



# Aliens On Earth.com

Resources for those who are stranded here

[UFOs](#) | [Paranormal](#) | [Area 51](#)  
[People](#) | [Places](#) | [Random](#)  
[Top 100](#) | [What's New](#)  
[Catalog](#) | [New Books](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Our Bookstore  
is [OPEN](#)

[Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1997](#) -> [Feb](#) -> Here

## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Close encounters of the U.S.A.F. kind

From: [werd@interlog.com](mailto:werd@interlog.com) (Drew Williamson)  
Date: Mon, 10 Feb 1997 12:44:49 -0500 (EST)  
Fwd Date: Tue, 11 Feb 1997 02:05:45 -0500  
Subject: Close encounters of the U.S.A.F. kind

There was much discussion a few weeks back on aircraft having near misses. Perhaps this article might answer some of them.

This story was covered by CNN too.

Drew  
+++++  
Page A20 of THE TORONTO STAR Saturday February 8, 1997

Fighter jets, airliners in 2 close encounters

Incidents prompt military flight suspension

WASHINGTON (AP) - Four National Guard fighter jets screamed past a civilian airliner off the coast of Maryland yesterday, the second harrowing incident involving Guard F-16s and airliners in the area in three days.

The U.S. Air Force quickly suspended all its flights in restricted areas along the East Coast for a review of rules and operating procedures.

At the same time, the Federal Aviation Administration told controllers in Florida, Washington and New York and military controllers in Virginia to review procedures for operations in and around East Coast military areas.

The American Eagle turboprop took no special action in yesterday's incident, and no one was hurt.

However, two days earlier the pilot of a Nations Air Boeing 727 carrying 77 passengers and seven crew members from San Juan, Puerto Rico to New York had to dive into evasive manoeuvres. Two flight attendants and a passenger were thrown to the cabin floor.

In that incident, off New Jersey's coast, a civilian controller following the planes repeatedly expressed concern and asked military controllers to get the Guard plane closest to the 727 to move away.

An official of the airline charged that the fighter pilots "screwed up" or "were playing games" during the encounter.

But New Jersey National Guard Col. Thomas Griffin said the F-16 pilots simply were trying to identify a plane that shouldn't have been in that sector.

The National Transportation Safety Board mobilized investigation teams to look into both incidents.

Maj. Gen. Donald Shepperd, director of the Air National Guard, told a Pentagon briefing he considered military aviation "very, very safe," noting that thousands of flights occur each day over the East Coast.

In yesterday's incident, the pilot of the American Eagle

turboprop, en route from Raleigh Durham in North Carolina to New York's JFK Airport, reported two jet fighters flew above his plane and two below.

Shepperd said three fighters passed at least 300 metres above the civilian plane and the fourth, with low fuel levels, was 450 metres below it.

Search for other documents to/from: [werd](#)

---

[ [Next Message](#) | [Previous Message](#) | [This Day's Messages](#) ]  
[ [This Month's Index](#) | [UFO UpDates Main Index](#) | [MUFON Ontario](#) ]

**UFO UpDates - Toronto - [updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)**  
Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

A Hand-Operated E-Mail Subscription Service for the Study of UFO Related Phenomena.  
To subscribe please send your first and last name to [updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)  
Message submissions should be sent to the same address.

---

[ [UFO Topics](#) | [People](#) | [Ufomind What's New](#) | [Ufomind Top Level](#) ]

**To find this message again in the future...**  
Link it to the appropriate [Ufologist](#) or [UFO Topic](#) page.

Archived as a public service by [Area 51 Research Center](#) which is not responsible for content.  
Software by Glenn Campbell. Technical contact: [webmaster@ufomind.com](mailto:webmaster@ufomind.com)

Financial support for this web server is provided by the [Research Center Catalog](#).