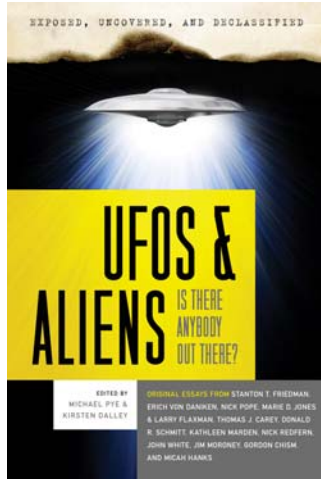


UFOs & ALIENS

by Micah Hanks

CHAPTER SUMMARY



The article is based on an interview Hanks had with a former Army security officer named "Steven," a little over a year ago. While stationed on Johnston Atoll in 1988, he and several hundred witnesses observed a gigantic circular UFO that appeared and hovered directly overhead just before dawn on a morning in July of that year. Then, as the sun broke over the horizon, the gigantic UFO simply vanished. Steven suspects that what he and the others on the island (including one retired two-star general) witnessed was an extraterrestrial craft experiencing some kind of malfunction that allowed them to see it hovering over them for a short period of time. This remains one of the top three most incredible UFO stories Hanks has ever been told.

Hanks located other individuals who were stationed on the island at the time for corroborative testimony, and interviewed stealth aircraft experts about the possibility that an advanced cloaking technology was seen in-use. Save a few scant reports that deal with crashed UFOs like Roswell, we are seldom given any indication that these aircraft, whatever they are, may have their various flaws, too... until now.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Micah Hanks



MICAH A. HANKS is a full-time journalist, radio personality, author and investigator of the unexplained. Since an early age, he has been fascinated with strange mysteries and “Fortean phenomena,” a field of study named for the pioneering researcher of all-things-strange, **Charles Fort**. Hanks’ exposure to Fort’s work, as well as the later writings of personalities such as zoologist **Ivan T. Sanderson**, cosmologist **Carl Sagan**, and several others helped establish an open minded—but inherently skeptical—approach to studying the unexplained, which Hanks maintains and continues to cultivate today, much like his numerous influences of past decades.

Throughout his many years studying the world’s mysteries, Hanks has visited a number of places collecting information about not only aliens and UFOs, but also cultural data, folklore, and reports of strange creatures like Sasquatch. From steep mountain passes in remote parts of Montana, to the rolling valleys where Ohio’s “Grassman” is said to trudge, Hanks has made a lifestyle of pursuing mysteries, often right to their sources. He also spent a number of years working with various scientists, historians, and film crews, particularly fellow researcher and friend **Joshua P. Warren**, attempting to solve the mystery of the Brown Mountain Lights. These strange “ghost lights” represent an atmospheric phenomenon specific to Western North Carolina, likened by many to be ufological in nature. His interest in the region and its many mysteries, as well as his ever-evolving methods of inquiry pertaining to the UFO phenomenon at large, remains underway.

Hanks has been featured as a guest on many television and radio programs, including History Channel’s *Guts and Bolts*, Travel Channel’s *Weird Travels*, CNN Radio, and *The Jeff Rense Program*. He is also a staff writer for *UFO Magazine*, *Mysterious Universe*, and regular contributor to *Intrepid Magazine*, with past articles appearing in *FATE*, *Mysteries Magazine*, and several other publications. The latest news about UFOs and unexplained phenomena, as well as information about Micah’s ongoing projects and appearances, are available at his website *The Gralien Report* (www.gralienreport.com). He can be contacted directly at info@gralienreport.com.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

UFOs & Aliens

By Micah Hanks

- Your article deals with UFOs and their apparent ability to maintain invisibility. Is this something common to UFO reports, or is this a relatively new observation?
- How did you come upon the story of “Steven” and the very large UFO he described seeing, which you featured in this anthology?
- Is there any other kind of natural phenomenon that this object could have represented, or is this a pretty conclusive case of a UFO appearance?
- How exactly do you think UFOs may achieve “invisibility”?
- Will humans ever be able to do the same sort of thing, or is this kind of technology simply too advanced for us to achieve in, say, the next few decades?
- Do you feel like the kinds of observations you and others are making about UFOs in books like this reveal anything about the phenomenon that we haven’t known previously?
- Do you think that there will be anything in the coming years that could change the field of Ufology, ensuring that the public at large takes the subject more seriously?
- In your opinion, do UFOs represent an extraterrestrial presence, or something else? If not visitors from outer space, what else could these things be?
- Speaking of UFOs and their occupants, what are your thoughts on alien abduction
- Have you ever observed a UFO yourself?
- It is well known by those who follow your work that you’ve spent a long time studying strange aerial illuminations in Western North Carolina called the Brown Mountain Lights. Do you think these objects are related somehow to UFOs, or could they actually be alien craft themselves?
- You’ve tackled UFO invisibility, as well as the kinds of strange phenomenon here on Earth that might closely resemble UFOs and how they operate. What, in your opinion, is the next step toward understanding this phenomenon?