

Story Musgrave on absence of any spaceflight UFO sightings

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XsXjFBDI-uY&feature=player_embedded

Published on Sep 29, 2014 by “Astronomy Live”: Veteran astronaut Story Musgrave gives his expert perspective on UFO claims surrounding the space shuttle at Sci-Con in Tampa, Florida, on September 28, 2014”.

Transcript courtesy of [and copyright of] Curt Collins [formatting by Oberg]

Jim Oberg comment: “Super thanks for the transcription of his chain-of-consciousness ramble!! He is known for his energetic free-roving intellect and he enjoys stretching the minds of his audiences, as here. It makes a lot of sense to me since orbital motion was my specialization in Mission Control but I can guess how weird it sounds.”

Discussed at <http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread178751/pg9#pid18484326>



I am the UFO astronaut, and I take it dead serious.

And I'm an incredible genius at analyzing what you can see and how it's going to look if it is there to see, and what stuff is, so I work incredibly hard at that.

I do the MUFON conference every two or three years and they love me.

But you know my take on it is, I've already said, there's a trillion planets out there that got life on it at least, and there's uh billions or hundreds of billions with a very advanced evolutionary strain, and I would guess there's billions that are doing interstellar travel.

My own interpretation of the evidence is it hasn't been here yet.

Now I'm very careful about saying, "my interpretation." I wasn't there for that abduction, I wasn't there for this. So I'm careful to say, my experience and my interpretation [coughing].

Uh but, like I said MUFON asks me now and then, they love what I've got to offer, I am so serious about the fact that it's everywhere out there, but I'm so serious I might becoming a super expert on how to look for and what you can see, and the interpretation of those things that you can see.

And so um, the fact that I take that so seriously is the UFO people love me, even though I disagree in some ways from them because I happen to be an evidence-based person.

But I'm careful to say, the experiences that I have had, I'm not saying you didn't have them, that's not what I'm saying. I'm saying I need to have the experience.

So STS-80 was a well known one, but it depends now... when I take a video and I'm looking at stuff and it's a hundred feet away, the video that gets out there, the reader comes back doesn't know how far away the objects were. And a lot of that stuff they put it a thousand miles away. Well the videos I took of stuff is 40 feet outside and I know it came from me, if you say it's a thousand miles away you are into a very significant phenomenon. But it's not a thousand miles away. It's right here.

I also look at trajectories. Every object I look at, I look at its trajectory to tell me if it came from me. Because if it came from me and no external thing touched it, I can simply trace its velocity back to me. There it goes, it came here.

So there's stuff like that, and at times I'll say "that thing came from nowhere." Except I know why it came from "nowhere." There's the sun back there and the massive, the massive shuttle is behind you, it casts a huge shadow but you can't see a shadow. There's no way to see a shadow, there's nothing to shadow. Unless you have an object, you can't see a shadow. So the shadow is covering up the object. And it moves out of the shadow and pop, guess it came from nowhere. Sure it did.

Or it split off into pieces and now you've got a piece reflecting a surface with the sun. So it looks like it came from nowhere.

And so you've also got to understand the orbital mechanics. That's a thousand miles away but we're flying alongside, we're flying with it. Well why would they be doing a constant rocket burn forever? The difference in orbital mechanics, it's that, you know, if it's a hundred miles below me, it's a massive amount of gas you've got to use to stay with me. You're in a different orbit, and if you're out of plane with me - but anyway, that's the kind of thinking that I do.

I have flown more satellites than probably any human on earth. I flew with two satellites that we had on STS-80. And so I studied them, I was like, there's a satellite, y'know, how do I see it, when do I see, what's the orbital mechanics if I'm going to get that satellite back. If we release it, it pulls that way, get it back, what's it look like.

Orbital mechanics, and so I take it dead seriously in terms of out there what can you see and what's this debris stuff made of. But the debris is fantastic, and so...

It doesn't have - I'll say it, I'm not saying we haven't had visitors, I'm not saying we won't have visitors, but if you look at STS-6, Challenger's first flight, and so, in the manufacture of things tools fall behind compartments where you can't get to them. You say, "well that wrench fell, you've got to go get it." "I can't get it." How

much of the spacecraft do you have to tear apart to get at it? It went, back there, so you don't go back there.

But the incredible vibrations at launch, which are not nice, vmmmm, so everything is vmmmm. And all of the sudden you throttle back to 60% and zheaaa, zero g. Hey you want to break something out? Shake the hell of out it and pop it in zero g and it'll float out. You want to get something out? It's out.

But the other little experiment you can do to make that point, is how about a gallon milk jug. And zero g you put a screw in it, that screw will get out in no time. So you got a gallon milk jug and you put a screw in the jug, how long does it take to find its way out? There's always some motion, it's not pure - it's not zero g anyway, it's a free fall condition to be physically correct. But, you just watch that screw bounce around like brownian motion, it's not brownian motion, but you watch it and it will come out through the hole.

So on the launch vmmm let's all bouncing around zheeeaaa, zero g, what, if it's going to get out it gets out.

So on Challenger's first flight, which I was on so ok right straight from the factory so to speak, in terms of the debris, I opened the doors and then God so help me it's home depot coming out. [Laughter] I'm not talking about washers nuts and bolts, I'm talking about whole tools [Laughter]. Hey man, this is slightly embarrassing, omg.

Now you watch this going down, and of course the physics is beautiful because it's got its own rotation, and you see the trajectory unless, newton's second law, something touches it it's going to go.

And then but then in and out of the shadow and other stuff is bumping into other pieces and breaking but anyway you got home depot out there but home depot is fine when it's thirty feet away. But I guarantee you, when home depot is a hundred or two hundred feet away and you got a washer that big, you know what that is, so, but I'm watching it go, but it's ok.

So I'm just saying that is a quick look at how I, what I do, with physical phenomenon how dead serious I take that world. To understand what it's going to look like, how you're going to see it, what's gonna happen, and what are the sources.

Now with every subsequent flight, I did fly on every single shuttle, I flew on Challenger again. And when the shuttle program progressed, it got to my last missions now, not one single thing. So Kennedy [Space Center] is unbelievably clean.

So on the later flights, I flew on Columbia, not one single object, not one screw not one washer, they were totally clean. [Audience: The first time they were all around you outside the vehicle] No, the first time they were everywhere. Yup. The debris. [Audience: Not inside] No, they were inside too. There was a bunch of # inside too. [Laughter] Inside's Home Depot too!

[end of transcript]

