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UpDate: '76-'78 Garden City/Long Island, NY Sighting?

From: Ron Cecchini <Ron.Cecchini@GD-CS.COM>
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Fwd Date: Tue, 08 Aug 2000 07:50:58 -0400
Subject: UpDate: '76-'78 Garden City/Long Island, NY Sighting?

This past weekend, after having briefly mentioned something to a relative about Hudson Valley/Pine Bush/New York UFO sightings, I 'accidentally' found myself listening to one man's (not my relative's) story about his sighting.

Long-story-short:

This person, after exhibiting a bit of surprise that I was interested, and after a bit of trepidation, told me this:

The year was '76, '77 or '78. I asked him if he could recall the exact year any clearer and he couldn't. In retrospect I realize I should've asked for the time of year, but I didn't.

He was in Garden City, NY, which is on Long Island, almost exactly 25 miles due East of NYC. The time was sometime between 11 pm & 1 am. At the the time, he was working for the NY Times as a truck driver and was busy loading the bundles of newspapers into his truck.

He then noticed a formation of lights nearly directly over his head, or at a large angle to the horizon. He estimates that the object was within a couple hundred feet from where he stood.

The lights were stationary ("hovering") and he did not hear any noise.

I asked him to describe the formation of the lights, and he kept saying (he seemed to actually immerse himself in the moment and seemed to lose himself) "... they were... alternating... sort of pulsing..."

I asked him again to describe the shape of the formation, if he could. He didn't seem to be giving an answer, so I then came out and asked "Were the lights in a circle, as far as you can tell?" He couldn't confirm or deny it.

"Did you notice the color of the lights?" Again he wasn't sure and wasn't giving a clear answer. So I asked whether or not the lights were all white, or all some other color, or multi-colored. Again he couldn't give a definitive answer, but I had the impression that he was describing lights that were all of the same color. He did say that the lights were very, very bright.

He then apparently suddenly remembered something and blurted: "The lights... they were all sort of square!... ya know?" I asked "You saw that the lights were in a square formation or that the _lights_ were square-shaped?"

(in paraphrase)"Yeah... I think so...the lights...there were multiple, very bright lights... they were alternating...you know, like, only one was lit at a time... and the lights seemed to be kind of square..."

I asked if it looked like an advertisement banner on the side of a blimp or on a billboard. "No," he said, "it _definitely_ wasn't a blimp."

I asked if anyone else at the Times was there with him and also observed the same thing.

"No, I was alone...I always thought that was weird... It was like I alone was meant to see this..."

"How did your sighting end?"
"I'm not sure..."

So I risked "leading the witness" and asked:
"Did you see the object fly away or what?"
"I'm not sure..."

"I mean, did you see the object slowly move away, or did it zip away, or did it suddenly disappear...what?"
"I'm really not sure. I know I watched it for a few minutes, but I really can't say how I stopped being able to see it."

I paraphrased for him:

"So, sometime between 1976 and 1978, between 11 pm and 1 am, in Garden City, NY, you saw at a distance of within a couple hundred feet, a silently hovering formation of very bright lights that were 'alternating'. You saw them, fairly close by and nearly over head, for a few minutes... and then you didn't see them any more. Is that it?"
"Correct."

"You never reported this to anyone or anything?"
"No... I've only told one or two people... and now you... in all these years...I don't know why..."

This person appeared very sincere and reliable. I was impressed that he actually said "I'm not sure", instead of simply saying "Yeah, it was a circle!" or "Yeah, there were all white!", etc, when I provided him with those options.

And again I stress that there was a certain "earnestness" in his voice, he seemed to almost relive the experience as he talked to me. I happened to have opportunity to run into him again the following day (he worked at the place where I had to be -- I'm being intentionally vague) and the first thing he asked was whether or not I had been able to find anything on the computer that night (I had told him that I'd start doing some searching on the computer to find something that sounded like his story).

He very convincingly conveyed to me that he really wants to know what it is that he saw over 20 years ago.

...

Ok, so that wasn't a "long-story-short", but can anyone help me search a database of Long Island/NYC sightings between the years '76 & '78? If need be, I could probably try to get him to nail down the approximate month he had his sighting.

Thank you muchly.

p.s. this story doesn't even compare to the ones I just heard (from people that I trust as much as I can possibly trust anyone) that took place in Pine Bush around '81-'83.

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