



The Montana Movie

EPISODE 03.20

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,050

[Music]

2
00:00:16,229 --> 00:00:13,760

meaning citizens and welcome to unknown

3
00:00:16,690 --> 00:00:16,239

[Music]

4
00:00:35,420 --> 00:00:16,700

[Applause]

5
00:00:40,370 --> 00:00:37,490

I'm Jason McClellan thanks for hanging

6
00:00:42,230 --> 00:00:40,380

out with me unidentified flying objects

7
00:00:45,820 --> 00:00:42,240

appear in countless photographs and

8
00:00:48,860 --> 00:00:45,830

videos every year some of these UFOs are

9
00:00:51,610 --> 00:00:48,870

nebulous lights in the sky while others

10
00:00:53,780 --> 00:00:51,620

are highly detailed aerial craft

11
00:00:55,520 --> 00:00:53,790

although the objects in some of these

12
00:00:57,680 --> 00:00:55,530

videos and photos appear quite

13
00:01:00,020 --> 00:00:57,690

compelling modern technology has

14

00:01:03,080 --> 00:01:00,030

diminished the evidentiary strengths of

15

00:01:04,939 --> 00:01:03,090

modern UFO photos and videos freely

16

00:01:07,730 --> 00:01:04,949

available photo and video editing

17

00:01:11,240 --> 00:01:07,740

software make image manipulation easy

18

00:01:14,060 --> 00:01:11,250

enough for even a child anyone with the

19

00:01:16,540 --> 00:01:14,070

right software some free time and a

20

00:01:20,210 --> 00:01:16,550

little skill can add a believable

21

00:01:22,130 --> 00:01:20,220

realistic UFO to a photo or video but

22

00:01:25,219 --> 00:01:22,140

what about the countless UFO photographs

23

00:01:28,280 --> 00:01:25,229

and film shot before the prevalence of

24

00:01:30,380 --> 00:01:28,290

computers and editing software many of

25

00:01:34,100 --> 00:01:30,390

the objects in these vintage photos and

26
00:01:37,910 --> 00:01:34,110
films were hoaxed using models pie tins

27
00:01:41,030 --> 00:01:37,920
hubcaps etc but there are also instances

28
00:01:44,210 --> 00:01:41,040
where something anomalous was genuinely

29
00:01:48,020 --> 00:01:44,220
captured on film and subjected to

30
00:01:50,300 --> 00:01:48,030
repeated scientific analysis one of

31
00:01:53,120 --> 00:01:50,310
these better known examples is referred

32
00:01:57,219 --> 00:01:53,130
to as the Montana movie

33
00:02:01,660 --> 00:01:57,229
[Music]

34
00:02:04,810 --> 00:02:01,670
in 1950 38 year-old Nicholas Nick

35
00:02:07,450 --> 00:02:04,820
Mariana was the general manager of the

36
00:02:09,550 --> 00:02:07,460
select ryx a local minor league baseball

37
00:02:13,089 --> 00:02:09,560
team and farm club to the Brooklyn

38
00:02:15,910 --> 00:02:13,099

Dodgers in Great Falls Montana on August

39

00:02:17,410 --> 00:02:15,920

5th 1950 after calling the ballpark

40

00:02:19,870 --> 00:02:17,420

groundskeeper from the grandstand

41

00:02:22,900 --> 00:02:19,880

Mariana looked north and noticed two

42

00:02:25,390 --> 00:02:22,910

bright silvery disc shaped aerial

43

00:02:27,610 --> 00:02:25,400

objects his secretary

44

00:02:31,240 --> 00:02:27,620

Virginia running reportedly witnessed

45

00:02:34,059 --> 00:02:31,250

these UFOs as well intrigued he raced to

46

00:02:37,089 --> 00:02:34,069

grab his film camera from his car now

47

00:02:39,819 --> 00:02:37,099

how many people had film cameras in 1950

48

00:02:42,309 --> 00:02:39,829

but as Joan Byrd explains in her book

49

00:02:44,949 --> 00:02:42,319

Montana UFOs and extraterrestrials

50

00:02:47,470 --> 00:02:44,959

Mariano was a graduate of the University

51
00:02:49,930 --> 00:02:47,480
of Montana School of Journalism after

52
00:02:52,690 --> 00:02:49,940
capturing a train rack on film he kept

53
00:02:54,940 --> 00:02:52,700
his Revere 16 millimeter magazine turret

54
00:02:56,830 --> 00:02:54,950
movie camera in his car so he would

55
00:02:59,680 --> 00:02:56,840
always be prepared to capture anything

56
00:03:02,199 --> 00:02:59,690
newsworthy his preparedness paid off

57
00:03:06,849 --> 00:03:02,209
that day as he was able to capture the

58
00:03:09,490 --> 00:03:06,859
UFOs on film for 15 seconds according to

59
00:03:12,970 --> 00:03:09,500
his testimony in the 1956 documentary

60
00:03:15,879 --> 00:03:12,980
film UFO unidentified flying objects

61
00:03:17,650 --> 00:03:15,889
Mariana described the disks appeared to

62
00:03:20,500 --> 00:03:17,660
be spinning like the top and we're about

63
00:03:24,849 --> 00:03:20,510

50 feet across and about 50 yards apart

64

00:03:28,629 --> 00:03:24,859

I could not see any exhaust wings or any

65

00:03:31,509 --> 00:03:28,639

kind of fuselage there was no cabin no

66

00:03:35,229 --> 00:03:31,519

odor no sound except I thought I heard a

67

00:03:37,170 --> 00:03:35,239

whooshing sound when I first saw them as

68

00:03:39,789 --> 00:03:37,180

the film clicked through the camera I

69

00:03:41,890 --> 00:03:39,799

could see the objects moving southeast

70

00:03:44,650 --> 00:03:41,900

behind the General Mills grain building

71

00:03:47,620 --> 00:03:44,660

and the black water tank directly south

72

00:03:49,509 --> 00:03:47,630

of the ballpark I filmed the objects

73

00:03:51,280 --> 00:03:49,519

until they disappeared into the blue sky

74

00:03:53,650 --> 00:03:51,290

behind the water tank

75

00:03:55,870 --> 00:03:53,660

Maryana notified local afternoon daily

76
00:03:58,390 --> 00:03:55,880
newspaper the Great Falls Ledger about

77
00:04:00,430 --> 00:03:58,400
his sighting and about his film which

78
00:04:02,400 --> 00:04:00,440
prompted the paper to run a front-page

79
00:04:05,400 --> 00:04:02,410
story that same day

80
00:04:07,170 --> 00:04:05,410
after developing the film Mariana showed

81
00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:07,180
the footage around to local community

82
00:04:10,130 --> 00:04:09,010
groups during the months of September

83
00:04:13,020 --> 00:04:10,140
and October

84
00:04:15,810 --> 00:04:13,030
Clifton Sullivan a Great Falls ledger

85
00:04:17,580 --> 00:04:15,820
reporter suggested to Mariana that he

86
00:04:18,259 --> 00:04:17,590
should have the Air Force analyzed the

87
00:04:21,720 --> 00:04:18,269
footage

88
00:04:24,090 --> 00:04:21,730

Mariana agreed and on September 13th

89

00:04:26,040 --> 00:04:24,100

Sullivan dispatched a letter to the

90

00:04:27,630 --> 00:04:26,050

commanding general of the air Materiel

91

00:04:30,180 --> 00:04:27,640

Command at wright-patterson Air Force

92

00:04:32,640 --> 00:04:30,190

Base in Dayton Ohio that detailed

93

00:04:35,000 --> 00:04:32,650

Marianas sighting and apprised the

94

00:04:37,380 --> 00:04:35,010

general of the film's existence

95

00:04:39,870 --> 00:04:37,390

Lieutenant Colonel James O'Connell at

96

00:04:42,270 --> 00:04:39,880

Wright Patterson instructed Captain John

97

00:04:44,160 --> 00:04:42,280

P brine Olson who is in charge of the

98

00:04:46,560 --> 00:04:44,170

Great Falls district of the Air Force

99

00:04:50,090 --> 00:04:46,570

Office of Special Investigations to

100

00:04:52,920 --> 00:04:50,100

visit Mariana and obtain his film a

101
00:04:56,250 --> 00:04:52,930
letter detailed O'Connell's instructions

102
00:04:58,650 --> 00:04:56,260
to brine Olsen according to Montana UFOs

103
00:05:01,950 --> 00:04:58,660
and extraterrestrials this specific

104
00:05:04,590 --> 00:05:01,960
letter read quote in approaching mr.

105
00:05:07,310 --> 00:05:04,600
Mariana for the films you are requested

106
00:05:10,050 --> 00:05:07,320
to exercise every caution so as not to

107
00:05:13,740 --> 00:05:10,060
unduly excite his curiosity or interest

108
00:05:16,110 --> 00:05:13,750
or in any wise have him conclude that

109
00:05:18,270 --> 00:05:16,120
the Air Force may have reversed its

110
00:05:20,100 --> 00:05:18,280
policy from that previously announced

111
00:05:22,590 --> 00:05:20,110
with regards to the existence or

112
00:05:25,680 --> 00:05:22,600
nonexistence of such non-conventional

113
00:05:28,350 --> 00:05:25,690

objects in this connection you should

114

00:05:30,420 --> 00:05:28,360

avoid any detailed discussion advising

115

00:05:32,370 --> 00:05:30,430

simply that the Air Force is always

116

00:05:34,350 --> 00:05:32,380

interested in any item that will

117

00:05:37,320 --> 00:05:34,360

contribute to the fund of technical

118

00:05:39,810 --> 00:05:37,330

intelligence it is requested that the

119

00:05:41,970 --> 00:05:39,820

films be obtained and transmitted to the

120

00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:41,980

intelligence department at air Materiel

121

00:05:48,440 --> 00:05:45,010

Command in quote brine Olson visited

122

00:05:51,030 --> 00:05:48,450

Mariana and his secretary on October 4th

123

00:05:53,040 --> 00:05:51,040

although he was reportedly frustrated at

124

00:05:55,620 --> 00:05:53,050

brinel Dessen's refusal to engage in

125

00:05:57,840 --> 00:05:55,630

conversation Mariana submitted his film

126
00:06:00,670 --> 00:05:57,850
for analysis

127
00:06:02,680 --> 00:06:00,680
UFO historian Richard Dolan explains in

128
00:06:06,159 --> 00:06:02,690
his book UFOs in the national security

129
00:06:09,490 --> 00:06:06,169
state chronology of a cover-up 1941 to

130
00:06:12,520 --> 00:06:09,500
1973 that when Marianas film was

131
00:06:14,439 --> 00:06:12,530
returned to him project grudge which was

132
00:06:16,300 --> 00:06:14,449
the Air Force's official UFO

133
00:06:19,210 --> 00:06:16,310
investigation project during the time of

134
00:06:22,960 --> 00:06:19,220
Marianas sighting suggested the objects

135
00:06:25,300 --> 00:06:22,970
in Marianas film could have been to f94

136
00:06:28,240 --> 00:06:25,310
fighter jets flying in the area at the

137
00:06:31,870 --> 00:06:28,250
time of the sighting what Mariana and

138
00:06:34,770 --> 00:06:31,880

his secretary disagreed they had seen

139

00:06:37,749 --> 00:06:34,780

the Jets in a different part of the sky

140

00:06:40,510 --> 00:06:37,759

curiously despite reaching the jet

141

00:06:43,240 --> 00:06:40,520

conclusion the official press statement

142

00:06:46,120 --> 00:06:43,250

from grudge claimed the film was quote

143

00:06:49,540 --> 00:06:46,130

too dark to distinguish any objects in

144

00:06:52,689 --> 00:06:49,550

quote project grudge became Project Blue

145

00:06:55,779 --> 00:06:52,699

Book in 1952 Blue Book's director

146

00:06:59,560 --> 00:06:55,789

Captain Edward J rappel reopened the

147

00:07:01,810 --> 00:06:59,570

investigation into Marianas film mariana

148

00:07:05,560 --> 00:07:01,820

reluctantly released his film to the Air

149

00:07:08,469 --> 00:07:05,570

Force for a second analysis in January

150

00:07:11,890 --> 00:07:08,479

1953 rappelled presented Blue Book's

151
00:07:13,360 --> 00:07:11,900
best UFO evidence to a scientific panel

152
00:07:18,070 --> 00:07:13,370
organised by the Central Intelligence

153
00:07:20,710 --> 00:07:18,080
Agency or CIA this panel was officially

154
00:07:23,740 --> 00:07:20,720
called the scientific advisory panel on

155
00:07:26,050 --> 00:07:23,750
unidentified flying objects but is more

156
00:07:28,450 --> 00:07:26,060
commonly referred to as the Robertson

157
00:07:31,149 --> 00:07:28,460
panel named after panel chair H P

158
00:07:33,790 --> 00:07:31,159
Robertson a physicist from California

159
00:07:36,159 --> 00:07:33,800
Institute of Technology repelled

160
00:07:39,219 --> 00:07:36,169
presented Marianas film which he called

161
00:07:42,460 --> 00:07:39,229
the Montana movie as one of the panel's

162
00:07:45,730 --> 00:07:42,470
feature attractions rappelled explained

163
00:07:48,480 --> 00:07:45,740

to the panel that balloons birds and

164

00:07:51,040 --> 00:07:48,490

meteors had been ruled out as possible

165

00:07:54,070 --> 00:07:51,050

explanations for the objects in Marianas

166

00:07:56,790 --> 00:07:54,080

film he then addressed the previously

167

00:08:00,550 --> 00:07:56,800

suggested possibility that the UFOs were

168

00:08:03,580 --> 00:08:00,560

f94 fighter jets and he concluded the

169

00:08:05,499 --> 00:08:03,590

flight paths and landing patterns of the

170

00:08:09,070 --> 00:08:05,509

two Jets that were in the air that day

171

00:08:10,290 --> 00:08:09,080

were not quote anywhere close to where

172

00:08:14,310 --> 00:08:10,300

the two UFOs had

173

00:08:16,920 --> 00:08:14,320

in quote repeal also explained that the

174

00:08:18,560 --> 00:08:16,930

UFOs were too steady to have been

175

00:08:21,630 --> 00:08:18,570

reflections

176

00:08:25,340 --> 00:08:21,640

despite repels presentation the panel

177

00:08:28,080 --> 00:08:25,350

was content with the jet explanation

178

00:08:32,190 --> 00:08:28,090

mariana claimed that when the Air Force

179

00:08:36,090 --> 00:08:32,200

returned his film the second time 35 of

180

00:08:38,190 --> 00:08:36,100

the best frames were missing the Air

181

00:08:41,940 --> 00:08:38,200

Force acknowledged that they altered the

182

00:08:45,120 --> 00:08:41,950

film but claimed only one damaged frame

183

00:08:47,370 --> 00:08:45,130

was removed but others who saw the

184

00:08:50,520 --> 00:08:47,380

original film including Marianas

185

00:08:52,920 --> 00:08:50,530

secretary his attorney and the reporter

186

00:08:55,110 --> 00:08:52,930

from The Great Falls ledger agreed that

187

00:08:57,420 --> 00:08:55,120

part of the film was missing when the

188

00:09:00,090 --> 00:08:57,430

Air Force returned it to Mariana more

189

00:09:03,420 --> 00:09:00,100

than the single frame claimed by the Air

190

00:09:05,670 --> 00:09:03,430

Force in Montana UFOs and

191

00:09:07,350 --> 00:09:05,680

extraterrestrials Joan Bird points to

192

00:09:10,260 --> 00:09:07,360

further evidence supporting the

193

00:09:13,050 --> 00:09:10,270

significant film-like discrepancy she

194

00:09:14,040 --> 00:09:13,060

explains that in Brine Olsen's official

195

00:09:16,920 --> 00:09:14,050

letter of transmittal to

196

00:09:21,450 --> 00:09:16,930

Wright-Patterson he noted he was sending

197

00:09:23,850 --> 00:09:21,460

15 feet of film but Brine Elson told the

198

00:09:26,430 --> 00:09:23,860

reporter he only picked up eight feet of

199

00:09:29,430 --> 00:09:26,440

film from Mariana the Condon committee

200

00:09:32,040 --> 00:09:29,440

and Air Force funded UFO study at the

201
00:09:35,970 --> 00:09:32,050
University of Colorado also examined

202
00:09:38,010 --> 00:09:35,980
Marianas film in 1967 Richard Dolan

203
00:09:40,560 --> 00:09:38,020
explains that this committee concluded

204
00:09:42,690 --> 00:09:40,570
that the evidence quote eliminated the

205
00:09:46,470 --> 00:09:42,700
possibility of the objects being Birds

206
00:09:49,380 --> 00:09:46,480
balloons mirages or meteors in quote and

207
00:09:52,380 --> 00:09:49,390
further a quote considered it unlikely

208
00:09:56,850 --> 00:09:52,390
although not impossible that the objects

209
00:09:59,220 --> 00:09:56,860
were Jets end quote the history of UFO

210
00:10:02,940 --> 00:09:59,230
investigations by the Air Force is

211
00:10:05,820 --> 00:10:02,950
shadowed by bias and secret agendas in

212
00:10:09,060 --> 00:10:05,830
his book the report on unidentified

213
00:10:11,790 --> 00:10:09,070

flying objects repelled explains quote

214

00:10:14,820 --> 00:10:11,800

to one who is intimately familiar with

215

00:10:17,960 --> 00:10:14,830

UFO history it is clear that project

216

00:10:19,600 --> 00:10:17,970

grudge had a two-phase program of UFO

217

00:10:22,180 --> 00:10:19,610

annihilation

218

00:10:26,170 --> 00:10:22,190

the first phase consisted of explaining

219

00:10:28,150 --> 00:10:26,180

every UFO report the second phase was to

220

00:10:31,780 --> 00:10:28,160

tell the public how the Air Force had

221

00:10:34,960 --> 00:10:31,790

solved all the sightings this project

222

00:10:39,280 --> 00:10:34,970

grudge reasoned would put an end to the

223

00:10:41,770 --> 00:10:39,290

UFO reports in quote astronomer dr. J

224

00:10:43,900 --> 00:10:41,780

Allen Hynek who served as a consultant

225

00:10:46,330 --> 00:10:43,910

for project grudge and Project Blue Book

226

00:10:48,940 --> 00:10:46,340

and as an associate member of the

227

00:10:50,710 --> 00:10:48,950

Robertson panel was also disenchanted

228

00:10:53,110 --> 00:10:50,720

with the government's UFO investigation

229

00:10:55,300 --> 00:10:53,120

efforts he stated in an interview that

230

00:10:57,910 --> 00:10:55,310

he came away from the Robertson panel

231

00:11:00,460 --> 00:10:57,920

feeling that it had quote deliberately

232

00:11:03,010 --> 00:11:00,470

moved to debunk the whole subject and

233

00:11:06,460 --> 00:11:03,020

not to give it the serious scientific

234

00:11:07,810 --> 00:11:06,470

attention which it deserved unquote the

235

00:11:10,450 --> 00:11:07,820

local community in Great Falls Montana

236

00:11:14,080 --> 00:11:10,460

still remembers Marianas UFO sighting

237

00:11:16,090 --> 00:11:14,090

and as a tribute to the event in 2008

238

00:11:18,850 --> 00:11:16,100

the community renamed this Electric's

239

00:11:22,200 --> 00:11:18,860

baseball team which became the electrics

240

00:11:24,820 --> 00:11:22,210

in 1952 the Great Falls voyagers

241

00:11:27,550 --> 00:11:24,830

complete with extraterrestrial themed

242

00:11:29,860 --> 00:11:27,560

branding whether the various

243

00:11:33,940 --> 00:11:29,870

investigations into Nick Marianas film

244

00:11:35,890 --> 00:11:33,950

were corrupted is unknown although some

245

00:11:38,530 --> 00:11:35,900

evidence suggests the Air Force removed

246

00:11:42,250 --> 00:11:38,540

footage from the original film this

247

00:11:44,500 --> 00:11:42,260

claim can't be substantiated but despite

248

00:11:47,710 --> 00:11:44,510

the repeated suggestion that the objects

249

00:11:50,470 --> 00:11:47,720

in Marianas film were Jets repelled and

250

00:11:53,250 --> 00:11:50,480

others who investigated the case were

251

00:11:56,170 --> 00:11:53,260

convinced the objects were not Jets

252

00:11:59,350 --> 00:11:56,180

Condon committee investigator David R

253

00:12:01,830 --> 00:11:59,360

Saunders wrote in his book UFOs yes

254

00:12:05,020 --> 00:12:01,840

where the Condon committee went wrong

255

00:12:07,870 --> 00:12:05,030

that the Mariana case quote did more

256

00:12:10,480 --> 00:12:07,880

than any other single case in quote to

257

00:12:13,050 --> 00:12:10,490

convince him that quote there is

258

00:12:15,190 --> 00:12:13,060

something to the UFO problem unquote

259

00:12:18,220 --> 00:12:15,200

through the discrepancies and

260

00:12:20,800 --> 00:12:18,230

controversy Marianas Montana movie

261

00:12:24,470 --> 00:12:20,810

remains one of the most intriguing and

262

00:12:26,540 --> 00:12:24,480

best UFO films ever captured

263

00:12:27,950 --> 00:12:26,550

if you're interested in a more detailed

264

00:12:30,020 --> 00:12:27,960

account of this interesting case

265

00:12:32,840 --> 00:12:30,030

including an overview of the air force's

266

00:12:34,600 --> 00:12:32,850

history of UFO investigations I highly

267

00:12:40,620 --> 00:12:34,610

recommend reading Joan Byrd's book

268

00:12:40,630 --> 00:12:49,260

[Music]

269

00:12:53,670 --> 00:12:51,449

while citizens that's gonna do it for

270

00:12:55,760 --> 00:12:53,680

this episode you can find more episodes

271

00:12:58,860 --> 00:12:55,770

of unknown on all the major platforms

272

00:13:01,699 --> 00:12:58,870

including Apple podcasts stitcher google

273

00:13:03,630 --> 00:13:01,709

play Pandora iHeartRadio and YouTube

274

00:13:05,639 --> 00:13:03,640

subscribe on your favorite podcast

275

00:13:08,310 --> 00:13:05,649

platform so you're notified when we

276
00:13:10,530 --> 00:13:08,320
publish new episodes of course you can

277
00:13:12,269 --> 00:13:10,540
always find this show at road planet TV

278
00:13:15,300 --> 00:13:12,279
because unknown is a rogue planet

279
00:13:16,530 --> 00:13:15,310
production ro planet TV is your home for

280
00:13:18,389 --> 00:13:16,540
all a strange

281
00:13:20,130 --> 00:13:18,399
and if you ever find yourself having

282
00:13:22,920 --> 00:13:20,140
difficulty locating unknown on a

283
00:13:25,710 --> 00:13:22,930
specific podcast platform the unknown

284
00:13:28,019 --> 00:13:25,720
page on the website has links to most of

285
00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:28,029
them if you don't see the link to your

286
00:13:31,470 --> 00:13:30,010
favorite place for podcasts go ahead and

287
00:13:35,910 --> 00:13:31,480
reach out to me and I'll be happy to

288
00:13:37,680 --> 00:13:35,920

help you find the show big thanks to our

289

00:13:39,150 --> 00:13:37,690

talented friend and fellow rogue planet

290

00:13:41,610 --> 00:13:39,160

Eire Caleb thanks for the show's intro

291

00:13:44,550 --> 00:13:41,620

and outro music check out all his work

292

00:13:45,840 --> 00:13:44,560

at the Clark Chronicles calm thanks

293

00:13:48,480 --> 00:13:45,850

again for hanging out with me today I'm

294

00:13:50,460 --> 00:13:48,490

Jason McClellan do us a favor friends

295

00:13:52,500 --> 00:13:50,470

always treat the UFO subject with the

296

00:13:55,380 --> 00:13:52,510

cautious and responsible skepticism it

297

00:13:57,870 --> 00:13:55,390

deserves question everything have the

298

00:14:00,449 --> 00:13:57,880

courage to form your own opinions keep

299

00:14:02,340 --> 00:14:00,459

truth as the focus of your quest even if

300

00:14:12,910 --> 00:14:02,350

the truth conflicts with your opinions

