

## UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS, RETRIEVALS, AND COVER-UPS

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Research into an alleged 1941 southeast Missouri unidentified crash retrieval led to a telephone conversation with a twenty-one year old male. The sincere young man spoke about a 1941 southeast Missouri event his Grandmother witnessed; a Grandmother described as church going and not prone to exaggeration.

According to the account handed down by Grandmother to Grandson, one day a routine ride to the General Store presented the Grandmother with a puzzle she never resolved. The usually vacant farm land across the street from the General Store acquired something new and bizarre overnight. Three large "boulders", for lack of a better word, sat on the previously empty land. The largest object stood approximately six feet tall. The unknown material reflected sun light like metal and radiated a strong stench. The objects did not look like any type of craft known in 1941. The General Store was the town's meeting place; residents gathered there and speculated about the source of the peculiar addition to the community.

Later the same day, men in a large flatbed truck arrived at the crossroads community. Since the out-of-the-way small town had few telephones and even less outside traffic, the residents wondered how the strangers knew of the curious event.



A man dressed in business attire paid the Grandmother's father to help uniformed men load the objects onto the flatbed truck. The men were concerned the objects

would be too heavy to lift. Surprisingly, the material was light-weight and moved with great ease. The Great Grandfather had no physical reaction to contact with the unknown substance other than difficulty washing away the smell on his hands.

The Grandmother related that prior to this incident many people in the area witnessed orbs on more than one occasion. Large orbs dispersed into multiple small orbs and

small orbs combined into larger orbs. The Grandmother spoke often of the unsolved mystery.

The account motivated the Grandson's interest in Astronomy. As a child the young astronomy student brought books to his Grandmother to show her pictures of meteors and other objects in the hope of solving the mystery. The Grandmother always responded, "That is not what I saw".

In the telephone conversation, the man expressed his amazement when acquaintances, unfamiliar with his family history, spoke about orbs in the same general area of southeast Missouri sky in the 1970s - orbs identical to the orbs his Grandmother saw so many years before. The man clearly was seeking answers.

Leonard H. Stringfield's 1991 Status Report VI, *UFO Crash/Retrievals: The Inner Sanctum*, focuses on an alleged 1941 southeast Missouri unidentified crash retrieval. According to a letter from Charlette Mann to researcher Ray Fowler, the event her Grandfather witnessed in 1941 was "...out of town [Cape Girardeau, Missouri] 13-15 miles or so...Grandfather said it wasn't an airplane or like any craft he'd ever seen. It was broken and scattered all around, but one large piece was still together and it appeared to have a rounded shape with no edges or seams. It had a very shiny metallic finish." In 1941 the term UFO or "flying saucer" had not been coined. The southwest of Cape Girardeau location of the Grandmother's account exceeds the crash location perimeter described by Ms. Mann by only a few miles or so.

Another interesting parallel aspect of the two accounts is the indication that local residents witnessed the incident. In a 2002 interview with Linda Moulton Howe, Ms. Mann quoted her Grandfather as saying "...it wasn't a crashed plane at all. There were some civilians. We assume probably people who lived near the farm where it had crashed..." The Grandmother's account of the 1941 incident she witnessed suggests perhaps fifty people witnessed the event.

A MUFON symposium proceedings paper, *The First Roswell* by Ryan Wood, states The Missouri Institute of Aeronautics, a World War II pilot training school, was the closest military base and the presumed retrieval personnel of the alleged spring 1941 southeast Missouri unidentified crash retrieval described in the Stringfield paper.

An Ohio Missouri connection exists in this story of unidentified objects, retrievals, and cover-ups. The Sikeston Herald, Thursday, May 8, 1941 states: "Ohioans predominate in the new class, more than half of the prospective pilots being residents of that state".

To read the names of Ohioans that attended the Missouri Institute of Aeronautics in the spring of 1941, please visit [www.seekingmoinfo.com/SikestonHerald.html](http://www.seekingmoinfo.com/SikestonHerald.html).