

# HOW RARE ARE UFO SIGHTINGS?

By Pete Hartinger, Director, Roundtown UFO Society  
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In a January 24<sup>th</sup> sports article in the Circleville Herald contributor Heath Brown stated that Wednesday night, non-conference games, nearing the stretch run of the basketball season, are about as rare as a UFO sighting. I am not criticizing Heath, as he does a fine job, but I want to point out that it is rare when a UFO sighting is reported to the public. What he and the general public don't realize is that there are still many UFOs being observed, but they are not reported in the media mainstream. Granted, some of these can be explained as natural explanations, such as planes, meteors, etc. However, there are many of these that are classified as unknowns, after careful investigation. The close encounters, (within 100 feet) are the ones that stand out.

The National UFO Reporting Center located near Seattle, Washington collects many UFO sightings every day. Just go to [nuforc.com](http://nuforc.com) on your computer for this information. The Mutual UFO Network, of which I am a member, has several hundred sightings reported to them each month. As the old saying goes, "where there is smoke, there is fire." Their monthly publication is located at the Circleville Public Library in the magazine section. It has been there for many years. For other links to UFO web sites, use the [roundtownufosociety.com](http://roundtownufosociety.com) site.

Psychologically, many people don't report their personal UFO sightings because of embarrassment or the ridicule factor. There is also the fear factor of the unknown. This subject is taboo to some people. We (Ufologists) believe only 1 out of 10 will report their sightings to any agencies. I know of some people who joked about UFOs, but privately they told me of their own dramatic sightings. For instance, one person while in the U.S. Navy in the early 1960s in the Caribbean Sea and the other while driving on a Texas highway in 1965. In both cases they revealed their sightings to me, after hearing of similar observations.

This year there will a conference at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. starting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be several prominent witnesses who will divulge their own personal UFO sightings. There are countries who take UFO sightings seriously. For instance, France will arrest and fine people who hoax sighting reports.

Some people cannot accept UFO existence because of their beliefs. More scientists are now accepting the existence of life in the universe and that "we are not alone." However, some of these same scientists will not even research the possibility of them visiting Earth.

You, yourself can make your own research by asking your own family or friends, neighbors, etc. if they have ever had a UFO sighting that they could not

explain. Try the one on one approach. If you are interested you can attend our monthly meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) at the Circleville Library. We go over the latest information. It is open to the public and you don't have to be a member. It is on the second Thursday of the month and starts at 6:30p.m. RUFOS was started in January, 1989 and has had monthly meetings ever since. For additional information you can phone me at 740-474-6773 or email at rufos.com.

It is coincidental that Heath wrote in comparison about basketball and UFOs. I had the first of my 3 UFO sightings when I was going to the County Basketball Tournament at the Fairground Coliseum in Circleville in February, 1958.

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