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# UFO POTPOURRI

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## Close encounters beam believers to out-of-this-world symposium

By ERIC FIDLER  
Associated Press

ROSEMONT, Ill. — Debbie Tomey's tale of being abducted by alien beings was greeted with understanding nods at an international symposium dedicated to unraveling the mysteries of unidentified flying objects.

Chitchat at the 22nd annual gathering of the Mutual UFO Network included discussions of a mysterious substance called "angel hair" left behind by UFOs, cattle that have been neatly cut open and drained of their fluids and of being whisked away and studied by alien beings.

Many of the 800 people at the gathering Saturday also browsed through an assortment of T-shirts, bumper stickers, tapes and books with titles including *Mystery of the Sky Men* and *Elvis UFO Connection*.

Tomey claimed the space aliens who took her said they were sorry they had to hurt her, then filled her

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Stanton Friedman, physicist

with a light that felt "like being hit with a bolt of lightning."

It was June 1983, and she had gone to see why the door of her parents' garage was open at their Indianapolis home.

"I started feeling really hot, like I was on fire," she said. "I tried to run, and that's when I lost my memory."

Tomey said she is not asking people to believe her.

"I'm just asking them to hear me," she said.

One who has heard her is John Carpenter, a psychiatric social

worker from Springfield, Mo., who said he has hypnotized about 40 people who recalled being abducted by aliens.

"I'm just amazed at all the similarities in their stories," he said. It indicates some people have encountered creatures and craft from space, he said.

Dyke Spear of Hartford, Conn., claimed to be within 200 feet of a spaceship the size of a Boeing 727 jet, just off the interstate near Brewster, N.Y., in 1984.

"When you see something like that, then you understand that it isn't all b.s.," he said.

Fear of ridicule, rather than disbelief, keeps most people who have seen UFOs from reporting it, according to Stanton Friedman, a physicist who lectures on the subject.

"Most people believe in UFOs, but most people believe that most people don't believe in UFOs," Friedman said.

Dear Editor,

UFOs? Seeing is Believing

Skeptical about UFOs? Do what I did, give it a try. On July 5, 1991 I went to a popular UFO watch location at the south end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge.

A friendly group of local residents were there and had already set up cameras. I learned later that the group included MUFON investigators equipped with defraction lens cameras and infra-red film.

I am visiting from Okeechobee, Florida and was welcomed openly but quickly told that even though the UFO has been spotted

over 50 times in the last six months, there was no guarantee.

At 9:10, a woman in the group called out, "There it is!" To the east a brilliant ruby red object appeared in the sky, out of thin air. I couldn't believe it. I was looking at a UFO. No sound, it hovered in the sky and after a minute or so, it suddenly just disappeared. Believe what you want, but seeing is believing and what I saw that night was a real UFO.

Henry Froehl  
Okeechobee, Florida

ENGLAND

6 May 1991

Missile Passed By Jetliner, Pilot Says

Aviation officials are checking an Italian pilot's report that a missile flew close to his McDonnell Douglas MD80 jetliner carrying 57 passengers over southern England two weeks ago, Britain's Civil Aviation Authority disclosed Saturday.

Alitalia Capt. Achille Zaghetti said a light brown, 10-foot-long missile had whizzed past his aircraft as he crossed the coast en route from London to Milan, Italy.

A British spokesman said that an investigation had so far failed to identify the mystery object.

Reuters

BY JOHN F. SCHUESSLER

P. O. BOX 58485

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77258-8485

# Locals, tourists report UFO sightings

The UFO "sky watches" have continued in Gulf Breeze. The curious and the skeptical routinely meet at the foot of the south end of the Bay Bridge, at the South Shoreline park pier and sometimes near Ft. Pickens. It is not unusual to see tourists at these friendly gatherings who have traveled here from around the world in the hope of seeing the famous Gulf Breeze UFO. On Friday, July 27, 1991 it was just such a case.

Overlooking Gulf Breeze from a clear vantage point near Ft. Pickens, a group of fourteen local residents and a Japanese tourist witnessed the often seen object. At the same time a doctor at his house and three other witnesses at Wayside Park also saw the red object hovering over the Bob Sykes Bridge. Here are a few first person reports from the witnesses:

*My name is Hajime Ichinose. I am from Japan and am 30 years old. I was working as computer programmer. I came to Gulf Breeze on vacation and am lucky enough to have made a lot of friends here. I myself have been interested in UFOs for a long time.*

*We were on the beach at Ft. Pickens National Park about 8:30 p.m. on Friday evening July 26th. Some of us enjoyed a chat while I enjoyed myself walking on the sands. It was about 9:15 p.m. and I saw a red light in the sky, which was in the direction of Bob Sykes Bridge. At first I thought that it was just an airplane, but the funny thing was that it did not move or make any noise. All of a sudden it flashed white, changing its colors. At that time I did not know what to do, but then I realized that I had a videocamera which allowed me to take a picture of it. It gave us its appearance for one and half minutes. All of us saw the light and some of us photographed it. I am so happy to be one of its witnesses.*

**Hajime Ichinose**  
*Friday night my wife and myself along with a group of friends were sitting on the beach just inside the Ft. Pickens National Seashore at approximately 9:15 p.m. I noticed a small light in the northeast sky. As it became brighter it began to change from white light to red and then fully red as it grew larger after about 45 seconds. It became very bright then continued to pulse for another 20 seconds before fading away.*

**Bland Pugh**  
*I was one of a dozen witnesses to a sighting of a very strange object in the Gulf Breeze skies, Friday night, July 27, 1991. While attending a beach gathering, just beyond the entrance to Fort Pickens, I saw a large red, round object hovering and pulsing over what I thought to be the Bob Sykes Bridge area. The object appeared at approximately 9:15 p.m. and after a few seconds it enlarged, became an all white brilliant circle, then turned red and faded after about a minute and a half.*

*One of my friends at the party, a retired Air Force officer said he had never seen anything like it.*

*My friends and I were waiting on the last guest to arrive, Ed Walters. He drove up a few minutes later, jumped out of his truck, yelling and running toward us, perspiring profusely and hollering, "the UFO was right over the bridge."*

*Before we had a chance to relate our sighting to him, he excitedly said he saw a black disc with red bottom and white lights, as he was driving over Bob Sykes Bridge to the beach. After hearing the details of his sighting, I realized that even though I saw it at a greater distance, the sighting time, location and colors were exactly as I had seen.*

*As a Mutual UFO Network investigator, I am seeking other witnesses. Please call the MUFON hot-line at 436-2700.*

**Vicki Lyons**

*On Friday, July 26, 1991, I was at a beach outing with 12 friends just inside Ft. Pickens. At approximately 9:15 p.m., a bright red light appeared over the north end of Bob Sykes Bridge. It pulsed several times, getting smaller then larger each time. After about one minute, it became bright white then slowly faded out. The entire sighting lasted approximately one and a half minutes.*

**Marsha Athey**

*The three of us decided to drive to Flounder's Restaurant on Pensacola Beach to have dinner. Upon finishing our meal we drove back toward Pensacola. Once in Gulf Breeze one of the group suggested we stop at the south end of the three mile bridge to see if a good friend of ours was with her group that frequents this spot to look for unidentified flying objects. Upon arriving none of the group was present, so we decided to just stop for a while and look. We were sitting on the car looking to the west toward the Naval Air Station. Nothing appeared out of the ordinary. At this time I turned around and looked back toward the east. And there it was! A large red light approximately 30 degrees above the horizon. I yelled "Look at this!" They both turned around. We observed this light for approximately ten seconds. It did not move or become brighter or dimmer. And then all at once it just disappeared. I have not seen anything like it before.*

**Wayne E. Walden**

## Fins report UFO in lake

HELSINKI, Finland — Finnish nuclear safety experts checked for traces of radiation today after two people reported seeing an unidentified flying object crash into a lake. Fire Chief Pentti Jurvanen in the town of Lohja, about 35 miles west of Helsinki, said a woman and her daughter saw the object drop into Saukonniemi Lake Monday.