



1
00:00:40,389 --> 00:00:27,670

[Music]

2
00:00:41,270 --> 00:00:40,399

ufos over with phil virginia by charles

3
00:00:44,069 --> 00:00:41,280

lear

4
00:00:46,790 --> 00:00:44,079

beginning in october 1987 there was a

5
00:00:48,709 --> 00:00:46,800

ufo flap in withville virginia thousands

6
00:00:50,950 --> 00:00:48,719

of people in the area reported seeing

7
00:00:52,950 --> 00:00:50,960

extraordinary things in the sky but the

8
00:00:54,869 --> 00:00:52,960

most commonly told story that came out

9
00:00:57,350 --> 00:00:54,879

of the flap centers around a single

10
00:00:59,830 --> 00:00:57,360

witness who it seems was singled out for

11
00:01:01,110 --> 00:00:59,840

harassment by some unknown entity or

12
00:01:04,630 --> 00:01:01,120

organization

13
00:01:08,149 --> 00:01:04,640

on october 7 1987 reporter danny gordon

14

00:01:10,469 --> 00:01:08,159
of radio station wyve called the county

15

00:01:12,149 --> 00:01:10,479
sheriff as he regularly did to see if

16

00:01:14,870 --> 00:01:12,159
the sheriff had any news for him that

17

00:01:17,429 --> 00:01:14,880
day the sheriff told gordon that three

18

00:01:19,830 --> 00:01:17,439
deputies all ex-military had reported

19

00:01:21,590 --> 00:01:19,840
seeing a ufo that day according to

20

00:01:24,149 --> 00:01:21,600
gordon in the course of his appearance

21

00:01:27,109 --> 00:01:24,159
in a segment devoted to the withful flap

22

00:01:29,590 --> 00:01:27,119
in season 4 episode 18 of unsolved

23

00:01:32,149 --> 00:01:29,600
mysteries the story was used as what he

24

00:01:34,950 --> 00:01:32,159
calls a haha piece at the end of that

25

00:01:36,710 --> 00:01:34,960
day's newscast after the newscast the

26
00:01:38,950 --> 00:01:36,720
station's switchboard was jammed with

27
00:01:41,429 --> 00:01:38,960
callers who reported seeing ufos

28
00:01:43,590 --> 00:01:41,439
themselves this went on until gordon

29
00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:43,600
felt compelled to devote the evening of

30
00:01:48,789 --> 00:01:46,240
october 19th to a call-in show for ufo

31
00:01:51,590 --> 00:01:48,799
witnesses gordon describes himself as a

32
00:01:53,270 --> 00:01:51,600
brass tax journalist and he investigated

33
00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:53,280
thinking you would find a prosaic

34
00:01:56,069 --> 00:01:54,399
explanation

35
00:01:57,990 --> 00:01:56,079
his first thought was that there was

36
00:02:00,230 --> 00:01:58,000
some military craft out of langley air

37
00:02:02,149 --> 00:02:00,240
force base being tested in the area but

38
00:02:04,069 --> 00:02:02,159

he was told repeatedly that there was no

39

00:02:05,990 --> 00:02:04,079

testing being done in the area as he

40

00:02:08,070 --> 00:02:06,000

called various military agencies and

41

00:02:10,229 --> 00:02:08,080

inquired as more and more people

42

00:02:12,150 --> 00:02:10,239

reported seeing strange sightings an

43

00:02:14,550 --> 00:02:12,160

explanation came out that they were

44

00:02:17,270 --> 00:02:14,560

seeing planes refueling according to the

45

00:02:19,270 --> 00:02:17,280

witness reports if this was the case the

46

00:02:21,990 --> 00:02:19,280

planes were refueling at low altitudes

47

00:02:23,589 --> 00:02:22,000

over populated areas gordon says he

48

00:02:25,430 --> 00:02:23,599

spoke with an air force general at the

49

00:02:27,990 --> 00:02:25,440

pentagon who told him that if the

50

00:02:30,869 --> 00:02:28,000

refueling was being done below 13 000

51
00:02:32,790 --> 00:02:30,879
feet somebody's butts in a sling gordon

52
00:02:34,470 --> 00:02:32,800
says he told military people he spoke

53
00:02:36,949 --> 00:02:34,480
with that if what the witnesses were

54
00:02:39,350 --> 00:02:36,959
seeing was military he would back off

55
00:02:41,110 --> 00:02:39,360
because he is a patriot each time he

56
00:02:43,509 --> 00:02:41,120
said this he was assured by military

57
00:02:45,750 --> 00:02:43,519
personnel that it's not us

58
00:02:48,229 --> 00:02:45,760
on october 21st gordon and a friend

59
00:02:50,150 --> 00:02:48,239
danny hall drove to the area where most

60
00:02:52,630 --> 00:02:50,160
of the reported ufos were said to have

61
00:02:54,869 --> 00:02:52,640
been seen which was south of withville

62
00:02:56,869 --> 00:02:54,879
they had two cameras with them a 35

63
00:02:59,110 --> 00:02:56,879

millimeter still camera and a video

64

00:03:01,190 --> 00:02:59,120

camera after seeing nothing unusual

65

00:03:04,149 --> 00:03:01,200

during a two-hour sky watch they headed

66

00:03:06,710 --> 00:03:04,159

home at about 8 45 pm as they were

67

00:03:08,790 --> 00:03:06,720

approaching withville on route 21 south

68

00:03:11,110 --> 00:03:08,800

gordon who was driving spotted something

69

00:03:13,190 --> 00:03:11,120

strange off to his left gordon pulled

70

00:03:15,190 --> 00:03:13,200

over and both men got out of the car

71

00:03:17,270 --> 00:03:15,200

gordon described seeing a large craft

72

00:03:19,430 --> 00:03:17,280

coming towards him that had no wings a

73

00:03:21,910 --> 00:03:19,440

dome on top and a multi-colored strobe

74

00:03:24,229 --> 00:03:21,920

light on its right side danny hall a

75

00:03:26,229 --> 00:03:24,239

former commercial pilot estimates that

76
00:03:28,229 --> 00:03:26,239
it was one thousand feet away from them

77
00:03:30,070 --> 00:03:28,239
at an altitude of one thousand feet and

78
00:03:32,309 --> 00:03:30,080
then its diameter was at least two

79
00:03:34,070 --> 00:03:32,319
football fields hall says there were

80
00:03:36,229 --> 00:03:34,080
what looked like three huge picture

81
00:03:38,869 --> 00:03:36,239
windows lit from inside on the back of

82
00:03:40,390 --> 00:03:38,879
the craft according to gordon a red ball

83
00:03:42,630 --> 00:03:40,400
of light approached the craft from the

84
00:03:45,030 --> 00:03:42,640
left and docked with the craft as the

85
00:03:47,030 --> 00:03:45,040
craft disappeared into some clouds he

86
00:03:49,589 --> 00:03:47,040
compares what he witnessed to watching

87
00:03:51,990 --> 00:03:49,599
images in a video game after the craft

88
00:03:53,589 --> 00:03:52,000

was out of sight both men realized that

89

00:03:55,670 --> 00:03:53,599

neither one of them had managed to get

90

00:03:57,830 --> 00:03:55,680

footage of the object the next night

91

00:03:59,750 --> 00:03:57,840

however they did manage to get pictures

92

00:04:01,750 --> 00:03:59,760

and with the pictures not yet developed

93

00:04:05,190 --> 00:04:01,760

organized a press conference the

94

00:04:06,949 --> 00:04:05,200

conference was held on october 23 1987

95

00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:06,959

and gordon says that during the night

96

00:04:11,350 --> 00:04:09,040

before he received a phone call from

97

00:04:13,270 --> 00:04:11,360

someone who told him that the cia was

98

00:04:15,589 --> 00:04:13,280

very interested in the ufos being

99

00:04:17,590 --> 00:04:15,599

reported in with county he says he

100

00:04:19,430 --> 00:04:17,600

continued to receive anonymous calls

101
00:04:21,830 --> 00:04:19,440
from people discouraging him from

102
00:04:23,430 --> 00:04:21,840
continuing his investigation and telling

103
00:04:25,990 --> 00:04:23,440
him it wasn't his place to be

104
00:04:27,830 --> 00:04:26,000
interfering with defense matters gordon

105
00:04:30,150 --> 00:04:27,840
reported that his house had been broken

106
00:04:31,909 --> 00:04:30,160
into after the press conference and he

107
00:04:33,830 --> 00:04:31,919
suspected that someone had been looking

108
00:04:36,150 --> 00:04:33,840
for the photos which when developed

109
00:04:37,830 --> 00:04:36,160
showed indeterminate streaks of light he

110
00:04:40,310 --> 00:04:37,840
then got a chance to take some better

111
00:04:42,070 --> 00:04:40,320
pictures on december 2nd when he his

112
00:04:44,710 --> 00:04:42,080
wife and daughter were walking to the

113
00:04:46,310 --> 00:04:44,720

family car in a mall parking lot a large

114

00:04:48,230 --> 00:04:46,320

object came into view in front of

115

00:04:50,870 --> 00:04:48,240

several witnesses in a school bus full

116

00:04:53,030 --> 00:04:50,880

of kids and gordon grabbed his camera

117

00:04:55,430 --> 00:04:53,040

according to gordon the single object

118

00:04:56,870 --> 00:04:55,440

became four flying disc shapes that

119

00:04:58,950 --> 00:04:56,880

disappeared as soon as they were

120

00:05:01,749 --> 00:04:58,960

photographed four photos that gordon

121

00:05:04,390 --> 00:05:01,759

presents show four distinct shapes going

122

00:05:06,870 --> 00:05:04,400

from teardrop to ball to flying disc to

123

00:05:10,310 --> 00:05:06,880

egg shape by the end of december there

124

00:05:12,390 --> 00:05:10,320

were over 1500 sightings reports reports

125

00:05:14,390 --> 00:05:12,400

include multi-colored carousel-like

126

00:05:16,950 --> 00:05:14,400

objects and objects that seemed like a

127

00:05:19,350 --> 00:05:16,960

cross between a helicopter and a plane

128

00:05:20,870 --> 00:05:19,360

with no noise gordon says he called the

129

00:05:23,430 --> 00:05:20,880

pentagon and talked with the defense

130

00:05:26,070 --> 00:05:23,440

spokesman who told him we do not deny

131

00:05:28,469 --> 00:05:26,080

ufos exist the government confirms they

132

00:05:30,870 --> 00:05:28,479

exist but we deny they pose a threat to

133

00:05:32,629 --> 00:05:30,880

the populace of with county gordon says

134

00:05:35,189 --> 00:05:32,639

he asked how they knew there was no

135

00:05:37,510 --> 00:05:35,199

threat and was told i can't tell you but

136

00:05:39,510 --> 00:05:37,520

there is no threat to you well it seems

137

00:05:41,830 --> 00:05:39,520

the ufos may not have posed a threat to

138

00:05:43,990 --> 00:05:41,840

the general populace of with county it

139

00:05:46,390 --> 00:05:44,000

seems someone posed a threat to gordon

140

00:05:49,350 --> 00:05:46,400

specifically gordon reported that on

141

00:05:51,270 --> 00:05:49,360

march 18 1988 as he was preparing to

142

00:05:52,790 --> 00:05:51,280

leave for a broadcaster's conference

143

00:05:55,189 --> 00:05:52,800

where he would be speaking about the

144

00:05:57,189 --> 00:05:55,199

with county ufos he received a phone

145

00:05:59,510 --> 00:05:57,199

call from a retired military

146

00:06:01,110 --> 00:05:59,520

intelligence officer the man told him

147

00:06:03,029 --> 00:06:01,120

that he should tape the conversation

148

00:06:04,790 --> 00:06:03,039

they were about to have so that if

149

00:06:06,390 --> 00:06:04,800

anything were to happen to him there'd

150

00:06:08,790 --> 00:06:06,400

be proof he'd been warned

151

00:06:11,029 --> 00:06:08,800

on a tape provided by gordon a man is

152

00:06:14,150 --> 00:06:11,039

heard telling gordon that because of his

153

00:06:16,550 --> 00:06:14,160

own investigations into ufos they had

154

00:06:18,629 --> 00:06:16,560

given his son leukemia which proved to

155

00:06:20,710 --> 00:06:18,639

be fatal the man said that he had

156

00:06:22,870 --> 00:06:20,720

information that the government was not

157

00:06:25,029 --> 00:06:22,880

happy with gordon's investigation and

158

00:06:27,270 --> 00:06:25,039

that they might use skin contact

159

00:06:29,510 --> 00:06:27,280

chemicals to cause harm to him or his

160

00:06:31,990 --> 00:06:29,520

family in spite of the warning gordon

161

00:06:33,590 --> 00:06:32,000

went and spoke at the conference he says

162

00:06:35,830 --> 00:06:33,600

that although there had been an outbreak

163

00:06:37,990 --> 00:06:35,840

of hepatitis while it was there he came

164

00:06:40,150 --> 00:06:38,000

back without contracting it he asserts

165

00:06:41,510 --> 00:06:40,160

that had he contracted it he and others

166

00:06:42,550 --> 00:06:41,520

would have believed that he had been

167

00:06:44,309 --> 00:06:42,560

gotten to

168

00:06:46,390 --> 00:06:44,319

gordon reported that less than two

169

00:06:48,790 --> 00:06:46,400

months later two men showed up at his

170

00:06:50,790 --> 00:06:48,800

door they gave their names said they

171

00:06:52,629 --> 00:06:50,800

were from the richmond gazette and said

172

00:06:55,270 --> 00:06:52,639

they wanted to ask him questions about

173

00:06:57,350 --> 00:06:55,280

the with county ufo sightings gordon let

174

00:06:58,870 --> 00:06:57,360

them in and one man asked questions

175

00:07:01,350 --> 00:06:58,880

while the other walked around and took

176

00:07:03,430 --> 00:07:01,360

pictures they stayed for about 45

177

00:07:05,830 --> 00:07:03,440

minutes and as they left they said

178

00:07:07,749 --> 00:07:05,840

they'd send gordon a copy of the article

179

00:07:09,589 --> 00:07:07,759

gordon never received anything from the

180

00:07:11,510 --> 00:07:09,599

paper and when he called to inquire he

181

00:07:13,830 --> 00:07:11,520

was told that the men never worked for

182

00:07:15,909 --> 00:07:13,840

the paper weeks later as gordon was

183

00:07:17,589 --> 00:07:15,919

organizing his photos he found that the

184

00:07:20,230 --> 00:07:17,599

negatives from the mall photos were

185

00:07:22,469 --> 00:07:20,240

missing he and some friends examined the

186

00:07:24,230 --> 00:07:22,479

developed photos and could not determine

187

00:07:26,390 --> 00:07:24,240

why anyone would have wanted to steal

188

00:07:28,390 --> 00:07:26,400

those particular negatives two months

189

00:07:30,309 --> 00:07:28,400

later gordon collapsed and was taken to

190

00:07:32,710 --> 00:07:30,319

the hospital where he was diagnosed with

191

00:07:35,029 --> 00:07:32,720

severe exhaustion he was advised to

192

00:07:37,670 --> 00:07:35,039

cease his ufo investigation and he

193

00:07:39,270 --> 00:07:37,680

followed that advice according to him he

194

00:07:41,749 --> 00:07:39,280

wouldn't report his sighting if he was

195

00:07:43,830 --> 00:07:41,759

given another chance his segment ends

196

00:07:45,670 --> 00:07:43,840

with him saying don't look up because

197

00:07:47,510 --> 00:07:45,680

once you look up and you tell somebody

198

00:07:49,909 --> 00:07:47,520

what you saw your life has changed

199

00:07:51,670 --> 00:07:49,919

forever because gordon's story involved

200

00:07:53,510 --> 00:07:51,680

threatening phone calls and mysterious

201

00:07:55,830 --> 00:07:53,520

visitors it's now included in

202

00:07:58,550 --> 00:07:55,840

collections of men in black tales what's

203

00:08:00,309 --> 00:07:58,560

been neglected is that his ufo story is

204

00:08:02,790 --> 00:08:00,319

just one of many that came out of with

205

00:08:04,790 --> 00:08:02,800

county at that time for those interested

206

00:08:06,469 --> 00:08:04,800

in exploring further links have been

207

00:08:15,600 --> 00:08:06,479

included in the written version of this