

UFO POTPOURRI

John F. Schuessler, Post Office Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369

E-mail: Schuessler@mho.net

Web Page: <http://home.mho.net/schuessler/>

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DOES A NAVY SYSTEM DETECT UFOS?

Many operational systems have the capability to detect UFOs in addition to the original purpose of these systems. These 'secondary system capabilities,' if properly applied might eliminate the unknown nature of UFOs. At present, only the military and its contractors have access to these systems. However, a simple data stream from one of these systems to a private research organization could be used to compare 'non-correlated' targets to UFO sightings.

One such system is the Naval Space Surveillance System (NAVSPASUR). NAVSPASUR is a radar system that detects orbital objects passing over the United States. It can detect objects as small as 10cm. diameter at orbital heights up to 15,000 miles, and measure the positions and velocity vectors of detected objects as they pass through its detection plane.

The transmitters operate at 216.98 MHz continuous wave, and have antennae aligned perpendicular to the great circle of the transmitter sites. This creates a narrow fan beam perpendicular to the Earth's surface. The system has three transmitting stations located at Lake Kickapoo, Texas; Gila River, Arizona; and Jordan Lake, Alabama.

The receiver sites also use phased array antennae. They are oriented perpendicular to the fan beam great circle and are used to define the point where the object passes through the beam. The six receiving stations are located at San Diego, California; Elephant Butte, New Mexico; Red River, Arkansas; Silver Lake, Mississippi; Hawkinsville, Georgia; and Tattnall, Georgia.

Details of the NAVSPASUR site locations, power ratings, and frequency range may be found on the Internet at:

<http://www.zilker.net/~crossley/NAVSPASUR/index.html>

NAVSPASUR is just one element of my proposal to use existing technology to eliminate the UFO mystery.

UFOs ON RADAR FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

The history of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) is filled with reports of UFOs being seen on ground radars, radars onboard airplanes and simultaneous radar and visual sighting of UFOs. Unfortunately, this history is usually examined one piece at a time instead of looking at it as an integrated database. Taken singly, these cases have been seen as interesting, but insignificant. Taken as a class of sighting data, the results are quite significant. Some examples follow:

November 23, 1948: Observed visually and on ground radar. Location: Fursten-Feldbruck, Germany. Local Time: 2200 hours. Visually, the UFO appeared as a reddish, star-like object. It was tracked on ground radar as it climbed to 23,000 feet in a few minutes, flying at 900 m.p.h. Initially, it was moving south across Munich. It turned to southwest and then to the southeast. Eventually it climbed to 50,000 feet and circled 40 miles south of Munich. (Ref. Report on UFOs, by Edward Ruppelt, p. 68.

August 1973: Over Pacific Ocean. Observed by the ballistic missile range radar system on Kwajalein Island in the Pacific. An intercontinental ballistic missile was launched from Vandenburg Air Force Base in California, aimed for the Kwajalein missile range. Over the Pacific the missile began its descent on a normal, ballistic trajectory. The nose cone had separated from the third stage of the missile and was entering the atmosphere at 22,000 feet a second. Radar scanners at Kwajalein and Meck Islands were tracking the nose cone routinely. At about 400,000 feet, the radar experts in the Pacific found they were also tracking an unidentified flying object next to the ICBM's nose cone. Radar picked up an inverted saucer-shaped object to the right and above the descending nose cone and watched it cross the warhead's trajectory to a point that was below and to the left of it before the object disappeared. The object was described as 10 feet high and 40 feet long. None of the experts believe the object was a natural phenomenon caused by freak weather conditions or echoes commonly seen on radar. (Ref. The Trentonian, Trenton, Ontario, Canada, July 24, 1974).

October 14, 1973: Location: Marion County, Mississippi. A UFO was observed on radar at Columbia. It was also observed visually by Civil Defense Director James Thornhill. Witnesses said it had bright blue lights on it. The weather was clear. The object approached the airport and then became stationary about three miles away. The radar 'completely jammed.' (Ref: The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, LA, October 16, 1973.

October 15, 1948: Location: Japan. The witnesses were a USAF pilot and radar operator flying in an F-61 night interceptor aircraft. They tracked a UFO on radar and observed it visually as being shaped 'like a rifle bullet.' On one pass, the F-61 got close enough for the flight crew to see a silhouette 20 to 30 feet long. The object was flying at an altitude of between 5,000 and 6,000 feet. The speed of the object was 200 m.p.h. The aircraft made six passes at the object. It accelerated to 1,200 m.p.h. (Ref: Report on UFOs, by Edward Ruppelt).

August 1, 1965: Location: Wichita, Kansas. Time: 2 a.m. John Shockley, weatherman/radar observer tracked objects to the south of town. He said they were the size of a Cessna aircraft and went from 6,000 to 9,000 feet altitude. Visual sightings were made by police officers Dave Lowe and Eddie Roberts and Deputy Sheriff Everett Trucker and others. (Ref: The Wichita Beacon, August 2, 1965).

There are hundreds, perhaps thousands of radar and radar-visual UFO cases. One case like this should be sufficient to trigger extensive scientific investigations. All the rest provide more data for the scientists asking for 'physical evidence.'