

1960: nr. Crater Lake, OR

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"I just could not believe what I saw."

• possibly responsive.

Thomas Page, Bob Rodolph and "Jim," all experienced a UFO encounter in Oregon approximately 10 miles before the junction of Highways 230 and 97, while travelling east on Highway 230. If the report is true, there may have been some connection with the UFO flap in northern California. Reports in California had been shifting northward. Mr. Page relates the details:

"During the summer of 1960, I and two of my college roommates had decided to go to Canada to see my sister and do some fishing. On the way to Canada we stopped at Crater Lake, Oregon for dinner. After dinner we decided to travel through the night in order to get to Canada sooner. We were to take turns driving. I took the first turn and was driving out of Crater Lake. The vehicle I was driving was a 1955 Ford Pickup with a camper on back.

"A short time later I found myself on a straight road with several dips. There was little or no traffic and it was about 11:30 at night. As I was driving I noticed a car in front of me, or what I thought was a car. The lighting on the back of the car was strange. Both red taillights were out and there was a white light on the left side of the vehicle.

"The car was traveling at the same speed I was, so I decided to increase the speed of the truck to get closer to the vehicle and see what kind of light it had. As I increased the speed of the truck the light dimmed and went straight up in the air.

"I just could not believe what I saw and in a few brief moments decided not to tell my roommates sleeping in the camper. Just after I saw the light go up into the air I came over a small hill. As I started down I saw the light again or one just like it.

"I stopped the truck, got out and went to the back of the camper to get my sleeping roommates up to see this thing. One of my roommates, Bob got up and we got into the truck and watched the light. I did not Bob what had happened and he thought the light was a car stopped on the wrong side of the road. I turned the truck lights off to get a better look at the light. We then tried to get closer but as the truck moved forward the light backed up, keeping the same distance from us.

"My other roommate, Jim, knocked on the truck window [It must have been the small window between the camper and the cab]. I stopped the truck and he got up front with us. We noticed that the light was very bright but did not hurt our eyes. When looking at each other we noticed that our faces were not illuminated and our heads did not make shadows on the back of the truck. We thought this was strange because we estimated the light to be close, maybe 20 to 50 yards away.*



* This phenomenon has been noted in other cases. It has been suggested that the UFO emits some kind of energy that acts directly on the brain, exciting nerve cells in the cortex without stimulating the retina of the eye. This may also explain why a witness would say that the UFO's light was "the most brilliant they had ever seen," or that the colors were intense.

"We also noticed some colors on the end of one of the rays coming from the [See footnote again]. The light then dimmed and went out. We next saw a very dim white light that took the shape of an upside down cereal bowl that was as wide as the road. Bob noticed a little red light above the bowl-shaped light but we could see no connection. The dim bowl-shaped light, or whatever it was, was new to us and caused a considerable amount of apprehension.

"I had turned the truck engine off to listen for sound. We were facing down hill, so I started to roll the truck closer for a better look but the bright light came on again and moved slowly away from us. At this time I noticed the light in the side rear view mirror. At first I was confused as to why I could see it in the mirror. Then I realized there was another one behind us. And I stopped the truck and got out. Behind us was another light. We guessed the distance to be about 50 yards. I walked to the back of the camper and watched the light. Bob and Jim had gotten out of the truck on the other side. None of us could hear any sound.

"I was frightened, but also frustrated at not understanding what was going on. I started running toward the light to get closer to see what it was. As I started toward the light, it started moving towards me. Jim yelled at me to stop, which I did because now I was more frightened than frustrated. The light was still moving towards me so I raised my hands, not knowing what else to do. The light dimmed, reversed direction and went back up and over the hill out of sight. This light was not seen again.

"The light in front of the truck was still there. We got back in the truck and watched the light for a short time and then noticed a car in the distance coming toward us. I turned the lights of the truck back on and both Jim and Bob went out on the road to flag the car down.

"The light in front of us moved upwards and the car passed under it, but did not stop. The light moved to the right and disappeared over some trees. We got back in the truck and left the area." (xx.)

(xx.) Page, Tom. "Coming Out of the Closet." *MUFON UFO Journal*. # 226. February 1987. pp.8-9. Page was not a believer in UFOs but his Oregon experience haunted him. Years later he finally took a serious interest in the UFO mvstery hoping to find a rational answer. (See drawings on pages 79-80)