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UFO UpDates Mailing List

'Whirlwind' in Georgia

From: jan@cyberzone.net (Jan Aldrich)
Date: Tue, 16 Sep 1997 10:42:48 -0700
Fwd Date: Tue, 16 Sep 1997 18:01:29 -0400
Subject: 'Whirlwind' in Georgia

Thanks to Michael Hitt, a Georgia police officer and historical writer, for this item.

This may be more Fortean than ufological.

Marietta (Georgia) JOURNAL, 28 July 1881.

YOUNG WOMEN IN A WHIRL-WIND

Americus, Georgia Republican

Mr. Z. T. Baisden gives us the following story of a whirlwind that visited his place about 12 o'clock on Monday, scaring all his hands and some visitors very badly. A whirlwind occurred in a twelve acre cornfield that was about four feet in diameter and sometimes a hundred feet high. The body of it was perfectly black, with fire in the centre and emitted a strong sulphurous vapor that could be smelt three hundred yards from it. The whirlwind would divide into three and move rapidly over the field, twisting up the corn stalks by the roots and carrying them up. These three minor whirlwinds would then come together with a loud crash, cracking and burning and shoot high up into the heavens. Three young ladies who were visiting Mrs. Baisden went in about 150 feet to observe it, but received such a shower of burning sand upon their face and necks that they ran affrighten to the house. Mr. Baisden says that he cannot account for this strange phenomenon, and it certainly frightened all who saw it. The strange part was that it contained fire, yet did not appear to burn the corn that it did not tear up, and its sulphurous vapor sickened and burnt all who got close enough to get a full breath of it.

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Jan Aldrich
Project 1947
<http://www.iufog.org/project1947/>

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