

1  
00:00:16,429 --> 00:00:23,820  
well good afternoon ladies and gentlemen

2  
00:00:19,589 --> 00:00:26,490  
my name is Patrick McDonough and I'm

3  
00:00:23,820 --> 00:00:30,929  
here today to relate an experience that

4  
00:00:26,489 --> 00:00:33,659  
happened to me in September of 1966 44

5  
00:00:30,928 --> 00:00:36,629  
years ago but that experience was so

6  
00:00:33,659 --> 00:00:38,459  
significant it was basically burned in

7  
00:00:36,630 --> 00:00:41,309  
my memory I haven't forgotten about it

8  
00:00:38,460 --> 00:00:43,679  
at all but I am getting older and I did

9  
00:00:41,308 --> 00:00:47,159  
want to put this experience and relate

10  
00:00:43,679 --> 00:00:51,329  
it on the record a little background on

11  
00:00:47,159 --> 00:00:56,009  
me I had enlisted in the Air Force in

12  
00:00:51,329 --> 00:01:00,808  
Berkeley California in the first week of

13  
00:00:56,009 --> 00:01:02,849  
November 1962 at the onset of the Cuban

14  
00:01:00,808 --> 00:01:06,478  
Missile Crisis it was going I felt

15  
00:01:02,850 --> 00:01:08,280  
patriotic and up to that time I had been

16  
00:01:06,478 --> 00:01:10,560  
studying engineering in college I had

17  
00:01:08,280 --> 00:01:14,010  
three years of engineering and the Air

18  
00:01:10,560 --> 00:01:18,000  
Force considering my background trained

19  
00:01:14,010 --> 00:01:20,368  
me to be a geodetic survey er and I was

20  
00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:23,090  
assigned to 1380 first geodetic survey

21  
00:01:20,368 --> 00:01:31,049  
squadron in Orlando Florida

22  
00:01:23,090 --> 00:01:35,640  
we basically in 1965 we moved to Warren

23  
00:01:31,049 --> 00:01:40,049  
Air Force Base in Wyoming on average I

24  
00:01:35,640 --> 00:01:44,549  
would spend nine ten months a year on

25  
00:01:40,049 --> 00:01:46,799  
temporary duty surveying for latitude

26  
00:01:44,549 --> 00:01:51,570  
and longitude at our missile sites and

27  
00:01:46,799 --> 00:01:54,750  
aircraft bases for positioning missile

28  
00:01:51,569 --> 00:01:57,089  
and aircraft guidance systems basically

29

00:01:54,750 --> 00:02:01,500  
the squadrons mission was to provide

30  
00:01:57,090 --> 00:02:05,280  
precise geographical coordinates for a

31  
00:02:01,500 --> 00:02:07,709  
missile or an aircraft inertial guidance

32  
00:02:05,280 --> 00:02:09,390  
system so that it would the missile or

33  
00:02:07,709 --> 00:02:12,750  
aircraft would know exactly precisely

34  
00:02:09,389 --> 00:02:15,179  
where it was at when it takes off

35  
00:02:12,750 --> 00:02:19,169  
while the intelligence agencies would

36  
00:02:15,180 --> 00:02:24,300  
provide the targeting and information in

37  
00:02:19,169 --> 00:02:27,599  
early of September of 1966 myself and

38  
00:02:24,300 --> 00:02:30,330  
two other Airmen a airman first class al

39  
00:02:27,599 --> 00:02:33,239  
Cramer and a airman third class Charlie

40  
00:02:30,330 --> 00:02:39,630  
Coates we were temporarily assigned to

41  
00:02:33,240 --> 00:02:42,990  
Malstrom Air Force Base and were ordered

42  
00:02:39,629 --> 00:02:46,680  
to provide or perform the initial

43  
00:02:42,990 --> 00:02:48,860

geodetic surveys for the last 50 missile

44

00:02:46,680 --> 00:02:52,890

sites there there already was 150

45

00:02:48,860 --> 00:02:58,290

Minuteman 1 sites and we were putting in

46

00:02:52,889 --> 00:03:00,929

the last 50 for the wing and basically

47

00:02:58,289 --> 00:03:04,609

we were assigned to the site activation

48

00:03:00,930 --> 00:03:09,450

task force they call sate half it was a

49

00:03:04,610 --> 00:03:12,590

bong really the prime contractor we were

50

00:03:09,449 --> 00:03:16,259

given a government truck no radio

51

00:03:12,590 --> 00:03:19,620

anything in it that I was the chief of

52

00:03:16,259 --> 00:03:22,409

party I was the observer on our small

53

00:03:19,620 --> 00:03:24,420

three-man team al was the recorder

54

00:03:22,409 --> 00:03:28,049

Charlie was we were trying to train him

55

00:03:24,419 --> 00:03:29,849

both in observing and recording we

56

00:03:28,050 --> 00:03:33,750

arrived who normally would arrive at a

57

00:03:29,849 --> 00:03:37,879

missile site at about in early evening

58  
00:03:33,750 --> 00:03:40,169  
we'd set up our instruments and

59  
00:03:37,879 --> 00:03:44,519  
basically what I was doing was the start

60  
00:03:40,169 --> 00:03:46,319  
observation to provide precise latitude

61  
00:03:44,519 --> 00:03:48,629  
and longitude on the night of this

62  
00:03:46,319 --> 00:03:50,459  
incident that happened we were

63  
00:03:48,629 --> 00:03:52,560  
completing a series of what we call

64  
00:03:50,459 --> 00:03:56,189  
celestial Astro

65  
00:03:52,560 --> 00:04:00,120  
asmath observations southeast of Conrad

66  
00:03:56,189 --> 00:04:02,909  
and I was doing the observing L was

67  
00:04:00,120 --> 00:04:05,580  
recording and Charlie was assisting now

68  
00:04:02,909 --> 00:04:10,379  
with the chronometer on the time hax as

69  
00:04:05,580 --> 00:04:13,469  
I tipped on Polaris the unusual thing

70  
00:04:10,379 --> 00:04:20,100  
about this missile site I was at was

71  
00:04:13,469 --> 00:04:23,209  
that the blast hatch of the silo was

72  
00:04:20,100 --> 00:04:25,410  
open and that was very unusual

73  
00:04:23,209 --> 00:04:26,579  
normally when I'd go to these missile

74  
00:04:25,410 --> 00:04:29,099  
sites even though they were

75  
00:04:26,579 --> 00:04:31,709  
not activated yet with a missile they

76  
00:04:29,098 --> 00:04:35,189  
were always closed the mana lifts were

77  
00:04:31,709 --> 00:04:40,408  
there we do for mana lifts and do a

78  
00:04:35,189 --> 00:04:44,038  
precise quadrangle and the work we did

79  
00:04:40,408 --> 00:04:48,740  
was very precise it involved a lot of

80  
00:04:44,038 --> 00:04:52,529  
was basically all using star shots and

81  
00:04:48,740 --> 00:04:56,759  
so here's a site that we arrived at and

82  
00:04:52,529 --> 00:04:58,318  
the blast hatch is open and we're

83  
00:04:56,759 --> 00:05:00,080  
nearing completion of the star

84  
00:04:58,319 --> 00:05:02,430  
observations we had been to the other

85  
00:05:00,079 --> 00:05:07,128  
three mana lifts and I was at the

86

00:05:02,430 --> 00:05:12,709  
monolith thought the next to the hatch

87  
00:05:07,129 --> 00:05:16,229  
and it was probably about one 1:30 any

88  
00:05:12,709 --> 00:05:21,359  
unidentified flying object came from the

89  
00:05:16,228 --> 00:05:26,339  
north and stopped right over us it I

90  
00:05:21,360 --> 00:05:28,979  
would say it was probably about altitude

91  
00:05:26,339 --> 00:05:31,339  
of 300 feet or so maybe a little higher

92  
00:05:28,978 --> 00:05:36,269  
it's a little hard to tell them the dark

93  
00:05:31,339 --> 00:05:38,369  
yeah it was round it had I would

94  
00:05:36,269 --> 00:05:41,370  
estimate its diameter at about 50 feet

95  
00:05:38,370 --> 00:05:44,908  
mmm and it's like a pretty large you

96  
00:05:41,370 --> 00:05:47,908  
know like a wingspan of a b-52 something

97  
00:05:44,908 --> 00:05:50,310  
in that range it's pretty large it

98  
00:05:47,908 --> 00:05:54,778  
seemed to have pulsating lights going

99  
00:05:50,310 --> 00:05:58,699  
around it and it had a white light from

100  
00:05:54,778 --> 00:06:01,610

the center looking down into the silo

101

00:05:58,699 --> 00:06:04,740

there was no wind there was no noise

102

00:06:01,610 --> 00:06:09,509

still only stayed there maybe 20 30

103

00:06:04,740 --> 00:06:12,718

seconds at most and then I just remember

104

00:06:09,509 --> 00:06:16,740

I I'm staring up at their stars right

105

00:06:12,718 --> 00:06:20,250

I'm pretty keen observer of of what's

106

00:06:16,740 --> 00:06:24,120

above me here in the celestial spear up

107

00:06:20,250 --> 00:06:27,478

there and I just said to myself what if

108

00:06:24,120 --> 00:06:31,110

this thing beams beams us up and takes

109

00:06:27,478 --> 00:06:32,550

us off to some distant place and never

110

00:06:31,110 --> 00:06:34,020

returned earth again I mean this is

111

00:06:32,550 --> 00:06:36,028

going through my head here well this

112

00:06:34,019 --> 00:06:39,299

thing's above me and and then from this

113

00:06:36,028 --> 00:06:41,459

dead stop it shoots off to the east

114

00:06:39,300 --> 00:06:45,360

just like now you see it now you're

115  
00:06:41,459 --> 00:06:48,918  
doing it just to so after this UFO

116  
00:06:45,360 --> 00:06:51,169  
departs I grab my instrument me and

117  
00:06:48,918 --> 00:06:54,060  
jumped in the truck behind the steering

118  
00:06:51,168 --> 00:06:56,908  
wheel and off we went and we weren't

119  
00:06:54,060 --> 00:06:58,680  
about to be there if it came back we we

120  
00:06:56,908 --> 00:07:00,000  
didn't have guards with us because there

121  
00:06:58,680 --> 00:07:03,720  
was no missile we didn't have a radio

122  
00:07:00,000 --> 00:07:05,129  
because we're not really in contact with

123  
00:07:03,720 --> 00:07:07,050  
the air force base I don't know any of

124  
00:07:05,129 --> 00:07:08,908  
this other stuff is even going on to be

125  
00:07:07,050 --> 00:07:10,348  
honest with you I mean this is we're

126  
00:07:08,908 --> 00:07:13,158  
just kind of out there on our own doing

127  
00:07:10,348 --> 00:07:14,699  
these doing these sites and mailing our

128  
00:07:13,158 --> 00:07:18,269  
material back

129  
00:07:14,699 --> 00:07:21,210  
it was I wasn't even aware there was a

130  
00:07:18,269 --> 00:07:25,378  
UFO problem per se but as it turned out

131  
00:07:21,209 --> 00:07:27,329  
the night's events weren't totally over

132  
00:07:25,379 --> 00:07:33,810  
with us at that point as we sped away in

133  
00:07:27,329 --> 00:07:35,639  
on our way back to Conrad and the Army

134  
00:07:33,810 --> 00:07:37,288  
Corps of Engineers had base rocked all

135  
00:07:35,639 --> 00:07:39,300  
the roads to take the weight of these

136  
00:07:37,288 --> 00:07:41,310  
missiles they were bringing in and of

137  
00:07:39,300 --> 00:07:43,770  
course these are new sights and they

138  
00:07:41,310 --> 00:07:47,278  
took down all the signs to make the

139  
00:07:43,769 --> 00:07:49,258  
roads wider and I go over the hill and

140  
00:07:47,278 --> 00:07:51,060  
come down the headlights come down

141  
00:07:49,259 --> 00:07:54,718  
there's no road there at Eid you know

142  
00:07:51,060 --> 00:07:56,550  
and so I tried to make a you either went

143

00:07:54,718 --> 00:08:02,278  
to the right or left I tried to go to

144  
00:07:56,550 --> 00:08:06,439  
the left to towards Conrad and the truck

145  
00:08:02,278 --> 00:08:09,120  
flipped over and we ended up upside down

146  
00:08:06,439 --> 00:08:12,269  
fortunately none of us were hurt

147  
00:08:09,120 --> 00:08:14,668  
we walked probably about two hours to

148  
00:08:12,269 --> 00:08:17,778  
the nearer nearby farmhouse if we call

149  
00:08:14,668 --> 00:08:21,839  
that nearby and I called that Montana

150  
00:08:17,778 --> 00:08:24,750  
Highway Patrol they the farmer drove us

151  
00:08:21,839 --> 00:08:26,788  
back to the accident site in was

152  
00:08:24,750 --> 00:08:29,908  
interesting when the highway patrolman

153  
00:08:26,788 --> 00:08:31,860  
arrived as we told him you know how did

154  
00:08:29,908 --> 00:08:34,799  
this occur he was asking us and told him

155  
00:08:31,860 --> 00:08:38,399  
that his dispatch had told him there had

156  
00:08:34,799 --> 00:08:42,809  
been over 20 reports to the to his

157  
00:08:38,399 --> 00:08:45,408

office that night in reporting a UFO in

158

00:08:42,809 --> 00:08:45,408  
the area

159

00:08:45,600 --> 00:08:51,800  
I wrote incident reports to the

160

00:08:48,769 --> 00:09:00,350  
sate half Boeing Montana

161

00:08:51,799 --> 00:09:02,269  
this state regarding the accident but

162

00:09:00,350 --> 00:09:04,750  
you know what was interesting was I

163

00:09:02,269 --> 00:09:08,750  
never heard anything from the Air Force

164

00:09:04,750 --> 00:09:12,470  
regarding the incident and I never had

165

00:09:08,750 --> 00:09:14,179  
to there was no retribution or

166

00:09:12,470 --> 00:09:15,829  
reimbursement required for me for

167

00:09:14,179 --> 00:09:17,689  
rolling this truck and this truck at 18

168

00:09:15,828 --> 00:09:20,629  
miles on it that afternoon I was a new

169

00:09:17,690 --> 00:09:23,000  
truck okay so they nothing they heard

170

00:09:20,629 --> 00:09:24,350  
nothing so this is this part was good

171

00:09:23,000 --> 00:09:29,649  
because I didn't really want to buy the

172  
00:09:24,350 --> 00:09:35,959  
truck I I went back to my headquarters

173  
00:09:29,649 --> 00:09:38,000  
at Warren Air Force Base and about a

174  
00:09:35,958 --> 00:09:40,939  
month and a half later I was discharged

175  
00:09:38,000 --> 00:09:43,159  
I did not mention wrecking this truck up

176  
00:09:40,940 --> 00:09:45,980  
in Montana on one of my TD why's he

177  
00:09:43,159 --> 00:09:49,490  
didn't ask me and I I didn't mention it

178  
00:09:45,980 --> 00:09:51,680  
I didn't want to buy it and but I must

179  
00:09:49,490 --> 00:09:55,250  
say now my four years that I had with

180  
00:09:51,679 --> 00:09:56,778  
this geodetic survey squadron I had

181  
00:09:55,250 --> 00:09:58,730  
worked on the latest missiles and

182  
00:09:56,778 --> 00:10:04,730  
aircraft and in the US Air Force

183  
00:09:58,730 --> 00:10:09,259  
inventory and I worked everywhere on

184  
00:10:04,730 --> 00:10:11,360  
these guidance systems and we or I never

185  
00:10:09,259 --> 00:10:13,669  
saw anything in the Air Force inventory

186  
00:10:11,360 --> 00:10:18,500  
that could perform like this UFO did

187  
00:10:13,669 --> 00:10:20,179  
it's I don't know what it was but we

188  
00:10:18,500 --> 00:10:23,509  
sure didn't have any I never saw

189  
00:10:20,179 --> 00:10:25,909  
anything like it and I'd like to thank

190  
00:10:23,509 --> 00:10:28,759  
all of you for being here today and I

191  
00:10:25,909 --> 00:10:33,049  
thank the National Press Club hopefully

192  
00:10:28,759 --> 00:10:34,610  
someday the we'll know in the near

193  
00:10:33,049 --> 00:10:37,429  
future that the government rule

194  
00:10:34,610 --> 00:10:42,669  
perhaps release any information they

195  
00:10:37,429 --> 00:10:42,669  
have on UFOs thank you very much

196  
00:10:47,440 --> 00:10:49,500  
you