

- 1980, September 12** — A bright, round object radiating red and white colors from all sides is reported south of Bojnord, North Khorasan, Iran. It moves very quickly for one hour above the city. ("[Review of Iranian UFO Reports.](#)" *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 15)
- 1980, September 13** — 2:30 a.m. Herb Van Gundy and three other people camping at Hamilton Pool Preserve, Travis County, Texas, wake up when their tent is lit up with a yellow glow. Outside is a loud humming sound and above them at no more than 125 feet is a triangular object. The underside is grayish or greenish, and two lights appear at each tip of the triangle—yellow and white, red and green, and blue and white. The object is moving north very slowly but stops for about 10 seconds and begins to pulsate, almost sounding as if it will stall. It starts up again, heads north, and is gone after about one minute. Thirty minutes earlier, the group had heard a loud explosion, and some of them saw sparks above the top of a hill. (Robert E. Morgan, "[Triangular UFO: Preliminary Report.](#)" *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 155 (January 1981): 6; Dennis Stacy, "[S.A.'s Fly-by-Night Encounters.](#)" *San Antonio (Tex.) Express and News*, June 6, 1982, via *APCIC Clipping Service* 7, no. 7 (July 1982): 1–4)
- 1980, September 21** — 7:00 p.m. A witness is driving west on a county road near Lima, Ohio. She looks up and sees a square opening in the clouds that looks like a picture frame. A vivid orange or red object that looks like the bottom of an Army tank with runners on two sides appears in the opening, remaining stationary for a few seconds before disappearing back into the opening, which then fills up with clouds. ("[Army Tank in the Clouds in Ohio.](#)" *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 7 (November 1980): 2)
- 1980, September 22** — 3:43 a.m. Pan Am Flight 440, flying at 39,000 feet and piloted by Capt. Dave Garber, nearly collides with an unidentified blue-green cigar-shaped object over the Caribbean Sea south of Haiti. The UFO has a horizontal row of 5–6 steady lights, which the flight crew presumes are windows. The distance between the Pan Am flight and the UFO at its closest approach is less than a mile. The estimated length of the UFO is 50 feet. It changes course when the plane flashes its landing lights. The event is witnessed independently by the crew of two other airliners in the area. ("[‘Chiles-Whitted’ Revisited: UFO Sighting Confirmed by Three Flight Crews.](#)" *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1980): 12–14)
- 1980, September 26** — 4:30 a.m. Susan Southerland, Debbie Riley, and Kim Conolty are driving in Washington, Indiana, when they see a streetlight-shaped light source slightly above the treetops. It begins moving toward them. Even after their car turns, the light stays on their left side. They drive to the police station and ask officers Tim Roark and Don Grannon to look at it through binoculars, and they are convinced it is something unusual. ("[UFOs Shake Area Viewers.](#)" *Washington (Ind.) Times-Herald*, September 27, 1980, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 136 (November 1980): 4; Doris and Joe Graziano, "[Press Reports.](#)" *APRO Bulletin*, March 1981, p. 8; "[UFO Mini-Flap in Southern Indiana.](#)" *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (Mar./Apr. 1981): 11)
- 1980, September 26** — 2:26 p.m. A woman watches a Saturn-shaped object approach her home in Blythe, California, from the east and pass overhead for 2–3 minutes and shoot straight up out of sight. ("[Daylight ‘Saturn’ over California.](#)" *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1980): 14)
- 1980, September 28** — *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage* debuts as a 13-part TV series written by [Carl Sagan](#), [Ann Druyan](#), and [Steven Soter](#), with Sagan as host. It covers a wide range of scientific subjects, including the origin of life and a perspective of our place in the universe. Owing to its bestselling companion book and soundtrack album using the title, *Cosmos*, the series is widely known by this title. It is the most widely watched series in the history of American public television at the time, and as of 2009, it is still the most widely watched PBS series in the world. The series is notable for its groundbreaking use of special effects, which allow Sagan to seemingly walk through environments that are actually models rather than full-sized sets. (Wikipedia, "[Cosmos: A Personal Voyage](#)"; Graff 287–291)
- 1980, September 30** — 1:00 a.m. George Blackwell, a farmer near Rosedale, Victoria, Australia, is awakened by a noise and his disturbed livestock. Getting up, he goes outside and sees a 24-by-15-foot sphere passing by, some 6–9 feet off the ground and 450 feet distant. It stops above a water tank, then settles to the ground. Blackwell rides a motorcycle to the spot and stops 45 feet from the landed object. It is making a loud whistling sound. After 3 minutes, the UFO emits a louder noise, gives off a blast of air, and moves off to the east. A 30-foot doughnut-shaped ring is found where the object rested, and Blackwell experiences health problems the next week. The 10,000-gallon water tank is mysteriously drained of water. (NICAP, "[Rosedale, Victoria, Australia: September 30, 1980](#)"; Pat Gildea, "[The White-Acres Encounter.](#)" *Australian UFO Bulletin*, December 1980, pp. 6–7; Keith Basterfield and Bill Chalker, "[Rosedale, Victoria: A Close Encounter.](#)" *UFO Research Australia Newsletter* 2, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 17–22; Keith Basterfield and Bill Chalker, "[The 30th September 1980 Rosedale, Victoria Event.](#)" *ACUFOS Journal* 2, no. 1 (February 1981): 7–10; Keith Basterfield and Bill Chalker, "[Rosedale-Victoria Update.](#)" *UFO Research Australia Newsletter* 2, no. 2 (March/April 1981): 10; Bill Chalker and Keith Basterfield, "[The Rosedale Landing with Physical Traces.](#)" *Flying Saucer Review* 26, no. 6 (March 1981): 4–5; "[Physical Trace in Australia.](#)" *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (March/April 1981): 14–15; Pat Gildea, "[The White-Acres](#)

- [Encounter](#),” *Australian Annual Flying Saucer Review*, June 1981, pp. 9–10, 14–15; “[From Foreign Lands](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 5 (July/Aug. 1981): 17; Bill Chalker and Keith Basterfield, “[Landing with Physical Traces near Rosedale, Victoria, Australia](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 12 (December 1981): 3–5; Keith Basterfield and Bill Chalker, “[Rosedale Victoria: A Close Encounter](#),” 1989; Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, “[Australian Ufology: A Review](#),” *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 31; UFOEv II 62–63)
- 1980**, September 30 — UFO researcher [William Moore](#) meets for the first time with AFOSI officer [Richard Doty](#) (whom Moore refers to as “Sparrow”). Doty is the middleman for an Air Force colonel (later called “Falcon” by Moore) who Moore first contacted on September 5. (The identity of the colonel has not been established, but it may possibly be Doty’s superior officer, Col. [John Barry Hennessey](#).) Doty claims that [Stanton T. Friedman](#) and [Brad Sparks](#) know him personally and will vouch for him (untrue). (Brad Sparks and Barry Greenwood, “[The Secret Pratt Tapes and the Origins of MJ-12](#),” in *MUFON 2007 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, MUFON, 2007, pp. 92–159)
- 1980**, October — [Leonard Stringfield](#), who now has about 20 first-hand informants to various crash/retrievals, begins to encounter resistance and silence from some of them, who are apparently under increased suspicion and surveillance. (Leonard H. Stringfield, “[Status Report on Alleged Alien Cadaver Photos](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 154 (December 1980): 11–16)
- 1980**, October — James W. Allen, 14, is photographing Ben Vrackie mountain in Perthshire, Scotland. As he is walking home he hears a weird humming noise, sees a disc-shaped object, and takes a photo of it. Analysis of the photo points to a hoax photo of a helium-filled balloon. (“[Young Scottish Photographer Sends Photograph](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 10 (October 1981): 1, 6; Steuart Campbell, “[Investigation Report on 1980 Photograph at Pitlochry, Scotland](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 1 (Feb./March 1985): 1–2)
- 1980**, October or November — Ground-based radar at RAF Neatishead, near Norwich, England, tracks an aerial object executing aerial maneuvers that “defied all convention.” A very bright light is seen by the pilot of an RAF F-4 Phantom II aircraft. It vanishes as quickly as it has appeared. (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, p. 136)
- 1980**, October 1? — A group of people go to Lucky Point, east of Monroe City, Indiana, to look for UFOs. High in the eastern sky they notice a dark triangle, as large as the full moon and possibly surrounded by a light glow. As it moves overhead, they hear a voice announce, “the time is now.” It changes direction slightly and accelerates to the northwest. The group reports a tingling sensation and a humming noise on their FM scanner radios. (“[UFO Mini-Flap in Southern Indiana](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (Mar./Apr. 1981): 12)
- 1980**, October 5 — 3:00 a.m. Five off-duty metalworkers at the Dagang Oilfield, Tianjin, China, see a cone-shaped, red, glowing object that lights the area below. Workers feel a scorching heat as it flies by and disappears over Bohai Bay. (Paul Dong and Wendelle Stevens, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, p. 190)
- 1980**, October 6 — 5:50 p.m. A retired man is resting on his sundeck in Ipswich, Massachusetts, when he sees a silver object tumbling end-over-end. He grabs binoculars and watches as it passes overhead and continues, appearing to descend as it disappears behind trees toward the Sagamore Hill Solar Radar Observatory [now relocated to Millstone Hill, Westford] in South Hamilton. (“[Tumbling Daylight UFO](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 11)
- 1980**, October 7 — 11:30 p.m. Witnesses near Yelm, Tenino, and Offutt Lake, Washington, report a large object shaped like a triangle or diamond with red and green lights. (“[Thurston County Logs Some Mysterious Night Sightings](#),” *Olympia (Wash.) Daily Olympian*, October 9, 1980, p. 1)
- 1980**, October 8 — 10:15 p.m. A private investigator is driving south on Alberta Highway 2, returning to Calgary from Red Deer. Just south of Olds, he notices a bright light about a mile ahead. The light forms an inverted V pattern illuminating a 300-foot stretch of the highway. He slows down, along with other drivers, despite seeing no emergency vehicles. The light intensifies, illuminating a half-mile section for about 30 seconds before it suddenly goes out. A stationary light resembling a landing light remains for another 30 seconds before moving rapidly westward, disappearing after traveling 40–50 miles. Once home, he shares the incident with his family and contacts Calgary International Airport, where the staff confirms they had received similar reports and that no aircraft were in the area at the time. (“[Light Phenomena in Canada](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 30, no. 2 (February 1982): 1–2)
- 1980**, October 15 — 11:30 p.m. A Knox County, Indiana, deputy sheriff stops by the side of a road to stretch his legs. Out of the east comes a black triangular form, as big as a house and 10 times the angular size of the full moon. He estimates it is 250 feet away and 200 feet up at its closest. Five figures are visible from the waist up through a long window on one side of the triangle. Large slanted unblinking eyes, white skin, and a straight-line mouth are visible on their elongated heads. He thinks they look afraid, so he tries to telepathically assure them not to be

afraid. They respond by asking him, “Why do you hate the Iranians?” The object draws closer the speeds away to the northeast. During the sighting, his police radio displays intermittent interference and his patrol car’s engine and headlights pulsate. The deputy feels light-headed and sluggish, and his eyes water. (“[UFO Mini-Flap in Southern Indiana](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (Mar./Apr. 1981): 11–12)

- 1980,** October 15–20 — According to analyst [Gary Sick](#), meetings are allegedly held in Paris, France, between emissaries of the Reagan/Bush campaign, with future CIA Director [William J. Casey](#) as a key participant, and “high-level Iranian and Israeli representatives” to make a secret deal with Iran to delay the release of the American hostages until after the election. In return for this, the United States purportedly arranges for Israel to ship weapons to Iran. Sick is never able to prove his claims, but the evidence suggests that the [Reagan](#) administration ships arms to Iran, both through Israel and directly, from 1981 to 1987 as payment for Iranian cooperation. (Wikipedia, “[October Surprise theory](#)”; Gary Sick, *October Surprise: America’s Hostages in Iran and the Election of Ronald Reagan*, Times Books, 1991)
- 1980,** October 16 — Evening. Operators at Tianjin Binhai International Airport, China, are observing the movements of Flight 402 on radar when an unexplained echo shows up. When the airliner is about 6,500 feet from the runway, the plane’s blip disappears for 7 seconds. The mystery target gives a strong, distinct return, and it seems to cause strong radio interference as the airliner touches down. Other anomalous targets show up later that night, but none are seen visually. (Good Above, [pp. 215–216](#); Paul Dong, “[Extracts from Paul Dong’s Feidie Bai Wen Bai Da \(Questions and Answers on UFOs\)](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 29, no. 6 (August 1984): 18)
- 1980,** October 19 — 7:50 p.m. Donald Shive, his wife Star, and two children are driving west near Albion, Michigan, when they see an object with two white lights on the sides and a red and blue light on the front and back. It is moving at about 25 mph at an altitude of 200–500 feet when it moves over the car at an intersection. The car stalls and the lights go out briefly. (“[UFO Stalls Van in Michigan?](#)” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1980): 14)
- 1980,** October 21 — 8:35 a.m. Betty Long and a friend see a formation of three egg-shaped objects in the northern sky over San Diego, California. The bright sun makes them seem uniformly white and featureless. After moving to the right for three minutes, they turn 90° to the left and move away from the witnesses. The formation retains its triangular shape throughout the sighting. (“[Daylight ‘Eggs’ over California](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 8 (December 1980): 5)
- 1980,** October 23 — 8:55 p.m. Randall Rogers and Larry Mortensen, employed at the Phelps-Dodge Corporation’s copper smelting site at Morenci, Arizona, go outside to pick up three other employees for an evening meal break. They notice a boomerang-shaped object approaching the north smokestack at 1,500–2,000 feet altitude and a very slow speed. It stops and hovers briefly, then comes down to 700–1,000 feet, just above the stack. A brilliant light erupts from the forward angle and shines directly down into the interior of the stack. 10 seconds later it goes out and the object moves south to hover above the south stack and shine the bright light inside. It then moves off at 5–10 mph to the south, then suddenly takes off at great speed to the southwest. A very short time later, it returns and hovers above the slag dump. The object is seen as dull black and perhaps 1,320 feet from wingtip to wingtip. Eight reddish lights are on each wing about 75 feet apart and connected by a white tube of light. Greenlee County Sheriff Ralph Gomez also observes the object, as do about 100 members of the Morenci High School band. (“[UFO over Copper Smelter](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 7 (1981): 1–3; UFOEv II 40)
- 1980,** October 26 — [Paul Bennewitz](#) over a number of months has become convinced that he has uncovered evidence of aliens controlling humans through electromagnetic devices, and furthermore claims that UFOs are regularly flying near Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque and the nearby Manzano Nuclear Weapons Storage Facility and Coyote Canyon Test Area. He is also convinced there is an alien base beneath Archuleta Peak northwest of Dulce, New Mexico. After failing to convince APRO (who considers him deluded), Bennewitz contacts AFOSI special agent Sgt. [Richard Doty](#) at Kirtland Air Force Base, who meets with him at his home today along with Jerry Miller, Kirtland’s scientific advisor for the Air Force Test and Evaluation Center. (Clark III 359; Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 34–35, 135–137; Robert L. Hastings, “[UFOs Filmed Hovering over U.S. Air Force Nuclear Weapons Storage Area](#),” *UFOs & Nukes*, May 13, 2012; Alejandro T. Rojas, [[Bennewitz/Kirtland AFB documents](#)]; Alejandro T. Rojas, “[Ex-Air Force Law Enforcement Agent Claims He Hoaxed Major UFO Mythologies](#),” June 29, 2019; Dolan II 225–229)
- 1980,** October 26 — 7:00 p.m. An oddly shaped UFO is observed by a husband and wife on their farm 2 miles southeast of Bloomfield, Indiana. The object looks like two full moons spaced about 12 feet apart with a flashing red light in back like a lopsided triangle. Each white light is about 3 feet in diameter, and the white is intense but nothing around lights up. The object is at treetop level and passes to the right of a security light. There is no reflection of metal anywhere. The woman gets the impression that the lights are connected to something huge, saying: “The object passed about 20 feet above the barn making no sound and lights making no light. When it was over the

barn roof, the sows with baby pigs in the barn jumped up and began wild grunting and knocking about in their pens. They settled down immediately after the object cleared the roof. The object is now coming very slowly towards the front of our house and yard. My husband had gone back into the house to watch from the front windows, my children are crying, and I am on the back porch having the time of my life.” The UFO disappears behind the roof line of the house. (“[Tractor-Chasing Saucer](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 5 (July/Aug. 1981): 14–15; “[October UFO in Indiana Reported](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 8 (August 1981): 6; “[Greene County, Indiana, 1980 CE II](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 2 (April/May 1985): 1, 6, 8; John P. Timmerman, “[Greene County Close Encounter](#),” *IUR* 28, no. 1 (Spring 2003): 10–12)

1980, October 31 — Day. The airport control tower at Canoas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, detects a UFO on its radar. An F-5 squadron has just landed, with the exception of one plane, whose pilot requests authorization to pursue. He sees a bright gold object right in front of him and accelerates to approach, but the object immediately speeds up. The control tower loses the object on its radar. The pilot continues to pursue for 2 minutes before the UFO speeds off over the ocean. (Clark III 206–207; Brazil 555–556)

1980, November 2 — 12:42 p.m. A couple driving westbound on US Highway 50 some 20 miles east of Montrose, Colorado, notice a silver, oblong object in the distance. As the highway starts to curve, it is seen against a background of mesa. They stop the car for a better look for another 10 seconds. It banks like an aircraft to the right and its shape changes to an oval. It disappears by shooting up over the top of the mesa toward the northeast. (“[Daylight Disc in Colorado](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (March/April 1981): 14)

1980, November 2 — 3:00 p.m. Mike Clampett and his wife are stepping out of a Toyota showroom on Solano Avenue in Vallejo, California. They see a group of people looking at the sky where a Piper Cub seems to be on a collision course with a cigar-shaped object. The plane is moving north to south while the UFO flies silently from high in the east to the west. The object is rotating or spiraling about once every second. It takes nearly 10 minutes for the object to reach nearly overhead, dropping in altitude all the while. It remains stationary in the zenith about 5 minutes then moves to the south at a higher altitude. (“[A Spiralling Daylight Cigar](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 11–12)

1980, November 5 — 8:45 p.m. A private pilot named Dennis is flying a Piper PA-32R-301T Turbo Saratoga SP at 8,000 feet near Lake Berryessa, California. He spots an orange, bullet-shaped light that is keeping even with him at 212 mph. The light brightens and begins to pulse with an increasing frequency, then shoots forward and makes a perfect right-angle turn upward. Five minutes later, it reappears behind him and performs a similar maneuver. The sighting is corroborated by a commercial airliner. (“[A Twin ‘Déjà vu’ Sighting?](#)” *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 5)

1980, November 6 — [Peter Gersten](#) files a reply to the NSA’s September request for summary judgment. (“[CAUS Update](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 1 (Nov./Dec. 1980): 16)

1980, November 6 — 7:55 a.m. Nancy Parker is a passenger on a Western Airlines flight passing over Monterey Bay, California. She takes three photos of the scenery below, but when she develops the film, a bright, disc-shaped object appears on the second photo. Probable reflection or lens flare. (“[Reflection or Object? Photo from Airliner Being Studied](#),” *CUFOS Associates Newsletter* 2, no. 3 (March 1981): 1)

1980, November 10 — [Paul Bennewitz](#) visits with a small group of officials—including Brig. Gen. [William Brooksher](#), base AFOSI head Maj. Thomas Cseh, and scientists from the USAF Phillips Weapons Lab—at Kirtland AFB in New Mexico to present his film, photos, and electromagnetic findings. (Clark III 359; Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 41–44; Alejandro T. Rojas, [[Bennewitz/Kirtland AFB documents](#)])

1980, November 10 — 9:00 p.m. A man observes a stationary white light some 30° up in the western sky near the intersection of State Highway 30 and Interstate 270 in Sunset Hills, Missouri. A second object, orange in color, silently circles it for several minutes before taking off to the west. (“[Orbiting Lights near St. Louis](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 1, no. 8 (December 1980): 5)

1980, November 11 — 6:40 p.m. Seven commercial aircraft—four Iberia Boeing 727s, a British airliner, an air-taxi, and a Transeuropa aircraft—encounter an unusual green object over Barcelona, Maella, Palma de Mallorca, and other points in northeastern Spain. Spanish journalist [Juan J. Benítez](#) investigates and determines that either 7 identical UFOs are involved or a single object is responsible, one capable of traveling hundreds of miles within minutes. Comandante Ramos, one of the Iberia pilots, says that the object is “like an enormous soap bubble” that is coming straight for his aircraft. He puts it into an evasive dive. When it passes close to the plane, they see a second smaller ball. (Juan J. Benítez, “[Anniversary Aerial Encounters](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 26, no. 6 (March 1981): 12–14; Good Above, [pp. 157–159](#))

1980, November 17 — Sgt. [Richard Doty](#) tells [Bennewitz](#) that AFOSI has decided against any further investigation of his claims. The same day, Doty forges a communication (later called the “Aquarius document”) from AFOSI headquarters at Bolling AFB in Washington, D.C., to the Seventeenth District AFOSI office at Kirtland and gives

it to [Bill Moore](#). It mentions, briefly and cryptically, analyses of a UFO film apparently taken in October. It also mentions MJ-12 and a government UFO investigation “outside official intelligence channels” called the Aquarius Project. Bill Moore calls it a retyped version of a real AFOSI message with a few spurious additions. Doty tells Moore to pass it on to Bennewitz, which he does eventually. In 2005, Doty tells radio host [Art Bell](#) that AFOSI’s interest in Bennewitz has nothing to do with aliens; rather, it is to protect the technologies and activities at Kirtland AFB. (Good Above, [p. 528](#); Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 43, 120–129; “[Greg Bishop and Richard Doty, Coast to Coast AM with Host Art Bell, Interview Transcript](#),” February 27, 2005; Clark III 362)

1980, November 18 — For the resolution of *CAUS v. NSA*, the National Security Agency creates two affidavits to explain why UFO information is to be withheld from the public. The affidavits are written by the chief officer of policy for the NSA, [Eugene F. Yeates](#). The first of the two is the “unclassified, softened-down” version released to CAUS and the public. The affidavit says that it is in the NSA’s direct interests not to have the documents published, as they can compromise national security because they contain sensitive intelligence regarding the interception of foreign communication; and no meaningful amount of information can be declassified without giving foreign intelligence information regarding US time and methods of information interception. The second affidavit is for Judge [Gerhard A. Gesell](#) only, classified “top secret,” which the judge can read with an “in camera” clearance. The judge sides with the NSA after reviewing the affidavit (released to CAUS through an FOIA request with 95% redactions, later released in 1997 with only 25% redacted, and in 2014 with a bit less missing). Gesell states that “the public interest in disclosure is far outweighed by the sensitive nature of the materials and the obvious effect on national security their release may well entail.” CAUS fashions an appeal to the US Supreme Court. (Wikipedia, “[Citizens Against UFO Secrecy](#)”; Eugene F. Yeates, [In Camera Affidavit](#), *Citizens Against Unidentified Flying Objects Secrecy v. National Security Agency*, US District Court for the District of Columbia, October 9, 1980; J. Allen Hynek, “[A Cosmic Watergate?](#)” *IUR* 9, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1984): 10–12; ClearIntent, [pp. 187–188](#); Good Above, [pp. 417–419, 535–539](#); John Greenewald, “[UFOs: The National Security Agency \(NSA\) Collection](#),” The Black Vault, September 10, 2016)

1980, November 18 — 7:30–11:00 p.m. Many people living in northern Missouri and northeastern Kansas, from Edina, Missouri, to Fairview, Kansas, report a formation of unusual lights traveling slowly and noiselessly. An airport and the police department in Kirksville, Missouri, receive 25 calls or so. The basic description is a triangular formation with two bright headlights. Rick Hull, a 20-year-old photographer from Trenton, Missouri, watches the lights pass overhead four different times; the underside shows a diamond-shaped array of white lights with a steady red beacon in the middle. There are also two bright headlights and an apparent dome with seven green lights around it. He manages to photograph the array only once out of several attempts. Most people provide an estimated altitude for the lights as 300–400 feet, but a Trenton witness puts it at 1,000–1,500 feet, and Missouri Highway Patrolman Bob Lober guesses 1,500–1,800 feet in Edinburg, Missouri. The lights change direction frequently. Radar technician Franklin West, located at a remote radar station of the Kansas City Air Route Traffic Control Center at Sublette, Missouri, finds a radar target in the same direction and distance as visual reports that local witnesses alert him to. It passes through the Kirksville area 4–5 times in a 2–3 hour period. He estimates its speed at 45 mph. A pilot landing at the Olathe, Kansas, Air Route Traffic Control Center says he recognizes the UFO as a refueling tanker with jets following it, which matches an established refueling track in the area. The Center for UFO Studies confirms that Altus AFB in Oklahoma, flew a huge C-5A cargo aircraft behind a KC-135 tanker from Grissom AFB in Peru, Indiana, that evening. The two planes flew in tandem at 20,000 feet at an indicated air speed of 250 knots beginning at 8:00 p.m. and ending around 11:00 p.m. However, there are a few discrepancies with the reports. (“[North Missourians Report Strange Lights in Night Sky](#),” *Chillicothe (Mo.) Constitution-Tribune*, November 19, 1980, pp. 1, 12; Bob Pratt, “Hundreds Spot Gigantic UFO As It Cruises over 2 States,” *National Enquirer*, February 3, 1981; “[Radar-Visual Light Form Seen by Independent Witnesses](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (March/April 1981): 12–14; Joe and Doris Graziano, “[Press Reports](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 5 (June 1981): 6; Marler 109–112)

1980, November 19 — 11:45 p.m. A couple is driving home to Longmont, Colorado, from Denver when they hear a loud “whish” and a beam of blue light strikes their car. Their headlights begin to dim and the radio emits static before fading out. The back wheels of the car leave the pavement and the car rises at an angle into the air. They lose consciousness and wake up as the car is resuming its 50 mph journey down the road. More than one hour of time is missing. The next day, the woman finds a rectangular mark on her abdomen and soon has vivid dreams of a craft and an entity. She develops a nearly fatal case of pneumonia and finds out she is pregnant. The man discovers a melanoma on his legs, but it improves. Under hypnosis they recall seeing a hovering domed craft, a luminous entryway, and a humanoid with a large head, gray skin, thin fingers, and shiny golden garb. (Richard Sigismund, “[CE-III: New Dimensions in Investigations](#),” *IUR* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1982): 9–15)

- 1980**, November 24 — Around 10:00 p.m. A teenager in New Lenox, Illinois, sees two green light sources from his bedroom window. They move back and forth in the southern sky and disappear briefly when a plane flies below them. (“[UFOs—or IFOs over Joliet?](#)” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 12)
- 1980**, November 25 — Early morning. Policemen in New Lenox, Manhattan, Joliet, and Ellwood, Illinois, watch a bright white light that fluctuates in brightness and mostly remains stationary. Probable sightings of Venus. (“[UFOs—or IFOs over Joliet?](#)” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 12)
- 1980**, November 25 — 6:40 a.m. A glowing orange ball is seen maneuvering around the Ninian Northern oil platform in the North Sea. It is large enough to be seen by workers at the Brent oil platform 12–15 miles away. An RAF Hawker Siddeley Nimrod aircraft is sent to the area, but no public conclusions are reached about its nature. (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [p. 136](#))
- 1980**, November 26 — [Doty](#) receives a call from former astronaut Sen. [Harrison Schmitt](#) (R-N.Mex.) who asks him about AFOSI’s role in [Bennewitz](#)’s claims. Doty tells him they are not investigating. But Doty later admits what he tells Schmitt is not true. AFOSI has told him to make Bennewitz believe there is an impending alien invasion because Bennewitz is actually observing secret Air Force projects. According to Doty, the Air Force wants to discredit Bennewitz so no one will figure that out. However, Doty claims that in doing so, he created hoaxed documents that are given to Bennewitz and other UFO researchers, and that he broke into Bennewitz’s house and office. (Alejandro T. Rojas, “[Ex–Air Force Law Enforcement Agent Says He Hoaxed Major UFO Mythologies.](#)” *Huffington Post*, May 13, 2014; Clark III 359–362)
- 1980**, November 29 — 5:00 a.m. While checking reports of cattle wandering around a local council estate in Todmorden, West Yorkshire, England, Police Constable [Alan Godfrey](#) allegedly sees a bright light ahead on Burnley Road that appears to be a hovering, rotating object. He sees twigs and leaves swirling around beneath it. He experiences missing time of approximately 25 minutes, during which he splits a boot and acquires an itchy, red mark on his foot. Via hypnotic regression, he recalls being medically examined by alien creatures. In May, Godfrey had investigated the death of [Zigmund Adamski](#), who had been missing for five days before his body was found on top of a coal pile. According to the coroner, Adamski died of a heart attack. Godfrey tells reporters at the time that he believes it possible that Adamski was abducted by aliens and placed on the coal pile “by someone or something.” Godfrey self-publishes *Who or What Were They?* in 2017, a book that includes his speculations regarding the Adamski case, abduction claims by [Travis Walton](#), and his own UFO sighting. In 2014, a partial witness to the event surfaces, a bus driver on Burnley Road who around 4:55 a.m. experiences one of the physical effects Godfrey describes—an oddly localized whirlwind buffeting debris and leaving a swirled road surface beneath. (Wikipedia, “[Alan Godfrey](#)”; Jenny Randles, “[The Alan Godfrey Abduction, November 28, 1980.](#)” UFO Casebook; “[Alan Godfrey.](#)” Northern Ontario UFO Research and Study; Jenny Randles, *The Pennine UFO Mystery*, Granada, 1983, [pp. 122–135](#), [147–168](#); Good Above, [pp. 118–119](#); UFOEv II 561–562; Jenny Randles, “Flappy Valley: Part One,” *Fortean Times* 325 (April 2015): 27; Jenny Randles, “Flappy Valley: Part Two,” *Fortean Times* 326 (May 2015): 27; Jenny Randles, “Flappy Valley, Part 3,” *Fortean Times* 327 (June 2015): 29; Jenny Randles, “Flappy Valley, Part 4,” *Fortean Times* 328 (July 2015): 28–30; Alan Godfrey, *Who or What Were They?* The Author, 2017; ; “[The Todmorden UFO Mystery: The Disappearance and Death of Zigmund Adamski, June 1980.](#)” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, December 31, 2023; “[Policeman Alan Godfrey on Witnessing a Diamond-Shaped UFO and Being Abducted by Aliens, Nov 28, 1980.](#)” Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, September 19, 2024)
- 1980**, November 29 — Mechanic Granger Taylor, 32, of Duncan, British Columbia, a man obsessed with aliens and UFOs to the point of building his own full-size model in his backyard, announces to his friends and parents that he is going to board an alien spacecraft and take a 42-month interstellar voyage. He is never seen again. In 1986, truck fragments and bones are found at a blast site on Mount Prevost. Though DNA testing is not in common use at the time, pathology work by the coroner attributes the adult human bones to Taylor. Fragments of clothing found amid the decayed material are from a shirt owned by Taylor, as confirmed by his mother. Representatives from the auto division of the RCMP confirm the truck is his. A report by the B.C. Coroners office officially declares Taylor dead. A CBC-TV documentary about Taylor, *Spaceman*, is released in 2019 but fails to come up with a likely explanation. (Tyler Hooper, “[The Man Who Went to Space and Disappeared.](#)” *Vice*, July 1, 2016; Mike Taylor, “[What Happened to Granger Taylor?](#)” *Vancouver (B.C.) Times Colonist*, February 3, 2019; CBC-TV, “[Spaceman.](#)” 2019)
- 1980**, December — Army Lt. Col. [John B. Alexander](#) discusses in *Military Review* how psychotronic weapons could be developed by studying the paranormal. He discusses the remote-viewing studies of [Russell Targ](#) and [Harold E. Puthoff](#) and their potential military applications. As for psychotronic weapons, he sees much potential, saying, “with development, these weapons would be able to induce illness or death at little or no risk to the operator.”

Range may be a present problem, but this will probably be overcome if it has not been already.” As an example, he cites work by the Soviets, who have “examined the effects of electromagnetic radiation on humans and have applied those techniques against the US Embassy in Moscow.” (John B. Alexander, [“The New Mental Battlefield: ‘Beam Me Up, Spock!’”](#) *Military Review* 60, no. 12 (December 1980); John B. Alexander, *UFOs: Myths, Conspiracies, and Realities*, Thomas Dunne, 2011, pp. 15–17)

- 1980**, December 3 — 8:30 p.m. On State Highway 57 about 10 miles south of McLain, Mississippi, Robert and Janice Lowrey [or Lawrey?] see a luminous, blue-white ball of light to the east. The FM radio of their car quits, the car’s headlights dim, and the car heater quits when light comes briefly over the right side of the hood. They estimate the light to be about a foot in diameter and only 3 feet away. The seat belt alarm also comes on during the encounter. The light just vanishes. ([“Vehicle Affected by Mini-UFO?”](#) *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 12–13)
- 1980**, December 4 — 8:38 a.m. Graham Moyle and other controllers at the Perth, Western Australia, airport report watching “silver tumbling discs” two or three times through 11:00 a.m. Danielle Russell, 12, sees four objects with lights that change color from red to blue to green moving quickly north to south at 11:00 a.m. There is a reported paint on the radar 7 miles distant at a speed of 138 mph and a height of 5 miles. The target is lost in the radar’s cone of silence. The RAAF scrambles a Macchi jet, but it cannot find the objects. At 1:20 p.m., a target is detected on the radar at 21 miles, due south. The tower tracks an object high above one of the runways. Five minutes later, the radar returns another target. ([“Jet Hunt for Australian UFOs,”](#) *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 2 (Jan./Feb. 1981): 14)
- 1980**, December 4 — 6:15 p.m. UFO researcher [Ray Stanford](#) allegedly shoots 25 seconds of a film through the window of a Braniff airliner flying over Mexico that seems to show faraday rings around a domed UFO. (Douglas Dean Johnson, [“Gravity Waves and Faraday Rings—Or Imaginary Things?”](#) *Mirador*, April 4, 2024)
- 1980**, December 5 — 10:00 p.m. Two teenagers parked next to a swimming pool in a subdivision of Normal, Illinois, see a stationary bright white light about half the size of the full moon in the western sky. Suddenly it splits into two smaller halves that rejoin, growing small and fuzzy, then brighten and enlarge. Three small lights shoot out and snap back in again. They watch the display for about one hour. During the last 15 minutes, their ears begin to hurt simultaneously. The pain shifts from their right ears to their temples, and they both feel a pea-shaped lump under their skin. They return home. The next day the lumps are gone but they have headaches. On December 8 at 8:45 p.m., the boy returns to the same spot alone and sees another light for about one minute. When he calls his girlfriend again to tell her, both regain the painful lumps in their temples. ([“Youths Link Pain with UFO,”](#) *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 2 (February 1981): 6)
- 1980**, December 6 — 12:45 a.m. A man is driving westbound a few miles north of Edwardsville, Illinois, when a disc-like object cuts across his view from the south about 100 feet away. It seems to be 40 feet in diameter and 9–13 feet thick. Five intense, steady, blue-white lights illuminate its dark shape. He sees windows at the center. The witness tries to drive toward the object, but his car engine fails for 1–2 minutes. The object zips off after a few minutes. ([“Current Sighting Reports,”](#) *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 3 (March 1981): 6)
- 1980**, December 6 — 9:01 a.m. Jean Findley of Poole, Dorset, England, is waiting for a bus and feels the urge to look up. She sees a disc-shaped, domed UFO hovering above nearby trees. Feeling “spellbound” and experiencing a sensation of “peace, calm, and warmth,” she watches the object emit a beam of light, rotate once, and fly away at a great rate of speed. She looks at her watch and sees that 4 minutes have elapsed, seemingly in the space of a few seconds. Even though it is rush hour, she sees no one else around. (Clark III 866; Jenny Randles, [UFO Reality](#), R. Hale, 1983, p. 73)
- 1980**, December 13 — 5:47 p.m. James Garrigus sees an oblong, pulsating orange glow descending at a 30° angle in the northeast as he is driving in Lima, Ohio. Suddenly it curves back upward in a backwards “J,” continuing to move in the same direction. The light increases speed, still bobbing and spinning, and finally shoots upward. ([“Nocturnal Light in Ohio,”](#) *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 2 (February 1981): 6)
- 1980**, December 15 — 3:00 p.m. About 40 witnesses at the Orpington Hospital redevelopment site in London, England, watch a UFO that alternately hovers, moves slowly, shoots across the sky, and finally divides into three and disappears straight up at 4:15 p.m. The object is an elongated triangular shape with a reddish-orange nose, silvery body, and diamond-blue rear section, with its nose pointing southeast. Peter McSherry, clerk of works for Lovell (Southern) Ltd estimates its height at 50,000 feet. A video of the object is taken in the presence of other witnesses at Seal Chart near Sevenoaks, Kent, and although it shows only a point of light in a cloudless sky, it does corroborate the sighting. (Good Above, [pp. 76–79](#))
- 1980**, December 25 — 9:00 p.m. Soviet spy satellite Kosmos 749 (launched July 4, 1975, from Plesetsk) re-enters the Earth’s atmosphere, breaks into several pieces, and creates a spectacular fireworks display over northwest Europe. Police stations, coast guards, and the RAF receive hundreds of calls reporting four or five “comet-like objects

leaving bright trails.” Astronomers also record three fireball meteors the same night, the largest and brightest appearing at 3:00 a.m. (John Mason and Howard Miles, “[Re-Entry of ‘Cosmos 749’ Rocket on 1980 December 25.](#)” *Journal of the British Astronomical Association* 91 (1981): 561–566; UFOFiles2, [p. 105](#))

- 1980, December 26** — 3:00 a.m. A series of reported sightings of unexplained lights near Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk, England, have become linked with claims of UFO landings. The events occur just outside RAF Woodbridge [now MOD Woodbridge], used at the time by the United States Air Force. USAF personnel, including deputy base commander Lieutenant Colonel [Charles I. Halt](#), claim to experience a UFO event. A security patrol (A1C [John Burroughs](#) and S/Sgt Budd Steffens) near the East Gate of RAF Woodbridge sees lights apparently descending into nearby Rendlesham Forest. These lights are attributed by astronomers to a piece of natural debris seen burning up as a fireball over southern England at the time. The observers initially think it is a downed aircraft but, when others (S/Sgt [James Penniston](#), Burroughs, and A1C [Edward Cabansag](#)) enter the forest to investigate they see, according to Halt’s memo, a glowing object, metallic in appearance, with colored lights. As they attempt to approach the object, it appears to move through the trees, and “the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy.” Penniston later claims he and Burroughs encountered a “craft of unknown origin” while in the forest, which he photographs and touches, although there is no publicized mention of this at the time and no corroboration from other witnesses. (Burroughs only reports a blinding white light.) Shortly after 4:00 a.m., local police are called to the scene, but they report that the only lights they can see are those from the Orfordness Lighthouse, a few miles away on the coast. After daybreak, Burroughs and Penniston return to a small clearing near the eastern edge of the forest and find three small impressions on the ground in a triangular pattern, as well as burn marks and broken branches on nearby trees. At 10:30 a.m., the Suffolk Constabulary are called out again, this time to see the impressions, which they think could have been made by an animal. [Georgina Bruni](#), in her book *You Can’t Tell the People* (2000), publishes a photo of the supposed landing site taken on the morning after the first sighting.
- 1980, December 27** — 9:30 p.m. Construction workers skating in Yantan Park, Lanzhou, Gansu province, China, notice a red triangular object moving slowly in the eastern sky. It moves above them and they notice it has a misty circle surrounding it and a dark red center. It also has a gray protuberance that shines a brilliant light, and the outer edge emits regular flashes of yellow light. They watch it for 7 minutes until it disappears in the northwest. (“[The Chinese Connection...and Some Wholesome Chinese Philosophy.](#)” *IUR* 7, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1982): 13)
- 1980, December 28** — 1:48 a.m. RAF Woodbridge Deputy Base Commander [Charles Halt](#) visits the alleged December 26 landing site with 20–30 servicemen (including [John Burroughs](#), Sgt. Adrian Bustinza, Sgt. Bobby Ball, and Sgt. Monroe Nevels). They take radiation readings in the triangle of depressions and in the surrounding area using an AN/PDR-27, a standard US military radiation survey meter. Although they record 70–100 microR/hr at the landing site, in other regions they detect only 30–40 microR/hr, around the background level. Furthermore, they detect a similar small “burst” over half a mile away from the landing site. Halt records the events on a microcassette recorder, the “Halt tape,” released to UFO researchers in 1984 by Col. Sam Morgan, who has succeeded [Ted Conrad](#) as Halt’s superior. The tape chronicles Halt’s investigation in the forest in real time. During this investigation, a flashing light is seen across the field to the east, almost in line with a farmhouse, as the witnesses had seen on the first night. The Orfordness Lighthouse is visible further to the east in the same line of sight. Later, three star-like lights are seen in the sky, two to the north and one to the south, about 10° above the horizon. The brightest of these hovers for 2–3 hours and seems to beam down a stream of light from time to time. Astronomers have explained these as merely bright stars. In June 2010, retired Col. Charles Halt signs a notarized affidavit, in which he again summarizes what happened, then states he believes the event to be extraterrestrial and covered up by both the UK and US military. Contradictions between this affidavit and the facts as recorded at the time in Halt’s memo (dated January 13, 1981) and tape recording (made December 28) have been pointed out. In 2010, base commander Col. Ted Conrad provides a statement about the incident to UFO researcher [David Clarke](#). Conrad states that “We saw nothing that resembled Lieutenant Colonel Halt’s descriptions either in the sky or on the ground” and that “We had people in position to validate Halt’s narrative, but none of them could.” In an interview, Conrad criticizes Halt for the claims in his affidavit, saying “he should be ashamed and embarrassed by his allegation that his country and Britain both conspired to deceive their citizens over this issue. He knows better.” Conrad also disputes the testimony of Sgt. [James Penniston](#), who claims to have touched an alien spacecraft; he had interviewed Penniston at the time and he had not mentioned any such occurrence. Conrad also suggests that the entire incident was a hoax.
- 1980, December 28** — 5:30 p.m. Ohio County, Kentucky, Sheriff Deputy [Frank Chinn](#) is leaving his home in Echols, Kentucky, to report for his shift when he notices six objects following the same flight path out of the southwestern sky. He calls for verification from the state police. Trooper Don Beemer arrives in time to witness one of the objects leaving. Chinn sees two more UFOs later in the evening. Chinn meets up with Deputy John Cooper at a gas station in Centertown, Kentucky, where they watch one of the objects through a telescope set up on the

premise. Chinn compares the bottom of the UFO to a faceted diamond. “The difference was that in each facet or plane of the surface, there was a bright spotlight sending off a brilliant white light,” Chinn notes. “And in the center of the craft there were three rotating, flashing lights colored red, green and yellow.” The sheriff’s department receives 14 calls from local residents who also report sightings. ([“Sightings of UFOs Reported,” Owensboro \(Ky.\) Messenger-Inquirer, December 30, 1980, p. 11](#); [“Officials Offer No Reason for Apparent UFO Sightings,” Owensboro \(Ky.\) Messenger-Inquirer, December 31, 1980, p. 21](#))

1980, December 28–29 — Around 12:00 midnight. USAF A1C [Larry Warren](#) claims he is on patrol at RAF Woodbridge with other servicemen who are bringing lighting equipment to a large clearing called Capel Green. At 12:30 a.m., he is directed into the woods to “investigate a disturbance.” They soon come to a large field where about 40 military personnel are gathered. They are ordered to surround what appears to be a bright fog or mist. When his group enters the field, Warren sees it is a glowing, yellow-green, circular object not more than 12 inches in height. Two officers walk around it with Geiger counters, someone takes photos, and another operates a movie camera. He hears shouts of “Here it comes!” and sees a small red light that quickly approaches his group at 1:30 a.m. The basketball-sized object makes a downward arc and hovers at 20 feet above the ground. It then explodes in a blinding flash that gives off no heat. Instantly, about 25 away, Warren claims he sees a large, pyramid-shaped object topped by a glowing red light. Covering the entire surface are what look like boxes and pipes. An officer orders Bustinza and Warren (now feeling nauseous) to approach within 10–15 feet of the object. Before long they are ordered further back. A staff car arrives, carrying Col. [Gordon Williams](#) and his staff. From far behind the object comes a bright bluish ball of light. Warren claims he can see large-headed beings inside. He sees Col. Williams approach the beings and stare at them. Warren arrives back at Security Control at 4:30 a.m. Most ufologists find Warren’s account unreliable, and the book he coauthored, *Left at East Gate*, is withdrawn by the publisher, Cosimo, in 2017 after finding “inaccurate or embellished” testimony. In 2010, [Jenny Randles](#), who first reported the Rendlesham case in the *London Evening Standard* in 1981 and coauthored with local researchers the first book on the case in 1984, *Sky Crash: A Cosmic Conspiracy*, emphasizes her previously expressed doubts that the incident was caused by extraterrestrial visitors. While suggesting that an unidentified phenomenon might have caused parts of the case, she notes: “Whilst some puzzles remain, we can probably say that no unearthly craft were seen in Rendlesham Forest. We can also argue with confidence that the main focus of the events was a series of misperceptions of everyday things encountered in less than everyday circumstances.” The most plausible skeptical explanation is that the sightings are due to a combination of several factors. The initial sighting on December 26, when the airmen saw something apparently descending into the forest, coincides with the appearance of a bright fireball over southern England; such fireballs are a common source of UFO reports. The supposed landing marks are identified by police and foresters as rabbit diggings. According to the witness statements from December 26, the flashing light seen from the forest lay in the same direction as the Orfordness Lighthouse. When the eyewitnesses attempted to approach the light, they realized it was further off than they thought. Timings on [Halt](#)’s tape recording indicate that the light he saw, which lay in the same direction as the light seen two nights earlier, flashed every five seconds, which was the flash rate of the Orfordness Lighthouse. The star-like objects that Halt reported hovering low to the north and south are thought by some skeptics to have been misinterpretations of bright stars distorted by atmospheric and optical effects. No evidence has emerged to confirm that anything came down in the forest. However, [Nick Redfern](#) in *The Rendlesham Forest UFO Conspiracy* alleges that the events were created by US and UK military as part of a series of top-secret experiments involving ball lightning and the “use of sophisticated holograms and hallucinogens” to test the reactions of the personnel exposed to them. (Wikipedia, [“Rendlesham Forest incident”](#); NICAP, [“Rendlesham Forest Encounter / Halt Case”](#); Brenda Butler, Dot Street, and Jenny Randles, *Sky Crash*, Grafton, 1984; Jenny Randles, [“Mystery at Rendlesham,” IUR 9, no. 6 \(Nov./Dec. 1984\): 10–11, 15](#); [“A Flashlight in the Forest,” The Guardian \(UK\), January 5, 1985, p. 9](#); Robert H. Coddington, [“An Analysis of the Rendlesham Forest Incident Tape,” IUR 10, no. 6 \(Nov./Dec. 1985\): 9–13](#); Jenny Randles, [“The Cover-Up in England,” IUR 12, no. 5 \(Sept./Oct. 1987\): 9–12, 20](#); Jenny Randles, [“A Fire in the Forest: New Light on the Rendlesham Landing,” IUR 13, no. 5 \(Sept./Oct. 1988\): 4–17, 21](#); Jenny Randles, [“Rendlescam,” IUR 14, no. 1 \(Jan./Feb. 1989\): 16–18](#); Good Above, [pp. 79–96, 456](#); Jenny Randles, [From Out of the Blue: The Incredible UFO Cover-Up at Bentwaters NATO Air Base](#), Global Communications, 1991; [Michael Aspel], “Strange But True: Rendlesham Forest UFO Incident,” [part 1](#), [part 2](#), [part 3](#), [ITV Meridian, December 9, 1994], Zoromes YouTube channel, January 12, 2009; Nick Pope, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, Simon & Schuster, 1996, [pp. 141–165](#); Larry Warren and Peter Robbins, [Left at East Gate: A First-Hand Account of the Bentwaters-Woodbridge UFO Incident, Its Cover-Up, and Investigation](#), Marlowe, 1996; Jenny Randles, *UFO Crash Landing? Friend or Foe? The Full Story of the Rendlesham Forest Close Encounter*, Blandford, 1998; Jenny Randles, [“Seeing the Forest for the Trees: New Twists in the Bentwaters Case,” IUR 23, no. 2 \(Summer 1998\): 16–19, 29–30](#); Don Berliner, with Marie

Galbreath and Antonio Huneus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, [pp. 105–111](#); Georgina Bruni, *You Can't Tell the People*, Sidgwick & Jackson, 2000; Jenny Randles and Richard Hall, [“The Rendlesham Forest Case: Point/Counterpoint,”](#) *IUR* 25, no. 3 (Fall 2000): 8–15, 30; UFOEv II 99–108; Jenny Randles, [“Rendlesham Forest: The British MoD File,”](#) *IUR* 26, no. 3 (Fall 2001): 21–25, 30–32; Ian Ridpath, [“The Rendlesham Forest UFO Case,”](#) Ian Ridpath, February 28, 2003; [“Rendlesham: UFO Hoax,”](#) Inside Out: BBC, June 30, 2003; Dave Cosnette, [“The Bentwaters Rendlesham Forest Incident,”](#) January 2005; Michael D. Swords, *GrassRoots UFOs: Case Reports from the Timmerman Files*, Fund for UFO Research, 2005, pp. 145–146; Kean, [pp. 169–173, 179–188](#); UFOFiles2, [pp. 105–115](#); Nick Pope, with John Burroughs and Jim Penniston, [“Encounter in Rendlesham Forest,”](#) Thistle, 2014; Jenny Randles, “Rendlesham Forest Genesis: Part One,” *Fortean Times* 336 (February 2016): 24–25; Jenny Randles, “Rendlesham Forest Genesis: Part Two,” *Fortean Times* 337 (March 2016): 28–29; Jenny Randles, “Rendlesham Forest Genesis: Part Three,” *Fortean Times* 338 (April 2016): 26–27; Jenny Randles, “Rendlesham Forest Genesis: Part Four,” *Fortean Times* 339 (May 2016): 26–27; Jenny Randles, “Rendlesham Forest Genesis: Part Five,” *Fortean Times* 340 (June 2016): 28–29; Andrew Pike, *The Rendlesham File: Britain's Roswell?* Flying Disk Press, 2017; Nukes 403–443; Clark III 950; Matt Salusbury, “Rendlesham Revisited,” *Fortean Times* 387 (Christmas 2019): 28–29; Jim Penniston and Gary Osborn, *The Rendlesham Enigma: Book 1, Timeline*, The Authors, 2019; [“Col. Charles Halt Returns to Woodbridge, Suffolk, UK, Sept. 8th 2019,”](#) David Young Paranormal Dimensions Radio Presenter YouTube channel, October 6, 2019; Nick Redfern, *The Rendlesham Forest UFO Conspiracy*, Lisa Hagan, 2020; Jim Penniston and Gary Osborn, [“The Full Report,”](#) The Rendlesham Forest Incident Official Website; Jim Penniston and Gary Osborn, [“Witness Statements,”](#) The Rendlesham Forest Incident Official Website; Jim Penniston and Gary Osborn, [“Others Involved,”](#) The Rendlesham Forest Incident Official Website; Center for UFO Studies, [\[Rendlesham case documents\]](#); [“John Burroughs and the Government's Unprecedented Acknowledgment,”](#) *Roswell (N.Mex.) Daily Record*, May 7, 2023; Gary Heseltine, *Non-Human: The Rendlesham Forest UFO Incidents, 42 Years of Denial*, The Author, 2023; Randle, 1973, pp. 175–189; Graff 284–286; Jackson Camargo, [“O Caso da Floresta de Rendlesham,”](#) Fenomenum, December 20, 2023; [“Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton on the UFO Landing at Rendlesham Forest near RAF Bentwaters,”](#) Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, July 18, 2024)

1980, December 29 — 9:00 p.m. While driving through the Piney Woods of East Texas near Huffman, about 40 miles northeast of Houston, [Betty J. Cash](#) and her two passengers notice a bright light ahead. As they draw within about 130 feet, they are confronted by a fiery diamond-shaped object, emitting flames down toward the road. What happens after that is mind-boggling. Betty Cash and [Vickie](#) and [Colby Landrum](#) suffer apparent radiation illness after watching a flame-spewing UFO and mystery helicopters. Eventually, Cash and Landrum contact their US Senators, [Lloyd Bentsen](#) and [John Tower](#), who suggest that the witnesses file a complaint with the Judge Advocate Claims office at Bergstrom Air Force Base [now Austin-Bergstrom International Airport]. In August 1981, Cash, Landrum, and Colby are interviewed at length by personnel at Bergstrom and told that they should hire a lawyer and seek financial compensation for their injuries. With attorney [Peter Gersten](#) taking on the case pro bono, the case winds its way through the US courts for several years. Cash and Landrum sue the federal government for \$20 million. On August 21, 1986, US District Court Judge [Ross N. Sterling](#) dismisses their case, noting that the plaintiffs have not proved that the helicopters are associated with the government and that military officials have testified that US armed forces do not have a large, diamond-shaped aircraft in their possession. Although there is no doubt that the incident occurred, it is now considered by many to be a non-UFO case. In December 2018, [Brian Dunning](#) investigates the case and reports his findings on the Skeptoid podcast. He finds that the notes taken by Cash's cardiologist, [Vasudev B. Shenoy](#), attribute her hair loss to the autoimmune disease alopecia areata, that her other symptoms could be caused by illnesses that started before the incident, and that Landrum's only documented illness is developing a cataract in one eye. He suspects that “Cash and Landrum wrongly, but honestly, placed the blame for their health problems onto whatever they saw; and even pushed the truth a bit trying to get the Air Force to pay for it.” (Wikipedia, [“Cash-Landrum incident”](#); NICAP, [“Cash/Landrum Case”](#); [“Burns Follow UFO Incident,”](#) *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 8 (1981): 1–4; [“Physical Effects, Helicopters, and a Fiery UFO,”](#) *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 4 (May/June 1981): 13–14; Harry Lebelson, [“Diamond Fire: A Close Encounter of the Military Kind,”](#) *Pursuit* 18, no. 1 (Spring 1985): 18–21 John Schuessler, [“Cash-Landrum Case Closed?”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 222 (October 1986): 12, 17; John Schuessler, [“Medical Injuries Resulting from a UFO Encounter,”](#) *The Spectrum of UFO Research*, CUFOS, 1988, pp. 58–69; John F. Schuessler, [“The Cash-Landrum Radiation Case,”](#) Project VISIT, 1998; UFOEv II 226–229; [“Huffman 1980,”](#) Texas UFO Museum and Research Library, December 11, 2006; Michael D. Swords, [“Can UFOs Cause Physiological Effects? Part 2,”](#) *IUR* 34, no. 1 (September 2011): 4–5; Good Above, [pp. 303–305](#); ClearIntent, [pp. 106–108](#); Good Need, [pp. 335–337, 345–346](#); Curt Collins, [“Report on the Cash/Landrum New Caney CEII Case by Allan Hendry,”](#) Blue Blurry Lines, November 19, 2013; Curt Collins, [“Who's Who in the](#)

[Cash-Landrum UFO Case](#),” Blue Blurry Lines, February 26, 2014; Robert Sheaffer, “[Between a Beer Joint and a Highway Warning Sign: The ‘Classic’ Cash-Landrum Case Unravels](#),” *Skeptical Inquirer* 38, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 2014): 28–30; Clark III 226–228; Curt Collins, “[The Cash-Landrum Case UFO Document Collection](#),” Blue Blurry Lines, October 3, 2019; Curt Collins, “[The Cash-Landrum UFO: 1980s Recording of Witnesses Interviews](#),” Blue Blurry Lines, October 7, 2022; Curt Collins, “[The NSA Cash-Landrum UFO Document](#),” Blue Blurry Lines, December 14, 2022; Project VISIT, [[case articles and clippings](#)]; Randle, 1973, pp. 189–196; Gary P. Posner, “[The Legendary Cash-Landrum Case: Radiation Sickness from a Close Encounter?](#)” in Vicente-Juan Ballester-Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 166–179; “[The Cash-Landrum Incident: Traumatized & Physically Ill after Terrifying UFO Encounter, Dec 29, 1980](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, October 2023; “[Vickie Landrum’s Original Phone Report & Hypnosis Session of the Terrifying Piney Woods UFO Incident](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, December 17, 2023)

1981

- 1981** — New York artist [Budd Hopkins](#) publishes *Missing Time*, which first describes his research into abductions that show they are far more plentiful than anyone suspects, biological in purpose, and perhaps lifelong in scope. Hopkins also shows that a period of unexplained missing time is a typical aspect of the abduction experience. The information comes primarily from hypnotic regression performed by licensed psychologist Aphrodite Clamar, who also conducts psychological tests on the abductees. (Budd Hopkins, [Missing Time: A Documented Study of UFO Abductions](#), R. Marek, 1981; Graff 329–330)
- 1981** — Center for UFO Studies researcher [Mark Rodeghier](#) publishes *UFO Reports Involving Vehicle Interference*, a comprehensive catalog and analysis of 441 cases where UFOs seem to affect cars or motorcycles. He finds that most of these cases occur in the late evening or early morning hours, and that in 35% of the cases, witness estimate they are within 100 feet of the object. Rodeghier also notes a high concentration of four characteristics: the presence of a light beam, loss of control of the vehicle, a physiological effect on the witness, and the UFO chasing the vehicle. (Mark Rodeghier, [UFO Reports Involving Vehicle Interference](#), CUFOS, 1981)
- 1981** — A husband and wife are sleeping in their farmhouse near Newark, Ohio, when their dogs start barking loudly. They can hear people talking outside their window in a “foreign” language. They do not investigate, but in the morning they find three sets of footprint-like traces outside. They look like elongated scratch marks about 12 inches long, are uniform in shape, and go all the way to the fence line and through it. The couple begins to see a “perfectly round white circle of light,” about 1.5 inches in diameter, moving slowly around in their bedroom each night. The light is seen for about a month, no matter how the blinds and curtains are arranged. Sometimes it would stop moving for hours. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Trick of the Light](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 9)
- 1981** — The Norsk Institutt for Vitenskapelig Forskning og Opplysning in Trondheim, Norway, begins publishing the *NIVFO Bulletin*, edited by Gunnar Bertelsen and Kilbjørn Stenødegård. It continues through spring 1995. ([NIVFO Bulletin](#), no. 1 (1981))
- 1981** — The first Ukrainian scientific meeting on UFOs is held in Kyiv, with 12 PhD’s and 40 doctoral candidates participating. The group produces a resolution to study anomalous phenomena “in the interests of the sciences and practical activities of human society.” The Ukrainian Academy of Science, especially academician G. S. Pisarenko, lends support to the effort. (V. S. Troitsky, [“UFOs: Myth or Reality?”], *Nauka i Religiya*, 1982, no. 10; Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1981, January** — A. Bindas observes a radiant object above the city of Khatanga, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Russia, during the polar night. It disappears and reappears abruptly, hovers, and directs a wide beam of light on the ground. After 5–7 minutes it zooms off in a spiral-shaped trajectory. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, p. 97)
- 1981, January 8** — 5:00 p.m. A well-documented case of physical effects from a UFO takes place in Trans-en-Provence, Var, France. Renato Nicolaï, a gardener, hears a strange whistling sound while doing agricultural work on his property. He then sees an object in the shape of two saucers, one inverted on top of the other, about 8 feet in diameter and about 150 feet away at a lower elevation. It has a thick band around the middle section, two circles that look like trapdoors, and two feet that extend about 8 inches below the body of the machine. The object takes off almost immediately, rising above the tree line and departing to the northeast. The case quickly comes to the attention of the police and is soon investigated by GEPAN, the French government’s scientific team of UFO investigators. The physical traces include evidence of vegetation and soil heating, skid marks, and circular ground

- marks. The chemical analysis reveals that the soil has been heated to 300°–600° C. [Jean-Jacques Velasco](#) thinks that the object could have weighed between 4 and 5 tons. Trace amounts of phosphate and zinc are found in the sample material, and an analysis of wild alfalfa near the landing site shows chlorophyll levels 30%–50% lower than expected. The police report says that the trace, which appears on an active road, looks like one made by a car tire. This explanation is dismissed by GEPAN because of Nicolai saying otherwise. (Wikipedia, “[Trans-en-Provence Case](#)”; NICAP, “[Disc Leaves Extensive Ground Traces](#)”; *Enquête 81/01: Analyse d'un Trace*, Note Technique no. 16, Groupe d'Étude des Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non-identifiés, Centre Nationale d'Étude Spatiales, March 1, 1983; Michel Bounias, “[Biochemical Traumatology As a Potent Tool for Identifying Actual Stresses Elicited by Unidentified Sources](#),” *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 4, no. 1 (1990): 1–18; Jean-Jacques Velasco, “[Report on the Analysis of Anomalous Physical Traces: The 1981 Trans-en-Provence UFO Case](#),” *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 4, no. 1 (1990): 27–48; Jacques Vallée, “[Return to Trans-en-Provence](#),” *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 4, no. 1 (1990): 19–25; Michel Bounias, “[Further Quantification of Distance-Related Effects in the Trans-en-Provence Case](#),” *JUFOS* 5 (1994): 109–121; Peter Sturrock, *The UFO Enigma*, 1999, pp. 257–297; UFOEv II 63–65; Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneeus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, pp. 112–120; Swords 443–445; 2Pinotti 53–56; Graff 267–268)
- 1981**, January 12 — Citizens Against UFO Secrecy files an appeal against the *CAUS v. NSA* decision. (ClearIntent, [p. 188](#))
- 1981**, January 15 — 9:30 p.m. People in Terre Haute, Indiana, begin reporting a string of about a dozen lights in the sky to a local television station. The lights are stationary then disappear by shooting straight up. (“[UFO Mini-Flap in Southern Indiana](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (Mar./Apr. 1981): 12)
- 1981**, January 15 — 10:15 p.m. Three sets of witnesses in Prairieton, Indiana, driving past two different fields on the same road, see 7–11 four-foot-tall humanoids that appear to be searching for something. Some witnesses think they are naked; others report they are wearing “tight-fitting suits.” Most witnesses are within 20 feet of the creatures, usually watching for 15–20 seconds before racing off. At 10:30 p.m., two women in a different area of town get a fleeting glimpse of a 6–7-foot tall creature with fur and luminous red eyes. (“[UFO Mini-Flap in Southern Indiana](#),” *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 3 (Mar./Apr. 1981): 12)
- 1981**, January 17 — 10:00 a.m. A witness at a construction site near Virginia Beach, Virginia, sees two silver cigars moving northbound in the eastern sky. Each has distinct outlines, a surface like aluminum, and pointed ends. They are flying with a slight up/down motion but horizontally at about 1,000–2,000 feet. (“[Current Sighting Reports](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 3 (March 1981): 6)
- 1981**, January 22 — Many witnesses see a brilliant triangular object with multiple red lights descending swiftly above the treetops just southeast of Jesup, Georgia. It is only visible for a few seconds. (Marler [171–172](#))
- 1981**, January 25 — 3:30 p.m. Some 20–30 people in a two-block area of Chatsworth, California, see a white object like an elongated cigar inclined at a 10°–20° angle from the horizontal. Witnesses in several locations take still photos, slides, and 8mm color films as the object hovers and moves around the sky for 45 minutes. Most of the photos have trees or other landmarks in the foreground. The object appears to be many miles distant. Finally the object appears to roll up in a ball, dart around, and shoots straight up out of sight. Those who watch it through telescopes and binoculars see a pattern of pink-red lights moving from left to right along the edge of the object. One witness sees a domed disc with two rows of blinking lights around its edge. (UFOEv II 294–295)
- 1981**, February 7 — *The Larry King Show* carries a three-hour program on UFOs with a panel consisting of [Richard H. Hall](#), [Bruce S. Maccabee](#), and [Don Berliner](#). The first hour consists of [Larry King](#) interviewing the panelists; then he takes phone calls for two hours. (“[MUFON Featured on Nationwide Broadcast](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 157 (March 1981): 3)
- 1981**, February 9 — Day. Gary Rounds and Charles Shackleford are flying a rented Cessna 150, making touch-and-go landings at the San Jose (Calif.) International Airport. As they are climbing away from the runway after one of their passes at about 500 feet, they see ahead and above them a bright, round red light. They change course to avoid it. The object approaches them head on, then instantly reappears behind the plane. Air traffic controllers Randy Blount and Rich Gutterud observe the performance from the tower and watch the object make tight turns, hover, then accelerate away at a high rate of speed. (UFOEv II 46; Powell, *Scientist*, 67)
- 1981**, February 12 — 12:23 p.m. About 25–30 people on an interstate highway in Flagstaff, Arizona, see a cigar-shaped object like a blimp, white in color with dark veins. A small white object is at one end. After 2 minutes, the small object takes off at a high rate of speed and disappears. Meanwhile, a fog surrounds the blimp and it drifts away. (National UFO Reporting Center, “[NUFORC Sighting 09731](#),” November 20, 2002; Herbert S. Taylor, “[Cloud Cigars: A Further Look](#),” *IUR* 30, no. 3 (May 2006): 12–13)

- 1981**, February 28 — The Center for UFO Studies can no longer afford to keep [Allan Hendry](#) on as a full-time investigator, so his affiliation ends. It closes its Evanston, Illinois, office and moves to [Allen Hynek](#)'s home. (Clark III 569)
- 1981**, March — The Centro Ufologico Nazionale begins a newsletter to supplement its official journal, *Notiziario UFO*, edited by [Roberto Pinotti](#). Titled *Quaderni UFO*, it is edited by Gianfranco Neri in Bologna, Italy, and continues through at least May 1983. (*Quaderni UFO* 1, no. 1 (Mar./Apr. 1981))
- 1981**, March — The *Journal of UFO Research* is first published by China's UFO Research Organization. (Paul Dong, "[Letters](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982): 3)
- 1981**, March — 4:30 a.m. A witness is driving toward a pancake house in Memphis, Tennessee, for a cup of coffee when she sees three shining objects in the sky. She is so engrossed in watching that she passes by the restaurant. Suddenly the objects disappear into what look like puffs of smoke. A minute later, one reappears directly over the street in front of her. She turns into the Admiral Benbow Inn parking lot and alerts the night watchman, who sees the object hovering above her car and then rise above the inn. ("[UFOs in a Puff of Smoke](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 5 (July/Aug. 1981): 15–16)
- 1981**, March 6 — 1:00 a.m. A registered nurse living on West Granville Avenue on the north side of Chicago, Illinois, watches a triangular array of three white lights outside her south-facing window. The lights seem to be connected by "spokes." The array is rotating in a clockwise direction. ("[Nocturnal Triangle in Chicago Night Sky](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 6 (Dec. 1984/Jan. 1984): 8)
- 1981**, March 17 — 4:03 a.m. Sgt. Russell Yokum of the St. Helens, Oregon, police is on patrol on US Highway 30 on the edge of town when he sees a bright light apparently above the Columbia River. He goes to the Columbia County Courthouse for a better view, where he is joined by other police, but the object is no longer visible. Meanwhile, they are conversing via CB radio with Donald Atkins, who is in nearby Ridgefield, Washington, and watching a stationary light over the river. Atkins transmits a faint humming sound the object is making through his CB radio to officer Ricky Cade, who captures it on a cassette recorder. Yokum and Cade look to the south and see a bright orange-red light about 80–100 feet above the river, apparently the same one that Atkins is watching. ("[An Orange\(!\) Ball at St. Helens for St. Patrick](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 4 (May/June 1981): 11–13; Mark Rodeghier, "[St. Helens Revisited](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 3 (May/June 1982): 12–14; J. Allen Hynek and Howard R. Schechter, "[Narrow-Band Acoustic Analysis of a Recorded UFO Sound](#)," *The Spectrum of UFO Research*, CUFOS, 1988, pp. 1–12; Greg Long, "[What Was That Light and Sound over the Columbia River?](#)" Pacific Harbor Publishing, 1996; "[1981 Columbia River UFO Incident: UFO Sound Recorded](#)," QUFOSR YouTube channel, December 12, 2016; Julie Thompson, "[The Strange Case of the St. Helens UFO](#)," *St. Helens (Oreg.) Chronicle*, October 11, 2017; "[Sgt. Russell Yokum Recorded the Sound of a UFO Hovering over the Columbia River, St. Helens, OR, 1981](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, September 16, 2022)
- 1981**, March 18 — NORAD becomes the North American Aerospace Defense Command. (Wikipedia, "[North American Aerospace Defense Command](#)")
- 1981**, March 20 — 9:30 p.m. Larry Tilman is on Neil Road southwest of London, Ohio, hoping to get a UFO photo. He notices a small orange light over the city moving in a zig-zag fashion. It moves closer to his location, so he takes a time exposure photo as the light blinks out. ("[Nocturnal Lights, March 20–21, 1981, London, Ohio](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 2 (April/May 1984): 4)
- 1981**, March 21 — 7:00 p.m. Larry Tilman again takes time-exposure photos of orange balls of light east of London, Ohio, near Madison Lake State Park. One appears to be the size of a car. ("[Nocturnal Lights, March 20–21, 1981, London, Ohio](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 2 (April/May 1984): 4–5)
- 1981**, March 21 — 11:35 p.m. A friend is driving Alba Dunlap home northbound on Runnymede Road in Toronto, Ontario. They see a disc-shaped object directly ahead and above them that has a red light on a central dome and white flashing lights around its perimeter. It seems to be 30–40 feet in diameter. They watch it for 2 minutes, then it moves slowly west and disappears. ("[Correspondence](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 6 (June 1981): 2)
- 1981**, March 30 — 10:00 p.m. A huge bright light hovers over trees for 10 minutes in Alton, Illinois. The UFO moves towards two witnesses at about 10 mph. Frogs stop croaking and dogs begin barking excitedly. The object appears oval and is black except for lights on the circumference. A large circular opening is visible in the bottom of the black disc. Inside the opening the witnesses see "this churning motion of bright white light with yellow and orange colors in it...like gases rolling around in there." After about 20–30 minutes it takes off rapidly. Shortly thereafter a jet flies over. Another UFO is seen coming across the trees a good 5 minutes later with the same results. ("[Another World](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 5 (July/Aug. 1981): 16)

- 1981, April 3** — 9:30 p.m. Some 50 people driving on National Route 35 north of Santa Rosa, La Pampa, Argentina, watch an object hovering about 300 feet directly over the Escuela Agrotécnica de Santa Rosa for several minutes. It is a saucer-shaped craft about 100 feet in diameter that is radiating light over its circumference due to an intense white light at its center. It speeds away to the west and disappears. (“[A Group of Car Drivers from La Pampa Marveled at Seeing a Concert of Lights from a UFO over the Skies of Santa Rosa.](#)” *La Razón* (Buenos Aires), April 4, 1981, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 142 (May 1981): 15; “[A New Radio Link.](#)” *CUFOS Bulletin*, Spring 1981, p. 3)
- 1981, April 8** — 3:00 a.m. A private pilot named Dennis is flying a Piper PA-28-181 Archer II near the San Luis Reservoir, California, when a bullet-shaped object pulls alongside the airplane. Simultaneously, Dennis’s distance-measuring equipment, navigation and communications radios, and transponder go out. The object shoots ahead of the plane by about 1,500 feet and executes some erratic motions. Then, slowly drifting back, it paces him. The object is glowing orange and has a whirling bluish ring around it. The object pulsates and shoots forward about 4–5 miles ahead of the plane, and makes an instantaneous right-angle turn upward, in somewhat of a repeat of his November 5, 1980, sighting. (“[A Twin ‘Déjà vu’ Sighting?](#)” *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 6)
- 1981, April 12** — 1:30 p.m. Civil engineer R. E. Schenk and his wife are driving south on State Highway 58 in Goodhue, Minnesota, when they see an aluminum-colored disc about 2 feet in diameter hovering a few feet above the road about 40 feet away, sunlight reflecting off its surface. Schenk turns and drives back to investigate. He and his wife then see the object at an estimated 2,000–4,000 feet altitude and climbing rapidly to the northwest. They watch it disappear high in the sky. (Richard H. Hall, “[Car Pacing, Pilot Sighting, Buzzing UFO.](#)” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 164 (October 1981): 6–7; UFOEv II 165)
- 1981, April 15** — 7:30 p.m. Walking through the parking lot of the P&C grocery store in Windsor, Vermont, Linda Kingsbury and Lucy Slothower notice two bright lights in the sky moving toward them. They are part of a dark, triangular object with additional blue and yellow lights on the underside. As it passes overhead, they hear a heavy humming. (“[UFO Cruises Windsor.](#)” *White River Junction (Vt.) Valley News*, April 17, 1981, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 142 (May 1981): 4; “[Two Women Report UFO in Windsor.](#)” *Burlington (Vt.) Free Press*, April 17, 1981, p. 1; Joe and Doris Graziano, “[Press Reports.](#)” *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 8 (August 1981): 7)
- 1981, April 16** — 9:30 p.m. Engineer [Eugene A. Fucci](#) is driving southeast on Interstate 89 in Grantham, New Hampshire, when he notices two bright stars, one of which descends to just above the horizon. Shortly afterward, a huge triangular-shaped object with colored lights on the underside and a bright white light on top flies over his car. He estimates the object is about the size of five B-52s and moving at 2,000 feet altitude at 200 mph. It appears to be all metal and black in color. It passes to the west-southwest. (“[Mount Sunapee UFO Supports Area Sightings.](#)” *West Lebanon (N.H.) Valley News*, April 22, 1981, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 143 (June 1981): 4; “[Triangular UFO, April 16, 1981, at Grantham, N.H.](#)” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 2 (April 1981): 2, 4; Joe And Doris Graziano, “[Press Reports.](#)” *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 9 (September 1981): 7)
- 1981, April 25** — 7:00 a.m. Du Shengyuan notices a curious object circling in the sky above Beijing, China. After unsuccessfully calling media outlets, he goes back outside and finds the object is now directly overhead at more than 6,500 feet. Through binoculars he can see it is bullet-shaped and varies its speed, sometimes hovering. The middle part is white, and the bottom is luminous green. It moves out of sight at 7:25 a.m. Some 20 other people also watch the UFO. (Paul Dong and Wendelle Stevens, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, pp. 216–218; Good Above, [pp. 217, 470](#))
- 1981, Early May** — Merle Shane McDow is attached to the US Navy Atlantic Command Support Facility in Norfolk, Virginia, when a UFO is tracked moving at high speed on at least five radar scopes up and down the Atlantic coast. The UFO sets off a Condition Zebra alert in the Naval Command Center, and Adm. [Harry D. Train II](#) gives the order to force down the object and recover it. US jets chase the UFO for more than an hour as far north as Greenland, sometimes confirming it visually, but it evades them. During the event, KH-11 reconnaissance satellites take photos of the object. The object moves from Nova Scotia to Norfolk in one sweep of the radar. Eventually it moves off at tremendous speed. (Steven M. Greer, *Disclosure: Military and Government Witnesses Reveal the Greatest Secrets in Modern History*, Crossing Point, 2001, [pp. 238–245](#); Stephen Erdmann, “[Dr. Greer’s Greatest UFO Query.](#)” *UFO Digest*, June 1, 2018; Good Need, [pp. 337–338](#); “[Condition Zebra: UFOs Overhead, Merle Shane McDow.](#)” Abundance of Energy YouTube channel, October 7, 2013)
- 1981, May 4** — 2 :00 p.m. As he is pulling up to his home in Danville, Pennsylvania, on a motorcycle, William F. Hummer notices “cobwebs” hanging over houses, telephone wires, and parked cars. Wispy material is falling from the sky. He sees something moving around in the sky and goes in to get binoculars. He and another man watch several flying discs as they dart overhead in groups of twos and threes. One pauses and he can see it is round and metallic with a dome and “kind of peak on it.” His sister joins them and says they can see big masses of material floating around for 30 minutes. (“[Were ‘Fuzzies’ Really from UFOs?](#)” *Sunbury (Pa.) Daily Item*, May 5,

1981, p. 8; Joe and Doris Graziano, "[Press Reports](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 29, no. 9 (September 1981): 7; Bob Pratt, "'Saucer' Spotted by Guard," *Battle Creek (Mich.) Enquirer and News*, December 28, 1981, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 152 (March 1982): 1; "[Many Report Sighting UFOs Locally](#)," *Danville (Pa.) News*, February 26, 1988, Special Report, pp. 3–4; Clark III 126)

- 1981, May 5** — 6:00 p.m. Russian cosmonaut [Vladimir Kovalyonok](#) is orbiting in the [Salyut 6](#) space station over South Africa and moving toward the Indian Ocean. After doing some gymnastic exercises, he notices through a porthole an elliptical object resembling a "melon" with two clouds like a "barbell," moving in the same direction as the Salyut in a suborbital path. Then a "kind of explosion happened, very beautiful to watch, of golden light." One or two seconds later, a second explosion follows, and two golden spheres appear. Soon the Salyut enters the Earth's terminator and he cannot see them any longer. [James Oberg](#) speculates that the object could have been a South African test of an Israeli Jericho-class solid-fuel missile from the Denel Overberg Test Range near Arniston, Western Cape. (Pegasus Research Consortium, "[Russian Cosmonaut Sees UFO While in Orbit Aboard Salyut-6 Space Station](#)," 2002; Mori, "[The Amazing Story of the Salyut-6 UFO Encounter](#)," *forgetomori*, April 16, 2011; James Oberg, "[Have Cosmonauts Seen Launches?](#)" December 18, 2016)
- 1981, May 5** — 9:30 p.m. The Earl Richards family in Tewksbury, New Jersey, notices lights moving outside after their television goes off and the electric lights dim. Earl Jr. sees dozens of green, blue, and red lights buzzing in the southern sky, apparently accompanying an enormous flying object covered with hundreds of lights. It is elongated and he can see an outline of wings. ("[UFO Reported in Tewksbury](#)," *Hunterdon County (N.J.) Democrat*, May 14, 1981, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 143 (June 1981): 6)
- 1981, May 14** — Cosmonauts [Victor Savinykh](#) and [Vladimir Kovalyonok](#), aboard the [Salyut 6](#) space station, supposedly observe a strange spherical object with 8 windows and well-lit inside. At first it is 1/2 mile away but it eventually approaches to 300 feet. Inside, the cosmonauts see three brown-skinned beings with slanted bright blue eyes, straight noses, and bushy eyebrows. At a distance of 100 feet, they resemble mechanical robots. Their facial expressions remain emotionless. They seem to be requesting closer contact with the Soviet craft. The object shifts around erratically and from time to time it vanishes, but then reappears in an instant. It seems to be metallic, but it has no doors, no solar batteries, no optical systems, no antennae, and no marks or writing of any kind. The cosmonauts also notice normal-looking armchairs, some devices, and walls inside the craft. Using a pair of powerful binoculars, the cosmonauts see the beings showing them what appears to be a star map. Allegedly the cosmonauts film the event and the film is later shown to party leaders by cosmonaut [Georgy Beregovoy](#). (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 67–68)
- 1981, May 16** — 2:30 p.m. A man is fishing in the Thompson River near Kamloops, British Columbia, when the water about 300–450 feet away starts bubbling up. A 15–20-foot UFO rises out of the water and slowly approaches the witness at a 45° angle, passes directly above him, accelerates upward, and speeds away. Pellets from the UFO, apparently from the object, fall around him. ("[A Submarine UFO](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 5 (July/Aug. 1981): 13–14)
- 1981, May 20** — 1:30 a.m. A witness is driving south on Shawnee Road southwest of Lima, Ohio, when he notices lights on his left less than a mile ahead. He sees an object hovering silently about 150–200 feet away and 75–100 feet in the air. He watches it from his car for 3 minutes. It has a glowing lavender-colored area around its outer edge and a dim white light radiating from the center of its flat base. The object moves to the northeast and accelerates. He loses interest and drives away, but another object begins moving parallel to his car about 300 feet to his left. He speeds up, but it maintains its pacing until it veers to the southwest. ("[Recent Close Encounter with UFO in Ohio](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 7 (July 1981): 6)
- 1981, May 22** — Evening. Several hundred people in Florida, Uruguay, watch a drum-like UFO with red lights on the rear and green and red lights on each side. Its appearance coincides with an electrical blackout due to a power overload in the area. ("[A New Radio Link](#)," *CUFOS Bulletin*, Spring 1981, pp. 2–3)
- 1981, Summer** — [William Moore](#) gives [Paul Bennewitz](#) an altered version of the Project Aquarius document from 1977. Moore had seen the original in November 1980 and has had his own copy since February 1981. He gives Bennewitz this document on behalf of Air Force Intelligence, knowing it has been altered, in order to retain his access to inside information. The document is the first time that the term MJ-1 makes its appearance. According to Moore, the original said that the NSA had altered Bennewitz's photos and incidentally found them to be authentic. In the altered memo, NSA becomes NASA. (Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 120–123)
- 1981, Summer** — Chinese UFO researcher Paul Dong (Moon Wai), a resident of California, becomes the editor of the China UFO Research Organization's *Journal of UFO Research* and goes on a month-long lecture tour all over China. He collects hundreds of UFO cases from the period 1978–1981. In the next few years, hundreds of other

cases (some dating back to 1940) are published in the journal. Many of them are published in *UFOs over Modern China*, by Wendelle C. Stevens and Paul Dong, 1983. (Paul Dong, "[Letters](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982): 3; Good Above, [pp. 206–207](#))

- 1981**, June 5 — 10:00 p.m. Ding Shiliang and other students at Xi'an University, Shanxi, China, see a luminous flying object that splits into two parts, then three, then four. Shortly afterward, two of the units on either side vanish, leaving the other two segments still in position. Another UFO appears and the objects merge into one, splitting into two again later. It vanishes 20 minutes later. (Paul Dong and Wendelle Stevens, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, pp. 219–220)
- 1981**, June 10 — 12:15 a.m. An Indian couple on the Yakama Indian Reservation in Washington State are driving west when the immediate area around their vehicle is illuminated. Overhead they see a large "badge-shaped" object about 35 feet in the air. Its periphery is marked by small, multicolored flashing lights. There are three large pale-yellow lights, one on each side and one centered between these. The object follows them for about one mile and then ascends vertically at a rapid speed and disappears into a cloud-like mist of its own making. ("[Yakima Reservation Report](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 11)
- 1981**, June 10 — 5:19 p.m. A worker at Sandia Laboratories is in the back yard of his home on the east side of Albuquerque, New Mexico, when he sees an object flying west at a high altitude, 20,000–30,000 feet. It begins to tumble erratically. A second object with a bright light appears slightly above it, moving 2–3 times faster than a commercial airliner. The witness can hear no sound. The duration is 5 minutes. ("[What the Bombardier Saw](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 6 (Jan./Feb. 1982): 12)
- 1981**, June 12 — Farmer Chen Kang and his wife watch an object with twinkling lights in southern Taiwan. After hearing a strange sound, they look up and see a crystal object shaped like a reversed cone gliding downward. It lands behind a tree and continues whirling like a top and emitting fog. It flies off after about 10 minutes without leaving any traces. (*South China Morning Post*, June 14, 1981; "[UFO Lands in Taiwan](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 7 (July 1981): 3)
- 1981**, June 12 — 2:10 p.m. Truck driver Robert Gomez sees a brilliant white domed disc hovering in the sky above Alice, Texas, a dark ring around its center. The truck slows, apparently lifted just off the road, and the radio stops playing. After the object disappears into clouds, everything returns to normal. Later Gomez discovers that about 165 gallons of water are missing from his tank. (James M. Hill, "[South Texas Vehicle Effects Cases](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 167 (January 1982): 8; UFOEv II 278)
- 1981**, June 18 — The first YF-117A stealth fighter makes its maiden flight at Groom Lake, Nevada. The aircraft remains a tightly held secret for much of the 1980s. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk](#)")
- 1981**, July 4 — 4:45 p.m. Captain Phil Schultz is flying TWA Flight 842, a Lockheed L-1011 TriStar commercial airliner, east at 37,000 feet over south-central Lake Michigan not far from Muskegon, Michigan, when a silvery disc darts into view ahead and above it. Expecting a mid-air collision, they brace themselves for impact. The object then moves rapidly in an arc down to the left and rolls, presenting a side view with six evenly spaced black portholes along the edge. It then disappears to the north. Schultz estimates the disc is moving at 1,000 mph. (Richard F. Haines, "[Commercial Jet Crew Sights Unidentified Object: Part 1](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 27, no. 4 (January 1982): 3–6; Richard F. Haines, "[Commercial Jet Crew Sights Unidentified Object: Part 2](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 27, no. 5 (March 1982): 2–8; UFOEv II 141–142; Kean, [pp. 59–61](#))
- 1981**, July 11 — 10:30 p.m. A camp director at Girl Scout camp headquarters [probably Shabonee Camp about a mile south of town] near Port Byron, Illinois, suddenly hears his dog barking in a warning manner. Through the trees that screen the camp swimming pool, he sees bright lights. He moves to an unobstructed view of the pool and notices the pool lights are not on. Instead, directly above the pool, and higher than the regular lights, is a brilliant light. Suddenly the lights go out. He hears a whirring noise that rises in pitch as it apparently rises into the sky. When he turns on the lights, he notices the pump is not running and the water level is down three feet, meaning some 30,000 gallons of water are gone. ("[Encounter at the Pool](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 6 (Jan./Feb. 1982): 11–12)
- 1981**, July 12 — 12:50 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Ken Thew are driving east along a back road from Pleasant Point to Temuka, New Zealand, with their three young daughters when they are confronted by a brilliant, bright green, gold, and red object coming from the opposite direction. It stops abruptly about 600–900 feet away, then changes direction and begins silently pacing the car. Mrs. Thew, who is driving, becomes frightened and speeds up to 65 mph in an effort to reach a lighted area of town. The UFO keeps pace and moves closer, allowing the witnesses to see more details, such as two slots like vertically elongated rectangles and a row of square portholes. After a while it shoots away to the east. When they arrive home in Temuka at 1:20 a.m., they are surprised to see the object about 1,000 feet overhead. It remains visible another 40 minutes. (UFOEv II 49–50)

- 1981, July 15** — 10:55 p.m. Four witnesses, three of them fire control lookouts, on the Yakama Indian Reservation in Washington State, see a large, bright-white object make two passes over the reservation. One witness sees a rocketlike flame coming out of the object. On a second pass, the object is moving south when it makes an almost right-angle turn and disappears to the west. ("[Yakima Reservation Report](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 11, 14)
- 1981, July 15** — 2:30 p.m. Robert H. Nelson is flying a kite on the west side of Westfield, Massachusetts, when he notices a white rectangular object motionless in the southeast. After 20 seconds it emits swirls of vapor along its entire length that gradually dissipate. Another similar object appears in the north at the same altitude and also emitting vapor or smoke. (Robert H. Nelson, "[Letter](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1983): 3–4)
- 1981, July 16** — Before midnight. Two teenage boys are driving south on Highway 2A past CFB Penhold [now Red Deer Regional Airport]. A cube-shaped object 100 feet long with flashing lights approaches them from the front, stops about 15 feet off the ground, circles their car, and moves out of sight. (Chris Rutkowski, *Canada's UFOs: Declassified*, August Night, 2022, p. 227)
- 1981, July 19** — 8:27 p.m. Malcolm Smith is traveling on a boat up the Mahakam River in Borneo, Indonesia, when he sees an odd star that begins to blink, move in an arc, fade, and go out. It reappears 2 minutes later, moving and blinking more frequently, then it veers away and fades out. (Malcolm Smith, "[Enigmatic Objects](#)," *IUR* 20, no. 5 (Winter 1995): 30)
- 1981, July 19** — Around 11:45 p.m. Chrystal Jackson and her son Chris are driving north on State Highway 17 near Sugar Camp, Wisconsin, when they see a large, reddish-orange, elliptical object hovering near some pine trees less than 500 feet away on their right. One minute later, their car's speed unaccountably reduces from 55 to 30 mph. The car seems to be dragging, even with the accelerator pressed to the floor. The object keeps the same distance from the car for 10–15 minutes and another 10 miles when they turn west on State Highway 70, although it appears to be stationary. The car regains engine power after another 2 miles. A mechanic later finds that the two fuses controlling the brake lights and tail lights have blown, and the battery is leaking. A few days later, they discover that the thermostat in the engine is broken. (Mark Rodeghier, "[Two People, a Car, and a Strange Object](#)," *CUFOS Bulletin*, Summer 1981, pp. 9–10, 2)
- 1981, July 22** — 3:10 a.m. Al Wagner, toll booth operator at the Norbert F. Beckey Bridge over the Mississippi River in Muscatine, Iowa, goes out to feed some wild rabbits that hang around the bridge, when he notices six of them lying flat as though paralyzed with fear. Wagner sees an orange, nearly spherical object rising from behind the trees on the Illinois side of the river. It is about 30 feet in diameter and is glowing with an internal yellow light, which goes out as the object approaches. The object clears the highest part of the bridge by about 10 feet, making a wheezing sound. At its closest, it is 150 feet above the ground and 750 feet away from Wagner. It disappears above a small hill to the west. ("[The Case of the Paralyzed Rabbits](#)," *IUR/Frontiers of Science* 3, no. 6 (Jan./Feb. 1982): 13)
- 1981, July 23** — 8:45 p.m. [Louise Betulius](#) is fishing in a lake near Evansville, Indiana, when she sees the reflection of a large object in the water. It is a large sphere about 10–12 feet in diameter and moving silently west to east. Shortly afterward, it returns over some trees to the east, moving slowly toward the lake. It comes down about 3 feet off the ground and hovers 4–5 feet from the edge of the water, then moves slowly back to the east. ("[Correspondence](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 5 (Oct./Nov. 1982): 2–3)
- 1981, July 23** — 10:30 p.m. James L. McCabe is sitting outside his home on Highland Avenue in Dover, New Jersey, looking for satellites with binoculars. Suddenly, two flashing white lights appear above the southern horizon. Their flashes become more frequent when their speed increases. One speeds away, but the other approaches, slipping in and out of the clouds for 20 seconds. He estimates it is at 1,500 feet when overhead, has a flat bottom, a strange raised center section, and a flat metallic color. Its top has a rippled appearance. The upper section has two windows. ("[Cast Metallic Object Reported over Dover, New Jersey](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 2 (April/May 1983): 4–5)
- 1981, July 30** — Sen. [Pete Domenici](#) (R-N.Mex.) meets briefly with Sgt. [Richard Doty](#) at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, New Mexico, about AFOSI investigations into [Paul Bennewitz](#)'s claims. He then dashes off to talk to Bennewitz. However, he soon loses interest and drops the matter. (Clark III 359; Alejandro T. Rojas, [[Bennewitz/Kirtland AFB documents](#)])
- 1981, July 30** — 8:30 p.m. Jennifer Lindsey and her three children are driving near Berwick, Mississippi, when they notice an object with bright lights moving back and forth across the sky. As they arrive home, the object is moving at a low altitude above the house. It is bigger than an airplane, shaped like an arrowhead, and appears to be metallic. Behind it is a red light traveling in tandem. It passes over the house again 30 minutes later, moving west, without the trailing red light. ("[UFO Is Seen in Area](#)," *McComb (Miss.) Enterprise Journal*, August 4, 1981,

via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 147 (October 1981): 2; Doris and Joe Graziano, "[Press Reports](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 30, no 1 (February 1982): 8)

- 1981**, July 31 — An interview with Russian UFO expert [Felix Ziegel](#) appears in the Italian weekly magazine *Gente*, followed by a second part in the August 7 issue. Ziegel claims he has 50,000 UFO reports on file in the Moscow Aviation Institute and has compiled eight volumes of research material that are still unpublished. He believes there are three basic types of UFO occupants: spacemen (tall beings), humanoids (human-like), and aliens (short and like the "greys"). He says that UFOs carry crews of androids that possess the ability to appear and disappear at will and "seem to be deliberately constructed in order to confound all our notions of space, matter, time, and dimension." (Good Above, [pp. 240–241](#))
- 1981**, July 31 — 8:50 p.m. Two men in a motorboat on lake Mönninginselkä near Pielisjärvi, Finland, see a dark spot in the sky. Four lights suddenly appear above them, and a fog forms in front of the boat. They lose the ability to move and soon lose consciousness. When they wake up, they are differently placed in the boat, the time is 4:10 a.m., and the boat is drifting. They go back ashore to their cottage, their heads begin to ache, and they feel very sleepy. Their hands tremble for nearly 2 weeks afterward, and their sense of balance is disturbed. ("[The Pielinen Event](#)," *UFO Research of Finland Annual Report*, 1981, p. 10)
- 1981**, July 31 — 9:15 p.m. A husband and wife are driving along a bumpy road near Kinston, North Carolina, when their headlights and dash lights go out and the engine stops. They open the doors and get out to push the car to the side of the road (noticing later that it is odd that they can see the road on a moonless night) and the lights suddenly come on again. They start the car up again and drive the short way home. Mechanics tell them they don't know why a car would do that, so they assume there was a UFO involved. ("[Cars That Go Stop on the Night](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 9–10)
- 1981**, July or August — 11:00 p.m. A man is camping with the Red Cross in a small town to the southeast of San José, Costa Rica. He sees a well-lit, triangular object about 1,200 feet away and perhaps 1,000 feet above the ground. It is completely silent. After hovering, the object turns, moves, makes a sharp angular turn, and then another to draw a triangular path in the sky. Then it moves rapidly high, then low, back to its original location. A second triangle approaches, and they hover in close proximity to each other for 30 minutes. Then they split up and disappear rapidly. (Michael D. Swords, "[Timmerman's Triangles](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 15–16)
- 1981**, August — Three mysterious flattened circles appear in a cornfield within a natural amphitheater known as The Devil's Punchbowl at Cheesefoot Head near Winchester, Wiltshire, England. The central circle is 55 feet in diameter; two smaller circles are arranged on either side. Ufologist [Pat Delgado](#) examines the field and is struck by the sharply defined edges of the circles and the manner in which the cornstalks are flattened in a clockwise swirl. He suspects UFO activity. (Pat Delgado, "[Cheesefoot Head Mystery Rings](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 27, no. 5 (March 1982): 13–15; Pat Delgado and Colin Andrews, *Circular Evidence*, Guild, 1989, [pp. 20–21](#); Pat Delgado, "[1981: Cheesefoot Head Triplet](#)," *The Croppie*, July 11, 2016)
- 1981**, August 8 — 6:15 p.m. A witness is on the beach with some friends at Chalupy on the Hel peninsula, north of Gdynia, Poland. He leaves them briefly to go back to a camping area and sees, 500 feet in front of him, "two boys in dark suits" dashing into the bushes on his right. A moment later they reappear, standing on the path in front of him. They are 5 feet tall, wear green suits, and have green faces with big, almond-shaped eyes and slits for mouths. He can see dark boxes, violet and yellow cables, and tapes and spirals hanging from belts on the entities. He notices a silvery object and receives a telepathic message to "not be afraid." He walks closer to them and hears another message: "Keep walking. Don't stop." The witness has the curious sensation of "passing through the interior of a ball." He walks past them, looks back, and they have disappeared. On his right, the silvery disc, 6 feet high and 16–20 feet long, is hovering only 3 feet above the ground. Investigators later find seven odd oval marks where the object had been. (Bronislaw Rzepecki, "[Encounters in Poland](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1987): 18, 21; Bronislaw Rzepecki, "[UFO Reports from Poland](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 33, no. 1 (March 1988): 6–7; "[Bliskie spotkanie w Chałupach w 1981 roku](#)," *UFO-Relacje.pl*, February 10, 2020; Poland 48–50)
- 1981**, August 10 — 3:30 a.m. Russell Matson is driving west on 150th Street in Apple Valley, Minnesota, when just west of Pilot Knob Road he sees a hexagonal object nearly overhead, at perhaps a distance of 500 feet. It has two green, two red, and white lights on its corners. It is 60–90 feet across. The object pivots, making a 90° turn while stationary, then descends and approaches the witness. It makes a soft whooshing sound as it passes, like gas escaping from a propane tank. ("[The Investigator's Dilemma](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 13–14)
- 1981**, August 12 — 2:15 a.m. Rupert Pring is several miles outside of Anderson, Indiana, taking time-exposure photographs of the Perseid meteor shower with a camera attached to a tripod. He notices a distant light flashing like a strobe far to the south; it is soon joined by a second strobing light, and both move northeast in a straight line. The lights are as bright as a "halogen automobile headlight at 50 feet." They stop moving briefly twice near

the star Eta Tauri, then make a sharp right turn to the southeast. When Pring first notices the lights, he gets out of his car for a better sight, but freezes abruptly, “like something heavy was pushing down on my head and shoulders.” He experiences nausea for three days afterward and has a temporary, day-long memory loss. Meanwhile, the camera has captured much of the 6-second flight path of the lights in an 8-minute time exposure. Further investigation prompts Pring to reveal that he and his wife had an abduction experience with missing time later that morning. As for the photo, the lights were most likely caused by Pring failing to close the shutter of his camera as he removed it from the tripod and thus picked up two mercury-vapor lights at a farmhouse about a half-mile away. (“[A Nocturnal Light Close Encounter](#),” *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982): 5–7; Mark Rodeghier, “[March-April Cover Photo Mystery Solved](#),” *IUR* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1982): 4–5)

- 1981**, August 15 — 6:00 p.m. Twenty workers returning from the fields at the Forestry Commission Station of La Rochelle, 5.5 miles northeast of Mutare, Zimbabwe, see a ball of light moving around at a low level. Clifford Muchena is in charge of the group, and he watches the 5-foot fireball maneuver around the grounds then move up to an observation tower, entering through the top window before it bursts into flame. As Muchena is ringing a warning bell, he sees the fireball come back down the tower, go past him, and burst into flame again at an outbuilding. Muchena goes to douse the fire but stops when he sees three men wearing silver coveralls. The light is too bright to see clearly, and after it goes out the beings are gone. Women in the compound have seen the fireball and the entities and run out into the bush, thinking they are ghosts. (Cynthia Hind, “[Entities at La Rochelle](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 183 (May 1983): 6–10; Cynthia Hind, “UFOs and the African Tribal System,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 94–96; Cynthia Hind, *UFOs over Africa*, Horus House, 1996, pp. 16–20)
- 1981**, August 16 — A huge object approaches the island of Cyprus. Radar at a Sovereign British Base, either Akrotiri or Dhekelia, track it at 30,000 feet going 900 mph. It comes to a sudden stop and hovers above the base for 45 minutes. Witnesses take many photos of a bright white triangle more than 700 feet long. Allegedly, the Ministry of Defence had sent an encrypted message to the base prior to the sighting, ordering a “complete stand-down of aircraft in the event that any strange ‘aerial phenomena’” are sighted. On August 17, a man and woman arrive at the base, stay for 6 hours, then leave with all the photos and other evidence. Shortly afterward, according to an informant, US and UK Air Force personnel meet at RAF Lakenheath in England to discuss the case. (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [pp. 157–158](#))
- 1981**, Late August — 5:00 p.m. Three men and two women are driving just east of Hamilton, Ontario, when they see a red domed disc about 50 feet in diameter approach their car and cross the road in front of them to the left. Yellow lights are shining from its base. It slows down and drops slowly into the water of Lake Ontario. As it submerges, the lights slowly fade out. (Carl Feindt, “[UFO Observed Entering Water](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 430 (February 2004): 12–13; Covert 44)
- 1981**, August 30 — 10:35 p.m. A computer engineer is driving through El Cajon, California, when he sees an object directly ahead. As he drives closer, his car interior becomes brightly illuminated and the car stops. The witness becomes frightened and confused and cannot account for a period of time. He feels that he has been outside the car but has no concrete memory of what has happened. As he drives away, a light circles the car. Still frightened, he fires six pistol shots out the car window at the object and flees at high speed. Later he finds red dots like puncture marks on his wrists. (UFOEv II 166)
- 1981**, September — The Association d’Étude sur les Soucoupes Volantes renames its *AESV Bulletin* as *OVNI Présence* and moves its publishing operation to its Swiss office in Vevay, Switzerland. Yves Bosson takes over as chief editor. The magazine continues until February 1995. (*OVNI Présence*, no. 18 (September 1981))
- 1981**, September 10 — 11:15 p.m. Denise Bishop, 23, is returning to her home in Weston Mill, Plymouth, England, when she sees some lights behind the house. As she goes to the back of the bungalow, she sees an enormous metallic-gray UFO hovering above houses on top of a hill. Six or seven broad shafts of light are shining down on the rooftops beneath it. As she grabs the doorknob to go inside, a lime-green pencil of light comes from the object and hits the back of her hand and she cannot move. The light remains for 30 seconds; when it switches off, she opens the door and goes inside. The UFO then lifts into the sky and moves away. An hour or so later, she notices a burn mark on her hand. The next day she visits Bob Boyd, an investigator with the Plymouth UFO Research Group, who takes photos of her hand, which has a patch of shiny dermis with spots of blood and bruising. On September 12, Boyd visits her with a nurse, who persuades her to see a doctor. Scab tissue forms on September 15, followed by a scar that is still visible in July 1982. (Good Above, [pp. 98–101](#))
- 1981**, September 18 — 8:45 p.m. Six members of a family in Simi Valley, California, watch a light approach and see a triangular object with five bright white lights on the front and sides. The unlit center portion appears to be like

brushed aluminum with a grid pattern. As it passes overhead, they hear a low-pitched hum. A blinking, red-orange light is at the rear. Two or three smaller lights are following in its path. (UFOEv II 229)

- 1981**, September 18 — 9:15 p.m. John Sharwath and Randy Bandurant are driving north on the Moorpark Freeway north of Thousand Oaks, California, when they notice three bright lights like floodlights on the horizon to the north. As they approach the end of the freeway in Moorpark, the light resolves into five separate lights, three in a row above and two below. When they pass nearly under the lights, they notice two triangular bodies that the lights are associated with. At 9:25 p.m., Cherie Thompson and Joyce Bandurant are driving on the Moorpark Freeway some distance behind the other car, and they see two triangular lighted objects. The lowest passes over their car at 50–100 feet altitude near the Olsen Road interchange. They stop along the freeway to watch, but the objects are disappearing behind the hills. (William Hassel, “[Multiple Sightings of Triangular UFOs](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 167 (January 1982): 9–12; UFOEv II 229–231)
- 1981**, September 25–27 — The Center for UFO Studies holds a second conference in Chicago, with talks by [J. Allen Hynek](#), [Budd Hopkins](#), [Bruce Maccabee](#), and [Mark Rodeghier](#). Presented papers are printed in *The Spectrum of UFO Research*. (“[CUFOS Symposium in Chicago Well-Attended](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 11 (November 1981): 1, 6; Mimi Hynek, ed., *The Spectrum of UFO Research*, CUFOS, 1988; Ron Westrum, [\[review\]](#), *JUFOS* 1 (1989): 172–174)
- 1981**, September 26 — Mountaineers [Reinhold Messner](#) and [Doug Scott](#) watch a UFO the size of the full moon for nearly 3 hours during an unsuccessful attempt on the main peak of Mount Chamlang in the Himalayas near Makalu in Nepal. The object at first is moving slowly southward, then shifts to the east, northwest, and finally north, making irregular movements before it disappears somewhere over Tibet. (“[Top Climber: I Spotted UFO](#),” *Montreal (Quebec) Gazette*, October 10, 1981, p. 26; “[From the Heart of Asia: Two UFOs, a Half Century Apart](#),” *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 10)
- 1981**, September 28 — Hungarian-American filmmaker and UFO hobbyist [Colman VonKeviczky](#), founder of the Intercontinental UFO Galactic Spacecraft Research and Analytic Network, writes a five-page letter to President [Ronald Reagan](#), claiming that UFOs are an extraterrestrial task force that will destroy earth unless world leaders collaborate. It is the third time he has written, and he includes 17 documents that illustrate the “potential threat of the UFO forces.” In response to VonKeviczky’s letter to Reagan, Maj. Gen. [Robert L. Schweitzer](#), White House chief military advisor, writes: “The President is well aware of the threat you document so clearly and is doing all in his power to restore the national defense margin of safety as quickly and prudently as possible.” VonKeviczky shows the letter to the Associated Press, which contacts Schweitzer, who says the letter is a mistake and thought the threat refers to the Soviets. Schweitzer is fired on October 21 for making unauthorized belligerent statements about Russia. (presidentialufo.com, “[Ronald Reagan, 40th President, January 20, 1981–January 20, 1989](#)”; “[A Top General Talks of War, Is Reassigned](#),” *Boston Globe*, October 21, 1981, pp. 1, 8)
- 1981**, October — NORAD refuses to waive fees for FOIA requests from Citizens Against UFO Secrecy because of “cumulative and recurring” requests. (ClearIntent, [p. 10](#))
- 1981**, October — USAF Airman Simone Mendez, 21, trained as a telecommunications specialist, is working at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, Nevada, with a top-secret clearance. One of her coworkers gives her a top-secret message with a copy of a classified document stating that NORAD has been tracking UFOs entering the Earth’s atmosphere. She holds on to it until January 1982 when she attempts to return the document to Nellis. She is told that the document must be destroyed. One thing leads to another, and Mendez finds herself under interrogation by the FBI and AFOSI. This includes polygraph tests, which she fails because she finds them very distressing. This leads to an emotional breakdown, hospitalization, and medication. There are more interrogations over the next few months, and another hospitalization. Eventually, the Air Force clears her of criminal charges, but her security clearance is stripped, and she is transferred to another base. (“[The Simone Mendez Case](#),” *Alien Expanse*, September 18, 2018; Paul Carr, “[Conversation 18: Simone Mendez](#),” *Aerial Phenomena Investigations*, September 23, 2018)
- 1981**, October 1 — 8:00 p.m. A young couple are traveling west along State Highway 20 about 4 miles west of Hesperia, Michigan, when they notice a distant lime-green glow in the sky. In less than 10 seconds it comes directly at them, the green light engulfing their pickup truck and blocking their view of anything outside. They are terrified, but suddenly they are driving along at the same speed as if nothing has happened. They watch the green oval object fly off to the southwest and into the sky. When they reach home about 3 miles away, it is 9:00 p.m., and are missing some time. (National UFO Reporting Center, “[NUFORC Sighting 67734](#)”; Powell, *Scientist*, 102–103)
- 1981**, October 2 — Around 9:30 p.m. Grant Breiland, while walking his elder sister to her car in the driveway in front of their home in Victoria, British Columbia, glances up and notices an unusually large and bright object in the clear night sky, which he initially mistakes for a star. His mother, sister, and a passerby on a bicycle are all unable to

spot the object. Grant uses his CB radio to contact a witness, N.B., who is on Mount Tolmie three miles away. N.B. confirms he can see a big white light that he describes as “like a star that is about to shoot” and then reports seeing through binoculars a large red light pointing directly at him. Grant then uses his camera and tripod to photograph the object, which appears to be an object with a inverted dome-like structure, with a moving small diamond-shaped red light at its center. Surrounding the central object are four larger white lights that move with it and seem to have dark dots, possibly windows, around their edges. The UFO performs movements similar to the gestures of a priest making the sign of the cross. At 10:00 p.m., the UFO suddenly vanishes. Later that night, Victoria experiences an unusual thunderstorm, and the street light opposite Breiland’s house malfunctions but gradually comes back on. Both Breiland and N.B. later experience headaches during a visit to discuss the sighting. (P. M. H. Edwards, “[M.I.B. Activity Reported from Victoria B.C.](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 27, no. 4 (January 1982): 7–12)

- 1981,** October 5 — Afternoon. Grant Breiland goes down to the business district in Victoria, British Columbia, to meet a friend. When the friend does not show, Breiland calls him up from a pay phone. Immediately afterward, he sees two men watching him. Dressed in dark suits, they have suntanned, expressionless faces and unblinking eyes. When they speak, their lips do not move. The first one asks his name, then the second asks for his address and phone number. He does not respond, and after 5 seconds, the men leave through the main door and walk in perfect synchronization to a nearby roadway. Breiland follows them and sees them enter a muddy plowed field some 80–90 feet across. Three-quarters of the way across, the men vanish, leaving no footprints behind. During the entire time the men are visible, no other human beings are in view and no cars pass by. (P. M. H. Edwards, “[M.I.B. Activity Reported from Victoria B.C.](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 27, no. 4 (January 1982): 7–12; Clark III 733)
- 1981,** October 8 — 11:00 a.m. Hannah McRoberts is taking photos with her family at a rest area some 30 miles north of Kelsey Bay, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. She snaps a color photo of one of the mountains to the west that has an interesting cumulus cloud above it. When the photo is developed, it shows a silvery disc to the right of and above the peak. UFO researcher [Richard F. Haines](#) examines the original and determines that the image shows an unknown three-dimensional object positioned at least 30 feet away from the camera. (NICAP, “[Daylight Disc Photo](#)”; Richard F. Haines, “[Analysis of a UFO Photograph](#),” *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 1, no. 2 (1987): 129–147; UFOEv II 295)
- 1981,** October 15 — 7:30 p.m. Many citizens of Hällefors, Sweden, observe a huge cigar-shaped object “as large as a truck” that appears suddenly in the north gliding along just above the treetops. Four oblong windows are apparent, through which a blue-white light shines, and a red light is in the rear. A clear and piercing engine noise is evident as it slowly moves south for more than an hour. Former Chief Constable Björn Fagrell describes it as like two connected railway cars. The object makes a slow clockwise turn around the village, after which a flame comes out of the rear of the object. (“[‘Flying Truck’ Seen over Hällefors for 75 Minutes!](#)” *Nordic UFO Newsletter*, 1982, no. 1, pp. 6–8; Stig Aggestad, “[The Hällefors Incident Continues to Grow: Giant UFO Still Unidentified](#),” *Nordic UFO Newsletter*, 1983, no. 1, pp. 2–3; Christer Nordin, “[The UFO over Hällefors: A Smuggled-In Airship, Says ‘Magasinet,’ a Channel 2 TV Program](#),” *Nordic UFO Newsletter*, 1983, no. 1, pp. 3–5)
- 1981,** October 19 — Sen. [Barry Goldwater](#) (R-Ariz.) responds to constituent Lee M. Graham asking about rumors of alien technology and bodies at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio. He writes: “I have long ago given up acquiring access to the so-called blue room at Wright-Patterson.... this thing has gotten so highly classified, even though I will admit there is a lot of it that has been released, it is just impossible to get anything on it.” (“[The Color Blue and UFO’s](#),” Above Top Secret forum, March 30, 2011; Nick Redfern, “[UFOs and Senator Barry Goldwater](#),” *Mysterious Universe*, May 1, 2014)
- 1981,** October 28 — An appeal of the *CAUS v. NSA* case is heard by a three-judge panel ([J. Skelly Wright](#), [Roger Robb](#), and [Norma Holloway Johnson](#)) of the US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia. In a brief decision issued barely a week after oral arguments, the judges uphold the lower court’s decision without comment. (“[Suit Seeks to Lift Secrecy Veil from Agency’s Documents](#),” *Washington Post*, December 3, 1981; William A. Moore, “[CAUS vs. NSA Lawsuit Goes to US Supreme Court](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 30, no. 1 (February 1982): 2–3)
- 1981,** November — Residents of the Hessdalen valley, Norway, begin reporting frequent sightings of unusual lights that hover (sometimes for as long as an hour) and sometimes streak off at speeds that render them all but invisible. On many occasions the lights are below the horizon, either just beneath the tops of nearby mountains or not far from the ground or the rooftops of nearby houses. The lights come in various shapes, but three predominate: a bullet or cigar, a sphere, and an “upside-down Christmas tree.” They are usually yellow or white. Sometimes a small red light appears in front of the others, the various lights maintaining a fixed position, leading observers to suspect they are all attached to a single, dark object. More often than not, they are seen at night moving from north to south; but daylight sightings also occur, usually during the winter. Anomalous sounds are sometimes reported.

- Especially frequent activity occurs between December 1981 and mid-1984, when the lights are seen 15–20 times per week, attracting many tourists. (Wikipedia, "[Hessdalen lights](#)"; "[Project Hessdalen: The Colored Lights of Norway](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 6–8; "[Project Hessdalen](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1985): 14; J. Allen Hynek, "[Tracking the Hessdalen Lights](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1985): 10–11; Clark III 571)
- 1981**, November 3 — The US District Court for the District of Columbia issues a *per curiam* judgment that denies an appeal of the CAUS case against the NSA. ("[Federal Court Upholds Decision Against CAUS](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 2, no. 12 (December 1981): 6; ClearIntent, [p. 188](#))
- 1981**, November 12 — 6:00 p.m. Air traffic controllers at the Greek-American NATO base in Chortiatis, Greece, pick up unidentified targets on their radar screens. Six pursuit aircraft are scrambled, but the UFOs disappear as soon as the planes approach. At 6:45 p.m., luminous objects appear over Edessa, Greece, and maneuver for 30 minutes. Other objects are spotted at Kalochori, Michaniona, Giannitsa, Larissa, Ptolemaida, and Lagyna. ("[The Hide-and-Seek of the UFOs and the Six Jets That Went after Them](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 1 (January 1982): 11–12)
- 1981**, November 24 — 9:30 p.m. Power company employee [Dale Spurlock](#) sees a red pulsating domed disc at treetop level while driving just north of Darco, Texas, on the Darco Cutoff Road near a small lake and some power lines. It has four colored lights—a row of red, blue, green, and amber lights—at the base of the dome. It makes no sound as it passes left to right just above the tress, and then hovers. The object tilts and two headlights from the front of the UFO shine directly down on Spurlock's pickup truck. The object is revolving counterclockwise and moves off to the east. The truck's electrical system (alternator and battery) is damaged. (Richard H. Hall, "[Typical 1981 UFO Reports](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 170 (April 1982): 6; "[Nocturnal Rural Encounters](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 3 (May/June 1982): 5–8; "[1977 Sketch/Sighting and 1981 Sketch Similarity: Another One](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 5 (Oct./Nov. 1983): 1; UFOEv II 231–232)
- 1981**, December — A triangular object appears between Royton and Oldham in Greater Manchester, England. The UFO has a light on each corner; one of the lights detaches and flies off. (Marler [137](#))
- 1981**, December 4 — President [Ronald Reagan](#) issues Executive Order 12333 extending the powers of US intelligence agencies. It is regarded by the American intelligence community as a fundamental document authorizing the expansion of data collection activities and later is employed by the National Security Agency as legal authorization for its collection of unencrypted information flowing through the data centers of internet communications giants Google and Yahoo! It repeats a prohibition against state assassinations. (Wikipedia, "[Executive Order 12333](#)")
- 1981**, December 8 — 7:30 p.m. Alma Hobbs is driving with her two children on State Highway 12 three miles southwest of Reserve, New Mexico. An enormous UFO shaped like an orange ball, estimated to be 750 feet in length, makes a number of turns in the sky. They arrive at a restaurant near the intersection of State 12 and US Highway 180, where Dan Luscomb and Rosie Tafoya also see the object, which executes a 90° turn near Luna Mountain as a jet aircraft chases the UFO out of sight. ("[Hunting Old and New UFOs in New Mexico](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 2 (March 1982): 13–14; "[Update on the Reserve, N.M. 'Tube-Like' UFO](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 3 (May/June 1982): 15)
- 1981**, December 15 — After sunset. Ali Ozel sees an extremely bright light hovering at a distance of 650–980 feet above his car in Aksaray, central Anatolia, Turkey. It performs some maneuvers and disappears to the southwest. ("['Mysteries of Turkey': UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 9)
- 1981**, December 20 — 7:00 p.m. Journalists [Nils Kåre Nesvold](#) and Per Holden see a shiny, spherical object at Vongraven, Norway, the apparent size of a large star. It is steady and intense with no halo. It is flying nearly 3 miles distant and about 3,300–6,500 feet above a mountain. Its speed is irregular, and it changes both course and altitude. Suddenly it disappears as though it is switched off. (Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 89–90)
- 1981**, December 21 — Captain O. Celen and other people in Aksaray, Turkey, see a huge, glittering, silent, egg-shaped object shedding a greenish light over the building site of the Aksaray Engine Factory. It is hovering at 800–1,000 feet and shoots away to the southwest. ("['Mysteries of Turkey': UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 9)
- 1981**, December 28 — 10:30 a.m. G. W. Schoen and two others are talking outside a stable on a farm south of Westminster, Maryland, when they see a grayish-black object flying east to west against the wind and below the clouds at 1,000 feet. It is shaped like a lightbulb, with visible ribs and dark black lines. It climbs slowly and gradually disappears from sight. ("[Correspondence](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1982): 4)
- 1981**, December 29–30 — [William Moore](#) meets twice with AFOSI officer [Richard Doty](#) in a restaurant in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Doty provides Moore with copies of three documents, one of which is a "fake" to test Moore. Another is the one-page Aquarius teletype. (Brad Sparks and Barry Greenwood, "[The Secret Pratt Tapes and the Origins of MJ-12](#)," in *MUFON 2007 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, MUFON, 2007, pp. 92–159)

1981, December 31 — The Center for UFO Studies finalizes the agreement to purchase NICAP's assets, including its extensive case files, and absorb the NICAP organization into CUFOs. (John L. Acuff to John P. Timmerman, [Letter], December 9, 1981, [page 1](#), [page 2](#); Powell, *Keyhole*, 402–403)

1982

- 1982** — [Richard Mingus](#) is coordinating security operations for Livermore in the Area 6 section of the Nevada Test Site when, just as an unsecured, live nuclear weapon is being lowered into an 800-foot-deep shaft prior to testing, an alert goes off that the facility is under attack. It turns out that Wackenhut Security has decided to conduct a mock helicopter attack on an access point to Area 51 to test the system for weaknesses but neglects to inform the Department of Energy beforehand. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [pp. 333–338](#))
- 1982** — The National Security Agency, through the Department of Justice, covertly misappropriates a Prosecutors Management Information System (PROMIS) developed by private firm Inslaw to aid prosecutors in tracking cases. Inslaw claims that the feds withheld payments on the software, then pirated it, making modifications to allow it to monitor intelligence operations, then giving or selling it to Israel and 80 other countries through [Earl W. Brian](#), a man with close personal and business ties to President [Ronald Reagan](#) and then-presidential counsel [Edwin Meese](#). The NSA uses it to covertly conduct real-time electronic surveillance of the flow of money to suspected terrorists and other perceived threats to US national interests. [Fabrizio Calvi](#) and Thierry Pfister in 1997 claim that NSA has been “seeding computers abroad with PROMIS-embedded SMART (Systems Management Automated Reasoning Tools) chips, code-named Petrie, a Trojan horse capable of covertly downloading data and transmitting it, using electrical wiring as an antenna, to US intelligence satellites” as part of an espionage operation. (Wikipedia, “[PROMIS \(software\)](#)”; Ryan Gallagher, “[Dirtier Than Watergate](#),” *New Statesman*, April 20, 2011)
- 1982** — Audits and Surveys, in a report sponsored by Merit Report, finds that 49% of Americans definitely or probably think extraterrestrial UFOs have been here. (Robert J. Durant, “[Evolution of Public Opinion on UFOs](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1993): 13)
- 1982** — Brazilian ufologist [Irene Granchi](#) founds the Centro de Investigação sobre a Natureza dos Extraterrestres in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The group is eventually taken over by her daughter Chica Granchi. (Claudio Tsuyoshi Suenaga, “[A Grande Pioneira da Pesquisa Ufológica no Brasil](#),” Portal UFO, January 10, 2008)
- 1982** — The Royal Australian Air Force grants permission to UFO researcher [Bill Chalker](#) to examine its UFO files. Chalker visits the archives in Canberra, A.C.T., and reviews more than 1,000 reports in 53 RAAF files through 1984, allowing him to compile a detailed summary covering the years 1950 to 1980. He concludes that the existence of some interesting cases in the files is not suggestive of an RAAF coverup. (Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, “[Australian Ufology: A Review](#),” *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 33)
- 1982**, January 2 — Writer [Bob Pratt](#) flies out to Arizona to meet [William Moore](#), who has called him to propose a non-fiction book project about UFOs. Moore tells him about MJ-12, Project Aquarius, and other alleged revelations. Pratt secretly tapes his conversations with Moore, which reveal his contacts with [Richard Doty](#) and other agents of disinformation. (Brad Sparks and Barry Greenwood, “[The Secret Pratt Tapes and the Origins of MJ-12](#),” in *MUFON 2007 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, MUFON, 2007, pp. 92–159)
- 1982**, January 3 — Two Brazilian Air Force F-5 fighters flying at about 5,000 feet over Passo Fundo, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, see a dark metallic-looking object about 66 feet long, 55 feet high, and 3,000 feet away. The control tower cannot see anything in the vicinity. The F-5s get closer, but the object ascends and stays above them. They stay in this position for 30 seconds and then the UFO accelerates and disappears. (Clark III 205; Brazil 552)
- 1982**, January 5 — The Society for Scientific Exploration is founded by [Peter A. Sturrock](#) at a meeting held at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., in order to study phenomena “generally regarded by the scientific community as being outside their established fields of inquiry.” (“[Professors Join in UFO Study Forum](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1982): 1, 3; Clark III 1082–1083)
- 1982**, January 9 — 8:20 p.m. Carl (Eddie) Cox III steps outside his rural home near Washington, North Carolina, to photograph the rising full moon with a new 35mm camera using high-speed color film. He sees and takes 8 photographs of a strange, tubular object moving from the northeast. The photos show a double tube with varying configurations of white and red-orange lights. The final photo shows the tops of nearby trees and distant condensation trails. Analysis suggests that the sighting is due to a distant aircraft passing through a condensation trail. (“[Tubular UFO Photographed, January 9, 1982](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 3 (June/July 1982): 1, 4; “[Up-Date on UFO Photographs Taken January 9, 1982](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept.

1982): 1; "[January UFO Photos Become Identified FOs](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 6 (Dec. 1982/Jan. 1983): 5–6)

- 1982**, January 15 — 7:05–11:35 p.m. Three sightings occur one after the other in Turkey. An object resembling a tray is seen at 7:05 p.m. over Niğde in central Anatolia. At 9:35 p.m., two UFOs are reported at Havsa, Edirne, accompanied by reported malfunctioning TV sets in the town. Around 11:30 p.m., a reported UFO causes the citizens of İzmir, western Anatolia, to panic. When the UFO hovers above the Buca forest it takes on a flaming appearance, causing fire brigades to rush to the scene, keeping watch over the object for 45 minutes until it vanishes. ("[Mysteries of Turkey': UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 8–9)
- 1982**, February — [William Moore](#) receives a plain envelope from one of the intermediaries of "Falcon." Inside are Air Force documents signed by [Richard Doty](#) regarding unexplained lights over Kirtland AFB and Manzano in New Mexico from 1980. Moore and [Bruce Maccabee](#) examine the documents and conduct a detailed on-site investigation, finding no contradictions. (Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, p. 209)
- 1982**, February 2 — 8:00 p.m. Susanne Anderson, 18, is jogging in Skövde, Sweden, when she notices two intense blinking lights that seem to be coming toward her. She hears no sound and gets frightened. After speeding up to a full run, she turns around and sees a metal-blue, saucer-shaped object with a blinking red light on the bottom. Terrified, she hides in a school building. ("[A Short Tale of a Swedish CE-1](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1982): 14)
- 1982**, February 8 — Capt. Gerson Maciel de Britto, piloting a Boeing 727 for VASP Flight 169, notices an intense light source while flying over Petrolina, Pernambuco, Brazil, on a southern course. It starts accompanying the aircraft in a parallel course, keeping the same distance. But the object soon begins changing its speed, moving ahead of the plane and then allowing it to catch up. As it approaches Belo Horizonte, the object approaches the plane, allowing crew and 150 passengers to view its lenticular form. At this point, the light emanating from the UFO penetrates the interior of the cabin and illuminates it with a bluish tint. The UFO is still in clear view as the aircraft begins landing at Galeão Airport in Rio de Janeiro. Some witnesses on the Rio-Niterói Bridge also see the object. ("[The Climactic UFO Case of the Winter 1982 Brazilian 'Flap](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1982): 11–13; Luiz Augusto da Silva, "[Unidentified Aerial Phenomena: The VASP-169 Flight Brazilian Episode Revisited](#)," *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 27, no. 4 (2013): 637–654; Patrick Gross, "[UFO-Aircraft Encounters](#)"; Clark III 198–200; Brazil 537–541; Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, "[Analysis of the VASP-169 Flight UFO Sighting and Photographs by L.A.L. da Silva](#)," academia.edu, August 2022)
- 1982**, February 10 — 11:35 p.m. Tammy Utt and two other 17-year-old girls are driving in a car on I Road and 18th Road west of Escanaba, Michigan, when they encounter a low-flying domed disc. The mist from the rear of the object looks like "lit up snowflakes." The rim around the bottom of the UFO has red windows all the way around it, and a red light shines through the windows. The sighting lasts seven minutes. ("[Six UFOs Reported](#)," *Green Bay (Wis.) Press-Gazette*, February 21, 1982, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 152 (March 1982): 5; "[Nocturnal Rural Encounters](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 3 (May/June 1982): 8–11; Kenneth C. Schellhase, "[A Unique Triad of CE-I Sightings](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1982): 4)
- 1982**, February 12 — 5:45 p.m. Civil engineer Robert A. Sproat is driving south on Gouger Road just south of County Road 7 in Lockport, Illinois, when he sees a light similar to an aircraft landing light over the Lockport locks and dam. It begins a smooth banking turn to the left at about 1,000 feet, and he can make out a structure about 40 feet square. (Robert A. Sproat, "[Letter](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 3 (June/July 1983): 2)
- 1982**, Mid-February — 9:00 p.m. Aubre Brogden is driving along Vermont Highway 36 near Bakersfield, Vermont, when she sees a lighted triangular object in the sky approaching her. As she pulls into her driveway, it hovers above her backyard about 25 feet away then silently moves directly above her. She estimates it is as large as a football field. The object moves away noiselessly. ("[Recurrent Sightings on Vermont Highway](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 31, no. 7 (July 1983): 4–5)
- 1982**, February 19 — 4:54 p.m. A strange radiance is noticed in the sky above the frozen Lake Onega, from Petrozavodsk in the Republic of Karelia, Russia. The glow is pale blue and is shaped like a cloud, inside of which is an elliptical bright spot. After a few minutes, the bright spot disappears behind the forest, but the luminescent cloud remains in the sky for a time. Around 5:00 p.m., two more spots appear, moving together. One of them resembles the first object but is smaller. The other is a luminous sphere moving in a spiral. As it moves, it leaves a hazy trail that quickly disappears. At 5:15 p.m., a bright arrow-shaped object flies directly above the city a great speed, leaving a trail. None of the objects make any sound. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 152)
- 1982**, February 24 — 5:15 a.m. Neillsville, Wisconsin, police officer Chuck Urban is patrolling 12 miles west of town when a bright light approaches him on his left. He stops his squad car, turns off his headlights, grabs a camera, and takes a picture that turns out poorly. He hears no sound from the object. The light follows him as he returns to

Neillsville. The light is so bright he can see the road plainly. At one point the light crosses the road ahead of him for a few miles, then recrosses to the other side. He loses sight of it as he enters town. ("[Nocturnal Rural Encounters](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 3 (May/June 1982): 11; "[Neillsville Revisited: The Cop and the Light That Turned Night into Day](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1982): 14–15)

- 1982, March 4** — [Brinsley Le Poer Trench](#), the Earl of Clancarty, asks in the House of Lords how many UFO reports the Ministry of Defence has received in the past 4 years, [Viscount Long](#) replies that there were 750 sightings in 1978, 550 in 1979, 350 in 1980, and 600 in 1981. Clancarty thinks the totals must be higher, but Long explains that not all reports reach the MoD. The [Earl of Kimberley](#) asks how many of those remain unidentified, and Long replies that he does not have those figures as they "disappeared into the unknown before we got them." [Peter Hill-Norton](#) asks whether all UFO reports received by the MoD before 1962 were destroyed because they were of "no defense interest," and if so, who decided that. Long says that all reports have been preserved since 1967. (Good Above, [pp. 101–102](#); Isaac Koi, "[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#)," Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1982, March 6** — Night. A cylindrical object passes above the Stadium Morenã in Campo Grande, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during a soccer game attended by more than 24,000 people. (Brazil 290–293; Jackson Camargo, "[O Caso do OVNI do Morenã](#)," *Fenomenum*, May 25, 2024)
- 1982, March 8** — [Peter Gersten](#)'s 84-page petition (filed in early 1982) for the Supreme Court to hear an appeal of *CAUS v. NSA* is dismissed by the US Supreme Court, which declines to hear the case because releasing the files "could seriously jeopardize the work of the agency and the security of the United States." (ClearIntent, [pp. 188–189](#))
- 1982, March 8** — 8:15 p.m. Two highly technically trained people separated by more than a mile observe a silent object near Bethel, Connecticut. ("[The Case of the Rumbling Leviathan](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1982): 8–10)
- 1982, March 17–20** — The Project Hessdalen team manages to take four photos of oblong lights passing in front of Finnsåhøgda and Fjellbekkhøgda mountains near Hessdalen, Norway. ("[Project Hessdalen: The Colored Lights of Norway](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 7–8)
- 1982, March 21** — 8:30 p.m. Karl Stewart is driving eastbound on the Ohio Turnpike in northwest Ohio when he sees what appears to be a jet aircraft to the south at about 500 feet altitude. Its lights are much brighter than normal landing lights, and there are no airports in the vicinity. Pulling over to watch it, he sees it has three arms, small windows, and red and green strings of running lights. It gains altitude before banking north over the highway. ("[A New Model UFO?](#)" *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 1 (Feb./March 1983): 3)
- 1982, March 23** — 2:00 a.m. Tim Miron, 18, is driving north on I Road northwest of Escanaba, Michigan, when he sees an orange-red light, which gets bigger and begins flashing red beams from its underside after he turns on I.5 Lane. The object keeps moving closer and he sees it directly behind a telephone pole to his left 125 feet from the road, hovering 10 feet above the ground. Miron arrives at his family's farm, jumps out, and sees the UFO moving directly toward him. He wakes up his mother and the two of them watch the object for the next 30–45 minutes as it maneuvers over a wide area around the farm, finally disappearing behind some trees. (Kenneth C. Schellhase, "[A Unique Triad of CE-I Sightings](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1982): 5–7)
- 1982, March 26** — Leading investigators from UFO-Norge hold a town meeting in Ålen, Norway, near Hessdalen. Of the 130 residents who attend, 17 say they have seen a yellow spherical light, 12 a cigar-shaped object, and 6 an oblong object with one red and two yellow lights. Later in the week, two officers from Værnes Air Station in Trondheim interview some witnesses and conclude that Hessdalen residents have been seeing these lights since 1944 and their accounts are credible. (Clark III 571; Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 89, 90)
- 1982, March 30** — 11:15 p.m. Nanette Morrison is driving home in Charlottesville, Virginia, when she spots a large, brilliant light in the sky hovering several hundred feet in the air and a quarter mile away. It approaches as she makes a turn and flies right over her car, later pacing her as she drives the remaining 15 blocks. She pulls up to the curb, and the UFO stops and hovers above a house across the street less than 400 feet away. The object reverses direction and moves away as she runs up to her house. However, the object may have been a large airliner, possibly a 737, landing at the airport. ("[Mother, Daughter Claim UFO Sighted](#)," *Charlottesville (Va.) Daily Progress*, April 2, 1982, p. 1; Jimmy Smith, [Letter] "[That Flying Object May Have Been a 737](#)," *Charlottesville (Va.) Daily Progress*, April 14, 1982, p. 4; J. Allen Hynek, "[A Remarkable Double Encounter](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 4–5; "[Double Encounter Questioned](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 2 (March/April 1984): 15; Carle Hodge, "[Never Mind: 'UFO' Report Dogs Expert](#)," *Phoenix Arizona Republic*, October 1, 1984, pp. B1, B6; Manfred Cassirer, "[The Strange Case of a 'Remarkable Double Encounter](#)," *BUFORA Bulletin*, no. 20 (January 1986): 14–17)

- 1982, April 1** — 7:15 p.m. Three men are repairing a jeep in Petrolia, Pennsylvania, when one of them notices a bright object with a flashing red light just above the trees. A few minutes later they see it has risen much higher. After they turn on the jeep's headlights, the bright object moves toward them. When they turn the lights off again, the object backs away. The lights go on again, and the UFO passes over their heads at 250 feet. Its bright lights go out, and its triangular shape becomes clear, as well as its gun-metal color and the luminescent mist surrounding it. A red light is on the front, with white and amber lights on the other angles. Two bright lights shoot away from the triangle, one going north and the other south. When a jet approaches from the east, the object stops and becomes bright. Then it rises straight up until it is out of sight. For several days, the witnesses have severe headaches, and one has diarrhea. Other triangular UFOs are seen in the Pittsburgh area from March 22 to May 19. (Stan Gordon, "[Pennsylvania Low-Level UFO Sightings](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 172 (June 1982): 3)
- 1982, April 1** — 11:30 p.m. Nanette Morrison looks out her front window and sees a bright, fluorescent object hovering a few hundred feet above the tree line and a short distance away from her home in Charlottesville, Virginia. She tells her mother to come and look. As she does, the object flares up brightly and zips away at an incredible speed. ("[Mother, Daughter Claim UFO Sighted](#)," *Charlottesville (Va.) Daily Progress*, April 2, 1982, p. 1; J. Allen Hynek, "[A Remarkable Double Encounter](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 5, 15; "[Double Encounter Questioned](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 2 (March/April 1984): 15; Manfred Cassirer, "[The Strange Case of a 'Remarkable Double Encounter](#)," *BUFORA Bulletin*, no. 20 (January 1986): 14–17)
- 1982, April 2** — President [Reagan](#) issues Executive Order 12356, which eliminates response time limits on FOIA requests. Searches for UFO documents show significantly more delays of 2 years or more, and search fees rise dramatically. (Wikisource, "[Executive Order 12356](#)")
- 1982, April 3** — 3:00 a.m. A woman schoolteacher in Bolingbrook, Illinois, is awakened by a high-pitched sound "like a blender running in a box." She looks outside and sees a bright blue, domed, disc-shaped object land next to some power lines. It lifts off and then lands a second time. The UFO has blue lights around the rim and is only about 150 feet away. The blue lights illuminate the area as bright as day. A streetlight goes out. The police receive calls of power outages and blue flashes at the same time. (Fred Merritt, "[A Blue Domed-Disc for Bolingbrook](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1982): 6–8)
- 1982, April 7** — The [Earl of Cork and Orrery](#) asks in the House of Lords how many of the 2,250 sightings of UFOs reported to the MoD in 1978–1981 are still classified. [Viscount Long](#) says none are and there is no reason why anyone could not come and look at the reports in the MoD archives. (Good Above, [pp. 102–104](#); Isaac Koi, "[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#)," Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1982, April 8** — 11:50 p.m. Angie Parrotta and Nancy Hanson, both 18, are driving south on County Road 533 west of Escanaba, Michigan. They notice a bright star to the southwest, which soon becomes two huge yellowish-white "headlights" attached to an object. It descends and moves toward them. They speed up but the object keeps pacing them on their right. They become frightened when they see a blinking red light on the craft. They watch the UFO move swiftly toward Escanaba in the east and quickly lose sight of it. (Kenneth C. Schellhase, "[A Unique Triad of CE-I Sightings](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1982): 7–8)
- 1982, April 22–23** — Night. A group of Polish Air Force pilots during missions over northwest Poland in the area from Elbląg to Ostróda and Olsztyn encounter a weird light at 47,500 feet that does not appear on their radar. It looks like a cloud with the central part a raised-up cupola and is emanating beams of light from the underside. Around it is some kind of vapor. (Poland 66)
- 1982, April 23** — 5:15 a.m. Officials at the Head Office of Meteorology in Ankara, Turkey, observe two UFOs that are maneuvering over the city for an hour. They are elliptical and disappear in the direction of the Eskisehir Highway around 6:15 a.m. ("['Mysteries of Turkey': UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 10)
- 1982, April 27** — Citizens Against UFO Secrecy files a request with the National Security Agency for all legal documents used to prepare its case in *CAUS v. NSA*, especially any portion of the top-secret [Yeates](#) affidavit of November 1980. (ClearIntent, [p. 189](#))
- 1982, May 18** — NSA Director of Policy [Eugene Yeates](#) releases a highly redacted portion of his 21-page affidavit used in the *CAUS v. NSA* lawsuit. An unredacted section reveals that the NSA holds 79 UFO documents referred by other agencies as well as 160 documents originating with the NSA, four of which have already been released. (ClearIntent, [pp. 189–190](#))
- 1982, May 22** — 11:00 p.m. Liberty County Deputy Sheriff John McDonald notices two bright lights above tall pine trees near Cleveland, Texas. He points his spotlight toward them as they sink out of sight, but they reappear and pass over his head at about 1,000 feet. He shines his spotlight again and sees a diamond shape with four rounded corners. The object is large, silent, and grayish in color. Seconds later he hears a high-pitched whine as it quickly

- departs. (John F. Schuessler, "[Policeman Encounters Diamond-Shaped UFO](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 182 (April 1983): 3)
- 1982**, May 24 — 10:15 p.m. An orange-colored light is seen by many tourists moving at a slow speed at an altitude of 4,900–6,500 feet toward Marmaris, Muğla, Turkey. It hovers for about 5 minutes over the sea, moves to the south, speeds up, and ascends. ("[‘Mysteries of Turkey’: UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 10)
- 1982**, June — [Leonard H. Stringfield](#) issues his third status report, *UFO Crash/Retrievals: Amassing the Evidence*. (Leonard H. Stringfield, *UFO Crash/Retrievals: Amassing the Evidence, Status Report III*, The Author, 1982)
- 1982**, June 1 — Two UFOs allegedly hover above the Baikonur cosmodrome, Kazakhstan, for 14 seconds, one of them directly above launch pad number 1. On June 2, bolts and rivets are found that supposedly have been sucked out of the support towers, and welded sections have come apart. The other UFO hovers above the adjacent housing complex, knocking out thousands of panes of glass or making fine holes in them. The cosmodrome is said to be put out of action for two weeks. (Gordon Creighton, "[Russia: Naughty Henry Gris Says It Again! ‘Soviet Space-Centre Knocked Out by UFOs](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 28, no. 6 (August 1983): 27–28)
- 1982**, June 3 — Night. The examining magistrate and bailiff at Demirköy, Kırklareli, Turkey, watch an object with orange lights at an altitude of 160–200 feet. It has two lighted hemispheres with a dark rectangular mid-section. The poplar trees underneath it are shaking violently. ("[‘Mysteries of Turkey’: UFO Activity Revealed](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 10)
- 1982**, June 10 — Three witnesses in Madbury, New Hampshire, see a wedge-shaped object with bright white lights and smaller blue-green-red body lights hovering about 50 feet above the Bellamy Reservoir, its lights reflecting on the surface of the water. As they try to move to a better viewing location, the object moves away, almost instantly. They see it again hovering above a house with an oscillatory motion. A red light beam shines down on the house and then on the car. After a while the object approaches the car from behind and passes above it by about 30 feet. (UFOEv II 40–41; Powell, *Scientist*, 67)
- 1982**, June 12 — Everyone on board a British aircraft sees a large translucent object 500 feet long flying at 41,000 feet altitude over Dinkelsbühl, Bavaria, Germany. It has the form of a "double rectangle surmounted by a globe (egg-shaped) crowned by a silver one." (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [p. 162](#))
- 1982**, June 18 — 9:10–10:53 p.m. Five Chinese Air Force pilots are flying on patrol over the northern military frontier in Hebei province, China. At 10:06 p.m., a large yellowish-green object appears in the northern sky, whirling fast and creating rings of light. After 10 seconds, the center of the ring explodes "like a hand grenade." It grows larger than the apparent size of the full moon, and black spots appear near its center. The aircraft lose their communications and navigational systems and are forced to return to their base. (NICAP, "[Five Chinese Pilots Encounter Object / EME](#)"; Good Above, [pp. 217–218, 471](#); Paul Dong and Wendelle Stevens, *UFOs over Modern China*, UFO Photo Archives, 1983, pp. 243–245; Richard F. Haines and Dominique F. Weinstein, [A Preliminary Study of Fifty Seven Pilot Sighting Reports Involving Alleged Electro-Magnetic Effects on Aircraft Systems](#), NARCAP Technical Report no. 3, April 5, 2001, p. 32)
- 1982**, June 25 — 2:30 a.m. Kathy Freeman watches a bright star that makes two right-angle turns near Libertyville, Illinois. ("[Correspondence](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 3, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1982): 5)
- 1982**, June 27 — Following a screening of *E.T.: The Extraterrestrial* at the White House, President [Reagan](#) leans over to director [Steven Spielberg](#) and comments, "You know, there aren't six people in this room who know how true this really is." (presidentialufo.com, "[Ronald Reagan, 40th President, January 20, 1981–January 20, 1989](#)")
- 1982**, July — 4:30 a.m. A 15-year-old-boy sets out on his bicycle for his summer job at a kindergarten in Odense, Denmark. He notices a bright object like two saucers piled on top of each other hovering over a field about 165–195 feet away. It seems to be about 6 feet in diameter. As he gets closer, he can see two small, humanoid creatures no larger than 2 feet tall with large heads and narrow hips. ("[Dänische Luftwaffe öffnet geheimes UFO-Archiv](#)," *grenzWissenschaft-aktuell.de*, January 30, 2009)
- 1982**, July 1 — The Center for UFO Studies discontinues its toll-free 1-800 number distributed to police offices across the country. ("[Discontinue 800 #, Report Quality Low](#)," *IUR* 7, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1982): 13)
- 1982**, July 6 — 7:30 p.m. A man driving alone near Hampshire, Tasmania, finds that his car is gradually losing power and stops. He turns off the ignition and the lights, then gets out of the vehicle when he notices a stationary, noiseless object that looks like a large army helicopter about the size of a bus. It is blue-black in color and seems to be gradually moving to the west for about 90 seconds. He starts the car's engine and leaves the area. An inspection of the car finds nothing to account for its behavior. (Herbert S. Taylor, "[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#)," *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)

- 1982**, Early August — A man is in a meadow near a forest on the shore of the Vistula River a few miles northwest of Warsaw, Poland. Suddenly he hears a sound like an electric motor and sees a rectangular, black, domed object above the treetops that rises and sails slowly beyond the river. Windows in the dome cast a flickering light (Bronislaw Rzepecki, "[Encounters in Poland](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 3 (May/June 1987): 17)
- 1982**, September — Rosalind Reynolds-Parnham and her boyfriend Philip are driving through the northwestern outskirts of Sudbury, Suffolk, England, when they see an object with an oval mass of orange lights moving through some pylons and causing sparks. They can smell a noxious odor. They drive on, and when they are near Cavendish on the A1092 some lights approach them from behind and the car loses power. When they arrive at their destination, they realize they have lost four hours of time. Rosalind begins to recall an abduction experience, aided by some disturbing dreams and odd scars on her abdomen. (Jenny Randles, "[Abduction and Physiological Effects](#)," *IUR* 20, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1995): 4–6, 23; Carl Nagaitis and Philip Mantle, *Without Consent: A Comprehensive Study of Missing Time and Abduction Phenomena in the United Kingdom*, Ringpull, 1994; "[Aliens Cost Me My Boyfriend and Kids](#)," *London Express*, August 24, 2016)
- 1982**, September 2 — 7:15 p.m. John T. Sery notices an object following a Cessna aircraft at an altitude of 1,500 feet above Minneapolis, Minnesota. It matches the pace of the airplane until it reaches a point about 4 miles away when it descends. His two daughters also view the UFO. The bottom and top of the object are jet black, and it has an equatorial band that is silvery metallic with a hint of rainbow reflections. ("[Minnesota Flying Black Hamburger](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 6 (Dec. 1984/Jan. 1985): 6–7)
- 1982**, September 9 — A partial meltdown occurs at Chernobyl nuclear power plant Unit One in Pripyat, Ukraine. Officials deny that an accident has taken place, but radioactive contamination reaches the town and spreads as far as 9 miles from the plant. It includes iodine-131, fragments of uranium dioxide fuel, and hot particles containing zinc-65 and zirconium-niobium-95 consistent with partial destruction of the reactor core. Contaminated areas around the plant are simply sluiced with water and covered with soil and leaves. Lenin Square is discreetly covered with a new layer of asphalt. (Adam Higginbotham, *Midnight at Chernobyl*, Simon & Schuster, 2019, pp. 69–70)
- 1982**, September 17 — 9:00 p.m. Capt. Stefan Freitag and the crew of the Romanian cargo ship *Bosca* are steaming 200 miles off the coast of Brazil in the South Atlantic when they see an object like a full moon, accompanied by a smaller, star-light object, which grows brighter and larger in size. Both objects disappear, leaving behind a shiny cloud. Then another moon-like object appears, during which a silent explosion takes place and an orange object is ejected. A fourth moon appears and approaches the ship, causing the crew to panic and the ship's dog to howl. A fifth object appears briefly, leaving a glow that persists for 30 minutes. A Geiger counter indicates a radiation level of 5–7 rads on the ship. A similar phenomenon is seen by another ship in the general area at 11:03 p.m. and on the following night. (Gerhard Cordier, "[Adventure under the Equator](#)," *UFO Research Australia Newsletter* 4, no. 3 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 3; "Unidentified Phenomena," *Marine Observer* 53 (July 1983): 132)
- 1982**, September 18 — 3:00 p.m. Villagers in Suchowola, Poland, see a triangular UFO with lights at its tips. (Poland 75–76)
- 1982**, September 30 — 1:30 a.m. A man and his son finish picking fruit in their orchard on Wolicka street near Czerniaków Hill in Warsaw, Poland. It is well after curfew, so they make their way toward home stealthily. Near the Zakład Ubezpieczeń Społecznych building they smell smoke and see a strange object 20 feet in diameter hovering 3 feet above the ground. A faint orange glow is emanating from its base, causing the grass to smolder. Two thin beings are near the object. One has a device that projects an orange glow. The witnesses leave the scene carefully. (Poland 51; "[Bliskie spotkanie w Warszawie w 1982 roku](#)," *UFO-Relacje.pl*, February 12, 2020)
- 1982**, September 30 — 10:15 p.m. Four women, all management personnel of New England Bell Company, are returning to Exeter, New Hampshire, after a trip to a county fair to the north. They are riding in a Mercedes owned by the driver, Mary Ann Poland. She and the passengers (Rose Messina, Mary LaMontagne, and Nicky LeClair) see a low-flying bright light approaching. Poland pulls the car over and they all jump out, as if the object has a compelling influence on them. The object is egg-shaped with swirling red lights around its equator and a white beam of light coming down from the side. After a few minutes it sinks down behind the tree line. ("The Hampton Encounter," *Atlantic News and Advertiser* (Hampton, N.H.), November 23, 1982, p. 1, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 163 (February 1983): 3; "[Exeter Revisited](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 4–7)
- 1982**, October — A generator explodes at Reactor Number One of the Metsamor Nuclear Power Plant in Armenia. The turbine hall burns down, and an emergency team is airlifted from the Kola Peninsula in northwest Russia to help save the core. (Adam Higginbotham, *Midnight in Chernobyl*, Simon & Schuster, 2019, p. 70)

- 1982,** October 2 — 8:00 p.m. The North Arkansas Community College volleyball team (and their coach Sue McDonald) is returning from a game in Kansas and are near Springfield, Missouri, when they see an object with two brilliant white lights and a blinking red light. It hovers 100–150 feet nearly above the bus. The underside is in full view and about 40–50 smaller lights are plainly visible. (“[CE-I for a Volleyball Team.](#)” *IUR* 8, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1983): 12–14)
- 1982,** October 4 — 4:00–8:00 p.m. Russian Army Lt. Col. Vladimir Plantonev witnesses an hours-long UFO sighting near an IRBM missile base outside the village of Belokorovichi, Ukraine. It looks “just like a flying saucer,” but with no portholes and a smooth surface. It soundlessly makes a turn on its edge. Suddenly, an unspecified number of nuclear missiles spontaneously go into an automated launch sequence by themselves, proceeding to a countdown of 15 seconds before aborting and returning to standby status. (NICAP, “[Russian Base Loses Control of Nuclear Missiles](#)”; Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 81; J. Antonio Huneus, “Incident at Usovo: From the Soviet and Russian Military UFO Dossier,” *The Anomalist* 7 (Winter 1998/1999); Robert L. Hastings, “[Remarkable Reports from the Missile Field.](#)” *IUR* 32, no. 1 (August 2008): 25–26; Antonio Huneus, “[Soviet Nukes and UFOs.](#)” *Open Minds*, January 26, 2010; Nukes 445–452)
- 1982,** October 12 — Nova presents the documentary *The Case of the UFO's*, which is criticized as a biased perspective. The participants on the US version of this BBC production include skeptics [Philip Klass](#), [James Oberg](#), and [Michael Persinger](#), with only brief appearances by [Bruce Maccabee](#) and [Allan Hendry](#). (*Nova: The Case of the UFO's*, Time-Life, 1982; J. Allen Hynek, “[Nova and UFOs.](#)” *IUR* 7, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1982): 3–5; J. Allen Hynek, “[An Editorial Apology.](#)” *IUR* 8, no. 3 (May/June 1983): 3)
- 1982,** October 14 — 2:00 a.m. Four residents of Alta, Troms og Finnmark, Norway, see three points of light appear above the mountains to the south-southeast. Each point of light is made up of several smaller lights bunched close together. They move in a northerly direction at a great speed, apparently about 43–50 miles in 5 seconds, or about 35,000 mph. Suddenly light rays flash down toward the ground simultaneously from all three objects. The rays are made up of cones with an opening angle of about 15°. Their color is a powerful white with a bluish hue, especially at the sides. After 20–25 seconds, the rays begin to widen just as the light begins to diminish in strength. In 2–3 seconds the cones become “an ocean” of light with an opening angle of some 180°. Then they move off one by one with a separation time of one second. At the same moment as the lights go out there appears an ellipsoid object that gives off a faint light, but nevertheless is distinctly visible. Its color is pink with a deeper color tone that becomes gray just underneath the object. It is motionless, hanging in the sky for 30 minutes, then it suddenly disappears. All of the observers feel a strange, dead silence during the entire observation. (Elbjørg Feldbjørg, “[Extraordinary Observation from Alta.](#)” *Nordic UFO Newsletter*, 1983, no. 2, pp. 15–18)
- 1982,** October 15 — 1:35 p.m. A witness at the Diamond Shamrock plant at Lamar [now Botham Jean Boulevard] and Lenway Street in Dallas, Texas, sees a domed, metallic disc that apparently has risen up from the Trinity River bottom and is heading east. He estimates it is 60 feet wide and flying at 3,000–4,000 feet. It has bright red lights on top. (“[Letter.](#)” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1983): 2)
- 1982,** October 18 — 7:50 p.m. A couple is driving along Quinpool Road near Armview Avenue in Halifax, Nova Scotia, when they see an object about 8 times the size of the full moon traveling silently south to north at about 50 mph and 300 feet altitude. It is cigar-shaped with a steady green light in front and a flashing green light in back. They have it in sight for 15 seconds. (“[Correspondence.](#)” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 1 (Feb./March 1983): 2)
- 1982,** October 19 — Night. A US Air Force RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft monitoring Soviet military activity is buzzed by a huge object (larger than the RC-135) over the eastern Mediterranean Sea. British personnel at RAF Troödos on Cyprus listen to the radio calls of the American crew for 90 minutes as the encounter unfolds at 35,000 feet. The UFO, described as a multitude of lights flashing 20 at a time, is picked up on the aircraft’s radar as it approaches from the south about 2 miles away. It circles around the plane and closes in. Two US Navy F-14 fighters are scrambled from an aircraft carrier, and an RAF Phantom is diverted from a night flying exercise to intercept the object south of Cyprus. As the three interceptors approach, the RC-135 crew sees the object depart to the south. The fighter pilots can see nothing. Following the incident, British authorities launch a secret investigation, the results of which (including a transcript of the RC-135 crew’s conversation with ground controllers) are sent to the US Department of Defense in November. One senior RAF official strongly suspects that the object is a mirage effect from lights on the coast of Israel or Lebanon. (David Clarke, “A Cold War Close Encounter,” *Fortean Times* 357 (September 2017): 17)
- 1982,** October 21 — 12:35 p.m. An oval object about 3 feet in diameter descends into a garden in Nancy, Meurthe-et-Moselle, France, and hovers about 3 feet off the ground. After 20 minutes the object takes off silently. The witness, a cellular biologist, reports that when the UFO rises up, the grass under it stands up straight. In the afternoon, the witness notes that two amaranth plants located near the UFO have desiccated, withered leaves. The

witness calls the Gendarmerie, who inspect the garden and take some samples of the amaranth plants. The analysis of the samples made by GEPAN finds that the plants are dehydrated, but there is no evidence of radiation. ([Enquête 86/06: L'Amarante](#), Note Technique no. 17, Groupe d'Étude des Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non-identifiés, Centre Nationale d'Étude Spatiales, March 21, 1983; Swords 445–446; Éric Maillot and Jean-Michel Abrassart, “[Very Close Encounter with a UAP in Levitation](#),” in Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 94–106)

- 1982**, October 24 — 9:20 a.m. Pilot Michael Davis and his father (a student pilot) are flying a 1968 Piper PA-28 Cherokee 140 about 10 miles southeast of Lowell, Indiana. Just after reaching their cruising altitude of 2,300 feet, they encounter an object they at first think is a malfunctioning parachute. At one point, the UFO flicks across their nose, veering to its left and missing the aircraft's right wingtip by no more than 10 feet. It has no exhaust trail. At the instant that it passes, the vortex hits them so hard that the plane's airframe groans in protest, and the altimeter goes “wacky.” It continues to curve to the left, still accelerating and eventually beginning to climb until it finally disappears into the distant haze. (NICAP, “[Pilots Encounter Object over Indiana / EME](#)”; Mark R. Remaley, “[An Incredible Close Encounter from Credible Pilots](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 3 (May/June 1983): 4–7)
- 1982**, October 27 — Early evening. Bonnie McCrory and her father, Maurice Smith, are driving south on the Richardson Highway near Summit Lake, Alaska, when their pickup stops with a frozen gas line. After about 20 minutes, they notice a huge ball on the ridge to the east. It is silver-colored and looks like a geodesic dome. Within the next hour it changes color from silver to yellow to orange to fiery red-orange. It slowly moves up the ridge until it moves out of sight. Possibly the full moon. (Richard Sigismond, “[Alaska Close Encounter](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1984): 8–9; Hobart Gregory Baker, “[Sail Along, Silvery Disc](#),” *IUR* 10, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1985): 16, 20; Richard Sigismond, “[Sail Along, Silvery Disc: A Response](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1986): 20)
- 1982**, November — After 12:00 midnight. A man and his wife are camping in Davies Valley, Imperial County, California, when they are awakened by a surge of static electricity. A huge object shaped like a manta ray 200 feet across is hovering above them. It makes a humming sound as it slowly passes over them, heading east. (Doris and Joe Graziano, “[Press Reports](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 31, no. 8 (August 1983): 8)
- 1982**, Early November — 6:15 p.m. Rachel Morton is waiting for a bus in Whitby, North Yorkshire, England, when a triangular-shaped object with a domed covering passes noiselessly overhead. Two small white lights are at the front and three lights at the top. (*Whitby (UK) Gazette*, November 12, 1982; Marler [114](#))
- 1982**, November 2 — 10:50 a.m. Capt. Júlio Miguel Guerra is flying a DHC-1 Chipmunk in the region of Serra de Montejunto and Torres Vedras, Portugal, near Ota Air Base [now Military and Technical Training Center of the Air Force] in Ota, Alenquer, Portugal. He encounters a metallic disc at 4,900 feet that engages in evasive maneuvers and circles his plane. The object is 7 feet in diameter and its lower hemisphere is reddish. A circular dark area is visible on the bottom and something looking like a grid encircles its middle. The pilot of another Chipmunk trainer sees the same object at 11:05 a.m. The object continues circling between the two aircraft for 10 minutes, when it makes a pass at the second plane and speeds off to the southwest. (José Sottomayor and Antônio Rodrigues, “[Close Sighting by Portuguese Air Force Pilots \(November 1982\)](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 32, no. 5 (August 1987): 12–13; Júlio Miguel Guerra, “[Circled by a UFO](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 3 (December 2010): 3, 21; Kean, [pp. 47–51](#); UFOEv II 108–109)
- 1982**, Late November — Senior Coastguard Bernard O'Reilly watches a lighted triangular object hovering silently for several minutes over Skegness, Lincolnshire, England. It moves away to the southeast. (*Lincolnshire (UK) Daily Echo*, December 1, 1982; Marler [114](#))
- 1982**, November 25 — Day. US Army Military Policeman Christopher Grooms is on guard duty in Tower 5 at the Army Special Weapons Depot at Kriegsfield, a nuclear weapons storage and maintenance site in Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. He watches for over 10 minutes a dark triangular-shaped craft fly slowly in a straight line from the southwest, over the valley, over the town of Gerbach, and directly over his watchtower, flying toward the northeast. After approaching for about 7 minutes, it flies directly overhead and Grooms steps out onto the tower landing with M-16 in hand and looks straight up at the object. It is completely silent and has no markings. As it passes over, the object rotates 360° nose down, pointing directly at him, then rotates back into its original position. Grooms has “the overwhelming feeling that it was acknowledging my presence with this maneuver or was ‘checking me out’ as it did it.” (Robert L. Hastings, “[Triangular UFO above a U.S. Army Nuclear Weapons Depot Performs a 360-Degree Roll](#),” *UFOs & Nukes*, January 26, 2015)
- 1982**, November 27 — 5:00 a.m. A luminous object with brilliant lights brightly illuminates a police patrol car driven by Cmdr. Michael McDonald near the intersection of West Northwest Highway and Smith Street in Palatine, Illinois. Two other officers (Ron Roszak and Dennis Somsel) in two other patrol cars on Lincoln Avenue see a domed, disc-shaped object 30 feet in diameter, which emits a light beam toward the ground, then changes direction when

pursued. The white disc is later seen to the east, with a light beam extended toward the ground, as it descends behind the tree line, seemingly landing in Busse Woods (Ned Brown Forest Preserve). The entire episode lasts about 12 minutes. (Mark Rodeghier, "[A Police Puzzler from Palatine](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1983): 10–14)

- 1982**, December — During naval exercises in the Black Sea near the port of Sevastopol in the Crimea, Russia, an unidentified target is detected over the Balaklava District at a low altitude. It has a sharp nose and sparks coming from its tail section. The object does not respond to attempts at communication, so jet interceptors are scrambled. The object descends into the water when they approach. Soviet naval ships cannot detect it underwater. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 133–134)
- 1982**, December 8–12 — The Third International Congress of Extraterrestrial Science is held in Rosario, Argentina, with representatives from Spain, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and the US, as well as Argentina. ("[Third International Congress of Extraterrestrial Science](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 3 (May/June 1983): 3, 7, 13)
- 1982**, December 10 — 7:55 a.m. Stephen Eric Alexander is waiting for a school bus with his daughter in Rosedale, Queens, New York City, when he sees an object among a flock of birds. The birds disperse and leave the object alone, drifting silently at 25 mph. After 15 seconds, it tilts and veers to the southwest and disappears. He estimates the object is 11 feet wide and 5 feet tall, 150 feet away from him, and 210 feet above the ground. Its ends pointed slightly downward. ("[1977 Photograph/Sighting and 1982 Sketch Similarity](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1983): 1–2)
- 1982**, December 21 — A witness driving from Échallens to Orbe, Vaud, Switzerland, notes a red globe 5–6 inches in diameter closely following his car. The light spreads inside the car as the object apparently settles down on the rear seat. He experiences about 8–10 minutes of missing time. ("[Newspaper Item from Bern, Switzerland, January 12, 1983](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1983): 4)
- 1982**, December 31 — Around 11:50 p.m. An off-duty police officer and his family see a boomerang-shaped object drift slowly over their home near Kent Cliffs, New York. They can see a solid structure with roughly 15 red, green, and white lights anchored to its underside. It maintains a constant altitude of about 490 feet, moves at a gentle walking pace, and makes only a faint hum. As it passes over, he feels a deep vibration in his chest. At one point, the lights go out and three blinding white lights in the shape of a triangle appear in their place. About 5 seconds later, the colored ones return, and the object drifts out of sight. Warehouse foreman Edwin Hansen, 55, sees what appears to be the same object as he is driving down Interstate 84, just moments later. Hansen, among others, stops on the side of the road after spotting a boomerang-shaped formation of lights that project a bright beam of light to the ground. It is so large that it fills the sky in front of him, and it makes slow, tight circles in the air. Just as he thinks he'd like to get a closer look, the object moves in his direction. He panics as it approaches, but then hears a voice in his head that tells him not to be afraid. At the same time, the object turns away and the beam goes out. Hansen says that he "felt thoughts that weren't [his] own," and believes that he has received a telepathic communication from the UFO. (NightSight 6–9)

1983

- 1983** — Since 1966, some 6,700 Ummo communications have been received. The early ones are written in Spanish, but over time they are composed in French, though certain grammar and punctuation oddities indicate that Spanish, not French, is the writers' first language. Other analyses indicate a British origin. (Wikipedia, "[Planetary objects proposed in religion, astrology, ufology, and pseudoscience](#)"; Wikipedia, "[Ummo](#)"; Jacques Vallée, *Revelations: Alien Contact and Human Deception*, Ballantine, 1990, pp. 90–121; Bob Rickard, "The Ummo Mystery," *Fortean Times*, no. 149 (September 2001): 34–35; Reinaldo Manso, *Ummo: Un Historia de un Obsesión*, Megustaesscribirlibros, 2015; Reinaldo Manso, "Were the Ummites British?" *Fortean Times* 336 (February 2016): 58–59; Clark III 1185–1186)
- 1983** — [Philip J. Klass](#) writes *UFOs: The Public Deceived* for Prometheus Press, claiming that all significant government documentation has been released and that UFO reports are nothing but hoaxes, misidentifications, and distortions. He personally attacks [Hynek](#), [Maccabee](#), [Richard Hall](#), and others. (Philip J. Klass, *UFOs: The Public Deceived*, Prometheus, 1983)
- 1983**, January — The first issue of *Cuadernos de Ufologia*, edited by José Ruesga Montiel and featuring case investigations by many Spanish ufologists, is published in Seville, Spain, by the Colectivo Cuadernos (and beginning in 1997 by La Fundación Anomalía). It continues through April 2012. (*Cuadernos de Ufologia*, no. 1 (January 1983))

- 1983**, January 10–11 — CAUS director and attorney [Peter Gersten](#) has two meetings with [Richard Doty](#) in New Mexico. During the first meeting, with [Bill Moore](#) in attendance, Doty is guarded in his comments. At the second meeting with Gersten alone, he speaks openly about the 1977 Ellsworth AFB “incident” that he claims AFOSI and the FBI are investigating. He tells Gersten that the US government knows why UFOs appear in certain places and that “beyond a doubt they’re extraterrestrial” and come from 50 light years away. He mentions Project Aquarius, which he says is the government’s top-secret involvement in communications with aliens. He speaks of documents that tell of agreements between the US government and extraterrestrials under which the aliens are free to conduct animal mutilations and land at a certain base, in exchange for information about advanced UFO technology. (Clark III 363)
- 1983**, January 12 — 4:30 p.m. A man and his two sons encounter a short entity in a gray “wetsuit” uniform holding a glowing L-shaped object in a swampy area near their house in Pine Township, Porter County, Indiana. Both are floating 2–3 feet above the ground. A second being is peering over a fence at them. The encounter lasts about 5 minutes, and no UFO is seen. (R. A. Busse, “[An Indiana CE-III](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1983): 6–9)
- 1983**, January 14 — 5:54 p.m. Amateur astronomer [Todd Lohvinenko](#) in Winnipeg, Manitoba, observes a “perfectly black orb” traversing the Sun in 3 seconds. (Todd Lohvinenko, “[A Mysterious Object](#),” *National Newsletter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada* 77, no. 2 (April 1983): L19)
- 1983**, January 14 — 7:53 p.m. A bright object appears in the sky above Adana, Turkey, and many people stop their cars to look at it. Soon the object is joined by two US Air Force jets from Incirlik Air Base. One of the jets flies in tight circles around the UFO, which dwarfs it in size and is described as a disc with a dome on the underside. The object accelerates and disappears over the Mediterranean Sea with the jets in pursuit. Only one jet returns to base, although the other could have been lost during an unrelated search-and-rescue mission. (Good Need, [pp. 312–313](#))
- 1983**, January 19 — 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. South Wales police begin to receive reports of UFOs. Two detectives in Swansea observe a silent, triangular object with three pulsating lights at 1,000 feet altitude. Carole Griffiths and her husband are driving home in Cardiff when they see a large triangular object in the sky and pull over to watch. It has 11 lights around it. Similar objects are seen in Porthcawl and other Welsh localities. (Marler [114–117](#))
- 1983**, January 27 — 7:00 p.m. Peggy Iery sees a large central white light with two flanking lights over some power lines as she is returning home 2 miles north of Marquette, Michigan. Suddenly it appears over her car and seems so huge that it blocks out the sky. Its shape is a perfect pentagon with a small white light at each of the corners; the bottom is silvery and flat. She drives home quickly, and she and her husband see four lights nearby, which gradually recede beyond the trees. (Kenneth C. Schellhase, “[The Marquette Pentagon](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 3 (May/June 1983): 11–13)
- 1983**, February 7 — 8:19 p.m. A witness in Coffeen, Illinois, sees a triangular object with bright lights. A similar object is seen by a police officer 10 miles southwest of Brighton, Illinois, around 8:27 p.m. (Marler [209](#))
- 1983**, February 11 — The Parisian newspaper *Le Figaro* cites unnamed specialists who say that GEPAN exists only because it reflects the enthusiasm of former President [Valéry Giscard d’Estaing](#) and that it costs too much, even though it is only a small percentage of the CNES budget. (Clark III 547)
- 1983**, February 26 — 8:30 p.m. Monique O’Driscoll and her 17-year-old daughter are driving near the frozen White Pond in Putnam County, New York, when they see a silent, multicolored, boomerang-shaped object about 200–300 feet wide. It has many lights, which seem to respond to their thoughts. It has a crisscross lattice structure and tubes on its underside. Their CB radio just has static. Another independent witness, Rita Rivera, probably sees the same object, a V-shaped array of 50 lights with amber, red, and blue colors. (NightSiege 9–14; Philip Imbrogno, George Lesnick, and Chris Clark, “[Boomerang Update](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1983): 8–9)
- 1983**, Spring — 10:00 p.m. A woman hospital employee is driving to work near New London, Connecticut, when she sees a light flick by quickly in the sky ahead. It stops above the treetops and shines a searchlight-like beam down on the woods. She pulls over to watch. Abruptly the object moves directly in front of her. There is no other traffic, although the road is usually busy. The object is round and has blue, yellow, red, and white lights flickering in a circle. She blacks out for a short time and finds that the engine, lights, and radio have been shut off. The window has been rolled down. The car stalls when she tries to start it, but the engine finally catches and she drives to work, where she arrives uncharacteristically late at 11:05. (Michael D. Swords, “[Unusual Experiences from the Timmerman Files](#),” *IUR* 27, no. 2 (Summer 2002): 23)
- 1983**, March 8 — President [Ronald Reagan](#) delivers a speech to the National Association of Evangelicals in which he refers to the Soviet Union as an “evil empire” and the “focus of evil in the modern world.” He asserts that the Cold War is a battle between good and evil. (Wikipedia, “[Evil Empire speech](#)”)

- 1983, March 11** — [Reagan](#) authorizes National Security Decision Directive 84, which substantially increases governmental control over federal employees, particularly their relationships with the media. It mandates that all employees with access to sensitive information are now subject to lifetime censorship of their writings and speeches on these topics. (“[Safeguarding National Security Information](#),” National Security Decision Directive 84, March 11, 1983; Frederick W. Whatley, “[Reagan, National Security, and the First Amendment: Plugging Leaks by Shutting Off the Main](#),” CATO Institute Policy Analysis no. 37, May 8, 1984)
- 1983, March 11** — Richard Mull finds a large star-shaped hole in his bean field west of Wauseon, Ohio, around which the dirt is mounded up. It has six long points 19 feet long and four shorter points 9 feet long. In the center is a depression 8 feet in diameter and 8 inches deep, and at the center of this depression is a small hole 2 inches in diameter that goes down to a depth of 6 feet. (“[Two Physical Trace Cases in Northwest Ohio Unexplained](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 3 (June/July 1985): 4–5)
- 1983, March 15** — 5:00 p.m. An unidentified target is tracked by USAF radar at RAF Upper Heyford [now closed], Oxford, England, until 9:15 p.m. Sgt. Byrd Cormier says they do not have radio contact with it. A slow, brilliant white light is seen by some civilians in Berkshire. Cpl. Candellin at RAF Brize Norton, Oxford, claims that RAF radar cannot pick up the object. (“[UFO Alert As Mystery Light Passes over Berks](#),” *Reading (UK) Evening Post*, March 16, 1983, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 165 (April 1983), p. 13; Good Above, [pp. 104–105](#))
- 1983, March 17** — 7:00–10:00 p.m. Hundreds of people see a boomerang-shaped object moving slowly and hovering over I-84 near Brewster, New York. (Philip Imbrogno, “[Boomerang over Three Counties](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1983): 11; Philip Imbrogno, George Lesnick, and Chris Clark, “[Boomerang Update](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1983): 9–10; R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 167; NightSiege 18–25; Patrick Gross, “[The Hudson Valley UFO Flap](#)”)
- 1983, March 23** — In what later becomes known as his “Star Wars” speech, President [Ronald Reagan](#) announces his plans to develop an anti-missile capability to counter the threat of Soviet ballistic missiles and to make these nuclear weapons “impotent and obsolete.” This paves the way for a Strategic Defense Initiative as an alternative to a proliferation of missiles under the concept of mutual assured destruction. SDI is derisively nicknamed by Senator [Ted Kennedy](#) (D-Mass.) as “Star Wars,” after the 1977 film by [George Lucas](#). By the early 1990s, with the Cold War ending and nuclear arsenals rapidly reduced, political support for SDI collapses. SDI officially ends in 1993, when the administration of President [Bill Clinton](#) redirects the efforts towards theatre ballistic missiles and renames the agency the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. BMDO is renamed the Missile Defense Agency in 2002. (Wikipedia, “[Strategic Defense Initiative](#)”)
- 1983, March 23** — Night. Russian Major V. Gorsky is stationed in the Altai Mountains of Mongolia when he sees, along with two of his commanding officers, a silvery disc at an altitude of 1,300 feet and 1–2 miles away. Its colors seem to be changing constantly, and it is surrounded by a blue halo. A narrow beam of light descends from it, illuminating the area. More than 30 other soldiers witness the display. It studies the area another 4 minutes, then the beam disappears, the halo vanishes, and the object is gone instantly. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 127–128)
- 1983, March 24** — 7:30 p.m. A corporate executive in Bedford, New York, sees a half-circle of lights hovering behind some trees near a commuter-bus station. There is no sound. After watching for 5 minutes, he goes inside his house to alert his family, but when they come outside, the lights are gone. (NightSiege 29; Clark III 1277)
- 1983, March 24** — 8:00 p.m. Four persons in Carmel, New York, see a half-circle of red and white lights and the vague outline of a larger object to which they are attached. The lights are hovering above trees several hundred yards away. They drift to the east and are lost to view, but almost immediately a family living a quarter mile away sees them drift into view. Through binoculars they can see a “huge object” with a dull-green metallic color connecting the lights. When the UFO turns slightly, they see it has a V shape. At that moment a brilliant beam of white light shoots down from the center of the object, and in it a small reddish object descends then shoots off “very, very fast toward the north.” The beam is shut off and the object turns and heads slowly east. (Clark III 1277)
- 1983, March 24** — 8:30 p.m. Police officers in Yorktown, New York, say that their switchboard is flooded with calls reporting a large, boomerang-shaped UFO with red, blue, and green lights. Police in the nearby villages of Millwood and New Castle receive a flood of calls as well, describing an object as large as a football field. William Hele, a meteorologist for the National Weather Corporation, sees an asymmetrical V-shaped object about 1,300 feet long, with 6–7 lights as he is driving south on the Taconic Highway. The object descends from about 2,000 to 980 feet altitude and slows as it approaches. Hele realizes that the lights are all changing colors at different times, as if lit by a rotating prism within the structure. Suddenly, all the lights go out, leaving nothing in their place, as if whatever object was supporting them has simply disappeared. The lights reappear 30–40 seconds later, and a few seconds after that, the object turns to the north and flies away, as the lights change to a slime green. At the same time, people 15 miles north in Putnam County see a smaller object exhibiting similar behavior.

Ruth Holtsman describes a silent object that hangs motionless in the sky. While it is in view, a driver pulls up and stops almost directly underneath it. The lights start to flash in a wild sequence up and down its “wings.” The driver jumps into his car and speeds away. Then the UFO approaches Holtsman’s car, which is bathed in a blinding white light as it speeds under the boomerang. John Miller sees the object hovering above a pond near his home in Brewster, New York. It is aiming two very bright searchlight beams over the surface of the water. He hears a faint whooshing sound. (Philip Imbrogno, “[Boomerang over Three Counties](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1983): 10–11; Philip J. Imbrogno and Chris Clark, “[Boomerang Saga Continues](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1984): 4–6; Michael Vitez, “[UFOs Amaze Experts, Chill State Residents](#),” *Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, August 16, 1984, pp. A1, A18; Philip J. Imbrogno, “[Westchester Boomerang: March 24, 1983](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1984): 9–12; R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing: A Closer Look](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 1 (Spring 1985): 6–7; R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 167; NightSiege 15–17, 29, 31–37, 39–42; Marler [117–119](#); Clark III 1277–1278)

1983, March 24 — 8:45 p.m. Several dozen diners at a ski-resort restaurant near Stormville, New York, see white lights in a boomerang shape hovering over a utility pole 600 feet away. Three other people driving near the pole stop by it. The driver, a corrections officer, gets out and studies the object about 200 feet above him. It is silent, and the structure that holds the lights is dark and nonreflective. After watching it for 20 minutes, he heads back to his jeep, at which time the UFO moves down the road. He follows it to Interstate 84 and all the lights go out, allowing him to see the boomerang shape. The lights come back on and he follows the object for more than an hour, clocking its speed at 20 mph. (Chris Clark, “[Boomerang!](#)” *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 10; NightSiege 41, 61–69; Clark III 1278)

1983, March 24 — 10:00 p.m. The last sighting of many this night is by Robert Golden, an IBM executive who sees a lighted object “larger than a 747” hovering over pine trees near his home in Danbury, Connecticut. (NightSiege 49–50; Clark III 1278)

1983, March 28 — Radar at the airport at Gorky [now Nizhny Novgorod], Russia, tracks an unidentified target flying at 110–125 mph at an altitude of 1,310–1,970 feet. Flight Controller A. Shushkin sees the cigar-shaped object, which is similar to an aircraft in size but has no wings and is metallic. It is in view for only 10 seconds. (Good Above, [p. 243](#)); Paul Stonehill, “[Pilot and Cosmonaut Pavel Popovich and UFOs](#),” *Open Minds*, June 12, 2014)

1983, April 9 — [Linda Moulton Howe](#) flies to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to interview Sgt. [Richard Doty](#) for an HBO series she is working on, *UFOs: The ET Factor*, but Doty does not show. She calls Jerry Miller, chief of reality weapons testing at Kirtland AFB, whom she knows from an earlier conversation about [Paul Bennewitz](#)’s claims. Miller drives her to his home and calls Doty, who arrives promptly. Doty’s attitude is defiant and nervous, but Howe asks him about the alleged 1971 Holloman AFB landing. Doty says [Robert Emenegger](#) got the date wrong and that it was actually April 25, 1964, shortly after the Socorro landing. Transferring to his office at Kirtland, Doty is reluctant to talk about the 1977 Ellsworth landing. He shows her a bogus, undated document, *A Briefing Paper for the President of the United States on the Subject of Unidentified Flying Vehicles*. The document lists UFO crash/retrievals and states that UFOs are piloted by extraterrestrials from a nearby solar system and have been on earth for many thousands of years. Through genetic manipulation, they have influenced the course of human evolution and helped shape our religious beliefs. Roswell and the 1949 living alien are mentioned, as well as Projects Snowbird (retroengineering a crashed UFO), Aquarius (umbrella project involving all ET contacts), Sigma (an ongoing electronic communications effort with aliens), and the defunct Garnet (investigation of ETs on human evolution). Doty promises Howe thousands of feet of film of crashed discs, bodies, EBE-1, and the Holloman landing for her documentary. He says that a similar release of data through Emenegger and [Allan Sandler](#) was halted because “political conditions were not right.” When she tells her HBO contacts about this, they ask her to secure a letter of intent from the US government with a legally binding commitment to secure the promised film footage. HBO wants the film, but Doty now stalls. In June, Doty tells her he is officially off the project. Further contacts up to March 1984 are fewer. In 2008, Doty claims that the intelligence community targeted Howe to find out who her inside sources were. (Linda Moulton Howe, [An Alien Harvest: Further Evidence Linking Animal Mutilations and Human Abductions to Alien Life Forms](#), Howe Productions, 1989, pp. 143–156; Dolan II 299–307; Good Above, [p. 425](#); Clark III 363–365)

1983, April 10 — 8:30 p.m. Two drivers near Ross, Ohio, see a large, bright, oval object that seems to land. The property owner at the location also sees a white light on a hillside behind his home and watches the object ascend slowly before moving away at speed. The drivers’ car lights flicker, and the engines nearly stall. The landowner reports flickering houselights and TV problems. Investigation of the landing site indicates that a heavy circular object about 50 feet in diameter has landed, producing a 3-foot burn mark in the center. (NICAP, “[Ross, Ohio: April 10](#),”

[1983](#)"; Charles J. Wilhelm, "[Ross, Ohio Landing Case](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 186 (August 1983): 3–7; UFOEv II 65)

- 1983**, April 26–27 — Day. For two days, a UFO is seen above Nuremberg, Germany. Amateur astronomer Walter Schwarz takes a photo that apparently shows a balloon. A local radio station hires a Lear jet to approach it, reaching 12,300 feet, but it is still too far away to identify it. Eckard Pohl, the astronomer at the Nuremberg Observatory, tracks it and says that it looks like a deformed pyramid with a pointed top and estimates it is flying at an altitude of 14.3 miles. The object is later identified as a balloon launched from eastern Europe. (Hans-Werner Peiniger, "[‘UFO’ bei Nürnberg aufgeklärt](#)," *Journal für UFO-Forschung*, no. 27 (May/June 1983): 68–69; Hans-Werner Peiniger, "[UFO über Köln identifiziert](#)," *Journal für UFO-Forschung*, no. 28 (July/Aug. 1983): 99–100; "[Excitement Chasing a Mysterious Flying Object](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 6 (Dec. 1983/Jan. 1984): 3; "[Nurnberg UFO Becomes IFO](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (Feb./March 1984): 4)
- 1983**, April 27–May 2 — Divers see an object like a submarine conning tower in Husnesfjorden, Hordaland, Norway. By 1:00 p.m., a search team from Norwegian Defense is at the site, consisting of the corvette [KNM Sleipner](#), two submarines, and one Orion aircraft equipped with antisubmarine weapons. The next day the [KNM Oslo](#) and two more frigates join the search. At 4:55 p.m., the *Oslo* has a first sonar contact south of Leirvik on Stord island. At 5:21 p.m., it fires a Terne rocket as a warning. On April 29, a possible sonar contact is recorded in Selbjørnfjord. On the afternoon of April 30, the *Oslo*, after another sonar contact, fires a Terne rocket and drops a mine. Five minutes later it launches four more rockets, but then the sonar contact is lost. Around 4:00 p.m., five Terne rockets are fired at nearby Halsenøy. Near midnight, a sonar contact south of Leirvik results in another rocket firing. On May 1, at 4:20 p.m., another sonar contact takes place and six Terne rockets are fired. They hit the water and plunge deep before detonating. Immediately afterward, an Orion aircraft drops a mine at the same spot in Skåneviksfjorden. At 5:20 p.m., the *Oslo* again attacks with six rockets. Five minutes later it launches four more rockets, and the sonar contact is lost. At 8:30 p.m., an Orion aircraft has the last sonar contact. The aircraft drops mines at the entrance to the Høylandssundet. On May 2, mines are dropped in the Selbjørnfjord. (Ole Jonny Brønne, "[Observations of Unidentified Submarine Objects in Norway](#)," *IUR* 20, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1995): 13)
- 1983**, May 4 — 3:50 a.m. Police officer James Philips sees a silent, yellowish-orange ball of light over the outskirts of Lawrence, Kansas, hovering 350 feet over a power line pole. It flies away toward the northeast slowly at 30–40 mph. The sighting lasts three minutes. ("[A ‘Yorg’ in Kansas](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1983): 14)
- 1983**, May 12 — 1:50 a.m. Three police officers on the Warrenville Heights, Ohio, police force see four dim lights moving silently in a wedge formation from south to north. They smoothly transition to a diamond formation as they near the constellation of Ursa Major. They shift into another formation again before speeding off in two different directions. ("[Multiple Witness: Multiple UFO Sighting](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 4, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1983): 5–6)
- 1983**, May 20 — Sam Meadows and another ranch hand discover a perfect circle of disturbed grass in a pasture on the Teas Ranch in Hemphill County near Canadian, Texas. The circle is 29 feet in diameter, with an outer circle of much shorter and greener buffalo grass that is 4 inches wide. This is a characteristic of new grass that comes up after a fire has burned the old grass. A prickly pear cactus pad is found at the edge of the ring; the side closest to the ring is devoid of spines, while all the spines facing away from the ring are undamaged. No UFO is seen. (W. Clark Ellzey, "[A Ring on a Panhandle Ranch, and Others](#)," *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 10–11)
- 1983**, May 23 — 7:30 p.m. A high school art teacher and his daughter watch a disc-shaped object with a black top, blue sides, square windows, and a reddish golden metallic bottom maneuvering over trees in McHenry, Illinois. It then rocks violently, levels out, and flies off following the contour of the land. ("[I Know What I Saw...But I Don’t Know What I Saw](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1985): 7–8)
- 1983**, May 23 — Night. Farmer Alcineu Sousa is aboard his twin-engine airplane returning from a visit to a farm near Corumbiara, Rondônia, Brazil. As he is about to land on his farm near Porto Velho, Rondônia, he sees an opaque light about 30 feet in diameter on his left that begins to approach and shine more brightly. His airplane instruments start to go haywire. He pulls the plane sharply to the right, but the UFO does the same but more moderately. A few seconds later, the light disappears over the horizon. (Clark III 200–201; Brazil 541)
- 1983**, May 24 — 6:00 p.m. A schoolboy is in his parents’ backyard in Jüchen, Germany, when he sees a red ball shoot down and hover above a nearby electric power line. It ejects a pyramid-shaped array of colored lights toward the ground. A few minutes later, the array disappears from the object downward to the ground. The object then speeds away into the sky toward its point of origin. Wim van Utrecht suspects that the object was actually the Moon shining through clouds with crepuscular rays creating the pyramid shape. (Hans-Werner Peiniger, "[CE 2–Fall in Jüchen](#)," *Journal für UFO-Forschung*, no. 30 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 161–168; "[CEII Case in Jüchen, West](#)

[Germany.](#)” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (Feb./March 1984): 1–2; Wim van Utrecht, “[Solid Light or Lunar Light? The 1983 Jüchen Case Revisited.](#)” *UFO Fotocat Blog*, June 15, 2024)

- 1983**, Summer — [Richard Haines](#) founds the short-lived North American UFO Federation, an effort to unite MUFON, CUFOS, and other groups (except APRO) to standardize UFO investigations, educate the public, and resolve the UFO mystery. Insufficient funding dooms the effort to failure. (Walt Andrus, “[Financing the North American UFO Federation.](#)” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 187 (September 1983): 15)
- 1983**, June 3 — Norwegian and Swedish ufologists launch Project Hessdalen under the directorship of [Leif Havik](#), Odd-Gunnar Røed, [Erling Strand](#), Håken Ekstrand, and Jan Fjellander. They secure technical assistance from the universities of Oslo and Bergen, as well as cameras with grating filters, a seismograph, Geiger counter, radar, infrared viewer, laser, magnetograph, and spectrum analyzer. Their purpose is to set up the equipment in the Hessdalen valley in central Norway where odd nocturnal lights have been observed repeatedly since December 1981. (“[Project Hessdalen: The Colored Lights of Norway.](#)” *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 6–8; Kim Hansen, “UFO Casebook,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, p. 90; Clark III 572; David Clarke, “Spooklights: A Survey of Transient Luminous Phenomena,” *Fortean Times* 422 (September 2022): 44; Erling P. Strand, “[Project Hessdalen, Part 1: From 3 June 1983 to 24 March 1994.](#)” Society for UAP Studies, January 4, 2024)
- 1983**, June 5 — 5:00 a.m. Retired restaurant manager Mario Claretto wakes up because his dogs are barking outside his home at Varzi, Pavia, Italy. He sees a shining object with an orange headlight on a hill across the road from his house. It is hovering low above an alfalfa field. Its upper portion is slowly rotating, showing a silver section, a dark section, then the orange light. After finishing some work in the kitchen, Claretto goes outside for a closer look. He sees another person walking toward the object; after approaching very near, the person runs away, escaping down the road. Claretto points the object out to a neighbor, Bruno Stafforini, who has also woken up because of the dogs. The UFO rises after skimming the grass for a few feet, its dome recedes, and it emits a vapor. It seems to change its form to cigar-shaped. Suddenly it speeds off to the south-southwest. (Antonio Chiumiento, “[Un U.F.O. a Varzi.](#)” *Notiziario UFO*, no. 101 (Sept./Oct. 1983): 4–10; Antonio Chiumiento, “[Close Encounter at Varzi.](#)” *IUR* 9, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1984): 4–5, 13; Antonio Chiumiento, “[A Landing at Varzi in Northern Italy.](#)” *Flying Saucer Review* 30, no. 6 (August 1985): 2–9; Antonio Chiumiento and Paolo Toselli, “[L’atterrissage de Varzi \(Italie\).](#)” *Lumières dans la Nuit*, no. 257/258 (Nov./Dec 1985): 32–37; 2Pinotti 61–68)
- 1983**, June 6 — 9:30 p.m. Warren Eggé, Lou Burlingame, and their wives are sailing to Bermuda on the two-masted ketch *Beluga*. When they are about 150 miles due east of Cape May, New Jersey, Eggé notices a two-tone blob of blue light with a trail approaching from the west. He and Burlingame watch as it passes overhead for about 7–9 seconds. Within 10–15 seconds after it disappears, a second blue blob approaches from the same direction, followed by at least a dozen more objects over the next 10–15 minutes. Some of the objects travel in clusters of three and four but in different sizes. The last object is seen about 45° above the horizon past the boat’s stern. (Robert C. Warth, “[A Train of UFOs.](#)” *Pursuit* 16, no. 2 (Summer 1983): cover)
- 1983**, June 20 — Sen. [Barry Goldwater](#) (R-Ariz.) replies to UFO researcher [William S. Steinman](#) regarding government knowledge of UFOs: “I have no idea of who controls the flow of ‘need-to-know’ because, frankly, I was told in such an emphatic way that it was none of my business that I’ve never tried to make it my business since.” (Kean, p. 243)
- 1983**, June 22–27 — At the International Symposium on Multiparticle Dynamics at Lake Tahoe, Nevada, the Los Alamos National Laboratory puts forward a proposal for a 3,500-square-foot (with plans for extending it to 6,000 square feet) National Underground Science Facility beneath the Nuclear Test Site in Nevada. (Michael Martin Nieto, “[Physics at the Proposed National Underground Science Facility.](#)” Los Alamos National Laboratory, June 1983)
- 1983**, July — Statistician [Jean-Jacques Velasco](#) replaces [Alain Esterle](#) as director of GEPAN. Esterle is dismissed, apparently because of potential scandal about GEPAN’s apparent collaboration with the French Army on magnetohydrodynamic propulsion experiments, done without the knowledge of GEPAN’s resident expert, [Jean-Pierre Petit](#), who has suggested such a project. (Wikipedia, “[Groupe d’études des phénomènes aérospatiaux non identifiés](#)”; Clark III 547; Gildas Bourdais, “[From GEPAN to SEPRA: Official UFO Studies in France.](#)” *IUR* 25, no. 4 (Winter 2000–2001): 12–13)
- 1983**, Early July — [Debbie Jordan-Kauble](#) (using the pseudonym of “Kathie Davis”) and her mother see a light about 2 feet in diameter moving around the family pool house in Indianapolis, Indiana. Some days later they notice a section of their backyard has turned brown, a circular area about 8 feet in diameter. She contacts [Budd Hopkins](#), who speaks with Debbie and her family and uncovers a pattern of events that have affected them for years. It appears that Debbie, her mother, and two of her children have been abducted at different points of their lives. Debbie and her mother have identical scars on their lower legs from apparent childhood abductions, and Hopkins

believes that Debbie and her son have implants inserted near their brains, one through the nasal cavity and another through the ear. Hopkins conducts numerous hypnotic regression sessions, revealing apparent pregnancies induced by aliens. (Budd Hopkins, [*Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods*](#), Random House, 1987)

1983, July 7 — An unauthorized target appears on the radar screens at Darłowo Airport, Poland, corresponding to a rotating, oblong object with a steel-colored covering flying at 11,000 feet. Polish Air Force Captain Praszczalek and another pilot go up to intercept it and get within 660 feet. He sees a solid hull, 50 feet long and 6 feet across. Just after they are ordered to shoot it down, the object shoots up to 30,000 feet, too high to pursue. (Poland 64–65)

1983, July 12 — 9:30 p.m. A police officer answers a call at a location southeast of Danbury, Connecticut, where several people are standing outside looking at a circular pattern of lights that are flashing red, blue, and green. The lights appear to be attached to a silent object 300 feet in diameter and less than 500 feet in altitude. The officer shines a spotlight on it, and the object projects a brilliant flash of white light downward. It then moves quickly to the north and is lost behind trees. At 10:55 p.m., Danbury Police Chief Nelson Macedo, his brother-in-law Charles Yacuzzi, his son Michael, and retired policeman Jim Lucksky are boating on Candlewood Lake north of Danbury. They notice a circular gray object silently hovering high in the sky. 20–30 bright blue, red, orange, and green lights moving in a circular pattern are visible on the object. The men turn off the boat lights and the object shuts off its own lights. After several minutes, Yacuzzi turns the lights on again, and the UFO switches on bright lights and moves off behind the mountains. (NightSight 108–112; Richard Haines, *CE-5: Close Encounters of the Fifth Kind*, Sourcebooks, 1998, pp. 132–133)

1983, July 22 — 12:40 a.m. Police constables Raymond Ellens and Peter Ferguson are on car patrol east of Melton, Melbourne, Victoria, when they see a bright, stationary light over the center of the town. As they approach, they discern that it is composed of two lights. The object turns west and hovers about 200 feet above the Melton Regional Shopping Centre. Soon the object flies off to the southeast, making a high-pitched humming sound. After rising to about 500 feet, the UFO moves off to the north and is lost to sight. The UFO is picked up on radar at Tullamarine Air Traffic Control in Melbourne. The constables see it again at 2:40 a.m. when it appears to be on the ground at the rear of the Toolern Vale stables (they inspect the paddock but find no traces), then it is lost to view until 4:30 a.m. when they are again at the shopping mall. At some point police Sgt. Barry Harman and Chief Inspector Hickman also see the UFO above the shopping center. The constables follow the object, this time with more lights visible. Between their position and the object is the Australian Army Rockbank Receiving Station, and it seems to be headed directly toward the antenna array. Before reaching it, the object turns and arcs again to the north. Ellens and Ferguson lose sight of it at about 6:00 a.m. Their written report states that over time the UFO flew in a triangular pattern bounded by Melton, Rockbank, Sydenham, and Diggers Rest in a counterclockwise path between 200 and 1,600 feet in altitude. The Australian Signal Intelligence facility at Rockbank is alerted that its security has been breached. (Bill Chalker, “[The Australian Government and UFOs](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 21–22; Keith Basterfield, *UFOs: A Report on Australian Encounters*, Reed Books, 1997, pp. 84–86)

1983, July 25 — 5:15 a.m. Tom Jackson is getting ready for work in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, when he sees a bright light outside his bathroom window. He opens it and sees a huge object hovering above pine trees about 750 feet away. It is metallic gray, possibly 300 feet long, and elongated but with the front and back ends dropping down. It has two rows of evenly spaced windows. After 5 minutes it moves toward the town’s sewage plant. Other residents report a brilliant orange light over the sewage plant. Still others hear a loud, high-pitched sound so intense that it causes headaches and disturbs neighborhood dogs. (Stan Gordon, “[Pennsylvania Flap Is Biggest Since 1973](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 188 (October 1983): 9–11)

1983, July 25 — Night. For 2–3 minutes, four witnesses in Flushing, Michigan, watch a disc-shaped object that silently approaches within a few hundred feet of them. The object has two oversized bright white lights, each about 2 feet across, but the lights do not hurt their eyes and do not appreciably illuminate the surroundings. (Powell, *Scientist*, 96)

1983, August 1 — 12:15 a.m. Terry Conner is at the intersection of West County Line Road and South Ashland Avenue about 1.5 miles southwest of Beecher, Illinois, when he sees a cluster of red flashing lights. They are coming from an object in a farmer’s field about 450–600 feet away. It appears to be 30 feet tall with 40–50 continuously flashing red lights in the shape of a vertical U. After 2 minutes, two large steady red lights appear to rise until they are even with the top of the U. After 10 seconds, all the lights go out at once. (“[Beecher, Illinois, Nocturnal Lights Remain Unexplained](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 5 (Oct./Nov. 1984): 1)

1983, August 2 — 4:50 p.m. Christopher W. Pepo and his 8-year-old son see two silver-white, metallic discs slowly traveling north to south along the coastline at Point Pleasant, New Jersey. They are visible for about 3 minutes before they disappear into a cloud. (Christopher W. Pepo, “[My Fortean Vacation: A Comprehensive Report on a UFO Sighting](#),” *Pursuit* 16, no. 4 (Winter 1983): 147–149)

- 1983**, August 12 — Around 1:00 a.m. Alfred Burtoo is fishing along the Basingstoke Canal in Aldershot, Hampshire, England, when a disc-shaped UFO lands nearby. Two humanoid beings approach him. They are 4 feet 6 inches tall, dressed in green overalls, and wear helmets with visors. They gesture at Bertoo to follow them, and he goes up a stairway into the craft. He is made to stand under an amber light. The beings speak to him in broken English, telling him that he is too old and infirm for their purposes. They then let him go. (Good Above, [pp. 106–112](#); Marcus Lowth, “[The Bizarre Ordeal of Alfred Burtoo: The Abduction That Wasn’t](#),” *UFO Insight*, August 7, 2017)
- 1983**, August 12 — 11:10 p.m. In the Maraponga neighborhood of Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil, João de Lira Pessoa Neto is riding his motorcycle with his friend Plínio Couto de Alencar Júnior to a party. The cycle breaks down, so they push it home and head back on foot to the party. They pass the train tracks and the Cavan poles factory, where they notice that a transformer that always buzzes is silent. Stray dogs do not bark, and the lights on the poles are blinking intermittently. A strong light blinks near them and they see a disc-shaped object about 325 feet above the Lagoa da Maraponga, its shape reflected in the dark water. The object moves, and the two witnesses run off. Party hosts Roberto de Lira Pessoa Neto and his wife Rejane, Rejane’s sister, and a sailor named Cal are intrigued and decide to return to the site together. They look around and see the UFO landing on the lake shore. The disc has large round windows and a brightly lit interior. Inside they see human-looking beings moving about and looking out the windows. Roberto sees three humanoid figures beside the UFO. They seem to be covered in a plastic cloak and have a wobbling gait. Plínio thinks the object disappears and reappears like a mirage. The witnesses begin running away when another similar UFO appears above them and causes a gale. It disappears, and everything returns to normal, with dogs barking and the transformer buzzing. Later at home, João has a strong urge to return to the scene. The object is still there, and he has a compulsion to meet the occupants. He suddenly gets dizzy and nauseous and falls to the ground unconscious. He revives 2 hours later and finds himself in a soccer field and cannot remember how he got there. He goes home, but his behavior changes, becoming ruder. On May 21, 1989, João drowns under mysterious circumstances in a lagoon in Uruoca, Ceará, Brazil. (Reginaldo de Athayde, “[Seqüestro por ETs no Nordeste e reavaliado](#),” *Portal UFO*, December 1, 1995; Clark III 710–712; Brazil 297–303)
- 1983**, August 21 — Evening. R. Perry Collins views a huge, wing-shaped object with three red, green, and blue lights from his residence near St. Vincent’s Hospital in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Its lights go off and on as it slowly moves at a low altitude to the east. He watches it for 20–30 seconds until the lights blink out. (R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing: A Closer Look](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 1 (Spring 1985): 6–9; R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 167–168)
- 1983**, August 26 — 4:00 a.m. A Mrs. Zurawski is awakened by brilliant white flashes of light reflecting off the trees to the east of her house in Cedar Lake, Indiana. She gets up, thinking a thunderstorm is approaching, and she sees the screen on the front door flooded with intense light. Her husband is also awake by now, and he describes the light as yellowish. Through a picture window, Mr. Zurawski sees an object hovering 4–5 feet off the ground in their yard. Mrs. Zurawski hears a swoosh and a crackle and notices a ribbon of light moving southeast. Five days later, they discover in their yard a ring of dead grass in a perfect circle 13 feet in diameter. (Mark Remaley, “[The Light and the Ring](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1984): 4–6)
- 1983**, August 27–29 — The British UFO Research Association holds its Third International UFO Congress in High Wycombe, London, England. (“[3d International UFO Congress, August 1983](#),” *BUFORA Bulletin*, no. 11 (November 1983): 8–21; “[3d Bufora International UFO Congress](#),” *IUR* 8, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1983): 9, 16)
- 1983**, September — British ufologist [Jenny Randles](#) publishes *UFO Reality*, in which she defines the “Oz Factor,” the “sensation of being isolated, or transported from the real world into a different environmental framework.” She suggests that this feeling, often reported by UFO witnesses, “is almost suggestive of the witness being transported temporarily from our world into another, where reality is but slightly different.” (Jenny Randles, [UFO Reality: A Critical Look at the Physical Evidence](#), R. Hale, 1983; Clark III 866)
- 1983**, September 1 — GEPAN is reorganized by transferring it to a smaller department in CNES. The seven members of its scientific council are given different assignments, leaving [Jean-Jacques Velasco](#) in sole charge with no scientific advisers. GEPAN’s resources and personnel are drastically reduced. During the following years, the scientific council no longer meets, despite repeated demands by one of its members, [Christian Perrin de Brichambaut](#), general inspector of the National Meteorology Office. A last meeting of the council takes place in 1987. (Gildas Bourdais, “[From GEPAN to SEPRA: Official UFO Studies in France](#),” *IUR* 25, no. 4 (Winter 2000–2001): 12–13)
- 1983**, September 1 — Korean Air Lines Flight 007 is shot down by a Soviet interceptor over the Sea of Japan near Moneron Island (just west of Sakhalin island) while flying over prohibited Soviet airspace. All 269 passengers

and crew aboard are killed, including Rep. [Larry McDonald](#) (D-Ga.) and president of the anticommunist John Birch Society. (Wikipedia, "[Korean Air Lines Flight 007](#)")

- 1983**, September 3 — Day. Wiesław Machowski, his daughter, and a friend are fishing in a coastal lake near Wicie, Poland. They notice an orange sphere with another object below it and keep their eyes on it for 30 minutes or so. The larger light emits a smaller one that stops and returns to the bigger one; the sequence keeps repeating. When they return to their boarding house, they see it again but much closer to the coast. Machowski grabs a camera and takes three photos that shows the large object looking like a hat standing on its brim, and the object disappears shortly afterward. (Poland 57–58)
- 1983**, September 23 — 11:00 p.m. Three high-school girls and one adult watch a large, kite-shaped object with four steady, glowing lights (two red, two blue) above Sandy Hook, Connecticut. They estimate the object is flying low above Highway I-84. (R. Perry Collins, "[The Westchester Wing: A Closer Look](#)," *Pursuit* 18, no. 1 (Spring 1985): 6, 9–10)
- 1983**, September 26 — Midnight. The Soviet orbital missile early warning system (SPRN), code-named Oko, reports a single intercontinental ballistic missile launch from the United States. Lt. Col. [Stanislav Petrov](#), who is on duty during the incident, correctly dismisses the warning as a computer error when ground early warning radars do not detect any launches. Part of his reasoning is that the system is new and known to have malfunctioned previously; also, a full-scale nuclear attack from the US would involve thousands of simultaneous launches, not a single missile. Later, the system reports four more ICBM launches headed to the Soviet Union, but Petrov again dismisses the reports as false. The investigation that follows reveals that the system indeed has malfunctioned, and false alarms are caused by a rare alignment of sunlight on high-altitude clouds underneath the satellites' orbits. (Wikipedia, "[1983 Soviet nuclear false alarm incident](#)")
- 1983**, October — Odd-Gunnar Røed begins publishing the *Project Hessdalen Bulletin* in Duken, Norway, in English. It updates readers on the latest sightings of nocturnal lights around Hessdalen, Norway. It continues through April 1985. (*Project Hessdalen Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (October 1983))
- 1983**, October — *Flying Saucer Review* editor [Gordon Creighton](#) writes an essay on his beliefs about UFOs, which he thinks are piloted by Islamic jinns. (Gordon Creighton, "[A Brief Account of the True Nature of the 'UFO Entities'](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 29, no. 1 (October 1983): 2–6; Clark III 499)
- 1983**, October — 6:45 p.m. Paula E. Green, 12, undergoes her first abduction experience as she is walking through Judy Woods in Bradford, England, with a 14-year-old friend. It is the first of some 52 further incidents. (*Daily Star Sunday*, May 9, 2021; Nigel Watson, "Fifty-two Shades of Grey: Paula's Story," *Fortean Times* 407 (July 2021): 30–31)
- 1983**, October 10 — The Soviet space probe Venera 15 reaches the orbit of Venus. The spacecraft is inserted into Venus orbit a day apart from Venera 16, with its orbital plane shifted by an angle of approximately 4° relative to the other probe. This makes it possible to reimage an area if necessary. Together with Venera 16, the spacecraft images the area from the north pole down to about 30°N latitude (approximately 25% of the planet's surface) over the eight months of mapping operations. (Wikipedia, "[Venera 15](#)")
- 1983**, October 15 — 8:30 p.m. Catherine Burk is driving to her home in Altoona, Pennsylvania, when she sees a large, silvery disc pass about 30 feet above her car. The force of the UFO lifts the right side of her car briefly off the road, causing her lights to blink out and the engine to stall. She suffers hearing loss in her right ear, has severe headaches, and develops problems with her shoulder, chest, and spine. Local police investigate and find her "visibly shaking." (UFOEv II 232; "[UFO Lifts Car Up on Its Side](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 189 (November 1983): 3–4)
- 1983**, Late October — Evening. Villagers in Hollesley, East Suffolk, England, witness a triangular object with three powerful white lights on its base that illuminate the ground below it. Ron Marco says the lights form a triangle and remain perfectly still, until it moves above his head and other witnesses. Debbie Foreman and Pauline Osborne report headlight and engine trouble when the UFO appears. (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, pp. 160–161; Stacia Briggs and Siofra Connor, "[Weird Suffolk: Hollesley, the UFO Hotspot](#)," *East Anglian Daily Times* (Ipswich), April 13, 2018)
- 1983**, October 24 — In response to a question by MP [Patrick Wall](#), Minister of State for the Armed Forces [John Stanley](#) tells the House of Commons that his department has received 1,400 UFO reports since 1980. He is aware of the Rendlesham case, but he knows of no sightings that are a defense concern. (Isaac Koi, "[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#)," Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1983**, October 25–29 — The US and a coalition of six Caribbean nations attack the island nation of Grenada. Codenamed Operation Urgent Fury, the intervention results in an American victory in a matter of days. It is triggered by the strife within the People's Revolutionary Government that results in the house arrest and execution of the previous

leader and second Prime Minister of Grenada [Maurice Bishop](#), and the establishment of the Revolutionary Military Council with [Hudson Austin](#) as chairman. The invasion results in the appointment of an interim government, followed by democratic elections in 1984, and serves as a tune-up for the US military, which has been out of action for 10 years. (Wikipedia, "[United States invasion of Grenada](#)")

- 1983**, October 26 — 9:00 p.m. David Keener is driving on US Highway 321 northeast of Hickory, North Carolina, when a diamond-shaped object, red in front, bright green in the rear, hovers low over his car and then rises up again. The observation lasts about 5 minutes and the object is silent throughout. He reports the incident to the sheriff's department. ("[Recent Sightings in North Carolina](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 8)
- 1983**, October 28 — 2:15 a.m. Biomedical engineer Jim Cooke is driving by the Croton Falls Reservoir on his way back to Mahopac, New York, when he sees "aircraft lights" approaching and dropping very fast. Oddly, they seem to hover for a while, then blink out. Cooke gets out of his car, walks toward the shoreline, and spots a triangular object hovering less than 15 feet above the water and 200 feet away. After a few minutes, 9 red lights come on from its sides and a red beam of light from the underside probes the water. The UFO moves to four locations above the reservoir, each time shining the red light on the water and remaining at a steady altitude. Each time a car drives by, its lights go out. Cooke estimates the object is 100 feet long at the base and 30 feet at the apex. After 10–15 minutes, it lifts upward at a 30° angle and disappears. (NightSight 1–4)
- 1983**, October 28 — 10:00 p.m. Two men are driving in the countryside near Ithaca, New York, looking for signs of deer in order to plan their hunting activities. They see a lighted area low in the sky ahead of them. Through binoculars, they see that the light is cast by a round object with three rows of lighted window panels and an illuminated rotating dome that is bright enough to reflect off the low clouds. They estimate it is 15–25 feet in diameter. It stays visible for about 5 minutes as it moves slowly and noiselessly over the ridge of a hill. (CUFOS case file)
- 1983**, November — The Project Hessdalen team goes to Hessdalen, Norway, and explains their project to the locals. (Clark III 572)
- 1983**, November — The captain and crew of the Russian diving support vessel *Sprut* are in Kola Bay, northern Russia, when they observe an ellipsoid object slowly moving over the surface at an altitude of 1,640–3,280 feet for 90 minutes. The object separates into three parts, each of which increases in speed and flies to the west. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 145)
- 1983**, November 7–11 — NATO carries out a command post exercise code-named Able Archer 83. Its purpose is to simulate a period of conflict escalation, culminating in the US military attaining a simulated DEFCON 1 coordinated nuclear attack. Coordinated from the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) headquarters in Casteau, Belgium, it involves NATO forces throughout Western Europe. The Soviet leadership is concerned that this could be a ruse for an actual US nuclear strike and moves to a high alert. Historians such as [Thomas Blanton](#), director of the National Security Archive, and [Tom Nichols](#), a professor at the Naval War College, argue that Able Archer 83 brought the world close to a nuclear war. (Wikipedia, "[Able Archer 83](#)")
- 1983**, November 18 — The National Endowment for Democracy is founded in Washington, D.C. It is managed by such individuals as [Henry Kissinger](#), [Sally Shelton-Colby](#), [Barbara Haig](#), and others. Although furnished with \$80 million in funding from Congress, its private status keeps it safe from FOIA requests. Among its programs are: destabilizing [Ferdinand Marcos](#) in the Philippines and [Manuel Noriega](#) in Panama; supporting the Nazi PAN party in Mexico; channeling money to the Contras; and supporting operatives in the Medellin drug cartel. (Wikipedia, "[National Endowment for Democracy](#)")
- 1983**, November 28 — 8:40 p.m. A woman in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, notices a ball of light approaching her. She goes inside to get her boyfriend and two children. They watch the light approach to within 400 feet, where it hovers at treetop level. It appears to be half the size of the house. Three smaller objects come from behind it and travel southeast, apparently landing in a swampy area near a manufacturing plant. The woman and children run toward the object on foot, while the boyfriend jumps in a car to pursue it. At one point he sees the object hovering above a small lake less than 200 feet away. But within seconds it vanishes. All four witnesses later experience eye irritation, and the boyfriend's face and hands turn red and feel sore. ("[Recent Sightings in North Carolina](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 8)
- 1983**, November 29 — [Robert Sarbacher](#) replies to a query by UFO researcher [William S. Steinman](#) about crash-retrievals in the late 1940s. He confirms he was "invited to participate in several discussions associated with the reported recoveries" of UFOs, although he was unable to attend the meetings. He described the retrieved saucer material as "extremely light and very tough," and he had heard that the aliens "were constructed like certain insects we have on Earth." (Dolan II 320; Good Above, [pp. 525–526](#))

- 1983**, December — A witness walking his dogs at Sherlocks Farm in Groombridge, East Sussex, England, sees a triangular UFO with an orange light at each apex. It makes a low droning sound as it passes by. (Marler [137](#))
- 1983**, December 7 — 9:00 p.m. A woman and her son and daughter stop at the Pioneer Road exit off I-43 near Cedarburg, Wisconsin, to watch a brightly lit object silently move toward them, getting brighter as it approaches. It descends slowly “like a feather” and stops directly in front of their car about 600 feet away at a height of two telephone poles. At one point it disappears, then reappears as hundreds of smaller lights apparently attached to an object that looks something “like a cooking wok” with a dark area in the middle. It floats around for 5–6 minutes then suddenly disappears. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (Feb./March 1984): 5; Richard Heiden, Jeffrey Paul, and Donald Schmitt, “[CE-I with an ‘Orgy’ of Lights](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1984): 8–9, 15)
- 1983**, December 12 — 6:30 p.m. Mike and Jeff Goodwin and Robert Blanchard are driving in Byron, Illinois, when they see a triangular “falling star” that starts moving horizontally at treetop level. At one point it seems to nearly collide with a similar object. They both have blinking red and white lights. (Doris and Joe Graziano, “[Press Reports](#),” *APRO Bulletin* 32, no. 6 (September 1984): 8)
- 1983**, December 14 — 8:00 p.m. Realtor Antônio Nelso Tasca is driving about 4 miles north of Chapecó, Santa Catarina, Brazil, when he feels compelled to turn onto a dirt road. After about 5 minutes he encounters a white and green object like a bus about 33 feet long and 10 feet high in the road ahead. He stops 100 feet from it, turns off the headlights and engine, and walks toward it. It has 10 squarish windows and is floating just above the ground. A few feet away he begins to feel heat and decides to return to his car. Suddenly a beam of white-red light strikes him and somehow pulls him toward the object. He wakes up inside the UFO and an abduction scenario takes place, compete with sex with a light-haired alien female who says her name is Cabala. She gives him a message warning that continued deployment of nuclear weapons will lead to bad things for Earth. Tasca wakes up around 6:00 a.m. at a different spot from where he had the encounter. A medical examination reveals a strange burn on his ribs and other odd marks on his backbone. (Brazil 303–311; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), March 15, 2007)
- 1983**, December 27 — 10:30 p.m. A small disc-shaped object with eight green lights lands in an open field across the street from the home of a witness in Indianapolis, Indiana. After 10 seconds, the lights go out. The witness continues to watch from her home for an hour before retiring. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (Feb./March 1984): 5)
- 1983**, December 30 — 6:30 p.m. Four witnesses are driving along Illinois Highway 70 near Eddie Road about 8 miles northwest of Rockford, Illinois, when a red domed-shaped object emerges from what looks like an explosion and moves to the south. It vanishes when it reaches an unusual configuration of parallel stars. (“[Letter](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 4 (Aug./Sept. 1984): 2)

1984

- 1984** — [Daniel Kagan](#) and [Ian Summers](#) publish a 500-page book titled *Mute Evidence*, arguing that animal mutilations are a made-up mystery. Only veterinary pathologists, not regular veterinarians, are truly qualified to determine the cause of an animal’s death, they write. They do admit there are some real mutilations of two kinds: copycat incidents where pranksters cut up the bodies of already dead cattle, and ritualistic killings by cult members. The latter incidents occur mostly in Idaho. (Daniel Kagan and Ian Summers, *Mute Evidence*, Bantam, 1984; Clark III 140–141; Graff 283–284)
- 1984** — UK researcher [Hilary Evans](#) publishes *Visions, Apparitions, Alien Visitors*, which equates a wide range of entity experiences, including UFO events, and explains them all as psychosocial manifestations because percipients psychologically need them for some reason. He follows up with a sequel in 1987. (Hilary Evans, *Visions, Apparitions, Alien Visitors*, Aquarian, 1984; Hilary Evans, [Gods, Spirits, Cosmic Guardians](#), Aquarian, 1987; Clark III 943–945)
- 1984** — UFO Research Australia is formed as an informal information-exchanging network. (Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, “[Australian Ufology: A Review](#),” *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 34)
- 1984** — A Hispanic male living in the Reseda neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, encounters odd lights in his house and missing time. Although not his first abduction experience, his memories are uncovered through hypnosis sessions conducted by parapsychologist [D. Scott Rogo](#), who gives him the pseudonym of “Sammy Desmond.” The case is significant for the marks on the witness’s body and the many sexual elements of the story. (D. Scott Rogo, “[The Abduction of Sammy Desmond](#),” *IUR* 12, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1987): 4–13)
- 1984** — The F-117 completes testing at Tonopah Test Range in Nevada and begins formal operations under the 4450th Tactical Group. The 4450th is absorbed by the 37th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1989. In 1992, the entire fleet is

transferred to Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, under the command of the 49th Fighter Wing. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk](#)")

- 1984** — 9:45 p.m. Brazilian Air Force Col. Marcelo Hecksher of the 1st Squadron of the 10th Aviation Group (Poker Squadron) is flying back to Santa Maria Air Force Base from Rio de Janeiro. When he begins descent preparations over the city of Passo Fundo, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, he notices a strong, slightly bluish light on his right. Radar in Curitiba and Santa Maria do not have it on their scopes. The light then accelerates forward, rises, and disappears. (Clark III 207–208; Brazil 557–559)
- 1984** — An anti-aircraft defense system near Astrakhan, Russia, tracks a spherical object flying along the Caspian Sea coast at 6,500 feet. It does not respond to radio contact. Two fighters are scrambled but they fail to catch up with it. When the pilots fire at the UFO, it descends to 325 feet. When it approaches Krasnovodsk [now Türkmenbaşy], Turkmenistan, a helicopter gunship is scrambled to make another attempt to shoot the object, which then ascends to a height beyond the copter's capabilities. The UFO then heads for the Caspian Sea and disappears from sight. (Vadim K. Ilyin, "[KGB's 'Blue Folder' Reveals Shootings, Landings in USSR](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 403 (November 2001): 8; "[KGB Blue Folder](#)," Above Top Secret forum, November 1, 2005; Good Need, [pp. 353–354](#))
- 1984**, January — Project Hessdalen sends out a report form to 3,300 households in and around Hessdalen valley, Norway.
- 1984**, January — Seven oil field workers in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, see a silvery disc flying at a high altitude. (*Stars and Stripes*, January 28, 1984; "[U.S. Armed Forces Publication Tells of Lebanon UFO](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 2 (April/May 1984): 8)
- 1984**, January — A luminous triangle preceded by a flashing light passes over Guildford, Surrey, England, silently moving to the east. (Marler [137](#))
- 1984**, January 3 — 4:14 a.m. A woman wakes up in her home near Port Washington, Wisconsin, when a bright light shines through the bedroom window. She sees a strange object with three circular lights in a fixed position about 50 feet from the shore of Lake Michigan. The center light, as bright as a searchlight, rotates north, casting an illumination on the water, which is seen to be turbulent. All three lights are rotating clockwise around a 30-foot body. She wakes up her husband, who suggests that it is a Coast Guard helicopter. But the object is completely silent. After a short time, a smaller object also with three lights appears over the first one, hovers a few minutes, then disappears. The searchlight periodically shines directly in the window. The object moves about 20–30 feet then hovers there another 10–15 minutes. At 5:15 a.m., it moves away and disappears to the southeast. The woman goes back to bed, but soon feels a powerful electric shock penetrate her body with a buzzing sound. (Donald R. Schmitt and Richard W. Heiden, "[People Who Live in Glass Houses...See UFOs](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1984): 3, 16)
- 1984**, January 8 — 3:15 a.m. Three people are traveling southeast in a van at mile marker 236 on I-80 southeast of Cozad, Nebraska, when the highway lights up and they see a huge disc as big as a baseball diamond 75–100 feet above and slightly to the right of the road. Bright lights are evenly spaced around the rim, most of them white, but others pink or blue. As the car passes it at a slow speed, they can detect no motion and can hear no sound. They attempt to communicate by Citizens Band radio, but the radio picks up strange interference like an "intermittent bleeping." (J. Allen Hynek, "[Nebraska Close Encounter](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1984): 10–12; "[Addendum to Nebraska Encounter](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 3)
- 1984**, January 9 — 10:30 p.m. Two witnesses driving on State Highway 208 near Hawthorne, New Jersey, see an object with lights descend then move away from their car. After driving another 300 feet they spot another object over the road. They drive directly under the object, which is moving slowly at an altitude of 200 feet. The driver pulls over, and the object moves toward the first UFO. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 1 (Feb./March 1984): 5)
- 1984**, January 21 — 9:30 p.m. A mother and two children are driving near Jasper, New York, when they see a large, gold, oval object that seems to be pacing their car. It lands on a nearby ridge and after a few seconds ascends into the sky. It repeats this maneuver several times, speeding up and slowing down when she does the same. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 21–February 26 — Project Hessdalen sets up three fieldwork stations, the primary one on Aspaskjolen mountain, and two smaller ones at Hersjøen and Litlefjellet, Norway. This group secures technical assistance from the Norwegian Defense Research Establishment, the University of Oslo, and the University of Bergen. Over the course of one month, investigators see numerous lights, take photos of many of them, and track them instrumentally. On three occasions, lights are seen visually and tracked on radar simultaneously, casting a reflection on the radar screen so strong that a Norwegian defense expert later says that if that is not a solid object, then it must be a "strongly ionized gas." One of the lights is tracked moving at 19,000 mph. On another occasion,

a light under constant visual observation shows up on radar only on every second sweep. In most instances (33 in all), when radar shows something, the eye or a camera sees nothing. On two occasions the researchers direct a laser beam on passing lights. Out of a total of nine times, the lights respond all but once in a curious way, changing from a regular flashing light to a double-flashing light. The total number of sightings in this period is 188, although some may be attributable to passing aircraft. Only four of the photos taken through the special lens grating come out well enough to show light spectra, and only two of these are useful for analysis. Changes in the magnetic field are recorded in 40% of the sightings, but the Geiger counter and infrared viewer prove unhelpful. Researchers categorize the phenomenon into three different types: a white or blue-white flashing light, high in the air; a yellow light with a red light on the top, sometimes flashing; and a slow-moving, yellow or white light that maneuvers, stops for an hour or more, and continues maneuvering. ([“Project Hessdalen” website](#); [“Description of the Phenomena,” Project Hessdalen](#); Erling Strand, [“Project Hessdalen 1984: Final Technical Report,” Project Hessdalen](#), January 5, 1985; [“Hessdalen: 18 February 1984,” Project Hessdalen](#); [“Project Hessdalen: 1984,” Project Hessdalen](#); [“Norway Lights Continue: Update on Project Hessdalen,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1984): 9, 12; Kim Hansen, “UFO Casebook,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, p. 90; UFOEv II 295–296; Clark III 572–573; David Clarke, “Spooklights: A Survey of Transient Luminous Phenomena,” *Fortean Times* 422 (September 2022): 44; Etienne Caron and Pouya Faridi, [“To Investigate or Not to Investigate? Researchers’ Views on Unexplored Atmospheric Light Phenomena,” Frontiers in Earth Science 4](#) (February 24, 2016); Erling P. Strand, [“Project Hessdalen, Part 1: From 3 June 1983 to 24 March 1994,” Society for UAP Studies](#), January 4, 2024)

- 1984**, January 22 — 7:09 a.m. A witness in Huntington, West Virginia, observes a brilliant orange ball of light about 900 feet hovering above a neighbor’s house. Its glow illuminates the ground. After a minute, it speeds away to the west. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 22 — 7:25 a.m. The cabin crew of United Flight 729 is flying westbound 30 miles east of Toledo, Ohio, at 43,000 feet. They see a blurry, bright-red object the size of a DC-9 move from northeast to southwest for a few seconds. It leaves a contrail that they pass through. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 22 — 7:00 p.m. A young couple parking near Waycross, Georgia, spot a large object approaching their car at treetop level. It crosses a logging road near their car, goes across an open area to a stand of trees, then turns around. The driver begins speeding away, but the object moves directly over the car. It has an L-shaped light pattern on its underside with two red lights and one green light. The glow from the red light illuminates the car interior. The object follows them for about 75 feet down a county road before it moves away at high speed. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 22 — 7:00 p.m. Two witnesses in a car in Arnold, Missouri, see a circular object with three brilliant white lights and a corona of white light surrounding it. As it approaches the car, the driver makes an evasive turn, only to have the object pace them within 150 feet for 3 minutes. A vertical shaft of light comes from the top of the object. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 27 — 5:40 a.m. Four witnesses at Valley Center, California, see five stationary white lights in the northern sky about 2 miles away. Four are in a diamond formation while the fifth is in the center. After watching the display for several minutes, they notice smaller white lights maneuvering around the larger ones. They seem to increase to as many as 100. Suddenly the formation, small lights as well, moves away to the northwest and the witnesses can hear a soft humming sound. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 27 — 6:15 a.m. Two boys delivering papers in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, see a circular object with lights around its edge hovering above houses about two blocks away. After a few seconds it ascends at a 45° angle. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 28 — 6:30 p.m. A young couple in Flemington, New Jersey, notice an orange ball descending through the cloud layer and appear to land on a ridge behind the tree line. At 6:50 a.m., the husband sees a bright object ascend from the same ridge, pause in mid-air, then move away horizontally in the distance. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984**, January 30 — 9:00 p.m. Nine men working on an oil platform in the Big Cypress National Preserve about 40 miles west of Miami, Florida, see a bright orange object descending at a high rate of speed about five miles away. At about 10,000 feet, it comes to an instant stop. The orange glow fades and they can see an object with a chrome dome and dozens of flashing lights on the underside. All witness estimate it to be at least 200 feet in diameter. It remains stationary for 10 seconds, turns orange again, and speeds away to the east. Witnesses in Jensen Beach and the Miami area also see the object. (Bob Gribble, [“UFO Hotline Reports,” IUR 9](#), no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)

- 1984, February** — The Commission for the Investigation of Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena is established in Moscow, Russia, although its announcement in the West is delayed until May. Affiliated with the Committee for the Protection of Natural Environment of the All-Union Council of Scientific Technical Societies, the commission is headed by scientist V. S. Troitsky, with the assistance of N. Zheltukhin, G. S. Pisarenko, and former cosmonaut [Pavel Popovich](#), who tells the trade union newspaper *Trud* that there have been hundreds of reports in Russia each year, most of which can be explained away. The commission intends to collect raw reports from the public and perform on-site investigations. (Good Above, [p. 243](#); Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1984, February** — The Centro Ufologico Nazionale begins a newsletter, *Notizie C.U.N.*, to replace *Quaderni UFO*. It is edited by Gian Paolo Grassino in Turin, Italy, and continues until September 1985. (*Notizie C.U.N.*, no. 0 (February 1984))
- 1984, February** — Night. The commander of a group of soldiers in the 103rd Regiment guarding warehouses at Przasnysz Airfield, Poland, sees a light silently coming in his direction. It is attached to a huge oval object 70–100 feet across that is moving soundlessly 150 feet above the ground. He and his assistant feel unexplained terror and paralysis, remaining rooted to the spot. Noticing a light at its rear end, he considers taking an AK-47 and shooting it out, but receives a mental command not to do so or he would be paralyzed. (Poland 67)
- 1984, February 7** — 4:00 a.m. A witness in Atco, New Jersey, awakes to a loud humming sound and finds his room illuminated by a bright light. He goes to the window and sees a bright circular object with a hump on top in a stationary position about four feet above his neighbor’s yard and 200 feet away. It is about the size of a small car. A human-like “image” is standing next to it, but that vanishes and the object ascends in a zigzag pattern, then moves away at a high rate of speed. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 2 (March/April 1984): 7)
- 1984, February 19** — 3:30 a.m. A driver in Everett, Washington, near the Boeing plant sees a huge, silvery green, egg-shaped object moving toward his car from a wooded area. Within a few seconds it bounces from one side of the road to the other, passing over his car. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 6)
- 1984, February 20** — 6:12 p.m. [Leif Havik](#) is standing in the snow outside the Project Hessdalen headquarters on Aspaskjolen, Norway, when a red light flies around his feet and disappears. It is also witnessed by Age Moe. (Kim Hansen, “UFO Casebook,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, p. 90)
- 1984, February 22–23** — Night. Witnesses in Flushing, Michigan, see objects with triangular lighting patterns that shine beams of light to the ground. The lights approach the car of one witness who sees they are part of a cigar-shaped object 100 feet above the ground. A jogger reports a light so intense that it hurts his eyes. Another witness sees an object with triangular-shaped lights hovering less than 200 feet above the ground, illuminating the area behind her house and panicking her cats. Two more objects pass above her house. Investigator [Shirley Coyne](#) locates 12 people who have seen the lights, but only three will fill out a report. (Shirley Coyne, “[12 See UFOs in Michigan](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 5–6)
- 1984, February 23** — 4:00 p.m. Five witnesses, all with PhDs, report an upside-down-ice-cream-cone-shaped object over the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, Ohio. It seems to be surrounded with a fog, but it changes its appearance about every 60 seconds, at one point looking rectangular. It is seen for 20 minutes, heading in the direction of Port Columbus Airport [now John Glenn Columbus International Airport]. (Irena Scott, “[Description of an Aerial Anomaly Viewed over Columbus, Ohio](#),” *Ohio Journal of Science* 88, no. 2 (1988): 23; Irena Scott, “[UFO Studies in the Scientific Literature](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1990): 18)
- 1984, February 29** — 9:00 p.m. A woman in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, sees a dark, diamond-shaped object approach her at no more than 50 feet above the ground. White lights are at the front and back, blinking red lights at the sides, and smaller lights between each of the four points. It is “longer than a tractor trailer and wide as two tractor trailers.” It wobbles and passes over trees to the southwest. (Stan Gordon, “[Diamond-Shaped UFO in Pennsylvania](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 7–8)
- 1984, March 4** — The UK Ministry of Defence, for the first time ever, releases UFO reports to the public. Sixteen reports, most of which are severely redacted and missing key data, are sent to the British UFO Research Association. When he is asked about possible landing cases, such as the 1980 Rendlesham incident, Defence Undersecretary for Procurement [John Lee](#) replies that these are not distinguished from other reports of aerial phenomena. In any event, he says, “none of these reports was of any defence significance.” (Good Above, [pp. 112–113](#); Nick Pope, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, Simon & Schuster, 1996, [Appendix 1](#))
- 1984, March 6** — 10:00 p.m. Two police officers, Tom Jensen and Gary Myers, watch a large boomerang or U-shaped UFO west of Norris, South Dakota, after having been alerted by a citizen 10 minutes earlier. At its closest approach, Myers sees it as a pattern of lights in an inverted L pattern. As it passes, it blocks out the sky and stars.

(“[Bennett County Families, Officials Report Unidentified Flying Object](#),” *Rapid City (S.Dak.) Journal*, March 8, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 5; “[Unidentified Lights Bring Attention to Rural Area](#),” *Bennett County (S.Dak.) Booster*, March 9, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 1; “[Officers Encounter Strange Lights in S.D. Sky](#),” *Minneapolis (Minn.) Star and Tribune*, March 9, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 178 (May 1984): 1; “[UFO Hunt Yields No Close Encounters of Any Kind](#),” *Rapid City (S.Dak.) Journal*, March 9, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 4; “[Officers Unable to Get Second Look at UFO](#),” *Minneapolis (Minn.) Star and Tribune*, March 10, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 4; Ron Bender, “[Weekender](#),” *Rapid City (S.Dak.) Journal*, March 10, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 5; J. Allen Hynek, “[A CE-I, a Lonely Road, a Starry Night](#),” *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 6–9; Linda Moulton Howe, “[Focus on South Dakota](#),” *Stigmata*, no. 22 (1985): 25–28)

1984, March 9 — MP [Patrick Wall](#) asks in the UK House of Commons that the Secretary of State for Defence provide statistics on UFO landings, unexplained cases, and radar sightings for 1980–1983. [John Lee](#) responds that there were 350 UFO reports in 1980 (dodging the question of whether or not the MoD could identify them), 600 in 1981, 250 in 1982, and 390 in 1983. (Good Above, [p. 113](#); Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)

1984, March 11 — After 12:00 midnight. A mother and her daughter see a large cylindrical object just a few feet away through the window of their home in Wolcott, Connecticut. For 7 minutes it hovers about 7 feet above the ground, then moves away silently. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 6)

1984, March 13 — MP [Patrick Wall](#) again asks about statistics on UFO landings and unexplained cases in the House of Commons. Secretary of State for Defence [John Lee](#) responds that landings are not separated out from UFO reports and that none of these are of “defence significance.” (Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)

1984, March 21 — 7:45 p.m. A truck driver driving on Interstate 87 near Woodbury, New York, sees a boomerang-shaped UFO about 100 feet altitude that looks larger than a Boeing 747. It has red, white, and green lights. It paces his truck for five minutes then vanishes. (NightSiege 71–73)

1984, March 21 — 8:00 p.m. A mother and daughter driving south on Perry Road near Claxton, Georgia, notice an unusual light through the trees. As they top a hill, they slow the car to a near stop when they see three boomerang-shaped objects, with wings pointing downward, hovering above a field. Each has two bright lights in the top center and a row of small, multicolored lights that blink in rapid sequence. One object is larger (at least 40 feet wide) than the others and moves over their car in perfect silence. Its underside appears dark metallic. (“[Local Woman, Daughter Report ‘Close Encounter’](#),” *Claxton (Ga.) Enterprise*, March 29, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 177 (April 1984): 6)

1984, March 24 — 5:50 a.m. Five nuns at the Sainte-Marie Cistercian Abbey in Boulaur, Gers, France, see a bright oval object about 16 feet long and 6.5 feet tall from the first-floor balcony. It is hovering at first, then starts moving up and down and right and left “at the speed of lightning.” It stops about 100 feet above the cemetery and 325 feet away from the witnesses. There is no sound. Then it takes off in the direction it came from. (Groupe d’Études et d’Informations sur les Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non-identifiés, “[Notes d’Enquête, Boulaur \(32\) 24.03.1984](#),” June 30, 2014; Swords 447)

1984, March 25 — 8:55 p.m. A driver in Santa Monica, California, sees a bright red ball of light, about 10 inches in diameter, maneuvering around her car with a bouncing motion. It approaches to within a foot of her car, lighting up the hood and windows for one minute. (Bob Gribble, “[UFO Hotline Reports](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 194 (April 1984): 6)

1984, March 25 — Night. Hundreds of people see low-flying lights over the Taconic State Parkway near Peekskill, New York. The lights seem to be attached to a slow-moving, boomerang-shaped object with six intense white lights and a green light in the center. A photographer estimates the object is about 300 feet long and flying at 30 mph. It moves over some water and the lights go out. He videotapes the incident, but nothing shows up on the tape. (NightSiege 77–81)

1984, Spring — A Soviet pilot in a MiG-23 is scrambled to intercept an object flying at supersonic speed from north to south over the Mikha Tskhakaya Airfield south of Senaki, Georgia. The MiG-23, flying at 16,400 feet in full afterburner at Mach 1.2, is unable to close in on the object. By the time the interceptor is approaching the coastline of the Black Sea, it is flying at Mach 1.6. The pilot activates his infrared search and track system when he is 7.5 miles away from the target and sees the largest “bloom” he has ever encountered. By the time he reaches Mach 2, he has to break off due to lack of fuel, never having acquired a visual target. (Good Need, [pp. 352–353, 365](#))

- 1984**, April 10 — Night. While driving down a country road near Rhinelander, Wisconsin, two witnesses see a stationary, cigar-shaped object about 225 feet from the roadway. It has a row of lighted windows, and several spokes protrude from the surface. Each spoke has a white light on the tip. While hovering at treetop level, the object pivots 360° and then stops. After observing it for 4 minutes, the witnesses drive past it and go home. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984**, April 12 — 2:10 a.m. Air traffic control radar at Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados tracks a large group of unknown targets moving at about 100 mph in "loose but distinct formation" 30 miles southeast of the island. Authorities notify Prime Minister [Tom Adams](#), the Barbados Defense Force, and the police commissioner. The BDF is put on Red Alert. By 2:20 a.m., the formation is 14 miles off the coast when two targets veer off to the island's west side, two others move to the east, while the remainder keep on moving north. Police are deployed to the beaches. At 3:30 a.m., the BDF launches a patrol boat and scrambles a Cessna but does not find anything. Radar is still tracking objects at 4:00 a.m. over the northern part of the island. By 4:10 a.m., they disappear to the west. A temperature inversion is a possible cause. ("[1984: UFOs Place Barbados Defence Force on Full Alert. This Really Happened](#)," Notes from the Margin, March 13, 2008)
- 1984**, April 13 — 10:00 p.m. While boating on a lake near Gainesville, Florida, two witnesses see a stationary oval-shaped object at an altitude of 100 feet about 300 feet from their boat. The object shines a cone of bright white light onto the surface of the water. After about 3 minutes, it hovers out of sight behind some trees. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984**, April 15 — 12:00 midnight. Some 20 witnesses (farm workers, a police officer, venture scouts) at Llangernyw, North Wales, see a pink-orange ball that drifts to the ground and explodes in a shower of purple sparks. Out of the shower emerges a white disc that appears to land out of sight behind a ridge. A large army helicopter and two military trucks apparently perform a search of the area beginning at daylight. (Jenny Randles, "[Anatomy of a UFO Wave](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1986): 4–5)
- 1984**, April 18 — 9:30 p.m. A married couple is driving on a road near RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk, England, when they come upon a huge rectangular object straddling the road ahead. It has at least 60 lights arrayed in rows on its frame. Red and green lights are at its edges, but the majority are white. The object remains absolutely still and silent about 100 feet in the air. They are anxious to get home, so they do not see the object leave. (Jenny Randles, "[Anatomy of a UFO Wave](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1986): 5)
- 1984**, April 19 — 8:05 p.m. Melinda Cook and her four daughters in Lone Grove, about 8 miles northeast of Llano, Texas, watch a huge dome-shaped object pass over their house at an altitude of only 200 feet. It has a row of red lights around it that are pulsating. One of the girls thinks it has an arrow-shaped pattern on its base. A jet aircraft appears to be pursuing it. Cook says she can hear a low-frequency humming sound coming from it. Soon the red lights change to red, blue, and green. The object turns north, then makes another turn to the west, the jet following this maneuver. The girls watch the object continuously for 4 minutes. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16; Walt Andrus, "[Llano Light Puzzle](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 198 (October 1984): 8–9)
- 1984**, April 20 — 10:04 p.m. Four people in a car in Beaverton, Oregon, see a large, pulsating, yellow light high in the sky. The driver stops, and a small, bright-blue object comes into view, moving toward the yellow object at high speed. Suddenly, a "fast red thing" shoots out of the blue object and knocks the yellow object in half, one part disintegrating and the other part falling to the ground. Two other objects, yellow and blue, appear with the blue object chasing and apparently shooting down the yellow object. The blue object then climbs at a high speed vertically and vanishes in the clouds. The observation lasts 20 minutes. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984**, April 22 — 10:10 p.m. A woman and her mother are watching TV at a trailer park in Saltfleet, Lincolnshire, England, when they see a dome-shaped object with circle of white lights, a small group of red lights above, and a brilliant white light on top. It is hovering nearby and about 500 feet in the air. More lights turn on and the object begins to revolve. As its speed increases, the colors blend into one another. The object moves away to the south, but over the next hour it circles the trailer park in wide loops that take it several miles out to sea before returning over their heads. It switches a searchlight beam off and on. The woman's two dogs are looking fearfully at the UFO. At one point the object drops to 100 feet and hovers in absolute silence above the witnesses. The searchlight comes from two headlight beams projecting forward. The UFO has a "smoky glass" dome on top. Dogs are howling for miles around. The object switches off all but four of its lights and climbs vertically before heading out to sea to circle for a few more minutes. ("[The Saltfleet Encounter](#)," *Northern UFO News*, no. 113 (May/June 1985): 10–11; Jenny Randles, "[Anatomy of a UFO Wave](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1986): 7)
- 1984**, April 25 — 6:00 p.m. A woman is in her garden at Blairgowrie, Scotland, working on a tapestry when her dog leaps up and runs indoors. A ball of light appears in the air and seems to enter her body. She is blinded for a few

seconds but feels calm. A white cloud rises from her head and hovers above some bushes. It blinks twice and climbs into the sky toward a large silvery object shaped like a house key. The cloud moves along the length of the key, flashing and lighting up bits in turn. She calls her son, who arrives just as the UFO sways from side to side and vanishes in a sudden pink flash. (Jenny Randles, "[Anatomy of a UFO Wave](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1986): 7–8)

- 1984, April 25** — 9:55 p.m. Three witnesses driving on American Canyon Road south of Napa, California, see a huge triangular object the size of a football field hovering 100 feet above the road. They drive beneath it, and after 5 minutes the object moves out of sight. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 195 (May/June 1984): 10, 11; Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984, April 26** — On a visit to the 6513th Test Squadron, Red Hats at Groom Lake, Nevada, USAF Lt. Gen. [Robert M. Bond](#) requests to fly a MiG-23 BN fighter-bomber, a newly acquired supersonic Soviet aircraft flown for testing. Instead of the usual 2 weeks of training, Bond is given a cursory briefing while sitting inside the cockpit with an instructor. Just as he is flying at 40,000 feet and over Mach 2 speed, a hydromechanical inhibitor activates, preventing him from disengaging the afterburner. Bond loses control, makes a distress call, and is killed while ejecting. The MiG-23 crashes on Jackass Flats in Area 25, still contaminated from NERVA rocket testing. Bond's body is discovered by a USAF sergeant on his way to work, who removes the rank insignia from Bond's flight suit with a pocketknife before going to get help. The USAF does not confirm or deny that Bond was flying a MiG when he died and states that he was flying "an Air Force specially modified test craft," but it leaks the information on the MiG testing program to journalist Fred Hoffman. There are fears that the publicity will also lead to the exposure of the F-117 program, still secret and also based at Tonopah, but this does not happen. (Wikipedia, "[Robert M. Bond](#)")
- 1984, April 26** — 9:45 p.m. Terri West spots an odd light in the sky from her home on Belmont Lane, Stanmore, Greater London, England. At 10:15 p.m., she joins her neighbors Ruth and Bruno Novelli to watch the light, which is moving back and forth and constantly changing colors from blue to green to pink. Soon it emits a large ball of light that shoots toward the ground. The witnesses call the police at 10:22 p.m. A team of police arrives and watches the object for about 2 hours. Police Constable Richard Milthorp says the light is originally at 45° but after 15 minutes it moves up and to the right. He draws a sketch of the object, which is circular in the middle with a dome above and below. It has different colored lights on the top and bottom. One of the officers takes photos, but they do not come out well. Some others chase the UFO by car, but it is already fading from view. (Good Above, [pp. 114–115](#); UFOFiles2, [p. 130](#))
- 1984, April 27** — 9:45 p.m. Linda Braga and her daughter Piper see a starlike object that follows their car along West Ridge Road in Cornville, Maine. About 35–45 feet in diameter, the red and yellow object comes almost within touching distance. When they reach their driveway, it backs off and hovers above a field, then moves around to the other side of the house. It disappears in the distance. ("[Recently Received Sighting Reports](#)," *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 5, no. 5 (Oct./Nov. 1984): 4)
- 1984, May 2** — Australian Minister of Defence [Gordon Scholes](#) announces that the RAAF will fully investigate only those UFO sightings that "suggest a defence or national security implication." ("[RAAF Resets UFO Targets](#)," *Canberra Times*, May 3, 1984, p. 3; Bill Chalker, "[The North West Cape Incident: UFOs and Nuclear Alert in Australia](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1986): 11; Good Above, [p. 182](#); Swords 408–409)
- 1984, May 4–6** — The Centro Ufologico Nazionale holds its Third International Congress in Genoa, Italy. Speakers include [J. Allen Hynek](#), [Roberto Pinotti](#), and [Antonio Ribera](#). (Roberto Pinotti, "[Italian Report](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1984): 3, 16; 2Pinotti 70)
- 1984, May 5** — 2:55 a.m. A witness in Piedmont, South Carolina, hears a loud pulsating sound and looks out the window in time to see a large metallic object passing above his house at about 750 feet. Described as bigger than an Air Force C-5A transport, the object is shaped like a flattened football. A car stops along the road, and the driver gets out to watch it. All of the dogs in the neighborhood are howling as it is in view for 2 minutes. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984, May 5** — 7:30 p.m. An ultrasensitive orbiting US Defense Support Program spy satellite detects the entry of an unknown object that passes 15 miles in front of it only 1.8 miles away, and then flies below it over the Indian Ocean. The encounter lasts 9 minutes. An alert is triggered at NORAD. The object is moving at 22,000 mph, changes course, and flies back into outer space. (NICAP, "[DSP Satellite Tracks Fast Walker](#)"; Ronald S. Regehr, *How to Build a \$125 Million UFO Detector*, 1998, pp. 27–28, 84)
- 1984, May 5** — 9:45 p.m. Five workers on a garbage truck are near the Rio Seco, Tucumán, Argentina, when they see a strange light like a fireball. The truck stops, and later it is found that the fuses have burnt out. The upper part of the object is giving off a red light and the lower part a blue light, and it hovers above the truck for 20 seconds. It

- then moves away silently and disappears. Residents of Rio Seco also see the light, which illuminates the village. (Herbert S. Taylor, "[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#)," *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)
- 1984**, May 6 — 10:30 p.m. A 13-year-old boy is washing out dog pens in Williston, Florida, when he hears a humming sound behind him. The dogs start whimpering and running around the pens. Suddenly, the area turns red and looking up, the boy sees a bright red circular object that hovers for about 5 seconds at only 20 feet altitude before it shoots across a field and stops again. He goes inside to get his mother, who sees the object moving across the field before vanishing. The dogs remain agitated afterward. (Bob Gribble, "[UFO Hotline Reports](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 3 (May/June 1984): 16)
- 1984**, May 29 — [J. Allen Hynek](#) gives a presentation on "Properties of the UFO Phenomenon" at a special session on "The Edges of Science" of the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in New York City. He presents a summary of 400 UFO cases by responsible witnesses, "some of whom were independent of each other but observed the same event (and sometimes in daylight) which defied both common sense and common physical sense." (J. Allen Hynek, "[The UFO Phenomenon](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 4 (July/August 1984): 3–5, 16)
- 1984**, May 29 — A huge disc with a flat base and two vast searchlights passes silently over Fairy Cottage, near Laxey, Isle of Man. (Jenny Randles, "[Mysterious Island: The UFO Legacy of the Isle of Man](#)," *IUR* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2004): 14)
- 1984**, May 31 — 8:15 p.m. A V-shaped formation of 15 lights, estimated to be the size of a Boeing 747 airliner if all are connected to one object, passes directly over the home of John Burdett, an IBM engineer in Hawthorne, New York. It makes no sound as it passes overhead except for a faint humming. All lights simultaneously turn blue and then it makes a tight 180-degree turn and flies off to the north. At 8:30 p.m., the object is seen from Route 117 in Pleasantville, New York, and follows a car down the Taconic State Parkway. At 8:45 p.m., David Boyd in Yorktown, New York, sees a V-shaped formation of lights turn and fly away to the west. (Philip J. Imbrogno, "[More Nocturnal Lights](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1984): 6–8)
- 1984**, Summer — Day. A Mrs. Danuta takes her 2-year-old son to a playground in the Podwisłocze district of Rzeszów, Poland. A green-metallic object with a bright cupola 8 feet tall approaches, brushing a tree, and the woman picks up her son and hides behind a tree. It is making a loud noise and hovering 30–50 feet above the ground. It then moves toward some nearby apartments, shoots up, and disappears. (Poland 59)
- 1984**, June 14 — 10:15 p.m. New York State Power Authority security police at the Indian Point Nuclear Plant near Buchanan, New York, watch 10 or more bright lights arranged in a boomerang pattern hovering for about 15 minutes a quarter mile away. Behind them is a dark mass about 300 feet long that blocks out the lights of a plane that flies behind it. (Philip J. Imbrogno, "[Incident at Indian Point](#)," *UFO Evidence*; Clark III 1278; NightSight 162–164)
- 1984**, Mid-June — 4:10 p.m. Seaman Alexander Globa and mate of the watch Sergey Bolotov are beginning their watch on board the Russian tanker *Gori* in the Mediterranean Sea 20 nautical miles east of Gibraltar. They see what seems to be an airplane with its landing lights on and flying toward them at an altitude of 4,920 feet about 2 miles away. It is shaped like a "frying pan turned upside down" with a shiny, metallic surface. It emits bright, irregular flashes of light. In two minutes it reaches the ship's position, turns south, and keeps pace with the ship, gyrating for 3 minutes. The object is perfectly round and about 75 feet in diameter. There is a round, black spot on the bottom, and a cylindrical "tailpipe" is seen at the junction of two segments that are rotating in opposite directions. At 4:20 p.m., another ship approaches to the left, and the object flies quickly toward it and hovers above it. Capt. Sokolovsky contacts the vessel, an Egyptian dry cargo ship enroute to Greece, and it confirms the presence of the UFO. After 90 seconds it quickly moves back to the *Gori*, ascends at an angle of 40°–45°, veers to the right, and eventually disappears. Total duration of the sighting is 12 minutes. (Sergey Romanav, "[Disk with Rotating Cupola Observed near Straits of Gibraltar by Russian Ship in 1984](#)," *IUR* 18, no. 3 (May/June 1993): 17–18; Paul Stonehill, "[Questions about a Russian Case](#)," *IUR* 18, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1993): 21; Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 69–70)
- 1984**, June 21 — 9:30 p.m. Investigators Dick Ruhl and Richie Petracca are on Interstate 84 in Dutchess County, New York, when they see a brilliant white wedge-shaped object floating and turning in the sky. The lights suddenly turn red, and as the object continues to turn, they see red, green-blue, and white lights. They stop and get binoculars out, then notice another object on the left. Both objects glide slowly and maneuver, constantly changing from white as they approach, and to red as they turn away. They finally form up into a boomerang shape. Ruhl and Petracca suspect they are seeing the "Stormville pilots," so they drive to the Stormville airport. After waiting in the snack bar a short time, people see lights in the direction of the Green Haven Correctional Facility. It turns out they are six Cessna Skyhawks, apparently with mufflers on the engines, and they land one by

one on a nearby runway. Ruhl photographs the serial number of one of the planes, N76106. (Dick Ruhl, Richie Petracca, Sal Giamusso, and Gerry Arena, "[The Westchester Sightings](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 32, no. 6 (September 1984): 1, 5–6; Philip J. Imbrogno, "[The Hudson Valley Sightings: A Reply to Dick Ruhl and APRO](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1985): 16)

1984, June 21 — 9:44 p.m. Witnesses see unidentified lights over the Wanaque Reservoir in New Jersey for more than two hours. The manager of a tavern on Ringwood Avenue in Haskell sees an egg-shaped object moving faster than a blimp. ("[E.T. Circling Area?](#)" *Wayne (N.J.) Today*, July 4, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 181 (August 1984): 7)

1984, June 25 — Night. A huge, slow-moving object with many lights is seen near Bethel, Connecticut, for 20 minutes. It looks like a big Ferris Wheel on its side. (NightSiege 98)

1984, July — Prentice-Hall publishes *Clear Intent* by Lawrence Fawcett and [Barry J. Greenwood](#), a history of Air Force, FBI, and CIA involvement in UFO investigations and secrecy, including many FOIA-released recent reports and documents. The book immediately sells out and is unavailable for most of the summer. A second printing in late August also sells out immediately. (Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood, [Clear Intent: The Government Coverup of the UFO Experience](#), Prentice-Hall, 1984; George M. Eberhart, "['Clear Intent' Reviewed](#)," *IUR* 9, no. 4 (July/August 1984): 6–7, 16)

1984, July 10 — Four members of the Italian Parliament—[Giancarlo Abete](#), [Publio Fiori](#), [Alessandro Scajola](#), and [Martino Scovacricchi](#)—present a question to the government on whether it would consider involving private and civilian experts as future consultants on UFOs. Minister of Defence [Giovanni Spadolini](#) emphasizes the role of the Italian Air Force in UFO investigations and denies the necessity to involve outsiders, although it does not rule out cooperation with Italy's National Research Council. (2Pinotti 71)

1984, July 13 — 4:30 p.m. A mysterious object comes into view above Rzeszów, Poland, remaining stationary for a long time. A flight controller from Rzeszów-Jasionka Airport estimates it is at 6,500 feet and is slowly moving to the northwest. Mielec Airport air traffic controller Kasimierz Lubertowicz scrambles an Iskra jet trainer on a scouting mission. As pilot Henryk Bronowicki approaches the object at 24,600 feet, he realizes it is not a weather balloon and is moving away from him. He gives up the chase, but the object descends and he approaches it again, failing to reach it as it retreats. (Poland 74–75; "[Całe Podkarpacie widzi UFO: Czyli sprawa, którą chciano zataić \(1984\)](#)," Portal Infra, September 20, 2013; Arek Miazga, "[Pilot kontra UFO nad Mielcem 13.07.1984](#)," Spotkania z Nieznany, June 1, 2019)

1984, July 19 — 10:00–11:00 p.m. Police in Danbury, Bethel, Brookfield, and New Fairfield, Connecticut, receive reports of a low-flying, slow-moving object "as large as a football field." It directs intense beams of light toward the ground and gives off heat felt by those beneath it. It has white lights in a circular pattern. ("[Area Police Get Reports of UFOs](#)," *Danbury (Conn.) News-Times*, July 20, 1984, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 181 (August 1984), p. 1)

1984, July 24 — 9:00 p.m. Security police at Indian Point Nuclear Plant at Buchanan, New York, again see a UFO with a semicircle of lights. The lights first flash yellow, then white, then blue. Far to the rear is a blinking red light. The dark mass behind the lights blocks out the stars as it approaches steadily. The plant's movement-detecting sensors and alarm systems fail, as does the computer responsible for security and communications. By the time it gets to 500 feet away, the police can see an ice-cream-cone-shape and a solid body the length of three football fields. As it passes over the Unit 3 reactor, at one point getting as close as 30 feet, it is moving so slowly that the police can keep up with it by walking. An officer inside the plant watching security monitors is instructed to film the object using a camera atop a 95-foot pole; the camera has to pan almost 180° to cover the entire length of the object. One officer notices two hollow spheres or portals in the bottom. The UFO takes 5 minutes to pass over them. By the time the security police call Camp Smith, a National Guard base 10 miles away, and ask for an armed helicopter, the UFO is gone. Many other people in the area also report seeing the UFO over the plant. Police in Peekskill receive quite a few calls that evening. Police Sgt. Hoffman goes out to investigate and sees a giant UFO with more than a dozen white lights in a V formation slowly move toward the power plant. On July 25, the security guard supervisor tells them to forget what happened. Video and audio records of the event are removed, and in the next two days representatives of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission oversee a shakeup of the plant's security operations. ("[UFOs: Did Aliens Buzz Indian Point Plant?](#)" *White Plains (N.Y.) Reporter Dispatch*, January 12, 1985, pp. 1, 8; "Nuke Plant Guards Report Hovering UFOs," *Nyack (N.Y.) Journal News*, January 12, 1985; R. Perry Collins, "[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#)," *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 168–169; Harry Lebelson, "[Who's Watching Us?](#)" *Pursuit* 19, no. 1 (Spring 1986): 27, 29–30; Philip J. Imbrogno, "[Incident at Indian Point](#)," *UFO Evidence*; Clark III 1278; NightSiege 164–168)

- 1984**, July 24 — 10:20 p.m. Electronics executive [Bob Pozzuoli](#) shoots a videotape of a large object with a ring of 6 lights in the sky over Brewster, New York. It moves behind a pine tree then emerges as a string of rotating multicolored lights and a flashing red light in the rear. The video also shows airplanes flying in formation. The tape is analyzed by [Lew Allen](#) at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, who is apparently unable to explain it adequately. (NightSiege 122–124)
- 1984**, August — [J. Allen Hynek](#) moves to Scottsdale, Arizona, from Evanston, Illinois, under the influence of entrepreneurs [Tina Choate and Brian Myers](#), who introduce him to wealthy Englishman Jeffrey (or Geoffrey) Kaye with the promise of funding a new UFO organization (the International Center for UFO Research in Phoenix), publications, and a TV series about Hynek's life. The CUFOs office moves to Glenview, Illinois, where Sherman J. Larsen operates it. ("[UFO Expert Moving to Arizona](#)," *Chicago Tribune*, August 21, 1984, Sec. 2, p. 1; Keith Basterfield, "[Why Did J. Allen Hynek Move to Scottsdale?](#)" Unidentified Aerial Phenomena—Scientific Research, October 8, 2017)
- 1984**, August 20 — 9:00 p.m. Irene Lunn and her daughter are driving near Deer Trail Drive in Mahopac Falls, New York, when they notice triangle-shaped UFO with an unusual L-shaped tailpiece. They stop to observe it more carefully. The object has one red light, one green light, and eight white lights, and is moving south when it makes a sudden 90° turn and slowly moves toward them. They drive the short way home where they retrieve some binoculars. She can clearly see a dark, metallic object, which moves off to a neighbor's yard and hovers. A rectangular object with white lights in each corner comes into view and moves in front of the first UFO for 5 seconds, then vanishes. The triangular object continues to hover, then silently moves off out of sight. ("[Multiple Sightings in New York](#)," *APRO Bulletin* 32, no. 11 (May 1985): 1–2)
- 1984**, August 23 — Afternoon. Military radar at Otopeni Airport [now Henri Coandă International Airport] near Bucharest, Romania, picks up a target flying above Alexeni Air Force Base [now closed] east of Urziceni at 13,000–14,700 feet. The target, the size of a small plane or helicopter, appears out of nowhere and is tracked by 4–5 different radars in separate locations on different frequencies. After 15 minutes, the object is spotted visually. Through a telescope it appears oval, metallic and shiny, and about 9 feet long. During its appearance, the base notices a strong interference on VHF and short wave radios. The target climbs and descends about 7–8 times to altitudes ranging from 6,500 feet to 34 miles as it moves west at speeds up to 7,450 mph, making zigzagging movements and turning at sharp angles. It is under observation for 40 minutes and is lost at a height of 62 miles as it disappears into space at 620 mph. (Romania 104–105)
- 1984**, August 25 — [Philip Imbrogno](#) and [Peter Gersten](#) convene a public meeting on the Hudson Valley sightings in a middle school in Brewster, New York, and 1,500 people show up. [Hynek](#) attends, as well as news media, various people from the FBI, Air Force officers from Pease AFB [now Pease Air National Guard Base], and a mysterious man who has met with Imbrogno and claims to be from the National Security Agency. The [Pozzuoli](#) videotape is shown and 900 people fill out UFO sighting reports. ("[Strange Sights Brighten the Night Skies Upstate](#)," *New York Times*, August 25, 1984, p. 25; NightSiege 135–147; Larry W. Bryant, "[UFO Town-Hall Meeting: A Case Study](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 198 (October 1984): 5)
- 1984**, Late summer — 8:00 p.m. Kazimierz Lubertowicz, chief of air traffic control at Mielec airfield, Poland, reports that a pilot and 30–40 airfield workers and military personnel are watching a motionless red-orange light for 2 hours. It is actually floating very slowly to the southeast at an altitude of 1,300–1,600 feet. (Poland 68)
- 1984**, September — Lawrence Fawcett and [Barry Greenwood](#) launch a new series of *Just Cause* newsletters to continue their documentation of government involvement in UFOs discussed in *Clear Intent*. The newsletter continues until November 1997. (*Just Cause*, new series, no. 1 (September 1984))
- 1984**, September — Marc Leduc begins publishing *Bulletin d'Information Ufologique* in Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville, Quebec, until June 1986. (*Bulletin d'Information Ufologique* 1, no. 1 (September 1984))
- 1984**, September 2 — 7:28 p.m. Physicist [Bruce Maccabee](#) is standing near the Light Street Pavilion in the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland, when he sees a black spot in the air to the southeast. Its most noticeable characteristic is its extreme blackness. It moves slowly north for 7 minutes at a steady rate until it disappears. Maccabee rules out a bird, a kite, an aircraft, and a balloon. (Bruce Maccabee, "['Black Hole' over Baltimore](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 2 (March/April 1985): 6–9)
- 1984**, September 7 — 4:10 a.m. While approaching Minsk, Belarus, the pilots of a Soviet Aeroflot Tu-134 airliner are startled to see a strange, brightly glowing shape that appears to their right and follows their path closely for several minutes. The glowing object changes shape repeatedly, appearing first as rays, then concentric circles, then as a cloud, and finally as an amorphous mass. While copilot Gennady Lazurin sketches the object, Captain Igor Cherkashin contacts air traffic officials, who report that radar shows a strange "double" object, believed to be

the airliner and the unidentified object. Years later, reports surface of a second flight crew traveling in the opposite direction who also had seen the glowing object. Lazurin's sketches of the object closely parallel sketches made by other witnesses at rocket launches. A missile launch from a Russian submarine in the Barents Sea is a likely explanation, according to [James Oberg](#). ("[Soviet Airliner Given 'Escort' by UFO](#)," *Houston (Tex.) Chronicle*, January 31, 1985, pp. 1, 10; Richard H. Hall, "[Soviet Sky Spectacular](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1986): 11–14; Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 88–89; Good Above, [pp. 243–247](#); James Oberg, "[The Minsk UFO Case: Misperception and Exaggeration](#)," *Skeptical Inquirer* 33, no. 1 (January/February 2009): 35–41; Dmitry Sudakov, "[USSR's Most Renowned UFO Sighting Linked to Ballistic Missile Launch?](#)" *Pravda*, August 9, 2009)

- 1984**, September 14 — Between 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. A woman is driving on a deserted road outside of Goshen, Connecticut, when she sees a long string of white lights on the side of the road paralleling her car. She slows to look and the lights move directly above her, changing in formation to a horseshoe. After hovering for 2 minutes, they "uncoil" and form a V shape, which then moves rapidly away to the north. Within an hour, witnesses in Southington and Southbury, Connecticut, report similar lights. (R. Perry Collins, "[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#)," *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 168)
- 1984**, Late September or early October — 9:00 p.m. Militia Capt. Boris Ivanovich Vladimirov is riding in the right seat of a patrol vehicle with another policeman in Bayramgulovo, Chelyabinsk Oblast, Russia, when they notice an unusual triangular pattern of colored lights about 80 feet away on the right side of the road in a freshly plowed field. There are 11 lights on the left and right sides of the object and 13 lights up the center. The lights on the edge flash sequentially like a theater marquee. After a bit, all the lights turn off. The next day, Vladimirov returns to the field and finds three round depressions in the soil about 10 inches deep and 36 inches in diameter. They are at the corners of an equilateral triangle 26 feet apart. (Richard F. Haines, "[CE2 in the Eastern Urals](#)," *IUR* 17, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1992): 11–13)
- 1984**, October — 11:45 p.m. Five witnesses, including missile technician Shamil Yuaihetov, see a metallic cigar-shaped object slowly descending at a 45° angle near the Kattakurgan tactical nuclear missile base in Uzbekistan. It emits a hissing sound. The next day, three apparent landing-gear marks in an equilateral triangle pattern are found in a nearby vineyard in an area of damaged vines measuring 100 by 260 feet. Each depression is 20 inches deep. The case is investigated by S. P. Kuzionov of the Russian Geographical Society. (Ted R. Phillips, "[Physical Traces Associated with Unidentified Flying Objects](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 445 (May 2005): 5; Nukes 452–453)
- 1984**, October 5 — 1:00 a.m. Science teacher and UFO investigator [Philip J. Imbrogno](#) and Fred Dennis are returning from an interview with witnesses in Peekskill, New York, on US Highway 9 when they see, near Ossining, New York, a large half-circle of 6 bluish-yellow lights connected to a partially illuminated structure. Suddenly it flips on its side and turns like a Ferris wheel. After 30 seconds, it is lost behind some trees. (Philip J. Imbrogno, "[Incident at Indian Point](#)," *UFO Evidence*; Clark III 1277)
- 1984**, October 8 — 7:40 a.m. Giuseppe Coccozza goes into his alfalfa field near Prato di Principato Ultra, Avellino, Italy, to get some fodder for his cow. On the beaten-earth path to the field he encounters an entity about 4 feet tall, wearing a blue helmet on its head and carrying a blue box on its back that features tubes running into the helmet and the entity's back. Its body is covered with long, dark-brown hair, and it appears to be using a T-shaped instrument to explore the ground. There is a wide, aluminum-colored slit around its eyes. After noticing Coccozza, the entity moves toward a clearing among some hazel bushes, emitting small bluish flames from its sides. The witness backtracks and loses sight of it, but sees a UFO ascend at an angle from the bushes, turn, and shoot away toward a mountain range. Coccozza returns with a shotgun and finds some hoof-like footprints and holes left by the strange instrument, as well as landing marks apparently caused by the object. (Umberto Telarico, "[Rencontre du 3e type à Prato di Principato Ultra \(Italie\) le 8 octobre 1984](#)," *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, no. 261–262 (March/April 1986): 20–29; Umberto Telarico, "[Close Encounter at Prato di Principato Ultra \(Italy\), October 1984](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 32, no. 1 (December 1986): 9–18; 2Pinotti 72–83)
- 1984**, October 9 — 3:30 a.m. A beam of light coming in through a window wakes up Isidoro Ferri in his residence on the Via della Tessaia in Polcanto, northeast of Florence, Italy. He sees that it is coming from the forehead of a dark figure on a nearby hill across the road. Suddenly the figure and light vanish, and Ferri sees a stationary ink light with three jets projecting downward. After several minutes, this light disappears and an extremely bright white light approaches and floods the area. Ferri gets up and approaches the window but finds himself paralyzed for a few seconds. The light then withdraws, and he finds he can move again. The white light is replaced by a red lens-shaped light that hurts his eyes then moves on to the northwest. Ferri's dog has not barked through the entire encounter, refuses food for the next several days, and stays in its doghouse for 2 weeks. Three circular holes 4 inches in diameter and 1 inch deep are found in an area of somewhat flattened grass. (Edoardo Russo, "[Italian](#)

[Update 1984](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 30, no. 4 (May 1985): 26; Edoardo Russo, “[Ufologie italienne: Le point sur 1984](#),” *Lumières dans la Nuit*, nos. 255–256 (Sept./Oct. 1985): 39–41; 2Pinotti 84–92; Patrick Gross, [URECAT](#), February 1, 2007)

1984, Fall — The UK Ministry of Defence is reorganized, making the group Sec. AS (2a) its main focal point for receiving public UFO reports. Its mission is to “determine whether or not UFOs present a threat to the security and defence of the United Kingdom.” It has no other budget than minor staff costs and its records are unclassified. However, [Timothy Good](#) uncovers evidence that the U.K. Provost and Security Services at RAF Rudloe Manor [now MOD Corsham] northeast of Bath, England, are conducting more serious and secret UFO investigations. More recent declassified files have revealed that RAF Rudloe Manor was a filter center for UFO reports in the 1950s. The British Police Force’s elite Special Branch in 1997 opens files on two UFO researchers in the UK who are collecting data on the Rudloe Manor operations—Robin Cole and Matthew Williams. (“[Churchill Ordered UFO Cover-up, National Archives Show](#),” BBC News, August 5, 2010; Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [pp. 193, 203, 210](#); Good Above, [pp. 70, 121–126](#)); Nick Redfern, *The Roswell UFO Conspiracy*, Lisa Hagan, 2017, [pp. 35–37](#))

1984, November — *Discover* magazine publishes a cover story on the Westchester County sightings, which claims that the UFOs are actually a group of pilots from Stormville, New York, who fly ultralight aircraft in a tight formation and use their lights in such a way as to create boomerang or circle patterns. The author, [Glenn Garelik](#), notes that single-engine planes, even when directly overhead, are barely audible at ground level when they are flying above 3,000 feet. However, it fails to disclose that many witnesses are much closer to the object than that, nor does it mention the hovering for extended periods. In his 1987 book *Night Siege*, [Philip J. Imbrogno](#) lists 12 reasons for rejecting the explanation of the Stormville pilots. On those occasions when witnesses see both a plane and a UFO, the plane is clearly audible and the UFO is not, even if it is much closer. The UFO also appears on nights when the Stormville pilots are not in the air. The UFO’s maneuvers simply are beyond the capacity of most aircraft, and the power and intensity of the lights is far beyond the power capacity of small planes. (Glenn Garelik, “The Great Hudson Valley UFO Mystery,” *Discover* 5 (November 1984): 18–24; Thomas Burch, “[Bad Science, Bad Journalism: Discover Magazine Scolded for Article on Hudson Valley UFOs](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 3 (Fall 1985): 130–132; *NightSiege* 51–60, 244–248; Clark III 1278–1279)

1984, November — British UFO researcher [Timothy Good](#) interviews astrophysicist [Pierre Guérin](#) on the future of GEPAN. Because it is under the aegis of CNES, which is ill-disposed toward UFOs, Guérin says, it is doomed. (Good Above, [pp. 136–139](#))

1984, November 14 — As the space shuttle *Discovery* approaches the dysfunctional satellite Westar VI on the [STS-51-A](#) mission, its video camera records for 2 seconds a gray blob that seems to materialize near the top center of the frame and move in a curved path across the right side of the frame. [Bruce Maccabee](#) says the blob could be a “reflection of something in a window or a small nearby particle.” (“[UFO Appears during NASA STS-51-A Mission November 1984](#),” Real UFO Files Disclosed YouTube channel, July 10, 2020)

1984, December — [Bob Gribble](#), who operates the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Washington, discontinues sending UFO reports to MUFON and sends them to Michael Hart’s Compufon for posting on the Usenet bulletin board. (Walt Andrus, “[Director’s Message](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 210 (October 1985): 18)

1984, December — Night. A married couple are up late watching TV in Trafford, Pennsylvania, when they hear a tapping on the window. They see a red ball of light about as big as a basketball that moves away from the window. They turn on the outside lights to watch the ball, which has black marks among the red and gives off beams and sparks. It floats over a neighbor’s house. They go back to watching TV, but the red light taps on the window once more before going away. (Michael D. Swords, “[A Trick of the Light](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 10)

1984, December 11 — North Hollywood, California, film producer [Jaime Shandera](#) receives an unmarked package in the mail containing an undeveloped roll of 35mm film with the faked 1952 Eisenhower briefing document and the 1947 Truman MJ-12 memo. He tells researcher [William Moore](#), and they have the roll developed. Postmarked Albuquerque, New Mexico, the package is most likely sent by individuals in AFOSI at Kirtland AFB, including special agent Master Sgt. [Richard Doty](#), to plant disinformation in William Moore’s UFO research. They wait until 1987 to release the document. (Good Above, [pp. 545–551](#); Howard Blum, *Out There: The Government’s Secret Quest for Extraterrestrials*, 1990, [pp. 240–242](#); Michael Hesemann and Philip Mantle, *Beyond Roswell*, Marlowe, 1997, [p. 90](#); Clark III 365–366; Graff 313–314)

1984, December 27 — Allan Hills 84001, a fragment of a Martian meteorite, is found in the Allan Hills in Antarctica by a team of American meteorite hunters. In 1996, a group of scientists found features in the likeness of microscopic

fossils of bacteria in the meteorite, suggesting that these organisms also originated on Mars. The claims immediately made headlines worldwide, culminating in US president [Bill Clinton](#) giving a speech about the potential discovery. These claims are controversial from the beginning, and the wider scientific community ultimately rejects the hypothesis once all the unusual features in the meteorite have been explained without requiring life to be present. (Wikipedia, "[Allan Hills 8401](#)"; "[President Clinton Statement Regarding Mars Meteorite Discovery](#)," August 7, 1996; "[Online Document: Clinton Calls for Intensified Search for Life on Mars](#)," *Deseret News*, August 8, 1996; David S. McKay, et al., "[Search for Past Life on Mars: Possible Relic Biogenic Activity in Martian Meteorite ALH84001](#)," *Science* 273 (August 16, 1998): 924–930; Graff 366–372)

1985

- 1985** — Near the town of Krasnovodsk [now Türkmenbaşy], Turkmenistan, a radar station under the command of Captain L. Valuev tracks a disc-shaped object at an altitude of 60,000 feet and apparently more than one-half mile in length. The object is stationary, and some time later a small disc about 16 feet in diameter flies out of it and then lands on a lengthy spit on the Caspian Sea. Patrol boats rush to that area, but when they reach a distance of 325 feet from the object, it takes off and flies more than one-half mile away. This happens five times. Then the object ascends at a huge speed and reaches the larger disc, which rises up and disappears. (Alexander Dremine, "[Soviet Army Fought UFOs](#)," *Pravda*, January 2004; Good Need, [p. 354](#); Vadim K. Ilyin, "[KGB's 'Blue Folder' Reveals Shootings, Landings in USSR](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 403 (November 2001): 8)
- 1985**, January — [Jerome Clark](#) begins to take over as editor of the *International UFO Reporter* as [Hynek](#) distances himself from operations at the Center for UFO Studies. (Clark III 628)
- 1985**, January — A Roper Organization poll finds that 25% of Americans think that UFOs come from somewhere else in the universe. (Robert J. Durant, "[Evolution of Public Opinion on UFOs](#)," *IUR* 18, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1993): 13, 20)
- 1985**, January 10 — US physicist [Bernard Eastlund](#) files a patent on a "Method and apparatus for altering a region in the earth's atmosphere, ionosphere, and/or magnetosphere," that proposes a 40-square-mile radio transmitter using Alaskan natural gas to generate current to create electromagnetic radiation to excite a section of the ionosphere. The patent speculates on "possible ramifications and potential future developments" including magnetotelluric surveys, local weather modification, and missile defense. Eastlund later claims that HAARP is built using his patents, prompting [Nick Begich Jr.](#) to charge in 1995 that HAARP is capable of secretly controlling the weather. According to HAARP program manager [John L. Heckscher](#), "HAARP certainly does not have anything to do with Eastlund's thing, that is just crazy. What we have here is a premier scientific research facility with military applications." (US Patent, "[Method and Apparatus for Altering a Region of the Earth's Atmosphere, Ionosphere, and/or Magnetosphere](#)," granted August 11, 1987)
- 1985**, January 13 — Journalist [James Bamford](#) reveals the existence of the still-secret National Reconnaissance Office in a *New York Times* article. (James Bamford, "[America's Supersecret Eyes in Space](#)," *New York Times Magazine*, January 13, 1985, Sec. 6, p. 39)
- 1985**, January 14–February 26 — Project Hessdalen II is launched to study the recurring lights of Hessdalen, Norway, with the participation of [J. Allen Hynek](#), who arrives on January 26, but little light activity is noted. The phenomenon ceases in 1986. Investigators disagree on what the Hessdalen lights are. Odd-Gunnar Røed thinks they have some complex natural cause. [Erling Strand](#) finds it odd that the lights are so localized in time and space and must be an unknown phenomenon. [Paul Devereux](#) is convinced that they are earthquake lights resulting from seismic activity (even though the seismograph recorded no tremors). University of Oslo physicist Elvand Thrane says the lights remain a mystery. (J. Allen Hynek, "[Tracking the Hessdalen Lights](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1985): 10–11; "[Projekt Hessdalen, Teil II](#)," *Journal für UFO-Forschung* 48 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 164–170; Kim Hansen, "UFO Casebook," *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Times, 1987, pp. 90–92; Gerson S. Paiva and C. A. Taft, "[Hessdalen Lights and Piezoelectricity from Rock Strain](#)," *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 25, no. 2 (2011): 265–271; Clark III 573; G. Pascoli, "[Are Hessdalen Lights a Reality, an Illusion, or a Mix of the Two?](#)" *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 35, no. 3 (2021): 590–622; Erling P. Strand, "[Project Hessdalen, Part 1: From 3 June 1983 to 24 March 1994](#)," Society for UAP Studies, January 4, 2024)
- 1985**, February — 2:35 a.m. Freight train #1702, consisting of 70 empty cars and a locomotive, is paced by a strange object for 31 miles from Essoyla station through Suoyarvi, Karelia, Russia, for 1 hour and 20 minutes. It comes from the side and crosses the railway about 100–160 feet ahead of the train. The men feel as if hypnotized and stare at an object about 13 feet in diameter that moves silently above the ground as if drifting. When the train is

approaching the Novye Peski station, Engineer Sergei Orlov switches on his portable radio and contacts a woman on duty who goes out to meet the approaching train. She is surprised to see the shining ball followed by the vibrating object looking like an “upturned basin.” The train appears, moving at about 37 mph. She thinks the ball might hit the station, but right before the switch, it suddenly separates from the locomotive and passes around the building. When it returns, the object moves again toward the train, which speeds up as if the UFO is pulling it. The train manages to stop only near the Zastava station and the ball disappears behind the forest. The crew has to wait for a train coming from the opposite direction toward Petrozavodsk. Conductor Mironov gets out of the cab to examine the wheels, and as soon as he walks around the locomotive he feels a strange force press him against the train. He cannot move, but eventually it lets up; he reaches the cab and the train starts off as if it is waiting for him to take his seat. The train keeps moving for some time until the ball disappears behind trees. Automatic recorders on the locomotive and other official documents corroborate the testimony. The shining ball is noticed earlier at the Kutizhma station even before it is spotted by the train. (NICAP, “[Objects Pull Train](#)”; Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 95)

- 1985, February 1** — The SETI Institute officially launches in Mountain View, California, with two employees, [Jill Tarter](#) and [Thomas Pierson](#). Its mission is to explore, understand, and explain the origin and nature of life in the universe, and to use this knowledge to inspire and guide present and future generations, sharing knowledge with the public, the press, and the government. For its first project, it builds a multichannel spectrum analyzer to aid in the hunt for anomalous signals in space. (Wikipedia, “[SETI Institute](#)”; Graff 296)
- 1985, March** — Noon. At a military shooting range at Mălina, west of Galați, Romania, Doru Voloșeniuc is sent to collect compasses from a military vehicle when he sees a flat, silvery object hovering about 5 feet above the ground. It becomes shrouded with a blue-green mist as it increases its rotation. He hears an unusually strong and penetrating ringing sound and he is lifted off the ground more than 12 inches and slams into the road face down. Looking up, he sees the object is no longer there. (Romania 93–94)
- 1985, March 7** — 11:40 a.m. A witness is driving south on North Stevens Street between 12th and 16th streets in Tacoma, Washington, when he sees a long, glowing, oval object to his left less than 2 miles away. The object, the width of four full moons, begins banking to the northeast. At a traffic light, the witness is able to take three photographs of the distant object, and he drives another mile toward the UFO, taking a fourth photo before it shoots straight up and out of sight. The photos only show a blur of distant light. A day later, the witness develops a rash on his face. (“[Sighting Report from Tacoma](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 3 (June/July 1985): 6–7)
- 1985, March 20** — 9:00 p.m. [Philip J. Imbrogno](#) and his team of investigators (Sheila Sabo, [George Lesnick](#), and R. Perry Collins) see a UFO immediately after leaving the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut, where they took part in a call-in TV show about the Hudson Valley sightings. They see a circular structure ringed in 7 brilliant lights hovering over a 15-story building, watch it turn in the sky, and chase it down Interstate 95. The object glides effortlessly across the sky. The FAA later tells them that the sighting involves pilots flying in an illegal formation. (R. Perry Collins, “[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#),” *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 170; NightSight 189–194)
- 1985, May 20–25** — Army Col. [John B. Alexander](#) ([Howard Blum](#) gives him the pseudonym “Harold Phillips”), director of advanced concepts at the US Army Laboratory, forms a UFO working group titled Advanced Theoretical Physics Group made up of scientists and officers throughout the defense and intelligence community. His intent is to credibly gain access to actual deep-black military programs on UFOs or provide consultants for them. It meets for the first time this week, with only three other meetings: August 6–7, 1985; April 24, 1986; and November 18, 1987. They meet at BDM McLean Secure Facility in Virginia, and the last time at the Pentagon. This first meeting’s attendees include [Robert M. Wood](#) (McDonnell Douglas), Lt. Col. [Ronald F. Blackburn](#) (Air Force), Milt Jansen (or Janzen), Don Keuble (Lockheed), [Harold E. Puthoff](#) (SRI), Ed Speakman (Army Intelligence), [Howell McConnell](#) (NSA), [William S. Wilkinson](#) (CIA), and others. The group’s effort appears to be connected to an engineering project under retired Adm. [Bobby Ray Inman](#). Wood says the meetings are top secret, but he hears “nothing that was truly classified.” Wood gives a presentation on UFO propulsion. Other people supposedly connected to the group are Maj. Gen. [Albert Stubblebine](#), [Jack Houck](#) (Boeing), and remote viewer [Ed Dames](#). Alexander states that one of ATP’s goals is: “Study of the UFO data could provide a potential for a leap in technology. This would not require access to a craft, but could be derived from scientific examination of the reports determining the theoretical physics required to achieve such results.” The group dissolves in 1988, since no government agency wants to openly fund it. (Howard Blum, *[Out There: The Government’s Secret Quest for Extraterrestrials](#)*, Simon & Schuster, 1990; John B. Alexander, *UFOs: Myths, Conspiracies, and Realities*,

Thomas Dunne, 2011, pp. 15–27; Good Need, [pp. 340–341](#); Dolan II 382–384; Jacques Vallée, *Forbidden Science* 3, Anomalist, 2017; Graff 305–307)

- 1985**, May 23 — 10:35 p.m. A Soviet bomber regiment carrying out a scheduled mission spots an oval, orange object over the Khabarovsk Krai, Russia. Radar does not track it, but observers estimate it is traveling close to 350 mph. A light halo surrounds it. The sighting lasts 13 minutes, during which time the object occasionally descends and remains motionless. Two hours later, a similar object is seen at high altitude for 10 minutes, emitting beams of light. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 76)
- 1985**, May 26 — 9:30–10:15 p.m. More than 100 people around Newtown and Southbury, Connecticut, see a low-flying, silent, circular formation of lights that passes over Interstate 84, causing many cars to pull over for a look and some to lose power. Commercial airline pilot Randy Etting sees the lights as he is driving along I-94. He pulls off the road and snaps a photo of the formation. He is sure there is a solid object behind the lights. (Philip J. Imbrogno, “[1985: Close Encounter on Interstate 84, Connecticut](#),” UFO Casebook; NightSieve 199–201)
- 1985**, Summer — Midnight. Biochemist [Kary Mullis](#) (who in 1993 won a Nobel Prize for his work on the polymerase chain reaction) is outside his cabin in Mendocino County, California, when he sees a glow next to a fir tree. Pointing his flashlight in that direction, he sees that the glow is coming from a raccoon with black eyes. The raccoon speaks to him, saying, “Good evening, doctor.” He gives a friendly reply, and a moment later it is suddenly morning and he is walking on a road uphill from the cabin with no idea how he has gotten there. His clothes are clean and dry. Mullis goes back to the cabin for some sleep. Later, he returns to the area near the fir tree and experiences an irrational panic. In 1987, he sees the cover of [Whitley Strieber](#)’s *Communion* and feels a vague sense of recognition. His adult daughter Louise, who has also experienced missing time at the cabin, has the same reaction. Mullis has no memory of seeing a UFO or having an abduction experience, but he insists the experience is real. (Kary B. Mullis, *Dancing Naked in the Mind Field*, Pantheon, 1998, [pp. 130–136](#); Bill Chalker, “[An Interesting Aside](#),” 1999; Bill Chalker, “[The Raccoon and the Nobel Prize](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 420 (April 2003): 6–7)
- 1985**, June 11 — 10:40 p.m. A Chinese Boeing 747 airliner encounters a UFO on its flight from Beijing to Paris that almost forces the captain to make an emergency landing. Flight CA 933 is over Lanzhou, Gansu province, China, when Captain Wang Shuting and his crew first observe the object. The UFO crosses the path of the airliner at an altitude of 33,000 feet at a very high speed. The object illuminates an area of 25–30 square miles and is huge, with an apparent diameter of 6 miles. It is elliptical in shape and has an extremely bright spot in the center, with three horizontal rows of bluish-white lights on the perimeter. The sighting lasts for 2 minutes. Passengers do not see the object. (“[Translation from China of June 11th UFO over Dung Kou](#),” *CUFOS Associate Newsletter* 6, no. 3 (June/July 1985): 6; Good Above, [p. 218](#))
- 1985**, June 27 — During startup of the first reactor at the Balakovo Nuclear Power Plant, Saratov Oblast, Russia, a relief valve bursts and superheated steam at 572° F. escapes into the annular compartments surrounding the reactor well. Fourteen men are possibly boiled alive. The incident is covered up by Soviet authorities. (Adam Higginbotham, *Midnight at Chernobyl*, Simon & Schuster, 2019, pp. 70–71)
- 1985**, July — 3:00 p.m. As a pilot is flying a Grumman AA TR-2 toward the Port Columbus International Airport [now the John Glenn Columbus International Airport] in Ohio, the airport gives him authorization to investigate a “second sun” about two-thirds the size of a football field a few miles to the northwest. It is not tracked on ground radar. As he approaches, he sees it is a huge bright light that switches off as he gets closer, revealing a gray sphere. The object apparently consists of “millions” of clearly visible, pentagon-shaped, partially translucent crystals. The pilot estimates they are 6 inches in diameter, all spaced identically about 12 inches apart. He decides to penetrate the mass with his left wing, hoping he can knock some to the ground. As his wing slices through, he hears what sounds like a hailstorm on a tin roof and he sees hundreds of crystals breaking along the wing. The aircraft turbulence does not disturb the small objects, but their impact on the wing nearly destabilizes him. Later, he looks for fragments embedded in the wing, but does not find any. (George Filer, “[Filer’s Files](#),” #12-2005, March 16, 2005)
- 1985**, July 14 — 12:56 a.m. Brian McMullan Sr., Brian McMullan Jr., and a third member of the rock band C.E.IV (because of their interest in UFOs) are in the garden outside the home of their bass player in a northern suburb of Glasgow, Scotland, when they see an amber ball skipping along the sky. It crosses the sky in 25 seconds, slowly changing color to red. They estimate it is about 60 feet across and vanishes toward Fenwick Moor. The band remembers being “paralyzed with awe” for several minutes after the sighting. (Jenny Randles, “Cosmic Rock,” *Fortean Times* 397 (October 2020): 31)

- 1985, July 18** — [Jaime Shandera](#) and [William Moore](#) discover the unsigned, carbon-copy 1954 Cutler-Twining memo in Box 189 of Record Group 341 in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., between two file folders.
- 1985, July 22** — 5:45 p.m. Two Hawk jets of the Zimbabwe Air Force piloted by C. Cordy-Hedge and T. R. Van Rooyen are scrambled from Thornhill Air Base in Gweru, Zimbabwe, following sightings in Bulawayo and five other cities in Matabeleland South. The object is seen and tracked on radar at Bulawayo Airport. It looks orange and round with a short cone on top. When the jets arrive at Bulawayo, the object is hovering at 7,000 feet, but it suddenly accelerates to a height of above 70,000 feet in less than a minute. The Hawks level off at 31,000 feet and return to Thornhill, where the object is seen for a few moments before disappearing horizontally at high speed. Air Commodore [David Thorne](#) states: “As far as my Air Staff is concerned, we believe implicitly that the unexplained UFOs are from some civilization beyond our planet.” UFO researcher [Cynthia Hind](#) speaks to some Bulawayo witnesses who think the object is a balloon coated with reflecting material, but radar operators say it is clear it is no balloon. (Good Above, [pp. 433–434](#); Cynthia Hind, “[African Report](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 211 (November 1985): 3–5, 19; Cynthia Hind, “[Report on the UFO Sighting in Zimbabwe: July, 1985](#),” *BUFORA Bulletin*, no. 21 (May 1986): 5–9)
- 1985, August** — Several dozen Chinese scientists gather in Dalian, Liaoning, China, to exchange views on UFO research for the first time. Some 40 papers are presented and 17 of them are selected to be published in the proceedings. An article in *China Daily* reports that there is an enormous interest in UFOs in China and that the China UFO Research Organization has a membership of 20,000. The organization’s chairman, Liang Renglin of Jinan University in Guangzhou, says that more than 600 reports were made in the past 5 years. (“UFO Conference Held in Dalian,” *China Daily*, August 27, 1985; Good Above, [pp. 219, 472](#))
- 1985, August 5** — 8:15 p.m. Antiaircraft batteries open fire on a UFO that is flying from west to east over northeastern Tehran, Iran. They apparently miss. The batteries believe the object is an Iraqi warplane. (“[Iran Fires on Shining Object in Sky](#),” *Newport News (Va.) Daily Press*, August 7, 1985, p. 12)
- 1985, August 10** — The Russian nuclear submarine *K-431* is refueling at the Chazhma Bay naval facility near Vladivostok, Primorsky Krai, Russia. A reactor tank lid is improperly replaced, which quickly results in a thermal explosion. There are 10 fatalities, and 49 other people suffer radiation injuries. The explosion releases a massive amount of radioactivity and contaminates large areas of land and water. The disaster is kept secret for many years. (Wikipedia, “[Soviet submarine K-431](#)”)
- 1985, August 15** — 4:05 p.m. Greek Olympic Airways Flight OA 132, piloted by Christos Stamulis, is flying from Zürich, Switzerland, to Athens and is just passing the Swiss-Italian border at 25,000 feet when a wingless projectile passes 200–500 feet below them from left to right. The object is about 6 feet long, dark brown or black, and is coming from the Italian side of the border. Italian and Swiss military deny any tests. (Clas Svahn and Anders Liljegren, “[Close Encounters with Unknown Missiles](#),” *IUR* 19, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1994): 12)
- 1985, August 17** — Afternoon. For several hours, witnesses throughout central Chile see distinct, luminous spots in the sky, sometimes motionless, sometimes moving slowly. Television crews film the objects, astronomers in Santiago photograph them, and the Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport tracks them on radar. Early explanations by the Chilean Air Force center on weather or research balloons, but a Chilean Civil Aeronautics report states that the sightings remain an enigma. (J. Antonio Huneus, “[A Chilean Overview](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 218 (June 1986): 5–6)
- 1985, August 18** — Four civilian pilots are flying a Cessna on a southerly course at 3,200 feet altitude near Söderhamn, Gävleborg, Sweden, when they spot a missilelike object, some 20 feet long, going in the opposite direction. They see it is a metallic missile with steering fins in the back. It occasionally changes its course according to the terrain. The pilot dives down a bit to follow it, but they can’t keep up. The Swedish military spends 6 months trying to identify it. (Clas Svahn and Anders Liljegren, “[Close Encounters with Unknown Missiles](#),” *IUR* 19, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1994): 12; Swords 369–370)
- 1985, September** — *Contact*, a novel by astronomer [Carl Sagan](#), is published by Simon and Schuster. It deals with the theme of contact between humanity and a more technologically advanced, extraterrestrial life form. The novel mixes science, religion, and philosophy with somewhat fictionalized anecdotes, experiences, and personalities from across Sagan’s career, including a Russian character resembling [Iosif Shklovsky](#) and a female protagonist based on [Jill Tarter](#). (Wikipedia, “[Contact](#)”; Graff 291)
- 1985, September 9** — 12:05 p.m. British pilot David J. Hastings is flying a Cessna 337 Super Skymaster with his instructor, US pilot David Patterson, south of Las Vegas, Nevada, with the Mojave Desert in California just coming into view, when they nearly collide with an oblong-shaped object that suddenly appears directly in front of them. They duck beneath the instrument panel. When they get up, they sense something moving on the port

side of the plane, so Hastings takes two photos in that direction. When the film is developed, one shot shows a blurry image of a UFO. (David J. Hastings, "Across the USA in a Cessna Skymaster," *Pilot*, June 2000, pp. 56–59; UFOFiles2, [pp. 132–133](#); Good Need, [pp. 399–400](#))

- 1985**, September 12 — 9:00–10:30 p.m. An unusual object, studded with lights, flies low over New York City and surrounding areas of Yonkers and New Rochelle. Some witnesses report a V shape; others say the lights vary in appearance. Some can see a dark object occulting the background stars as the lights pass overhead. (R. Perry Collins, "[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#)," *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 171)
- 1985**, September 13 — The US P78-1 Solwind solar observation satellite is destroyed in orbit at an altitude of 326 miles by an ASM-135 ASAT missile launched from a USAF F-15 Eagle fighter aircraft. The test results in 285 cataloged pieces of orbital debris. (Wikipedia, "[Solwind](#)"; Wikipedia, "[ASM-135 ASAT](#)")
- 1985**, September 27 — Two police officers in Long Clawson, England, are the latest witnesses of a triangular-shaped object that has been seen multiple times in the area around Leicester since August. ("[Throwing a Light on UFO](#)," *Leicester (UK) Mercury*, December 2, 1985, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 199 (February 1986): 12)
- 1985**, Autumn — 8:30 p.m. A father and son are driving in Cannock Chase toward Rugeley, Staffordshire, England. As they round a bend in the road, they see a large, black, triangular object stationary 150 feet in the sky about 100 feet away. A bright light appears at each point of the triangle. After a short time, it shoots away at incredible speed. ("[Tale of a Chase Hi-Tech Triangle](#)," Wolverhampton (UK) *Cannock Chase Post*, December 21, 2000, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 383 (June 2001): 13)
- 1985**, October — The Russian motorship *Baltiysky-35* is in the Baltic Sea bound from Lübeck, Germany, to Riga, Latvia, when the crew observes a bright dot in the sky emanating concentric circles of a light-green color. Researcher Konstantin Khazanovich considers this to be the result of a Soviet ballistic missile launch from the Murmansk area. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 172)
- 1985**, October 5 — Afternoon. UFO researcher [Ray Stanford](#) allegedly takes a Super 8 color movie of something in the afternoon sky over Corpus Christi, Texas. In his accounts, eight non-human craft move in progression across the sky, several of them providing singular and awe-inspiring displays of astonishing unknown technologies. (Douglas Dean Johnson, "[Plasma Beam—or Fever Dream?](#)" *Mirador*, April 29, 2022; Douglas Dean Johnson, "[The Ray Stanford UFO—Alien Legacy](#)," *Mirador*, April 8, 2024)
- 1985**, October 17 — Evening. An estimated 2,000 witnesses see a dark object with lights over Bridgeport, Fairfield, and Danbury, Connecticut. Several witnesses see the lights change from a V to a straight line and back to a V formation. It moves very slowly, rotates on its axis, and accelerates rapidly. Some describe it as larger than an airliner at low altitude. (R. Perry Collins, "[The Westchester Wing, Part II](#)," *Pursuit* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 166, 171–172)
- 1985**, November — GEPAN has received 1,615 UFO reports from the Gendarmerie in France dating as far back as 1974. (Clark III 546)
- 1985**, November 3 — 8:30 p.m. Two men in a small vessel in the waters off Vladivostok, Primorsky Krai, Russia, notice a high-altitude object in the north looking a bit larger than a star, rapidly moving toward them. It sends a beam of light to earth at a sharp angle, although the beam does not reach the ground. As the UFO approaches the boat its engine stops. The captain restarts the engine, but it dies again when the object is overhead. The UFO moves off toward the city and disappears. The men use oars to return to shore. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 77–78)
- 1985**, November 16 — [Mark Rodeghier](#) is named deputy scientific director of the Center for UFO Studies. ("[To Our Readers](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1985): 18)
- 1985**, November 19 — At the 1985 Geneva Summit between President [Ronald Reagan](#) and Soviet General Secretary [Mikhail Gorbachev](#), Reagan remarks during a toast that if the people of the world were to find out that there was some alien life form that was going to attack the Earth approaching on Halley's Comet, then that knowledge would unite all the peoples of the world. In a private talk with Gorbachev, Reagan asks what Russia would do if the US were suddenly attacked from outer space. "Would you help us?" he asks. Gorbachev responds, "No doubt about it." (presidentialufo.com, "[Ronald Reagan, 40th President, January 20, 1981–January 20, 1989](#)"; Jimmy Orr, "[Reagan and Gorbachev Agreed to Fight UFOs](#)," *Christian Science Monitor*, April 24, 2009)
- 1985**, November 19 — 11:00 p.m. A woman is returning to her home near Madison, Wisconsin. Suddenly she sees three lights above a row of trees descending toward a house on the north side of the street. She pulls over to the curb and sees the lights make a sharp, 90° turn toward her car. Then it rises several feet in front of the car avoiding the power lines. Triangular and black, the object is the size of a large car with a light on each side. Sweeping to the

- north, the triangle stops and hovers directly over a house. She leaves and calls the Madison police department. (Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part Two](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1988): 17–18; Marler [163](#))
- 1985**, November 22 — [Hynek](#) writes a letter to *International UFO Reporter* Editor [Jerome Clark](#), effectively resigning as editor-in-chief, citing health reasons. He also states that his connection with [Tina Choate](#), [Brian Myers](#), and the ICUFOR operation in Phoenix, Arizona, is "null and void." Funding from the British investor Kaye has fallen through, and Choate and Myers are more interested in the commercial aspects than UFO research. ("[Dr. Hynek Resigns](#)," *IUR* 10, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1985): 20; O'Connell, 2017, pp. 332–338)
- 1985**, November 22 — After 5:00 p.m. A Wisconsin state employee is driving north on County Highway CV near DeForest, Wisconsin, when he notices three white lights hovering 20–30 feet above a farmhouse. He exits the highway for a closer look. The UFO is roughly triangular, dull gray, 40 feet across, and its bottom is sloped into contours. It is hanging stationary over a 60-foot-high tree as the witness pulls his car past it. He gets out of his car about 200 feet away, and the object moves closer toward him to about 100 feet over the road. Smoothly and quickly it moves away to the west. (Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part Two](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1988): 18)
- 1985**, December — Some members of the Centro Ufologico Nazionale, including [Paolo Toselli](#), Gian Paolo Grassino, and Edoardo Russo, are dissatisfied with its administration and priorities. They break off and form the Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici. The newsletter *Notizie C.U.N.* becomes *Notizie UFO* with the same editor, Gian Paolo Grassino, in Turin, Italy. It changes the name in February 1998 to *UFO Notizie* and is now published as *Notizie CISU*. ([Notizie UFO](#), no. 11 (December 1985); [UFO Notizie](#), no. 57 (February 1998); Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici, "[Notizie CISU](#)"; [2Pinotti](#) 96–97)
- 1985**, December 23 — 3:10 a.m. The merchant ferry [Manuel Soto](#), owned by Transmediterránea Company, is sailing from Las Palmas to Arrecife in the Canary Islands when the third officer on duty sees a light on the horizon ahead. Initially he identifies it as the star Antares but soon realizes the position is wrong. He takes measurements of its height and azimuth. It remains in the same spot for 15 minutes, after which it begins moving quickly. Other crew members see the light approaching the ship and reaching the zenith 2 minutes later. The object's outline does not resemble an airplane or helicopter, and it has an intense white light at its center, a weaker red light near it, and another soft light set apart. The object is flying low and silently. ([Swords](#) 436)
- 1985**, December 26 — Night. Novelist [Whitley Strieber](#) undergoes a bizarre UFO abduction in his cabin in upstate New York. After he is awakened by a peculiar noise, he opens his eyes to see a small, inhuman creature rushing toward his bed. The next thing he knows it is morning, and he is feeling disoriented and angry but can't tell why. Later, the full story of missing time, terrifying flashbacks, and intrusive examinations by entities he calls the "visitors" unfolds under the direction of [Budd Hopkins](#) in hypnosis sessions by [Donald F. Klein](#) of the New York Psychiatric Institute beginning in March 1986. Strieber tells the story in his 1987 book *Communion*. (Whitley Strieber, [Communion: A True Story](#), Avon, 1987; Clark III 1112–1113; Nick Redfern, "[Whitley Strieber's Communion at 30](#)," *Mysterious Universe*, March 2, 2017; [Graff](#) 331–332)

1986

- 1986** — NORAD technical intelligence works on 813 initial Unknown targets this year (whittled down quickly from an even greater number of Uncorrelated Targets). Nearly two-thirds are pursued by fighter interceptors and more than one-third of the scrambled cases are successfully intercepted and identified. Almost half of the total are identified by further Air Traffic Control correlation, leaving 123 Remaining Unknowns at the end of the year. This is reduced further in early 1987 to 87 "Not Identified" REMs by additional intelligence correlation analysis, leaving roughly 10% of the initial amount unidentified. (Clark III 801)
- 1986** — Night. Dissident Chinese writer [Ma Jian](#) has escaped from custody and is making his way through dangerous terrain in Lancang Lahu Autonomous County in southern Yunnan, China. Suddenly, a ball of light the size of a cantaloupe appears in the darkness. It rises from a stream and floats through the trees, then stops by some branches 30 feet away. It drops to his eye level and he follows it through the forest, guiding his way for 12 miles until dawn. (Ma Jian, *Red Dust: A Path through China*, Pantheon, 2001, [p. 279](#); Clark III 652–653)
- 1986**, January — Jimmy Goddard begins publishing *Amskaya*, a newsletter of the contactee-oriented STAR Fellowship, in Weybridge, Surrey, England. It continues through July 2018. ([Amskaya](#), no. 1 (January 1986))
- 1986**, January 1 — The Usenet bulletin board service ParaNet is launched, managed by James J. Speiser in Arizona. It quickly develops into a thriving community where a full range of researchers, skeptics, and cranks can post

articles. Dale Goudie takes over the online information service Computer UFO Network. Operating out of Mercer Island, Washington, it functions as a UFO bulletin board using a voice and data line connected to an IBM personal computer. CUFON receives most of its reports from [Bob Gribble](#) of the National UFO Reporting Center. In Seattle. By late 1986, Goudie has more than 1,700 members and is receiving many calls per day, mostly IFOs. (Walt Andrus, "[Director's Message](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 214 (February 1986): 20, 19; Walt Andrus, "[Director's Message](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 223 (November 1986): 19, 18; Dolan II 380–381)

1986, January 7 — A UFO emitting beams of light toward the ground is seen in Butler, Pennsylvania. In Pittsburgh, 20 minutes later, a silver-gray disc is seen hovering. Mist forms around it, the object tilts, and it moves out of sight. (Stan Gordon, "[Pennsylvania Wave](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 224 (December 1986): 7)

1986, January 9 — 9:00 p.m. Multiple cars stop along Interstate 84 in Hartford, Connecticut, to watch a silent boomerang-shaped object, estimated to be the size of a Boeing 747, with white, red, blue, and green lights. It moves low through the sky then hovers for 15 seconds before heading off to the west. The boomerang is also seen by dozens of witnesses in Torrington, Connecticut. A family sees the UFO, with 10 white lights, hover directly over their house, engulfing their home in a brilliant white light. They are so frightened they flee to the basement. The building inspector for Torrington sees a "cigar with square windows" near Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks. The FAA claims the object is a blimp, although there are no blimps flying in the area. (Tracy Gordon and Deborah Peterson, "[UFO Sighting Sends Theories Flying](#)," *Hartford (Conn.) Courant*, January 11, 1986, pp. B1, B4; NightSiege, 5–6, 194)

1986, January 29 — 7:50 p.m. Inhabitants of Dalnegorsk, Primorsky Krai, Russia, see a reddish ball about half the size of the full moon. The ball is flying soundlessly parallel to the ground. It is later determined that its speed is approximately 34 mph and that it is about 2,300–2,625 feet in altitude. When the object reaches Height 611 (also known as Mount Izvestkovaya) it starts to descend and then crashes into the hill. All witnesses but one agree there is no sound when the object reaches the ground. Some say the object falls with a flash and is not visible after that; others claim it oscillates at altitude above the hill, radiating light of varying intensity as it goes up and down. The light given off by the object is described by some as a forest fire, which lasts for approximately one hour. A scientific team led by [Valery Dvuzhilny](#), head of the Far Eastern Commission for Anomalous Phenomena, arrives on the site on February 3. Some rocks at the impact site have drops of silvery metal, which are later determined to be lead. The type of lead found on Height 611 is different from lead found in local lead deposits. Also, black, glassy, drop-shaped beads and mesh fragments are found at the site. In all, approximately 70 grams of lead, 5 grams of mesh fragments, and 40 grams of beads are discovered. The radiation level of the landing ground is normal. Photos of the site using two different cameras all develop as blank. Chemical analyses of the beads show they are mostly composed of lead, silicon, and iron. Some of the drops contain significant amounts of zinc, bismuth, and rare earth elements. An analysis of the soil, rocks, and burned wood taken from the landing ground shows that the chemical composition is similar to the composition of samples taken from the site of the 1908 Tunguska event. The mesh fragments are also analyzed; the material does not dissolve in strong acids and organic solvents, even when exposed to high temperatures for prolonged periods of time. One of the mesh fragments is discovered to be composed of scandium, gold, lanthanum, sodium, and samarium. An analysis of another mesh fragment shows gold, silver, and nickel. After that fragment is heated in a vacuum, the analysis no longer shows these elements; however, molybdenum and rhenium are detected. The concentration of gold found in one of the mesh fragments is equivalent to 1,100 grams per metric ton. This is much higher than gold deposits in the region, which become economic to extract when the concentration of gold reaches 4 grams per metric ton. There are no gold deposits in Dalnegorsk that contain gold at concentrations high enough to extract. (StealthSkater Archives, [[Dalnegorsk articles](#)]; "[USSR: Media Report Multitude of UFO Sightings](#)," CIA Foreign Broadcast Information Service Foreign Press Note, November 22, 1989; Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *Russia's Roswell Incident*, Flying Disk Press, 2017)

1986, February — 11 p.m. A couple are riding a motorcycle south on US Highway 23 near Franklin, North Carolina, when they see three red lights in the shape of a triangle flying silently at a height of 300 feet. The lights appear to be about 300 feet apart. As it moves slowly away, the lights reposition themselves and begin spinning off to the east. ("[North Carolina Huge Triangular Craft](#)," Filer's Files, #25-2006, June 21, 2006; Covert 25)

1986, February 4 — 3:00 a.m. A woman in Reseda, California, wakes up with a sinus headache. She hears animals in the neighborhood barking, growling, and howling. Looking outside, she sees above a power line a black object hovering with a peculiar vibrating motion. It is "like a black mirror with a small, white fluorescent aura around it." After 3–4 minutes, it emits orange bands of light. She wakes her husband, who manages to see a thin, white mist floating away. A strong wind comes up for 5 minutes afterward. (Mark Rodeghier, "[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 14)

- 1986**, February 6 — 8:30 p.m. [Valery Dvuzhilny](#) reports that two yellow globes appear in the north and approach the Dalnegorsk crash site, circle it four times, and disappear in a flash. (StealthSkater Archives, [[Dalnegorsk articles](#)])
- 1986**, February 7–8 — The First All-Union Seminar on Technical Methods of Anomalous Phenomena Research takes place in Nizhny Novgorod in central Russia. (Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1986**, February 8 — 7:00 p.m. Matthew Woodard, 16, and Melinda Hays, 17, are driving toward Lima, Ohio, from the west on State Route 117. As they are crossing the bridge over the Ottawa River, they see a large, dark object about 50–60 feet long hovering above some trees on the right side of the road. It parallels them as they turn left on Seriff Road. It has a rectangular upper section with a single steady white light on top and sloping sides with a red and blue light on the lower left. The object eventually disappears in the distance behind trees and houses. (John P. Timmerman, “[A Giant Triangle](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1986): 9)
- 1986**, February 12 — 12:33 a.m. A woman who lives on the northwest edge of Lima, Ohio, is awakened by a loud sound. She looks out and sees a “strange dark object” in the southeast sky. It is triangular in shape, has white lights in the two lower corners and a red light in the top corner, and is hovering about 250 feet away. She goes to wake her husband, but when she returns the object is gone. (John P. Timmerman, “[A Giant Triangle](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1986): 10)
- 1986**, February 26 — 7:30 p.m. [Charles, the Prince of Wales](#), is returning to London, England, after a tour of Dallas, Texas. While flying over the Irish Sea, the pilot of his Vickers VC10 observes a bright red flash in the sky. Charles does not see it, but several other aircraft in the vicinity also report a reddish ball of fire with a tail (undoubtedly a meteor or space debris reentry). (Jenny Randles, “[Nonencounter with a non-UFO](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1986): 7–8)
- 1986**, February 28 — 11:30 p.m. Multiple witnesses in New Castle, Pennsylvania, watch a 50-foot-long lighted object, with two apparent legs for landing, hovering and moving up, down, and sideways. A dog becomes completely agitated. (Stan Gordon, “[Pennsylvania Wave](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 224 (December 1986): 8)
- 1986**, March 18 — Two triangular objects flying one behind the other with their points forward are seen near Newport, South Wales. The first is covered with multicolored lights, while the second has three lights at each point. Both are a few hundred yards long. (Marler [138](#))
- 1986**, March 26 — 8:00 p.m. Some 500 witnesses in Kingston, New York, see an object “like a giant Ferris wheel” the size of a football field. It makes a humming sound and has intensely bright lights, mostly white but also red, yellow, green, and blue. A dark mass behind the lights blots out the sky. Suddenly the object flips on its side before moving away. A police officer who sees the UFO says it cannot be “a bunch of guys flying in planes.” (NightSieve 196–198)
- 1986**, April 22 — After 10:00 p.m. Medical technicians taking an injured man in an ambulance to Debrecen, Hungary, see a huge, luminous, orange sphere flying silently above the right side of the road at Hajdudorog and moving along with them. It is about 325 feet away from them, floating at 100–130 feet. The sphere is surrounded by a ring, and flames appear on its surface from time to time. Two flames blaze on opposite sides, while another moves to and fro along its middle. The sighting lasts for 15 minutes for a distance of nearly 12 miles. When the ambulance reaches Hajdúböszörmény, the object speeds up, stops above a forest, and slowly descends while radiating a bright light that illuminates the trees. It goes out shortly afterward. On the return from Debrecen, the huge sphere returns over Józsa, this time with 6–7 flames instead of 3. It speeds over the village and “waits” on the other side for the ambulance, following it again to the north. The perplexed technicians decide to stop the ambulance. The UFO slows down, but does not stop, moving over a power line and illuminating the cables below. The ambulance recommences its journey, with the object following for another 10 minutes. A short time later, covering the same route, the technicians notice that the forest where the sphere landed is on fire. They find the grass all wet, with 5-foot flames (natural gas?) emanating from the ground. (Károli Hargitai, “[The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 14)
- 1986**, April 22 — 11:00 p.m. Two people are driving on the Via Flaminia near Pesaro, Italy, when their car engine stops. After hearing a strange sound, they see 3 discs 65 feet in diameter with domes and tripods standing on the left of the road. They have white and blue lights. After hovering for 20 seconds, the discs emit a strong whistle, accelerate, and disappear. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)
- 1986**, April 25 — 9:05 p.m. A private pilot sees a V-shaped configuration of approximately 12 spherical nocturnal lights for about 15 seconds in Memphis, Tennessee. He estimates they are moving at 300 knots at an altitude of under 1,000 feet. (Mark Rodeghier, “[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 14)

- 1986, April 26** — 1:23 a.m. The Number 4 nuclear reactor in the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant at Pripyat, Ukraine, has a power surge during a backup generator test. Flawed reactor design and inadequately trained personnel lead to the fuel rods overheating, causing an explosion and meltdown, necessitating the evacuation of 300,000 people from the area. Around 5% of the core is released into the atmosphere, dispersing radioactive material across Europe. The reactor explosion kills two of the reactor operating staff. In the emergency response that follows, 134 firemen and station staff are hospitalized with acute radiation syndrome due to absorbing high doses of ionizing radiation. Of these 134 people, 28 die in the days to months afterward, and approximately 14 suspected radiation-induced cancer deaths follow within the next 10 years. Among the wider population, an excess of 15 childhood thyroid cancer deaths are documented as of 2011. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation at multiple times reviews all the published research on the incident and finds that at present, fewer than 100 documented deaths are likely attributable to increased exposure to radiation. Determining the total eventual number of exposure-related deaths is uncertain based on the linear no-threshold model, a contested statistical model that is used in estimates of low-level radon and air pollution exposure. (Wikipedia, "[Chernobyl disaster](#)"; Adam Higginbotham, *Midnight at Chernobyl*, Simon & Schuster, 2019)
- 1986, April 26** — About 4:30 a.m. During the nuclear disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine, Mikhail Varitsky and other technicians observe a fiery sphere, similar in color to brass, within 1,000 feet of the damaged Unit 4 reactor at the height of the fire. Two bright rays shoot out from the object, directed at the reactor. It hovers in the areas about 3 minutes, then the rays vanish as the UFO moves slowly away to the northwest. Radiation levels taken just before the UFO appears read 3,000 milliroentgens/hour; after the rays, the readings show 800 milliroentgens/hour. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 68–69; "[UFO Prevents Blast at Chernobyl Nuclear Plant](#)," *Pravda*, September 16, 2002)
- 1986, April 27** — [J. Allen Hynek](#) dies in Scottsdale, Arizona, from a malignant brain tumor. ("[J. Allen Hynek, Astronomer and UFO Consultant, Dies](#)," *New York Times*, May 1, 1986, p. D27; Mark Rodeghier, "[Good-bye, Allen](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 3 (May/June 1986): 3, 12)
- 1986, May 6** — Several witnesses are driving from Worthing to Billingham in West Sussex, England, when they see a trapezium-shaped object with two square lights in front, and two green and one red light in the rear. Making a dull humming sound, it hovers above the road then zigzags behind their car. After they step out of their vehicle, the object comes straight at them, turns, and proceeds to the north. (Marler [138](#))
- 1986, May 8** — UFO researcher Lee M. Graham, who has met several times with [Bill Moore](#) and received documents about Project Snowbird and Project Aquarius, writes to the Defense Investigative Service about Moore's contacts. Moore had sported an ID badge that is identical to other DIS badges Graham has seen. Moore says his superior was named "Richard," which probably indicates USAF intelligence agent [Richard C. Doty](#). (Robert Hastings, "[The MJ-12 Affair: Facts, Questions, Comments](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 254 (June 1989): 3–11; Dolan II 406–407)
- 1986, May 19** — 6:30 p.m. 2ndSgt Sergio Mota da Silva, airport flight controller for São José dos Campos, São Paulo, Brazil, sees two luminous objects about 6,500 feet above the city and 9 miles away. Through binoculars, the objects have distinct borders and intense multicolored flashing lights in the lower part. At 7:00 p.m., flight controllers at Brasília and São Paulo confirm three primary radar targets above São José dos Campos. Around 7:30 p.m., da Silva sees more lights, predominantly red, but changing to yellow, green, and orange.
- 1986, May 19** — 7:40 p.m. Visual UFO sightings continue over São José dos Campos, with objects remaining motionless for long periods of time. By 8:00 p.m., CINDACTA radars in Brasília track 8 unidentified targets on their screens.
- 1986, May 19** — 9:00 p.m. A Xingu light airplane piloted by Col. [Ozires Silva](#), an aeronautical engineer and a manufacturing CEO for Petrobras, is preparing for a landing at São José dos Campos. His copilot Cmdr. Alcir Pereira da Silva receives a call from CINDACTA in Brasília asking them to confirm some unidentified targets. They look and see bright red or red-orange lights "not at all like stars or planes." Aborting the landing, they attempt to pursue one of the objects, which blinks on and off irregularly, appearing in a new location each time as if changing position rapidly. After about 30 minutes, they give up the chase and land. The Xingu makes three other attempts to land, but each time is diverted toward looking at other unidentified lights and targets.
- 1986, May 19** — 10:23 p.m. By this time, the Air Defense and Air Traffic Control Center is on full alert, radar screens showing numerous unidentified targets. Three F-5E fighter jets are scrambled from Santa Cruz Air Force Base near São Paulo. One of the pilots, Capt. Marcio Brisola Jordão, is able to approach within 12 miles of an unidentified target, visible to him as a strong, constant light that is changing colors continuously from white to green. He breaks off contact when the object moves away out to sea. Another F-5E, piloted by Lt. Kleber Caldas

Marinho, chases a very intense red light that changes to white, then green, then red again. Running low on fuel, he has to return to base. Both ground and airborne radar are tracking the objects. After the F-5E pilots make visual contact, more jets are scrambled from Anápolis Air Force Base, Goiás, about 10:50 p.m. This second flight consists of three Mirage III fighters equipped with Sidewinders and Martra missiles. One of the pilots, Capt. Armindo Sousa Viriato de Freitas, is vectored toward 10–13 unidentified targets at a distance of 20 miles. Radar controllers see the objects surrounding his plane, 6 stationed on one side and 7 on the other, and later following his plane at a distance of two miles, but only see them visually once when they are climbing vertically. During the night, a total of 21 luminous objects, apparently spherical and ranging in size from 165 to 330 feet in diameter, are seen, captured on radar, and pursued by jet fighters. Activity ceases around 11:20 p.m. The Air Force Minister, Brig. Gen. [Octávio Júlio Moreira Lima](#), makes the events public at a press conference and allows the pilots and radar officers to submit to news media questioning in Brasília. (NICAP, “[Brazilian Aircraft / UFO Encounter / Radar-Visual](#)”; Wikipedia, “[Noite dos discos voadores](#)”; Willy Smith, “[The Brazilian Incident](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1986): 4–6; Fred Bobb, “[The Astounding UFO Invasion of Brazil](#),” *Pursuit* 19, no. 2 (Summer 1986): 82–83; Walt Andrus, “[UFOs over Brazil](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 221 (September 1986): 3, 11; Willy Smith, “[More on Brazilian OVNI](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 221 (September 1986): 4–5, 11; J. Antonio Huneeus, “[UFO Alert in Brazil](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 223 (November 1986): 6–7, 9, 15; Willy Smith, “[UFO Chase in Brazil \(May 1986\)](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 32, no. 1 (December 1986): 6–8; Willy Smith, “UFOs in Latin America,” *UFOs 1947–1987*, Fortean Tomes, 1987, pp. 111–113; Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneeus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, pp. 121–127; Kean, pp. 199–202; Good Above, pp. 427–428; UFOEv II 109–111; Clark III 830–835; Brazil 417–441; Patrick Gross, “[Jets Chase UFOs over Brazil in 1986](#)”; Jackson Camargo, “[Os 37 Anos da Noite Oficial dos OVNI](#),” Portal Fenomenum, May 19, 2023)

1986, June — The Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici in Turin, Italy, begins publishing its official journal *UFO–Rivista di Informazione Ufologica* through autumn 2017. (*UFO–Rivista di Informazione Ufologica*, no. 1 (June 1986))

1986, June 26 — 9:49 p.m. A husband and wife see two objects traveling from southwest to northeast, about as bright as Venus, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They move on parallel paths below a scattered cloud cover. After a minute, they appear to begin rotating, then stop and move out of sight. (Mark Rodeghier, “[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 14)

1986, July 11 — A Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk stealth attack aircraft crashes in Sequoia National Forest, California, killing pilot Maj. [Ross E. Mulhare](#) and starting a fire. The Air Force establishes restricted airspace around the site. Armed guards prohibit entry, including firefighters, and a helicopter gunship circles the area. All F-117 debris is replaced with remains of a F-101A Voodoo crash stored at Area 51. (Jeffrey T. Richelson, “[When Secrets Crash](#),” *Air Force Magazine*, July 1, 2001)

1986, July 15 — 12:00 midnight. A single witness walking home from the bus station in Watertown, Massachusetts, is watching airliners land at Logan Airport when he sees a string of three bright-orange lights. They are moving along the same glide path as the incoming jets but seem to slow down, come to a dead stop, then vanish instantly. (Mark Rodeghier, “[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#),” *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 13)

1986, July 18 — Royal assent is granted to the Outer Space Act, an Act of Parliament that implements the UK’s international obligations with respect to space launches and operations by people connected to the country. The Act does not come into force until August 1, 1989. The Act specifies that anyone who launches a space object or carries out any activity in outer space must obtain a license before doing so. It also requires citizens to inform the Secretary of State of the arrival of any spacecraft on their property. In its preamble, the legislators specifically state that the Act applies to any activity in outer space. (Wikipedia, “[Outer Space Act 1986](#)”; Ted Harrison, “Abiding by the Outer Space Act,” *Fortean Times* 414 (January 2022): 55)

1986, July 21 — [Ben Rich](#), executive vice president and general manager of Lockheed’s Advanced Development Projects, replies to a letter from researcher John Andrews about man-made and extraterrestrial UFOs, saying “Yes, I’m a believer in both categories. I feel everything is possible. Many of our manmade UFOs are Un Funded Opportunities.” (Keith Basterfield, “[Which Aerospace Company Is Hiding a UAP Black Project?](#)” Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena—Scientific Research, August 28, 2021)

1986, August — 2:00 a.m. Meteorologist Ion Lazeanu is making routine radar observations at the National Meteorological Administration in Bucharest, Romania, when he picks up a stationary target that appears to be above the city of Sofia, Bulgaria, at an altitude of 18.6 miles. It suddenly disappears and relocates 3 miles lower down. After a short while it relocates to its original position. Over the next 3–4 weeks, he detects the same target every night he

is on duty for periods of 3–20 minutes. He discovers another target above Cluj-Napoca, Romania. In February 1988 it reappears above Sofia, and in March 1988 he tracks it moving horizontally toward Varna, Bulgaria. At one point he locks the radar directly on the target and the system is temporarily disabled. He estimates that the target has a length of at least 4,920 feet. (Ion Lazeanu, "[Unusual Phenomenon Observed with Radar Device in Romania](#)," *European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies* 1 no. 1 (March 2000): 33–34)

- 1986**, August 11 (approximately) — 6:00 p.m. A retired factory worker and his wife are sitting in their driveway in Lima, Ohio, when they see a rotating, diamond-shaped object about 20 feet in diameter pass nearby. They watch it for less than 2 minutes. It is flying low, passing behind several trees as it moves from west to northeast and out of view. (Mark Rodeghier, "[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 13)
- 1986**, August 12 — 12:00 midnight. A single witness in Cridersville, Ohio, sees two UFOs, one while watching the Perseid meteor shower, and the other 7 hours later while driving to work. The first object is a white ball of light seen for about 60 seconds; the second is a circular bluish object in the western sky seen for 1–2 minutes. (Mark Rodeghier, "[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 13)
- 1986**, August 13 — 7:50 p.m. A family of three observes a metallic, hamburger-shaped object through a sixth-floor hospital window in Indianapolis, Indiana, for 4–5 minutes. It passes above an airliner going in the opposite direction. The object tips on its edge at one point, and it has a haze of pale green along one side. (Mark Rodeghier, "[From the CUFOS Files: 1986 Reports](#)," *IUR* 11, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1986): 13)
- 1986**, August 15 — 11:00 p.m. A married couple on vacation in Calalzo di Cadore, Belluno, Italy, are sitting near a wood outside town when they see a bright light descend. It soon becomes a disc-shaped, domed object, blue in color and luminescent. They see it land, then their awareness ceases until two hours later. By this time the object has disappeared, and only a dark circular trace is left on the ground where grass is bent and blackened for a diameter of 30 feet. Strange dreams and difficulty sleeping, as well as the memory of two humanlike beings in coveralls, persuade them to be hypnotized on August 23–24 by a physician in Pordenone. They relate that a being had come out of the disc and took them on board without touching them. Inside they are laid down and given a medical examination of some kind. The entities have long, oval-shaped heads with phosphorescent eyes, pointed ears, and narrow mouths. (Paolo Fiorino, Gian Paolo Grassino, and Antonio Chiumiento, "[Abductions in Italy](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1989): 16)
- 1986**, August 31 — 2:30 a.m. A man is driving home when his car engine stops in Manzuno, Italy. He gets out to find out what happened, hears a sharp whistle and dogs barking, and sees two bright lights. The objects descend and remain visible for more than 15 minutes. He sees their shape as rectangular with a luminous trail. The engine comes back on as the objects disappear. (Herbert S. Taylor, "[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#)," *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)
- 1986**, September — [Vicki Ecker](#) and Sherie Stark launch a newsstand magazine, *California UFO*, which becomes one of the most widely read periodicals in ufology. It soon changes its name to just *UFO*, varying its frequency from quarterly to bimonthly, to erratically with the final issue of 158 appearing in 2012. (Wikipedia, "[UFO Magazine](#)"; Clark III 1155)
- 1986**, September — [George M. Eberhart](#) publishes *UFOs and the Extraterrestrial Contact Movement*, a comprehensive, two-volume bibliography of all UFO literature known up to this time. (George M. Eberhart, *UFOs and the Extraterrestrial Contact Movement: A Bibliography*, Scarecrow, 1986, [vol. 1](#) and [vol. 2](#); Clark 358)
- 1986**, Fall — USAF Lt. Col. Ernie Kellerstrass (Hawk), who works at the Foreign Intelligence Division at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio, invites several individuals—[Harold E. Puthoff](#) (Partridge), [John B. Alexander](#) (Chickadee), [C. B. Scott Jones](#) (Hummingbird, an aide to Sen. [Claiborne Pell](#), D-R.I.), USAF Capt. [Robert M. Collins](#) (Condor), [William Moore](#), and [Jaime Shandera](#)—to his home in Beavercreek, Ohio, to discuss UFOs, extraterrestrials, and Area 51. Kellerstrass claims to know USAF Lt. Col. [Robert R. Hippler](#) (allegedly an officer in a top secret Air Force UFO study), physiological studies of actual aliens, and the presence of an alien base on Area 51. The group meets several times. Moore and Shandera become concerned that their telephones are being monitored, so they decide to assign a bird name to anyone they discuss UFO military activities with. Others in the "Aviary" are forensic medical doctor and CIA officer [Christopher \(Kit\) Green](#) (Blue Jay), Defense Intelligence Agency officer [Dale E. Graff](#) (Owl), CIA agent [Harry Rositzke](#) (Falcon, according to Greg Bishop), and USAF OSI agent [Richard C. Doty](#) (a Falcon substitute). Another, only known as Raven (alleged to be DIA scientist Jack Verona, [Richard Helms](#), or possibly [Henry Kissinger](#)), appears to be the most connected. (Robert M. Collins and Richard Doty, *Exempt from Disclosure: The Disturbing Case about the UFO Coverup*, Peregrine, 2005, pp. 8, 86; Bruce Maccabee, "[Hawk Tales](#)," June 2005; Dolan II 384–386, 466)

- 1986, Fall** — Night. A group of five lights maneuver at high speed above the Malmstrom AFB Alpha-01 missile alert facility southeast of Belt, Montana. Air Force Security Policeman Joseph C. Pscolka watches them make sharp-angled turns and stop at the same time instantly. Other launch control facilities in the same sector call in to report the lights. Soon five more lights descend from the clouds to join the others. They stop momentarily, then all 10 dart around “like crazy fireflies” for a minute before moving close to the ground. They zip off at high speed in all directions. (Nukes 396–397)
- 1986, October 10** — 1:30–2:00 a.m. Witnesses see strong lightning-like flashes in the sky northeast of Fürjes, near Békéscsaba, Hungary. The flashes do not go lower than some 700 feet from the ground. The flashes are vertical, yet 5 times “thicker” than lightning. The flashes stop and a shining, metallic-blue, misty phenomenon appears and floats about for 5–6 minutes until it gradually fades away after breaking into several parts, each about 30–80 feet long. The display is followed by an unusual odor that persists for 20–30 minutes. (Karoli Hargitai, “[The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 13)
- 1986, October 14** — 11:00 p.m. A couple driving north on US Hwy 45 near Bristol, Wisconsin, sees red and white lights flickering on the road ahead. They drive cautiously forward and see a large, triangular object hovering 30 feet above the pavement. The lights are running along its outer edges. They pull up almost directly underneath it, park, and step out of the car. They see a grid structure on its lower surface. Two minutes later the UFO drifts slowly toward the southeast and vanishes. (Don Schmitt, “[The Belleville Sightings, Part Two](#),” *IUR* 13, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1988): 18–19; Clark III 247)
- 1986, October 28** — UK researcher [Jenny Randles](#) receives a call from a British military man who refuses to give his name or phone number. He says his commanding officer has given him her phone number and suggests she might want 600 pages of UFO reports that have come into his possession. One document appears to be a report from 1948 that uses the term “befabs” to describe “beings from alien objects.” Another file, from Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio in 1977, is titled “Elimination of Non-Military Sources.” Randles is suspicious but intrigued. The two speak again on October 30 and agree to meet at a local pub a couple hours later. She brings along a colleague, Peter A. Hough. The informant (“John”) is in his late 20s and a former member of the Royal Army Corps. In 1983, his commanding officer had befriended a USAF computer technician at Wright-Patterson AFB who had accidentally tapped into UFO files. The British officer copied many of the files but is arrested for being in a secure area without permission. During questioning, the technician withholds the fact that he still has copies of the files and manages to tell the British officer where they are and request he take them out of the US. For 2 years, his commanding officer shows “John” some of these reports until he leaves active duty in 1985. In August 1986, “John” returns for a reservist training camp, and his former commander gives him a key to where the documents are stored and tells him to take them, read them, and offer them to Randles. The pub meeting ends with an agreement for “John” to deliver the files the next time they meet on November 7. “John” never shows up but writes a letter to Randles saying that he has been detained at a base and interrogated about the documents, which he is informed was the “creation of an educated prankster.” He apologizes for letting her down, and she never hears from him again. (Jenny Randles, “[The Cover-Up in England](#),” *IUR* 12, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1987): 9–12, 20)
- 1986, November** — Brilliant Pebbles, a non-nuclear system of satellite-based interceptors designed to use high-velocity, watermelon-sized, teardrop-shaped projectiles made of tungsten as kinetic warheads, is conceived by physicist [Lowell Wood](#) at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Livermore Director [John Nuckolls](#) describes the system as “the crowning achievement of the Strategic Defense Initiative.” Though regarded as one of the most capable SDI systems, the Brilliant Pebbles program is canceled in 1994 by the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. (Wikipedia, “[Brilliant Pebbles](#)”)
- 1986, November 16** — 9:00 p.m. Between Nocera Umbra and Valtopina, Perugia, Italy, two witnesses see a dark disc, 26 feet in diameter with a blue dome, fly over their car. The car stops and restarts after the object goes away. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)
- 1986, November 17** — 5:10 p.m. Japan Air Lines Flight 1628, a Boeing 747 cargo plane with a crew of three, is in the vicinity of Fort Yukon, Alaska, on its way to Anchorage. The jet is carrying a cargo of French wine and is flying at 35,000 feet through darkening skies, a red glow from the setting sun lighting one horizon and a full moon rising above the other. Capt. Kenju Terauchi and First Officer Takanori Tamefuji, along with Flight Engineer Yoshio Tsukuda, see two small objects and one huge Saturn-shaped object visually and on radar for more than 30 minutes. The objects follow the airplane for about 350 miles. The pilot changes course and altitude several times, with FAA permission, in an effort to identify the objects. Two rectangular-appearing objects sparkling with arrays of lights suddenly loom directly in front of them, one above the other. After a few minutes they abruptly change position and appear side by side. They move quickly, stop suddenly, and swing from side to side in unison, as if linked together. VHF radio communications are occasionally garbled at this time and cease when the two objects

move away to the left of the aircraft. Two flat white lights continue to pace the airplane, then drop back and are lost from view both visually and on radar. About 5:30 p.m., while in the vicinity of Fairbanks, Terauchi checks a white light behind the plane and sees “a silhouette of a gigantic spaceship.” It is walnut-shaped, symmetrical above and below, with a central flange. He says, “It was a very big one—two times bigger than an aircraft carrier.” At its closest point, the large object casts such a bright light that it illuminates the cockpit, and Terauchi can feel heat on his face. Radio communications again became garbled during the close approach. The crew becomes frightened by the large object and requests permission to change course. After the course change, they look back and see the object still following them. Increasingly fearful, they request a descent to get away from the UFO (“We had to get away from that object”). After they descend and turn again, the object disappears. The FAA at first confirms that several of its radar traffic controllers had tracked both the 747 and the large object, and that USAF radar has also done so. Later official statements back away from this and try to ascribe the radar targets to weather effects. On December 29, the FAA issues a report stating, “We are accepting the descriptions of the crew, but are unable to support what they saw.” (Wikipedia, [“Japan Air Lines Cargo Flight 1628 incident”](#); NICAP, [“Fantastic Flight of JAL 1628”](#); Walter Andrus, [“Strange Alaskan Encounter,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 226 (February 1987): 3–8; Bruce Maccabee, [“The Fantastic Flight of JAL 1628,”](#) *IUR* 12, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1987): 4–23; Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneeus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, pp. 128–132; Kean, pp. 218–229; Swords 342; Good Above, pp. 432, 532; Good Need, pp. 400–401; [“JAL Flight 1628 over Alaska,”](#) UFO Evidence; UFOEv II 142–144; Clark III 630–632; Powell, *Scientist*, 17–18)

1986, November 24 — 11:00 p.m. Dale Goretske is driving in Waukesha, Wisconsin, when he notices some flashing red lights in the sky to the southeast about 450 feet away. They are attached to a flattened triangle about 75 feet wide with pairs of flashing red lights at each corner. On the sides are pairs of steady white and red lights. The object is rotating silently. He tries to approach it in his car, but it moves away and is lost to sight. (Joe and Dorie Graziano, [“Press Reports,”](#) *APRO Bulletin* 33, no. 7 (September 1987): 8)

1986, November 25 — Afternoon. Civil and military personnel in Magadan Airport, Russia, notice an unidentified radar target. Since there is another aircraft in the vicinity, air traffic control asks the pilot to be aware of an unknown object. The plane and UFO “pass clear of each other,” although no details are given. Afterward, the object turns east and speeds up to 1,800 mph over the water toward Kamchatka and disappears from radar screens. (Vadim K. Ilyin, [“KGB’s ‘Blue Folder’ Reveals Shootings, Landings in USSR,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 403 (November 2001): 8)

1986, Mid-December — Navy Commander “Sheila Mondran” is on duty at the US Space Command’s Surveillance Center inside the Cheyenne Mountain Complex near Colorado Springs, Colorado. Sensors detect something tripping the US Navy Space Surveillance System (the Space Fence), a multistatic radar system built to detect orbital objects passing over the US. The intrusion occurs above Lake Kickapoo, Texas. Mondran’s team tracks the object’s maneuvers, including loops, backtracks, crash dives, and fast climbs. She sends a flash alert to the Commander-in-Chief of NORAD, but the object immediately disappears. Two searches are ordered: one by NORAD’s Space Detection and Tracking System, the other by a network of sophisticated telescopes. Nothing turns up. The flash alert is recalled the following day. A summary of the incident is sent to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and President [Ronald Reagan](#) for his daily briefing. Reagan recommends a follow-up investigation, but none is known to have occurred. The story has not been verified. (Howard Blum, *Out There: The Government’s Secret Quest for Extraterrestrials*, Simon & Schuster, 1990, pp. 25–32)

1986, Late December — 2:30 a.m. A road-maintenance engineer is driving on the highway between Hajdúböszörmény and Debrecen, Hungary, when he sees a “trailer with lit-up windows” landed in a field about 900 feet away. An orange light is flooding through the windows. The object is in the same spot where the sphere chasing the ambulance in April had passed above power lines. (Karoli Hargitai, [“The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary,”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 14–15)

1987

1987 — Abduction researcher and folklorist [Thomas E. Bullard](#) publishes *UFO Abductions: The Measure of a Mystery*, a two-volume comparative analysis of nearly 300 alleged abduction cases up through 1985, 103 of which offer both extensive information and reliable investigation. Bullard’s study summarizes key episodes and descriptive elements of the abduction narrative and attaches percentages to each to indicate how often a given feature occurs. He finds that the classic abduction story consists of eight possible episodes—capture, examination, conference,

tour of the ship, journey or otherworldly journey, theophany, return, and aftermath. Few reports contain every episode; only capture and return are universal. He also examines features of the entities' behavior and appearance, the UFO involved in the abduction, and the methods of mental and physical control. Bullard examines the literalist and reductionist hypotheses for abduction events, critiquing each. (Thomas E. Bullard, [UFO Abductions: The Measure of a Mystery](#), Fund for UFO Research, 1987; Thomas E. Bullard, "[Abductions in Life and Lore](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1987): 14–19; Thomas E. Bullard, "[Hypnosis and UFO Abductions: A Troubled Relationship](#)," *JUFOS* 1 (1989): 3–40; Thomas Bullard, [The Myth and Mystery of UFOs](#), University Press of Kansas, 2010; Clark III 13–33; Graff 335–336)

- 1987** — Fortean Times publishes *UFOs 1947–1987*, edited by [Hilary Evans](#) and [John Spencer](#) and sponsored by the British UFO Research Association, in an attempt to place current knowledge about the UFO phenomenon in perspective. (Hilary Evans and John Spencer, eds., *UFOs 1947–1987: The 40-Year Search for an Explanation*, Fortean Times, 1987; Mark Rodeghier, [\[Review\]](#), *JUFOS* 1 (1989): 169–172)
- 1987** — Thomas F. McDonough discusses the possibility of extraterrestrial life in *The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence*, addressing UFOs in a largely negative and uninformed chapter. (Thomas F. McDonough, *The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence: Listening for Life in the Cosmos*, John Wiley, 1987; Michael D. Swords, "[SETI/ETI and UFOs](#)," *JUFOS* 5 (1994): 151–155)
- 1987**, January 9 — 2:30 a.m. A road-maintenance engineer is on a routine checking tour near Józsa, between Hajdúböszörmény and Debrecen, Hungary, at the same point where his colleague had seen a "trailer" in December. He sees a "farmhouse" with the windows lit up, but knowing there is no farmhouse in that location, he stops the truck. The object is sitting near the overhead power lines between two stacks of straw. It is about 50 feet in diameter, disc-shaped, and rounded off at the rim. Through the center line runs a row of 8–10 portholes with warm, yellow light emanating from them. Between each window is a grayish-white streak of light. He can see an open door about 5–6 feet high under the row of windows, through which he can see light and a floor with transverse ribs. Then he notices two entities wearing dark coveralls standing outside the object, while another appears in the door opening. Yellowish flashes erupt every 2–4 seconds from the top of the object. The witness flees the scene. (Karoli Hargitai, "[The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 15–16)
- 1987**, January 15–16 — 8:00 p.m. Police officer Glen Kazmar and Jeff Furseth watch a triangular configuration of red, white, and blue blinking lights that remain stationary in the southwestern sky over Belleville, Wisconsin. At 2:50 a.m., they are driving along Quarry Road west of town and see a "close-knit cluster of red, blue, and white lights." After 15 minutes, they alert the Dane County Sheriff and are soon joined by a deputy from Verona and two Green County sheriff's deputies, all of whom leave after debating what to do about reporting the lights. At 3:20 a.m., Kazmar and Furseth see the object move to the southwest. They call the FAA Center in Aurora, Illinois, which admits it has a slow-moving target in the area that won't respond. Other witnesses near Monroe, New Glarus, and Verona also see lights. ("[They're Still Around! UFO Sightings Continue in Area](#)," *Monticello (Wis.) Messenger*, March 11, 1987, via *UFO Newscipping Service*, no. 213 (April 1987): 11; Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part One](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1987): 4–6; UFO Wisconsin, [\[Belleville articles\]](#); "[The Other UFO Days: Belleville, WI](#)," *UFO Days*, August 13, 2019)
- 1987**, January 27 — The National Security Agency responds to a letter from Sen. [John Glenn](#) (D-Ohio) stating that the NSA's Project Aquarius does not deal with UFOs, but that "Apparently there is or was an Air Force project by that name which dealt with UFO's." (Dale Goudie and Christian Lambright, "[The Ice Documents Press Conference](#)," June 25, 1987)
- 1987**, February — Horror-fiction writer [Whitley Strieber](#) publishes *Communion*, the first-person account of his abductions and encounters recovered through hypnosis, as well as his lifelong involvement with mysterious events. The book remains on the bestseller list for a long time, and [Ted Seth Jacobs](#)'s cover illustration of an alien with large black eyes jars many people to recall their own apparent encounters with similar creatures. Strieber follows up on his experiences in seven subsequent books, in which he elaborates on his belief that the human species is in the process of being ushered into a higher level of understanding and existence. (Whitley Strieber, [Communion: A True Story](#), Avon, 1987; Wikipedia, "[Communion \(book\)](#)"; Clark III 5, 1112–1113; Whitley Strieber, *Transformation: The Breakthrough*, William Morrow, 1988; Whitley Strieber, *Breakthrough: The Next Step*, HarperCollins, 1995; Whitley Strieber, *The Secret School: Preparation for Contact*, HarperCollins, 1997; Whitley Strieber and Anne Strieber, eds. [The Communion Letters](#), HarperPrism, 1997; Whitley Strieber, *Confirmation: The Hard Evidence of Aliens among Us?*, St. Martin's, 1998; Whitley Strieber, [The Key: A True Encounter](#), Jeremy Tarcher, 2001; Whitley Strieber, *Solving the Communion Enigma*, Jeremy Tarcher, 2012)

- 1987**, February 6 — 7:30 p.m. Jeff Zweifel is walking home from work near Belleville, Wisconsin. He sees an object nearby with a bright white directional light aimed at a right angle to him. A red light is also visible, then a blue light. As he continues to walk, the object approaches him. When it is directly in front, a white light comes on. From left to right, red, white, and blue lights flash. A short gray trail of smoke is coming out the back. The object continues moving slowly and silently east at the same altitude. (Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part One](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1987): 6)
- 1987**, February 16 — At a conference in the Grand Kremlin Palace in Moscow, Russia, Soviet President [Mikhail Gorbachev](#) discloses that President [Reagan](#) had raised the possibility of an alien invasion during the Geneva Summit in 1986: "I shall not dispute the hypothesis, although I think it's early yet to worry about such an invasion. It is much more important to think about the problems that have entered our common home." ("[Russians Worried UFOs Could Trigger Wars](#)," *UFO Evidence*)
- 1987**, February 25 — 4:10 p.m. Filmmaker [Paul Davids](#) is at work in his home office in East Los Angeles, California, when his children call him to see a "flying saucer." Looking outside, he sees a metallic, domed disc making its way silently and smoothly across the sky over the valley in front of his house. They open the window and go out on the roof for an unobstructed view and spend the next 4–5 minutes watching it. At its closest point, about 500 feet away, it hovers in one position for about 2 minutes, wobbling with an even, slow oscillation. Its bottom seems to transform from silver to pitch black and back to silver again. Then it flies away at a faster but uniform speed. (Paul Davids, "[Starry Night](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 3 (May/June 1989): 13–15, 23)
- 1987**, March — The Society for Scientific Exploration publishes the first issue of its *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, edited by astronomer [Bernard Haisch](#). (*Journal of Scientific Exploration* 1, no. 1 (1987); Clark III 1082–1083)
- 1987**, March — San Antonio, Texas, freelance journalist Ed Conroy begins to find himself a target of an unmarked Bell 47 helicopter that hovers around his apartment building. The instances increase as he researches [Whitley Strieber](#)'s abduction story for a possible article. Black helicopters and CH-47 Chinooks also appear in his vicinity, and someone repeatedly changes the outgoing message on his home answering machine. Several people close to him begin to tell him about their nighttime experiences with entities and balls of light. These occurrences continue through 1988. (Ed Conroy, *Report on Communion*, Avon, 1989)
- 1987**, March — 3:00 a.m. A British Army communications officer is sleeping alone on the moors near Bishop Monkton, North Yorkshire, England, during a military exercise. He sees a strange red light in the sky circling slowly and silently around him. He watches it for 20 minutes as it makes three circuits that are precisely the same. Two F-4 Phantom II jets appear and give chase to the light, which plays cat and mouse with them. This continues for 5 minutes, then the light shoots away at great speed. The jets remain a few more minutes before returning. ("[Brief Cases](#)," *Northern UFO News*, no. 157 (October 1992): 13; Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [pp. 163–164](#))
- 1987**, March 6 — 5:30 p.m. County surveyor [Harvey Funseth](#) and Fred Gochenauer are driving north of Belleville, Wisconsin, and spot four peculiar objects one above the other in the western sky. They take a side road to get a better look and stop alongside an open field. The main cigar-shaped object is silhouetted against the sunset, standing vertically above three smaller sections. The objects are all about a quarter mile away at low altitude. As they watch, the top object moves away from the smaller ones toward their right. It looks like an airplane fuselage without any markings, wings, or tail. It has a flashing light on top and two red glowing areas on the back, followed by a short vapor trail. Funseth estimates it is about 2,000 feet altitude. It picks up speed and streaks away to the northeast. The remaining smaller objects are now obscured by a mist. Witnesses in other parts of town also see a similar display. (Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part One](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1987): 7–8)
- 1987**, March 7 — A family of three in Pingwu county, Sichuan, China, is awakened by a loud, high-pitched hum. They go outside and are blinded by a beam of light coming from a huge reddish object shaped like a straw hat that is hovering above them. They pass out and wake up later to find themselves strapped to steel tables in a circular room occupied by humanoid entities with 3 eyes and standing 3 feet tall. The aliens take blood samples from them and probe them with needles, also making an incision on the child's thigh. The next thing they know, they are walking down a road 7 miles from their home. (Lon Strickler, "[China: Cryptids, Humanoids, Monsters, and Alien Visitors](#)," *Phantoms & Monsters*, September 5, 2013; Chris Saunders, "[UFOs over China](#)," *Fortean Times* 331 (October 2015): 32)
- 1987**, March 12 — Gallup releases a report indicating that there are three adult Americans who believe that "UFOs are real" for every two skeptics. ("[1 Person in 2 Now Believes in UFOs](#)," *Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press-Democrat*, March 12, 1987, p. 13; Robert J. Durant, "Evolution of Public Opinion on UFOs," *IUR* 18, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1993): 20)
- 1987**, March 12 — 9:15 p.m. Cmdr. Alvaro de Camargo is flying a Transbrasil Boeing 737-300 from Rio Branco, Acre, Brazil, to Manaus, Amazonas, when his radar detects an object directly in front of him. The Rio Branco tower

says it has nothing on its radar. Suddenly the blip disappears from the screen, just as three orange lights appear on the left side of the airplane's wing. Some passengers now can see the lights, flying parallel to each other and to the plane for about 20 minutes. (Clark III 201; Brazil 542)

1987, March 20 — 1:00 p.m. Police in Verona, Wisconsin, view a triangular pattern of red, white, and blue flashing lights from the police station. The on-duty officer takes a squad car to investigate as the object moves behind a hill and hovers above a field. Within a minute, the lights move to the southwest and soon are out of sight. (Don Schmitt, "[The Belleville Sightings, Part One](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1987): 8).

1987, March 23 — Evening. A woman hears a crash outside her home in Concord, North Carolina, and goes outside to investigate. She sees a domed disk in her backyard about 75 feet away, partially obscured by a tree. The dome is about 6 feet in diameter on top of an object about 25 feet high. The dome is projecting an intensely bright orange light that creates shooting pains in her eyes and lights up the entire yard. The lower part of the object is blue-silver and an 18–20 foot wide ramp extends down from it. Her eyes still hurt, so she does not see the UFO leave. No ground markings are found the next day, although two days later she discovers that a metal post on her dog lot has been magnetized. (Michael D. Swords, "[Unusual Experiences from the Timmerman Files](#)," *IUR* 27, no. 2 (Summer 2002): 22–23)

1987, April — UFO abduction researcher [Budd Hopkins](#) publishes *Intruders*, an account of his investigation into the abduction experiences of [Debbie Jordan-Kauble](#) (using the pseudonym of "Kathie Davis") an Indianapolis woman whose long series of abductions include an instance when the beings impregnate her by artificial insemination aboard a UFO, then return a few months later to remove the fetus. During a subsequent abduction several years later, the beings introduce her to a frail little girl, half-human, half-alien, and tell her this girl is her daughter. (Budd Hopkins, *Intruders: The Incredible Visitations at Copley Woods*, Random House, 1987; Jerome Clark, "[A Conversation with Budd Hopkins](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1988): 4–12; "[The Terrifying Alien Abduction Experiences of Kathie Davis \(Debbie Jordan\)](#)," Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, September 26, 2024)

1987, May — [William Moore](#) announces that for the past six and a half years he and some associates "succeeded in establishing a cooperative relationship with a number of well-placed contacts within the American intelligence community." He provides a copy of one page of the MJ-12 briefing document, with some text blacked out FOIA-style. (William L. Moore, "[Research Update](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 230 (June 1987): 9)

1987, May 1 — The Center for UFO Studies moves from Glenview, Illinois, to 2457 West Peterson Avenue in Chicago. ("[CUFOS Is Moving](#)," *IUR* 12, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1987): 26)

1987, May 16 — Capt. Rick Olsen is flying a Canadian Air International Boeing 737 en route from Toronto, Ontario, to Winnipeg, Manitoba, at 31,000 feet when he and his first officer observe an unidentified target on their weather radar. The track indicates an object about the size of an aircraft carrier about 50 miles away at approximately their altitude, traveling roughly the same course at 5,400 mph. The target persists for 4 minutes. (T. Scott Crain Jr., "[Return of the Motherships](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 234 (October 1987): 15; UFOEv II 246)

1987, May 31 — British ufologist [Timothy Good](#) has also received a copy of the MJ-12 briefing document (the same one received by [Moore](#) and [Shandera](#)) in March and shares it with the press, adamantly refusing to say who sent it to him. The first mention appears in the *London Observer*, and soon it is the subject of pieces in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and ABC-TV's *Night Line*. Many ufologists denounce the documents as a forgery. Good admits to researcher Richard Dolan in 2008 that the source was probably "connected to" [Richard Doty](#). (Good Above, [p. 544](#); Dolan II 398; Clark III 366; Graff 315)

1987, June — [Moore](#) provides photocopies of all the pages of the Majestic-12 briefing document. Certain areas that had been blacked out are now readable, although redacted sections still exist. Moore has done his own redacting. He also reveals the Cutler-Twining memo. (William L. Moore, "[Majestic-12](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 231 (July 1987): 11–15; Graff 315)

1987, June 9 — 7:00 p.m. At RAAF Base Learmonth, near Exmouth, Western Australia, observers see a white light at 5,000 feet about 16 feet in diameter moving silently in a zigzag fashion from east to west. It hovers at the north end of the airstrip for 6–7 minutes, changes from white to amber, moves up into a cloud, then speeds off to the northeast. A Lockheed C-130 Hercules transport that takes off during the observation has difficulty establishing VHF radio communication. (Swords 409–410)

1987, June 11 — [Bill Moore](#), [Jaime Shandera](#), and [Stanton Friedman](#) hold a press conference on the MJ-12 briefing document and the Cutler-Twining memo, asserting that they appear to be genuine. Friedman has found that [Eisenhower](#) did attend a briefing in Washington on November 18, 1952. He has also uncovered evidence that astronomer [Donald Menzel](#) was also a leading cryptographer and an elite member of the intelligence community.

(Stanton T. Friedman, “[MJ 12: The Evidence So Far](#),” *IUR* 12, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1987): 13–17; Dennis Stacy, “[18th International Symposium](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 232 (August 1987): 3, 7)

- 1987**, June 19 — 11:00 p.m. Brazilian Air Force Capt. Faria de Sousa is landing his aircraft at Anápolis Air Base ALA 2, Goiás, Brazil, when the control tower asks him to investigate “strange traffic” nearby. When he arrives at the location, his onboard radar registers the presence of another aircraft close by and his cockpit lights up. He sees a huge ball of light about 10 feet in diameter above his plane, but the light does not register on his radar. After 3 minutes he lands because he is running out of fuel. (Clark III 206; Brazil 554–555)
- 1987**, June 25 — Capt. [William Cantrell](#) and the crew of Delta Airlines Flight 1083 are near Charleston, West Virginia, when they see a small missile heading straight for the aircraft before it swerves to the side about 500–600 feet below. Cantrell describes the projectile as short, squatty, and homemade looking, about 4–6 feet long with large fins. It appears to be descending and unpowered. (Clas Svahn and Anders Liljegen, “[Close Encounters with Unknown Missiles](#),” *IUR* 19, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1994): 12–13)
- 1987**, June 25 — [Bruce S. Maccabee](#), a Navy physicist and chairman of the Fund for UFO Research, along with Larry Koss, [Jaime Shandera](#), and [Budd Hopkins](#), provide an on-the-record press briefing on the “40-Year History of UFOs” at the Washington (D.C.) Foreign Press Center. (“[40 Year History of UFOs: A 1987 Foreign Press Center Briefing with Budd Hopkins, Bruce Maccabee](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, February 8, 2024; “[87 Foreign Press Center Briefing](#),” The Black Vault Originals YouTube channel, May 23, 2024)
- 1987**, Summer — UK researcher [Timothy Good](#) publishes *Above Top Secret*, containing clean copies of the MJ-12 documents. The book is an international exposé of UFO investigations and secrecy by the governments of the UK, US, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Australia, Canada, China, and Russia. (Timothy Good, [Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-Up](#), Sidgwick & Jackson, 1987)
- 1987**, July 22 — The Military Archives Division of NARA issues a list of 10 problems with the Cutler-Twining memo: it was incorrectly filed; no other researchers have found information on MJ-12; the classification “Top Secret Restricted Information” was not in use until the [Nixon](#) administration; the memo does not bear an official letterhead or watermark; it does not match the paper [Cutler](#) used at the time; no records are found of an NSC meeting on July 16, 1954; another memo is found saying that NSC members were called to a civil defense exercise on July 16; and there is no entry in [Eisenhower](#)’s appointment books on a special meeting. (National Archives, “[Majestic 12 or ‘MJ-12’ Reference Report](#)”; “[The MJ-12 Fiasco](#),” *Just Cause*, new series, no. 13 (September 1987): 1–22)
- 1987**, July 27 — 12:00 midnight. Witnesses in Accra and the Volta Region of Ghana see a large and apparently silent object over the Gulf of Guinea. Some people report the sound of explosions associated with it. A Ghana Air Force pilot views the missile-shaped object from the ground near Accra, traveling south over the ocean. It displays a yellow light at its trailing end, similar to a rocket. It appears to be at least twice as large as a Boeing 747. It stops descending and begins to climb, gaining altitude. Eight smaller, bluish lights appear in circular formation, seemingly the result of the object’s propulsive power. (Dolan II 413–414)
- 1987**, Late July — 9:00 p.m.–5:00 a.m. A married couple and their daughter are riding in a horse cart, returning to their home near Będzienia, Poland. They notice two huge red spheres, apparently attached to each other, descending toward the northeast a few miles away and disappearing behind the horizon. After arriving home a few minutes later, the area outside their house becomes flooded in white light. The family rushes outside and sees two groups of three white lights silently floating low above a field less than one mile away to the northeast. The man alerts his neighbor and they return to the road to watch the lights for several minutes. Soon they notice a large red triangular light moving up and down in the northeast less than 2 miles away. After 6 minutes they hear a high-pitched sound like a car horn and the red light disappears. They continue watching the white lights, but soon notice that another neighbor’s barn about 1,000 feet away seems to be on fire. The man goes home to get his motorcycle and two daughters, but when they get to the barn there is no fire and the light is coming from another set of white spheres to the south. By this time it is after 10:00 p.m., and they ride the motorcycle to a nearby hill to watch the lights. Soon one of the daughters sees a large object like a vertical white TV screen 10 feet high approaching from the east about 60–100 feet above the ground. Two humanoids with angular heads and in green coveralls are visible against the screen, one large and one smaller. The man restarts the motorcycle with difficulty and returns home. Some 300 feet from their farmhouse, they see another object, a fireball with a tail descending in the area where they had seen the red triangle. Tired, the daughters and his wife go to sleep around 11:00 p.m., but the man stays up to watch the UFO activity. Around 4:00 a.m. the original two sets of white objects rearrange into a complex group of 7 lights and remain that way for another hour. The next day, the man feels sick with heart problems and is taken to a hospital for a short stay. (Arek Miazga, “[Z historii UFO na Podkarpaciu: Bliskie spotkanie w Będzienicy–Nockowej \(1987\)](#),” *Spotkania z Nieznany*, July 3, 2011; Poland 77–80)

- 1987, Early August** — A Soviet soldier serving with the military contingent in Leningrad [now St. Petersburg] is dispatched with four others to northern Karelia, where they join up with another unit. Their job is to guard a UFO that soldiers had recently discovered near Vyborg. A military plane had taken it to Monchegorsk, Murmansk Oblast, and deposited it in a former fuel depot. The guards get a close look at the object, which is more than 50 feet long, 16 feet wide, and 9 feet high, grayish-tan in color, smooth, and seamless. It is tube-shaped, with fins extending from the mid-section all the way to the rear. At the tip of its nose are outward-pointing triangles in a triangular formation. One week later, senior officers show up and attempt to enter the craft unsuccessfully. The craft is moved to a hangar and all but one of the soldiers are sent back to Leningrad. In September, a successful entry is made, according to the remaining officer. Inside, they discover two armchairs, two steering wheels, and a featureless control panel. The cockpit is so small that two adults can hardly fit inside. Investigators who collect “rod-like items” from inside experience mild burns on their hands (though gloved). (Clark III 345; Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 96–97)
- 1987, August 4** — 10:00 p.m. Gordon Baker and two others watch two cross-shaped objects pass slowly and silently over his home from northeast to southwest in Exmouth, Devon, England. Describing it like a “flying fairground” at 38,000 feet, he watches a jet aircraft fly underneath it. They watch it for 15 minutes until it disappears on the horizon. Observers in Lympstone and Budleigh Salterton also see the object. Two huge, delta-shaped objects are seen making successive passes over Plymouth, Devon, between 10:30 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Observations were also made in Bude, Cornwall, and Exeter, Devon, where they were apparently tracked on radar. (“[Flying Fairground? Is Seen over Town](#),” *Exmouth (UK) Herald*, August 7, 1987, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 222 (January 1988): 16; “[Whitehall Silent over Flying Fairground](#),” *Exmouth (UK) Herald*, August 14, 1987, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 222 (January 1988): 16; Marler [139](#))
- 1987, August 11** — A witness in Osbornville, New Jersey, sees a shiny, oval object that hovers, becomes brighter, and takes off like a shot, leaving a white trail. It then stops abruptly, maneuvers, flashes more lights, and shoots straight up out of sight. (UFOEv II 30)
- 1987, August 11** — Several people see a triangular object with three lights over Sevastopol, Crimea, Russia. A yellow light surrounds the perimeter, and a bright white light is seen inside. The object hovers and maneuvers for 3 hours with a trajectory that changes unpredictably. It disappears, reappears, and smaller objects separate from it and take off at great speed. It finally takes off quickly away from the shore. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 136)
- 1987, August 23** — 2:00–3:00 a.m. A witness sees a circular, white object west of Hajdúböszörmény, Hungary, flying slowly to the north. A thin, orange-colored light beam sweeps from it several times from west to east. Suddenly it “jumps” with tremendous speed from one place to another and remains stationary, still sweeping its light beam for at least 30 minutes. Then it suddenly disappears. (Károli Hargitai, “[The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 16)
- 1987, August 23** — 10:20 p.m. A brilliant-orange, flare-like light suddenly appears at 20°–25° in the south-southeastern sky in Corydon, Indiana. It appears stationary, but might be moving in the direction of the 12–15 observers, five of whom are MUFON field investigators. At one point it rapidly descends to the left. Several times the light winks completely out, only to flare up again. After about 5–8 minutes, the object goes into a flat east-to-west flight mode at a relatively slow rate of speed and an elevation of 10°–15°. During the last 30 seconds or so a small commercial or private aircraft enters the immediate area from west to east on an apparent collision course with the light. Several seconds of videotape document this apparent near miss. (NICAP, “[Aircraft Appeared in a ‘Near Miss’ with an OBOL](#)”; “[Corydon OBOL](#),” NICAP Official YouTube channel, January 23, 2023)
- 1987, August 30** — [William S. Steinman](#) makes another attempt to contact possible crashed-saucer insider [Eric A. Walker](#), whom [Robert Sarbacher](#) has indicated was a behind-the-scenes participant. Steinman calls Walker, saying he is inquiring about “meetings that you attended at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in/around 1949–1950, concerning the military recovery of flying saucers, and bodies of occupants.” Walker replies: “Yes, I attended meetings concerning that subject matter.” Walker agrees they are talking about recovered aliens and seems nonchalant about the subject. Walker adds: “Yes, I know of MJ-12. I have known of them for 40 years... You are delving into an area that you can do absolutely nothing about... Forget about it!” Walker tells Steinman that he would consult his notes on the topic and hints he might cooperate further. Steinman writes Walker on August 31, sending him the MJ-12 briefing document and asking about Project Aquarius. Three weeks later, Walker replies, saying, “Some things you have right and some things you have very wrong.” He admits a machine was recovered and is still stored near “Wright Field.” Four normal looking males were found at the site, very much alive. “They learned the English language within a few hours and it was our decision not to make public spectacles of them,

but to allow them to be absorbed into American culture.” Each of the four, Walker alleges, became highly successful in technology, sports, and finance. (Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain Jr., *UFOs, MJ-12, and the Government: A Report on Government Involvement in UFO Crash Retrievals*, Mutual UFO Network, 1991, pp. 7–15)

- 1987**, August 31 — 10:55 p.m. A dark, domed, disc-shaped UFO with a mast or antenna on top comes down quickly over the high-security Naval Submarine Base Bangor [now Naval Base Kitsap] on the Kitsap Peninsula, Washington, which houses the Trident nuclear ballistic submarine fleet. It hovers over a playground. Randy Springsteen, 8, and Dennis Mauer, 10, sons of military personnel, are sitting on the swings and see an entity with a big head, big pointed “cat” ears, wrinkled skin, and a greenish complexion in an open hatch. It has a thin, spindly body, long webbed fingers and toes, and tabs or suction cups on the ends of its fingers and toes. It also has a wrinkled mouth “like an old grandma’s.” The boys estimate the being is about 6 feet tall. It points a device that directs a beam of energy at the two boys on the swings, causing the levitation of the metal swings. The boys flee quickly into the Springsteen home and get Charlene Springsteen, who sees a row of lights in the sky as the UFO takes off and flies away. Charlene then has the boys draw separate sketches of both the UFO and the alien, which are remarkably similar. (Donald A. Johnson, “[The Bangor CE3](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1989): 4–6, 23)
- 1987**, Early autumn — Evening. [Rich](#) and Kathy Diczco, their children, and a family friend are sitting outside their weekend residence in the southern Ohio hills in front of a campfire. Suddenly a dark shape appears passing from in back of them from the north over the roof of the house and blotting out the stars in a precise boomerang shape. The perimeter of the shape is covered with 12–20 individual lights. All sounds from insects, tree frogs, and distant dogs stops. The campfire flame rises straight up, frozen. The aspen tree in the front yard stops “quaking” and the children gasp. The soundless object is low, and it extends beyond the 72-foot length of the house. After one minute, the light configuration wobbles, the lights change from amber to red, and the object splits into three sections, spreads out, and dissipates. (Jennie Zeidman, “[Strangeness in the Night](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1989): 5, 22)
- 1987**, September — The final issue of the *APRO Bulletin* is published by [Jim and Coral Lorenzen](#). (*APRO Bulletin* 33, no. 7 (September 1987))
- 1987**, September — Three witnesses in Taunton, Somerset, England, observe a triangular object with bright white lights at each point and red lights underneath, rotating to the left. Its size is estimated to be comparable to three C-130 aircraft. (Marler [139](#))
- 1987**, September 11 — 8:15 p.m. Lydia B. Lövendal-Papae and her husband are walking between Herăstrău Park [now King Michael I Park] and Aviators Square in Bucharest, Romania, when they see a large, reddish-orange star hovering above the nearby Arcul de Triumf. After a minute, it moves to right above them and stops for a couple minutes before it sways back and forth. Suddenly it makes large zigzag movements toward the Romanian National Television building and disappears to the northeast. After 5 minutes, her husband sees a white beam shooting briefly from the direction it has gone. (Romania 45–46)
- 1987**, September 13 — A radioactive contamination accident takes place in Goiânia, Goiás, Brazil, after a forgotten radiotherapy source is taken from an abandoned hospital site in the city. It is subsequently handled by many people, resulting in four deaths. About 112,000 people are examined for radioactive contamination and 249 of them are found to be contaminated. In the cleanup operation, topsoil has to be removed from several sites, and several hundred houses are demolished. All the objects from within those houses, including personal possessions, are seized and incinerated. (Wikipedia, “[Goiânia accident](#)”)
- 1987**, September 14 — 6:05 p.m. A man and his daughter are walking in Debrecen, Hungary, when she sees a “flying log.” The man looks up and sees a cylindrical object flying very slowly to the north. After 3 minutes it disappears without a trace. (Karoli Hargitai, “[The UFO Phenomenon in Hungary](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1989): 16)
- 1987**, September 21 — In an address to the United Nations, President [Reagan](#) says, “Perhaps we need some outside, universal threat to make us recognize this common bond. I occasionally think how quickly our differences worldwide would vanish if we were facing an alien threat from outside this world. And yet, I ask you, is not an alien force already among us? What could be more alien to the universal aspirations of our peoples than war and the threat of war?” (Ronald Reagan, “[Address to the 42d Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, New York](#),” September 21, 1987)
- 1987**, September 22 — 9:00 p.m. A young couple is sitting outside in Bossier City, Louisiana, when they see a large, conical or triangular object pass silently in the sky. It has sparsely distributed lighting on its base and seems metallic and solid. They estimate it is several football fields in length. On October 6, the man sees the object again, moving in the same direction toward Barksdale Air Force Base. (Michael D. Swords, “[Timmerman’s Triangles](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 16)

1987, Mid-October — 6:00 p.m. A man is driving up Candlewood Lake Road, near Brookfield, Connecticut, when he sees a low-flying aerial object that passes over the trees to the left. After making a turn, he notices four cars stopped with no lights on off the side of the road. He flashes his headlights and his car's radio and electrical power dies. All the other drivers—three men and a woman—are out of their cars. They tell him that their vehicles stopped as a large, bright aircraft flew over and passed silently over a hill in the west. It had all white and amber lights and was triangular in shape. Two other cars drive by at that time and their engines sputter but they do not stop. He notices a glow in the woods. He wants to investigate it, but no one will accompany him. Grabbing a flashlight, he walks into the woods for about a quarter of a mile, watching the glow get brighter. As he climbs a hill, the glow turns deep red and then off-white. As he reaches the top of the hill, he sees a lighted object, but trees block his view. He climbs down the hill to a clearing and sees an object like a dark triangle hovering silently in (not above) the trees. He hears a noise and sees a figure wearing a helmet and a dark suit with glowing metallic stripes around the arms and waist approaching the object. It reaches the UFO and looks in the witness's direction. He hears thoughts in his head saying that he shouldn't come closer. As he watches, the figure raises its hand as if to say goodbye and vanishes in a flash of red light. The object then blinks out as if someone has just turned it off. (NightSight 201–203)

1987, November 11 — 5:00 p.m. Edward Walters, president of a construction company in Gulf Breeze, Florida, has his first alleged encounter with a UFO. He sees a glowing, top-shaped craft with a row of portholes across the midsection and a luminous ring on the bottom. He rushes in and grabs a Polaroid camera and snaps a photo just as the UFO is moving from behind a tree. He takes three more photos as the object, 150 feet away, drifts in a northeasterly direction. As he is taking more photos, the object moves above him, and Walters is hit by a blue beam that paralyzes him and lifts him several feet off the ground. After hearing a computerlike voice and a female voice, he sees images of dogs. Then he falls hard on the pavement and the UFO is gone. Over the next few months, Walters (initially concealing his identity as "Mr. X") and his family claim a bewildering variety of close encounters, including abduction incidents, and Walters continues to produce more photos of the UFOs plaguing him. The veracity of his claims causes a rift in ufology, with MUFON championing the case and CUFOS very skeptical. California ufologist and songwriter [Zan Overall](#) produces evidence that Walters knew how to double-expose photos well before his UFO pictures. In June 1990, a model UFO, seemingly a prototype for a fake UFO in his photos, is found in the wall of the house formerly occupied by Walters. One week later, Tom Smith Jr., 22, comes forward claiming he has seen Walters fake some of the photos. Photoanalyst [Bruce Maccabee](#) continues to support Walters's claims, coauthoring a book with him in 1997. (Wikipedia, "[Gulf Breeze UFO incident](#)"; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flannigan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic and CE III Case, Part 1](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 239 (March 1988): 5–15; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flannigan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic Case: Supplement to Part I](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 240 (April 1988): 13–14, 21; Jerome Clark, "[Editorial: Ill Breeze](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 2 (March/April 1988): 3, 23; Dennis Stacy, "[Gulf Breeze: A Note to the Skeptical](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 2 (March/April 1988): 10–11; Mark Rodeghier, "[Gulf Breeze: A Note to the Committed](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 2 (March/April 1988): 12–13, 23; Mark Rodeghier and Robert D. Boyd, "[Gulf Breeze, Florida: The Other Side of the Coin](#)," *CUFOS Bulletin*, April 1988, pp. 1–4; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flannigan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic and CE III Case, Part 2](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 241 (May 1988): 11–15; Jerome Clark, "[Editorial: Breeze from the Gulf](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 3 (May/June 1988): 3; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flanagan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic and CE III Case, Part 3](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 242 (June 1988): 12–16; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flanagan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic and CE III Case, Part 4](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 243 (July 1988): 9–11; Donald M. Ware, Charles D. Flanagan, and Walter H. Andrus Jr., "[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, Photographic and CE III Case, Part 5](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 244 (August 1988): 6–8; Bruce Maccabee, "A History of the Gulf Breeze, Florida, Sighting Events," in *MUFON 1988 International UFO Symposium*, MUFON, 1988, pp. 113–204; Richard H. Hall and Willy Smith, "[Balancing the Scale: Unanswered Questions about Gulf Breeze](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 248 (December 1988): 3–7; Dan C. Overlade, "[Psychological Evaluation of Mr. Ed](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 248 (December 1988): 7–8; Bruce Maccabee, "[The Scale Remains Unbalanced](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 252 (April 1989): 3–24; Bruce Maccabee, "[Billy, No; Ed, Yes](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 3 (May/June 1989): 16–19, 24; Wim van Utrecht, "[How to Take Your Own Gulf Breeze Photos](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 3 (May/June 1989): 20–21, 24; Bruce Maccabee, "[Recent UFO Videotapes](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 265 (May 1990): 3, 6–7; Ed Walters and Frances Walters, *The Gulf Breeze Sightings*, Morrow, 1990; Zan Overall, *Gulf Breeze Double Exposed: The 'Ghost-Demon' Photo Controversy*, CUFOS, 1990; Craig Myers, "[Gulf Breeze UFO Model](#)

[Found.](#)” *Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal*, June 10, 1990, pp. 1, 8; Craig Myers, “[I Saw UFO Photos Faked, Witness Says.](#)” *Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal*, June 17, 1990, pp. 1, 4; Bruce Maccabee, “[The Gulf Breeze Lights.](#)” *IUR* 17, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1992): 4–12; Art Hufford, “[The Gulf Breeze Lights, Continued.](#)” *IUR* 17, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1992): 11–12; Zan Overall, “[The Gulf Breeze RUFOs.](#)” *IUR* 17, no. 2 (March/April 1992): 14–18; Barbara Becker, “[The Invention of a Gulf Breeze UFO.](#)” *IUR* 17, no. 2 (March/April 1992): 19–21, 23; Bruce Maccabee and Ed Walters, *UFOs Are Real: Here’s the Proof*, Avon, 1997; James W. Moseley and Karl T. Pflock, *Shockingly Close to the Truth! Confessions of a Grave-Robbing Ufologist*, Prometheus, 2002, pp. 287–297; UFOEv II 296–297; Clark III 550–552; Keith Conroy, “[A Review of the Photographic Evidence in the Gulf Breeze Sightings of 1987–1988.](#)” *SCU Review* 3.3 (July 25, 2022): 7–15; Craig R. Myers, “[The MUFON-ian Candidate: The Gulf Breeze UFO Case As Political Contest.](#)” in Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 121–136; “[The Gulf Breeze, Florida, UFO Sightings, 1987–Early 1990s.](#)” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, January 13, 2024)

- 1987**, November 18 — The US Congress issues its investigative report on the Iran–Contra Affair. It concludes that “the central remaining question is the role of the President in the Iran–Contra affair. On this critical point, the shredding of documents by [Poindexter](#), [North](#), and others, and the death of [Casey](#), leave the record incomplete.” (Wikipedia, “[Iran–Contra affair](#)”)
- 1987**, Mid-November — 7:00 p.m. Jim Dawes is one of the witnesses of an object in the shape of the supersonic airplane Concorde at Wolverhampton, England. When it reaches overhead, he sees it is composed of many different lights in a triangle shape. (“Mystery of ‘Concorde shape UFO,’” *Wolverhampton (UK) Express-Star*, December 2, 1987; Marler [120](#))
- 1987**, November 23 — 8:25 p.m. Rick Devine goes out the back door of his home in Shreve, Ohio, to round up the family dogs and cats. He glances up and sees four blobs of cool-white light maneuvering in a cloverleaf pattern (elliptical orbits with a common center of flight, meeting at the center) in an area of sky a few hundred feet in diameter. The objects move slower at the outer edges of the orbit and faster as they near the center. Devine shoos the animals inside (no reaction to the display) and calls to his wife Janet. She joins him and they continue to watch the objects. She describes the lights as rectangular. They cross the street into a schoolyard to get closer to the lights, which move away as if in response. At no time does the brightness or color or altitude of the lights change. Seemingly, the display covers an area equivalent to a baseball diamond. It moves back across the road, and the Devines follow. As they watch, the four blobs of light come together in the center, move outward and continue onward, disappearing 90° from each other. The sighting lasts 35 minutes. (Jennie Zeidman, “[Strangeness in the Night.](#)” *IUR* 14, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1989): 4–5)
- 1987**, November 28 — 9:10 p.m.–12:00 midnight. 33 unknown objects fly at low altitude over the coast of Primorsky Krai, Far Eastern district, Russia, on the Sea of Japan. Witnesses describe various shapes—cylinders, cigars, globes—all moving silently. Thirteen UFOs are seen above Dalnegorsk. The objects cause a 2-minute disruption of electrical circuits, including TVs and computers. More than 100 witnesses are questioned by the Far Eastern Commission. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 94)
- 1987**, Winter — Night. Air Force Security Policeman Joseph C. Pscolka is awakened by the night shift flight security controller at the Malmstrom AFB N-01 missile alert facility northwest of Grassrange, Montana, who tells him that an alarm response team responded to a security alert at the N-06 launch site and had not been heard from for nearly an hour. Pscolka assembles a security response team and joins them to drive to the site. The security lights are out and the alarm team’s vehicle parked 50 feet from the wide-open gate with its lights out and engine off. Pscolka drives up to the vehicle when his own Peacekeeper APC loses power. At that moment, the alert team bursts from its vehicle and runs to the APC, begging to be let in. Their vehicle had shut down entirely, even the flashlights. The entire launch facility, up to 20 feet outside the gate, is devoid of snow, even though the snow outside is knee-deep. Pscolka goes up to the facility alone after posting guards. When he gets to the snow-free zone, he notes the temperature is warmer, even hot. Everything within the facility is warm to the touch, including the soil. But there are no intruders. A few more APCs approach down the access road, and suddenly all the facility and vehicle lights come on again. After the incident, the teams are debriefed and ordered not to tell anyone about it. (Nukes 397–401)
- 1987**, December — [Barry Greenwood](#) calls the MJ-12 documents hoaxes, most likely contrived by [Richard C. Doty](#), who has apparently been Moore’s source for much of his UFO information. He cites the disparity between the briefing document’s extensive discussion of the Roswell crash and the mere 7 lines of text on the 1950 Texas crash. Greenwood also charges that the Cutler-Twining memo had been planted, as it had been found in a virtually empty box in the National Archives containing a small number of non-UFO documents. [Bruce Maccabee](#) thinks

the Cutler-Twining memo is genuine. (Barry Greenwood, "[MJ-12 Magic Act](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 236 (December 1987): 10–16; Philip J. Klass, "[The MJ-12 Crashed Saucer Documents](#)," *Skeptical Inquirer* 12, no. 2 (Winter 1987/1988): 137–146, 279–289; Bruce S. Maccabee, "[Cutler Correction](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 243 (July 1988): 20; Philip J. Klass, "New Evidence of MJ-12 Hoax," *Skeptical Inquirer* 14, no. 2 (Winter 1990): 135–140)

1987, December — John Grace founds the Leading Edge International research group after receiving the "Dulce Papers," a set of documents allegedly disclosing unethical experiments on humans—such as breeding techniques, DNA manipulation, and genetic modification—at an underground base in Dulce, New Mexico. The papers inspired and are included in The Matrix series of six books published from 1988 to 2007 by Grace under the pseudonym Valdamar Valerian. These huge compilations of supposed documents and insider information discuss the alien visitors and treaties with earthly governments, harvests of human body parts, friendly and unfriendly alien species, the creation of humans and culture by aliens, acquisition of alien technology, and the dangers of an alien takeover. (Darryl Smith, "[The Dulce Papers](#)," *Crowded Skyes*; "[Leading Edge International](#)," *UFO-Alien Database*; Clark III 9–10)

1987, December 1 — 7:15 a.m. A former London policeman (pseudonym Philip Spencer) is walking across Ilkley Moor in West Yorkshire, England, to visit his father-in-law in East Morton. He was walking up a small hill when he notices an odd-looking figure in the trail ahead of him. It is dark green and about 4 feet tall with an oversized head and long, thin arms. The creature makes a gesture at Spencer, which he takes to be a warning telling him to stay away, but he takes out his camera and snaps a picture. The creature then runs away and Spencer follows it. He loses the creature in the fog but then sees an object rise from the moor and disappear into the sky. It is a whitish color and consists of two saucer-shaped parts on top of each other. He hears a loud hum. He fails to take a photo of the object. Rather than continue with his planned route, Spencer heads to another town that was about 30 minutes away. When he arrives, he finds that it is about two hours later than he expects it to be. Additionally, the compass he has taken with him is pointed in the opposite direction than it should be. While the photo is getting examined by experts, Spencer has strange dreams. Following ufologist Peter Hough's advice, he attends a session of regressive hypnotherapy carried out by Jim Singleton on March 16, 1988. Under hypnosis, Spencer's original account of the incident changes. Singleton calls it a genuine recall. Spencer now remembers that when he saw the creature on the hill he was instantly paralyzed, lifted up a few feet, and pulled into the craft. When he enters, a voice tells him to be calm. A group of green aliens then performs medical experiments on him, inserting items into his nose and mouth. He is given a tour of the craft and shown a film with apocalyptic imagery, including nuclear explosions, famines, and floods. He is then shown a second film, but he never reveals the contents of this film, saying that the aliens who abducted him do not want humanity to know. Following this, Spencer is returned to Ilkley Moor, where he then takes his photograph. He claims that the alien is actually waving goodbye to him, not telling him to stay away, as in his original account. (Wikipedia, "[Ilkley Moor UFO incident](#)"; Peter Hough, "[The Green Alien of Ilkley Moor](#)," *Fate*, March 1999, pp. 35–41; Matty Sweeney, "[Ilkley Moor Alien Photograph](#)," *The Paranormal Guide*, October 7, 2014; "[Picture Post: When Ilkley Moore Became an Alien Landing Site](#)," *Yorkshire Post*, October 13, 2014; Nick Redfern, *Top Secret Alien Abduction Files*, Red Wheel/Weiser, 2018; Patrick Gross, "[The Ilkley Moor Encounter of the 3rd Kind, 1987](#)")

1987, December 9 — Night. Oddly moving lights in the sky appear over Nottingham, England, traveling quickly and emitting a deep hum. A triangular object about 250 feet long covered in 150 red and white lights is observed over a farm near Hull around the same date. Similar UFOs are seen in Staffordshire and Long Eaton, Derbyshire. ("Mystery of City UFO Sightings," *Nottingham (UK) Evening Post*, December 10, 1987; *Hull (UK) Daily Mail*, December 11, 1987; *Long Eaton (UK) Trader*, December 23, 1987; Marler [121](#))

1987, December 14 — 9:30 p.m. A gray, oval-shaped object lands on the road ahead of a Mercedes car near Launceston, Tasmania. The engine and lights fail instantly, and the driver brakes to a stop. Intense light comes from the base of the object that is painful to the driver's eyes. He leaves the car and gets sick, hiding behind a tree from where he watches his car being dragged about 33 feet, as if attracted by a magnet, and leaving tire marks on the road. A Land Cruiser approaches the scene and its lights fail, but the diesel engine continues to operate. The object takes off with a whirring sound. The car is covered with melted specks of asphalt, and serious electrical problems must be fixed after the incident. (Herbert S. Taylor, "[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#)," *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)

1987, December 29 — Lear Jet heir [John Lear](#), based on stories by Albuquerque businessman [Paul Bennewitz](#), claims in a statement on ParaNet that he has independent confirmation of a secret underground base near Dulce, New Mexico, populated by gray aliens and humans. Direct communication between one alien group and the US government took place at Holloman AFB in April 1964. Lear alleges that the MJ-12 group entered into a relationship with possible ET intelligences between 1969 and 1971 and in exchange for super technology, gave

carte blanche to the ETs to conduct experiments and abductions on unsuspecting human beings. Lear also claims that the ETs, with our government's knowledge, are mutilating domestic cattle and sheep, and in some cases even humans are the victims. In 1972–1973, a secret underground facility at Groom Lake, Nevada, was built “for and with the help of” the ETs. Lear claims that [William Moore](#) is being used as a conduit by MJ-12 (which includes [Edward Teller](#), [Henry Kissinger](#), [Bobby Ray Inman](#), and possibly [John Poindexter](#)) to release information about the alien presence on earth. Many ParaNet members question his assertions. (Wikipedia, “[Dulce Base](#)”; “[Statement Released by John Lear](#),” December 29, 1987; Don Ecker, “Driven to Destruction,” *Fortean Times* 121 (April 1999): 40–43; Graff 320–321)

1988

- 1988** — [Michael Corbin](#) becomes administrator of ParaNet, which runs through the mid-1990s.
- 1988** — College instructor [Karla Turner](#) and her husband are in counseling to learn why they are feeling physical symptoms of stress. She reads *Missing Time* by [Budd Hopkins](#) and *Communion* by [Whitley Strieber](#) and soon recalls having seen an odd light in the sky as a girl and begins to dream about UFOs. Having learned hypnotic regression techniques from her therapist, she regresses her husband, whereupon he remembers several childhood experiences with gray aliens. Several nights later, Karla awakens to sounds of clicks and bumps in the house, followed by disembodied voices in her bedroom. She later remembers a nightmare from her childhood in which an insect-like being holds her hand and tells her it is her mother. Soon she and her husband undergo regression by an Oklahoma UFO researcher, which produces accounts of repeated abductions since childhood and evidence that her whole family was involved. After one session, Karla, her husband, and a third person see a lighted, disc-shaped craft hovering above them. Two weeks later, she again hears voices in the night and loud knocking sounds. She wakes to find small punctures on her inner wrist and three white circles on her abdomen. Into 1989, more body marks appear, including a solid red triangle on her arm, puncture wounds, scratches, and bruises. Poltergeist phenomena occur. The Turners begin to notice a white car parked near their house, and unmarked helicopters seem to follow them. They begin to suspect the US military is monitoring them. (Karla Turner, *Into the Fringe: A True Story of Alien Abduction*, Berkley, 1992)
- 1988** — The radial velocity variations of the star Gamma Cephei are first suspected to be indicative of an exoplanet in a 2.5-year orbit. However, misclassification of the star as a giant combined with an underestimation of the orbit of the Gamma Cephei binary, which implies the planet's orbit would be unstable, lead some astronomers to suspect the variations were merely due to stellar rotation. The existence of the planet is finally confirmed in 2002. (Wikipedia, “[Discoveries of exoplanets](#)”)
- 1988**, January — A family in the vicinity of Pasadena, California, notices a large, perfectly circular brown spot, 13 feet in diameter, in their backyard in the midst of their lush, well-cared for St. Augustine grass. It seems to have appeared the morning after the wife awakens to see a small, gray-skinned entity standing beside her and probing her torso with medical instruments. She had seen a strange light beam one month earlier. The brown area slowly fills in with Bermuda grass after 6 months. The Los Angeles County agricultural pathologist who examines a soil sample finds four southern chinch bugs (*Blissus insularis*) that he says can cause similar damage, although the progression is much slower and requires many more insects than four. (Ann Druffel, “[CE3—and CE2?](#)” *IUR* 14, no. 3 (May/June 1989): 10–12, 23)
- 1988**, January 5 (or 15) — 5:00 a.m. Cristian Tuță is doing mandatory military service in a unit at Roșu, Romania, on the shore of Lacul Morii. While on guard duty, he notices an oval light positioned vertically 30 feet above the bridge to the only island on the lake. He estimates it is 45 feet high and 15 feet wide. Inside are four much brighter lights in the shape of a cross. At first it remains motionless, but begins quickly moving up and down along the bridge like a sine wave for 30 minutes. It stops abruptly and moves slowly to the southwest at an altitude of 60 feet. When it comes to a clump of trees, it changes its shape to two discs put together. In a split second it zooms away to the west. (Romania 46–48)
- 1988**, January 12 — Ed Walters produces his most famous photo—a brightly lit structured craft hovering above a road near his home in Gulf Breeze, Florida. (Ed Walters and Frances Walters, [The Gulf Breeze Sightings](#), Morrow, 1990)
- 1988**, January 19 — 5:00 p.m. A father and daughter are driving to pick the mother up from work in Benton, Louisiana. When they pull into the mall parking lot, the daughter notices a streak of light in the sky that suddenly moves right in front of them about 150 feet away and 50 feet above the ground. It is a dull silver disc with “turbines” or openings around its perimeter that are spinning like a slowly moving fan. From the top of the object emerges a

sheath with rotary blades, although the blades do not rotate. The disc is about the size of an automobile, around 5 feet tall, and completely silent. For 90 seconds, all the noise of the mall seems muted. Then the device begins to move and zips away quickly. (Michael D. Swords, "[Unusual Experiences from the Timmerman Files](#)," *IUR* 27, no. 2 (Summer 2002): 21)

1988, January 20 — 4:10 a.m. Faye Knowles and her three sons Patrick, Sean, and Wayne are en route along the Eyre Highway from Perth, Western Australia, to Melbourne, Victoria, by car, when they observe a bright, egg-shaped object ahead of them on the road near Mundrabilla, Western Australia. Sean is driving and has to swerve to miss the object. The egg-shaped object then begins to follow their station wagon. At some point, Sean does a U-turn to approach the object, but soon goes back to driving eastward. The family becomes disoriented, and the sequence of events is difficult to reconstruct. They roll down the windows and a "grayish-black mist" enters into the car. Faye reaches out the window to touch the roof and feels something warm, soft, and rubbery that covers her hand in black dust. They hear a thud on the roof and come to believe that the object has lifted their car off the road. They are let down suddenly and the right rear tire blows out. A truck driver named Graham Henley is driving ahead of the Knowles's car; he sees a bright light in his rearview mirror for about 5 minutes. Shortly after Henley pulls into Mundrabilla, the Knowles family arrives in a state of disorientation. He inspects the damaged tire, sees dents in the roof, and smells something burnt. Henley and another trucker drive back to the scene and find skid marks and footprints. In the afternoon, the family report to police in Ceduna, South Australia, who note their distress and the dents in the roof. Samples of the black dust are collected for forensic analysis. The police tests are never done, but at least half of the material is obtained by ufologists [Keith Basterfield](#) and [Ray Brooke](#), who take it to a laboratory. The analysis reveals ordinary materials: sodium chloride, sodium, aluminum, magnesium, sulfur, potassium, silicon, chlorine, clay particles, and calcium. The Seven Network pays the Australian Mineral Development Laboratories to test the vehicle for radioactivity, but there is none above background. AMDEL states that the car tire has failed due to being underinflated, and the dust, smell, and smoke is due to the blowout. Another set of samples is taken from the car by the Victorian UFO Research Society and sent to two different labs, again with commonplace results. However, one analysis by [Richard Haines](#) in the US concludes that the interior dust is different from the exterior dust, which contains a possible trace of astatine, a radioactive chemical element. Faye's hand became red and swollen in the days after the event. ("[Desert UFO Puzzle](#)," *Melbourne (Vic.) Sun*, January 21, 1988; "[UFO Was After Us, Says Perth Woman](#)," *Melbourne Age*, January 22, 1988, p. 5; Walt Andrus, "[The Mundrabilla Incident, Part 1](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 239 (March 1988): 16–22; Walt Andrus, "[The Mundrabilla Incident, Part 2](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 240 (April 1988): 14–19; Keith Basterfield and Ray Brooke, "[The Mundrabilla Incident](#)," *UFO Research Australia Newsletter* 6, no. 1 (April 1988): 3–20; "[The Mundrabilla UFO in Western Australia](#)," *Pursuit* 21, no. 1 (Spring 1988): 14; John Auchettl, *The Knowles Family Encounter*, Victorian UFO Research Society, 1989; Keith Basterfield and Ray Brooke, "[The Mundrabilla Incident: An Update](#)," *UFO Research Australia Newsletter* 7, no. 1 (May 1989): 3–9; Keith Basterfield, Vladimir Godic, and Pony Godic, "[Australian Ufology: A Review](#)," *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 36–37; Keith Basterfield, "[Samples from the Mundrabilla CE2](#)," *IUR* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1990): 12–13; UFOEv II 232–237; Siani, "[UFOs on the Nullarbor Plain \(Part 1\)](#)," *Strange Days*, September 27, 2007; Siani, "[UFOs on the Nullarbor Plain \(Part 2\)](#)," *Strange Days*, September 27, 2007; Brian Dunning, "[The Knowles Family UFO Incident](#)," Skeptoid podcast, no. 715, February 18, 2020; "[1988 on the Nullarbor Plain an Egg-Shaped UFO Lifted up the Knowles Family Car](#)," Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, April 30, 2024)

1988, January 21 — 8:00 p.m. Ex-Navy Lt. Dan McIndoe and his family are at their home 5 miles north of Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, when they see a white light with red and blue flashes. They watch it maneuvering for 2 hours. (Donald A. Johnson, "[UFOs in Washington Skies](#)," *IUR* 13, no. 2 (March/April 1988): 4–6)

1988, February 4 — 8:10 p.m. A woman is driving between Bacup, Lancashire, and Todmorden, Yorkshire, England, when she sees an intense orange, egg-shaped light to the south-southeast above Tooler Hill when she is crossing the border between the two counties. Its interior is like a "swirling liquid (or fire embers) with constantly changing patterns." She stops to watch it as it hovers for another 2–3 minutes. As she drives away it starts to move, so she pulls over again and watches it (now dimmer) move away to the southwest. It speeds up as it descends below the level of the hillside. (Jenny Randles, "[Another Pennine Earthlight?](#)" *Northern UFO News*, no. 137 (June 1989): 15)

1988, February 9 — 8:00 a.m. A man looking for farm work near Oswestry, Shropshire, England, sees a dog run from a parked car he is passing. The dog crosses the road and runs barking straight into a swirling, yellowish, glowing mist about 45 feet in diameter that straddles a hedgerow. The mist is making a noise like rushing air. The dog owner gets out of the car, and the witness follows her toward the glow and tries to calm her down. As they

approach, their hair stands on end, their skin begins tingling, and they smell sulfur as an eerie stillness envelops them. Moments later, the glow disappears as if it is melting away. The dog is lying on the ground looking ill. Its eyes are red and its coat is soaking wet, yet the moisture is evaporating rapidly with steam visibly rising. The man carries the dog back to the car and the woman drives off with it. He later finds out that the dog recovered after an hour or so but died a few weeks later. (Jenny Randles, *Time Storms: Amazing Evidence for Time Warps, Space Rifts, and Time Travel*, Piatkus, 2001, p. 11; Jenny Randles, “UFOs Can Damage Your Health, Part Two,” *Fortean Times* 365 (April 2018): 27)

1988, February 10 — 7:45–8:30 p.m. Numerous independent observers on the border of Cambria and Somerset counties near Johnstown, Pennsylvania, see a 60-foot object with several rows of lights that make it look like a “cruise ship in the sky.” The object passes over cars and trees at an altitude of 50–100 feet. It emits a slight humming sound and projects multiple beams of light toward the ground. (“[Number of UFO Reports in State Unprecedented in ‘88](#),” *Latrobe (Pa.) Bulletin*, January 9, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 235 (February 1989): 11–12)

1988, March 2 — 9:25 a.m. A UH-50 helicopter flying on patrol above the Pirassununga Air Base, São Paulo, Brazil, notices a large circular area on the ground in a sugarcane field near the base. The plants seem to be crushed as if something had landed there. They report the mark, and another helicopter arrives and lands to make an investigation because the area is too difficult to access by truck. A 1st Lt. Zogovich takes some film footage of the flattened circle. During the examination, the airmen find evidence that someone else has collected samples from the site. (Jackson Camargo, “[Um OVNI pousou ao lado da Base Aérea de Pirassununga](#),” Portal Fenomenum, April 14, 2024)

1988, March 3 — 8:30 p.m. The brothers Farisano are returning home from a soccer championship near General Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina, when they notice some strange lights above a nearby bridge. As they approach the lights, their vehicle engine suddenly stalls. They try to restart it but cannot, so they remain in their truck watching the lights. They now see that the lights are on a spherical object with a large red light on the top and several white lights in a row on the bottom section. The object hovers close to the ground. Inside the transparent midsection the witnesses can see a shadow-like figure moving about. The object suddenly moves slowly out of sight, after which the truck engine restarts and they drive home. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19; “[1988: March UFO and Alien Sightings](#),” Think AboutIts)

1988, March 4 — 8:35 p.m. Sheila and Henry Baker and their three children are driving home to Eastlake, Ohio, after going to dinner. As they near the waterfront, Sheila notices something hovering above Lake Erie, so they drive down to the beach to investigate. A huge, metallic-gray, football-shaped object like a blimp is silently rocking back and forth, blinding white light emanating from both ends. It begins circling, moving overhead at about 1,300 feet. Somehow it causes the lake ice to rumble and crack. The Bakers get nervous and drive home, where they can still see the UFO with red and blue blinking lights along the bottom edge. 5–6 bright triangular lights detach from the side, hovering at first, then darting and zigzagging around at high speeds. Each is smaller than a Cessna and cross 50-mile stretches low over the ice “in the snap of a finger.” They make several passes toward the Perry Nuclear Power Plant about 20 miles away. The Bakers alert the Coast Guard, and Seaman James Powers and Petty Officer John Knaub drive to the beach, where the triangular objects approach them. They give a blow-by-blow radio report to the Coast Guard base in Detroit. Other witnesses in different locations also see the triangles. Suddenly the smaller objects return to the large one, which seems to be landing on the ice. They reenter it, the ellipse flashes a series of red, blue, and yellow lights, and the light at the end turns from white to red. Suddenly the lights go out and the ice booming stops. The witnesses assume the object has gone beneath the surface. The Coast Guard report the next day suggests that the lights were Venus and Jupiter. (NICAP, “[Eastlake Close Encounter](#)”; “[Cozying of Jupiter, Venus Light Up Sky](#),” *Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer*, March 7, 1988, via *APCIC UFO News* 12, no. 5 (May 1988): 23; Richard P. Dell’Aquila, “[Ohio Flap](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 249 (January 1989): 15–17; Christopher Evans, “[Space Case: The Night the Coast Guard Got Buzzed](#),” *Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer*, July 12, 1992, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 279 (October 1992): 2–3; Dolan II 428–431; John Lasker, *Technoir: 13 Investigations from the Dark Side of Technology, the US Military, and UFOs*, The Author, 2010, pp. 23–28; “[Never Before Heard 1988 Lake Erie Coast Guard UFO Event Witness Testimony!](#)” Michael Lee Hill YouTube channel, August 31, 2014; Marcus Lowth, “[The Baker Family UFO Encounter over Lake Erie](#),” *UFO Insight*, August 2, 2018; Michael Lee Hill, “[Never Before Heard! Famous 1988 Lake Erie Coast Guard UFO Event Update: Audio Witness Testimony!](#)” Michael Lee Hill blog, August 18, 2018; Patrick Gross, “[Lake Erie, USA 1988](#)”)

1988, March 5 — [Richard Doty](#) writes to ufologist [Larry W. Bryant](#) that he had never promised film footage to [Linda Moulton Howe](#). (Clark III 365)

- 1988, March 7** — During a campaign rally in Rogers, Arkansas, vice president and presidential candidate [George H. W. Bush](#) is approached by a UFO buff named [Charles Huffer](#), who asks him if he will tell the truth about UFOs. He sort of promises to declassify the information. Later, Huffer declines to send him any UFO cases because “you’re a CIA man. You know all that stuff.” “I know some,” Bush replies, “I know a fair amount.” ([presidentialufo.com](#), “[George Bush, 41st President](#)”)
- 1988, April** — [William Steinman](#) again contacts [Eric A. Walker](#) at his Florida residence and asks about the current members of MJ-12. Within a week, Walker mails Steinman’s handwritten note back to him from Penn State, not Florida. At the top of the letter, Walker has written, “Must reply, did code (–1),” and placed numbers from 1 to 26 above certain words in Steinman’s letter. Later in the month, T. Scott Crain calls Walker, who says he cannot talk about the UFO subject. (Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain Jr., *UFOs, MJ-12, and the Government: A Report on Government Involvement in UFO Crash Retrievals*, Mutual UFO Network, 1991, pp. 16–22)
- 1988, April 12** — [Coral Lorenzen](#), founder of APRO, [dies](#) in Tucson, Arizona. CUFOS had been attempting to purchase the APRO archives, but is thwarted by someone who convinces Coral’s son, Larry Lorenzen, that this is a bad move and that the APRO board should reconsider. He wants the archive to stay in Arizona. [Tina Choate and Brian Myers](#), with their dubious International Center for UFO Research, convince the APRO board that they are the most logical recipients. In 1989, the board gives them the archives free of charge. Former APRO board member [Robert Dean](#) later realizes Choate and Myers are scam artists. They immediately bar anyone from using the files and move them to a garage at an undisclosed location in Scottsdale or Sedona, Arizona. Fortunately, APRO case files prior to 1957 have been preserved digitally. In 2010–2012, Choate and Myers are involved in a fraudulent scheme to acquire and illegally sell a valuable collection of fossils. (“[Obituary: Coral Lorenzen](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 33, no. 3 (September 1988): 15; Clas Svahn, “[Unique UFO Archive Hidden in Warehouse \(APRO Archives and Files\)](#),” *UFO Evidence*; Jamie Ross, “[Collector Sues over \\$25M in Fossils](#),” *Courthouse News Service*, May 17, 2010; Isaac Koi, “[Rare Microfilms of UFO Documents Now Online: APRO, US Air Force, etc. \(PDF archives\)](#),” Above Top Secret forum, December 15, 2014)
- 1988, May 4** — MUFON Director of Investigations [Dan Wright](#) poses a set of open questions for [John Lear](#), nearly all of which concern Lear’s sources. Lear claims that most of his information comes from confidential sources within the intelligence community, while a lesser portion comes from open sources and his own “informed speculation.” (Richard P. Dell’Aquila, “[Who Is John Lear?](#)” *UFONet.it*, 1988)
- 1988, May 4** — During a question-and-answer session following a speech to the National Strategy Forum in Chicago’s Palmer House Hotel, President [Reagan](#) is asked about the most important “need” in international relations. He replies: “I’ve often wondered, what if all of us in the world discovered that we were threatened by an outer– a power from outer space, from another planet. Wouldn’t we all of a sudden find that we didn’t have any differences between us at all, we were all human beings, citizens of the world, and wouldn’t we come together to fight that particular threat?” ([presidentialufo.com](#), “[Ronald Reagan, 40th President, January 20, 1981–January 20, 1989](#)”; “[President Reagan’s Remarks at the National Strategy Forum on May 4, 1988](#),” Reagan Library YouTube channel, February 26, 2018)
- 1988, May 16** — 9:30–10:00 p.m. Eileen Ballard and four friends are outside in Stafford, England, when they notice two spotlights in the sky. The objects they are attached to position themselves side by side, one above the other, and fly slowly and silently across the sky. Red and green lights are visible on the undersides. BUFORA initially attributes the sighting to two US Air Force F-117 stealth fighters, an aircraft that had not yet been acknowledged, but this is considered unlikely as other witnesses come forward. (“[Did Mystery Lights Reflect Secret Flights of F-19?](#)” *Stafford (UK) Newsletter*, May 20, 1988, p. 3; “[After MP’s Plea, More Tell of UFO Mystery](#),” *Stafford (UK) Newsletter*, July 1, 1988; Marler [121–123](#), [139–140](#))
- 1988, June 1** — 8:10 p.m. A LAN Airlines pilot, on a final approach to the runway at El Tepual Airport in Puerto Montt, Chile, suddenly encounters an object with a large white light surrounded by green and red flashes. It is coming straight toward the airplane, and the pilot makes a steep turn to the left to avoid a collision. The object is also seen by air traffic control personnel. (Kean, [pp. 194–195](#); “[1988: La historia del Ovni de El Tepual, Puerto Montt](#),” Prensa Vértice TV YouTube channel, August 17, 2012; Rodrigo Bravo Garrido and Juan Castillo Cornejo, “[Incidente del Boeing 737 del Vuelo Lan Chile 045 con un F.A.N.I. el 01 de Junio de 1988](#),” Parinacota UFO Arica, October 10, 2015)
- 1988, July** — [Cynthia Hind](#) begins publishing *UFO Afrinews* in Harare, Zimbabwe. It continues until July 2000. ([UFO Afrinews](#), no. 1 (July 1988))

- 1988, July** — Walter Corrêa do Prado of Boqueirão, Paraíba, Brazil, undergoes about one hour of missing time after seeing a strong light illuminating three blocks in his neighborhood. After witnessing other UFOs over the next month or so (one with his wife that leaves traces of burned grass), he begins reading UFO literature. In April 2000, do Prado is hypnotically regressed by Mario Rangel, and an abduction narrative surfaces. (Clark III 308–309; Brazil 329–333)
- 1988, July** — The Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici launches another newsletter, *Rassegna Casistica*, edited by Alessandro Cortellazi in Turin, Italy. It continues through December 1991. ([*Rassegna Casistica*](#), no. 1 (July 1988))
- 1988, July 3** — A police officer in Montgomery, Ohio, watches a barbell-shaped object making quick, near-instantaneous movements, zig-zagging, moving up and down, and hovering. (Powell, *Scientist*, 67)
- 1988, July 17** — Night. Several witnesses see two objects with red and green flashing lights make two crisscross passes near the generating station in Homer City, Pennsylvania. Later one object drops from the sky and makes two passes about 200 feet from the ground. It is circular in shape and about the size of a large car. It has four leg-like structures with lights on them that protrude from the bottom. A hissing noise can be heard as the object passes close by. (“[Number of UFO Reports in State Unprecedented in ‘88.](#)” *Latrobe (Pa.) Bulletin*, January 9, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 235 (February 1989): 11–12)
- 1988, August** — After eight years of stress, fear, and paranoia, [Paul Bennewitz](#) has turned over his business to his sons and barricaded himself in his house. His family, convinced his sanity and health are in danger, commits him to the Anna Kaseman Hospital in Albuquerque, where he stays for a month. After his release, his family keeps him away from ufology and ufologists. (Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 217–218)
- 1988, August** — José Semitiel Martínez begins publishing the newsletter *Búsqueda* in Gerona, Spain. It folds in March 1995. ([*Búsqueda*](#), no. 1 (August 1988))
- 1988, August 3** — 11:15 a.m. Kaye Stricker is stopped at a traffic light at the corner of Gadsden Avenue and West Avenue K in Lancaster, California, when she sees a shiny object in the sky coming from the northwest. It hovers briefly over the Sierra Highway before “evaporating.” (“[Van Driver Reports Sighting UFO in Sky over Lancaster.](#)” Palmdale (Calif.) *Antelope Valley Press*, August 4, 1988, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 232 (November 1988): 1)
- 1988, September 2** — Afternoon. A man sitting by a pond on his rural residence near Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, is startled to see an object come out of the sky from the north and hover 50 feet away from him about 30 feet above the ground. It is spherical and about 15–20 feet in diameter. The upper section is red and the underside orange-red. The center is divided by a glass-like, amber-colored window, and lights can be seen flashing inside. The object emits a mist toward the ground. It silently hovers for about 2 minutes before moving off to the north. Later, the man finds a depressed area in the tall grass about 12 feet in diameter where the grass is swirled counterclockwise. (“[Number of UFO Reports in State Unprecedented in ‘88.](#)” *Latrobe (Pa.) Bulletin*, January 9, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 235 (February 1989): 11–12)
- 1988, September 15** — An agent of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations contacts the Dallas, Texas, office of the FBI and supplies the Bureau with a copy of the MJ-12 documents. The set is obtained from a source whose identity AFOSI has decided must remain classified. (Kremlin 181–182)
- 1988, September 25** — 10:30 p.m. A man is driving along State Highway 113 in Lorain County, Ohio, when his car stalls. He sees two other stalled cars on the side of the road, so he gets out and talks to the four people from the other cars for a few minutes. They realize there are lights nearby in the woods that come from a silvery triangular object with a rim and rounded base. The treetops above it seem to be moving, although it is a calm night. After 15–20 minutes the object rises at an angle and moves away slowly and silently, passing overhead. It seems wider than the road. From the center of the base there is a white light like a fluorescent lamp. (Thomas M. Olsen, “[Sighting Alert in Ohio.](#)” *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 2 (June 1989): 11–12; Herbert S. Taylor, “[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1.](#)” *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 19)
- 1988, October 8** — After speaking to [John Lear](#) by phone for the first time on October 4, conspiracy theorist [Milton William Cooper](#) receives in the mail a number of Lear’s writings, as well as the dubious “O.H. Krill” document, allegedly written by a USAF NCO named John Grace, claiming that the US government has a long-standing relationship with an alien civilization; a version of [Abraham Zapruder](#)’s [John F. Kennedy](#) assassination film enhanced to show Secret Service Agent [William Greer](#) shooting a pistol at Kennedy; Lear’s transcription of statements by a former Green Beret captain named William English regarding a nonexistent Project Grudge Report number 13 that refers to alien bodies; and a paper on Project Excalibur regarding underground facilities that was supposedly written by [Bob Lazar](#) while working at Los Alamos. (O. H. Krill [John Grace], “[A Situation](#)

- [Report on Our Acquisition of Advanced Technology and Interaction with Alien Cultures](#),” IllumiNet BBS, June 1988; Don Ecker, “Freedom of Disinformation,” *Fortean Times* 122 (May 1999): 28–31; Dolan II 443–447)
- 1988**, October 13 — Former Sen. [Barry Goldwater](#) appears on [Larry King](#)’s syndicated radio show and responds to a caller who asks him whether the story about a secret Blue Room at Wright-Patterson AFB is true. He says his friend Gen. [Curtis LeMay](#) got quite angry at him when he tried to gain access to the room, which is said to hold evidence related to UFOs. (“[Senator Goldwater Believes UFO’s Are from Other World](#),” Albany *Greater Oregon*, December 28, 1973, p. 3; “[Profiles: AuH2O](#),” *The New Yorker*, April 25, 1988, p. 43; Nukes 488–489; “[Barry Goldwater and the Secret UFO Room @ Wright-Patterson AFB](#),” eesynow YouTube channel, October 29, 2011; Anthony Bragalia, “[Opening the Door to the Blue Room Where UFO Debris Is Hidden](#),” UFO Explorations, June 2012)
- 1988**, October 14 — [Bill Moore](#) and his associates cooperate with “Falcon” and others in the “Aviary” to present a nationally televised two-hour special titled *UFO Cover-Up? Live!* Host [Mike Ferrell](#) interviews [Betty Cash](#) and [Vickie Landrum](#), and finally “Falcon” (or someone pretending to be him) and “Condor” (identified by some as DIA employee Col. [Robert M. Collins](#)), who appear in silhouette with voices altered. They embarrassingly proclaim that the ETs have a preference for Tibetan music and strawberry ice cream. [Robert Emenegger](#) also appears, claiming he is convinced of the reality of the alleged UFO contact at Holloman AFB. Paul Shartle describes the Holloman film footage, saying it shows aliens emerging from a disc-shaped craft. (presidentialufo.com, “[Disclosure Pattern 1972–75](#)”; Internet Movie Database, “[UFO Cover-Up? Live!](#)”; Don Ecker, “Driven to Destruction,” *Fortean Times* 121 (April 1999): 40–43; Greg Bishop, *Project Beta*, Paraview, 2005, pp. 200–202, 211–212; “[Govt. Intelligence Official ‘Falcon’ \(=Rick Doty\) on MJ12, Alien Contact & the Cash-Landrum Case](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, October 21, 2023; “[The Interviews from ‘UFO Cover-Up? Live!’ 1988 \(BG Music Removed\)](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, June 27, 2024)
- 1988**, October 25 — 5:00 a.m. A Miami, Florida, couple is on their balcony terrace when they see 3 yellow lights moving erratically from west to east. They pass behind the only cloud in the sky then disappear. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[Mystery Clouds and the UFO Connection](#),” *IUR* 29, no. 4 (July 2005): 19)
- 1988**, October 25 — The Dallas, Texas, office of the FBI transmits a 2-page secret Airtel to headquarters that says the MJ-12 documents have been getting local publicity and asks if the documents are still classified. (Kremlin 182)
- 1988**, October 26 — Jim Speiser ejects both [Milton William Cooper](#) and [John Lear](#) from ParaNet for bad behavior and peddling probable disinformation. (Don Ecker, “Freedom of Disinformation,” *Fortean Times* 122 (May 1999): 28–31)
- 1988**, October 26 — 9:00 p.m. Many residents of the San Joaquin Valley around Fresno and Kingsburg, California, see a low-flying object with three red lights in a V-formation. It seems to be circling and is visible for 45 minutes. (“[Unidentified Object Steals across Valley Sky](#),” *Fresno (Calif.) Bee*, October 28, 1988, pp. 1, 16)
- 1988**, October or November — Pilot [Robert Hopkins](#) is flying a USAF RC-135S Cobra Ball reconnaissance aircraft east of the Kamchatka Peninsula in Russia when he is notified that the USSR has launched an RSD-10 Pioneer IRBM toward the Kura Missile Test Range at Klyuchi, Kamchatka Krai. The 1988 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty allows the Soviets to test-fire IRBMs into the sea, rather than breaking them up. Moving into position to collect telemetry information from the launch, Hopkins observes a “translucent, milky white wall moving from the left, over the USSR, to the right, over the Northern Pacific Ocean. It covered the entire sky from ground level to as far up as we could see looking out the front windows of the airplane.” The wall of light passes at an estimated 6,200 mph, disappearing eastward and leaving darkness behind it. Some analysts at the USAF Foreign Technology Division think it is caused by something in the first-stage fuel of the RSD-10; others suggest it is produced deliberately to dazzle US observation satellites. Some speculate that Russia has a secret Dome of Light weapon that has been observed several times since and that might involve a plasma that can temporarily disrupt electronics and blind a satellite. (Tyler Rogoway, “[U.S. Spyplane Pilot’s Account Indicates Soviet Russia Tested a ‘Dome of Light’ Superweapon](#),” *The Drive: The War Zone*, February 6, 2019)
- 1988**, November — GEPAN is renamed Service d’Étude des Phénomènes de Rentrées Atmosphériques (SEPR), but the Scientific Council is still closed, and no more technical reports are produced. [Velasco](#) is still tasked with studying UFO reports, but not in making analyses. (Gildas Bourdais, “[From GEPAN to SEPR: Official UFO Studies in France](#),” *IUR* 25, no. 4 (Winter 2000–2001): 13; Gildas Bourdais, “[The Death and Rebirth of Official French UFO Studies](#),” *IUR* 31, no. 2 (June 2007): 13; Clark III 547; Swords 448)
- 1988**, November 10 — Assistant Secretary of Defense [J. Daniel Howard](#) holds a Pentagon press conference and reveals the existence of the F-117A stealth fighter. After the announcement, pilots can fly the F-117 during daytime and no longer need to be associated with the LTV A-7 Corsair II for training, flying the T-38 supersonic trainer for travel and training instead. (Wikipedia, “[Lockheed F-117 Nighthawk](#)”)

- 1988**, November 11–12 — 5:00 p.m. A truck driver returning from Utah to Baker, California, goes through a series of bizarre and inexplicable experiences, some of them ufological, that leave him convinced that his truck is possessed and “they” have been in control of him all along. The experiences end shortly after midnight before he returns to Baker and leave him terrified. During the drive he has been drinking copious amounts of coffee, which may have contributed to his hallucinatory excitement. (Ann Druffel, “[The Caffeine Zone](#),” *IUR* 13, no. 3 (May/June 1988): 18–22)
- 1988**, November 12 — Aviation designer [Brad Sorensen](#) attends an air show at Norton AFB in San Bernardino, California, and is taken to a huge hangar by a former high-ranking Defense Department official to view the Lockheed Pulsar, nicknamed the Aurora, that allegedly can be anywhere in the world 30 minutes after launch. Behind a big black curtain are three flying saucers hovering above the floor. The small saucer is about 24 feet in diameter. The next biggest one is 60 feet in diameter at the base, and another one is 130 feet. They are referred to as Alien Reproduction Vehicles. A videotape shows the smallest of the three vehicles making three little, quick, hopping motions; then it accelerates straight up and out of sight, completely disappearing from view in just a couple of seconds. There is a cut-away illustration that shows oxygen tanks and a robotic arm that can extend out from the side of the vehicle for collecting samples in space. (Mark McCandlish, “[Alien Reproduction Vehicles](#),” Filer’s Files, #19-2011, May 4, 2011; Dolan II 457–461; “[Alien Reproduction Vehicle: The Testimony of Mark McCandlish](#),” UAP Gerb YouTube channel, October 21, 2024)
- 1988**, November 22 — The Northrup Grumman B-2 stealth bomber is first publicly displayed at United States Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California, where it is assembled. This viewing is heavily restricted, and guests are not allowed to see the rear of the B-2. However, *Aviation Week* editors find that there are no airspace restrictions above the presentation area and take aerial photographs of the aircraft’s then-secret rear section with its suppressed engine exhausts. (Wikipedia, “[Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirit](#)”; Steve Pace, *B-2 Spirit: The Most Capable War Machine on the Planet*, McGraw-Hill, 1999)
- 1988**, November 28 — Physicist [Edward Teller](#) allegedly calls the out-of-work physicist and electronics technician [Robert Lazar](#) and gives him the name of a contact in Las Vegas, Nevada. Lazar makes contact, and later receives a call from EG&G, a high-tech company with contracts at Groom Lake, Nevada. (Dolan II 475)
- 1988**, November 30 — An arranged meeting takes place in Washington, D.C., between AFOSI and FBI agents, who request information about the MJ-12 documents. The Air Force tells the FBI the documents are completely bogus and the FBI should cease its inquiry. (Kremlin 182–183)
- 1988**, December — The Leningrad branch of the USSR Commission on Anomalous Phenomena creates a separate amateur branch for UFO studies named Fakt to educate people on the phenomenon. It is disbanded in 1990, but part of its archives are saved. (Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1988**, December 1 — [Robert Lazar](#) allegedly interviews at EG&G, but is informed that he is overqualified for the position in question (Dolan II 475)
- 1988**, December 1 — 11:00 p.m. A captain of the Brazilian Air Force flying a Mirage fighter jet is returning from a mission and is over Jaboão dos Guararapes, Pernambuco, Brazil, when his radar indicates traffic about one mile from his position. He requests permission to intercept and goes after the brilliant disk-like object that has a dull glow like copper. The CINDACTA III radar still finds nothing. The UFO begins to approach the jet and suddenly his instruments begin to fail. A red light in the center begins to grow stronger and the pilot arms his missiles; but the missiles do not respond to his command and the UFO flies off in mere seconds. But the chase continues another 10 minutes, during which time the UFO plays with its pursuer. After landing, the pilot is told that another aircraft has seen a strange object about 15 minutes earlier in the state of São Paulo more than 1,242 miles away. (Clark III 207; Brazil 556–557)
- 1988**, December 4 — 5:25 a.m. A police officer en route to his station in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, notices a brilliant glow in the sky ahead of him. It is so bright he can hardly see as he drives down a four-lane road, and he swerves and blocks two lanes. About 150 feet in the air is a 75-foot-long, highly polished silver object shaped like an ellipse. It is emitting a humming sound and casting light into and all around his car. It moves left and right, then shoots straight up into the sky, stopping again briefly before departing. The officer’s eyes hurt badly from the brightness and he feels ill. There is a sunburn-like rash on his face, and he has severe eye irritation, headache, and neck pain after the incident. He notes that the paint on his car has been dulled and an unusual powder-like substance is found on the exterior. It is analyzed and found to consist of clay, sodium, carbon, salt, and potassium chloride. (“[Number of UFO Reports in State Unprecedented in ‘88](#),” *Latrobe (Pa.) Bulletin*, January 9, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 235 (February 1989): 11–12; Stan Gordon, “[Pennsylvania Law Officer Reports CE2 Incident](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 253 (May 1989): 10–12, 23; UFOEv II 193)

- 1988**, December 5 — [Robert Lazar](#) interviews at EG&G again for what seems like a part-time position. (Dolan II 475)
- 1988**, December 6 — [Lazar](#) reports to work at the EG&G building at McCarran Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada. There he meets with a security officer named Dennis Mariani, who escorts him on a flight to Area 51 at Groom Lake, where Lazar signs a secrecy agreement that requires intensive monitoring of his activities. He and Mariani board a bus with blacked-out windows and ride for 30 minutes down a dirt and gravel road. They arrive at a base near Papoose Dry Lake known as S-4. Lazar's ID is prepared, he is given a physical and treated for allergic reactions to unknown substances, then he begins work at S-4. Lazar claims he only visits S-4 on six or seven occasions between December 1988 and April 1989 to learn about Project Galileo, which deals with gravity and propulsion, and training on an "antimatter reactor." He also reads about a second project, Looking Glass, concerned with seeing back in time. (Dolan II 475; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [p. 11](#))
- 1988**, December 18 — [Milton William Cooper](#) surfaces on CompuServe online network, claiming that while working as a quartermaster with an intelligence team for Adm. [Bernard A. Clarey](#), commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet, he had seen two documents, Project Grudge Special Report 13 and an MJ-12 briefing. He elaborates on [Moore's](#) and [Lear's](#) tales of crashes and alien bodies, adding that the aliens are called Alien Life Forms (ALFs) and that he has seen photos of aliens that supposedly landed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico, in 1964 or 1977. (Dolan II 452–453; Clark III 367)
- 1988**, December 28 — 7:45 p.m. Many people in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, see a huge, bright-yellow triangular object in the sky. Mañuel Marcado watches as two F-14 Tomcats (probably from an aircraft carrier) approach the object from either side then cross in front of it. The light stops in mid-air and absorbs both planes, according to Marcado. The object moves over Lago Samán, then divides itself into two triangles, one of which shoots off to the east and the other to the north. Allegedly, the triangular objects were tracked on US Navy radars. (Jorge Martin, "[Did Huge Triangle-Shaped UFO Abduct Two U.S. Fighters in Puerto Rico?](#)" *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 261 (January 1990): 20–23; Richard D. Seifried, "[Jorge Martin and the Puerto Rican UFO Experience.](#)" *Australian UFO Bulletin*, December 1993, pp. 26–27; Alan Caviness, "[Military Encounter with a UFO.](#)" Caviness Report; Good Need, [p. 379](#); "[Puerto Rico UFO Encounters: Fighter Jets Went Missing near Gigantic Triangular Object, 1988.](#)" Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, October 17, 2023)

1989

- 1989**, January — [Leonard Stringfield](#) issues his fifth Status Report. (Leonard H. Stringfield, *UFO Crash/Retrievals: Is the Coverup Lid Lifting?* The Author, 1989)
- 1989**, January — The Long Island UFO Network begins publishing the *Long Island UFO Reporter*, which soon changes its name to the *Long Island UFO Update*, edited at first by George McLain in Center Moriches, New York. It continues through December 1992. ([Long Island UFO Reporter](#) 1 no. 1 (January 1989))
- 1989**, January 28 — Evening. A triangular UFO is seen over Tiptree, Essex, England. Its color changes from bright to dull white before it shoots to the southwest. Other triangular UFOs are observed in southeast Essex in January. (Marler [124](#))
- 1989**, February — Numerous witnesses in Gloucestershire, England, report a noiseless triangular UFO "ablaze with lights." One report describes a series of light beams emanating toward the ground that give it a "tripod effect." (*Wilts & Gloucester Standard of Cirencester*, February 24, 1989; Marler [124–125](#))
- 1989**, February 8 — 3:40 a.m. A man in Gulf Breeze, Florida, wakes to the sound of dogs barking outside. He sees a small object descending low over a nearby lot. It appears to be two connected discs, one on top of the other, not more than 3 feet in diameter. A white light is on top, and many other lights are blinking in shades of red, orange, and green. He approaches it, but it disappears in a flash of light. The duration is about 12 minutes. (NICAP, "[Gulf Breeze, Florida: February 8, 1989](#)")
- 1989**, February 10 — 8:42 p.m. A woman in Grove Oak, Alabama, tells the Fyffe, Alabama, police department that she has been watching a curved object for more than an hour with a pair of binoculars. It has a red light on each end and a white light in between, with the top of the curve outlined in green light. Police Chief [Junior Garmany](#) and Assistant Chief Fred Works drive to the site and see the lighted object at 1,000–1,500 feet, completely silent. It begins moving away as they approach. The officers drive after the object, following it for 12 miles when it suddenly reverses direction and flies over their patrol car at 300–400 mph. Works later on confirms that he thinks they had seen two different objects. A UFO is soon seen by law enforcement officers to the south in Crossville, Geraldine, and Collinsville, Alabama. The DeKalb County Sheriff's Office receives more than 50 calls from citizens in surrounding communities, including Dawson and Dog Town, Alabama, and Lick Skillet, Tennessee,

regarding a “silent thing streaking through the dark.” ([“Friday Night UFO Remains a Mystery,”](#) *Fort Payne (Ala.) Times Journal*, February 14, 1989, via *UFO Newscipping Service*, no. 236 (March 1989): 10; Carey H. Baker, “The Fyffe, Alabama, Experience,” in Walter H. Andrus Jr., ed., *MUFON 1990 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, MUFON, 1990, pp. 86–91; Meghan Mitchell, [“Alabama’s UFO Capital Still Has a Story to Tell,”](#) *The Crimson White* (University of Alabama), October 28, 2019)

- 1989**, February 13 — 9:00–10:00 p.m. A large, low-flying, cylindrical UFO is reported by many witnesses in the North Caucasus region of Russia. It has spotlights in front and back, porthole-like openings along the sides, fins on its tail, and travels at about 65 mph. As it flies over Nalchik, Kabardino-Balkaria, it drifts down to an altitude of 150 feet then flies off. (Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [pp. 32–33](#))
- 1989**, February 15 — Fyffe, Alabama, police officer Dennison Scott and two other officers investigate a citizen’s report of a strange object in the sky, flashing multicolored lights for more than an hour before it moves away toward the northwest. (Dolan II 472–473)
- 1989**, March — The Center for UFO Studies launches a new series of its *Journal of UFO Studies*, edited by [Michael D. Swords](#), who examines the literature relating to extraterrestrial intelligence in order to provide a basis for judging the ETH as an acceptable concept for use in analyzing UFO phenomena. (Michael D. Swords, [“Science and the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis in Ufology,”](#) *JUFOS* 1 (1989): 67–102)
- 1989**, March — [Robert Lazar](#) allegedly sees a disc on his third visit to S-4 at Groom Lake, Nevada. It is a classic-looking flying saucer, resting on three legs in a hangar. It is about 35–40 feet in diameter, 15 feet tall, and the color of pewter. During his stay at S-4, he sees a total of 9 flying saucers, each distinctive in design and size. His assignment, however, involves just one craft he nicknames the “sport model,” which he is allowed to examine on his fourth visit to S-4. The disc has three levels, and he is cleared for the lower two. Lazar crawls underneath the craft and sees three “gravity amplifiers” that focus a “Gravity A” wave from the “total annihilation” reactor in the center level of the craft. In this level, he sees a control panel and very small chairs—too small for human pilots. He discovers that part of the skin of the craft can become transparent, allowing one to look through it like a window. According to Lazar, the fuel for the craft is Element 115 [later synthesized in 2003 and named moscovium in 2016, but this is much different than what Lazar describes], housed in the reactor where it undergoes bombardment and spontaneous fission, producing antimatter particles that are converted to electricity with 100% efficiency. This power operates the amplifier, distorts the surrounding gravitational field, causes the craft to be invisible, and shortens the distance to a charted destination. Speed-of-light limitations are irrelevant. But Element 115 cannot be manufactured on Earth. The aliens have left only 500 pounds of it, but just 223 grams (half a pound) can fuel a craft for a long time. On another occasion, Lazar witnesses a demonstration of the craft, which lifts off the ground, moves left and right, and sits back down. He has access to and reads more than 100 documents dealing with the craft, its propulsion, and alien technology, as well as photos of gray alien bodies. The aliens are allegedly from the Zeta Reticuli 1 and 2 star system. The Reticulans claim to have genetically corrected human evolution up to 65 times over the past 10,000 years using viruses. They have given humans religion to prevent them from self-destructing and claim to be able to exert mind control on people when they are relaxed or sleeping. Lazar allegedly catches a glimpse of a small, gray alien standing between two men in white coats in a small room inside the secret S-4 facility. The documents also mention an exchange of information and hardware between the US government and the Reticulans until 1979, when some kind of conflict occurred. This is when the aliens leave and the military begins reverse-engineering what alien tech they have acquired. Then in May 1987, some scientists take an antimatter reactor to an underground Nevada test facility, where they are killed when attempting to cut the reactor open. Lazar claims he was hired as a substitute for one of these men. ([“Billy Goodman Happening, Nov. 21, 1989,”](#) transcript of call-in radio show, KVEG-AM, Las Vegas, Nevada; Erich A. Aggen Jr., [“Black Holes and Robert Lazar,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 266 (June 1990): 6–7; Grant R. Cameron, T. Scott Crain, and Chris Rutkowski, [“In the Land of Dreams,”](#) *IUR* 15, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1990): 4–8; [“S-4 Papoose Lake,”](#) Bob Lazar Debunked; [“New High-Def Photos of S-4,”](#) Bob Lazar Debunked; [“Element 115,”](#) Bob Lazar Debunked; Dolan II 475–478; Jacobsen, *Area 51*, [p. 12](#))
- 1989**, March 1 — Albuquerque, New Mexico, ufologist [Robert Hastings](#) issues a 13-page statement with 37 pages of appended documents and mails it to many prominent individuals in ufology. He claims “Falcon” is [Richard Doty](#) and “Condor” is [Robert M. Collins](#), and that Doty and [Moore](#) are spreading disinformation. (Clark III 370)
- 1989**, March 9 — Night. Susan Stockman, a reporter for the *Rainsville (Ala.) Weekly Post*, is with general manager Teri Baker when she snaps three time-lapse photographs of a distant UFO just above the treetop level, showing a movement unlike that of an airplane that appears shortly afterward. (Susan Stockman, [“Section Native Says UFOs](#)

- [Are Real.](#)” *Rainsville (Ala.) Weekly Post*, March 9, 1989; Susan Stockman, “[A First-Hand Glimpse of the UFO.](#)” *Rainsville (Ala.) Weekly Post*, March 16, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 237 (April 1989): 3–6)
- 1989**, March 12 — 7:30 p.m. [Gary Coker](#) of Skirum, Alabama, sees a large UFO with red and green flashing lights on the side and two white lights about 6 feet in diameter on the bottom hovering about 5 miles away. Another man in Geraldine, Alabama, sees an object the size of a football field hovering above his chicken house at about the same time. In both cases, the object disappears after the witnesses go inside to get a camera or binoculars. (“[Some Say UFO Is As Big As a Football Field.](#)” *Rainsville (Ala.) Weekly Post*, March 16, 1989, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 237 (April 1989): 3)
- 1989**, Late March — 9:20 p.m. After a training exercise at Mihai Kogălniceanu Air Force Base [now Mihai Kogălniceanu International Airport] in southeast Romania, 18–20 aircraft pilots of Regiment 57 are inside a building at the base planning future exercises; outside, Col. Aurelian Dobre notices multiple lights appear above some nearby trees. He alerts the other pilots to come out, and they see a triangular formation of objects at an equal distance from each other, all bathed in a silver light, moving south to north at a height of 4 miles. Dobre hears a noise like the rustle of a flight of birds; unlike his colleagues, he thinks the lights are on a single object the size of a football stadium. Col. Dan Aloanei is flying a MiG-29 and sees them as a V-formation of neon lights that disappear to the northeast. The next day, all the witnesses are required to submit written reports. (Romania 105–109)
- 1989**, March 22 — 8:30 p.m. After telling writer [Gene Huff](#) and pilot [John Lear](#) about his UFO secrets, [Lazar](#) and his wife Tracy drive Lear’s RV to Tikaboo Peak, Nevada, off Highway 375 to view a test flight of a flying saucer at S-4. Lear sees an elliptical-shaped light through Lear’s Celestron telescope for 7 minutes. Lear videotapes the encounter, and the tape shows a bright light apparently maneuvering. When the camera zooms in close to the object, it seems to be spinning. They watch it descend behind a mountain. (Tom Mahood, “[The Robert Lazar Timeline.](#)” *Other Hand*, January 1997; Susan Wright, *UFO Headquarters: Investigations on Current Extraterrestrial Activity*, St. Martin’s, 1999 ed., pp. 186–209)
- 1989**, March 25 — The Soviet Mars probe [Phobos 2](#) takes an infrared photograph of what appears to be a large and long cylindrical object very close to Mars moonlet Phobos. If this Phobos Mystery Object is at the same distance as the moonlet itself, it would be roughly 1.2 miles wide and 15 miles long. Its surface brightness is the same as Phobos. Its sides are parallel and both of the ends are rounded. The end toward Phobos narrows slightly; the other end has a short protrusion. This is the last image taken by the probe. On March 27 it fails to reestablish communications with Earth due to an onboard computer malfunction and goes into a spin. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 70–73; Patrick Gross, “[Soviet Probe Meets UFO on Phobos Mission](#)”)
- 1989**, March 29 — [Bob](#) and Tracy Lazar, Gene Huff, [John Lear](#), and Jim Tagliani drive to Tikaboo Peak, Nevada, to observe another flight test. They videotape a moving light.
- 1989**, April 5 — [Robert Lazar](#), Tracy Lazar, her sister, Gene Huff, and [John Lear](#) make a third trip to view a flight test along Groom Lake Road, Nevada. They are discovered by guards and questioned by the Lincoln County sheriff.
- 1989**, April 6 — [Lazar](#) is prevented from going to work at Groom Lake and is taken to Indian Springs Air Force Base [now Creech AFB] for questioning. He is told he is no longer employed by EG&G, and if he comes near Groom Lake again he will be arrested for espionage. He is allegedly given a transcript of Tracy’s telephone conversations which indicate she is having an affair. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, pp. 12–13)
- 1989**, April 13 — The Kerry Committee report, the result of an investigation led by Sens. [John Kerry](#) (D-Mass.) and [Christopher Dodd](#) (D-Conn.) by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee’s Subcommittee on Terrorism, Narcotics, and International Operations, shows that Lt. Col. [Oliver North](#) and other members of the [Reagan](#) administration had set up a private network involving the National Security Council and CIA to deliver military equipment to the Contras, US-backed right-wing rebel groups in Nicaragua. This has not been authorized by Congress, and much of the funding comes from drug trafficking. DEA agent [Celerino Castillo](#) testifies that from 1985 to 1987, he discovered that the Contras were transporting cocaine through El Salvador’s Ilopango Airport. Castillo tried to bust the operation, but discovers that the traffickers were protected by the CIA. The subcommittee determines that there is “substantial evidence of drug smuggling... on the part of individual Contras, Contra suppliers, Contra pilots, mercenaries who worked with the Contras, and Contra supporters.” It does “not find that Contra leaders were personally involved in drug trafficking.” (Wikipedia, “[Kerry Committee report](#)”)
- 1989**, April 15 — 5:30 p.m. A father and his 16-year-old son watch from their front lawn in Novato, California, a slowly descending object shaped like “two spheres connected by together like a stem.” They are golden with a white halo around them. Through binoculars, they can see four smaller objects, golden discs, maneuvering near the original dumbbell-shaped UFO. The father notes a “strange absence of kids and dogs at the time.” (Richard F. Haines, “[Daylight Dumbbell.](#)” *IUR* 14, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1989): 12–13, 23)

- 1989, April 24** — 10:55 p.m. An object described as three times the size of an aircraft hovers above Cherepovets, Vologda Oblast, Russia, at a height of 1,000 feet. (Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [p. 11](#))
- 1989, May 2** — Pilot Manoel Luiz Christóvão, flying a small plane about 6 miles west of Arapongas, Paraná, Brazil, sees a huge circular light in the sky as he is preparing to land. Another plane flying nearby cannot see the light. Christóvão continues to land, but the light positions itself in front of the plane, forcing him to make a sudden maneuver. The object moves in front of him again, forcing him to maneuver again. The pilot decides to head directly toward the light, after which the UFO accelerates abruptly and disappears. The maneuvers last approximately 10 minutes. (“[Piloto se arrisca em prova de fogo no Paraná](#),” Portal UFO, December 1, 1995; Clark III 201; Brazil 542–543)
- 1989, May 7** — Hoaxed South African Air Force documents purport to describe a UFO crash in the Kalahari Desert in Botswana 50 miles north of the South African border. Two Mirage fighter aircraft allegedly pursue a fast-moving UFO and shoot it down with an experimental “thor 2 laser cannon.” However, UFO researcher [Cynthia Hind](#) notices ludicrous errors in the documents, not least among them that they are in English, not Afrikaans. (Wikipedia, “[UFO sightings in South Africa](#)”; “[UFO Crash on Botswana/South African Border \(Case no. 21\)](#),” *UFO Afrinews*, no. 3 (May 1990): 5–13; Cynthia Hind, “[Further Report on the Alleged Botswana/South African UFO Border Crash: Case no. 21](#),” *UFO Afrinews*, no. 4 (March 1991): 20–24; “[Almost Final Report on the Botswana/South African Alleged UFO Crash](#),” *UFO Afrinews*, no. 5 (January 1992): 29–35; Cynthia Hind, “Anatomy of a Hoax: The UFO Crash on the South African/Botswana Border,” *UFO Times*, no. 23 (May/June 1993): 15–18; Clark III 1096–1098)
- 1989, May 15** — [Robert Lazar](#) is first interviewed by [George Knapp](#) on KLAS-TV in Las Vegas, Nevada, in silhouette, using the pseudonym “Dennis.” Lazar discusses his purported employment at S-4, a subsidiary facility he claims exists near in Area 51. He says the S-4 facility is adjacent to Papoose Lake, which is located south of the main Area 51 facility at Groom Lake. He claims the site consists of concealed aircraft hangars built into a mountainside. Lazar says that his job was to help with reverse engineering the antigravity propulsion system of one of nine flying saucers, which he alleges are extraterrestrial in origin. Lazar claims one of the flying saucers, the one he terms the “sport model,” is manufactured out of a metallic substance similar in appearance and touch to stainless steel. (Tom Mahood, “[The Robert Lazar Timeline](#),” Other Hand, January 1997; Grant R. Cameron, T. Scott Crain, and Chris Rutkowski, “[In the Land of Dreams](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1990): 4–8; Don Ecker, “Freedom of Disinformation,” *Fortean Times* 122 (May 1999): 28–31; George Knapp and Matt Adams, “[I-Team: The Man Who Sent Shock Waves through UFO Circles 30 Years Ago](#),” KLAS-TV, May 15, 2019)
- 1989, May 23** — [Milton William Cooper](#) produces a 25-page document titled *The Secret Government*, in which he claims that an unscrupulous group of covert CIA and other intelligence operatives actually runs the country. He says they were responsible for murdering one-time Secretary of Defense [James Forrestal](#) in 1949 because he threatened to expose the UFO cover-up. He claims there have been at least 16 downed alien craft, 65 bodies, and one live alien retrieved between 1947 and 1952, with at least 10 more crash/retrievals during the Eisenhower years. Cooper says aliens from a dying planet orbiting Betelgeuse landed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico, in 1954 and reached an agreement with the government. A second meeting took place with President [Eisenhower](#) at Edwards AFB, California, and signed a formal treaty with an alien ambassador, His Omnipotent Highness Krill. But, he claims, the aliens broke the treaty, abducting humans, conspiring with the Soviets, and manipulating society through secret organizations. Cooper also claims that Eisenhower had created a scientific advisory group in 1960 called the Jason Group to “discover the truth of the alien question.” Much more spurious and outlandish tales develop. (Milton William Cooper, [The Secret Government: The Origin, Identity, and Purpose of MJ-12](#), The Author, May 23, 1989; Clark III 367–368; Graff 323–324)
- 1989, May 30** — 3:46 a.m. TAM Airlines Flight 573 in the vicinity of Americana, São Paulo, Brazil, is contacted twice by the local control tower to ask if they can see an aircraft in their vicinity. Both times the pilot answers no, but at 3:52 a.m. the pilot says he can now see a strong light near the airplane. It maneuvers near the aircraft and one of the pilots estimates its size as about 164 feet. About 8 minutes later, they lose visual contact. (Clark III 201; Brazil 543)
- 1989, May 30** — 9:15 p.m. A man and his son in Winnipeg, Manitoba, observe a “silvery, metallic hot dog,” oriented vertically and moving steadily west. After several minutes, the object is lost in the distance. (Chris Rutkowski, “[The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989](#),” *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 7)
- 1989, June** — [Jacques Vallée](#) presents “five arguments against the extraterrestrial origin” of UFOs at the eighth annual conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration in Boulder, Colorado. (1) There are too many close

encounters to explain them as a physical survey of the earth. (2) The humanoid body structure is unlikely to have originated elsewhere and is not biologically adapted to space travel. (3) The behavior of alien abductors contradicts the idea that advanced aliens are conducting genetic or scientific experiments. (4) UFOs have been recorded throughout human history. (5) The apparent ability of UFOs to manipulate space and time suggests different and richer alternatives to the ETH. Vallée cites the earthlight theory, the control system hypothesis, and travel via wormholes as viable explanations. (Jacques Vallée, “[Five Arguments Against the Extraterrestrial Origin of Unidentified Flying Objects](#),” *Journal of Scientific Exploration* 4, no. 1 (1990): 105–117)

- 1989, June** — [Robert Hastings](#) lines up an impressive case against [Bill Moore](#), saying that the Project Aquarius message was altered by Moore, that [Richard Doty](#) had forged the Ellsworth AFB document, that Doty’s typewriter at Kirtland AFB was implicated in the July 1980 Craig R. Weitzel letter, that Doty had given data to [Linda Moulton Howe](#) that contradicted data in the Eisenhower briefing memo, and that Moore admitted to faking a government ID card and passed himself off as an intelligence operative for two years. (Robert Hastings, “[The MJ-12 Affair: Facts, Questions, Comments](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 254 (June 1989): 3–11)
- 1989, June 2** — Paul Paulsen Frøyen sees two “U-boats” in Sognefjord between Lavik and Vadheim, Vestland, Norway. He watches them for two-and-a-half minutes, noting their periscopes and towers. When they submerge, he can see the spray. The Norwegian Air Force sends two jets to look for them, and the Coast Guard is also alerted. (Ole Jonny Brønne, “[Observations of Unidentified Submarine Objects in Norway](#),” *IUR* 20, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1995): 13)
- 1989, June 4** — 7:45 p.m. A security guard and an air traffic controller at Air Force Facility 42 in Palmdale, California, witness a silver flying object and three orb-shaped UFOs during testing of the B1-B bomber. There is also a rumor of an abduction occurring on this date at the same facility. (William F. Hamilton III, “[Flying Wings and Deep Desert Secrets](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 271 (November 1990): 15–16, 21)
- 1989, June 6** — School children near the village of Konantsevo, Vologda Oblast, Russia, see a luminous dot in the sky. It gets larger, turns into a shining sphere, lands in a meadow, and moves to the Reka Kubena river about a quarter mile away. It seems to split, and a “headless person in dark garb” appears. The entity and sphere become invisible. Three more spheres are said to land later in the same meadow. (Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [pp. 11–12](#))
- 1989, June 24** — 12:00 midnight. A. N. Olkhovay goes out on her balcony in Kyiv, Ukraine, and sees a dim, twinkling, rectangular object shaped “like a loaf of bread” hovering above the Obolon neighborhood. She calls her neighbors, and one of them named Ivanitsky hastily takes two photos. The film is developed in the offices of the *Pravda Ukrainy* newspaper but it shows nothing. (V. D. Musinsky, “[Letter: Soviet Ufology](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1990): 21)
- 1989, June 30** — 9:30 p.m. G. I. Lerman and his wife Ann watch a fiery object with a tail over Lake Radunka in Kyiv, Ukraine, flying at an altitude of 1,640–3,280 feet, first slowly, then speeding up. After a minute or two the flames die out and they see a silver-white object. During the sighting they feel their own movements slowing down. (V. D. Musinsky, “[Letter: Soviet Ufology](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1990): 21)
- 1989, Summer** — Night. Edward Chard sees some odd lights hovering in Essex, England. He looks at them through binoculars and sees a large triangular object. (Nick Redfern, *A Covert Agenda: UFO Secrecy Exposed*, Simon & Schuster, 1997, [p. 183](#))
- 1989, July 1** — [Bill Moore](#) makes a stunning presentation at the MUFON UFO Symposium in Las Vegas, speaking candidly for the first time about his part in counterintelligence operations against [Paul Bennewitz](#). Moore says he provided [Doty](#) with information about Bennewitz’s thinking and activities. Moore suggests that Doty was chosen by the real Falcon as a liaison person. He says that by mid-1982 Bennewitz had put together the story that contained all the elements later circulated by [Lear](#) and [Cooper](#). Moore decided to go along with the disinformation game in order to keep in good graces with people who knew something about UFOs and national security. He withheld and blacked out certain portions of UFO-related government documents. He says he stopped cooperating in 1984 because he realized the documents he was receiving from AFOSI were faked, much of the scenario similar to the alien-contact mythos later spun by Lear and Cooper. All of it originated in the disinformation directed at Paul Bennewitz. He gives the names of others who “were the subject of intelligence community interest between 1980 and 1984”: [Leonard H. Stringfield](#), [Pete Mazzola](#), [Peter Gersten](#), Lawrence Fawcett, [Jim and Coral Lorenzen](#), and [Larry W. Bryant](#). Moore leaves the stage through a back door, his reputation in ruins. (“[Bill Moore 1989 MUFON Speech.avi](#),” The Breeders Syndicate YouTube channel, February 7, 2022; Don Ecker, “Freedom of Disinformation,” *Fortean Times* 122 (May 1999): 28–31; Clark III 370–372; Curt Collins, “[Bill Moore and UFO Disinformation Accusations](#),” Blue Blurry Lines, April 29, 2022; “[The Notorious ‘UFO Conspiracy’ MUFON Symposium with Bill Moore, Bill Cooper, Bill English, John Lear](#),” Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, July 13, 2024)

- 1989, July 4** — Twilight. Two women are walking with a 6-year-old girl along the Dnieper River in a park near Kyiv, Ukraine, when they see a “boat” with three beings on board. The entities have absolutely identical faces—extremely pale, long blond hair, large eyes, and collarless silver shirts that look like nightgowns. They tell the women they are from another planet and want to show them their spaceship. The women walk with them but experience odd physical sensations and beg to be let go. They see a ship behind some trees, and the little girl gets frightened. The beings relent and board the craft by a ladder that then retracts. The door closes silently, and the craft departs. (V. D. Musinsky, “[Letter: Soviet Ufology](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1990): 20–21; Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [pp. 37–39](#))
- 1989, July 4** — Night. Members of the Iskuskovs family are on vacation in the Podgortsy section of southern Kyiv, Ukraine. They watch silver-suited beings emerge from a landed UFO. (V. D. Musinsky, “[Letter: Soviet Ufology](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1990): 21)
- 1989, July 6** — 7:00 p.m. Yasuhiko Hamazaki takes an 8mm videotape recording of a brightly luminous object that passes nearly overhead in Hakui, Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan. At one point he uses a zoom lens to get a clearer image. The object has a central ring like the planet Saturn, except that it is squarish and dome-shaped. About one minute of the video captures the object descending rapidly at a shallow angle, then suddenly changing direction and rising at a steep angle at very high speed. [Bruce Maccabee](#)’s photo analysis shows that the object is not an airplane, balloon, kite, or model airplane. (UFOEv II 297–298; Bruce Maccabee, “[A Rare Photo Coincidence](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 3 (May/June 1990): 4–9, 22)
- 1989, July 26** — 2:40 p.m. R. H. Stepanian, air traffic controller at Sochi International Airport, Krasnodar Krai, Russia, receives information from a Tupolev Tu-154 airliner crew flying from Simferopol, Crimea, that they have seen UFOs from a distance of 20–30 miles. According to the pilots, first one, then two “strange objects” pace them on their left. One is almost exactly square, while the other is the shape of an elongated rhombus. At the time of the radio transmission, the two objects are swiftly moving away and beginning to separate. Apparently two other flights report multiple UFOs to the airport. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, pp. 74–76; Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 134–135)
- 1989, July 28–29** — 11:20 p.m. A domed disc-shaped object is seen over the rocket weapons depot at Kapustin Yar, Astrakhan Oblast, Russia. The object is flashing an intensely bright light from its underside. It hovers above the site at a height of 65 feet. Roughly 13–17 feet in diameter, its hull is illuminated with a dim green, phosphorus-like color. It circles two or three times and moves toward a railway station, still flashing its light, then returns to the weapons depot at a height of 200–230 feet. Soviet soldiers Levin and Klimenko say the object performed acrobatic maneuvers, at one point dividing into three shining points and taking the shape of a triangle. A fighter jet is scrambled, but the object evades it. Two other objects appear at low altitudes of 980–1,300 feet. The last one to appear, a cigar-shaped object, gives off flashes of red light at constant intervals, then lights of all colors. At around 1:30 a.m., it flies to the southwest and disappears. (Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneeus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, [pp. 133–138](#); Good Need, [pp. 354–355](#), [363](#); Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 79; Nukes 453–456)
- 1989, August** — Day. A man is walking his dog in a nature preserve between Wolverhampton and Dudley, England, when he sees a tennis-ball-sized “soap bubble” that has a white, feathery mass inside floating slowly about 12 feet above the ground. It floats into a field where there are several horses, which do not seem concerned about it. Suddenly the object changes direction and moves into a strong wind, coming straight toward him. In moments it is just inches away from him, seemingly surveying him. At close quarters he could see that the object has an oily look. At the instant he thinks about popping the bubble, it speeds off to the east, covering about 30 feet in one second, and disappears. (Jenny Randles, “Don’t Forget the Y-Files,” *Fortean Times* 405 (May 2021): 29)
- 1989, August 2** — Richard L. Huff in the FBI Office of Information and Privacy affirms in a letter to researcher [Larry W. Bryant](#) that it keeps a classified personal file on [Stanton T. Friedman](#) and denies access to it. (Nick Redfern, *Body Snatchers in the Desert*, Paraview, 2005, p. 191)
- 1989, August 2** — The Russian tanker *Volgoneft-161* is in the Sea of Japan off the region of Primorsky Krai, Russia, when crew members notice an unusual sphere about 35° above the northern horizon. It is pale yellow and surrounded by a hazy luminescence. The object moves to the northeast, ascending, and is visible for 5 minutes. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 116)
- 1989, August 10** — 9:00 p.m. William Heijster, a Dutch military psychologist who works at the Ministry of Defence at The Hague, Netherlands, is driving with his family near Estepona, Spain, when they see an object hovering over a mountain. Heijster stops the car and videotapes the object off and on for the next hour. The incident is plausibly

explained by [Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos](#) as the flight of a Transmediterranean research balloon launched from Sicily in a joint operation by CNES (France), INTA (Spain), and the Italian space agency. (Bruce S. Maccabee, "[Recent UFO Videotapes](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 265 (May 1990): 3–7; UFOEv II 298–299; Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, *Expedientes Insólitos*, Temas de Hoy, 1995, pp. 125–130; "[El caso ovni acaecido en Malaga en 1989](#)," El Blog de Malaga, October 1, 2012)

- 1989**, August 22 — 2:40 p.m. A circular, flashing light is in view for about 5 minutes near Sunderland, England. At first it is stationary, but then it moves rapidly upward, leaving a hole in a cloud that then glows red. (Mark Rodeghier, "[Another Hole in the Cloud](#)," *IUR* 33, no. 2 (July 2010): 24)
- 1989**, August 28 — [Larry W. Bryant](#) files suit in District Court for the District of Columbia for the FBI to release its files on [Stanton T. Friedman](#). (Nick Redfern, *Body Snatchers in the Desert*, Paraview, 2005, p. 191)
- 1989**, Late August — 12:00 midnight. A woman is driving north of La Salle, Manitoba, when she sees a "cloudlike boomerang" pass over her car. (Chris Rutkowski, "[The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 7)
- 1989**, Late August — While working as an engineer on the jack-up barge [GSF Galveston Key](#) in the North Sea, Chris Gibson and another witness see an unfamiliar isosceles triangle-shaped delta aircraft, apparently refueling from a Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker and accompanied by a pair of F-111 fighter-bombers. Gibson and his girlfriend watch the aircraft for several minutes until they move out of sight. He subsequently draws a sketch of the formation. (Christopher Bellamy, "[Oil Rig Engineer Sketches Secret US Spy Aircraft](#)," *The Independent* (UK), December 14, 1992; Bill Sweetman, "Secret Mach 6 Spy Plane," *Popular Science* 242 (March 1993): [56–63](#), [98–101](#); Bill Sweetman, *Aurora: The Pentagon's Secret Hypersonic Spyplane*, Motorbooks, 1993, [pp. 12–15](#), [88–89](#); Susan Wright, *UFO Headquarters: Investigations on Current Extraterrestrial Activity*, St. Martin's, 1999 ed., pp. 154–155; Simon Gray, "[Chris Gibson's Aurora Sighting](#)," Secret Projects forum, November 1, 2007; UFOFiles2, [p. 144](#); Marler [178–180](#))
- 1989**, September — CAUS devotes all of one issue of its *Just Cause* newsletter to a harshly critical review of [Moore's](#) activities. ("[A Majestic Deception](#)," *Just Cause*, new ser., no. 21 (September 1989): 1–16; Clark III 371)
- 1989**, September — Marc Leduc begins publishing a newsletter, *Lettre d'Information Ufologique*, in Lac-Beauport, Quebec. It runs until June 1993. ([Lettre d'Information Ufologique](#) 1, no. 1 (September 1989))
- 1989**, September 6 — 11:13 p.m. Tong Yuwei, a worker in Ürümqi, Xinjiang Autonomous Province, China, sees a dark cloud light up with a yellow flash. A rotating, saucer-shaped object with a black gap on its edge appears. It makes a noise louder than a car engine. After hovering for a minute, the red-and-yellow glowing object moves out of sight at high speed to the southwest. (Central Intelligence Agency, "[UFO Sighted over Urumqi Evening of 6 Sep](#)," [memo on Xingua news report], September 13, 1989)
- 1989**, September 13 — A woman is returning home from the grocery store in Protvino, Moscow Oblast, Russia, when two tall women in tight, silvery suits jump out from behind some boulders and paralyze her. The women have light blonde hair, gray-green skin, and hats with antennae. They take her to a small, disc-shaped craft by the side of the road and invite their captive for a ride, which they insist will not last long. She hesitantly accepts. Inside are three chairs, one of them occupied by a man. The woman offers them some of the bread she has just purchased, but the women decline, offering her some of their own bread. Without thinking, she reflexively pops a piece into her mouth and swallows. She later describes the taste as a lightly sweet rye bread. The craft ascends and flies over Protvino before dropping the woman off at her apartment. The space people tell her they will meet again. (Vladimir Azhazha, *Inaya Zhizn'*, Golos, 1998; Joshua Cutchin, "The Great Alien Bake-Off," *Fortean Times* 332 (November 2015): 44)
- 1989**, September 15 — 3:40 a.m. A woman in eastern Winnipeg, Manitoba, is looking out her kitchen window when a deltoid-shaped object sails past. It has lines of "Christmas lights" spreading out from its leading edge and moves silently out of view in 4–5 seconds. (Chris Rutkowski, "[The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989**, September 15–19 — The Center for UFO Studies conducts the first expedition to the Roswell debris field site near Corona, New Mexico. The 10-member team includes [Mark Rodeghier](#), Mimi Hynek, [Donald R. Schmitt](#), and [Kevin Randle](#). They find no unusual debris but survey the site and take soil samples. (Mark Rodeghier, "[Roswell, 1989](#)," *IUR* 14, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1989): 4–8, 23)
- 1989**, September 16 — Night. A female employee at a meat packing plant in Mykolaiv, Ukraine, steps outside for a quick break when a beam of light strikes her from above. Looking up, she sees a hovering disc-shaped craft about 130–260 feet in diameter. She feels no fear and has a euphoric feeling as she begins rising up into the air toward the object. She also hears a voice extolling her to "fly with them." Other workers come to the scene and begin yelling

and running toward the woman. The beam disappears, and the UFO flies away. (Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [p. 36](#))

1989, September 27 — 6:30 p.m. Several children playing at a park in Voronezh, Russia, see a pinkish aerial glow approaching them. As it passes overhead, they see that it is a deep red, ball-shaped object. The object flies around in circles for a few minutes and then leaves. When it returns, it hovers briefly, and then descends close to the ground. A hatch opens and a heavy-set figure emerges. The being moves very slowly and looks around. It has a small head resembling that of a doorknob, set in between the shoulders. It has three luminous eyes, the middle one moving around like “radar.” On its chest is a shield-like object. The being then closes the hatch and the object lands gently on four legs. The hatch opens again and three huge humanoids with small knob-like heads step out. They wear silvery coveralls and bronze-colored boots. A strange robot-like creature accompanies the giants. All four walk around the object several times. A beam of light comes out of the chest of one of the beings and strikes the ground, creating several luminous triangles that later fade away. At one point the craft and beings become briefly invisible but then reappear. One of the boys screams in fear. Then one of the beings looks at the boy and points a tube at him. A luminous beam comes from the tube and hits the boy, which makes him disappear. The boy later reappears after the beings and the objects have gone. Subsequent information reveals that on the craft’s hull and on the landing prop of another craft is the letter or symbol “zhe,” reported as similar to the “Ummo” insignia reported in Western Europe in the 1970s. In a work published by *Socialist Industry* slightly after the incident, a self-proclaimed UFO specialist asserts the marks left by the supposed landing were simply scorch marks from a burnt hay-bale. (Wikipedia, [“Voronezh UFO incident”](#); [“UFO Lands in U.S.S.R.: Read All about It in Tass,”](#) *Philadelphia Daily News*, October 9, 1989, p. 5; [“Soviet Youngsters Source of UFO Story,”](#) *Macon (Ga.) Chronicle-Herald*, October 10, 1989, p. 8; [“A Tass Bulletin: Knobby Aliens Were Here,”](#) *New York Times*, October 10, 1989, pp. 1, 10; [“U.F.O. Landing Is Fact, Not Fantasy, the Russians Insist,”](#) *New York Times*, October 11, 1989, p. 6; [“Rare Thrill for Tass: Joshing Over Its U.F.O. Report,”](#) *New York Times*, October 12, 1989, p. 18; [“The Voronezh Visitors,”](#) *New York Times*, October 14, 1989, p. 24; [“Aliens Visit Voronezh,”](#) *Moscow News*, no. 43 (October 1989), via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 244 (November 1989): 12; Gordon Creighton, [“Introduction: News from Muscovy,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 1–2; Gordon Creighton, [“The UFO Landings at Voronezh,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 2–7; Lev Aksyonov and Boris Zverev, [“The ‘Moscow News’ Report \(Full Text\),”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 8–10; [“Crisis Over! Problem Finally Solved...,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 10; [“Last Word,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 10–11; [“Tail-Piece on Voronezh,”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 34, no. 4 (December 1989): 11; [“Follow-up on the Landings at Voronezh \(Russia\),”](#) *Flying Saucer Review* 35, no. 1 (March 1990): 14; Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, [pp. 40–61](#); Lily Rothman, [“Why ‘Aliens’ ‘Landed’ in Russia 25 Years Ago,”](#) *Time*, October 9, 2014; Clark III 1229–1231)

1989, September 28 — Night. Long Island UFO Network founder [John Ford](#) claims that a UFO is shot down and retrieved at Moriches Bay, Long Island, New York. Although UFOs are observed on the southern coast of Long Island, the crash/retrieval seems to be an exaggerated fantasy. Ford is convinced the nearby Brookhaven National Laboratory is part of a UFO coverup and is developing ET-related weaponry. On June 12, 1996, Ford and LIUFON member Joe Mazzachelli are arrested in a sting operation on conspiracy charges to poison [John Powell](#), the head of the Suffolk County Republican Party, who Ford believes is covering up UFO retrievals and engaging in illegal activities, by putting radium in his toothpaste. Ford is convicted without a trial and sent to a mental institution because of his paranoid conspiracy obsession. (John Ford, [“The Moriches Bay Case of September 28, 1989,”](#) *Long Island UFO Reporter* 1, no. 3 (November 1989): 2–6; John Ford, [“The Chairman’s Corner,”](#) *Long Island UFO Reporter* 2, no. 1 (February 1990): 2–4; John Ford, [“UFO Captured at Moriches Bay?”](#) *The East Ender*, February 9, 1990, via *UFO Newsclipping Service*, no. 249 (April 1990): 7; Elaine Douglass, “The Ordeal of John Ford,” John Ford Defense Committee; [“The John Ford Affair,”](#) UFO UpDates, November 26, 1998; Dolan II 489–492; [“John Ford and the Long Island, New York, UFO Crash Incident, 1992,”](#) Eyes On Cinema YouTube channel, September 3, 2024; Naman Shrestha, [“John Ford: Where Is Chairman of Long Island UFO Network?”](#) TheCinemaholic, September 24, 2024)

1989, October — Night. Hundreds of residents of Omsk, southwestern Siberia, Russia, report seeing a UFO. Major V. Loginov sees an object about 1.5 the size of the full moon passing overhead at an altitude of several kilometers. It projects four bright lights, some downward, others parallel to the horizon. Loginov watches it for 5 minutes hovering above the civil airport before descending. The lights turn off, and a whirling plume trail appears around the sphere. Pilots taking off from the airport can see the object, but it is not visible on radar screens. ([“USSR:](#)

[Media Report Multitude of UFO Sightings.](#)” Foreign Press Note (Foreign Broadcast Information Service), November 22, 1989, p. 4)

- 1989,** October 6 — 11:30 p.m. A woman driving near Tyndall, Manitoba, sees a bright light flash upward out of sight in front of her car. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989,** October 9 — 2:50 p.m. A couple and their child are getting into their car at a wildlife sanctuary in Winnipeg, Manitoba. They see a white “boomerang-shaped” object hanging silently and motionless in the east over the city. The mother puts the child in the back seat for safety. The man continues to watch as the object tilts and moves, revealing a bulge on its underside. It moves away, and the object goes home. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989,** October 9 — 11:30 p.m. [Carl Weselak](#) is observing a meteor shower from his third floor apartment in downtown Winnipeg, Manitoba, when he sees a large boomerang-shaped object flying north to south over the city. Over the next few hours he sees more UFOs ranging from balls of light to other boomerangs. He telephones a newspaper to have a reporter verify the sightings. However, UFOROM discovers that several aircraft takeoffs and landings at the airport correspond to some of Weselak’s observations. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989,** October 11 — A 16-year-old girl in Nalchik, Kabardino-Balkaria, Russia, sees a “net” fall from the sky, apparently surrounding her, in the center of which is a bright point. She tries to push it away but gets a shock. She screams, but her voice sounds distorted. Her family rushes out of the house and sees a flying disc hovering less than 50 feet away. It soon vanishes. The girl remains paralyzed a while, the tips of her fingers burned and enlarged, and she is taken to a hospital. (Jacques Vallée, *UFO Chronicles of the Soviet Union: A Cosmic Samizdat*, Ballantine, 1992, pp. 36–37)
- 1989,** October 11 — 7:30 p.m. Brad Schmidt, 13, Todd Weinheimer, 13, Paul Goddard, 12, Kevin Still, and one other boy are skateboarding outside the town pool in Centennial Park, Langenburg, Saskatchewan, when they see an object with multicolored lights approaching them from the east. They wave their skateboards at it, and the lights hover silently 400 feet away at 100–200 feet in the air. They duck down in the tall grass. The object moves away over nearby Parkside School, pauses for a moment, then takes off to the west. The boys alert two teachers in the school, Bob Markham and Mark MacMurchy, and they go out to watch the object for another 10–15 minutes. One of the teachers says the object has a bright flashing light on top and a red light on the bottom. It is more than half a mile away and only 650 feet in the air. The top light flashes every 15–20 seconds. Soon it moves away to the west. ([“Strange Lights over the Park,”](#) *Regina (Sask.) Leader-Post*, November 4, 1989, pp. C1–C2; Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989,** October 12 — 12:20 a.m. A shift worker in Winnipeg, Manitoba, is returning home through a park when he sees a “shimmering boomerang” in the sky. He goes closer and hears a high-pitched whine coming from it. The object starts to move slowly then shoots away making a noise like a sonic boom. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8)
- 1989,** October 13 — 10:20 a.m. Rose Neumeier is in her kitchen 7 miles southwest of Langenburg, Saskatchewan, when she sees a flash of light near a shed about 50 feet away. An object like “two pie plates rim to rim” is motionless in the air about 50 feet above the shed. It is shiny and metallic, 30 feet long and 10 feet thick, and has a flattened top and “corrugated” bottom. Light is shining brightly from the joint between the two halves. It is silent and the dog and cattle are not disturbed. After a few minutes, it rises slowly, moves north, curves through the hayfield, circles the barn, and moves away across the pasture. ([“Object Hovers over Garage,”](#) *Regina (Sask.) Leader-Post*, November 4, 1989, p. C2; Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 8–9)
- 1989,** October 16 — 7:45 a.m. A woman is driving near Langruth, Manitoba, when she sees a “star with a tail of smoke going up” in the east. After a few minutes, the object takes on a dome shape and its tail is no longer visible. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 9)
- 1989,** October 16 — 7:45 p.m. A man in Langenburg, Saskatchewan, is driving with his daughter when they observe an object “as wide as a small airplane is long” with colored flashing lights. It coasts silently over the highway “right over our heads.” (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 9)
- 1989,** October 21 — Witnesses in Burkhala, Magadan Oblast, Russia, watch a red, shining sphere maneuvering near an electric power transmission line for 30 minutes. About 7–9 lights are seen along its edge. One witness estimates its speed as 600 mph. (Vadim K. Ilyin, [“KGB’s ‘Blue Folder’ Reveals Shootings, Landings in USSR,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 403 (November 2001): 9)
- 1989,** October 25 — 7:45 p.m. A resident of Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, sees a large object with red flashing lights. It is moving slowly and silently at an altitude of 200 feet. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989.”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 9)

- 1989**, November 1 — 6:50 p.m. A pilot flying a small airplane 20 miles north of La Ronge, Saskatchewan, sees a pair of blinking lights moving across his path at 8,500 feet. Air traffic control confirms there are no other aircraft in the area at the time. (Chris Rutkowski, [“The Canadian UFO Wave of 1989,”](#) *IUR* 14, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1989): 9)
- 1989**, November 4 — 5:30 p.m. A couple and their two children are sitting in front of a large living room window in Hall Beach, Nunavut, watching television. The family dog begins barking, and soon the man’s attention is drawn to a strange object in the sky. The family watches the UFO, which looks like an upside-down cup and saucer. The bottom portion has a red light in the center, and three windows emitting white light are across the middle. After only a couple of seconds, the object departs, seemingly straight up, and disappears. A local employee of the Department of Public Works also sees the object. (Chris Rutkowski and Geoff Dittman, *The Canadian UFO Report*, Dundurn Press, 2006, pp. 142–143)
- 1989**, November 7 — 12:40 a.m. Two women in their 40s are driving on Interstate 70 west of Goodland, Kansas, when they encounter a UFO and lose 2 hours of time. They experience anxiety, insomnia, irritability, and bewilderment as a result. Neither women claim any interest in UFOs. They initially believe that they never left their car or observed anything further. Hypnotic regressions (obtained independently) reveal abduction scenarios with at least 40 direct correlations between their accounts. (John S. Carpenter, [“Double Abduction Case: Correlation of Hypnosis Data,”](#) *JUFOS* 3 (1991): 91–114; UFOEv II 565–566)
- 1989**, November 10 — KLAS-TV in Las Vegas, Nevada, identifies and interviews [Robert Lazar](#), unmasked and using his real name. Lazar claims that during his onboarding to the Area 51 program, he read briefing documents describing the historical involvement of Earth for the past 10,000 years with extraterrestrial beings described as grey aliens from a planet orbiting the twin binary star system Zeta Reticuli. The Zeta Reticuli system was previously claimed by [Barney and Betty Hill](#) as the origin of aliens they allegedly encountered in their abduction. Lazar’s story quickly garners enormous media attention, controversy, supporters, and detractors. Lazar admits he cannot support with evidence his core claim of alien technology. (George Knapp, “Area 51, Robert Lazar, and Disinformation: A Reevaluation,” in Walter H. Andrus Jr. and Irena Scott, eds., *MUFON 1993 International UFO Symposium Proceedings*, 1993, pp. 231–238; Tom Mahood, [“The Robert Lazar Timeline,”](#) Other Hand, January 1997; Don Ecker, “Freedom of Disinformation,” *Fortean Times* 122 (May 1999): 28–31; [“Bob Lazar Describes Alien Technology Housed at Secret S-4 Base in Nevada—Part 5,”](#) 8 News Now—Las Vegas YouTube channel, November 8, 2019)
- 1989**, November 10 — *Communion*, a feature film based on abductee [Whitley Strieber](#)’s book of the same name, premieres in the US. Directed by [Philippe Mora](#), Strieber is played by actor [Christopher Walken](#). (Internet Movie Database, [“Communion”](#))
- 1989**, November 11 — 8:28 p.m. A British Midland Airways pilot is descending into Belfast, Northern Ireland, following a scheduled flight from Heathrow in London. As the aircraft passes through 11,200 feet at a position three nautical miles east of Kirkistown, the crew witnesses a ball of light pass overhead heading due west. It descends to a position on the port beam where it appears to burst into a cascade of white and blue magnesium lights. At the time, the aircraft is between two layers of stratus cloud less than 3,000 feet apart. Another aircraft in the vicinity observes the light, and it is reported to Belfast air traffic control. Probable meteoric fireball. (Isaac Koi, [“UFOs in Parliament \(UK\),”](#) Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1989**, November 13 — The FBI releases a handful of its files on [Stanton T. Friedman](#) as a result of [Larry Bryant](#)’s lawsuit. (Nick Redfern, *Body Snatchers in the Desert*, Paraview, 2005, p. 191)
- 1989**, November 18 — Early evening. A large, black, boomerang-shaped object glides over downtown Lancaster, California. Low-intensity lights, similar to stars, outline its frame. Witness Robert Puskas estimates its size as 800–900 feet wide. Off its left tip he sees a silvery metallic disc about 30–40 feet in diameter, reflecting the streetlights. (William F. Hamilton III, [“Flying Wings and Deep Desert Secrets,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 271 (November 1990): 15–16)
- 1989**, November 20 — 5:30 a.m. A couple in the rural town of Marieville, Quebec, wakes up to the sight of a strange blue light shining through the curtains. They hear a noise like an electric generator and feel a vibration. But looking outside they can see nothing. About 900 feet down the road, a neighbor is also awakened by the bright light and observes four blue objects over the other couple’s house. He also feels a vibration and describes the lights as intermittent, blinking out and reappearing in a different spot. At one point, the streetlights along Route 112 weaken when one of the objects gets too close. He thinks the lights are about 30 feet off the ground. Two other witnesses also see the lights interact with power lines. One reports that her power goes out for 10 minutes. On November 22, a strange pattern is discovered about 150 feet from the first couple’s residence—a perfectly round circle, 65 feet in diameter, of flattened (not burned) grass. The RCMP visits the circle on November 23 and 28,

noting a striking difference in color of the flattened grass within the circle and the straight grass outside it. (Chris Rutkowski and Geoff Dittman, *The Canadian UFO Report*, Dundurn Press, 2006, pp. 149–150)

- 1989**, November 22 — The USAF SR-71 Blackbird program is officially terminated. The odd thing is that there is no dissension in the military about this. The alleged additional savings of \$300 million is insignificant. Analysts point out that satellites, though useful, simply cannot perform the type of missions for which the Blackbird is suited. Some observers suspect there is a secret, better replacement. (Wikipedia, "[Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird](#)"; Bill Sweetman, *Aurora: The Pentagon's Secret Hypersonic Spyplane*, Motorbooks, 1993, p. 4; Micah Hanks, "[Aurora Spacecraft Concept Looks Like an Area-51 Style 'Black Jet,' and It Could Revolutionize Hypersonic Spaceflight by 2030](#)," The Debrief, August 29, 2023)
- 1989**, November 29 — 5:15 p.m. While patrolling on the road between Eupen, Belgium, and the German border, two federal policemen, Heinrich Nicoll and Hubert von Montigny, see an intense light in a nearby field. Above the field is a triangular object with three spotlights shining down and a red flashing light in the center. Without making a sound, it moves slowly toward the German border for 2 minutes and then suddenly turns back toward Eupen. Nicoll and von Montigny follow it. (Patrick Vantuyne, "[Mystery Craft: Eupen, Belgium](#)," Patt Naye & Son, June 12, 2010; Kean, p. 24; Graff 326)
- 1989**, November 29 — 5:24 p.m. About 250 witnesses, in 143 separate observations, watch the same or similar triangular or delta-winged craft maneuvering overhead at Eupen, Belgium. Two police officers in a patrol car are illuminated by a brilliant light beam from a dark triangular object hovering at 600–900 feet and making a faint humming noise. The light is so dazzling that "we could read a newspaper under it." The UFO moves slowly away to the southwest, where it hovers near the Lac de la Gileppe dam for 45 minutes. Policemen Heinrich Nicoll and Hubert von Montigny watch it repeatedly emit two red beams with a red ball at the spearhead of both beams; the beams soon disappear, leaving the red balls, which return to the object. Then around 7:23 p.m., it moves further to the southwest and is seen over Spa for 30 minutes before it disappears. (UFOEv II 50–51; Bob Pratt, "[The Belgium UFO Flap](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 267 (July 1990): 3–7; Société Belge d'Etude des Phénomènes Spatiaux, *Vague d'OVNI sur la Belgique: Un dossier exceptionnelle*, SOBEPS, 1991; Auguste Meessen, "[The Belgian Sightings](#)," *IUR* 16, no. 3 (May/June 1991): 4–5; Wim van Utrecht, "[Triangles over Belgium: The SOBEPS Report](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 286 (February 1992): 5–6; Steven M. Greer, "[UFOs over Belgium](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 289 (May 1992): 8–12; Auguste Meessen, "[Étude approfondie et discussion de certaines observations du 29 novembre 1989](#)," *Inforespace*, no. 95 (October 1997): 16–70; Auguste Meessen, "[The Belgian Wave and the Photos of Ramillies](#)"; Don Berliner, with Marie Galbreath and Antonio Huneus, *UFO Briefing Document: The Best Available Evidence*, Dell, 2000, pp. 137–144; Kean, pp. 24–27; Jean-Michel Abrassart, "[The Beginning of the Belgian UFO Wave](#)," *SUNlite* 2, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 2010): 21–23; Powell, *Scientist*, 20, 99)
- 1989**, November 29 — 6:45 p.m. Gendarmes Heinrich Nicoll and Hubert von Montigny see another object near Eupen, Belgium, which appears from behind a wood and makes a forward tilting maneuver. It has a dome on top with rectangular windows. It then departs to the north. (Joël Mesnard, "[The UFO 'Wave' of November/December 1989 over Eastern Belgium](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 35, no. 2 (June 1990): 4; Kean, p. 25)
- 1989**, November 29 — 6:45 p.m. A man is driving alone in his car on the Rue Mathieu de Lexhy at the intersection with the Rue Hector Denis near Grâce-Berleur, Belgium, when he sees to his left an immense stationary object at about 325 feet altitude and 1,600 feet away. He slows down, lowers his window, and hears a soft sound like an electric motor. The object is larger than a Boeing 707. It has flashing red, green, and white lights and a light beam directed toward the ground. He drives away while the UFO is still visible. (Patrick Vidal and Michel Rozencwajg, "[The Belgian Wave](#)," *IUR* 16, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1991): 7; Patrick Vidal, "[Immense Object in the Sky over Bierset](#)," *UFO Times*, no. 22 (March/April 1993): 20–21)
- 1989**, November 29 — 7:20 p.m. Two federal policemen, Lieter Plumans [or Dieter Plummans] and Peter Nicholl [or Nicole], on duty along the Rue de Moresnet north of Kelmis, Belgium, see some large lights slowly approaching the rail station at Lontzen. They set off to the southwest to follow it, stopping in front of the Maison Beloeil on the west side of the commune of Henri-Chapelle, where 10 minutes later they have a good view of it only 300 feet away. The object has three very strong spotlights and a flashing red central light. It is at an altitude of about 250 feet and about 50 feet wide. It is immobile and silent, but it suddenly emits a hissing sound and its lights fade a bit. Simultaneously, a red ball comes out of the center and heads straight downward, shoots up, makes a right-angle turn, and disappears behind some trees. The object then passes above their police car at about 60 mph, moving northeast. They follow it for 5 miles before losing it. (Joël Mesnard, "[The UFO 'Wave' of November/December 1989 over Eastern Belgium](#)," *Flying Saucer Review* 35, no. 2 (June 1990): 6–7; Kean, pp. 25–26)

1989, November 30 — 3:15 a.m. New York City resident Linda Napolitano (pseudonym “Linda Cortile”) is allegedly abducted by aliens from her 12th-story apartment on the lower east side of Manhattan. Five aliens come into her bedroom while she is still awake. They paralyze her and move her into the living room. Linda and three of the five aliens are floated out through her living room window, directly through the window, to a large hovering UFO. Three independent witnesses to the abduction are two security intelligence agents (“Richard” and “Dan”), who see the UFO and abductees from a car near the Brooklyn Bridge, and a VIP political dignitary later identified as UN Secretary General [Javier Pérez de Cuéllar](#), who does not confirm any involvement. The UFO then dives into the East River. [Budd Hopkins](#) delves into the case, although he never meets the two security guards or even confirms their existence. Music critic [Greg Sadow](#) writes an insightful analysis of the case in 1997. Hopkins’s former wife Carol Rainey has been critical of the quality of his abduction research in this case and in that of singer [Phoebe Snow](#), which he never publicized. (Budd Hopkins, “[The Linda Cortile Abduction Case](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 293 (September 1992): 12–16; Budd Hopkins, “[The Linda Cortile Abduction Case, Part II: The Woman on the Bridge](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 296 (December 1992): 5–9; Joseph J. Stefula, Richard D. Butler, and George P. Hansen, “[A Critique of Budd Hopkins’ Case of the UFO Abduction of Linda Napolitano](#),” January 8, 1993; Jerome Clark, “[Saucer Smearers](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 3, 22–24; “[The Claims in Question](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 4–5; Donald A. Johnson, “[Why the Linda Case Is a Hoax](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 5, 22; Willy Smith, “[The Impossible Testimony of Janet Kimball](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 6–7, 21; Budd Hopkins, “[House of Cards: The Butler/Hansen/Stefula Critique of the Cortile Case](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 8–14, 21; David M. Jacobs, “[A Matter of Ethics](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 15–16; John E. Mack, “[Stirring Our Deepest Fears](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 2 (March/April 1993): 17, 21; Walter H. Andrus Jr., “[Rejoinder to the Critique of Budd Hopkins](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 300 (April 1993): 8–9; Willy Smith, et al., “[The Linda Case](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 3 (May/June 1993): 22–23; Linda Cortile [Napolitano], “[A Light at the End of the Tunnel](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 302 (June 1993): 12–17; Robert J. Durant, “[Cortile Case: The Missing Evidence](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 303 (July 1993): 4–8; Budd Hopkins, *Witnessed: The True Story of the Brooklyn Bridge UFO Abductions*, Pocket Books, 1996; Greg Sadow, “[The Linda Cortile Case Analyzed: Part 1](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 1 (Spring 1997): 18–23; Greg Sadow, “[The Linda Cortile Case Analyzed: Part 2](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 2 (Summer 1997): 3–10, 35–36; Kevin D. Randle, “[A Response to Budd Hopkins](#),” A Different Perspective, February 18, 2011; Carol Rainey, “[The Singer’s Hybrid Daughter, Part I](#),” The UFO Trail, February 5, 2016; Carol Rainey, “[The Singer’s Hybrid Daughter, Part II](#),” The UFO Trail, February 22, 2016; Sean F. Meers, “[The Linda Cortile UFO Abduction Case: Abstract](#),” February 27, 2012; “[Linda Napolitano \(Cortile\) Talks about Being Abducted by Aliens from Her Manhattan Apartment, 1989](#),” Eyes on Cinema YouTube channel, October 2023; Mary Whitfill Roeloffs, “[Woman Who Claims She Was Abducted by Aliens in 1989 Sues Netflix over Docuseries](#),” *Forbes*, October 29, 2024; Internet Movie Database, “[The Manhattan Alien Abduction](#),” October 30, 2024)

1989, December 1 — Weather forecaster Francesco Valenzano and his young daughter are walking in the Square Nicolai in Ans, Liège, Belgium, when they see a large, slow-moving craft approaching at low altitude. The object silently makes a tour of the square; when it passes over their heads, they notice it has a delta shape with three lights in a triangular position and a red rotating light in the middle and positioned lower than the belly of the object. (Kean, pp. 27–28)

1989, December 1 — 6:50 p.m. An amateur photographer is sitting in his living room at Eupen, Belgium, when he sees a lozenge-shaped UFO with two white lights at each corner. He draws a sketch but fails to take a photo. He sees a similar object on January 10, 1990. (Auguste Meessen, “[The Belgian Sightings](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 3 (May/June 1991): 8–9)

1989, December 2–3 — President [George H. W. Bush](#) and Soviet General Secretary [Mikhail Gorbachev](#) meet in Malta, just weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall. During the summit, Bush and Gorbachev declare an end to the Cold War, although whether it is truly such is a matter of debate. (Wikipedia, “[Malta Summit](#)”)

1989, December 5 or 12 — 9:50 p.m. A couple is driving on the Trierer Strasse in Aachen, Germany, when they see a flying object cut across the road in front of them to the right. It has two headlights in front, emitting beams that slant downwards. There is a flashing orange light on the underside. The same object reappears at their home around 11:15 p.m. (Auguste Meessen, “[The Belgian Sightings](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 3 (May/June 1991): 9–10)

1989, December 11 — 6:30 p.m. A 12-year-old boy and his family in Trooz, Belgium, watch a domed, triangular object for 15 minutes. It is hovering at first, then passes above their house. (Kean, p. 28)

1989, December 11 — 6:45 p.m. Lt. Col. André Amond of the Belgian Army and his wife spot a strange aerial object while they are driving on the deserted Rue de Sart Ernage between Ernage and Gembloux, Belgium. It looks like a series of 3–4 panels of light traveling north to south at an altitude of 650–980 feet. Beneath the series of panels,

and close to the center, is a rotating red lamp. Amond stops where the road dead ends and watches the UFO pass for 2–4 minutes. Then the object abruptly changes course and silently heads in his direction. Only an enormous spot of white light is visible now, “much bigger than the spotlight of a big air carrier.” They both are frightened, so Amond starts the car again. The big light disappears, and three smaller white spotlights become visible, which form a more or less equilateral triangle. The rotating red light is still there, now seen in profile. The object then performs a turn of 180° to the left. The distance between the white luminous points is estimated at approximately 33 feet. They cannot distinguish any solid object around this triangle of three lights. The maneuver is majestic and slow. Next, the luminous points disappear. Only the red rotating light is still visible, and it takes off in a south-southwesterly direction. The duration of the sighting is about 5–8 minutes. (Michel Bougard and Annie Eyckmans, “[Le 11 décembre 1989: Une soirée de reconnaissance systématique?](#)” *Inforespace*, no. 80 (April 1991): 16, 23–26; Kean, [pp. 28–29](#); Wim van Utrecht, “[The Lieutenant-Colonel and the UFO](#),” *Caelestia*, January 7, 2016)

- 1989**, December 12 — 2:15 a.m. A man in Jupille-sur-Meuse, Belgium, wakes up to a dull throbbing noise coming from outside. He sees an enormous oval object seemingly jammed between two fir trees. On its circumference, small lights are changing color from blue to red and back. The object is metallic, with an oar or paddle at its rear. In the front is a window or cockpit. On the front part is a logo consisting of several ellipses crossing themselves. After a few minutes, the object rises slightly, the sound it emits changing slightly. It moves toward a neighbor’s meadow, shining down three beams of lights. Some moments later, it emits an intense and well-defined shaft of light into the sky. The witness goes back to bed. The next morning, he reports his sighting to the Gendarmérie, which investigates and finds a gigantic circular trace in the meadow. At the center, the grass has been cut off, but the cuttings are nowhere to be seen, and the grass within the circle is yellow. (“[Objet insolite à Japille-sur-Meuse](#),” *Inforespace*, no. 80 (April 1991): 35–42; Patrick Vidal and Michel Rozencwajg, “[The Belgian Wave](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1991): 6–7)
- 1989**, December 18 — In the House of Commons, MP [Allan Rogers](#) asks whether the Secretary of State for Transport will investigate a “near-miss involving a civilian aircraft travelling from London to Belfast” on November 11. Under-Secretary of State [Patrick McLoughlin](#) responds that a report was filed with the Civil Aviation Authority by the pilot and that the chief investigator thought that a meteorological explanation was possible. (Isaac Koi, “[UFOs in Parliament \(UK\)](#),” Isaac Koi—UFOs and Parliament, 2024)
- 1989**, December 21 — Belgian Minister of Defense [Jean-Pol Poncelet](#) states that there have been many UFOs reported and that the ministry and the Army have no idea what they are. (Swords 456–457)
- 1989**, December 24 or 25 — 3:00 p.m. Pilot Vladimir Kuzmin sees a dark gray, cigar-shaped object hovering southwest of Chelyabinsk, Russia, while he is flying a two-seat Aero L-29 Delfin. He estimates its altitude at 4.6 miles. The sighting lasts more than 8 minutes with the object in direct view for over 4 minutes. Within hours, Kuzmin experiences a strange, crustlike skin rash on the exposed portion of his face that lasts for more than 11 days. (Richard F. Haines, “[UFO Activities in the Soviet Union](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 2 (Mar./Apr. 1991): 14; Richard F. Haines, “[Encounter over Siberia](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1991): 12–13, 21–22)

1990

- 1990** — The NORAD Unknown Track Reporting database includes 7,000 incidents since 1971, averaging about 350 a year, representing objects still unidentified after jet interception, but before ATC analysis and NORAD/FTC intelligence whittles down the numbers further to about 10%. NORAD Unknowns are effectively equivalent to Project Blue Book unknowns—high-strangeness UFOs that cannot be rated until full details are released. (Clark III 801–802; Swords 348)
- 1990** — Donald Johnson obtains a copy of UFOCAT on 10 3.5-inch diskettes from [David R. Saunders](#), courtesy of John S. Derr of the US Geological Survey. Derr has created the diskette version from one of the tape backups for use in his own research. Unfortunately, he is unable to read the first portion of the tape, so it is lacking the first 10,000 records. Fortunately, the Center for UFO Studies has another backup copy, and Johnson is able to merge the two sources and recreate the database as it existed in 1982. Since then, more than 10,000 additional records have been added. (“[UFOCAT Is Back!](#)” *IUR* 16, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1991): 24)
- 1990** — A Gallup survey this year indicates that the belief in “real” UFOs has declined to 47% from a peak of 57% in 1978 and 54% in 1973. Only 27% report a belief that extraterrestrial UFOs have actually visited earth, while 14% report they have seen a UFO. (Robert J. Durant, “[Evolution of Public Opinion on UFOs](#),” *IUR* 18, no. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1993): 20)

- 1990** — [Jerome Clark](#) publishes volume one of the first edition of his UFO encyclopedia. (Jerome Clark, *The UFO Encyclopedia: UFOs in the 1980s*, vol. 1, Apogee, 1990; Michael D. Swords, [[review](#)], *JUFOS* 2 (1990): 189–191)
- 1990** — Mathematician [Arne Gjärdman](#) replaces [Sture Wickerts](#) as head of UFO investigations at the Swedish National Defence Research Institute. He holds the position until 1999. During this time, the institute starts sharing information and ideas with UFO-Sweden, creating an atmosphere of understanding and cooperation. (Swords 370)
- 1990** — Journalist and lawyer [Marek Rymuszko](#) establishes the magazine *Nieznany Świat* in Warsaw. (Poland 81)
- 1990** — The USSR Commission on Anomalous Phenomena is disbanded, and the majority of its archive is lost after an accident at the storage facility. (Mikhail Gershtein, “[A Short History of UFO Research in the Former Soviet Union](#),” UAP Check, July 6, 2024)
- 1990**, Early January — 10:30 a.m. Two women are driving southwest near Thimister-Clermont, Belgium, when they see a bizarre object on their right, moving at an altitude of 980–1,300 feet. Dark and massive, it resembles an iron seen from underneath. After a few seconds, it disappears behind a farmhouse. (Patrick Vidal and Michel Rozencwajg, “[The Belgian Wave](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1991): 7)
- 1990**, January — David Gotlib begins publishing the *Bulletin of Anomalous Experience* (at first under the title of *Ratchet Patrol*) in Toronto, Ontario, focusing on abduction experiencers. It folds in December 1994. ([Ratchet Patrol](#) 1, no. 1 (January 1990); [Bulletin of Anomalous Experience](#) 1, no. 3 (March/April 1990))
- 1990**, January 20 — 1:15–1:20 a.m. A silvery dome-shaped object with two rows of lights flies just ahead of a car for two to three miles on Highway 446 at Boyle, Mississippi. The engine and lights fail until the object departs. (Herbert S. Taylor, “[An Update on Vehicle Interference Reports, Part 1](#),” *IUR* 33, no. 4 (May 2011): 16)
- 1990**, January 22 — 10:00 a.m. UFOs approach the Santa Cruz Air Force Base, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Air traffic controllers spot them on their radars but cannot identify them because they do not make movements like an airplane or helicopter. Interceptors approach, but the objects move away and disappear. They return about 40 minutes after the interceptors land. Two other fighters are assigned to chase the objects, which are at an altitude of 4,800 feet. The case is investigated by an internal commission of the Brazilian Air Force, which can find no explanation. (Clark III 205–206; Brazil 553)
- 1990**, January 26 — British-Armenian orchid hunter [Habib “Henry” Azadehdel](#) (pseudonym “Armen Victorian”) calls [Eric A. Walker](#) and has an extended conversation about an alleged South African UFO crash with insect-like aliens. Walker hints that there has been governmental collaboration with aliens in the past. (Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain, *UFOs, MJ-12, and the Government: A Report on Government Involvement in UFO Crash Retrievals*, Mutual UFO Network, 1991, pp. 27–35)
- 1990**, February — Arranged by [Norio Hayakawa](#), [Robert Lazar](#) is interviewed in Las Vegas, Nevada, by Nippon TV for 3–4 hours. Hayakawa and the TV crew drive out to Tikaboo Peak, where they film an orange light maneuvering above Groom Lake. (Jacobsen, *Area 51*, p. 14)
- 1990**, February — The Sauvegarde et Conservation des Études et Archives Ufologiques is established in Brunoy, France, by [Jacques Scornaux](#). Its goal is the preservation and conservation of ufological documents and information. It publishes a *SCEAU Bulletin* from 1991 to 2008. ([SCEAU Bulletin](#), no. 0 (1991))
- 1990**, February — The Centre d’Études et de Recherches sur les Phénomènes Aérospatiaux in Marseille, France, begins publishing *Aérospatial-Météorologie-Astronomie* (A.M.A.), edited by Bernard Hugues. It continues until September 1994. ([Aérospatial-Météorologie-Astronomie](#), no. 1 (February 1990))
- 1990**, February 1–4 — An invitation-only research conference on abductions is held at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, organized by [Rima E. Laibow](#) and [Daniel Schneck](#). (Rima E. Laibow, Robert N. Sollod, and John P. Wilson, eds., *Anomalous Experiences and Trauma: Current Theoretical, Research, and Clinical Perspectives*, Center for Treatment and Research of Experienced Anomalous Trauma, 1992; Michael D. Swords, [[review](#)], *JUFOS* 4 (1992): 201–205)
- 1990**, February 21 — Sundown. [Norio Hayakawa](#), a Nippon TV journalist, takes a crew to the Area 51 Mailbox Site (near the 29 ½ mile marker, Highway 375, Tikaboo Valley) to watch the test flight of an object from Groom Lake, Nevada. The group sees an orange-yellow light appear above the hills. They get a second sighting later that evening when an object moves to the right, descends, performs a back turn and a 5,000-foot sudden descent, more or less instantly. (Michael Hesemann, [UFOs and Area 51: Secrets of the Black World](#), Lightworks video, 1995, on UFO Central YouTube channel; “[Norio Hayakawa](#),” Dreamland Resort)

- 1990**, February 21 — 9:07 p.m. A woman, her mother, and son are driving through Koblenz-Karthause, Germany, when they notice two lights beaming down at them at a 45° angle. The woman pulls to the side of the road at an angle to watch. The object bearing the lights stops almost directly overhead. She sees a large triangular object, stationary and noiseless, at rooftop height. The sides of the triangle measure about 65 feet. Three milky, yellowish-white lights are at each of the corners. In the center is a larger, primarily gray-blue light, although its colors change as something rotates on the UFO. The object itself has a metallic appearance. It has some structures that look like riveted plates. The object remains for 2–3 minutes then departs suddenly to the southwest behind the roofs of nearby houses. The woman succeeds in locating two other witnesses at nearly the same time. (Auguste Meessen, [“The Belgian Sightings,”](#) *IUR* 16, no. 3 (May/June 1991): 10–11)
- 1990**, February 28 — 7:30 p.m. Gary Schultz goes to the Area 51 Mailbox site in Nevada with his wife Pearl. He leaps out of his lawn chair when he spots the first object. Every 45 minutes, a new object arrives, 6 in all. Two or three of the craft are bright, pulsing, ellipsoid objects. He takes photos, one of which clearly captures an object shaped like a bell. ([“Unknown Craft over Area 51 in 1990, Photographed by Gary Schultz,”](#) Norio Hayakawa YouTube channel, January 25, 2010; Michael Hesemann, [UFOs and Area 51: Secrets of the Black World](#), Lightworks video, 1995, on UFO Central YouTube channel)
- 1990**, March — *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine breaks the news that the term “Aurora” has inadvertently been included in the 1985 US budget, as an allocation of \$455 million for “black aircraft production” in FY 1987. According to *Aviation Week*, Project Aurora refers to a group of exotic aircraft and not to one particular airframe. Funding of the project allegedly reaches \$2.3 billion in fiscal 1987, according to a 1986 procurement document obtained by *Aviation Week*. In 1994, [Ben Rich](#), the former head of Lockheed’s Skunk Works division, writes that the Aurora is the budgetary code name for the stealth bomber fly-off that resulted in the B-2 Spirit. (Ben R. Rich and Leo Janos, *Skunk Works: A Personal Memoir of My Years at Lockheed*, Little Brown, 1996, pp. 309–310; UFOFiles2, [pp. 143–144](#); [“Aurora Timeline”](#))
- 1990**, March — A classified US Department of Defense document, Joint Staff Information Report #5049, “Belgium and the UFO Issue,” states that “Numerous UFO sightings have been made in Belgium since Nov 89. The credibility of some individuals making the reports is good... Investigation by BAF [Belgian Air Force] continues.” It notes that Belgian Col. Wilfried De Brouwer asked whether the objects were American B-2 or F-117 military aircraft, stating that he made the inquiry despite knowing that “the alleged observations did not correspond in any way to the observable characteristics of either US aircraft.” The US Air Force does confirm to the Belgian Air Force and Ministry of Defense that no US stealth aircraft were operating in the Ardennes area at the time.” (Nick Redfern, [“Belgium and the UFO Issue,”](#) Mysterious Universe, February 11, 2016)
- 1990**, March 1 — The Space Shuttle *Atlantis* launches the first stealth satellite in [STS-36](#) for the National Reconnaissance Office. Nicknamed “Misty,” little is known about it other than it has visual and radar stealth characteristics, making it difficult to detect. The satellite is seen and tracked later in 1990 and in the mid-1990s by amateur observers. The second satellite is launched on May 22, 1999, and by 2004 the launch of a third satellite is planned for 2009. Circumstantial evidence suggests that the third satellite might be the payload of the [Delta IV](#) Heavy launch designated [NROL-15](#), which is launched in June 2012. That launch deposits a payload into geosynchronous orbit but, given the stealth/deception hypothesis, there remains the possibility of other, undetected payloads. (Wikipedia, [“Misty \(satellite program\)”](#))
- 1990**, March 7 — A woman feeding her infant in Gulf Breeze, Florida, notices a beam of white light about 3 feet in diameter descend to the ground beyond her window. She feels a slight vibration and 2 seconds later the object is gone. The next morning her husband finds a circle of burned grass 11 feet in diameter near the window. Several people detect a strong “perfume” odor from the scorched area. (Dan Wright, [“Current Case Log,”](#) *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 265 (May 1990): 16)
- 1990**, March 8 — [Henry Azadehdel](#) calls [Eric A. Walker](#) a second time. Walker provides some vague and bizarre information involving MJ-12, ESP, and technology from crashed UFOs. A third conversation on August 18 is much more guarded. (Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain, *UFOs, MJ-12, and the Government: A Report on Government Involvement in UFO Crash Retrievals*, Mutual UFO Network, 1991, pp. 27–35)
- 1990**, March 12 — Night. Large, shining discs appear in the sky along the Yaroslavskoye Shosse outside Moscow, Russia. Their place is taken by three groups of objects, some like pineapples (with platelets) but about 18 feet long. Others are like “triangular milk cartons,” and the third group are like upside-down basins about 40 feet across. ([“UFO’s Reported near Moscow,”](#) [telegram], April 15, 1990)
- 1990**, March 21 — 8:00 p.m.–12:00 midnight. UFOs are seen over a wide area of Russia encompassing Novoselye, Sergiyev Posad, Yakovlevo, Dubki, Kablukovo, Fryazino, Khabarovsk, and Kirzhach. Radar stations and aircraft are put on alert. At 9:38 p.m., a UFO is seen at 6,500 feet altitude over Pereslavl-Zalessky, Yaroslavl Oblast,

Russia. Lt. Col. A. A. Semenchenko is sent up in an interceptor to find it. At 10:05 p.m., he sees the object ahead and to the right. He tracks it on the in-flight radar as it flashes two white lights and changes speed and altitude. It does not respond to a radio challenge to identify itself. The pilot turns steeply and flies 1,600–1,900 feet above the UFO, but he can see only a vague shape. Between 8:00 p.m. and midnight, UFOs are also seen over a wide area. Witnesses in Khabarovsk watch bright red spheres flying in complete silence and darting above the icebound Amur River, and a black cigar-shaped object 160 feet long with a ruby-red exhaust is seen traveling low above the ground. Radars do not register it. The commanding officers of several antiaircraft defense units around Moscow gather more than 100 visual reports from their subordinates, which are forwarded to the chief of the antiaircraft defense headquarters, Gen. Col. [Igor Maltsev](#), who says that the object is a disc between 325–650 feet in diameter with two blinking lights. It turns on its axis and its course is “snakelike.” (“[UFOs on Air Defense Radars](#),” *Rabochaya Tribuna*, April 19, 1990; “[Soviet Air Defenses Baffled by Huge UFOs](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 266 (June 1990): 8–9; V. D. Musinsky, “[Through the Secrecy Barrier](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1990): 14–15; Central Intelligence Agency, “[USSR: UFO Sightings No. 2—General Maltsev Comments](#),” Foreign Broadcast Information Service PROD Group, May 24, 1990; UFOEv II 51–52; Patrick Gross, “[FOIA Declassified Documents](#)”; Antonio Huneus, “[Airplane Pilot UFO Encounters in the USSR and CIS, Part 2](#),” OpenMinds, August 20, 2010; Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia’s USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, p. 116; Powell, *Scientist*, 67)

1990, March 28 — 11:20 p.m. A silent UFO is seen about 25 miles north of Chongqing, China. It is about 65 feet long with orange and pale green lights, and it flies toward the northeast at an altitude of 150 feet. (Defense Intelligence Agency, [\[unclassified report\]](#), The Black Vault, p. 11)

1990, March 30–31 — 11:00 p.m. The Glons (Belgium) Control Reporting Center receives reports that three unusual lights are moving toward Thorembais-Gembloux, Belgium, constantly changing color, in the shape of an equilateral triangle. It requests the Wavre gendarmerie to send a patrol car to investigate. Ten minutes later, a second formation moves toward the first. Traffic Center Control at Semmerzake tracks one object only on its radar, and an order to scramble two F-16 fighters from Beauvechain Air Base is given. Throughout this time, in reports after the event, some people claim that the phenomenon is visible from the ground, describing the whole formation as maintaining relative positions while moving slowly across the sky. Over the next hour, the two scrambled F-16s attempt 9 separate interceptions. On three occasions, they manage to obtain a radar lock for a few seconds, but these are later shown to be radar-locks on each other. The pilots never see any of the claimed visual sightings or the claimed maneuvers, and they never get a lock on any objects apart from the other F-16. Investigator Wim van Utrecht suspects that the lights in the sky that triggered these scrambles were misperceptions of bright stars and planets. The other contacts are all the result of a well-known atmospheric interference called Bragg scattering, in which an aircraft’s own radars interfere with each other. After 12:30 a.m., radar contact becomes much more sporadic and the final confirmed lock takes place at 12:40 a.m. Following several further unconfirmed contacts, the F-16s eventually return to base shortly after 1:00 a.m. Members of the Wavre gendarmerie sent to confirm the original report describe four lights as arranged in a square formation, all making short jerky movements, before gradually losing their luminosity and disappearing in four separate directions at around 1:30 a.m. They also hear a low engine noise and that it seems to have a stick coming out one end with a turbine on it, which many claim shows it was a helicopter. (Wikipedia, “[Belgian UFO wave](#)”; NICAP, “[Three Lights in Triangle Are Also Picked Up on Radar](#)”; “[Remarkable Military Encounter in Belgium](#),” *IUR* 15, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1990): 23; Joël Mesnard, “[Belgium Haunted by Huge Triangular Craft, Part II](#),” *Flying Saucer Review* 35, no. 4 (December 1990): 2–6; Auguste Meessen, “[The Belgian Sightings](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 3 (May/June 1991): 4–8; Bob Pratt, “[The Great Belgium UFO Flap](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 267 (July 1990): 3; Marie-Thérèse de Brosses, “[F-16 Radar Tracks UFO](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 268 (August 1990): 6–7; Marie-Thérèse de Brosses, “[An Interview with Professor Jean-Pierre Petit](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 273 (January 1991): 3–9; Robert Durant, “[UFO Intercept](#),” *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 332 (December 1995): 3–8; Kean, [pp. 37–38](#); Swords 457; Jean-Michel Abrassart, “[In Defense of the Psycho-Sociological Hypothesis: Another Reply to Auguste Meessen](#),” *SUNlite* 3, no. 4 (July/Aug. 2011): 9–12; Patrick Gross, “[The Belgium Flap Official Reports](#),” [the full version of the Belgian Air Force report by Major Lambrechts, VS3/Ctl-Met 1], February 22, 2001; Patrick Gross, “[The Belgium Flap Official Reports](#),” [summary report on observations 30–31 March 1990], February 22, 2001; Marler [20–23](#); David Clarke, “Echoes and Angels: UFOs on Radar,” *Fortean Times* 403 (March 2021): 44–45; Graff 326–327; Covert 25; Powell, *Scientist*, 21)

1990, March 31 — Night. [Lucien Clerebaut](#) (secretary general of the Belgian UFO group SOBEPS), film director [Patrick Ferryn](#), and José Fernandez take four photos, using high-sensitivity film, of one of the triangular objects passing directly overhead about 19 miles southeast of Brussels, Belgium. Ferryn estimates its altitude is only 1,000 feet with a diameter six times that of the full moon. As a control, he photographs an ordinary airplane several minutes later in the same spot, using all the same camera settings. The spotlights on the UFO, which seemed very bright to

the observers, are barely discernible on the photos. The triangular shape, clearly visible to the naked eye, is also lost on the film. At the same time, the airplane lights come out brighter than those on the UFO, appearing just the way it looked from the ground, even though the UFO was much closer to the observers than the airplane. Lab experiments show that this is probably due to the effect of infrared light around the UFO. (Marie-Thérèse de Brosse, "[Un OVNI sur le Radar du F16](#)," *Paris-Match*, July 5, 1990)

- 1990**, Early April — Many observers, including a journalist with *Sovetskaya Estoniya*, see UFOs hovering above power lines along the Tallinn Highway, Estonia, on several occasions. Maj. V. Stroynetskiy and several hundred other witnesses repeatedly observe UFOs over the Yaroslavl Highway in Russia, many of which look like large "triangular milk cartons." The objects are flying at altitudes of 1,600–2,600 feet. At times, the entire body of an object "scintillates," while at other times it becomes iridescent with "lights of various colors." The objects fly at great speeds, make sudden stops in mid-air, and suddenly break off in lateral directions from the line of flight, "at which time they emitted rays." (Central Intelligence Agency, "[USSR: UFO Sightings No. 2—General Maltsev Comments](#)," Foreign Broadcast Information Service PROD Group, May 24, 1990)
- 1990**, April 4 — Patrick Maréchal, a young worker at Petit-Rechain, Belgium, takes a photo of a delta-shaped object on which three lights are visible at each corner. Maréchal admits the photo is a hoax in an interview for RTL on July 26, 2011. He and some friends take a sheet of Styrofoam, cut it into a triangle, paint it black, embed a flashlight in each corner, then hang it from a string. Maréchal shows reporters many trial photos they had taken trying to get the perfect look. (Wikipedia, "[Belgian UFO wave](#)"; NICAP, "[Petit-Rechain, Belgium Photo](#)"; Wim van Utrecht, "[Battle over Belgian UFOs](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 292 (August 1992): 20; Wim van Utrecht, "[Famous Belgian UFO Photo a Hoax](#)," *Caelestia*; Kean, pp. 29–31; Auguste Meessen, "[The Belgian Wave and the Photos of Ramillies](#)"; Patrick Ferry, "[La photo de Petit-Rechain: Un état de la question](#)," *Inforespace*, no. 111 (December 2005): 4–21; André Marion, "[Nouvelle analyse de la diapositive de Petit-Rechain](#)," *Inforespace*, no. 111 (December 2005): 22–27; Benoit Mussche, "[Le rapport SeerSight](#)," *Inforespace*, no. 111 (December 2005): 28–41; Robert Sheaffer, "[Classic' UFO Photo from Belgian Wave: The Hoaxer Confesses](#)," *Bad UFOs*, July 26, 2011; "[Classic Belgian Photos a Fake?](#)" *IUR* 34, no. 1 (September 2011): 6; Brian Dunning, "[The Belgian UFO Wave](#)," Skeptoid podcast, September 27, 2016; Graff 327)
- 1990**, April 5 — 8:15 p.m. A motorist driving near the shore at Gulf Breeze, Florida, sees what looks like a jet fighter about to crash. Two military jets approach from the north, and the original object immediately shoots laterally southward, halting 1–2 miles away. The man gets out of his car to watch. The object appears to be a white disc with red and green lights spaced evenly around the side and an unlit dome on top. Slowly, it begins to rise. He calls a friend and the sheriff's office. Two deputies arrive on the scene, and for the next 2 hours all three witnesses watch a bright light continue to ascend slowly. (Dan Wright, "[Current Case Log](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 265 (May 1990): 17)
- 1990**, April 10 — A couple driving north on the Pensacola Bay Bridge in Florida see an object that looks like a long isosceles triangle with a centered red light on the bottom and pairs of white lights at the three apexes. As they near the end of the bridge in Pensacola, the object moves toward the west. It hovers, then moves off over the bay and out of sight. (Dan Wright, "[Current Case Log](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 268 (August 1990): 22–23)
- 1990**, April 10 — A triangular UFO is seen for 10 minutes over Abakan, Republic of Khakassia, Russia. (Paul Stonehill and Philip Mantle, *The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters behind the Iron Curtain*, Quadrillion, 1998, p. 110)
- 1990**, April 11 — Evening. Several residents of Gulf Breeze, Florida, watch a red light move toward the southwest and out into the Gulf of Mexico before winking out. Some think they can see clusters of balloons associated with the light, but others disagree. (Rex Salisbury, "[Red Lights in the Sky! Hoax or Real?](#)" *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 266 (June 1990): 10–11)
- 1990**, April 12–13 — Night. Two witnesses see a bright red light hovering above Little Sabine Island off Pensacola Beach, Florida. It stays there for several minutes before blinking out. It reappears the next night to the west of Gulf Breeze. (Rex Salisbury, "[Red Lights in the Sky! Hoax or Real?](#)" *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 266 (June 1990): 10–11)
- 1990**, April 14 — At least seven people report a red light to the north of Gulf Breeze, Florida. It approaches from the east at high speed and comes to a dead stop. It hovers, moves back and forth several times, then ascends out of sight. Other red lights appear and are seen in various locations around Pensacola by other groups of people. Some of these sightings are undoubtedly hoax balloons. (Rex Salisbury, "[Red Lights in the Sky! Hoax or Real?](#)" *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 266 (June 1990): 10–11; Dan Wright, "[Current Case Log](#)," *MUFON UFO Journal*, no. 268 (August 1990): 21–22)

- 1990, April 22** — Before 12:00 midnight. Two workers in a factory courtyard in Basècles, Belgium, watch two enormous spotlights illuminate the area. A huge trapezoid-shaped “platform” moves slowly and silently above a smokestack, at one point covering the entire courtyard, 330 by 200 feet. They observe six lights on the object, which is grayish. Structures on the bottom of the platform look like “an aircraft carrier turned upside down.” (Kean, [p. 31](#))
- 1990, April 26** — [Mikhail Gorbachev](#) is visiting the Uralmash plant in Sverdlovsk, Russia, when he is asked for the first time whether the USSR studies UFOs. He answers vaguely that “there are scientific organizations which study this problem.” However, he later tells a group of workers that the “UFO phenomenon is real and we should approach it seriously and study it.” (*Pravda*, April 27, 1990; *Sovetskaya Molodezh*, May 4, 1990)
- 1990, May 4** — 11:15 p.m. A retired archaeologist in Stockay, Liège, Belgium, is about to return home after checking his greenhouse when he hears neighborhood dogs barking. He sees, in a field about 325 feet away from him, a pyramidal or conical illuminated object topped by a “bright white mushroom cone” floating about 1 foot off the ground. He approaches to about 165 feet and watches the object change color from white to orange as its upper part rises. He calls his wife to watch the UFO too. She sees two small antennas on top. They leave to get their son, but when they return the object is gone. The next day, he finds four circular holes about 3 feet in diameter with a thin layer of yellowish powder sprayed on the grass. Some days later, the traces vanish after a rainstorm. (Patrick Vidal and Michel Rozencwajg, “[The Belgian Wave](#),” *IUR* 16, no. 4 (July/Aug. 1991): 4)
- 1990, May 21** — A joint Russian and Chinese endeavor to study UFOs is initiated in Dalnegorsk, Primorsky Krai, Russia. An agreement is made to share videos and photos of new sightings. (Central Intelligence Agency, “[USSR, PRC Scientists in Joint Study of UFO’s](#),” May 21, 1990)
- 1990, May 25** — Day. A giant reddish-orange disc some 980 feet in diameter and with portholes around its rim is seen hovering at an altitude of 3,300 feet above Mary, Turkmenistan. Col. Anatoly Kurkchy, chief of the Air Defense Division of the Russian 12th Army, orders three ground-to-air missiles fired at it. The UFO makes a slight horizontal maneuver, and three beams of light coming from its port side destroy the missiles. Kurkchy then scrambles two jet interceptors, but at a point about 3,200 feet from the disc, the jets are allegedly thrown to the ground and destroyed, killing the four pilots. Kurkchy is removed from his post and transferred to a remote location. (Good Need, [pp. 356–357](#))
- 1990, June** — [Raymond E. Fowler](#) continues his exploration of the [Betty Andreasson Luca](#) abduction case in *The Watchers*, which reveals that Luca is often having an out-of-body experience during her abductions. She sometimes encounters human-like entities with blonde hair, blue eyes, and white robes who are apparently “in charge” of the other aliens. Luca feels that the human race is being “watched” by these beings, who tell her they foresee serious problems in the future regarding the survivability of the human species. (Raymond E. Fowler, [The Watchers: The Secret Design behind UFO Abduction](#), Bantam, 1990)
- 1990, June 5** — [Robert Lazar](#) is arrested in Las Vegas, Nevada, for aiding and abetting a prostitution ring. The charge is reduced to felony pandering, to which he pleads guilty on June 18. At sentencing on August 20, he is ordered to do 150 hours of community service, stay away from brothels, and undergo psychotherapy. (Warren Bates, “[Source in Channel 8’s UFO Series Pleads Guilty to Pandering Charge](#),” *Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal*, June 19, 1990, p. 8B, reprinted in Tom Mahood’s *Bluefire*)
- 1990, June 10** — Reporter [Craig Myers](#) announces in the *Pensacola (Fla.) News-Journal* that a foam UFO model, seemingly a prototype for a fake UFO, has been found by new homeowners in the attic of the former residence of Gulf Breeze, Florida, UFO photographer Ed Walters. Myers writes a series of articles showing how Walters likely hoaxes some photos using a double-exposure technique. In late June, Tom Smith Jr., 22, a former Gulf Breeze resident, comes forward and claims that he has seen Walters fake some of the photos, the entire Walters family is in on the hoax, and they had tried to enlist his help unsuccessfully. Investigators apply a voice stress analysis (VSA) test to Smith’s taped testimony, which he passes. A controlled VSA test has also been successfully applied to testimony by Ed Walters, in which he denies perpetrating a hoax. (Craig Myers, “[Gulf Breeze UFO Model Found](#),” *Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal*, June 10, 1990, pp. 1, 8; Craig Myers, “[I Saw UFO Photos Faked, Witness Says](#),” *Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal*, June 17, 1990, pp. 1, 4; [UFO Newsclipping Service](#), no. 252 (July 1990): 1–6; Geoff Price, “[Lie Detection in UFO Controversies](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1997): 31; Kevin D. Randle, “[The Truth about Polygraphs](#),” *IUR* 22, no. 4 (Winter 1997–1998): 29–30; Craig R. Myers, “[The MUFON-ian Candidate: The Gulf Breeze UFO Case As Political Contest](#),” in Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Richard Heiden, eds., *The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony*, UPIAR, 2023, pp. 121–136)

- 1990, Summer** — The crew of a Russian ship harbored in the Anadyr' River off Ust-Belaya, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, Russia, sees a perfectly circular opening in the cumulus clouds above the village. Groups of objects enter the circle and fly away. Watch officer Aleksandr Polorotov begins taking photos of them until his camera malfunctions. When the film is developed, a luminous cigar-shaped object can be seen on some of the photos, but the open circle of sky is not on any of them. Some crew members experience severe headaches after the episode. (Stonehill and Mantle, *Russia's USO Secrets*, Flying Disk, 2020, pp. 109–110)
- 1990, July 6** — Day. Anna Dmitrievna Yerygina is herding goats on a lonesome road near Zvarykino, Belgorod Oblast, Russia, when a woman appears, seemingly out of thin air. Dressed in a light-gray, loose-fitting outfit with a hood, she seems somewhat tall and lean. The woman greets her and asks whether goats' milk is tasty. Yerygina says it is, but she prefers cows' milk. The woman then abruptly invites her on a brief excursion that will last no longer than three hours, touching her on the shoulder and saying, "Do not be afraid." She takes Yerygina to a large oval craft in a nearby field. A man awaits them and helps them aboard. Yerygina sits in the dimly lit interior, then suddenly finds herself in another room with others dressed in the same gray coveralls. She feels as if she has been transported to another world. The entities radiate spiritual warmth and hospitality. One of them offers her some tasty bread and a strange liquid. After she finishes the meal, her memory goes blank and she finds herself back in the field with her goats, the strange woman by her side. The woman says goodbye with a smile, promising to meet her again. (Priyma Alexey, *XX vek. Hronika Neobyasnimogo: Fenomen za fenomenom*, AST Olympus, 2000; Joshua Cutchin, "The Great Alien Bake-Off," *Fortean Times* 332 (November 2015): 42)
- 1990, July 9** — 4:00 a.m. A witness is traveling toward Germany and makes a stop east of Brzózka near the bridge over the Bóbr River southwest of Krosno, Poland. He goes for a short walk in the woods when he hears an odd sound and sees a landed object like an overturned bowl. He estimates it is nearly 17 feet across and 80 feet tall, and has a nauseating odor like burned chocolate. About 15 entities resembling mummies are in front of the UFO, poking plants with a prod and hopping about like kangaroos. They are about 4.5 feet tall and wear deep-green uniforms and headgear like welding masks. Their fingers resemble claws. At some point the witness coughs and loses consciousness, waking up an hour later. (Poland 82; "[Bliskie spotkanie w Brzózce w 1990 roku](#)," UFO-Relacje.pl, February 12, 2020)
- 1990, July 11** — Belgian Air Force Col. Wilfried De Brouwer, chief of operations of the Air Staff, gives a public talk on UFOs at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. He states that the March 30–31, 1990, sightings in Belgium were highly unusual, witnessed by gendarmes and others, and necessitated the scrambling of two F-16 fighters. He says the target was detected on radar and conformed to ground visual observations. The objects remain unidentified. (Swords 457)
- 1990, July 19** — Shortly after 12:00 midnight. The base perimeter at Fort Allen Training Center in Juana Díaz, Puerto Rico, is suddenly illuminated by a powerful white light. An officer orders that all personnel must remain in the barracks or other base facilities and not come out under any circumstances. From a window, the officer can see a brightly lit, circular, metallic object over the base. It has windows around a central rim, with yellowish-white lights revolving in them. On the underside there is a round, turbine-like protrusion with many colored lights around it. A bright beam of pinkish-white light is coming from the underside, as if searching for something—this is the light illuminating the perimeter. Two F/A-18 Hornets (probably scrambled from Roosevelt Roads Naval Station) fly at high speed over the base toward the UFO, which departs at high speed to the west with the jets in pursuit. The officer later tells UFO investigators that Fort Allen personnel have been briefed on UFOs with training films that show crashed UFOs, and it is just the most recent of several briefings since the 1988 Cabo Rojo incident. (Good Need, [pp. 380–381](#))
- 1990, July 26** — 10:35 p.m. A married couple is driving south through Grâce-Hollogne, Belgium, when they see a triangular object hovering in the sky. It seems to measure about 39 feet on each side. A belt of white light like a large neon tube runs along two sides. The witnesses see three spotlights beaming down, apparently detached from the object but connected to each other by a support "bracket." Two flashing lights, one red and one green, are on the underside. The man flashes his car lights twice, and two white lights at the base of the triangle rotate, tilt toward the car, and flash on and off three times. Keeping these lights pointed at the moving car, the object moves with its base forward and positions itself 330 feet away at a height of 200–300 feet. It makes a banking turn and paces the car, moving with the terrain and maintaining a constant height above the sloping ground at the same speed as the car (around 40 mph). When they approach the bridge at Seraing, the object crosses the Meuse River right next to them, ascending silently and moving back toward Grâce-Hollogne. (Kean, [pp. 32–34](#))
- 1990, Early August** — Many witnesses in Rostock, Greifswald, and the islands of Rügen and Usedom, Germany, see groups of luminous spheres that accelerate rapidly and abruptly. One witness, Gerald Schwab, watches the lights