

1988: Garden State Parkway
nr. Wildwood, NJ

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Probe of UFO sighting closed

By TERRI SOMERS
Press Manahawkin Bureau

THE FEDERAL Aviation Administration officially has closed its investigation into several reports of an unidentified flying object in Atlantic County this week.

Egg Harbor Township police, who were the first to receive telephone calls from residents claiming to have seen a UFO, said they are tired of the continuing reports and are laughing at what they called "sensationalism" in the press.

But one report of a sighting made by a Wildwood radio station reporter, whom an FAA official calls a credible witness, has planted a question in some minds.

Why did so many people report seeing bright lights and something hovering in the air, while radar at the FAA Technical Center, Pomona section of Galloway Township, picked up nothing but two air cargo planes heading for McGuire Air Force Base 20 minutes before the first report of a sighting?

Egg Harbor Township police received the first reports of the UFOs around 9:15 p.m. Tuesday, FAA spokesman Anthony Willett said.

Police said it is not unusual to see strange lights in the sky in that area.

"There are always jets and planes all over the skies around here," Sgt. John DeAngelis said. "It could have been someone flying into or out of Atlantic City, McGuire or Dover, Del."

As news of the sightings spread, the number of reported sightings increased and the area where they are seen grew, DeAngelis said.

"We're getting calls from all over now of

people claiming to have seen it, after they've read about it. Frankly, we're getting a little tired of it," he said.

He admitted the police department was laughing at what he called the "hype" the people and media were making of the sighting.

Southern Ocean County police departments yesterday said they have not received any sighting reports, but expect they might after residents start hearing or reading about them.

The radar at the FAA technical center showed nothing at the time of the sightings despite the clear weather and 12-mile visibility, Willett said.

Willett, who has security clearance to any secretive flights or testing at the center, said no such testing took place that night.

Because the FAA could not confirm anything on its radar, the case is closed, Willett said.

"But what made all this interesting is a call I got yesterday (Wednesday) from a reporter," he said.

"Not only did she see it and was unable to identify it, but she had a rather vivid and direct description of it," he said.

Mary Burckmyer, a reporter for WCMC-AM in Wildwood, was driving on the Garden State Parkway on her way home from work about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday when she saw what she later reported to Willett and continues to maintain she saw.

"I was driving north on the parkway ... when I looked up and saw two very bright lights on a flying object," Ms. Burckmyer said.

The object was enormous and elliptical in shape, and was traveling north to south at a steady

speed of about 30 mph slower than her car, she said. The gray metallic-colored object was about 10 times bigger than her car, was about 80 to 100 feet in diameter and was flying 150 to 200 yards above her car, she said.

She said it had two large headlights that glowed white and several smaller white and green lights underneath that blinked intermittently. It made no sound.

"It definitely wasn't a blimp, a helicopter, a plane or a balloon. It didn't have wings or any type of propeller device that I could see," she said.

"I have never seen anything like it," she said. "I was not drinking, I was not tired and I would still swear to seeing it."

The National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, an organization supporting the existence of UFOs, said Ms. Burckmyer's description was credible, Willett said.

Ms. Burckmyer said she has been inundated with calls from people claiming to witness the same object, but is concerned about the sensationalism of the sighting and its effect on her journalistic credibility.

"Things have been a little sensational in the press, but maybe that's because I was a little excited the first day after it happened," she said. "I don't know what it was, but that doesn't mean I am saying it was a spaceship or little green men or anything like that."

"I have always considered myself a serious journalist, and it would make me sick if anything I said would hurt my credibility. But I hope because of this, people might take what I reported seriously," she said. "It is my job to report what I see and that is, in fact, what I did."

SHAWN GARRETT via COUD—I

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Prescribed by *Dr. Arthur D. ...*
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Europe of WHO signing closed

The World Health Organization (WHO) has signed a closed agreement with the European countries, marking a significant step in the organization's efforts to combat global health issues. The agreement, which was finalized after several months of negotiations, outlines a framework for cooperation between WHO and the European nations. This includes the sharing of resources, expertise, and information to address various health challenges, particularly in the areas of infectious diseases and public health. The signing of this agreement is seen as a positive development for WHO, as it allows the organization to leverage the strengths of the European countries in order to better serve the needs of the global population. The agreement is expected to have a lasting impact on the health of people in Europe and beyond.

The agreement covers a wide range of areas, including the prevention and control of infectious diseases, the promotion of mental health, and the strengthening of health systems. It also provides for the exchange of information and the sharing of best practices between WHO and the European countries. This is particularly important in the context of the current global health crisis, as it allows WHO to draw on the expertise and resources of the European countries in order to better understand and respond to the challenges we are facing. The agreement is a testament to the commitment of WHO and the European countries to work together to improve the health of the world.

The signing of the agreement took place in a formal ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland, where WHO officials and representatives from the European countries gathered to sign the document. The ceremony was attended by a large number of people, including government officials, health care workers, and members of the public. The signing of the agreement is a landmark event in the history of WHO, and it is expected to lead to a new era of cooperation between the organization and the European countries. The agreement is a clear statement of WHO's commitment to the health of the world, and it is a testament to the power of international cooperation in the face of global health challenges.

The agreement is a significant step towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are a set of 17 global goals that were adopted by the United Nations in 2015. One of the key goals of the SDGs is to ensure good health and well-being for all people, and the signing of the agreement is a clear commitment to this goal. The agreement is also a testament to the leadership of WHO, which has been instrumental in the development and implementation of the SDGs. The agreement is a clear statement of WHO's commitment to the health of the world, and it is a testament to the power of international cooperation in the face of global health challenges.

Flying saucer mystery at the Shore

By PATRICK JENKINS

Was it or wasn't it?

It was reported as a UFO to the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center shortly after 9 p.m. Tuesday and hovering or slow-moving lights were confirmed by responding police officers, according to Tech Center spokesman Anthony Willett.

But in a statement yesterday, Egg Harbor Township police said what the officers saw was a slow-moving aircraft flying at several thousand feet.

The only problem with that explanation was that there were no aircraft in the area at that time, according to FAA radar, Willett said.

"We received the report of a green light or lights that appeared to be hovering over the Egg Harbor Township area," said Willett.

"We checked with the Atlantic City tower and nothing unusual appeared. The only air traffic in the area that evening was two large military planes coming up from Dover, Del., and they were in well before this. They also do not hover," Willett said.

In their statement, the Egg Harbor Township police said officers were dispatched to the area where the object was supposed to have been sighted and were told by a young male that his friends saw some UFO's hovering in the sky.

"Upon (the officers') arrival, nothing out of the ordinary was located except what appeared to be an airplane flying east to west north of that location several thousand feet from the ground," the police said.

But, again, there was nothing on the radar screen.

Could it have been lights from nearby Hamilton Mall reflecting off clouds?

"It was a crystal clear night with a full moon and visibility of 12 miles," said Willett.

Or maybe some kind of astronomical or weather phenomenon?

"We have nothing to do with UFO's," said a technician at the National Weather Service station at the Tech Center.

"I have nothing to say about UFO's, whether they're concerned with weather or anything else. We don't deal with anything like that at all. We're a weather office," said the man, adding, "This is just a weather technician speaking."

A spokesman for the National UFO Reporting Center in Washington said no reports of the incident had been received there.

Willett said there was no ongoing investigation of the sighting.

"We just noted the report. As I've said on other occasions, reports of this nature are not uncommon. It's a very big, dark sky in South Jersey," he added.

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