

UFO POTPOURRI

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On 29 December 1980, Betty Cash, Vickie Landrum, and Colby Landrum were injured during a UFO close encounter near Huffman, Texas. During the incident, more than 20 military-type helicopters were seen by numerous witnesses, including the victims. During the extensive investigation of the case, government representatives stated for the legal record that none of their helicopters were at the scene of the incident. In addition, they stated that military helicopter bases were too far from the site for helicopters to get there due to the distance being beyond the helicopter's fuel range. Investigators found these statements to be untrue at the time. Now, once again, those same types of helicopters were in the Houston area and this time it is admitted in the following articles that the helicopters came all the way from Tennessee.

Hard landing by Army copter hurts 2

An Army Special Operations Command helicopter being used for urban military training "hard-landed" near Sugar Land Tuesday night, injuring the pilot.

Authorities said the helicopter landed about 7:15 p.m. near Flanigan Road, close to the intersection of U.S. 90A and Texas 6, just southwest of Sugar Land.

Police did not know what caused the accident, but an Army official said the aircraft had rolled over on its side after the hard landing.

Police said the pilot, 28, was flown by helicopter to Hermann Hospital, where he was listed in good condition Tuesday night.

Police reported that a second person was hurt, but that could not be confirmed Tuesday night.

The landing occurred on property owned by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, police said. The Sugar Land Municipal Airport is less than a mile north of Flanigan Road, but it was not known if the airport was being used to stage the training exercise. The maneuvers were canceled for the rest of the night, police said.

The military operations are scheduled to be conducted in the Houston area until Nov. 6.

Houston Police Chief Sam Nuchia

said in a press conference before the accident that the exercises began Monday, but his department had not notified citizens.

"This is a necessary Army practice," Nuchia said. "There's no danger to the public."

The forces will be practicing with helicopters, small arms fire and explosives in vacant buildings near downtown, the Houston Ship Channel and Sugar Land.

All of the test facilities are several blocks from residential areas, and police will block traffic into or near the sites during each exercise. Most are scheduled between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Rumors fly as Army copters buzz city

By **JOHN MAKEIG**
Houston Chronicle

If you've been getting buzzed by Army helicopters and hearing what sounds like gunfire at odd hours, it's because Houston represents a unique environment for certain types of aerial maneuvers.

More exactly, the 11 MH-60 Blackhawk and OH-6 helicopters working around the Houston Ship Channel, the downtown area and Sugar Land are using Houston as a "MOUT site."

That's the Army acronym for "Military Operations in Urban Terrain."

Attached to the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment at Fort Campbell, Ky., the helicopters are practicing maneuvers through Wednesday.

The exercise started this week with 12 copters, but one OH-6 more or less crashed during a "hard landing" Tuesday evening near U.S.

90A and Texas 6 on Texas Department of Criminal Justice property near Sugar Land. The copter ended up on its side, slightly injuring at least one person aboard.

As Army spokesman Walt Sokalski explains it, the places where Special Operations forces are used are not always accessible and easy to use. In fact, Special Operations forces get sent to places often difficult for man and machine.

Houston has a varied landscape — from skyscrapers to open spaces to the Ship Channel — and many challenges for helicopter warriors.

Forget the Army posting notices about exercises so people can bring their families to watch the action.

"It's like when the circus comes to town. Everybody wants to see the elephants," Sokalski said. "It creates a greater hazard if we have a lot of people trying to watch the training."

Consequently, the Army or local police try to alert people in the immediate vicinity of the training

two or three hours beforehand, but everybody else will hear hours later, if not the next day.

For instance, the current exercise started Monday, but the first public announcement came Tuesday — the same day the OH-6 took a tumble outside Sugar Land.

Doing things this way, unfortunately, has the side effect of generating rumors, and some people think the media are covering up for the culprits.

One caller to the Chronicle Wednesday demanded to know if there really are "3,000 soldiers shooting guns" around town.

Other callers suggested there was ample room to train around Fort Bragg, N.C., where, one woman insisted, the helicopters are based.

"Who invited them here?" a caller wanted to know.

Sokalski declined to say where the Army helicopters are staying during the exercises, but four CH-47s used Ellington Field as a base when they were in Houston earlier for practice.

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CLOSE ENCOUNTER KEPT SECRET FOR 31 YEARS

From: *SUNDAY NEWS & STAR*, Carlisle, England,
10 March 1996.

"A couple have spoken for the first time of their bizarre close encounter of a deserted Cumbrian roadside.

It was 3 a.m. on a storm-swept winter's night in 1965 as the couple - then in their 20s - drove along the A6 between Beetham and Milnthorpe in South Cumbria, explains UFO investigator David Sankey.

Deciding to pull in and wait for better weather, the couple parked up at the roadside.

"After a few seconds, they noticed what appeared to be a luminous red dome, its lower half obscured by a dry-stone wall," explains David, an official investigator for Quest International, a paranormal research organization.

"The couple thought the dome was about 25 yards away from their car. Then they noticed three small figures, all of them slightly luminous, standing in front of the wall, slowly making their way towards their vehicle."

"Two appeared to have their arms outstretched towards them, while the third had its arms at its side."

The couple described the creatures as having "turnip-shaped" heads, with round staring eyes.

As the creatures approached the car, the terrified couple panicked and drove off into the night.

Added David, "Neither of the couple have spoken of this to anybody before. I only found out because I am a friend of the family. One disturbing feature of this case is that the couple's son, who was a baby at the time of this incident, developed cancer while he was in his teens."

"Tests showed his body contained amounts of radium.

"Fortunately he survived, but the couple were obviously very upset by the whole experience. They have kept quiet simply because they were afraid of what people might think.

"I will now submit a report to Quest International's director of Investigations, but I have to say this couple are totally straight forward, and were in no way under the influence of drink or drugs when this happened. Nor do they have any mental problems."

UFO BUZZES EX-AIR FORCE CONTROLLER

From: *BOURNEMOUTH ADVERTISER*, England,
11 April 1996.

"It wasn't a bird, a plane or even a comet that retired RAF traffic controller Peter Bryan saw over Hengistbury Head at around 7:30 on Saturday night, March 30.

"It was a mystery....a UFO," said 43-year old Peter of Hurn Way, Christchurch, who was out on the Head with his brother John, viewing the visiting comet.

they saw the comet, which is 10 million miles away, but the bright light they first spotted over the Purbecks which then swooped towards them was just a few hundred feet up.

The object, which made no sound, sometimes hovered, coasted towards them till it circled the Head's kite-flying area and then hurtled off at high speed towards St. Catherine's Hill. Peter said: "It gave off a bright white light which, unlike the lights from a plane or helicopter, was always as bright even when it changed direction."

Peter phoned Bournemouth Police, who said they'd had a report of light off Swanage which they put down to a flare.

Portland Coastguards had two reports of white lights seen, one from a woman in Swanage and a man in the Purbecks. Hurn Airport reported nothing on radar.

FIVE PEOPLE WHO MET ALIENS DESCRIBE EXPERIENCE

From: *THE GUARDIAN*, London, Eng., 20 April 96

o Jane Murphy, 22, a housewife from Birstall, West Yorkshire, was taken from bed in March 1981, given a bath by seven-foot aliens with wholly black eyes, then experienced "the best sex I ever had."

o Rohan Hinton, 17, a schoolgirl from Chesapeake Bay, Delaware, in the U.S., was taken in summer 1988 from a motel on "what looked like a sheet of metal" by light gray visitors with large dark eyes. She woke up back in bed shouting "They lied, they lied. They promised they were going to leave me alone, but they didn't."

o Commander Horatio Penrose, Rn, was lifted from his car at Burnaston, Derbyshire, in May 1954 into "a large circular object which was hovering overhead." After an examination by short, almond-eyed aliens in blue one-piece suits he was injected with a green fluid and found himself in the back of his crashed car.

o Douglas Tams, a bus driver, was taking the last service from Kidsgrove to Burslem, near Stoke-on-Trent, in June 1974 when a "300 ft. oval machine lit with a hazy green glow" passed overhead and all of his bus's electrics failed. He was an hour late.