

Stenomere (Tippex 4, 716) ←

UFOs along the Oregon border

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"I could see a glowing center inside the square shape, which Paul saw," said Gates.

The orange shape, glowing and iridescent, was about 30 feet across and rose 100 feet before descending briefly, rising again and then disappearing, they said.

The light had appeared in an uninhabited part of the mountains, where logging roads were too clogged with snow for land vehicles to traverse.

They were unable to reach the area the next day to check for physical evidence, because of the snow.

"This helped convince us that there was some sort of activity," said Cerny.

They also are investigating a story of an abduction reported by two women, one in her 30s and the other in her 60s, and a man in his 20s.

The big obstacle with this investigation has been drawing firm recollections from people.

Both have been consulting Jacques Vallee, computer scientist

and UFO book author, on details of their investigation, comparing shapes, lights and colors seen with phenomena observed elsewhere over the years of the UFO studies.

Vallee has been involved in these studies since he noticed fellow astronomers at Paris Observatory altering their reports to delete unidentified flying objects. He has been doing detailed work on the social impact of UFO sightings.

The Northern California sightings fit the usual patterns of appearances in rural areas between midnight and dawn, he noted. But he still is studying the symbolism of the shapes and colors observed.

He will take special interest in people who have close encounters with UFO or their occupants and plans to follow up with visits in later years.

Such follow-up studies have demonstrated to him that all undergo a radical shift in their lifestyle after such encounters. Many suffer changes as severe as Herb Schirmer, a former Ashland, Neb., policeman now divorced, disconnected from family and friends and unable to find work following a 1961

encounter.

Few escape as unscathed as the Joseph Lugo family of Gilroy, who were subjected to considerable community and public pressures after an encounter last summer.

Lugo, owner of an auto parts store, endured some light-hearted kidding after his daughter and daughter-in-law were chased home by a strange airborne vehicle that both he and his wife saw.

"Most people are reluctant to tell too many others for fear of suffering harassment," said Cerny, who also investigated the Lugo incident.

Some of their work has already eliminated some of the Northern California sightings as aircraft lights.

But the two close encounters will require considerably more investigation before the Northwestern UFO Center reports are submitted.

"I want to get back up there as soon as possible," said Cerny. "Who knows? I might get a ride on one of those things yet," he said, only half kidding.

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'Saucer' Men Question Singer

LAS VEGAS (UPI) — The creatures in the flying saucers seen around the Southwest this week are short, pale, pugnosed and puzzled by Las Vegas.

At least, that's the word from a man who reportedly says he spoke to them.

A country and western entertainer, who does not want his identity revealed for fear people will think he's balmy, says he was questioned by spacemen in the desert Thursday night. The Las Vegas Sun reported today.

The time and place correspond with UFO sightings by a number of

persons, including law enforcement officers.

He told reporter Jerry Cox that he was driving through the desert to Las Vegas from Pahrump, Nev., 60 miles to the west near the California border when a cigar-shaped craft "like the Goodyear blimp only longer," descended out of the sky. It was orange, marked by flashing lights and a darker ring circled the fuselage like a doughnut.

His car's engine suddenly stopped for no apparent reason and he sighted two humanoid creatures approaching him, he said.

They were about 5 feet 7 inches tall, squinty-eyed, with pale complexions and what appeared to be gills under their ears, he said. "Their mouths were small and they had puggish noses."

They wore silver and black shiny uniforms with an emblem of white and

gold. One brushed his hand. Without appearing to move their mouths, they asked him questions, he said. Apparently referring to Las Vegas, they asked why so many persons lived in a desert.

He explained that it was a tourist resort, he said.

Wednesday and Thursday night, half a dozen law enforcement agencies reported a cigar-shaped object with flashing lights

leaving what looked like a vapor trail in the sky over southwestern Nevada and southeastern California. A Las Vegas resident described a similar object he said he saw hovering over a mountain plateau, glowing with an orange light.

Radar operators at Nellis Air Force Base and the Las Vegas airport said they detected no unusual aircraft at the time.

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