



Georgia Sky Watch

Number 18

MUFON of Georgia news and research

Spring 2001

State Director's Message

The year 2001 is proceeding nicely for MUFON of Georgia, much as 2000 did. I wish to tip my hat to the personnel that made last year such a success in the investigative area, we really did well, as indicated by the brief case recaps in the last GSW. For those not on-line to receive our *MUFONGA Updates*, the MUFON Journal recapped the recent January 3, 2001 occurrence in Fayetteville.

As you will see in this issue, we have concluded our new Table of Organization by the appointment of new State Section Directors, and the creation of several state headquarters Deputy Director positions. I hope to implement additional state sections as the qualified and experienced personnel become available.

You will also see information about our Saturday March 31, 2001 Dinner Forum. Please note that this should be a real 'barn burner' due to the appearance of our former SD John Thompson of LaGrange. John agreed to briefly set aside his 'semi-retirement' in order to speak to our group regarding his many case experiences and resulting theories. This is a boon for our newer personnel, as they have only heard us talk indirectly about the good old, bad old days down on the state line in the Troup-Heard UFO Corridor. This may be the best meeting we hold in 2001, so I recommend that if you can make it, please do so. Bring an open mind! John will orient his presentation in a way that our FITs will get valuable insight into the various approaches to case investigation, i.e. a lite training session. Due to some of the controversial theories that may be discussed therein, this meeting is open to only MUFON/ISUR and family, public safety

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What to Carry?

by Mary Dee Janssen, SSD, FI

Whether you are a new member or a veteran of many investigations, you may have wondered if you have everything you need to do a proper investigation. Each investigator should inventory his/her field bag at least once a year but if possible you should inventory after each investigation. But what do you carry and how important is it? Items carried can be broken down into three categories: must have items, useful to have items, and dream of having items.

The must have items will help you get the background information, handwritten report, and gather any physical evidence of the sighting. Two

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Calendar of Events



- March 31, 2001 MUFON of Georgia informal meeting. See page 8 for details.
- March 31-April 1, 2001.. 12th UFO/ET Alien & Abduction Congress, Days Inn, Route 206 & NJTP Exit 7, Bordertown, NJ
- April 6-8, 2001 13th Annual Ozark UFO Conference
www.ozarkufo.iwarp.com
(501) 354-2558
- July 20-22, 2001 MUFON 2001 International UFO Symposium, Irvine, California

The *Georgia Sky Watch* newsletter is an open forum for the exchange of ideas and information concerning UFOs and related phenomena. Opinions expressed by contributing writers are those of the particular author and do not necessarily reflect the views of MUFON of Georgia, *Georgia Sky Watch*, its editors or publishers.

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Your articles, letters, comments and criticisms for the *Georgia Sky Watch* newsletter are greatly appreciated.

State Director's Message -- *Continued from page 1*

officers, and close supporters of the Georgia UFO community. **ABSOLUTELY NO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE ALLOWED.** (See full meeting information and driving directions in other pages of this GSW).

If you have not already gotten the word, **we will not be sponsoring the 2002 MUFON Symposium in our area.** MUFONGA inherited this project from the mid-90's when the SD (the SD previous to John Thompson's tenure) agreed to host this event in 2002, then bailed out of MUFON. Walt Andrus began asking me about our plans and making suggestions about a year or more ago. Last fall I met with numerous sales reps at various hotels until I zeroed in on several facilities that might be suitable. Meanwhile we were putting together a list of possible speakers and presenters and proceeding with other organizational stages. Proposals were received from the most suitable hotels, the Westin in College Park being the best bet for what we had to do. Shortly thereafter, it was found that the MUFON HQs budget had been depleted by massive moving expenses to the point that the required security deposit and other pre-2002 planning expenses could not be supported. Our state chapter has no operating budget, so the situation required canceling the 2002 event for the Atlanta area. The other hotel proposals were about the same as Westin's and the lower end

hotels had insufficient meeting space, thus John Schuessler decided to search out an area of the country with less expensive facilities. Such is life in a 'not for profit' grass roots organization....but MUFON HQs WILL adapt and overcome in this temporary setback.

Presently we are looking at a public meeting in Blue Ridge Georgia. Jim Clifford, our DD for Georgia Investigations, and FIT Carl Pruett are examining these possibilities due to both maintaining mountain cabins in that area. Further info will be provided as it develops.

Hope to see everyone on Saturday March 31, 2001.

Semper Fi!

Tom Sheets, FSA Scot, SD MUFONGA, ISUR Board

MUFONGA Updates and e-mail addresses

If you have not been receiving the Updates I send out (3 thus far in 2001), it must be because your e-mail address has changed or you might not have advised me you are on-line with e-mail. There are a couple of you out there that gave me your e-mail address in the past and I either copied it down wrong or there is a gremlin somewhere in my office.

If you have not received the first three 2001 Updates, please send me an e-mail message to:

mufonga@webtv.net

That will insure that I have your information correct.

What to Carry? -- Continued from page 1

of the most important items to carry are MUFON Identification Card and your MUFON Investigators Manual. By showing the card, the tone of the interview is set. The witness will know that you are a professional and that you are taking the interview seriously. By having your MUFON manual, you can reference any information needed. You can also reference the manual on page 39 to see the recommended items for your investigators bag. As for the bag, you can use anything that would easily contain the items and be transported to the investigation site. The must have items for getting a handwritten account and drawings by a witness are: Paper (plain and lined), pens (always carry plenty), sharpened pencils (lead and colored), erasers, markers, ruler and a clipboard or a three ring notebook. With a stapler, paper clips, file folders or large envelopes, you can put the items together without losing any valuable information. For the background information (i.e. direction of the

sighting), you will need a compass, star finder, tape measure, Farmers Almanac, and a camera (disposable cameras work very well). To gather physical evidence or measure distances, you will need magnifying glass, string, tweezers, tape measure, knife, plastic bags (although it is preferred to have sterilized glass containers with a resealable top) and disposable polyethylene gloves. Two more useful must have items are area maps and a flashlight with batteries. As you can see by having these items, you save yourself embarrassment and an extra trip.

The gathering of evidence, determining the background information, and writing the report could be further enhanced by having some helpful unnecessary items. Rubber bands, Q-tips, tape, glue sticks, white out, post-it notes, scissors and a calculator are a few office supplies that might come in handy. Use a tape recorder to record the verbal account of the interview, this is very helpful when you are a slow note taker. Don't forget the blank tapes and batteries. It would be even better if you could video tape your interview. Again remember the batteries and extra tapes. Binoculars, flash for the camera, arc indicator, color charts, elevation indicator could be helpful in gathering background or report information. To gather physical evidence, you could use tent stakes, small diameter rope, garden trowel, shovel, small brush, 100' steel tape, chalk lines, and Plaster of Paris to mark off an area to search and gather any evidence. Since you never know where you will end up, you might want to carry a first aid kit, any medications for allergies, insect repellent and a disposable rain coat. And for any emergencies, a small toolkit is always handy to keep in your vehicle.

Visit the MUFON of Georgia website at:

www.geocities.com/mufonga/

Investigated Georgia UFO cases can be found at:

<http://www.isur.com>

as well as links to many MUFON sites

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When I studied the list in the MUFON Investigator's Manual, I dreamed of owning the optional equipment, but I am not sure how I would use some of it. A laptop computer is not mentioned on the list, but I could see how it could be used during an interview with the new computer forms. The topographical maps and aerial maps are hard to find and may not cover the areas you need. A tripod for your camera or binoculars is probably the easiest item to get on this list, and is very handy during a night watch of the skies. The camera light meter and the camera with diffraction grating may be outdated because of today's digital cameras. Digital cameras make it easier to transfer photos to the computer and the Internet. Police scanners, if legal, are a good source for leads, but can be time consuming by having to stay close by to listen. Now with the next few items, I don't know if it would be worth the expense: Geiger Counter, Pocket Spectroscope (I do know where to order a student version of this one), and a Scintillation Spectrometer. This next item almost sounds like a joke, Magnetometer UFO Radiometer. If anyone knows how to get one, please let me know. Like I said, these items could be really useful tools to have, but you should consider the cost versus usage.

Well, you now know what is in my investigator's bag with the exception of video camera and dream list items. I don't carry my bag with me all the time, but I do have it together so I could easily pick up and go. I also carry the heavy items to gather evidence with (shovel, tent stakes, etc.) separately, so I won't break my back from the weight of it all. Look over your bag, make sure nothing has dried up or has been used up. Update your equipment whenever possible. One other quick note; remember to remove batteries from your equipment and store them separately. If batteries are left in equipment for long periods of time they can cause damage.



Visit the NEW MUFON HQ web page at:
<http://www.mufon.com>

MUFON of Georgia Reorganization

As indicated in the summer 2000 edition of the GSW bulletin, the 2001 MUFONGA reorganization is now effective as of February 1, 2001.

1. All persons holding State Section Director positions that were appointed prior to 1998 are relieved of said SSD duties and positions (Sheets, Clifford, Emmel, O'Brien).
2. The members named below are hereby appointed to State Section Director positions and will be the ONLY persons holding SSD positions until later appointments are made:

State Section=AOR=Area of Responsibility

FI Michael D. Hitt - AOR will be N. Fulton, Cobb, and Cherokee counties

FI David Brown - AOR will be N. Gwinnett, Forsyth, and Hall counties

FI Olivia Newton - AOR will be S. Gwinnett, Dekalb, and Walton counties

FI Mary Dee Janssen - AOR will be Floyd, Polk and Bartow counties

Senior FITs in other areas now in the process of completing their studies toward the certification exam or in the actual process of examination may be appointed to SSD positions upon achievement and evaluation of their recent activities.

Note: The AOR of each SSD is mostly for (but not limited to) personnel and administrative matters. Each SSD and FI will have authorization to investigate anywhere in the state that their case or information leads them. When going into another SSD's AOR, a courtesy call should be made to advise the member of same and allow them to assist if they so desire. It is vital that the SD also be made aware of such progress in these cases.

3. The following MUFONGA HQs T.O. is also now in effect:

State Director - FI Tom Sheets

Assistant State Director - FI Mark Ausmus

The following 'Deputy' positions are appointed. For purposes of supervision and guidance to the main body of MUFON of Georgia, these positions will fall just below and subordinate to the Assistant State Director, but will remain equal within their own classification.

Deputy Director of Georgia Investigations- FI Jim Clifford

Deputy Director of south Georgia- FI John Bodin Sr.

Deputy Director of Science, Georgia- FI Ralph Howard Jr.

Additional appointments of deputies may be made if the membership and chapter operations expand in the areas currently holding only 'thin' membership i.e. coastal Georgia, east central Georgia etc.

4. This additional appointment is also effective as of February 1, 2001

Project Manager for MUFONGA History and Special Research- SSD/FI Michael D. Hitt

Tom Sheets, SD MUFON of Georgia



Congratulations

to

John Bodin, Sr.

of Wray, Georgia

for having passed the MUFON Field Investigator's exam.

Cylinder Object Seen Hovering in Gwinnett

From the SD On-Line Update

Peter Davenport at NUFORC referred a witness to us today regarding an older report. While stale, it does fit in with other events on the east/NE side of the Metro area for that general time frame; The witness is a 34YOA medical professional and his wife who currently reside in Henry County Georgia. During the late spring of 1999 between 1:00-2:00PM (date unknown) , they were proceeding SE on Ronald Reagan Pkwy in Gwinnett County. The weather was clear, warm and CAVU. The couple noticed a cylinder shaped object hovering about 30-40 feet above the treetops to the east, estimated about 1/4 miles away.

Object was hovering vertically on end, the lower 3/4 being distinct black and the upper part appearing metallic. Witness indicated that the ends appeared blunt shaped from their angle of observation, and it is estimated that the object was about thumb + 1/4 or 1/2 inch AAL. No sound or other effects were noticed. Witness' wife had the impression that it was rotating. After turning around and looking more closely, the object was gone. Event duration about 20 seconds (witness indicated that this WAS NOT a balloon or blimp or similar). The witnesses will be completing a sketch and personal account for later possible use with WUFOD. Initial conversation with this witness found him to be an intelligent and articulate medical professional with a Bachelor of Science degree and years of service to our country in the Army Medical Corps. Please note that not exact, but similar objects have been reported in recent years in the vicinity of nearby Peachtree-Dekalb Airport and the Stone Mountain Freeway, professional educators observing both of those events. Recall also the EXTREMELY BIZARRE small cylinders on Hwy 400 in 1998, another medical professional witnessing that event. (See ISUR and WUFOD data bases).



Large Slab-Like Triangle, "Weathered Gray" Color Spotted Near Heard County Line

by John C. Thompson

I received a call from a former Navy mine countermeasures software specialist. He reported that unusual military helicopter activity has been ongoing in Randolph County, Alabama. To him the helicopters seemed to be searching for something and flew so low as to cause cattle and horses to scatter in fear. Above average helicopter activity has also been confirmed in neighboring Troup and Heard counties in west-central Georgia.

On Monday January 29th, just after dawn, the Randolph witness said he saw a large triangle flying towards Heard County. The slab-like triangle was of "weathered gray" color on its sides, with its back being of a darker color and possibly concave. Its thickness or height was approximately a quarter of its total length. The software specialist said that the best way to picture what the triangle craft looked like was to imagine taking the pyramid on the back of a dollar bill and slicing a thick lateral wedge from that pyramid. It had non-blinking red, yellow and blue lights on its back. The bottom of the craft, the witness said, was not seen.

Initially the unknown craft was seen near Randolph County High School on Hwy. 48 in Wedowee. Because of the craft's low altitude--less than a 1000 feet--and close proximity to the high school the witness was able to estimate the sides of the craft of being 150 feet long and its thickness, or height, 30-40 feet. The triangle was seen for five minutes and moved at a speed of only 50-60 miles-per-hour. It was last seen traveling slowly eastward over Omaha towards the Heard County line. No noise was heard by the witness but he was in his vehicle and had his windows up. No wings, protruding structures or engines were seen on the triangle UFO. The witness's

description seems to indicate the same kind of craft that was seen on January 5, 2000 in St. Clair County, Illinois by many law-enforcement officers. It is thought by many that the Illinois UFO was a stealth blimp of some kind. I think this is entirely possible and what the Randolph County craft was.

Calls were made to 911 centers in Randolph and Heard counties. No reports of others seeing this unknown craft were found. Inquiries made with local gossip spots and people this investigator knows in western Heard County did not turn up other sightings.

There was a low ceiling on the early morning of Jan. 29th but no precipitation or strong wind. Temperature was in the 30s. A woman in northwest Troup County, not far from the Alabama line, around the end of January said that a military helicopter buzzed her car. After flashing the headlights of her car on three extremely low-flying helicopters who were flying in front of her, one of the choppers circled back and dove at her car twice.



Weird Georgia

A new book, *Weird Georgia*, by Jim Miles hit the shelves at the end of last year. I recently obtained a copy but have only scanned it. Parts seems to draw heavily on the information located at the www.isur.com web-site, from the GSW and the MUFON SD On-Line Updates. Miles begins Chapter 9 of his book by introducing John Thompson and much of his work in the THC. When I inquired with John, he said that he did not recall ever talking with Miles. Hmmmm... Seems that none of the rest of the investigators I know, whose cases he used, have talked with him either. My first impression of the book came from the first page of the Acknowledgments where he states that Frank Lorenzo (CEO of Continental Airlines) founded APRO (don't believe it for a second - try Coral & Jim Lorenzen), and he also misspells Harold T. Wilkins' name, although he claims his childhood interests were 'fueled' by these great ufologists. He also calls Frank Edwards books, "less respectable"! All this within the first 3 paragraphs! Where is the due-diligence for accuracy? Caveat Emptor!!

Those Mysterious Chemtrails - What Do They Mean?

By David M. Brown, SSD, FI

Day after day, while at work or just stepping outside into the front yard, I always take the time to look skyward - to see what changes are in store for the human race. When there is a clear blue sky over our wonderful state of Georgia, a day does not go by when there appears numerous streaks of white consisting who knows what. For some time now, researchers, especially those of the paranormal, have tended to believe that these trails of white, which are being laid out by mysterious flying aircraft that have a tendency to disappear at the end of these streaks, are not regular vapor trails, but *chemtrails*, trails of chemicals sprayed onto the populace filled with sinister unknowns. I personally have noticed that when the sky is filled with these chemtrails, that two days later, if not the next day, our weather seems to change, mostly in the form of rain or possibly snow.

For decades now, scientists have been spraying clouds over drought stricken areas with chemicals in the hope of producing rain to relieve the drought conditions. However, it was discovered that when as this was being done, the weather could at times turn extremely dangerous, producing tornadoes and heavy thunderstorms, causing more damage than good. The act of spraying of chemicals to produce weather outcomes may still be continuing, but from my research in this area, I believe that this process has stopped all together.

Recently, I have been in e-mail contact with a witness who states that he happened to see two small, yet very distinguishable craft (UFOs) at the end of some chemtrails. He was unable to identify them and believes as I do that the chemtrails and the phenomenon are intertwined in some way.

All across the country, we have been hearing and seeing reports of chemtrails. One of the most important questions about chemtrails is, do they actually have an effect on our health? It has been reported that wherever and whenever these chemtrails appear, the cases of respiratory infections increase. Georgia has the largest number of cases of reported respiratory infections in the country. Could this due to the high number of chemtrail sightings? The United States Air Force will not give us the answer that we want to hear. All they can say is, these contrails are harmless.

Is it possible that the chemtrails have a connection with a visiting alien race? For some time now, we have been seeing reports and hearing about cases of disappearing aircraft at the ends of these chemtrails. We are also hearing that there are unusual craft appearing at the ends as well as in the chemtrails. My thinking is that these craft can be like the "foo fighter" (mysterious lights that followed both allied and axis aircraft during WWII). It has also been theorized that the government may be spraying a sort of alien vaccine in our atmosphere so that they can survive and finally make contact with us. Only time will tell.

Another theory behind the chemtrails is that they are a sort of "crop circle" in the sky. If we look closely enough at the patterns that these chemtrails make, sometimes they do have a hidden message in them. Sometimes we can see a sort of tic-tac-toe as well as a perfect X.

I have had the incredible opportunity during my working hours, to videotape and photograph chemtrails. At any given time, I can count over twenty of them. That is a great deal of aircraft flying unusual patterns in our skies at one time. The air traffic controllers must have a great time attempting to keep track of all of these aircraft.

I hope that someday the government would be kind enough to come forward and explain whatever it is that they, or the aliens, are spraying in our skies. But as with the UFO cover-up, I am quite sure; we will never get an appropriate answer until someone flies into one of these chemtrails and retrieves a sample.



MUFON OF GEORGIA A DINNER FORUM

Date: Saturday, March 31, 2001

Time: 3:00 PM

**Location: Newnan, Georgia
(I-85 @ Hwy 34)**

**Facility: Golden Coral Steak & Buffet
(Private Dining Room)**

Our next Dinner Forum will be held as described above. I know all of us have wanted to hear from John Thompson since he went into semi-retirement from Ufology several years ago. John has agreed to attend our meeting and speak about recent activity in the Troup-Heard UFO Corridor. This will also be a lite training session, as John will be emphasizing some of the 'tricks of the trade' for FIs/FITs as he describes some of the approaches he took in his many cases down on the state line. Those MUFONGA members new to our group have heard us speak fondly of John and now is your chance to hear from him at first hand.

He will probably cuff me a good one for saying this, but John is something of a legend in the southeast and in other parts due to his aggressive approach to his many cases. John received his degree at the University of Tennessee, honors in Geology, and has a background in petroleum and uranium exploration. He is also a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. There will probably be some controversial things discussed at this meeting (you know, insider's stuff) that anyone outside of Ufology just might not understand, so..... NO MEDIA WHATSOEVER WILL BE ALLOWED.

Only members of the Georgia UFO community (MUFONGA-ISUR), their family/significant other or friend, public safety officers, and those few who support our efforts are invited. (If you are not a member, but have received this Update, you are invited due to your past good support of our operations and goals).

I've placed a gratuity deposit on the private dining room, and the Corral manager was VERY receptive to our meeting and seemed like a top professional (he wanted the ISUR website address as he had been looking for UFO information in the recent past). This is a relatively new, very clean and well operated restaurant, and the food looked great. There is also a video player in the dining room, so I may have some brief UFO footage for the new members.

DIRECTIONS:

1. TAKE I-85 TO THE HIGHWAY 34 NEWNAN EXIT (HWY 34 IS ALSO KNOWN AS BULLSBORO DRIVE AS IT RUNS INTO NEWNAN PROPER FROM I-85).
2. FROM THE RAMP TURN WEST (RIGHT FROM THE NORTH, LEFT FROM THE SOUTH) AND GO (MORE OR LESS) A COUPLE OF BLOCKS.
3. YOU WILL SEE THE GOLDEN CORRAL AND SIGN ON THE LEFT SIDE OF HWY 34, THERE IS A LARGE TURNING AREA IN THE MEDIAN. RESTAURANT IS JUST OFF THE ROADWAY A LITTLE BIT, IN A NICE SHOPPING CENTER. 605 BULLSBORO DR. (HWY34).
4. IF NEEDED, THE RESTAURANT PHONE NUMBER IS 770-253-9992. VERY EASY TO FIND!