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Bob White’s Great UFO Artifact Mystery—Solved!

Bob White's Great UFO

Artifact Mystery — Solved!

(Sometimes All it Takes is Finding the Right Expert.)

by Pat Linse, with Ean Harrison

Apsychic was taking phone calls on a late night radio show. His next caller was clearly upset — you could hear the fear in his voice. “I think I might be possessed” he confessed. “When I drive at night the street lights often turn off as I approach. I'm afraid it might be a warning that something terrible is about to happen.” The psychic tried to reassure him, “You definitely have some kind of extraordinary power, but it's not necessarily negative. The lights that go out could mean that one phase of your life is over and you are about to enter a new one...”

As the psychic droned on about focusing on the positive and seeking out new opportunities, the phone lines lit up at the radio station. Dozens of people were trying to get through to offer an explanation for the ominous behavior of the street lights. They were all from one specific profession, but they were not scientists or psychologists.

The psychic's explanation to the frightened man was suddenly cut off and a new voice came on the air. “We would like to let our listeners know that our phone lines have been jammed by people who have a very straightforward explanation for the caller's problem. They are auto mechanics and they are all suggesting that the caller have his headlights adjusted. If headlights are aimed too high they trigger the daylight sensor on streetlights and turn them off. It's a common problem.”

Luckily for the caller, the right experts were listening to provide a solution. Those familiar with skeptical literature are aware of James Randi's tireless effort to point out that many supposed paranormal mysteries that have stumped scientists can be solved by the expertise of magicians.

Now another mystery has been solved with information provided by the right expert. The solution calls to mind Michael Shermer's frequent admonition, “Before you say something is out of this world, make sure it isn't of this world.”

Bob White's UFO Artifact

The late Bob White's mysterious object (see photo above) is touted on the internet as hard evidence for the existence of UFOs: “This isn't the smoking gun — this is the bullet!!!!” And it has been included on or near the top of UFO “best evidence” lists.^{1, 2} In 1985, according to White's sworn deposition, he was napping as he and a companion drove west through the desolate country between Grand Junction, CO and the Utah border. After 2 or 3 in the morning White's friend woke him for a second time — the odd light they'd noticed before in the sky seemed to be getting bigger. White recalled:

“[The light] was about the size of a full harvest moon.... As we got closer, it grew larger. ...When we were a few hundred yards from it, I turned off the ignition and we coasted up close to it... It was huge, the size of a very big barn. I got out of the car...for a better look. For some unknown reason, Jan turned on the headlights, and this light went up in the sky as fast as my eyes could follow it... Then I saw another small light, bright orange with a tinge of yellow, white, and blue falling from it... I climbed the incline and went over to where I thought it might have hit. I found a groove in the ground about 18 inches deep and 9 inches wide. I followed the groove and there it lay... it was still glowing.³

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I UNDERSTOOD THE WHOLE TEXT

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