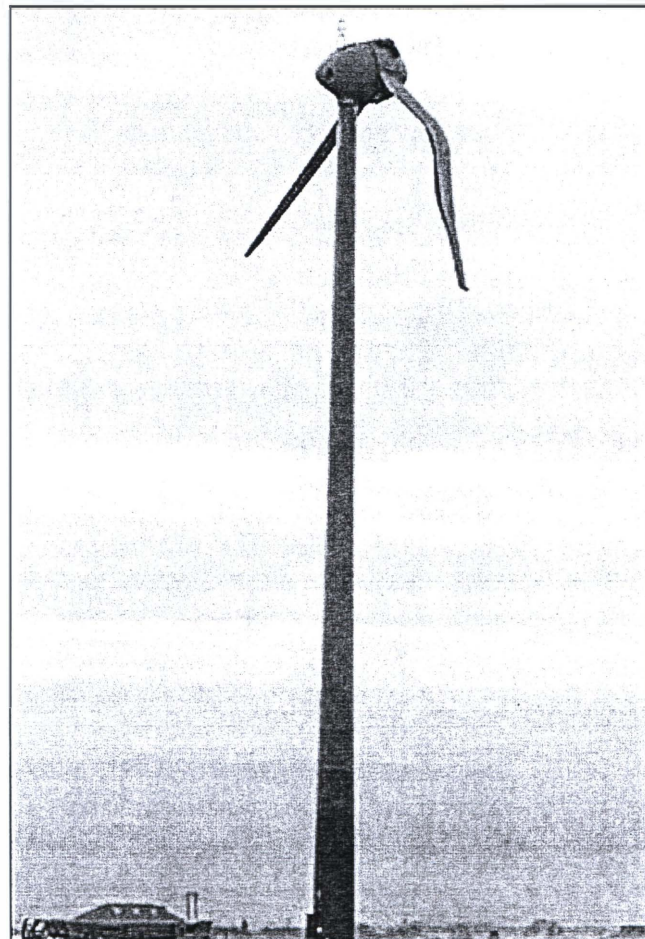
Baffled power chiefs said of the smash in Conisholme, Lincs: "We have a team investigating." There was no trace of the missing blade. A UFO expert said: "We are very excited."



Witness ... Lesley Whittingham, 71

A woman motorist told how she saw a UFO zoom towards the wind farm and strike the 290ft turbine.

Dorothy Willows — who lives half a mile from the scene of the hit-and-run — was in her car when "strange lights" loomed in the evening sky.



Clobbered ... turbine yesterday

She was among dozens who spotted the mysterious flashing orangey-yellow spheres over Lincolnshire — where the turbine was left wrecked.

Dorothy, of Louth, said: "The lights were moving across the sky towards the wind farm.

"Then I saw a low flying object. It was skimming across the sky towards the turbines."

Hours later there was an almighty smash.

Dorothy said: "My husband Stephen was woken at 4am by the bang."

Afterwards there was no trace of one of the turbine's three huge 65ft blades — ripped off in the collision.



Impact ... map showing UFO sighting

Another was left twisted and useless. Other locals told how the lights looked like balls of flames. Lesley Whittingham, 71, even managed to photograph it — and said: "It looked like a giant explosion in the air."

John Harrison, another witness, described how he looked out of his landing window and saw a "massive ball of light with tentacles going right down to the ground" over the wind farm. He said: "It was huge. With the tentacles it looked just like an octopus."

The object that struck the turbine at Conisholme near Louth on Sunday dodged others surrounding it — and last night experts had no explanation for what it was. There were **NO** reports of any aircraft collisions.

Council health and safety officials said even the strongest gale was unlikely to be responsible. *The damage was described by the Health and Safety Executive as a "unique incident".*

Wind farm company Ecotricity admitted: "We don't know what caused the problem. We are investigating."

UFO expert Russ Kellett, of Flying Saucer Review, told how dozens of reports of mystery objects poured in before the crash.

He said: "Balls of light were seen in the sky and the MoD has no explanation. We are very, very excited about this."

Last night the incident was the talk of the internet. It was dubbed the "Octopus UFO" because of the tentacles and how the lights appeared joined in formation.

The MoD said of the latest scare: "Unless there is evidence of a potential threat, there is no attempt to identify the nature of each sighting."

### Comment by Nick Pope

THIS could be one of the most significant UFO incidents for years.

If something collided with the wind turbine — as seems certain — there may be residue on the damaged parts that could help solve this mystery.

In the last few months there have been two near-collisions between UFOs and police helicopters — and now this.

There's a public safety issue here, whatever you believe about UFOs.

The Ministry of Defence's standard line on UFOs isn't good enough. The MoD and the Civil Aviation Authority need to investigate as a matter of urgency.



## Comment by the Cleveland Ufology Project

What's really interesting about this incident, the blade is nowhere to be found, according to the report, and the blade is about 65 ft long!

It could have been a malfunction of the pitch motor adjustment linkage for that blade, but then a complete failure and separation from the main shaft would be unlikely albeit not impossible. Seeing that a second blade is bent but still on the turbine, would indicate that something fairly massive hit it, or it could just be the missing blade hitting the other one upon separation?

Reuters has reported that the broken blade was found at the base of the turbine. An engineering representative of the manufacturer reportedly said that he had never seen a failure or accident like this before. While it may have been an unusual materials fracture, we don't know that. Maybe the ufological press will report on this later.

Anyway, here is the complete article including eyewitness reports can be found at the following.

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/ufos/article2108149.ece>

Thanks to Pete Hartinger of the Roundtown UFO Society and MUFON of Ohio for bringing this to our attention.

### 1975 Re-Visited

By W. Todd Zechel

This analysis was provided by Larry W. Bryant (LWB) through MUFON of Ohio's Scott Santa. This is an interesting commentary concerning some interesting and not-long-ago historic UFO events.

[LWB note: In our field of UFOrensics we have behavior patterns threads of commonality, and event tie-ins that may offer clues as to the origin and purpose of some reported UFO encounters. Consider the following analysis written in 2001 and sent to me by the late researcher W. Todd

Zechel, then director of the Wisconsin-based, Associated Investigators Group.]

"Get back, you fool!" shouted Travis Walton's fellow woodcutters as he walked beneath a hovering flying saucer. Suddenly, a blue ray shot out from the yellowish-orange glowing object, striking Walton

and sending him flying into the air, arms outstretched -- "like he'd touched a live wire," according to witness Ken Peterson.

Walton and six co-workers had been heading home Nov. 5, 1975, after a hard day of tree-trimming work in the Arizona mountains, rumbling along in a truck on an isolated mountain road about 12 miles from Heber, Ariz. Near dusk, a UFO was sighted hovering about 25 feet in the air over a clearing beside the road. As the woodcutters slowed to gape at the glowing saucer, Walton bolted from the truck and walked toward it, ignoring the pleas of his friends.

The shocked and frightened crew roared away from the scene even as Walton soared upward toward the UFO. But a few minutes later they returned, having calmed a bit -- only to discover that their buddy had disappeared. A lengthy search turned up nothing.

Walton wouldn't be seen again for five days. In the interim, the six witnesses underwent lie detector (polygraph) tests by Navajo County sheriff Marlin Gillespie, who then concluded (after five of them had passed with flying colors and one nervous witness had been termed "inconclusive"): "I'm sure they saw a UFO."

Walton, slumped over and in a confused state of mind, was retrieved from a phone booth near Heber by his brother, Duane, whom Travis had phoned upon regaining his bearings. Later, Travis would recall awakening aboard a spaceship, surrounded by "creatures," which he described as looking like "well-developed fetuses." The young man said the beings were "about 5 feet tall and wore tight-fitting tan-brown robes. Their skin was white like a mushroom, and they had no clear



features. They made no sounds. Their faces had no texture or color, and there was no hair. Their foreheads were domed and their eyes were very large. They had long fingers -- but no finger nails."

In retrospect, the Walton case acquires added dimension when you consider that it occurred near the tail end of the 1975 flap in which UFOs had hovered over Air Force B-52 bases and missile sites from Maine to Montana in late October and early November. Walton's disappearance correlated with the UFO activity's move westward around Nov. 5, and his return on Nov. 10 coincided with the flap's subsidence. Walton couldn't have known these facts at the time, since records of the incidents and their details were not released until two or three years later. (See: SIDEBAR below.)

[LWB postscript: Walton went on to write a soft-cover book (1979) about his experience -- now published in updated, hardback form by Marlowe & Company (1996). Its title: "Fire in the Sky -- the Walton Experience (the Best-documented Case of Alien Abduction Ever Recorded)."]

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#### SIDEBAR: The 1975 Fly-over Flap

One of history's more remarkable, bizarre, and troubling series of UFO encounters began on the night of Oct. 27, 1975, when a low-altitude, flashing object invaded Loring Air Force Base, Maine -- a B-52 bomber facility located near Presque Isle, Maine.

Loring experienced UFO intrusions three nights in a row, at least two of which included the UFO's hovering within 100--150 feet of the Weapons Storage Area, where nuclear bombs for the B-52s are stored. In fact, Air Force messages later released under the U. S. Freedom of Information Act state that the UFOs "demonstrated a clear intent" toward the nuclear weapons.

Observed visually by scores of base personnel, the elusive craft also were tracked on several separate radars. They ended up being chased by special pursuit helicopters containing security forces. In one case, the pursuers had trouble closing on the intruder even though radar scopes indicated that at one point the helicopter had come within 1,000 feet of its target. An OPREP-PINNACLE report ("grave national security situation") described the UFO pilot as "a smart and most capable aviator."

After investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, AF spokesman Col. Charles Senn stated that "no cause for the sightings had been determined. There were no military or civilian aircraft in the vicinity at the time."

#### Alien Glow Worms?

On the night of Nov. 1, 1975, two glowing UFOs invaded Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan, which was another B-52 site for the Strategic Air Command. In buzzing the flight line, the UFOs provoked a chase by a KC-135 Orbital Command Post (modified tanker) out over Lake Huron, at which point the "unknowns" got low to the water and doused their glowing lights, thereby evading further radar or visual detection.

In the next few days UFOs began showing up over B-52 bases and SAC missile sites in North Dakota and Montana. The North American Air Defense Command, headquartered in the Cheyenne Mountain Complex near Colorado Springs, Colo., scrambled a group of F-106 fighters to intercept a flight of seven UFOs over Montana missile sites, but the pursuers became helpless when the crafty craft took evasive action by hovering low near the mountains and extinguishing their glowing lights. That development was witnessed by ground-based Sabotage Alert Teams watching through field glasses.

## An Airborne Agenda

During the first 11 days of November, dozens of UFO incursions took place over or near sensitive missile silos, many described by notations in the NORAD command director's log later FOIA-released. Near Harlowtown, Mont., at Site Lima-1, a UFO hovered within 10 feet of the missile silo, drawing the attention of a missile crew in a nearby support building. One of the officers present at the incident, Capt. Thomas Moulton, later told close relatives that the targeting instructions on the missile's multiple-warhead array had been altered by the UFO.

Even more curious: during that same period, a number of cattle were found mysteriously mutilated in fields in North Dakota, Montana, Colorado, and New Mexico. Steers had turned up lying in muddy fields with organs and anuses removed through some sort of precise, bloodless surgery; but nary a track or other evidence of an intruder was uncovered. All that was seen had been glowing lights in the night-skies. As with the fly-overs at the military sites, investigators were unable to determine a terrestrial cause for the mutilations. Of course, arm-chair UFO debunkers chose to blame the whole thing on "predators."

Thanks to a Public-spirited Informant

Little of this invasion ever would've become public knowledge had it not been for the courageous action of an analyst assigned to one of the government's super-secret intelligence agencies. His leakage, in 1977, of some of the reports to certain civilian researchers ultimately led to the FOIA release of scores of documents related to the flap. Yet, even now some of the details remain closely guarded secrets.

[LWB Note: The 1975 fly-over documentation led to publication of the 1984 expose book "Clear Intent: The Government Cover-up of the UFO Experience," by researchers Barry J. Greenwood and Lawrence Fawcett. Since then, a comprehensive study of the events, principals,

testimony, associations, and implications related to the reported incursions has been completed by researcher Robert L. Hastings <http://www.ufohastings.com>. The resultant 600-page tome of 2008 bears the title "UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites." If you decide to buy only one more UFO book in your current lifetime on planet earth, make it this one.]

<http://ufoview.posterous.com>

## Messages to MUFON of Ohio

Bill:

I received a call from the son of one of my dearest friends and ex-UFORIC investigators who passed away yesterday afternoon. Gordon (Flash) Myers was 83 years old, a retired government Research and Development man who did decades long testing and electronics design work for the department of the Navy.

Gordon was a pilot who trained many others, including several astronauts with the electronic equipment he helped develop and designed to fit within certain aircraft such and space craft.

He was an avid genealogist and had traced his family roots back into the mid-sixteen hundreds. He had letters and records from the Revolutionary war, the Civil war and documents that went back to the old county too. He had a ancestor who rode with "five muskets at the ready" since the Red Coats were immediately hanging any 'hit and run militia' who dared attack their supply lines in New York.

Gordon helped liberate a Nazi death camp, and many of the photos he took at the terrible scene are now displayed at the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. Gordon kept the key to the death camp's main gate, as well as, a shaped-stone once used as a club by an Indian warrior who attacked one of his ancestors in a battle.



During WWII, Gordon befriended several German families (with children) who were starving. He collected left-overs from his company mess tent, bread and recycled coffee grounds made for lasting friendships with the villagers. Fifty seven years later a German magazine featured a story about the young American soldier known simply as "Der Shorty." Gordon was not only a soldier but, something of an Ambassador of Good Will too. He was so much more than a great UFO investigator with my small group. Gordon Myers was, and always will be a national treasure, even though his name may never appear in a history book.

Matt Graeber  
November 29, 2008

*Editor:* It is good to remember that ufologists live a life outside of ufology and sometimes do great things. Matt, thanks for memorializing your friend and reminding us of what we are and can be.

Email From: [tuforc@cox.net](mailto:tuforc@cox.net)  
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2008 2:55 PM  
To: Jones, William E (Columbus)  
Subject: New UFO Reporting Website

We are pleased to announce the creation of a new UFO reporting website, the Truckers UFO Reporting Center. Thousands of semi trucks and their drivers crisscross America's roads and highways day and night. With so many pairs of eyes constantly observing their surroundings we feel it's highly likely that some of these people have had UFO sightings. This site is dedicated to collecting UFO sighting reports and information from this unique and hard working group of people. The online sighting report form can be found here: [www.tuforc.com](http://www.tuforc.com) . All personal information will be held in strictest confidence.

David W Andrew, TUFORC Director,  
[tuforc@cox.net](mailto:tuforc@cox.net)

*Editor:* That is a concept that I wish I had thought of, especially since my step-daughter is a long haul truck driver.

Email from Richard Seifried, past MUFON State Director for the State of Ohio. He received this from a friend.

Opportunities like this comes only once in a lifetime.

In addition to communicating with the local air traffic control facility, aircraft are required to give the Iranian Air Defense Radar (military) a ten minute "heads up" that they will be transiting Iranian airspace. This is a common procedure for commercial aircraft and involves giving them your call sign, transponder code, type aircraft, and points of origin and destination.

I just flew with a guy who overheard this conversation on the emergency frequency 121.5 MHz while flying from Europe to Dubai. It's too good not to pass along. The conversation went something like this:

Air Defense Radar: "Unknown aircraft at (location unknown), you are in Iranian airspace. Identify yourself."

Aircraft: "This is a United States aircraft. And I am in Iraqi -not Iranian - airspace."

Air Defense Radar: "You are in Iranian airspace . If you do not depart our airspace we will launch interceptor aircraft!"

Aircraft: "This is a United States Marine FA-18 fighter jet send 'em up!"

Air Defense Radar: (No response. Total silence.)

*Editor:* That did not involved UFOs and whether or not this message is true, it was good for a laugh. We need that sometimes. See my editorial.

## Editorial

By William E. Jones

In my wrap-up editorial for 2007 I noted that MUFON of Ohio had a tough year, having lost several good long-term MUFON and MUFON of Ohio members. Well, as tough as that year was, 2008 was even tougher.

This year we have lost quite a number of people, some just to MUFON, others to both MUFON and MUFON of Ohio. Here is the record as I have it:

Delbert Anderson, MUFON State Section Director (SSD) for Ross, Pike and Hocking counties, has retired from MUFON as an SSD and is unavailable for CMS investigative activities. "Burn out" on the subject of UFOs is the understood reason.

Phyllis Budinger, SSD for Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties, has decided to retire from CMS type investigations, wanting to focus on her efforts at laboratory analyses of ground trace cases and other events using her professional chemical analytical laboratory.

Angie Hamilton, SSD for Wayne and Holmes counties, has resigned from that position in MUFON due to heavy professional commitments. She is now unavailable for CMS investigative activities.

Pete Hartinger, SSD for Pickaway County, has retired as a MUFON SSD, wanting to put more time into his own local group the Roundtown UFO Society. He will stay in MUFON and MUFON of Ohio but is unavailable for regular CMS investigative activities. He may support important UFO case investigations from his area as a consultant working under a certified MUFON Field Investigator.

Richard Lee, SSD for Summit and Portage counties, has retired from MUFON due to "burn

out" on the subject of UFOs. He is now unavailable for CMS investigative activities.

Forrest Rupp, SSD for Trumbull County, has resigned from MUFON without saying why. Forrest had completed investigating more than 20 CMS cases for MUFON. The fact that all but one or two were from witnesses who couldn't be found, wouldn't respond to his inquiries, or when contacted had nothing further to say may have had something to do with his decision, although we do not know that for sure. He is now unavailable for CMS investigative activities.

Scott Santa, SSD for Medina County, has resigned from MUFON due to serious concerns with the way MUFON is going. He is now unavailable for CMS investigative activities.

Roger Sugden of Indiana MUFON was helping us in the following Ohio counties: Williams, Defiance, Paulding, and Van Wert. He reportedly had a falling out with Indiana MUFON and dropped out of MUFON activities. Whatever happened, he is unavailable to us anymore.

Doug Williams, an SSD and our Assistant State Director, resigned from MUFON due to serious concerns with the way MUFON is going and their lack of response to his efforts and suggestions. He is now unavailable for CMS investigative activities. He will continue his membership in MUFON of Ohio.

Alan Zerla, SSD for Carroll, Jefferson and Harrison counties, is on indefinite leave. He is unavailable for CMS investigative activities.

We want to thank all of these people for what they did for MUFON and MUFON of Ohio during their UFO "careers." You will be missed, certainly by this editor.

The active and certified field investigators and/or SSDs for Ohio are Cathy Richards, Connie McNichols, Robert Diehm, Cassandra Klesch, Mary Lynne Zahler, and Terry Hamilton. Also assisting us with other activities are Phyllis



Budinger, Pete Hartinger, Rick Hilberg and Paul Althouse. Specific county assignments and positions are open at this time for everyone except Mary Lynn who is responsible for Stark County.

Danielle Baker of Indiana who has covered Mercer and Darke counties for us here in Ohio has joined MUFON of Ohio and has requested to be an Assistant State Director for Ohio. Having someone from out-of-state fill such a position is being explored with MUFON. She lives close to the Ohio border, so this seemingly could work. I am for it. We shall see how MUFON and MUFON of Indiana respond. We need all of the help that we can get.

This reduction of personnel is cause for concern. It is obvious that we cannot thoroughly cover all of the CMS cases that we receive from all over Ohio, and thus we will not be fulfilling our expected obligations to MUFON.

### Neon-Like Lights Seen On Unusual Object By Connie McNichols, MUFON FI

The witness was taking a drive around 9:40PM on February 17, 2008. He was out in the rural countryside near Loveland, Ohio in Warren County off State Route 48 on Butterworth Road when his car started to die then it lost all power. He got out of the car to check under its hood and heard rustling in a nearby corn field. He then felt a strong gust of wind, and as he looked to the corn field to the north east he saw a "massive dull light" rising up out of the field. It then was seen to be an object, "faded black" in color. My clothes moved because of the wind "rushing from this thing." It was about 10'-15' across and approximately 10' high. As it was rising up he could see many smaller round lights in front (see his drawing) It hovered for a moment, then flew to almost be directly over his head about 15' away.

He could hear a soft humming sound and nothing more. He states that on the object's underside that he observed was made up of "neon tubes like

fiber optics cable" that glowed softly from white to yellow to orange then red. Its outer surface seemed a deep blue color that shimmered like water. The sides of the craft appeared to have louvers across it horizontally. It hovered again for a few minutes.

The witness stated that the object then slowly tilted at an angle and the humming stopped. It rose upward slowly and shot off like a dart, turning completely red. It was going due east. It then stopped again, shot straight down, stopped again, made a zing-zag patterns, stopped, flew eastward, made a series of loop-de-loop maneuvers, stopped again, then it darted off out of sight in a blink of an eye still going east. The witness stated he then got back in his car and started it. He drove home. The event lasted about 20 minutes.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR (FI) COMMENTS: I talked with this witness in a face to face interview for over 2 ½ hours. MUFON FI Cathy Richards was with me. In this interview Terry stated that his "friend" and accompanying witness was with him that night and was so afraid that she stayed inside the car and was "freaking out" The witness has tried to contact her since but they have lost touch after this incident and no one seems to know where she has gone. I tried a Google search and many other people search sites and did not find anyone with her name

The reporting witness has a 13 year military background (Army). I tried but could not confirm this. He seemed to be a believable person, and is calm and articulate. He is very sincere about what he saw, and felt a strong desire to tell someone about it.

Considering the reported effects on his car, the distance of the object from the witness, and the maneuvers and speed of the object (with only a soft humming sound) all leads me to believe that this object could not have been man-made or a natural phenomenon. There were no other reports of this object from the area.

The witness commented in his report that, "This has put most of my skeptical ideas out the window. I cannot explain it. I carry a camcorder and a camera with me now at all times just in case something like this happens again. I am still dumbfounded, yet I feel a sense of awe and a serious sense of underachievement as [sic] mankind. I was never sacred...more like shocked at what I was witnessing. It truly was a spectacular moment in my life and I don't care if people believe me or not...but someone needs to know."

Other factors: According to the witness, the skies were clear, the wind was from the east at 8 mph, and the temperature was 45 degrees Fahrenheit. He heard no natural sounds, which he thought was "odd.". During the event he felt a tingling sensation and his "hairs stood on end." The witness was born in July 27, 1971. He has a BS in Chemistry. This report is from MUFON Case 10852.

### Some 1979 Northern Ohio Reports by Rick Hilberg

On July 4th at about 10:30 p.m. four persons who were watching a neighborhood fireworks display on Bancroft Road in Cleveland observed a star-like object moving at an apparent rate of speed that was faster than a normal aircraft.

The object was first noticed in the southwest portion of the sky at an elevation of from 70 to 90 degrees. The UFO was moving swiftly toward the northeast, where it was lost from view after about one minute.

One of the witnesses, who observed the object through a pair of binoculars, stated that the object was delta-shaped and metallic gold in color with a red "beacon" light in the center.

The witnesses further stated that through the binoculars the light was so bright that they had to put down the instrument, as their eyes began hurting.

At 9:00 p.m. on July 24th four persons in the South Euclid area reported seeing a large round object, flat on the bottom with some sort of dome on top, traveling from west to south.

The witnesses described the object as being dull silver in color on the bottom, and seemingly spinning or wobbling as it slowly moved over their area.

The UFO was in sight from five to ten minutes, and seemed to be slowly gaining altitude until it finally disappeared from sight.

A police officer from the Cleveland suburb of University Heights was driving eastbound on Euclid Avenue in a business section of Willoughby after getting off duty for the day. At 1:05 a.m. on October 30th, there was very little traffic on the street, allowing the witness to expect a quiet and uneventful drive to his destination.

Suddenly, the placid drive was interrupted by the sight of a large unlighted hemispherical object directly above and in front of his car. The object seemed to be illuminated by the reflected light from the car's headlights as well as from the street lights on the roadway, and looked to be a dull gray in color. The witness was sure that the UFO was definitely solid and not any sort of atmospheric phenomenon or reflection.

Since the object was also traveling toward the east, the witness increased his speed to attempt to keep pace with it. He estimated that it was flying at a speed of 60 miles per hour, and that it was keeping a stable altitude.

After keeping pace for somewhat less than one minute, the witness was fast approaching a freeway intersection that had some amount of traffic, so he was forced to slow his car to a safer speed.

It was at this time that he lost sight of the object due to his slower speed and the fact that the intersection was brightly illuminated, and seemed to "blot out" the object. All in all the witness said



that he was quite shaken by his experience, and had never seen anything like it before.

A family of three was driving home after a visit with relatives in a southwestern Cleveland suburb at about 12:50 AM on December 9th and was northbound on I-71 just inside the city limits. The wife was sitting in the passenger seat looking up at the many stars visible, and also making note of several airplanes that were flying in the vicinity of Cleveland Hopkins Airport, several miles to the south.

One light in particular caught her attention, as it appeared to be flying much slower than any normal aircraft she had ever seen, and also because it was flying in a north to south direction, which does not correspond to any Cleveland airport glide path.

At this time she alerted her husband and daughter to the unusual object, and the husband drove the car off the freeway onto the Bellaire Road exit, and slowed his speed to have a better look.

At this point the object was almost directly overhead and appeared to them all to be a long cigar-shaped thing with very short stubby "wings" on it. They all agreed that there were no running lights that normal aircraft carry, but they did see a band of "window lights" on the object's side. The witnesses were sure that they saw no sign of any tail assembly on what they took to be the back of the object, but did make note of a "dark band" on the body of the object where the tail would have been on a conventional aircraft. Since the object was at a very low altitude, it was illuminated by the many ground lights from the freeway and city street lights in the area, so all three are certain of their descriptions of the strange object. No sound was heard at any time.

After watching for several minutes, the wife became uneasy and asked the husband to leave the area and drive directly home.

All of the above reports were called into the UFO hotline that I maintained for the now defunct

Northern Ohio UFO Group, and were investigated by myself with help from the late Allan Manak as well as several other members of the group.

### **Wednesday, September 17, 2008, Triangle Sighted Over Columbus**

At approximately 11:05 PM a witness living on Cherry Orchard Lane off Morse Road in northeastern Columbus reported sighting a triangular shaped object from his balcony traveling southwest over his condominium. It had approximately 20 white lights on the bottom and along the edges. They did not blink. No colored lights were noted. No sound was heard.

A nickel at arms length would have covered the object when it was first seen. The witness got his binoculars (7 x 35) during the minute and a half sighting but no further details could be noted. He could see the dark shape of the object so the lights did not define the object for him.

The witness called the Columbus Police Department and Port Columbus International Airport, which is south of where he sighted the object. The parties that he talked to were stated that no reports of this object had been made to them.

### **The Four Corners Conference Harper Community College, Palatine, IL May 29 – 31, 2009**

Sam Maranto, MUFON's State Director for Illinois, has announced that Illinois MUFON is putting on a UFO conference in May that will include as speakers Dr. Mark Rodeghier of CUFOs, Don Schmitt, Mr. Maranto himself, Stanton Friedman, Richard Dolan, and others yet to be announced.

The conference will be held at the beautiful Majestic Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena, IL.

The event will include a golf tournament, a fishing tournament, and other events.

MUFON of Ohio strongly urges you to consider attending this event. The reservation price for non-Illinois members is \$30.00.

If you are interested in attending this conference contact Mr. Maranto at 708-460-7606 or via email at [mufonsam@comcast.net](mailto:mufonsam@comcast.net).

**Sighting Occurred: 1/10/2009 02:05**  
**Location: Middletown, OH; Shape:**  
**Triangle; Duration: 20 Minutes**

By National UFO Reporting Center,  
<http://www.nuforc.org/>

At 2am I went to let my dogs out, and saw/heard nothing unusual. I returned to my upstairs bedroom on the front side of our house, and resumed watching television. I had my bedside window opened approximately 6, though my shades covered the gap.

At 2:05 exactly, my (almost 15 year old) daughter and her friend were in a nearby bedroom talking. Her bedroom faces the rear of our home. The girls remarked that there must be a storm coming, as there were flashes visible in the upper edges of the windows, and appeared to emanate from the clouds/fog over the house. They then realized that the flashes were stationary and occurred in fixed intervals.

As the girls looked more closely out the window, they were looking upward. They noticed that a large dark shape was moving over our 2 story home toward our backyard (west to east). The dark shape then dipped downward as it moved over the crest of our home toward our backyard (eastward), and was visible below the cloud/fog level, approximately 30 feet off the ground. As it moved slowly away, it became clear that it was triangular in shape, and had 3 lights along the back, flashing blue, red and green in varying patterns. The object emitted a low, pulsing hum noise that was audible from the girl's window. There were no loud or airplane/jet noises. I can only surmise that between my TV and my husband's snoring, I was unable to hear the very low noise.

Behind our home is an open field that is used for farming. There is an old barn within ~200 feet of our home that sits in the southwest corner of the open field. As the object moved away from our property, it reached the area of the barn and hovered briefly. It then slowly moved away toward the northeast, and suddenly disappeared. It appeared to the girls that the object was approximately the width of 2 houses in size.

At 2:08am, near the far-east edge of the field, 2 similar objects suddenly "winked on" and moved around one another for a brief period. They appeared to be the same types of objects as the one that moved over our home. Just as suddenly as they appeared, they seemed to "wink off" and disappear.

At 2:10am, a new set of flashes were visible over the house, and they were similar in nature to the first set. As the girls watched, a much larger, and louder (humming) object moved over the crest of our home, following the same path that the first one did. This one appeared identical in every way, with the exception that it was so large that as it dipped over our home, the edges were not immediately visible. It had to move beyond the barn for the entire object to be seen. It was easily double or more the size of the first object. As it moved west to east, it slowed over the field, and then slowly seemed to rotate over a fixed area, and remained there for approximately 3-5 minutes. It was possible to see strobe lights on all 3 corners of the object, but the 3 lights in color were only visible on the "back" edge of the object. As the object sat in place, the 2 objects that had been sighted at 2:08 suddenly lit back up and began to move around, as if in response to the larger object close to our home. This continued for the last couple of minutes that the large object hovered.

With no warning, all three objects just disappeared. It looked as though the smaller objects streaked away to the left and right of the large one, and that the large object lifted straight up, out of sight.

I have repeatedly asked questions of my daughter in different ways to verify details (and to a lesser extent her friend - she had to leave), and the story has remained consistent. The two girls described their thoughts and feeling as though they were transfixed and unable to do anything but watch. They debated whether to wake myself or my husband but were concerned that they may not be believed.

