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MUFON of Ohio P.O. Box 152 Pataskala, OH 43062 [www.mufonohio.com](http://www.mufonohio.com) [mufonohio@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mufonohio@columbus.rr.com)

**August 2021**

**In this issue**

Editor’s Notes..... 1

Murphy’s Recent UFO News.....2

UFO or Alien Sightings in Ohio.....7  
(Well Known Events)

A Glitch in Reality (OZ Factor).....9

Ohio Retro Item.....10

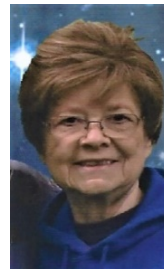
UFOs Visit Missile Sights.....11

Ohio UFO Sighted in 1897.....15

German Rocket Scientist .....16  
Wernher von Braun’s View of  
The Future

**Editor’s Notes**

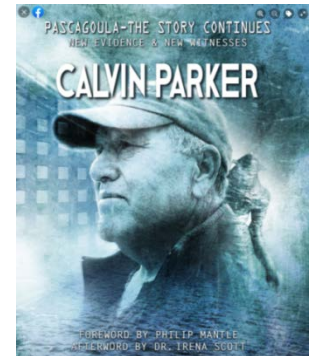
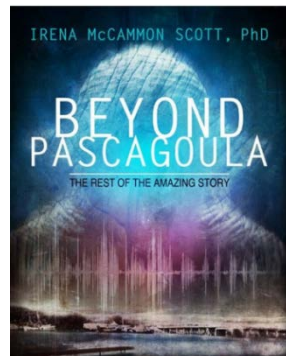
By Phyllis Budinger



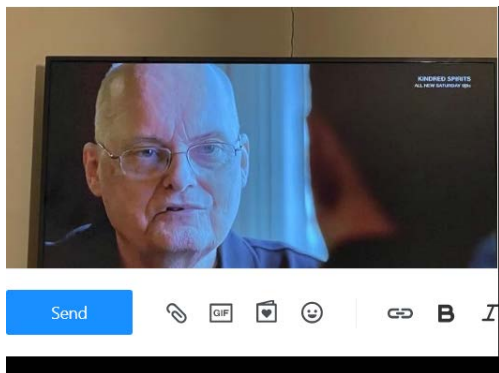
Ohio MUFON members continue to actively spread credible information on UFOs to the public.

Pete Hartinger, John Fry and Cameron Jones got great press coverage about their investigations. The Columbus Dispatch published the five best Ohio UFO events. It is reproduced in this newsletter.

Dr. Irena Scott has a new book coming out, and is working on another one. The newest book is “Beyond Pascagoula the Rest of the Amazing Story”. She also wrote the afterword on Calvin Parker’s last book. Calvin Parker was one of the ‘Experiencers’ in the Pascagoula event.



It was like Ohio UFO night on the Travel Channel on June 24th. They had a panel in which Ohioans predominated. They included, Jennie Zeidman, Thomas Wertman and Bruce Maccabee. The Coyne helicopter event was discussed. Tom revealed how the helicopter spent its final days in later years. It was given to Columbia for monitoring drug trafficking, and later crashed. The more recent Tic Tac object was also discussed.



June 24 2021 Travel Channel Tom Wertman

By the way, let me inject a personal note for Tom. He became the proud grandfather of twins in June. He said, "There's one of each!"

I heard from Bill Jones, our Ohio MUFON founder. He has been in a Dublin, Ohio nursing home for the last two years. He hasn't been keeping up on UFOs, but says he knows all about sharks! His TV seems to be permanently stuck on the channel with the Shark Tank series. He is doing well, but expressed a desire to be more involved in UFOs and make contributions.

A word about membership. Over the years we occasionally hear from a few people who erroneously think that they automatically belong to Ohio MUFON when they join National. They wonder why they are not getting our newsletters. We have to explain that they do not belong to Ohio MUFON. As you know, Ohio MUFON is a completely separate entity from national. We are affiliated, but have no funding from them. We have our own newsletter and a conference. So those who wish to be members must join Ohio MUFON separately by contacting our treasurer or membership chairman and sending in dues (\$25.00 for a year subscription). See our website for

information. By the way, the membership expiration date can always be found above address on the newsletter mailing envelope.

The National MUFON headquarter have now officially moved their headquarters to Ohio from Irvine, California this summer. We are pleased to have National in our state! Their new address is:

Mutual UFO Network  
4214 Airport Rd, Ste. 100-102  
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Thanks to the contributors to the newsletter. They are the people mentioned above. They also include: Bill Murphy for his column; Dr. Irena Scott for her items, and Rich Hilberg for an interesting 1897 UFO sighting as well as an article about his recent OZ experience.



### **Murphy's Recent UFO News Possibly the "Most Significant Government UFO Document in More than 50 Years" Highlights a Wild News Period since April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**By Bill Murphy**



UFO news since mid-April has been the most exciting since at least December 16, 2017, when *The New York Times* and *Politico* broke the stories of a secret government UFO study program and (at the time) two US Navy F/A-18 videos of UFOs were released. The June 25<sup>th</sup> appearance of The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) report can be linked directly to the furor caused—not only in UFO circles—by those revelations. The "Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" ("Assessment" here from now on) is the most important public governmental UFO pronouncement since the late 1960s. Half of the most substantive stories I covered at *Anomalist.com* were connected directly to it. Tom Wertman's excellent in-depth analysis of

that perhaps pivotal document in ufological history will explain why.

Leading up to and published in the wake of this brief Assessment were many significant articles and groundbreaking television programs—especially in what’s called the “mainstream media.” Related stories like the July 2019 Naval UFO overflights; the pioneering *The New Yorker* article by Gideon Lewis-Kraus; and the breakthrough May 16<sup>th</sup> CBS *60 Minutes* piece on UFOs commanded attention across the media spectrum. Harvard astronomy professor Avi Loeb’s “The Galileo Project” was another bombshell rocking both the academic/scientific and UFO communities. Luis Elizondo’s efforts to vindicate himself and shape UFO discussion; news of China’s UFO program; a rare case of bipartisanship in Congress; and reaction to the new Jacques Vallee/Paola Harris book would have been big news in any other news cycle. Contact me through my [murphybillufo@gmail.com](mailto:murphybillufo@gmail.com) email, and I’ll send a list of articles with direct links as possible behind what follows.

## The Big UFO Story

Gideon Lewis-Kraus’ *The New Yorker* article appeared on April 30<sup>th</sup> (online) as “How the Pentagon Started Taking U.F.O.s Seriously” at <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/05/10/how-the-pentagon-started-taking-ufos-seriously> and May 10<sup>th</sup> (in the hard copy magazine) as “The U.F.O. Papers.” It may rank in UFO history along with the December 2017 bombshells. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> both *Esquire* and *The Vatican Observatory* prominently referenced Lewis-Kraus’ effort. Within ufology circles Keith Basterfield listed “Some Things I Learnt, By Reading the 30 April 2021 Article in the ‘New Yorker.’” At the polar ufological opposite debunker Robert Sheaffer posted *three* commentaries detailing his problems with the piece and its subject.

On May 16<sup>th</sup> CBS dropped an absolute television bomb with its “60 Minutes” segment on UFOs. A dismissive morning CBS show featuring SETIan Seth Shostak was overshadowed by Bill Whitaker’s evening conversations with David Fravor and Alexander Dietrich, who was Fravor’s wingman during the “Tic Tac” encounter and now “came out” publicly as a name and face. She had appeared anonymously in an “Unidentified” *History*

TV segment.) Ryan Graves of the 2014-2015 Naval UFO events also starred. Rival networks hustled to catch up. The better CBS offerings prophetically featured the “security risk” angle.

*Politico*’s Bryan Bender, who along with *The New York Times* had broken the AATIP story back on December 16, 2017, and others chronicled how people and events had brought us to this point. Anonymous information on the Assessment was leaked to *The Times*’ Helene Cooper and Julian Barnes, and other media organizations got similar from their own “Deep Throats.” *The New York Times*’ “U.S. Finds No Evidence of Alien Technology in Flying Objects, but Can’t Rule It Out, Either” appeared first on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/03/us/politics/ufo-sighting-alien-spacecraft-pentagon.html?referringSource=articleShare>. Noting the Assessment was indeed “Preliminary,” but that it would not debunk UFOs, and would actually highlight the “threat potential” such unknown objects could pose—all highlighted a dramatic shift from previous government pronouncements. Even people like Pentagon spokesperson John F. Kirby admitted UFO incidents “could potentially involve safety and or national security concerns. Absolutely.”

On June 13<sup>th</sup> Chris Mellon posted 17 “Questions for Congress Regarding the Pending UAP Report.” They are mostly hard-hitting, designed to highlight inadequacies in the then-anticipated UAPTF Report and in the circumstances leading to the present situation. Bruce Maccabee predicted the UAP Task Force would confirm “Non-Human Intelligence” was behind UFOs, and former U.S. International Security Analyst Marik von Rennenkampff said “Extraordinary Explanations for UFOs Look Increasingly Plausible.” Just before the Assessment was published, Australian Keith Basterfield published the name of the UAPTF head, Brennan McKernan.

## Reactions to UAPTF “Preliminary Assessment: Unidentified Aerial Phenomena”

Mainstream media covered the unclassified Assessment with decent attention to detail. Subsequent moves were made towards enacting its recommendations, as recently noted in Micah Hanks’ August 7<sup>th</sup> *The Debrief* article, among

others. Whatever was in the classified annex—all 17 pages of it—of the Assessment must have figured in those enabling activities, including the understanding about a 90-day update. John Greenwald revealed in a video accompanying a July 21<sup>st</sup> article that the public and classified portions of the Assessment were “substantively consistent and the key conclusions are the same in both.” Current and former government officials expressed support for the document; recognition of it as only a “first step”; and in several cases pledged to keep the American People apprised of what new developments could be publicized without affecting National Security. In a follow-up *The New Yorker* article Gideon Lewis-Kraus covered the Assessment's reception and listed its “stranger” aspects. While the British Parliament and Ministry of Defence displayed varying degrees of comprehension about the Assessment and its findings, University of Queensland tutor Adam Dodd noted the Assessment discerns a “broader policy shift towards the acknowledgement of UFOs as real, anomalous physical phenomena that are worthy of extended scientific and military analysis.” Closer to home, articles observed that Republicans and Democrats seemed united in pushing for the Assessment and implementation of its recommendations.

Micah Hanks took an historical look at the Assessment, worrying not much good would come of it, but later becoming more positive as matters proceeded towards implementing its suggestions. Hanks also promoted transparency and the beneficial uses of new information. He speculated upon NASA's upcoming role with UFOs/UAPs as hinted by its new Administrator Bill Nelson. *Politico's* Bryan Bender noted ambivalence within the Space Force at the prospect it might play a significant role in upcoming UFO/UAP studies. The 2022 Intelligence Authorization Act provided a boost to the UAP effort, whether that continues under the UAPTF or more likely another organization. On August 11<sup>th</sup> Leslie Kean argued in *The Debrief* that the “threat” narrative coursing through the June 25<sup>th</sup> Assessment should be changed to an emphasis upon science, instead.

Scientists have suggested next steps. CUFOS Scientific Director Dr. Mark Rodeghier said “Get the military out of the way” in an interview with Billy Cox. Failing that, in a *Military Times* commentary University of Arizona astronomer Chris Impey tells

“Why the Military Should Work with Scientists to Study the UFO Phenomenon.” While staunchly skeptical about UFOs-as-ET, Impey offers a roadmap for scientific involvement, and also his help if asked, something he repeats in a Micah Hanks podcast interview on July 26. Director of the Planetary Habitability Laboratory at the University of Puerto Rico and astrobiologist Abel Mendez says “all data” the DOD holds is necessary, or “there won't be an effective contribution by NASA or the scientific community into solving the source of the UAPs.”

### **Pros and Cons in the Larger Debate on UFO Respectability**

Among those on the positive/neutral side of commentary upon UFO possibilities, founder of Play Labs @ MIT Rizwan Virk offered an opinion piece on *nbcnews.com* complaining “The U.S. Military Takes UFO Seriously. Why Doesn't Silicon Valley or Academia?” Ezra Klein's *The New York Times* opinion piece was titled “Even If You Think Discussing Aliens is Ridiculous, Just Hear Me Out.” Writing in *Psychology Today* about “UFOs, COVID, and the Radical Uncertainty of This Moment,” Dean of the Boston University School of Public Health Dr. Sandro Galea drew important lessons regarding what this should tell us about ourselves, and what to do about it. And another article reflecting practical implications was Tyler Cowen's *Bloomberg Opinion* piece “If the Pentagon Takes UFOs Seriously, So Should Markets.” Ravi Kopparapu and Jacob Haqq-Misra showed the same good sense in their May 26<sup>th</sup> *The Washington Post* opinion piece “We're Asking the Wrong Questions about UFOs” as they had in their July 27, 2020 *Scientific American* “‘Unidentified Aerial Phenomena,’ Better Known as UFOs, Deserve Scientific Investigation.” University of Colorado Department of Philosophy member Carol Cleland and University of Virginia astronomer Kelsey Johnson, President-elect of the American Astronomical Society, made sensible public statements. Barack Obama also voiced comments towards taking UFOs seriously.

But there's been “pushback” against the new UFO respectability. Articles by or quoting astronomers, physicists, and journalists “dissed” the topic. Academic and journalist Keith Kloor participated with Seth Shostak, science historian Kate Dorsch, *They Are Already Here: UFO Culture*

and *Why We See Saucers* author Sarah Scoles, and host Andy Revkin on May 28<sup>th</sup> in a somewhat dreadful Columbia Climate School “The Earth Institute” podcast. Certain parts of the “Preliminary Assessment” and CNN reporter Chris Cillizza’s “8 Takeaways from the Government’s Big UFO Report” at <https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/27/politics/ufos-uap-extraterrestrial-life/index.html> could have been direct negations of points confidently made in this podcast. Elsewhere ex-astronauts chimed in on several sides, Metabunker Mick West wrote articles, and *X-Files* creator Chris Carter produced a *The New York Times* opinion piece seeing little coming from the Assessment except perhaps “more conspiracy theories.” There’s a good, sharp riposte to continuing media denigration of UFOs in the June 25<sup>th</sup> *Medium* article by David Bates “What’s the BBC Got Against UFOs?” And an August 5th Caleb Scharf *Scientific American* item managed to be both skeptical and useful in suggestions toward a serious study. Even a Joel Achenbach *The Washington Post* article, besides usual standard debunking blather, sweeping generalizations, and avoidance of “uncomfortable” details, submitted useful points while recapping recent events.

Within the UFO Community some “pooh-poohed” the situation. Writing in *The New Republic* on May 21, Jason Colavito predictably composed the sharp-tongued essay “How Washington Got Hooked on Flying Saucers.” Then *he* got irked when another writer seemed to pilfer much of his skeptical story line. Even Nick Redfern displayed his “UFO Contrarian” ways with several *Mysterious Universe* columns “yawning” about the present excitement and future prospects.

### Accompanying Developments

Much disclosure talk arose. Congressional Hearings popped into the conversation and Keith Basterfield authored an historical sketch of actual hearings and “near-hearings,” with links to copies of the 1966 and 1968 real ones. (See Keith’s “U.S. Congressional Hearings on UAP – Some History” at <https://ufos-scientificresearch.blogspot.com/2021/07/us-congressional-hearings-on-uap-some.html>.) Stephen Bassett naturally saw Disclosure as around the immediate corner, per a July 11<sup>th</sup> *Paracast* interview. He predicted that as early as

July 12 there should be announcements about scheduling hearings. I haven’t heard anything new on that recently. I reviewed a good dozen articles about government secrecy. Past history informed many, with guesstimates about what would be left out of the public Assessment and what more the government knows, or doesn’t know, about UFOs. Most Americans think the government isn’t telling all it knows, and the government admits that—under the guise of “sources and methods,” for instance. *Daily Grail*’s Greg Taylor even gave four instances of U.S. military disinformation of “Hoaxed Alien Contact.”

Jeremy Corbell and George Knapp continued their tag-team promotion of UFO stories and imagery surrounding the 2019 Naval encounters. A May 14<sup>th</sup> *Mystery Wire* podcast featured the USS Omaha video from which stills of an object plopping into the water had previously been taken. On May 27<sup>th</sup> the two discussed another USS Omaha video in “RADAR Data Confirms: USS Omaha Was Surrounded by Swarm of UFOs.” Its footage added important additional sensor data to the previously leaked visuals. Mainstream media was captivated. A lull ensued until after the Assessment’s publication, with another video on a June 29<sup>th</sup> *Fox TMZ* program and a June 30th *Discovery/Science/Travel Channel* extravaganza. Most viewers were “underwhelmed” by the newest visual stuff. On July 28<sup>th</sup> Corbell achieved another “coup” of sorts in interviewing Cmdr. Chad Underwood, who as Weapon Systems Officer captured the iconic “Tic-Tac” ATFLIR video on November 14, 2004. Underwood described both the origin of the nickname and that his “capture” of the object was multi-sensory, whose radar tape component will likely not be released any time soon.

Other past UFO-military-related news surfaced, perhaps literally, during this period. E-4 Petty Officer John Baughman said that in 2010 he saw a “Tic Tac” in operation underwater literally just off the USS Carl Vinson Nimitz-class supercarrier in the Caribbean. Keith Basterfield heard of alleged UAP encounters by the U.S.S. Boxer in 1998 and U.S.S. Bainbridge in 2017, and seeks help trying to run down that latter case. Renditions of a Navy-proposed “transmedium vehicle” at least look nothing like what Jeremy Corbell is claiming.

Luis Elizondo continues making news. The former AATIP head early warned that governmental inability to acknowledge the potential threat UFOs pose constitutes a huge intelligence failure. He also re-emphasized UFO interest in nuclear assets--and not just in the U.S.--and that the United States has "exotic materials," plus that UFO origins may not be just an "ET versus Human" proposition. He claimed a 23-minute government video of multiple objects doing weird things is "compelling" and enough to make you go "woah." Lue and his lawyer stepped up complaints of governmental harassment, and his emails while employed apparently were destroyed. An Inspector General review of the Pentagon's handling of the UFO problem was announced on May 4<sup>th</sup>, but Elizondo's influence on that in a 64-page complaint he and his lawyer filed the previous day is uncertain. In late May Keith Basterfield revealed Elizondo had been laid off from *To The Stars...Academy of Arts & Science*, while Chris Mellon and Steve Justice had formally moved away on their own.

*The War Zone* continued emphasizing the potential threat that, whatever their origins, UFOs/UAPs pose to air safety and national security. Its writers may be correct that the 2019 aerial (March) and nautical (July) Naval encounters could be drone meetups--at least until we get independent corroboration of the most exotic performance characteristics so far claimed. They're also working on a peculiar February 9, 2021 confrontation between an "advanced drone" and helicopters over Tucson, Arizona, which remains mysterious as of this date (August 17). And "Jetpack Man" made a reappearance in the skies above Los Angeles International Airport almost a year after the dangerous nuisance first appeared.

China announced its own UFO studies — or "unidentified air conditions" — task force which has already been using artificial intelligence (AI) to make sense of "an increase of mysterious and unexplained aircraft in Chinese airspace" in the past few years. Unsurprisingly, the People's Liberation Army thinks some of that increase might owe to U.S. military tomfoolery.

Likely because of the UFO/UAP attention, numerous articles appeared since mid-April on extraterrestrials. Some questioned whether humans were ready for ET contact; others urged us not to advertise our presence to otherworldly civilizations.

Two scientists even considered "How Could We Build an Invisibility Cloak to Hide Earth from an Alien Civilization?" Astronomers were asked to or wrote speculating upon the possibility of intelligent aliens. *The National Review* had dueling articles on May 21 and 22 about whether UFOs were ET or not.

## The Galileo Project

On Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, Harvard Astronomer Avi Loeb and Frank Laukien, the CEO of Bruker Corp. proclaimed a new effort toward "the systematic scientific search for extraterrestrial technological artifacts." Already with almost two million dollars in resources, *The Galileo Project* foresees hopefully a hundred or more ground-based telescope and multispectral detection systems organized into a computer-aided, data filtered network. It won't study past UFO cases, which generally lack the needed scientific data richness and reproducibility they think their project can supply. They expressly distance themselves from anecdotal reports and "legends," and won't employ "alternative physics or science hypotheses." The Project also won't use classified data which would constrain a free information dissemination goal. Loeb went on a publicity binge, garnering respectful questions from both mainstream and ufological hosts. Some researchers bemoaned Loeb's ignoring all previous work in the field and very likely many scientists jealously seethed at the Project's Harvard-backing. But Seth Shostak was added to *The Galileo Project's* Scientific Advisory Board--which may have turned his SETI-type colleagues' public statements more positive and their inner thoughts darker.

Reactions I've seen to the Jacques Vallee/Paola Harris book *Trinity: The Best-Kept Secret* are mostly negative, but a read of the book itself is in order before casting judgment. Canadian scholar Bryan Sentes has an interesting "take" on the book as reflecting French-born Vallee's native understanding of the term "history" conflicting with his scientific training. The pre-Roswell crash claim itself is controversial. Two new docuseries have debuted--the four-part series "UFO" on *Showtime* produced by J.J. Abrams, and there's a six-episode Netflix effort "Top Secret: UFO Projects: Declassified." I've only watched the initial installment of one of them so far and thought it worthwhile, but that's too small a sample and I

wouldn't necessarily trust a few mainstream media reviewers' articles too much to make any general appreciations. There's also an excellent Australian effort called "The UFO Phenomenon" (not the highly-acclaimed James Fox documentary) available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtpxiNvGCp4>.

### Concluding Bits

The Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies held its 2021 *Anomalous Aerospace Phenomena Conference* through "zoom" on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, getting a predominantly-favorable review by Miguel ("Red Pill Junkie") Romero in a *Daily Grail* post. On May 10<sup>th</sup> *Mystery Wire* featured an interview with David Marler on "The Farmington UFO Armada: Possibly the Largest UFO Event You've Probably Never Heard About." *Mysterious Universe* writer Paul Seaburn noted a new UFO organization called the *International Coalition for Extraterrestrial Research (ICER)*, featuring members in 27 countries dedicated towards "Preparing for Contact." In May the formation of UFOPac.org was announced; a lobbying "nonprofit, bipartisan group dedicated to advancing the public's knowledge about unidentified flying objects."

One of the most iconic abduction cases has come under fire, some of that partly owing to dissension within the ranks of those most involved. An Australian has come out of nowhere to post "Liar in the Sky" <https://threedollarkit.weebly.com/tw-liar-in-the-sky.html>, which leads into a twelve-part re-analysis of the 1975 Travis Walton experience. The rather involved alternate explanation claims Walton and his crew chief Mike Rogers hoaxed even some of their logging crew colleagues. The debunking effort has some obvious major weaknesses, but TV producer Ryan Gordon has a recording of a supposed Rogers confession. Gordon has had dealings with both Walton and Rogers, and there's long-time bad blood between Travis and Mike. There's been considerable back-and-forth on both sides. One point should be stressed: belief in the reality of the UFO abduction phenomenon *should in no way* hinge upon whether the Travis Walton event was real or hoaxed.

Timothy Green Beckley passed on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Known in the UFO world for his many books, often on the rather lurid side of ufology and sporting just-

as-garish titles and cover artwork, Beckley was well-remembered in another "Red Pill Junkie" *Daily Grail* piece. Former Canadian Defense Minister Paul Hellyer also died. Besides his long governmental service, the outspoken and controversial Hellyer certainly added interest to the UFO field. A new exhibit honoring Stanton Friedman was announced by the Fredericton (New Brunswick, Canada) Region Museum, to run "for at least two years."



(Pete Hartinger, Jon Fry and Cameron Jones supplied the following information on Ohio Events to the *Columbus Dispatch*. Ed.)

### The O-Files: Here are five UFO or alien sightings reported in Ohio

Joe Dandron

The Columbus Dispatch

(<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/2021/06/19/here-five-ufo-alien-sightings-reported-ohio/7684251002>)

From Roswell, New Mexico, to Circleville, Ohio, UFOs and aliens have been part of American myth and legend for some 75 years.

The U.S. government last year released three videos of UFO sightings by Navy pilots — one from 2004 and two from 2015. Later this month, a Pentagon task force is expected to deliver a report to Congress on what government officials now call "unexplained aerial phenomena."

The report may suggest the possibility of Chinese or Russian spy craft, or it could confirm thousands of conspiracy theorists' suspicions: Humans may not be alone in this galaxy. Or not.

The Buckeye State has had its fair share of UFO sightings and close encounters. Here are five of the most popular in Ohio lore:

#### Portage County, 1966

On April 17, 1966, two Portage County Sheriff's deputies stopped to investigate an abandoned car

about 5 a.m. near Ravenna, Ohio, about 144 miles northeast of Columbus.

According to a report from The Beaver County Times in western Pennsylvania, the two deputies saw a UFO come up from behind some trees and chased the flying saucer from Ohio across the state line into Pennsylvania during an 86-mile chase that at times reached 100 mph.

At one point, a dispatcher instructed the two deputies to shoot the object, but a sergeant countermanded that, saying it could be a government weather balloon, the story said.

One of the Portage County deputies, Dale Spaur, told reporters then that the object was roughly 40 feet wide and 20 feet tall by his estimation.

"Somebody had control over it," he said. "It wasn't just floating around. It can maneuver."

The deputies gave up the pursuit in Conway, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, home of a massive rail yard. The UFO hovered then sped off into the night, but hundreds of people reported seeing the saucer and hearing its steady hum.

"We were close, closer than I ever want to be again," Spaur said.

### **Tarlton, 2006 or 2007**

Two women driving back from Columbus in 2006 or 2007 were near Tarlton, a village on the border of Fairfield and Pickaway counties, when they spotted what is described in the account as an "entity sitting inside of a silver truck."

The database on the Roundtown UFO Society (RUFOS) website compares the sighting to the 1985 Alien flick "Cocoon," calling whatever the pair saw white and of slight body stature, "almost glowing."

The pair gave their first-hand account of the night in a recorded RUFOS meeting in March 2018. For years after the incident, they said, they never talked about the encounter.

The two women said the person or thing in the truck was glowing brightly.

"My headlights are shining on the vehicle because we're looking straight at it," one of the women said in the recording. "There's nothing in the actual cab of the truck... as we became parallel with the truck. This is where we had different experiences. I felt like something was turning my head, making me turn and as I turned in the opposite direction there was this ... it glowed like white power, that's the only way I can describe it."

"There are no eyeballs," the second woman told RUFOS members. "Very thin, hairless, bald and so thin ... no definition of (nose and mouth). But it was glowing."

### **Pickaway County, 1958**

Dispatch reporter Holly Zachariah documented RUFOS director Pete Hartinger's close encounter that he said took place on Feb. 27, 1958, when he was 17 and on his way to the Pickaway County Fairgrounds. Hartinger told The Dispatch about the incident last year following the U.S. government's acknowledgment and reports. Hartinger said he saw a saucer-shaped object floating over the local feed mill near Circleville before drifting out of sight.

Then something else returned.

"A totally different object came back. It was a reddish-orange object, a circle just like the setting sun. It stopped and hovered in midair ... and the top half folded down onto itself," said Hartinger, who is now in his 80s.

The occurrence has stuck with Hartinger his entire life and led him to found RUFOS.

### **South Bloomfield, 2006**

In March 2006, a member of RUFOS spotted "slow-moving, hovering lights" on the commute to work. Michael Moore, the member who submitted the sighting, said that the lights traveled low and hovered above a gas station in South Bloomfield, a village in Pickaway County located about 20 miles south of Columbus, before jetting northeast.

"I pulled into Speedway since I needed gas and when I got out of my car I saw it hovering almost directly overhead," Moore wrote in a full account on the RUFOS website.



know about the effect and have the technology to tap into it for their purposes?" Ed.)

"The lights were so bright that the glare prevented me from seeing an actual shape of the object. To describe what I saw on the bottom of the craft between the lights, I want to compare the gray dull metallic-looking plates to skid plates," Moore wrote.

Moore said he only got a glimpse of what he said was the underbelly of the craft, before the UFO shot off into the sky.

### Canal Winchester, Circleville, 2019

Two more interesting encounters occurred in June 2019 and November 2019 – with the same witness for both incidents seeing a similar UFO or light.

The November sighting occurred around 4 a.m. on Nov. 15, when the witness told RUFOS he saw an object in the sky near Marcy's Diner in Canal Winchester. It appeared to him as a "white light and oval in shape ... it was heading east" the account reads. The witness said it was in view for less than five seconds before disappearing.

On June 13, 2019 the same witness said he saw a similar object that was also oval shaped and white near the intersection of Routes 674 and 22. The witness stated that he saw the object nearly land – but emit no noise at all – on Route 674 before disappearing. The sighting occurred around 3 a.m.

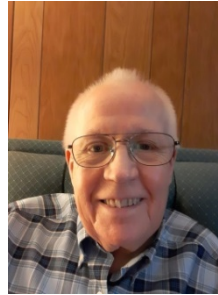


*(The following story was experienced by Rick Hilberg and did not involve a UFO. It is a phenomenon known as the OZ Factor which is commonly experienced when in close contact with UFO's, and that's way it is included in this newsletter. What is the OZ Factor? It's a term coined by ufologist and author Jenny Randles referring to the experience of being isolated or transported by the real world of everyday life into another environment which is quite similar to the real world but changed enough to be noticeable and disturbing.*

*You will recall this newsletter published an OZ effect experienced by Scott Santa when he observed a large very close UFO at a Drive-In movie. See December 2020 issue. This leads to the question, "Do UFO pilots*

## A Glitch in Reality?

By Rick Hilberg



As a UFO writer, investigator, editor and publisher, I have indeed had some unusual experiences over the years since I got my start in this whole crazy field since 1962. I've also written a wee bit on fortean matters as well, and also have read various books and articles on other "strange but true" type mysteries for just as many years. What I'm about to write is something that recently happened to me that sounds very similar to accounts cited in many of these books and magazine articles. As a matter of fact, I'm even somewhat hesitant to share this, as I don't want my long-earned reputation as a serious writer and historian to be somehow tarnished by telling such a tale.

Anyway, in those strange mysteries books I've mentioned above, there are numerous witness accounts ( some with multiple witnesses as well ) of somehow leaving our accepted reality and entering into something entirely strange and different. Like visiting a place and suddenly seeing as it was many years before, sometimes even with people and objects of that other time there doing whatever it was that they were doing back then. There are even accounts of people traveling in their cars and suddenly finding themselves miles and miles away from where they should be almost instantly. So, with that said I'm going to relate what happened to me. Maybe you or someone that you know has had a similar thing happen , and if so, I would certainly like to hear from you.

Friday June 11th of this year was a very ordinary day. I had been grocery shopping with my adult autistic grandson at the local supermarket, and we were driving home to put things away and scare up some lunch as it was just about 10: 45 a.m. It was a sunny and pleasant late spring day, and we were on our street just east of where we live, not more than twenty or so seconds away from our driveway. At a cross street where there was some paving going on ,we were forced to stop and wait while a large truck with paving

material was slowly going by. Once that obstacle was clear it was a quick shot home for us.

Now here is where things got suddenly strange. As I think back and try to reconstruct what happened when, I come up with somehow remembering things being a little "different" than they should be, kind of like the "Oz Factor" that British UFO and fortean writer Jenny Randles coined to indicate this strange state of reality. For one thing, the sun was no longer shining brightly, it was somehow cloudy and "dark". Also, I seemed to be driving for more time than I should have to reach my destination, and things seemed to be somewhat blurry, almost like I was in a dream state or something. Time was also somehow wrong in some way. I began to feel distinctly uneasy.

Then suddenly, although it's still dark and murky, I realize that I'm no longer on my street, but in a place that looks like a way I've taken before on my way home from a different direction that is about three blocks south of my street. And at that point I'm thinking to myself as to why I took such an out of the way choice home, only to realize that couldn't have been the case, as I was just driving on my very own street just seconds away from home. In other words, I was getting confused by this decidedly eerie turn of events.

And then, that rationalization somehow falls short as now things look strange to me again. I'm apparently not three blocks south of where I should be, but now at a cross street that looks like my general neighborhood, but exactly where I don't know.

I stop my car. I look at the way ahead. Do I take the cross street to the left, or do I go straight ahead in the hopes of finding a street that I can clearly recognize? Also, for some reason or other I can't for the life of me see any street sign to give me a clue. I remember saying something to Jeremie about this, but he is very non-verbal so I realize that I'm really talking to myself.

I decide to drive on ahead, but then things change again. The sunshine is back. I see something familiar once again. I'm now one block west of home still on my street, but even that fact has to sink into my brain, for I am still really confused and a little frightened.

I turn around in a driveway and head back east, just seconds from home. But something also registers in my brain somehow: I'm seeing other cars on the street and people out walking or working in their yards on this fine day. I didn't before, as if Jeremie and I were the only living things traversing that somehow out-of-whack landscape. Kind of like something Rod Serling would have written into a "Twilight Zone" script. Anyway, we pull into the driveway and go about our business, literally safe at home.

So that's it. So just where was I? And more importantly, how did I get back?

I'm open to any and all explanations, but I do know one thing. I don't want to go there again anytime soon...



On the night of October 3, 1980 the local UFO report center phone line that I ran for some years, received a call from a Lorain man who witnessed a large, lighted disk-shaped UFO while in the company of three others at 8:55 that evening.

The witness, a 53-year-old male, was outside his home putting winter insulating material on his windows when his attention was attracted by a large moving object about 40 degrees above the western horizon. He yelled for the three other adults in the house to come outside and have a look at the clearly visible disk. They all reported that the UFO was at an extremely low altitude, and that the silent object had a pinkish light on top of its dome-like upper part, while a bank of from eight to ten or more white lights blinked off and on in a counterclockwise pattern on the bottom of the disk portion of the thing.

Said the witness in his written report back to me: " (The) object ( was ) first seen at a distance in the west. It came at a high speed ( to ) about 1 1/2

blocks away, ( and then ) came to a stop. It moved in different positions for a few minutes.

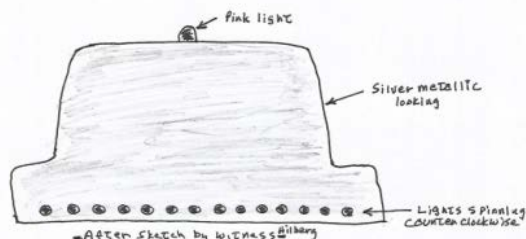
"It then moved toward the north, being hidden by trees for a few seconds, and then came back ( and ) stopped for a short time and wavered in front of me, then moved south until out of sight, first slow, then very fast.

" I called police to see if anyone else ( had ) seen it...it was so close at times I thought it might land, but it did not."

The witnesses all reported that the object itself was made of a silver metallic substance, and they thought that if it was flying along at treetop level it had to be upwards of 25 feet in diameter.

I checked and found that there were no advertising planes operating in the area that night, the one possible explanation for this seemingly outstanding sighting.

The following illustration is a copy of the sketch that the primary witness submitted with his report.



## ASHES TO ASHES

**UFOs 'shut down 10 nuke missiles at US base & may have been alerted to humanity by first atomic bomb blasts'**

By Henry Holloway  
Jun 21 2021, 9:19 ET

([https://www.the-sun.com/news/3125848/ufos-shut-down-nukes-us-base/?utm\\_campaign=native\\_share&utm\\_source=sharebar\\_native&utm\\_medium=sharebar\\_native](https://www.the-sun.com/news/3125848/ufos-shut-down-nukes-us-base/?utm_campaign=native_share&utm_source=sharebar_native&utm_medium=sharebar_native))

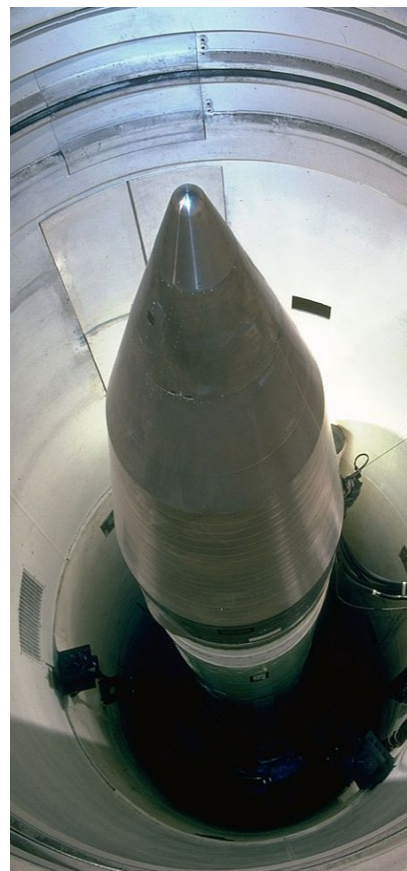
UFOs allegedly shut down ten nuclear missiles in a bizarre incident at a US military base - and the

global phenomena may have been triggered by the first atomic bomb tests in the 1940s, it has been claimed.

Strange objects in the sky are under intense focus as the US to release an intelligence report ordered by Congress on the issue after a flurry of leaked videos showing close encounters with warships and fighter planes.



**It is claimed ten US nuclear missiles went offline - but the Pentagon has never confirmed the taleCredit: AFP**



**The Minuteman missiles were reportedly set into the 'no-go' setting which meant they could not be launchedCredit: Getty - Contributor**

Gary Heseltine, vice president of ICER, a new organisation set up ahead of the Pentagon report to call for full disclosure and an end to the stigma on the topic, believes the UFO story starts with man's first nuke bomb tests in 1945.

And he points to the incredible tale of Captain Robert Salas, a former US nuclear launch officer, who went public with an extraordinary claim - stating in 1967 a UFO appeared at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana.

Salas claims that ten of the US's nuclear Minuteman missiles that he was overseeing inexplicably moved into the "no-go" setting - meaning they could not be launched even if the order was given.

The base allegedly took a day to bring the weapons back online - and they could not find any physical damage or explanation for the sudden problem with the missiles.

Mr Heseltine told The Sun Online: "It is likely that when the US detonated the first atomic bomb that it literally sent shockwaves out into space and alerted other civilisations that life on earth has evolved technologically to the point that it could split the atom and create atomic fusion.

"From that point on it seems that UFOs began to show up near US military installations and worldwide."

Dismissed as a conspiracy theory for decades, former US defense officials, sitting politicians, and former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton have all acknowledged there is something unusual going on with UFOs.

Now often referred to as UAPs - Unidentified Aerial Phenomena - questions are being asked if the objects caught on film are super advanced drones, secret military technology, or hoaxes & camera tricks.

And then there is the final option - which is reportedly being seriously considered as part of the UFO report which is due for release within the next week - is that they objects are alien in origin.

And there appears to be an intrinsic link between the UFOs and mankind's nukes with many recent US military sightings happening near nuclear-powered aircraft carriers or submarines. Former US defense officials have also claimed there are instances where UFOs have invaded the airspace around secret US nuclear sites and "interfered" with nuclear weapons.

Robert Salas said, "I think it was simply a show. They wanted to shine a light on our nuclear weapons and just send us a message."

ICER stated in a press release last week that its position is mankind is being sent a warning on nuclear weapons - and have called for disarmament to be raised at the United Nations.

The US detonated the world's first nuclear bomb - codenamed Trinity - on July 16, 1945 - and the first wave of a boom in UFOs sightings followed in the late 40s and the 50s.

The Sun Online approached Captain Salas for interview - but he was unavailable.

However, he previously spoke about his experience at a press conference alongside with six other air force officers in 2010.

"I want the Air Force, the government to come forward and say this is a real phenomenon," he said.



**Robert Salas claims to have witnessed ten nuclear missiles be taken offline by a UFO**Credit: Amazon Kindle

Captain Salas claimed UFOs are a "national security" threat as he recounted what he witnessed while stationed 60 feet underground in a launch control base.

US military security reported seeing lights in the sky making off maneuvers before five minutes later they claimed they spotted a "pulsating oval-shaped object" hovering above the base.

The launch officer claims the missiles he was monitoring then started going into the "no go" condition.

And this apparent display of power by the UFOs came at the height of the Cold War when the US and Russia sat poised on the edge of Armageddon.

Captain Salas said: "I think it was simply a show. They wanted to shine a light on our nuclear weapons and just send us a message.

"My interpretation is the message is get rid of them because it's going to mean our destruction."

The US Air Force has never confirmed the incident - but his account appears to match up with numerous other claims of the links between nukes and UFOs.



**Gary Heseltine is an ex-cop turned UFO investigator and campaigner**

Mr Heseltine spent six years working with the Royal Air Force police, 24 years with the British Transport Police, and launched a national database for UFO sightings for cops while still a serving officer in 2002 - before retiring from the force in 2013 to focus on his UFO research.

He told The Sun Online that UFOs may be interested in man's nuclear weapons to try and warn humanity we are playing with fire.

And he says there is a historic correlation between the proliferation of nuclear weapons and increasing sightings of the phenomena.

Roswell - one of the sites of the most infamous alleged UFO encounters - was the home of the US Air Force's 509th Bombardment Group which dropped the world's first nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki that ended World War 2.

And one of Britain's most infamous encounters, the incident at Rendlesham Forest, also occurred close to RAF Woodbridge and RAF Bentwaters - where its claimed some nuclear weapons were secretly stored.

Mr Heseltine spent some time guarding nuclear weapons stored at RAF Honington in 1984 while serving in the air force's police service.

"The correlation of UFO/UAPs is historically well-made and would seem to suggest that their actions are meant as a warning to mankind of the dangers of nuclear weapons," he told The Sun Online.



**Luis Elizondo headed up AATIP for the Pentagon**

Luis Elizondo, who headed up the secretive Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) for the Pentagon, just weeks ago also made the link between UFOs and nukes.

The former intelligence officer, speaking at an event hosted by The Washington Post, said the nuclear issue is one of the reasons UFOs must be treated as a nationality security concern.

He said: "That is one of the concerns we have from a national security perspective, that there does seem to be some sort of congruency or some sort of intersection between these UAP or UFO sightings and our nuclear technology with nuclear

propulsion, nuclear power generation, or nuclear weapons systems.

"Furthermore, those same observations have been seen overseas in other countries. They too have had the same incidents. So that tells us this is a global issue."

Mr Elizondo claimed in the US that UFOs have disabled nuclear capabilities, while he has heard reports that in other nations that nuclear technology has been switched on.

And he characterised the technology being witnessed as "something that could be anywhere between 50 and 1,000 years ahead" of mankind's own capabilities.

### **What is going on with UFOs in the US?**

UFOS have stepped from fringe conspiracy theories to a genuine national security debate in the US.

Pentagon officials last year took the unprecedented step to confirm a trio of remarkable videos which showed US encounters with UFOs.

The debate is still open as to what the phenomena caught on film were – but it made clear to everyone, something is in the skies.

Perhaps the most striking was a video known as the "Tic Tac" – which showed an unidentified object being pursued by fighter planes.

The US also confirmed the existence of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) – a Pentagon programme set up to study UFOs before being disbanded in 2017.

However, it was replaced by the UAP Task Force in June 2020 after a vote by the US Senate Intelligence Committee.

Defence chiefs have since confirmed a number of leaked UFO videos and photos which were submitted to the Task Force for investigation.

Why this sudden rush for transparency?

No outside the secretive wings of the US government currently knows for sure.

And as a tacked on addendum to a 5,500 page Covid relief bill passed in December, the Director of National Intelligence's office was ordered to compile a report on UFOs within 180 days.

Former intelligence director John Ratcliffe has hinted the report will be a big deal – and we are now just over a month away from its release.

The five month deadline elapses on in June, with some UFO lobbyists claiming it could be the "most profound moment in human history".

Mr Heseltine told The Sun Online: "[After Roswell] UFOs begun to show up in increasing frequency near nuclear power plants, nuclear storage facilities and nuclear weapons story areas.

"Often UFOs were seen going into and emerging from the oceans of the world.

"If as humans we plan to set up Moon and Mars bases, doesn't it make sense that an alien species may have done the same to the Earth however long ago?

"And that if they had been here in our deepest oceans trenches for a long time that they would not want to see their habitat destroyed by a nuclear war that would render the planet uninhabitable for humans and for their kind as well.

"As if to demonstrate the folly of nuclear weapons UFOs have at times appeared to demonstrate to the authorities that they are messing with fire."



**Screenshot from the eerie and unexplained 'Tic Tac' video filmed by the US Navy and released**

by the PentagonCredit: US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE



Screenshot from the 'Gimbal' UFO video which includes US Navy pilots exclaiming 'look at that thing!'Credit: US Department of Defense



Another US Navy video called 'Go Fast' which shows a UFO being trackedCredit: US Department of Defense

US intelligence services officially closed the book on the phenomena in 1969 at the conclusion Project Blue Book - which stated there was nothing to see regarding UFOs.

However, in the last three years there has been an abrupt turnaround as the Pentagon took the unprecedented step of confirming three stunning UFO videos filmed by the US Navy.

And the UFO report - which was commissioned by Congress - is being compiled by the UAP Task Force, who were given a 180 day deadline in December which is due to expire this month.

Competing theories on the strange videos continue to rage – with some grounded on Earth claiming the videos capture never-before-seen

military aircraft or drones, while others claim it shows otherworldly craft possibly piloted by aliens.

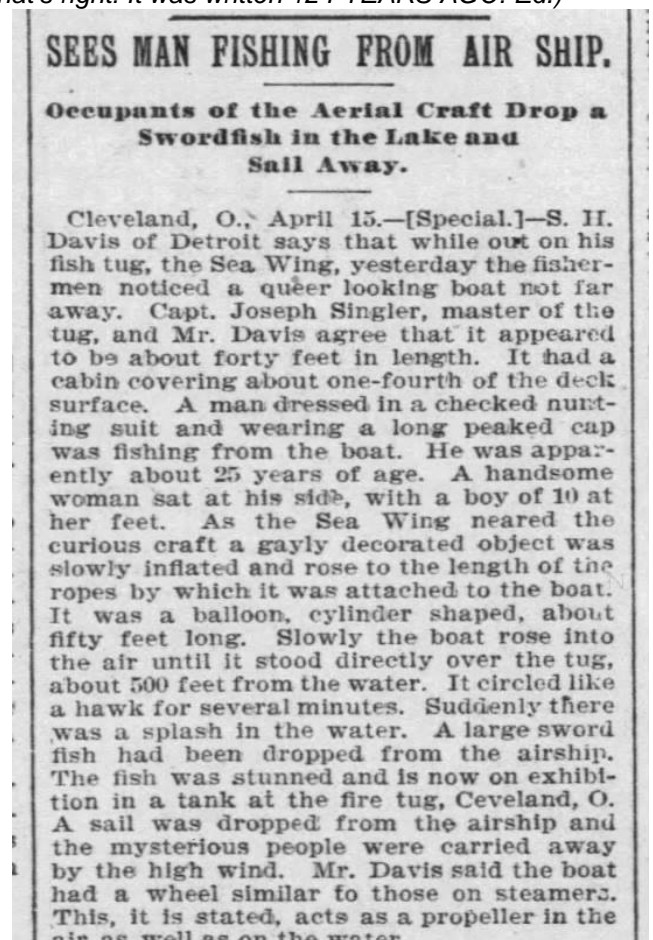
Others however are more skeptical and sometimes even dismissive, claiming the bizarre videos may just be camera tricks, natural phenomena or even outright hoaxes.

Leaked videos continue to emerge its been reported the UAP Task Force are investigating over 100 encounters between the military and the unidentified objects.

Emerging details on the report state that it does not confirm or rule out an alien origin for the phenomena - but US lawmakers have been talking up the issue following a classified briefing last week.

The Sun Online also spoke to Tobias Ellwood MP, who suggested UFOs could be advanced drones and called on the UK to stage a similar probe to the US.

*(The following newspaper article is from April 15, 1897! That's right! It was written 124 YEARS AGO! Ed.)*



*(It seems appropriate to add this article about a possible view to the future. It is not a UFO event. However, there is a paranormal aspect to this phenomenon. The famous German Rocket Scientist Wernher Von Braun dabbled in Science Fiction in the 1950s. Did he have a peek into the future? By the way, he indicated some of the technology in his rocket research was given to them by 'someone'. Some experiencers have purported they were given a glimpse into the future during their encounters. You be the judge. Ed.)*

## German engineer predicted man named 'Elon' would conquer Mars in 1952 novel

By Isabel Vincent  
May 8, 2021

(<https://nypost.com/2021/05/08/german-engineer-predicted-elon-would-conquer-mars-in-1952-novel>)



Wernher von Braun wrote a 1952 novel in which man named "Elon" colonized Mars. Evening Standard/Getty Images

Pioneering aerospace engineer and science-fiction writer Wernher von Braun may have predicted Elon Musk's plan to colonize other worlds nearly 70 years ago when he described a man named "Elon" ruling over Mars.

Von Braun created the character "Elon" in his 1952 science fiction novel "Project Mars" — a space fantasy about a mission to Mars, according to a report.

The book's predictions came to light a few years ago, but began trending on social media last week

Von Braun, one of the most important scientists in the development of rocket technology, describes a Martian government led by ten men, who worked

under a leader "elected by universal suffrage for five years under the name or title of Elon."

After the Second World War, Von Braun, who worked on rockets for the Nazis, was among a group of German scientists who was secretly moved to the US and worked on the exploration of outer space at NASA.

The book's predictions came to light a few years ago, but began trending on social media last week Britta Pedersen-Pool/Getty Images

Musk, the founder of SpaceX, is among a group of billionaires with plans to colonize the Red Planet. His company recently became the first private firm to launch astronauts into space.



Elon Musk

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