

Mexican Air Force Releases UFO Video 11 UFOs Visible on Infrared & Radar

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The Mexican Air Force has released video footage of up to 11 UFOs toying with one of their surveillance planes. The aircraft involved, a Merlin C26/A, was strictly a reconnaissance plane belonging to the 501st Air Squadron. It was on routine patrol to detect drug smuggling during an anti-narcotics operation.

The encounter occurred on March 5, 2004 when the C26/A was flying near Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche on the eastern coast of Mexico. The crew detected an unknown object at an elevation of approx. 11,500 feet on its radar and infrared equipment. The aircraft immediately pursued the object but it became lost in some clouds. Minutes later, the aircraft found itself surrounded by 11 objects which followed the plane.

“They were invisible to the naked eye, but they were there, there is no doubt about it. They had mass, they had energy, and they were moving about,” said Jamie Maussan, a journalist and UFO enthusiast, after viewing the 15 minute video. According to Maussan, the objects appeared to be intelligently controlled because at one point they changed direction and surrounded the plane that was chasing them.

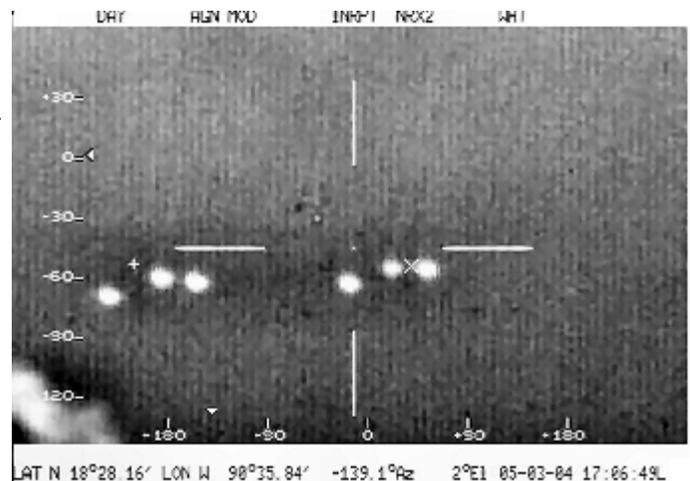
According to Reuters, the Mexican government confirmed the video was shot by their Air Force on March 5 while on patrol in its eastern sector near the Gulf of Mexico.

“We are not alone! This is so weird,” one of the pilots can be heard yelling. After detecting the objects on radar, the plane switched to infrared and picked them up, as well. The objects were described as blobs of light that hovered in formation and even darted about.

After detecting the first object, radar then picked up two. Shortly afterwards, there were nine, and then as many as eleven objects. The situation was one of extreme tension for the crew, who managed to stay calm in spite of the inherent danger. The eleven objects disappeared as fast as they had come into view.

“There was a moment when ... the screens showed they were behind us, to the left and in front of us. It was at that point that I felt a bit tense,” said Maj. Magdalena Castanon, commander in charge of the aircraft.

“This is historic news,” Maussan said. “Hundreds of videos (of UFOs) exist, but none had the backing of the armed forces of any country ... The armed forces don’t perpetuate frauds.”



(Sources: WorldNet Daily.com, Rense.com: articles by Santiago Yturria and Scott Corales, The Schenectady Gazette May 13, 2004)

The Messenger

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Saratoga Lake Lights Revisited

by: Marian Ross
IRAAP Investigator

In 1999, the place to see UFOs in upstate New York was Saratoga Lake, a one mile wide lake to the east of the resort town of Saratoga Springs. Mufon members and IRAAP researchers were frequent visitors to the lake's shore. All were interested in the strange flaring lights that resembled "small suns" seen moving vertically around the southern end of the lake.

Both myself and investigator Richard Sitts were privy to the suns and a host of other unusual sights. We saw a strange flying structure one night and huge illuminated plasma clouds one March evening. For five years now, I've wondered why these strange phenomena would be interested in Saratoga Lake. Now a possible reason for the UFO visits to the area may have surfaced.

UFOs are frequently seen over nuclear sites and toxic dumps. To my knowledge, there are no nuclear facilities around the lake, but local media have revealed that the old air base on Radar Road is a toxic dump. The former radar base is 2.7 miles east of Saratoga Lake at Ketchum's Corners, New York. Since November of 2003, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has quietly been cleaning up a toxic mess at the base. Is this why strange lights are so interested in the lake area?

According to *The Saratogian* newspaper (Sunday 3/13/2004), the EPA was alerted to the mess after a 2002 fire in which drums of toxic materials caught fire. The EPA identified 2,000 gallons of PCB, 137 drums of a hazardous unidentified material, asbestos insulators, and 6000 gallons of petroleum. Why would a simple NORAD base with a revolving radar dish need toxic materials?

After the US Air Force abandoned the base, the Federal Aviation Administration took it over. Yet, the EPA can't determine who brought the toxic materials to the base and who is responsible for the \$675,000 cleanup bill. There is also some question as to who owns the base and who owned it over the years. Negligence like this keeps me from sleeping soundly at night. Security at the base was and is only a chain link fence. UFOs over Saratoga Lake are not limited to the 1999 time period. In the autumn of 1969, researcher Walter Webb reported a woman and daughter traveling along the lake had their car buzzed by a "huge, bright white light" that made a swishing sound as it passed over their car.

In 1974, a blimp-like object was seen hovering 500 feet over Saratoga Lake drawing water from the lake. New York State trooper Michael Morgan was sent to the lake to investigate the object. Morgan said the object glowed red and flashed on and off. Morgan observed two small objects fly into the blimp-like object and merge with it. The blimp-like object was observed on radar at Albany Airport and appeared as one object on the radar screen.

The two objects then emerged from the object and flew off. Trooper Morgan said he tried to observe the shape of the craft but the light it emitted was so strong he could not see the edges of the craft. Morgan said the blimp-like craft moved to the southern end of the lake then flew off. Witnesses saw it move over I-87, the Adirondack Northway. The craft then accelerated and was tracked by Albany radar. A military plane in the area told the Albany tower the craft flew past them at a high rate of speed. The Albany tower clocked the UFO at speeds between three and five thousand miles an hour. A history of anomalous lights and craft, a toxic dump nobody owns, the Saratoga Lake neighborhood is still one big mystery.

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BIGFOOT protection

Paul Bartholomew of Whitehall, NY has been involved with Bigfoot research for a very long time. Recently he has pushed the government officials in his hometown of Whitehall (Washington County) to pass a resolution to protect the hairy hominid from “unwanted hunting and abuse.” How so, if Bigfoot may not be real?

That’s exactly the point. No one is certain if Bigfoot actually exists, but Paul is convinced that there is a distinct possibility that Bigfoot is more than just a fabrication. To prove his point, he has urged legislation in Whitehall for Bigfoot to be left alone.

“Part of it is to embrace the phenomenon, to recognize the history - the rich history that we have here,” said Paul. “It’s a way for the community to embrace the phenomenon. I think it’s a step in the right direction - that we embrace it rather than shun it.”

The town may even see a little tourism increase, which will have the added benefit of educating the public about the illusive creature and the tales that surround it.

The resolution is formally titled the Dr. Warren L. Cook Sasquatch Protective Ordinance, named for Paul’s former professor at Castleton State College in Vermont.

Paul sent IRAAP a short article he authored titled “Sasquatch and the Law.” Here are a few excerpts:

“Reports of encounters between man and large, hairy, bi-pedal creatures throughout the world are plentiful. In New York and Vermont the reports can be traced back to the Algonquin and Iroquois stories of “Stone Giants” and the “Windigo.” In fact, Samuel Champlain wrote of a creature called the “Gougou.” (Monsters of the Northwoods, ©1992 North Country Books, Inc., Utica, NY)

“With the increasing awareness of these legendary creatures came hunters and researchers stalking this legend. A controversy ensued and some interesting legal history was made.

“Back in 1969, in Skamania County Washington, officials passed a law making it illegal to kill a Sasquatch. The famous Bigfoot Ordinance ‘No. 1969-01’ declared it illegal to shoot the creature and carried a \$10,000 fine and potential jail term as punishment.. It was an unprecedented legal action.

““We didn’t feel that if there was such an animal that the animal had ever harmed anybody or had done anything that deserves to be shot or captured. I think that there are many other ways of proving an existence of something other than killing that particular thing you are trying to prove exists.’ (Leek - “In Search Of... Bigfoot, 1976, Alan Landsburg Productions)

“The late Dr. Warren L. Cook was a Professor of History and

Anthropology at Castleton State College, Vermont, and was an expert on Sasquatch. A noted academic, he was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his Flood Tide Of Empire (©) 1973, Yale University Press). In 1987 Dr Cook attempted to have Sasquatch protected as an ‘endangered species.’

“The legislation works on various levels. It recognizes the phenomenon and is respectful historically, discourages hunting parties, encourages eco tourism and offers an appropriate tribute to Dr. Cook.”

Whereas Dr Cook’s attempt was unsuccessful, Paul Bartholomew has taken up the torch and moved forward with a resolution to protect the legendary creature. On February 5, 2004, “The Late Dr Warren L. Cook Sasquatch/Bigfoot Protective Ordinance” was passed unanimously by the Whitehall Village Board.

The resolution is reprinted here for those interested.

The Dr Warren L. Cook Sasquatch/Bigfoot Protective Resolution

WHEREAS, there is an historic, traditional history of accumulating reports of a bi-pedal, ape-like creature walking like as human in the Whitehall, New York area often referred to as “Bigfoot” or “Sasquatch”, and

WHEREAS, reports of these creatures can be traced back to the Iroquois and Algonquins and are referenced clearly in the works of Samuel de Champlain and represent a consistent pattern of sightings, and

WHEREAS, the possibility of all endangered species, proven and pending scientific recognition, should be entitled to protection under both Federal and New York State laws, and

WHEREAS, the publicity of these creatures could draw not only scientific scrutiny, but unwanted hunting parties with weapons that could pose a lethal threat to both creatures and area residents as well, and

WHEREAS, legislation to protect other cryptozoological creatures has been successfully passed in both Port Henry for The Lake Champlain Monsters popularly referred to as “Champ,” and in Skamania County, Washington for “Bigfoot” or “Sasquatch”,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITEHALL, NEW YORK, that the Village of Whitehall adopt the following measures to ensure the safety of those creatures known as “Bigfoot” or “Sasquatch” in the following two sections:

SECTION ONE: Sasquatch Safety Preserve - the creatures known as “Sasquatch” or “Bigfoot” are declared an endangered species in the Village of Whitehall, New York and are hereby protected from potentially lethal abuse or annihilation by hunters or hunting parties, and

SECTION TWO: The willful, premeditated act of killing or fatally injuring a “Sasquatch” or “Bigfoot” within the borders of the Village of Whitehall, New York is hereby prohibited.

Adopted this 5th day of February, 2004.

(Thanks to Marian Ross for supplying a copy of the resolution)

From Puerto Rico

Jorge and Marleen Martin have been investigating the UFO phenomenon in Puerto Rico for many, many years. Puerto Rico has been a "hot spot" for UFO activity for some time, although very little mention is made of that fact in the United States.

Recently, I received a brief email from the Martins concerning a sighting. It is reproduced here.

Dear Ray,

Marleen's mother, Mrs. Elba Ortiz, sighted a large sized shiny, silvery isosceles triangle-shaped UFO in the last days of February, 2004. The triangle seemed to be motionless in the sky, and even though it appeared to be miles away, she described its size as some 3 inches at arm's length. This indicates that it must have been huge in size.

The triangle remained motionless in the sky until a dark cloud came from the east and covered it. When the cloud passed away the triangle had disappeared from sight.

Last Thursday, 4 of March, she observed another UFO, this time it was a shiny, large silvery cylinder-shaped object. She described its size as "...almost six feet long," again, seen from a distance of several miles away. The object flew from west to east and disappeared from sight.

On both occasions it was around 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. Both sightings occurred close to our home in Rio Piedras (San Juan). There were several other witnesses as well.

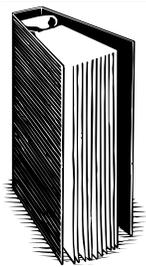
Sincerely,
Jorge and Marleen Martin

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**"One is led to truth
through the interpretation
of a myth."**

- Pliny

as quoted in "The Lost Years of Jesus"
by Elizabeth Clare Prophet



UFO Bureau Archives

from Billy Rachels
IRAAP Investigator
Director, UFO Bureau

Ball from Space

Terry Betz was a twenty-one year old pre-med student. He and his father, Antoine, were inspecting 88 acres of newly acquired timberland located on Fort George Island just east of Jacksonville, Florida, when they came across a highly polished, round, metal ball, approximately the size of a bowling ball. The date was May 27, 1974.

Terry decided to take the ball back home. Later on he gave it a closer examination and found it to be a perfect sphere, slightly smaller than a regular size bowling ball. Its weight was 25 pounds. Terry soon also discovered that the ball seemed to move with a mind of its own. When he rolled it, it always rolled away from him as any ball would do, eventually stopping. However, once it paused, it would roll back to him! Sometimes it would veer off to the side, stop, then vibrate for a short time, but always returned to the person who rolled it.

Lou Egner, a reporter and photographer for a Jacksonville newspaper, was sent to do a story on the unusual sphere. Being very skeptical of the unknown ball, the reporter gave it a roll. He later said that the ball stopped, made a turn rolling four more feet, then stopped again. It then rolled another eight feet, made a big arc, then rolled right back toward him, stopping at his feet.

The reporter took the time to examine the ball closely, he later wrote in his story, and found that it was made of some sort of metal, very similar in appearance to stainless steel. The ball had no seams on it, and only a small triangular mark on its surface. One spot on its surface attracted metal as would a magnet.

The family continued to play with the ball for several weeks and found many more amazing things it was able to do.

For example, when Terry struck the ball with a metal object (like a metal tool) it produced a ringing sound, and strumming his guitar near it caused the ball to emit a sound as if responding to the guitar. They also found the ball was sensitive to weather conditions: sunny days produced more activity than cloudy days. Direct heat or infrared seemed to have no effect on it.

Yet, the most amazing feature of the ball was how it performed when placed on a flat surface above ground level. When placed on a piece of glass above the ground, it would roll to the edge, but not fall off... it would go right up to the edge, stop, reverse direction and stop at the other edge. It seemed as if the sphere had some sort of built-in sensing or guidance system. In the case of the piece of glass, it would eventually roll along the edge of the glass as if trying to find a way to get off.

At this point, the Betz family began to consider the possibility that they might be in possession of some type of alien space probe, so they decided to have scientific test done on the object. The "ball from space" was examined by Dr Carl Williston of Omega Minus One, an institution located in the state of Louisiana at the time. In his six hours of testing, Dr Williston found that the sphere contained three magnetic poles and a possible fourth. He stated that the aspect of the magnetic field was a mind bender, the flux density of the field appeared to vary in strength based on an unknown pattern. Simply stated, the power of the magnetic portion varied up and down. Back in 1974, this phenomenon was not part of our known physics. The same applied to the multiple poles.

An x-ray was taken of the object which revealed 3 similar spheroid shapes within the ball. Curiously, these 3 shapes had a "halo" surrounding them, as though they were surrounded by a material with a different density. The metal was similar to stainless steel, but had some unknown content making it slightly different.

Conclusions:

This unusual ball was a magnetic sphere sensitive to magnetic fields, numerous

(UFO BUREAU Continued on page 5)

(UFO BUREAU *Continued from page 4*)

sound emissions, and mechanical stimulation. It was both passive and active. If it was an extraterrestrial probe, it might possibly be in a damaged state.

Where is the Betz ball today? There is no certainty as to its present location. At one point though, the mysterious sphere had created enough excitement that both Dr J Allen Hyneck and Dr James A. Harder (former APRO Director of Research) wanted to perform their own testing; however, I am not sure if the tests were ever carried out. Unfortunately, both men are now deceased.

If someone made the metal sphere, they apparently went through a lot of trouble (and money) to create it as well as they did. It makes no sense that they did not bother to try and retrieve it. Perhaps, the "ball from space" might, indeed, be just that... something from beyond our Earth.

(Billy Rachels can be contacted at 516 Colton Ave, Thomasville, GA 31792)

Men of Metal Eyewitness Accounts of Humanoid Robots

a book by: Rowland Samuel

When Billy Rachels sent in his article on the "**ball from space**," it reminded me of a story that was brought to my attention a few weeks before. An excerpt from a book by Mr. Samuel, the same as the above title, was advertised in a recent issue of **Esquire** magazine. The thirty-seven page excerpt gave some passages from the book that left me wondering if what I read was true or just a fabrication.

Granted, I have not bought the book (**Men of Metal**, Casson Publishing, Ltd, London, January 2004), so what I am going to relate is strictly from the brief passages I read out of **Esquire**.

The story goes like this. The author says that he is attending a party in Oxford, England where he is introduced to a Mr. James Casson, a publisher of books on the occult and unexplained phenomena. Casson says he doesn't really take his

subject matter too seriously, yet soon both men start outdoing each other bringing up urban legends. One of Mr. Casson's legends, however, was one Samuel hadn't heard about. Apparently, a friend of Casson "had a classic 'bright lights came out of nowhere' experience on a road outside of town. He is driving along on a rainy night and skids off the road and sees something - he's not sure what - and before he knows it, he's magically back on the road, safe and sound. We all have a big laugh and then James plays his trump card. Seems this fellow took a snapshot."

At this point, I am guessing this story is another abduction experience, or a helpful alien is responsible for assisting Casson's friend. I guess wrong.

The story continues with Samuel becoming more and more curious about the man and his photo. The man's name is Horace Burrows, so he gives him a call. Fortunately, the man is home, and Samuel asks if he could meet him to see his photo and get a first hand account of his story. The meeting is arranged. What follows is quoted from the excerpt:

"Horace has a normal house in a normal neighbourhood. Has a normal wife. So far, I'm encouraged. He's middle-aged and short and squat and doesn't have a crazy look in his eye. Of course, they never do.

"Horace tells his story. He's on the A40 back to Oxfords. Just attended an economics conference in Wheatley - he's a college professor - and there's driving rain. He hits a patch of water and his car begins to aquaplane. He panics. Slams the brakes, over-steers. If you can do it wrong, Horace did it. His car starts to careen off the road and things look dodgy.

"That's when he saw it.

"There's a bright light, so bright he has to look away. He feels his car being lifted into the air and gets disoriented. He braces for impact and thinks about his wife and children. There is a loud thump and he looks up.

"The light has diminished. His car is back on the road, apparently undamaged, and he's unhurt. There is a loud humming

sound and he looks up to see an object, or at least a piece of an object. He only catches a glimpse of it, but to him, it looks almost like a hand. Definitely, not human. He fumbles for his camera and snaps off a picture before it disappears.

"Horace stops for a moment. Assesses my reaction. The incredulous look on my face is one he's seen before. I try to look as if I'm open-minded, but I know it isn't working. He fixes his eyes on mine.

"I know what I saw."

"He continues. A few seconds after the thing disappears, an old Land Rover drives up and pulls to a stop. The driver rushes up to Horace and asks if he's okay. Horace stops to collect himself and everything seems to be in order. They chat for a moment about what they've seen, and as Horace is getting back in his car, the bloke tries to rip the camera out of his hand.

"He tried to grab the camera? Why?"

"I don't know. He just did. But I wouldn't let go. Then when a police car drove up, he scrambled into his car and drove away."

Well, I am even more convinced that this is a UFO related incident, true or not. The bright light, the car being lifted up, and even a possible appearance by one of our men-in-black to steal away any evidence. I am still wrong.

The author goes on to tell how he follows-up his investigation. The photo taken by Horace Burrows is reproduced in the work. The photo is from the front seat of an automobile. It is dark out. One can see the road ahead, and an unknown "something" to the right of the front window. It could be part of a spaceship, but certainly inconclusive.

The case is pursued by Samuel. He telephones the police department and talks with the officer who came upon the scene the night Horace had his experience. Samuel asks the officer about the details which match Horace's perfectly. He is told that Horace was composed, not hysterical ... "a lot more composed than the lady two nights before."

(MEN OF METAL *Continued on page 6*)

(MEN OF METAL Continued from page 5)

Bells and whistles go off in Samuel's head. Surely, there couldn't be another case like this one. But there is.

"According to the officer, there had been a similar incident on Iffey Road. A woman was in a near collision at an intersection and reported seeing something unusual. No injuries, but there was an odd looking dent in her car. She was completely hysterical when he arrived."

More investigation by Samuels. The dent in the lady's car is one which looks as if it had been placed in a vice. The body shop has two such cars, not one .. The dents are identical. They are even in the same location on both cars. The mystery deepens.

The second car at the body shop belongs to a man named Pelham Stevens. His story is that he and his family were approaching railroad tracks and the railway crossing barrier was down. He stops his vehicle and waits for the train. It doesn't come. Thinking that something is wrong with the barrier, he steers his car to go around it. As the car crosses the tracks, he hears the train, and popping the clutch, he stalls the car. He panics. The train is bearing down on them. The next thing he knows, he is in the air, and the train is passing beneath the vehicle. They feel themselves being lowered. Once on the ground, they see what appears to be legs moving off away from the car. They get out of the car, and that is when Stevens noticed the dents.

Two similar incidents are enough to make one take notice, but there is yet a third. A Mrs. Graham has a story not unlike the others. She, too, was driving at night and encountered a dangerous situation. She saw a large object, maybe 15 feet tall, and as it was leaving the scene was moving very fast. She was able to draw a picture of what she saw. There are depressions in the ground, and another of the same ten feet further on.

One more witness has still another encounter, and when asked what he saw states, "It looked like a big bloody robot."

All the encounters occurred within a certain area. Digging further, Samuel

comes to learn of a Colin Mayhew... a man associated with the Mini Cooper of BMW notoriety. It seems that Dr Mayhew is also involved with robotics. According to city records, Dr. Mayhew applied for a permit to have 450V power lines dropped into his home. This was granted. Also, tree limbs as high as 15 feet have been broken around the city. Is Dr Mayhew responsible for building robots that wandered near his home in England?

There is quite a bit more to tie all the pieces together for Samuel's tale, but if this story is based on fact, it is very intriguing as to how someone managed to use a robot throughout a neighborhood to help combat dangerous situations.

Is this another urban legend? A story of pure fiction told in book form to make the reader believe it is real? I haven't read the book, so I can't answer that, right now. I'd be interested if any IRAAP readers have had an opportunity to read Samuel's **Men of Metal**. Let me know if you have. One hint in doing your own investigation: there is a web site dealing with Dr Mayhew's research. Happy urban legend hunting....
<http://www.r50rd.co.uk/research/internal/v2i/engin/>

- RC

From the Editor



I have been struggling with time lately, so this issue is a bit overdue. In a way, this turned out to be a good thing.

The lead story of the Mexican Air Force UFO encounter broke just in time. As with most of the information that becomes circulated when there is a major UFO sighting, misleading or confusing data often enters the picture. No sooner was the sighting made public with all of its ramifications, then the debunkers were already at the story claiming that what the crew's infrared picked up were (you might have guessed it!) weather balloons.

We are often spoon-fed the most ridiculous explanations in the hope that

the majority of people will believe them. Ufologists shouldn't be insulted anymore by these inane "proofs." Rather, the agencies that put them out should be ashamed to think that the populous is really that gullible.

This issue also has a pretty good mix of various topics, ranging from our beloved UFOs to even the possibility of man-made humanoid robots. The robot story was one that is highly suspect, but intriguing, regardless...a possible urban legend. And, we still have the Shroud of Turin making headlines. Saratoga Lake is still a place where one can see unusual lights from time to time, and Bigfoot is now protected in, at least, one village in New York State. Anomalies are all around us; all we need do is keep our eyes and ears open.

I keep forgetting to mention that you should take the time to review our list of **Publications to Consider** on the last page. There are very few publication in the US that deal with the anomalous. I deeply feel that information must be circulated and not stagnate.

All four publications listed, The Gate, UFOBC Quarterly, Flying Saucer Review, and Saucer Smear, have much to offer those of you who follow what is going on.

The Gate covers all types of anomalies, including the paranormal. **UFOBC Quarterly** is out of British Columbia and supplies details of sightings in that part of North America, including the Yukon. Rick Hilberg's **Flying Saucer Digest** is another UFO newsletter that will keep you current. Incidentally, Rick has been disseminating UFO information for over 36 years. And finally, James Moseley's, **Saucer Smear**, will give you added commentary and a chuckle or two. Let them know you heard of them through IRAAP.

That's about it for this issue. The next one will be out in the "blink of an eye."

Ray

The Shroud of Turin

Fresh Clues may show that it may be genuine

Whether you may think the Shroud of Turin is the most elaborate hoax in history or are a firm believer that it is the cloth used to bury Jesus of Nazareth, one thing is hard to dismiss... the face of that bearded man. This piece of cloth is intriguing, to say the least. People are eager to know for certain if it is genuine or some kind of ruse perpetrated on mankind.

The Shroud is back in the news again. Apparently, tests done back in 1988, placing its age somewhere between 1260 and 1390, have been thrown into doubt. A Swedish textiles expert, Dr Mechthild Flury-Lember, says that it is not so much the age of the cloth that can determine its authenticity, but the way in which it was sewn, the style of the sewing being the biggest clue.

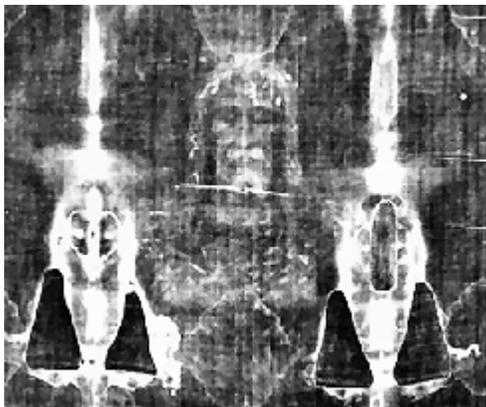
“It belongs to a style seen in the first century AD or before,” says Mechthild.

Her findings are significant, since the original carbon dating that was performed may have been contaminated by a piece of cloth that was added during the 16th century. The original results might have been, therefore, misleading.

The history of the shroud is, itself, filled with mystery. The first documented reference of its existence dates back to 1357, when it was displayed in a church in Lirey, France. The astonished faithful witnessed an image of a man who was obviously wearing a crown of thorns and had been beaten both front and back. Even more compelling was the nail wound in the man’s

wrist, for until then it was believed that Christ’s hands were pierced, not his wrists. (It was later discovered that a nail through the hand would not support the weight of the body hanging on a cross, but a nail through the wrist bone would lend added support.)

The shroud’s clouded history is one that has it being given to King Abgar V by one of Jesus’ disciples; in 944 possibly surfacing in Constantinople, Turkey; hidden for more than a thousand years in Iraq before being stolen by a French knight Geoffrey de Charny during the 4th Crusades; scorched by fire in 1532; and finally moved to Turin, Italy in 1578. It was not photographed until 1898. The negative image revealed even more detail than the average person’s eye could behold.



After its 1978 testing, the shroud showed that it contained blood, and that it was, indeed, wrapped around a human body. But as to how the image actually became emblazoned on the cloth is still a scientific mystery. Then in 1988, much to the embarrassment of the Cardinal of Turin and the Catholic Church, the shroud was declared a fraud. That is, until now. Today, experts are saying that the carbon dating was flawed. The cut used for the dating was a corner where the cloth was often hung during display. That area would have been the most contaminated of all, and was a poor choice for all concerned.

Although it may be some time before a definitive conclusion can be reached (if at all), the Shroud will continue to mystify those who have the opportunity to see it. Is it the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth? It is a tangible object, so a time may come when more accurate testing can tell the world for certain.

(Source: www.Mirror.co.uk, April 3, 2004, David Edwards)

▲IRAAP

Virgin Mary statue begins “weeping” again

(Source: iol.co.za)

April 11, 2004

Perth, Australia

A statue of the Virgin Mary that has been drawing crowds since 2002 when it apparently began weeping rose-scented tears has started crying again, during the week before Easter, its owner said. Patty Powell, who bought the statue 10 years ago in Bangkok, said it started shedding tears again on Palm Sunday.

“I had no idea it was going to happen, but like all of this, I take whatever I am given,” Powell said. “I just accept it for what it is, but yes, I am surprised.”

Powell, from the Western Australian state capital of Perth, began displaying the statue at a local church in 2002. However, the city’s Catholic Archbishop Barry Hickey ordered her to remove it from the church after an analysis of the “tears” found they were a mixture of vegetable oil and rose oil.

“It is therefore my rightful duty as Archbishop of Perth, for the correct guidance of the people of God, to say that the case for a miraculous happening has not been proved,” he said.

That ruling did not stop thousands of people flocking to see the statue which is now on display four days a week at Powell’s home, renamed the Holy Family House of Prayer, where she has built a shrine for the weeping figurine. - Sapa - AP

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Clueless on the “Keyless”

On February 21, 2004 the Las Vegas Review-Journal ran an article reporting a problem with keyless entry vehicles. It wasn't the engines of these vehicles with the problem, but their keyless entry systems.

Locksmiths, car dealerships and towing companies were flooded with hundreds of calls about malfunctioning keyless entry systems. “Maybe it's those little green men up north,” said Nellis Air Force Base spokesman Mike Estrada. His keyless entry system failed, as well.

No one is sure of the cause, although sun spots and storm clouds are high on everyone's list. Some sort of electrical disturbance is somehow involved, possibly static electricity in the air interfering with the frequencies. As to the possibility of a solar flare being the cause, the Big Bear Solar Observatory in Big Bear California reported low solar activity on the day in question.

High-tech equipment in Area 51 could also be involved. To date, no one has solved the short-lived keyless entry malfunctions in the area.

Noah's Ark in the News Again

This summer a team of archeologists and forensic experts plan on climbing Turkey's Mt. Ararat searching for evidence of Noah's Ark. Last year satellite photos were taken of the area during a record-warm summer, giving Daniel P. McGivern (president of Shamrock - The Trinity Corporation of Honolulu, Hawaii) the confidence that he has located the biblical structure. McGivern is convinced that there is a man-made object sitting on Mt. Ararat and he is determined to prove that the object is, indeed, Noah's Ark.

McGivern will be working with Dr. Ahmet Ali Arslan, a native of Turkey, who has climbed Mt. Ararat 50 times in the last 40 years. The mount is 17,820 feet high. The trip is planned from mid July to mid August.
(Source WorldNetDaily.com, posted April 27, 2004)

Italian fires still a mystery

The spontaneous fires that have been ravaging the homes in Canneto on the Tyrrhenian coast of Messina in Italy are still far from having an explanation. Fires had been breaking out in electrical equipment, such as domestic appliances, intercoms, plugs and meters for no apparent reason. Electricity to the area had been turned off, but there are still outbreaks of fires. Curiously, fires were even breaking out near water pipes, and even between pieces of electrical wire which had been cut and lying on the ground without being connected to any source of energy.

Electrical company technicians have ruled out any connection for the fires to electrical pylons of the Palermo-Messina railway. These power lines are very close to many of the homes in the area and residents suspected a link, which has now been investigated without any positive result.

Another Flying Humanoid

In searching the Internet for anomalies that are worth reporting, I came across another case of a humanoid entity encounter. We are all familiar with the Chupacabras and, of course, the events that took place in Virginia surrounding Mothman. Unusual humanoid entities are reported from time to time, but it is likely that most of these cases never surface, therefore, not investigated.

However, in reviewing the topics on [rense.com](http://www.rense.com), a story about a Mexican policeman's encounter with such an entity couldn't be ignored.

The story was sent to Rense by Santiago Yturria and is copyrighted, so I cannot reproduce it in its entirety, but I will give you the basic details for your records. The full story should still be available on-line.

What makes this story so compelling is that the person witnessing the event is a

policeman. The event took place on January 16, 2004 when a police officer named Leonardo Samaniego from Guadalupe, NL Mexico was performing his daily patrols. He was in his police cruiser, driving around Colonia Valles de la Silla. The night was cold and dark. The streets were empty.

As Officer Samaniego turned a corner, a large, black object fell from a tree. What was so unusual about this object was that it stopped before it hit the ground, then slowly turned around to face the patrol car. Sensing that something wasn't right, Officer Samaniego turned on his high beams to see what had fallen.

According to Officer Samaniego's statement, what he saw was a woman dressed in black. She was not standing on the ground, but remained floating several feet above it. He claims to have had a good look at her. She then softly floated down to the ground and stood there looking at him. The bright lights apparently bothered her for she was covering her face to shield her eyes from the car's lights. Officer Samaniego's description was that the woman had large, black eyes with no eyelids. Her skin was dark brown. She was dressed completely in black, almost witch-like with a cloak and cape.

The scene turned ugly when this “woman” suddenly (and very quickly) jumped onto the patrol car and tried to reach Officer Samaniego. The shocked patrolman put his car into reverse in an attempt to get away, at the same time shouting into his radio for backup. Officer Samaniego stated that the woman was trying to grab him right through the windshield with her claw-like hands. He continued in reverse until he came to the end of the street where he covered his eyes and fainted. Minutes later backup patrol cars arrived with an ambulance. Officer Samaniego was not injured. An extensive search for clues was made in the area without result.

Officer Samaniego was tested for drugs and toxic substances, but the results

(HUMANOID Continued on page 12)

[John Paul Oswald is one of the newer IRAAP members, an investigator out in New Hampshire. John has been researching the UFO phenomenon in New Hampshire, especially near Exeter, for a numbers of years, and asked if he could share his thoughts and info with IRAAP readers, both as informational, and by way of introducing himself. This is copyrighted material as of 2004, and is, of course, printed with the author's permission.]

Although I have been much engaged in the study of the UFO phenomenon since the summer of 1965, it is to be expected that most IRAAP readers have never heard of me. My main interest is in the broad philosophical-theological appreciation that is required for this subject. However, I have also done quite a bit of investigative work for the seacoast region of New Hampshire (i. e. around Exeter, New Hampshire, USA). In fact, I have gathered a great deal of information derived from this relatively small area. Because of various considerations, I haven't previously (now Jan. 2004) made any publication pertaining to the detailed discussion of this massive hoard of juicy information. So here, in an extremely condensed way, I shall attempt to impart the essence of what I have discovered "at Exeter."

One needn't rely on blind faith for evaluating this effort, especially in as much as I cooperated closely with Mr. Raymond E. Fowler for more than 30 years. Thus, some of the cases from this body of data have been published. For example, the reader can refer to the International UFO Reporter articles: Jan/Feb 1983 and Summer 2003. But, before proceeding to the crux of things, a little explanation will facilitate the functioning for forming an appraisal.

After receiving an M.S. degree in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1965, I left my real job as a research chemist (bench chemist) in the pharmaceutical industry (Abbott Labs, North Chicago) in late 1967, and by January 1969 I had arrived "at Exeter" to stay. The plan was to discover anything and everything that was true about what UFO-Alien activity went on around Exeter, NH. Of course, I was starting

Reality at Exeter

by: John Paul Oswald

with the basis from John Fuller's book, "Incident at Exeter" (1966). The "Incident" was for September 3, 1965 in Kensington, NH (i.e. about 2.5 miles SSE of Exeter). I took a job in the Q.C. Lab of a textile finishing plant at Exeter - on the 3 pm to 11 pm shift. That afforded excellent exposure to the community and its dark nights. So, for some 10 years while at that job, I investigated like crazy. I was ripping-off the sighting/encounter data at a dizzying pace. Along the way I gained access to records of prior action from the former local NICAP representative (Mr. John Reynolds), and very early on, collaboration with Mr. Raymond E. Fowler (of adjacent Massachusetts) was established.

For both the experience of myself and Mr. Fowler, as we began investigating, more and more activity would be discovered. Such that "an end" would be getting further away. I restricted my primary effort of investigation to the seacoast of New Hampshire. This region is about 17.5 miles north and south for the actual seacoast. And (for me) extended about 25 miles inland (with Exeter central, and including Fremont) for a total of approximately 450 sq. miles.

The specific Exeter, NH geographical-political entity was settled beginning in 1638, and by year 2000 it had a population of about 14,000. Yet, for the smallish area under consideration, one finds that for the quite normal population an extraordinarily high number of close encounters was reported - for the Modern Period of the UFO-Alien Phenomenon. While the world was hot, Exeter was hottest. WHY? The N.H. seacoast is a low-lying, predominately forested region. But, only 12 miles to the northeast of Exeter, at Portsmouth, NH, there was a Strategic Air Command Base (i.e. Pease AFB) and still is a Nuclear Submarine Base. The prevailing (think wind direction) landing pattern of Pease required the (nuclear-laden?) airplanes to fly low over the terrain (inaccessible swamps) of the Exeter locale. So, in view

of the "swamps factor" (to be elaborated), I think that the aircraft, rather than the submarine element, is the chief reason "Why." For the most part, the "Exeter action" consists of a mind-numbing, worldclass concentration of

nuts-and-bolts close encounters, together with the "comet's tail" of uncountable, anomalous nocturnal light events. Certainly, I am aware of "other things" that have happened within this area of interest. Of significance is a decent close encounter (standard, sizable structured craft) that occurred in-town Exeter immediately after WWII; and in association with Swamp #1, I witnessed an anomalous (lights on something, or some things) event at 10 pm on February 8, 1970 which was, however, trivial in relation to the local norm.

In preparation for this writing, I see that my paper pages of records are yellowing, and I am reminded that the "Exeter Kid" (i.e. the hitchhiker, Norman Muscarello) has recently died of old age (only 55). The preparation notes (of August 5, 1989) for a meeting with "Incident at Exeter" author J.G. Fuller (now deceased) contain some 115 cases. However, with my 300 hours of audio taped material, plus many pages, still accessible to mind, we can proceed. That the USSR and the USA have ceased to be on the brink of world destruction or that Pease AFB (consequently) isn't any longer a SAC Base doesn't expunge the local record (or portend a cheerful future for this world).

At the crux for understanding, the Exeter-area data goes beyond its much-more-than ample amplitude of action, as its pulse beats in harmony with our world's secret problem (Vietnam for 1965).

One fairly readily perceives that for the placing of these close encounters on a topographical map, the Ufo-Aliens have been using certain swamps (THEY evidently prefer the inclusion of electrical power transmission lines) as nocturnal staging areas (i.e. "hiding pens"). I must think that for this hiding-pen activity, the manifest purpose was (is) that of watching the certain air traffic passing innocently and closely overhead. Exeter is special because of having the nuts-and-

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bolts character, and that it presents to us (humans) this example of the UFO-Alien intelligence: sneaking up and spying upon Pease (SAC AFB). Thus, the civilians' extraordinary experiences accumulated through the decades around these particular swamps.

The "Incident at Exeter" (Fuller: Putnam, 1966) occurred at my Swamp #2 (Great Meadows in Kensington, 2 miles south of Exeter: Exeter, NH-Mass. Topo: NW/4 Exeter Quadrangle; photo-revised 1973; N4252.5 - W7052.5/7.5). On February 4, 1974 another outrageous close encounter took place at essentially this exact location, and "about 1975" yet another (well observed and beyond your need-to-know everything) close encounter happened some 2500 ft. to the west. Yes, all three cases were within 500 ft. of the same power line. Then, if one goes 3 miles east along that power line, one encounters my Swamp #1 (on the same 7.5 Min. Topo. Map; just look east of Route 88 on the Taylor River). I suspect that on September 3, 1965 (The Incident) when the UFO got flush with my Swamp #2, the craft relocated (going east) to the superior hiding place of my Swamp #1. I think that this #1 Swamp is THEIR first choice (THEIR best available). It's pretty large, decently situated under the low-level landing pattern, nicely secluded, and replete with power lines. What action?

Well, there was the totally classic close encounter of Mrs. P. and her daughter at the intersection of Taylor River and Route 88 - on July 29, 1965 !! and the totally extreme humans-versus-THEM encounters on Route 88 at the Applecrest Farm Orchards location from the '65 era, and, of course, the daylight lander incident (only 3500 ft ESE of that "Applecrest Circus") as is reported in IUR, Summer 2003, p. 15). Then, too, Mr. M., who lives down there, told me how THEY always seemed to be out behind his house - toward the swamp, and that sometimes the strange, nocturnal lights would come (seemingly) to a central, lighted thing, back there. Once, over night, a 10 inch ring of 10 feet or more in diameter had been pressed into the grass of his lawn (by a heavy thing) near the tennis court. That would be the primary form of crop circle, again, from that 1965 era. This ring-shaped ("alleged") imprint was situated about 1.5

miles from (noth mostly) the ("alleged") March 29, 1966 daylight lander (see IUR, Summer 2003). What about records for proximate landing traces? It should be noted well, that the major contingent of the 509th Bomb Wing (of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Roswell experience) arrived at Pease AFB on March 23 and 24 of 1966, and that it was apparently accompanied by an escort of Aliens. THEIR action flared just to the north, across the river, into the state of Maine, as I have been told.

But the sweet, sweet clincher of data came from Swamp #1 on the night of September 30, 1982 (see IUR, Jan/Feb 1983, and my case #486). In this incident, four blue-ribbon-type witnesses had their close encounters on Route 101c which bounds the north side of the swamp. These four stopped their car, two of them got out and went toward the hovering and slow moving UFO. One of these two said it was "as big as a hockey rink," and that it was so low that she could have literally thrown a softball and hit it! Then (after some strange communicating) IT slipped back down behind the trees of a small hill and into the exquisitely convenient darkness of my Swamp #1.

Want to hide something big?

What?

Just now on Monday, January 26, 2004, Democratic presidential candidates, of the first-in-the-nation primary, are scrambling over this very special, frigid (!) Landscape - and constantly calling me on the phone. So, as I am writing to you about my Swamp #1, their contending for "fixing the World" stands in remarkable contrast against the Reality at Exeter. What is real for Exeter is real for this World.

Were there more swamps of interest? Actually, the low-lying coastal area has quite a lot of swamps. However, the biggest and "baddest" of these is Spruce Swamp. It's about 9.5 miles WNW of Exeter near Fremont. This swampy relic of the last I've Age is dangerous. One step you are walking in the woods, and the next step you are walking on deep, peat-filled water. I never went back. Deer hunters area always getting lost in there. A USAF officer told me that a B-

52 (that was headed for Pease) went down in the swamp and more than one day passed before they could find it. I hope that all of the nuclear items were recovered, or plausibly accounted for. Fremont's fail-safe water supply depends on Spruce Swamp.

John Fuller's reports (Incident at Exeter, p. 120) of the "Bessie's Lunch" (Route 107 and the power lines, 1965 era) action, of course, took place only about 1.5 miles from the middle of Spruce Swamp. Mr. Peter Geremia (NH-MUFON) has a great case at that location for February 24, 2002. From this latter instance, and with broad conjecture, I assume that these favored swamps remain "in play."

I must say that I was taken aback by the extreme social situation that I found to have obtained, "briefly" during the (65-67?) Active period (as from Fuller's accounts in the "Incident at Exeter" and my investigations). This SITUATION of EXTREME EXPOSURE developed on Route 88 near Applecrest Farm on the margin of my Swamp #1. For some days (actually weeks, I think), solid "American" citizens could go out there at night and experience wonderful encounters of the close, or slightly less close, kind. It got so extreme that the USAF personnel were dispatched to lie into these citizens' faces: LIVE. Yes, US citizens, federal operatives, and UFO-Aliens all gathered together on Route 88. Just about any behavioural scientist would rather crawl under a rock than deal with this kind of reality. But, the historians and politicians would have beaten the behavioral types to that refuge. Where is one to hide; or what?

It isn't easy for a logically minded person of my generation to come to grips with the fact that a UFO-Alien force has suddenly come out of space, and is doing "whatever," clandestinely - all over the planet. Therefore, my investigative work "at Exeter" gives me the wonderfully adequate opportunity for understanding. I do very much value the extraordinary experience that I have had of interacting with this special group of sincere, normal ("American") humans. Now, in late January 2004 with my 64th birthday less than 3 weeks away, I increasingly realize the fact of mortality. Time passes, events happen, and people die. But I have a

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unique opportunity. Thus, from this juncture, I offer my reasoned and informed view "at Exeter."

Conclusions "at Exeter":

1) The abundant sample of credible, local people that I have (ever so cleverly) interrogated must, indeed, have encountered (very closely in many cases) the standard types of ample-sized flying things (i.e. the ALIENS' vehicles). There is no reasonable doubt about this.

2) From the local (unimpeachable) sample, one infers directly that the global manifestation is REAL. This is binding, if less than surprising. The quantity of action locally, especially for '65-'67, has been extreme. It is world-class (as in keeping with nuclear weapons delivery capability). There is no reasonable, inferential, doubt.

3) With its notable history from 1638 onward, Exeter does evidence the "global pulse" for the Modern Period in its perturbations of activity. I think it is very probable that the SAC Base (Pease AFB) and the 509th Bomb Wing are at the heart of the local SITUATION.

4) For the extraordinary novelty in question, the local nuts-and-bolts character is reassuring. That in behavioral terms, one can observe THEM using the certain, local swamps for sneaking up on Pease is, also, reassuring. Here, the UFO-Alein mind (of the presumably, formally monolithic force) is revealed as being reasonably intelligent.

5) The Applecrest Orchards "theater" was shockingly astonishing. Not only did THEY flirt with OVERT (planetary) CONTACT at night there, THEY scarcely waited for darkness "at Exeter" in general.

6) The local holding-pen swamps remains; USEFUL.

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Upcoming Blue Moon

When two full moons occur in a month, the second is referred to as the "blue moon." In July there will be two full moons: July 2 and July 31, so we have one coming up very shortly.

"There is now full proof - despite strong efforts to hide the fact - that the earth is under close observation by one or more of these advanced worlds."

- Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe
"Flying Saucers, TOP SECRET"

Elk Deaths in Wyoming Solved

In the continuing coverage of the mysterious elk deaths in Wyoming, an Associated Press article by Sarah Cooke seems to have found the answer.

As you may recall, scientists were recently baffled when over 300 elk died in southern Wyoming. Various test had been performed on the animals, and vitamins were given to many of those still alive. The result was the same...death. It has finally been determined that whatever killed the elk is related to a mossy plant native to the Rockies.

State wildlife veterinarians believe that a lichen found in the stomachs of many of the dead elk must be the cause. To confirm their suspicions, three healthy elk were fed the lichen at a research facility. One collapsed and was unable to stand up, another began to stumble. All three were to be put down

It was a relief for the wildlife researchers to be able to pinpoint the cause of the deaths. Numerous explanations were considered including deliberate poisoning. All the elk that succumbed to the lichens were not native to the area, but newer arrivals. Apparently their systems were not able to cope with the acid produced by the lichen.

(Thanks to Liz Sarka for alerting us to the mysterious deaths.)

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Edited by Beth Robbins, this little publication is filled with newsworthy bits of information regarding the anomalous. Published four times a year at a cost of \$8 annually in the US, it is well worth the subscription price. Sample issue cost is \$2.

The Gate, P.O. Box 43516,
Richmond Heights, OH 44143.

UFOBC Quarterly

*a study of UFOs and related phenomena in
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UFOBC is a non-profit society registered with the province of British Columbia. The quarterly is 22 pages of interesting info with pictures, commentary, and actual reports.

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UFOBC, 11151 Kendale Way,
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Flying Saucer Digest

published quarterly by the United Aerial Phenomena Agency

Editor: Rick Hilberg, Managing Editor: Carol Hilberg

This UFO newsletter has been around for 36 years, dealing with UFO sightings and related material.

Yearly subscription: \$10 / Sample issue: \$2
FSD, 377 Race St, Berea, OH 44017

Saucer Smear

James Moseley's "non-scheduled" newsletter is "dedicated to the highest principles of ufological journalism," filled with humor and UFO-related gossip. It takes an attitude of benign skepticism toward the more extreme UFO beliefs. According to Moseley, "There are no subscribers, but donations are warmly welcomed."

For more info write:
Saucer Smear, PO Box 1709
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Tell them **IRAAP** sent you.

The Phoenix Lights

A new Book in Print

For those of us who were not in Arizona on March 13, 1997, the Phoenix Lights event was something we saw only on our television sets. As with most UFO events, it was sensationalized by the media, but just as quickly as it hit the news, it faded away into darkness. The explanation given for the V-shaped lights was that they were military flares dropped by an air national guard unit out of Maryland, a group of Snowbirds, as they might have been called.

Many of us watched subsequent television specials which aired footage of the lights and sought out numerous explanations. However, today the Phoenix Lights are only a dim memory for most of us.

However, for those in Arizona, who witnessed the lights, the situation is quite different. They remember. Remember very vividly.

The explanation that the lights were military flares doesn't hold together, especially when there are witnesses who watched a mile-wide object pass slowly and noiselessly over their heads at about 500 feet. Numerous people photographed the lights, and thousands stood in utter amazement, having difficulty understanding what it was they were witnessing. The strangest part of the event was the lack of response from the military. On that day, "something" invaded the airspace of a major U.S. city. This "something" was enormous, flew at a low altitude, and stayed around for quite some time. And the military didn't seem concerned?

Dr. Lynne D. Kitei's new book titled **The Phoenix Lights** recalls the event in a most dramatic way. She actually photographed the lights that night in March, as well as other unexplained lights in and around the city of Phoenix. Dr. Lynne wants explanations, even to this day. She has conducted her own investigation into the matter and documents her progress quite well in her book.

From interviews with military personnel to other witness and technical researchers, Dr. Lynne presents the event as never before portrayed to the general public. Her book is one that should be read by every UFO enthusiast, researcher, and even the proclaimed skeptic.

Something unusual took place over the Arizona sky on March 13, 1997, something that the military can't (or won't) explain, researchers cannot nail down, and witnesses keep shaking their heads over in near disbelief.

For a thorough report on what happened that night and the subsequent investigation, **The Phoenix Lights** stands as a must for any serious researcher's bookshelf.

(*The Phoenix Lights*, Hampton Roads Publishing Company, Inc.
1125 Stoney Ridge Road, Charlottesville, VA 22902

If you cannot obtain the book through your local bookseller, you can order direct from the publisher. Call 1-800-766-8009, toll free.
ISBN 1-57174-377-4)

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(**HUMANOID** Continued from page 8)

were negative. Psychiatric and psychological examinations found him mentally and physically healthy. Santiago Yturria, the reporter of this event, states that the being described by Officer Samaniego was similar to the Flatwoods Monster of West Virginia back in 1952.

There are skeptics who give these types of stories no credibility. For myself, there are far too many tales of humanoid entities to take them lightly, not to mention the many encounters which may not be reported. I am still wondering if these entities may not be coming in from another dimension, through some portal which allows them brief moments in our reality. Mothman, the Flatwoods Monster, the Chupacabras, and many more cannot all be figments of imagination...or can they?

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