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UFO UpDates Mailing List

The depressing news about UFO news

From: **Mark Cashman** <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
Date: Sat, 16 Aug 1997 03:20:17 -0700
Fwd Date: Sat, 16 Aug 1997 09:36:56 -0400
Subject: The depressing news about UFO news

In the course of trying to obtain a story on a UFO sighting in 1968 from the Orlando Sentinel, I decided to take the opportunity to browse their archives for stories on UFOs over the last 4 years.

Of 368 stories retrieved with this keyword, 3 were serious news pieces. Of the rest, about 50% seemed to be derogatory references to UFOs as equivalent to Elvis sightings, or comparing various stupid things to UFOs. Many of the rest were announcements of events or lectures.

Here's one of the least offensive examples:

LOOK! UP IN THE SKY! IT'S CHINESE
SUPERMUSHROOM!

Published on 03/05/93, Article 309 of 584 found.

Was it an angel? Or was it a giant flying mushroom? The sky over China's largest city, Shanghai, was filled with an unidentified flying object for more than an hour Tuesday, the Xinmin Evening News said in an edition received in Beijing Thursday.

On a more stupid note -

NEW DOWNTOWN TOWER OF LIGHT IS
ACTUALLY ANTENNA TO ALIENS!

Published on 07/26/92, Article 335 of 584 found.

For months, baffled Orlando residents have wondered why the city would put something so silly as the 'Tower of Light' sculpture in front of the new City Hall.

But now the riddle has been solved: The Tower of Light actually is a transmission facility used to communicate with aliens from outer space!

Or perhaps...

UFO SIGHTINGS PROVE TO BE CLOSE
ENCOUNTERS OF EXPLAINABLE KIND

Published on 03/08/91, Article 394 of 584 found.

E.T. or not E.T.? That is the question. A flurry of celestial activity has led to an increase in UFO sightings in Central Florida over the past three days. In all, about a dozen people have phoned The Orlando Sentinel wondering if Florida is being invaded by little green men.

or...

UFO FANS' CONVENTION IS FAR OUT

Published on 05/11/91, Article 387 of 584 found.

TUCSON, Ariz. Omec Onec, who landed here from

Chicago, says life on her native planet, Venus, isn't all that different from life on Earth.

'It's like the desert areas here. It's amazing how adaptable the human species is,' said Onec, one of 30 speakers at the World UFO Convention that landed here this month.

It's clear from my exhausting perusal of the gratuitous UFO insult that journalists are not seeing the same universe of reports that researchers are. No, they're watching "Sightings" or perusing the most purile of the UFO newsgroups, or visiting Roswell.

You can't really get the feeling I developed by reading these few short shots. You need to go to the Sentinel archive, do a search on UFO and page through 10 or eleven pages of summaries of throwaway stories to see what I mean.

Someone on a list I subscribe to recently claimed that things were going well for UFology, that we had shows and books, and the debunkers weren't. Well, this night is a sobering experience that wipes away that optimism. Sure we have books. They're mixed in with the astrology books. Sure we have shows, and after five minutes of UFO coverage, we get a piece on ghosts or police psychics.

Hundreds, thousands, maybe tens of thousands of good reports, physical and medical effects. Fifty years. And this is the result. Nothing. Arrgh!

Go visit - get sober.

<http://archives.orlandosentinel.com>

Mark Cashman, creator of the Temporal Doorway at

<http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Lofts/5623/>

[http://www.infohaus.com/access/by-seller/The Temporal Doorway Storefront](http://www.infohaus.com/access/by-seller/The_Temporal_Doorway_Storefront)

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