

Responding to Claims about Alien UFOs: A Brief List of Resources on the Web

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For decades, the media have given attention to sensational claims that vague lights in the sky are actually extra-terrestrial spacecraft. Recently, there's been a flurry of misleading publicity about UFOs on military photographs. A sober examination of these claims reveals there is a lot LESS to them than first meets the eye: when there's enough evidence, UFO claims can be explained by terrestrial or celestial phenomena (including lights from human craft and re-entering space junk).

- Colavito, J. "How Washington Got Hooked on Flying Saucers" (good social history in *The New Republic*): <https://newrepublic.com/article/162457/government-embrace-ufos-bad-science>
- Mick West key article: <https://news.yahoo.com/aliens-havent-landed-why-skeptical-090251254.html>
- Mick West does excellent videos debunking some of the most famous recent cases:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF3UCTZiVg9wrIEzO7Om6jw> See his CNN interview about current claims: <https://twitter.com/cuomoprime/status/1395924723721285638>
- Special issue of *Skeptical Inquirer* on UFO claims: Sep/Oct 2021, vol. 45, #5: see key articles on the web at: <https://skepticalinquirer.org/volume/no-5-vol-45/>
- Robert Sheaffer's UFO Skeptic's Page: <http://www.debunker.com/ufo.html> A big collection of investigations and skeptical examinations. Updated at: <https://badufos.blogspot.com/>
- McGaha, J. & Nickell, J. "The UFO Identification Process" from *Skeptical Inquirer* 2018: https://skepticalinquirer.org/2018/11/ufo_identification_process/
- Fraknoi, A. UFO's: A Lot Less than Meets the Eye (short overview): https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258377682_UFO's_A_Lot_Less_than_Meets_the_Eye
- Ian Ridpath UFO Skeptic Page: <http://www.ianridpath.com/ufo/ufoindex.html> British science writer investigates UFO reports, and discusses astronomical causes of UFO sightings.
- James Oberg's Space Age Myths: <https://web.archive.org/web/20210505152047/http://www.jamesoberg.com/ufo.html>
Investigation of cases by a veteran space journalist. See his useful video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdkbJ-4r2ZY>
- Amat. Astron. Tim Printy on UFO claims: <http://www.astronomyufo.com/UFO/UFO.htm>
- Shostak, S: Aliens There but not Here (a thoughtful 2020 article from *Skeptical Inquirer*): <https://skepticalinquirer.org/2020/05/aliens-there-but-not-here/>
- Alien Autopsy Hoax: <https://skepticalinquirer.org/1995/11/alien-autopsy-hoax/> Debunking video
- Gleick, J. The Doctor's Plot. (A *New York Times* reporter examines critically the work of John Mack on UFO abductions): <https://around.com/abduct.html>
- McGaha, J. & Nickell, J. "Alien Lights? At Phoenix, Stephenville & Elsewhere" from *Skeptical Inquirer* 2015 (explains some famous cases): https://skepticalinquirer.org/2015/03/alien_lights_at_phoenix_stephenville_and_elsewhere_a_postmortem/?/si/show/alien_lights_at_phoenix_stephenville_and_elsewhere_a_postmortem
- Apps to Create Your Own UFO Photos (from *Skeptical Inquirer*): https://skepticalinquirer.org/2013/11/ufo_hoaxes_theres_an_app_for_that/?/si/show/ufo_hoaxes_theres_an_app_for_that