

THE WANAUKE RESERVOIR 1966 UFO PICTURES

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In January and then again in October 1966, a UFO flap² broke out over the Wanaque Reservoir, New Jersey. There is abundant (yet poorly organized) information from newspaper and UFO journals available online.³ Over the years, there have been contradictory and misleading reviews of data about the pictures taken during this period. My main purpose with the present article is to clarify, to the best of my knowledge, when, where and by whom purported UFO photographs were taken in this location and in these timeframes. Any published images will accompany this text. My second intent is to request from my peers any additional information that may improve this report.

The January 1966 wave of sightings did generate some pictures of the alleged phenomena observed. The October uproar, on the contrary, did not.

“On the night of 11 January 1966, hundreds of residents of Wanaque, New Jersey reported observing a strange, large white light which maneuvered over the local Reservoir,” wrote *The APRO Bulletin* reporting about the phenomenon.⁴ In fact, there were many eyewitnesses, including Mayor Wolfe, Councilmen Hagstrom, Barton and Shutte, Civil Defense Director Spencer, and a number of patrolmen. In addition to many local residents, of course. The phenomenon was also seen from Oakland, Ringwood, Paterson, Totowa, Wayne, Butler and other nearby towns. Reportedly “gliding oddly” and changing color from white to red and back to white, as a very brilliant light “like a star except that it didn’t flicker.” There are many press and UFO magazine articles on this sighting but the information is so confused and the case so inappropriately investigated that it is difficult to assemble a clear, detailed, accurate and sequential picture for analysis.

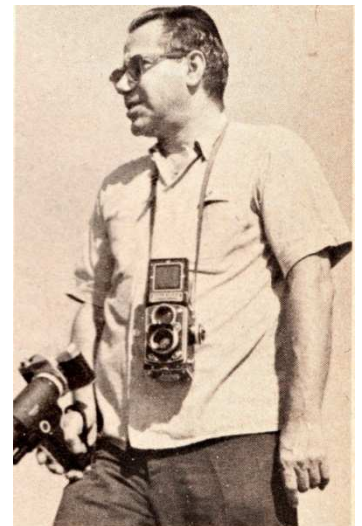
Probably the clearest chronology of the course of the January 1966 events is in an article published in the October 1966 issue of *FATE* magazine.⁵ Incidentally, I am wondering if this release could have triggered the October UFO revival in Wanaque (of course, this would depend upon when the magazine arrived in the mail).

January 11, 1966 – Roberts

According to *FATE*, a magazine devoted to paranormal phenomena since 1948, it all began at 6:20 p.m. when an initial report of “something in the sky” came into Ringwood “and a flurry of reports followed between 6:30 and 9:00 p.m.” [All times EST-Eastern Standard Time]. UFO reports arose from many cities in the northeast of the Garden State. Photographer and UFO buff August C. Roberts, living in nearby Wayne, NJ took a five-minute time exposure of the “light” at 11:30 p.m. on the first day of sightings. The photograph’s caption informs that it “clearly shows object brighter and larger than stars.” The magazine reports that Roberts “captured the

UFO as it vanished straight up from a position above Raymond Dam...the object...leaving a trail of light," yet this description does not fit what the actual image shows, a simple dot of light in the upper left-hand section of the picture.

A much better reproduction of this photograph was printed in a booklet coauthored by UFO writer Brad Steiger and August Roberts.⁶ Here, the surprisingly brief information provided about the picture merely says that the glowing object in the snapshot "simply appeared, hovered a few minutes, then shot off once more into space." As veteran ufologists are aware, the reliability of Roberts is in question because of a number of suspicious pictures he produced or with which he was involved.



Left: picture taken by August C. Roberts, January 11, 1966, Wanaque, NJ.
Right: photographer August C. Roberts.
© Brad Steiger & August C. Roberts.⁶

Yet a truly remarkable revelation about this picture is provided by journalist Lloyd Mallan, who included the above photo in the series of three articles he wrote for a known magazine. "Only when photographer...was printing the shot did he notice bright white light above hills."⁷ Thus, according to this source, the point of light in the picture was never observed visually.

In a later recollection of the Wanaque incidents, Roberts confirmed it. He wrote about this particular shot: "when I was taking pictures of the area, I took some pictures of the sky, and my pictures have 'star trails'...but in one of the pictures, there is a definite 'glow' way up in the sky. Something lit up and went out. I don't know what it was in there with the star trails."⁸

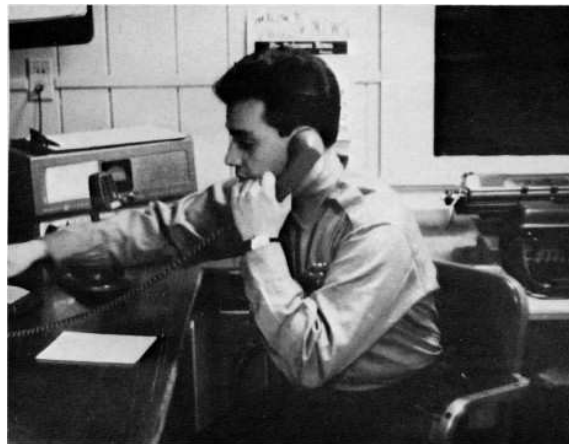
The white spot labelled “UFO” could just be a developing flaw or a stain on the negative or print. Three reasons support this hypothesis. Firstly, nothing strange was optically seen during the photography. Secondly, the shot presents many other similar white dots all over the frame, typical of faulty processing and/or handling of the film. Thirdly, another time-exposure photograph taken by Roberts eleven days later also shows this type of spot and this one passed unnoticed by the photographer (see the relevant entry below).

January 12, 1966 – Theodora

20-year-old reservoir policeman Charles Theodora first spotted an object from the Reservoir Station a few minutes after seven o’clock on January 11, 1966, “the size of a street light...it raced about six miles up and down the dam at supersonic speed. At one point, it flashed a ray of light on the ice. When Patrolman Al Campana and I rushed to investigate, we found a hole in the ice about 40 to 50 feet in diameter.”⁵

The January 1966 spate of sky visions comprised a lot of misstatements and false information. If it was due to the observer or the reporter’s imagination, I do not know, but the “hole in the ice” canard was one of the most conspicuous. Both the chief of the reservoir police force (John Casazza) and newsman Howard L. Ball vigorously denied it to Lloyd Mallan, special correspondent sent by *Science & Mechanics* to the area: “we checked that whole area where the thing was supposed to be...there was no such thing as a hole burned in the ice,” and “That’s poppycock! That’s balderdash!” they said, respectively.⁹

After hours of observation, at 2 a.m. (or 2:40) Theodora snapped a photograph of the object “in which it appears as a light blur against the background of the dark sky.”⁵ He watched the object until 4:30 a.m. with other officers: “Danced from side to side, blinked on and off, or at times ascended at such a fast rate that he couldn’t track it, for 2½ hours, after it headed into the north and disappeared into the rim of the dam.”⁴ Theodora had a third sighting, at 8:00 on the evening of January 12.



Officer Charles Theodora.¹⁰

In 2011, retired Officer Theodora confirmed to ufologist Anthony Braglia¹¹ that he took a photograph, the image looking “as a very large bright white ‘unnatural’ object floating above a hill in the distance.” On a report that Michael Swords blogged in 2013, he pointed out that Theodora was in the company of two other policer officers, David Sisco and Jack Wardlaw and that “the print showed only a small fuzzy light.”¹²

If the camera used was a *Polaroid*, loaned from the police department station, and it merely depicted a blob of light, it is difficult to believe the claim by A. Roberts that he wanted \$200.00 for it. "The Police Captain was trying to get him some money for publication."⁸ Roberts acts purely as a gossip-scatter, rumor-feeder individual.

Wanaque Police Chief John Casazza met Officer Theodora and Sergeant Ben Thompson with a uniformed Air Force officer. Theodora was ordered to hand him the photograph, because it was "Government property".¹² However, after an "exhaustive research," reporter Mallan "could find no evidence whatever that any department of the U.S. Government has sent a UFO investigator to Wanaque."⁹



Sgt. Ben Thompson and Chief John Casazza. © *World Journal Tribune*.

In January 1967, writer John A. Keel released a press column quoting a statement by Col. George P. Freeman, Pentagon spokesperson for Project Bluebook, concerning police officers and other witnesses in Wanaque that were allegedly collected together by a man wearing an Air Force uniform. Freeman declared, "We checked in the local AFB and discovered that no one connected with the Air Force had visited Wanaque on the date in question. Whoever it was, he wasn't for the Air Force."¹³

True. There is not any Wanaque file for January 1966 in the files of the Project Blue Book. Merely a report raised by a newspaper editor from Wayne of a sighting at 6:20 p.m. on January 11, 1966, identified as aircraft. Actually, he was Howard Ball, suburban editor of the *Paterson Evening News*. The case documentation contains a "second-hand report" assumed to refer to two sightings at Wanaque. One "was observed from 1930 to 2030 on 11 Jan 66, reappeared at 0220 on 12 Jan 66, and continued for the rest of the night."¹⁴ The sighting was not officially reported to the Air Force, and only a preliminary investigation was made, concluding that the sightings had astronomical origin. Because of the time and source (calls from Mayor and Sheriff from Wanaque), we can guess that the second sighting was Theodora's sighting. Blue Book explained it as Jupiter.

If the sightings were not reported officially to the Air Force, was the uniformed officer acting on a personal basis? The Blue Book case index contains no other case file for New Jersey for that period.¹⁵ No photograph is mentioned either.

Without a photograph to examine, no evaluation is possible. However, it is unavoidable to think of an astronomical explanation for a sighting that long, on a night when, for example, the planet Jupiter was prominently visible, very bright in the sky with a magnitude of -2.54 descending from 2 a.m. in the west (35° altitude) to 4:30 a.m. in the WNW (9.5° altitude) on January 12, 1966. Jupiter set at 5:30 a.m. This seems to be a reasonable working hypothesis for the picture event.



The sky over Wanaque, January 12, 1966, Jupiter position at 2:10 (top) and 4:30 a.m. (bottom). "O" ("Oeste") stands for West. (*Stellarium* software). Courtesy of J.C. Victorio Uranga.



The multiple sightings in this NJ area developed in four basic periods, mainly over two days in the most intense moments, in the dusk and pre-dawn hours:

January 11, 1966: from 6:20 p.m. to 8:58 p.m.

January 12, 1966: from 2:10 a.m. to 4:30 a.m.

January 12, 1966: from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

January 13, 1966: around 4:10 a.m.

It is not my intention to analyze the events testing for mundane explanations, as the published database is a confusing mess, but for what it's worth, I cannot avoid noticing that these time clusters matched the outstanding appearance of Jupiter. In those time intervals, the bright planet was located at various angular heights ascending in the evening from 37° to 67° and descending in the early hours from 35° to 10°, while wandering from east (rising) to west (setting).

As consultant Wim van Utrecht has noted, "*Sirius* should not be ruled out either. The brightest star in the heavens is far more prone to atmospheric effects than Jupiter and Venus, and is often described as moving with incredible speeds up and down and from left to right and vice versa. Throughout the various sightings, the star was visible on the ESE horizon in the evening and setting in the WSW in the early morning hours."¹⁶

NICAP investigators went to the scene, assisted by Dr. John Pagano. Their final report, drafted by the end of January, asserts: "the case appears to be about 25 per cent UFO; 75 percent excited people seeing planets."¹⁷ We have to ponder to which category the Theodora sighting belongs.

January 11-12, 1966 – Cisco (no photography)

Patrolman Joseph Cisco of Wanaque "had made similar photos at the time, though less clear than those by his colleague." This claim, surely made by August Roberts appears both in an article published by *Probe*¹⁸ and in the story printed in the front page of a Paterson, NJ newspaper in October 1966.¹⁹ The colleague alluded to is the police officer who allegedly took the "beam photo" to which I will refer later. The story repeatedly cites the flying saucers that plagued the Wanaque Reservoir in "February" [*sic*] 1966. As the numerous observations of the January 11-12 night are not mentioned at all, I am confident that this is an error. Therefore, the supposed pictures by Cisco had to be taken in January 1966, probably the same night his buddy Theodora took his.

In fact, Joe Cisco reported observing the UFO at about 6:45 p.m. on January 11. It looked light a star or a planet "but the movement and intensity of the light made him question his own observation."⁵ From their house, Mrs. Cisco also spotted the object "at the same time his husband did...until its disappearance at 4:15 a.m." on the following day. Nine and a half hours hanging in the sky! Certainly, it behaves like one or more astronomical bodies. In addition to Jupiter, we also have *Sirius*. The star visible both days around the SE (evening) and between SW and WSW (night

and pre-dawn hours) at angular altitudes not higher than 24°. Van Utrecht feels, however, that Venus is a better candidate for Joe Cisco's sighting: "In the evening of January 11, Venus with magnitude -3.99 was very close to the horizon in the WSW. My guess is that Jupiter was responsible for the final part of the sighting. It is important to realize that stars and planets at elevations over 20° almost never generate UFO reports, being too high in the sky for them to be interpreted as "strange", even if they are brighter than stars that are seen close to the horizon."¹⁶

30 years later, ex-cop Cisco, then a dispatcher for the Wanaque Reservoir police, does not acknowledge having snapped any UFO picture. He perfectly recalls that on the night of January 11, 1966 he was patrolling the zone when a call asked him to "check out a light" at the local sandpit. The police desk had been flooded with calls about bright lights. In a retrospective interview,²⁰ Cisco says he just spotted a blue-white bright light, silently hovering. Cisco and some city officials watched the light for half an hour before it zoomed away toward Wayne. Nevertheless, Cisco looks at his memories from a skeptic mindset: "There was no light beam [emitted by the object]," he believes people were seeing a reflection from a barn light across the main dam.

In the absence of any recognition of pictures taken by him, we can discard this police officer as a possible source for UFO photos at Wanaque.



Officer Joe Cisco.⁹

January 13, 1966 – Goodavage

This time, the purported photo evidence of a UFO is presented in an article by Joseph Goodavage, "American journalist, writer and astrologer,"²¹ intended to review the UFO sightings around the Wanaque Reservoir in January 1966. Just the first sentence of his account states: "I shook a little with excitement, but kept the lens of the camera fixed on that disc-shaped phenomenon flashing red in the cold night sky of northern New Jersey."¹⁰ Later on in the article, Goodavage explains that while he was taking snapshots: "My fingers were numb and the shutter clunked dully in the

cold as I sighted on the aerial object...I followed this apparently aimless movement, trying to get a decent picture.”

We can deduce that at 10 p.m. of January 13, 1966, he was standing in the open air by the Reservoir, while Patrolman Joe Cisco, who drove him to the site, was awaiting in the cop car. “For about 20 minutes the object was pasted motionless against the sky. Then it fluttered-wobbled slowly off toward the west,”¹⁰ Goodavage affirmed. He devoted the first part of his article to narrate this sighting, the deep impression it produced on him (“the object...to me looked totally alien”), and the associated physical reactions he claimed to feel after the sudden vanishing of the object.



Joseph Goodavage.²¹

The witness took picture after picture during the observation. “Got any pictures?” Officer Cisco asked when Goodavage returned to the warmth of the car. “I don’t know,” the journalist replied. Can we suppose they did not turn out? The only alleged UFO picture illustrating the piece (see following entry) has a caption that starts saying that the author “saw but failed to film the ‘thing’.”

As in the Theodora unseen photographs, the event is difficult to assess. Size of “about a quarter of the Moon”. Motionless at first, then slowing and moving to the west until it turned off as you switch off a light. Over 20 minutes in view. What a sight! Celestial charts show a bright Jupiter very high in the sky (72°) over the southern horizon (azimuth 185°), moving westbound. *Sirius* was also present with magnitude -1.45 and much lower (30° altitude) in the SSE. The observer described periods of immobility as well as dramatic movements and changes in brightness. Fast movements over short angles and changes in brightness are typical of bright stars, not planets, which would make *Sirius* better candidate for this one. Autokinesis may also have been in play, but in the absence of a robust inquiry (we are not being told where the witness was exactly and what direction he was looking at), no definitive judgement can be advanced.

January 13+, 1966 – unnamed cameraman

This is the story of a blunder, or a bloomer. Now, the purported UFO picture appears in the frontispiece of the cited article by Goodavage with only the shortest possible data: “Author...was given this photo by cameraman who had better luck.” Period. Okay, the journalist did not take the photo; he just used it to illustrate his article. Nevertheless, he is to blame for that. Why?

In the following issue of the same UFO tabloid, the letter from a reader was published revealing that the picture in particular “is a very familiar sight to most amateur astronomers...this is an underexposed photograph of Messier 31 (NGC 224) a spiral galaxy showing the inner portions of the arms and the central nucleus. The galaxy is better known as ‘The Great Andromeda Nebula’.”²²



UFO over Wanaque?¹⁰

There is a recent indication that the camera operator “was with the *Paterson Evening News*,”²³ but no other details have been ascertained.

What it is certain is that the image does not display a UFO at all. Tim Printy, skeptic researcher and astrophotographer, wrote –“Yes, somebody tried to pass off a photograph of the Andromeda Galaxy (perhaps taken from a textbook) as a UFO photograph!”²⁴ Printy used an image he took himself to compare with the UFO photo in the Goodavage article: “If you look closely, you will see all the stars in my photograph match up with the stars in the UFO image,” he advised.



Real Andromeda galaxy versus UFO picture. © Tim Printy.²⁴

January 19, 1966 – Phoenix

The *Wayne Eagle* of Sunday January 23, 1966 published on the cover of this day's edition a poor looking photograph, under a full-page garish title: UFO Sightings Continue Unexplained. Wayne is located just 4.6 miles southwest of the reservoir. The only information available is the following commentary under the picture: "Although it may appear to be a speck in the sky, this photograph shows what thousands of area people are talking about these days. Matzner Suburban Newspaper Photographer George Phoenix, Jr. made this photograph from the rear of his home off Rouse 23 in Butler Wednesday night as the bright object dashed back and forth across the sky. Whether it is the object seen by others over the Wanaque Reservoir lately is undetermined."

Very undetermined, yes. No time, no direction, no duration, no angular height. In the reproduction I am showing here, the speck is not even visible. Just an opportunist picture of the staff photographer who did not even bother to drive to the reservoir, just got out to his backyard and that's it. If an astronomical object or a Martian saucer, who knows?



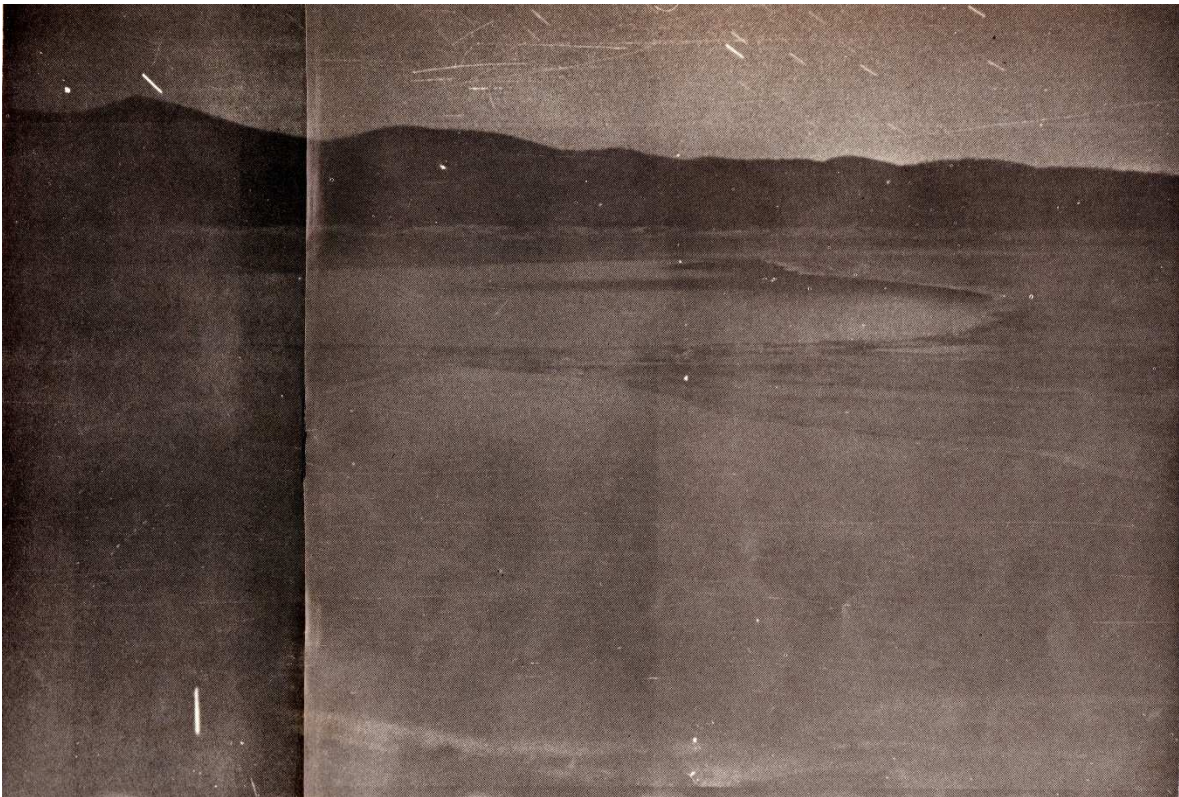
The Wayne UFO. © George Phoenix, Jr.

January 22, 1966 – Roberts

In his joint publication with Steiger, August Roberts includes another photograph of his taken at the Wanaque dam. It contains the bare minimum possible of information, just the picture's caption, with the following account: "the light in the lower left-hand corner...moving about under the ice of the Wanaque, New Jersey reservoir."⁶ The reader is led to believe that the UFO image is a short, vertical streak of light found in the said position. The picture is undated and untimed. The supposed witnesses that

were with him are unnamed. An underwater UFO? Looks like an over-imaginative story. It is in a bulletin edited by ufologist Hayden Hewes that we first saw this photograph introduced. In an article on the Wanaque incident, it indicates that it was taken exactly at 11:30 p.m. on January 22, 1966."²⁵

In a joint book self-published twenty years later, Roberts described his supposed experience in the following terms: "I went up there in February 1966 [*sic*] with another fellow [naturally, unnamed]. That was when we saw this thing under the ice, coming towards us, I have a picture of it, and all it shows is a streak. We had the camera on a tripod...it was a frightening kind of a thing, because it is not a reflection. What we saw under that ice was between 6 and 10 feet long. It was quite a ways off from us when we first saw it, and it came 'shimmering' up under the ice towards us [up to 100 or 200 feet away, it stopped and ...then it was gone after I got the photo."⁸



Wanaque, NJ January 22, 1966. © August C. Roberts.⁶

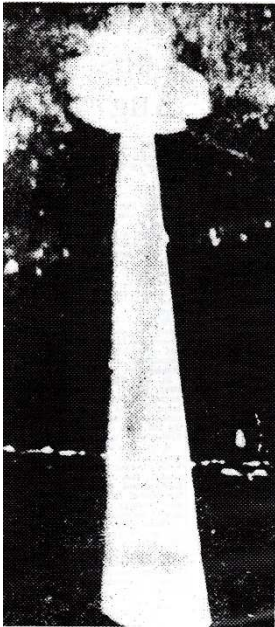
It is believed that this upright white track may be a stain or a small scratch on the film. The print shows several other white dots and smaller streaks all over.²⁶

What about the tale? Well, it is certain is that the credibility of August Roberts has always been questioned. For example, in his own review of the Wanaque incidents, Michael Swords—far from being a “debunker”—characterized Roberts as a “UFO mischief-maker...with no regard for truth.”¹²

Incidentally, a light spot on the far left upper extreme of the image—identical to the alleged UFO displayed on his January 11 picture—, is not considered anomalous this time: is it a simple developing flaw—as it is probably in the first case as well?

The reason why this picture was made after the “flap” was exhausted? A UFO bulletin reported that Roberts, who lived in Wayne, near Wanaque, “spent many cold winter nights perched on the dam waiting for the object to return.”²⁷

January 1966 (est.) – Roberts?



The Wanaque Saucer?

In addition to the flurry of UFO reports close to the Wanaque Reservoir, New Jersey on January 1966, which generated several pictures or phony news about photos, the most infamous UFO shots associated with this reservoir are the “beam photographs”. They show the white silhouette of a disc-shaped object with a cupola over a dark background, dropping a searchlight-like beam from the bottom. These pictures have been generally linked to the January 1966 sightings.

These are a certainly convoluted set of photographs. In addition to the fact that they lack any valid information for due analysis, including the actual photographer’s identity, their origin is contradictory. Again, August C. Roberts, photographer and known producer of fakes and distributor of false UFO pictures, plays a key role in their dissemination. The chronology of these photos follows.

The night of October 10, 1966 started another series of UFO sightings over the Wanaque reservoir.^{3,28} *The Morning Call* of Paterson, New Jersey, published the following photograph on its October 13, 1966 front-page edition¹⁹. The caption reads:

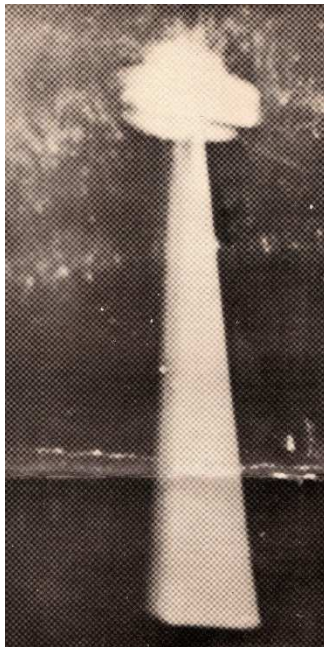
The Wanaque Saucer?
This exclusive photo shows one of the Unidentified Flying objects that dozens of witnesses saw hovering above Wanaque Reservoir last February [*Sic*] and again Monday. The familiar saucer shape stands out against the dark mountain, while the shore line shows in the middle of the picture, visible through the twin beams of light that stabbed the darkness, melting the thick, mid-winter ice, according to police reports, according to police reports. Picture was made by a patrolman, who says he surrendered negatives to Air Force investigators. Picture was given to *The Morning Call* by August Roberts of Wayne.

Seemingly, the initial date is February 1966, but we know that the prior “wave” of sightings in the area occurred in January. In a column on page 8, it says that a Wanaque police officer made a batch of pictures “with a simple, inexpensive camera.” According to the newspaper’s source, “negatives” were “taken by the Blue Book investigators” (either a full invention, or it refers to the meeting between a

supposed USAF officer with patrolmen Casazza, Thompson and Theodora, see the entry of January 12, 1966 above).

It adds that “Patrolman Joseph Sisco [there was a David Sisco and a Joe Cisco] said he made similar photos at the time, though less clear than those made by his colleague, who asked to remain anonymous.” We know Cisco did not snap any photos and that patrol officers used instant cameras with no negatives. Brief, poor and incorrect information.

The next time this shot appears in print was in a large-format, 64-page magazine coauthored by Steiger & Roberts.⁶ Once more, information is deficient and the statement that that the photograph “was taken in Pennsylvania, in 1961” just about sums up the mess. August Roberts himself insists: “It has been erroneously associated with the UFO flap above the Wanaque Reservoir.” Then, Wanaque 1966 or Pennsylvania 1961?

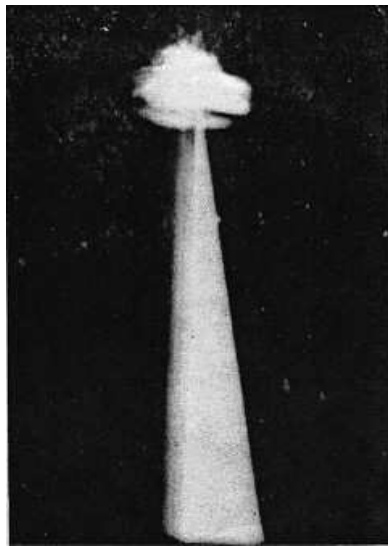
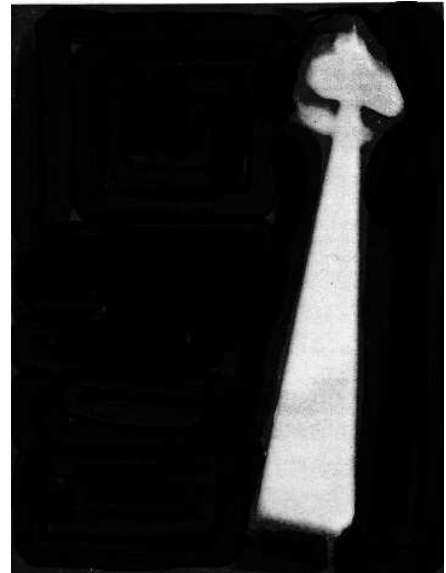
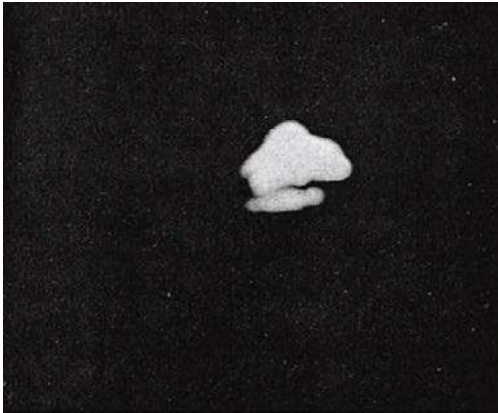


Pennsylvania, 1961.⁶

When the editors of a typical flying saucer bulletin of the sixties reviewed the Wanaque UFO outbreak of October 1966, they started remembering the past “February” [sic] plague. Undoubtedly influenced by Roberts, they gave the wrong date to the photo. “The negative of the photo at right [not published], is in the hands of Blue Book investigators...”¹⁸ These are the same words found in the *Morning Call* quote. Roberts must have written a text and distributed it to all who wanted to hear.

Half a year later, a Dell’s magazine devoted to flying saucers published a sensational article. “The photos on these two pages were said to have been taken during the March 1966 [sic] sightings. The original negatives are said to have been confiscated by the government and the photographer refuses to give his name. The heavy ray

descending from the UFO is one claimed to have burned a 10 foot hole in the two inches of ice that covered the reservoir.”²⁹ The ice hole myth survives. Also, the confiscation theme (this one, on the most generous interpretation, belongs to another event.) While all pictures seem to represent the same scene, the caption of the third signals that some claim it was taken in Pennsylvania and others in Wanaque.



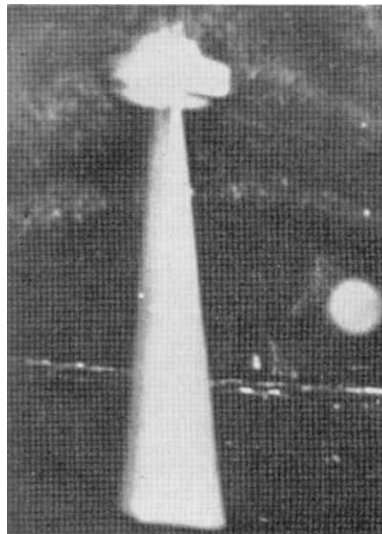
Clockwise, the five pictures of the UFO and beam scene.²⁹

The Pennsylvania connection

Now, a twist of facts. B.C. is a multi-experienced UFO-sighter, investigated by Berthold Schwarz, a psychiatrist and ufologist of Montclair, New Jersey. In an article in the foremost UFO journal at the time (1972), Dr. Schwarz reported on four UFO episodes recounted by B.C.³⁰ In one of these, this man attributed four of the five above photos to a sighting he had experienced with several others—including an

unknown amateur photographer from a local town—during one unspecified midnight in 1958 near Archbald, Pennsylvania. All, except the fifth one. B.C. got prints one year and a half after the close encounter. Prints were submitted (presumably by Schwarz) to August Roberts, who recognized the photos “as being previously published.” As Roberts expressed doubts about date and State in his own booklet with Steiger⁶ and especially in the Dell publication,²⁹ it obviously means that by 1967 he was already aware of the Pennsylvania set of photos.

Dr. Schwarz continues his report with an astonishing assertion: “Only part of the fifth picture is published [see above pack of five, lower, left-hand margin]. The complete fifth picture, hitherto unpublished, is from the files of August C. Roberts.”³⁰ This is the full photo #5:



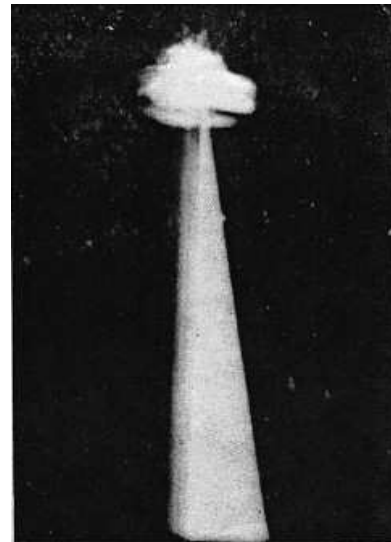
Contrary to what we knew up to now, all pictures were taken in Pennsylvania in 1958, except the fifth. Apparently, photo #5 shows landscape details fitting with the Wanaque Reservoir environment, “unlike the other four pictures.” Why Roberts decided to eliminate the round white object from the picture is not known. Dr. Schwarz writes that, according to Roberts, the original photographer presented the “five” photos to the publication, and he tracked the mystery photographer down but “he was unable to prove conclusively that this man had taken any or all the pictures.”

In his article, Dr. Schwarz is confusing, ambiguous and very speculative with regard to the photos (and extremely gullible with respect to UFO stories narrated by the witnesses he interviewed.) In addition to the Archbald, PA incident, whose photos both B.C. and co-witness “Rob” received from the unknown photographer, there seems to be other pictures taken by none other than an unnamed New Jersey contactee! Everybody is anonymous in this story! In a footnote, Dr. Schwarz tells about another series of similar photos. “Rob was visibly shocked at the time I interviewed him and he examined the silent contactee X’s photographs of an alleged UFO with a changing and cut off beam of light. Although Rob had never before seen X’s pictures, they resembled what he had seen in actuality when he was with B.C., near Archbald, Pennsylvania, in 1958 and his own set of photographs.”

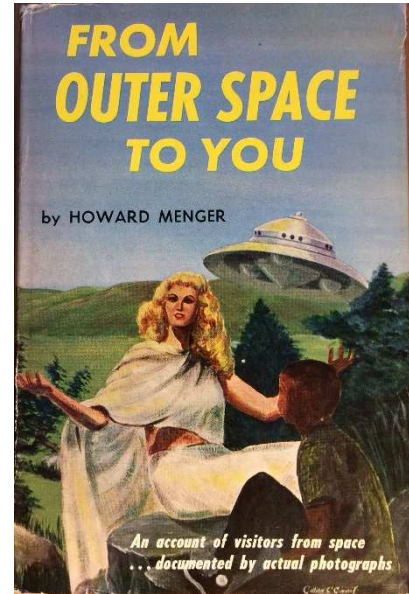
In summary, the unknown photographer of the 1958 Archbald event took photos of a UFO emitting a ray of light from the bottom; B.C. and “Rob” had sets of four of these pictures. These appear to be identical to both (1) those taken by a “silent contactee” in northern New Jersey—undated, and (2) to four of the five photos printed in October 1967.

The article by Schwarz revealed an important clue: in 1958, the source called “B.C.” was involved with outspoken, public, naïve contactee Howard Menger of High Bridge, New Jersey. He was one of this gang of individuals in the United States who in the fifties claimed to have contact with extraterrestrials, fly in their spacecraft, visit their worlds, etc. It was a period of lots of flying saucer scams in the country. Recently, it was discovered that one of the various faked probative films devised by Menger in late 1950s contained image elements similar to the ones under scrutiny.¹⁶

This is a frame from one of the films by Menger; allegedly made in the Blue Mountains, Pennsylvania, 1958.³¹ The vague dog-mouth appearance of the UFO and a vertical light track reminds one very much the light-emitting UFO of the Wanaque 1966 series.



Menger was described—in a comment written in his obit—as “one of the most charming and colorful of the golden era UFO contactees,”³² Maybe. In addition to being a smoke-selling charlatan and trickster, without the slightest doubt, who fabricated stories as well as pictures and films.



Left: Howard Menger and reincarnated Venusian wife.³³
Right: Cover of the first book by H. Menger. Courtesy of Clas Svahn (AFU).

Therefore, the connection Pennsylvania 1958-Wanaque 1966 does exist, after all. Photographs similar to the Wanaque series might have existed years before 1966. Probably a degree more sophisticated than the simple film aired by Menger. What else is important not to miss in this puzzle? That old August C. Roberts was, during the late 1950s, an associate and a close friend to Menger! In his 1967 booklet (page 27),⁶ Roberts shows how UFO fakes can easily be executed with darkroom techniques and describes his procedure: first, painting a plastic model of a saucer with luminous paint, then, superimposing the glowing saucer against the selected background. This is the result:



This method is the one that could have been used to achieve the PA/NJ pictures. By the way, Menger was a sign painter.

August C. Roberts reporting

Twenty years after the Wanaque events, a gullible book of UFO photographs revamped the NJ pictures. Based on a report by the same August Roberts,⁸ it is written in a novel-like, vague style probably quoted directly from a recorded interview by Wendelle Stevens and contains memory lapses (for example, everything seems to start in “late” January 1966). Roberts relates that someone was rumored to have taken a picture of the UFO. During his investigation, he managed to obtain the photograph we know as #5 (complete, this is, with the round object at the right side). Finally, he “tracked down the people involved in it.” When he thought to have found the person—“one of the Police”—, he visited and interrogated him to get a confession that he was the author. “No, I wasn’t,” the alleged photographer responded repeatedly. However, the man (never identified by name) told Roberts to come back in a couple of days. In the next visit, this person “showed me other pictures than the ones [one?] that I had. I think it was four or five more. I do have copies of those photos now, and I had gotten them through a different source at later time.” Roberts states that the man in question did not identify the actual photographer because he did not know him. He was clear “he wanted nothing more with me from that point forward.”⁸

If we are to believe this story, it was before Dell’s UFO magazine published the five photos in October 1967.²⁸ Also, whoever this person was, he just happened to have prints taken by a third party. Apparently, copies of this series (or similar series) of photographs were circulating at the time.

The book published the five photographs. They were dated as taken “late January 1966”.

Present-day resurgence

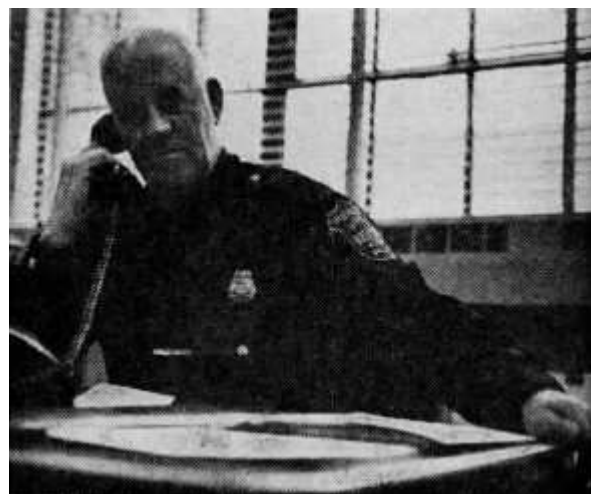
The Wanaque photos did not generate any fresh input in the following 25 years, until a June 2011 blog entry by US ufologist Anthony Braglia.³⁴ Concerning the five photos published, it confirms that “some of the photographs found their way to the late...August C. Roberts.” It reveals that the magazine *Flying Saucers. UFO Reports*²⁹ received the pictures “claiming to be of the craft and beam seen there. The submitter wished no compensation and acknowledgement and did not seek any compensation.”

In a further entry, Braglia reports that officer Theodora “believes it’s possible that his former colleague Sgt. Ben Thompson took photographs of the Wanaque UFO.”³⁵ At the end of the day, nevertheless, this is an unsubstantiated suspicion, notwithstanding that special guest August Roberts “later stated that he received them [the Wanaque beam pictures] from an anonymous, unnamed Ringwood, NJ police officer.” The same Roberts who submitted the series of Wanaque photos that appeared in Dell’s October 1967 publication, Braglia wrote. At this point in time, the blogger held the hypothesis that Sgt. Thompson took the shots and sent them to Roberts.

Incidentally, I have asked 82-year-old Brad Steiger, associated with Roberts in the editing of a magazine in 1967, to look back in time, and he recalls well a “quiet, polite, and unassuming” Augie Roberts, who would “submit the [Wanaque] photos to all UFO publications extant in the late 1960s... [although] I do not remember that he claimed to have taken them.”³⁶

It opened the Pandora box again. In 2013, emeritus professor Michael Swords made a detailed literature review of the Wanaque sightings in his own blog.^{11,37,38} Rich Reynolds from the RRR Group released a debate with Bragalia on those takes, with opinions pro and con.³⁹ Nothing definitive transpired, however. “I have already looked into the 1961 PA claim-not true. Steiger [actually Roberts] is completely wrong. I traced the story in its entirety,” Bragalia wrote in a February 21, 2013 comment there.

Especially interesting was a contribution by Lance Moody: “Bob Zanotti was a young man very interested in UFO's during the time. He had the Coffee Klatsch show WFMU and often interviewed UFO personalities. Bob and Augie went up to the Wanaque reservoir a few days after the UFO reports and interviewed all of the principals. The fresh testimony on that show sounds different from the way the story was later told...A photo is mentioned. But it was taken by two reporters. The reporters who got the photo were from the *Patterson Call*....NOT a policeman as Tony has concocted. I asked Bob's his thoughts on the photo. He replied [my emphasis]: *To your question: That photo is either an outright fraud, or perhaps, to be kinder, only a depiction of what had been reported, made perhaps by a local newspaper. That was common in those days. I agree that it cannot be a real photograph. If Augie were alive, I suspect he might know about it.*”⁴⁰



Left: Radio journalist Zanotti at Wanaque, January 1966.⁶
Right: Chief John Casazza at desk. © *Science & Mechanics*.⁷

Analysis

Well, sort of. In the absence of originals, sighting and camera data little can be accomplished. However, some valid opinions have been aired. To begin with, a comment to the original 2011 Bragalia blog's entry by a reader initialized E.H. (missed in the 2017 reprint). He reviewed the photograph published by Steiger & Roberts⁶ and wrote: "The left side of the craft is indistinct and does not match the right side, yet there is little evidence of motion blur, indicating a short exposure or a static subject (more likely the latter given it is supposed to be a night shot and it has a properly-exposed background). On the whole, it looks like a fake produced by dodging a print (using an opaque or partially transparent object to reduce exposure in a defined area of photographic paper). There is a faint line coming from the 4 o'clock position on the craft which may be the support wire used to hold the cutout used to do the dodging."

Tim Printy, who has gained an authority in the analysis of both old and new UFO sighting reports, bets for a "photo montage,"⁴¹ based on the cartoon appearance of the image. Consulted, image analyst Andrés Duarte feels it is "a model."⁴² Both experts agree that there is nothing to prove (or disprove, I rush to add) those views.

Dr. Swords was very clear when commenting upon the pictures. "My opinion only: the infamous light beam photos are probably an Augie Roberts hoax. He claims that he got these things from someone else but would not name nor describe anything about them...Roberts was one of the least dependable "idiots" in UFO history, ruining everything he touched and not caring."³⁷

Anyway, the integrity of the beam photographs is below zero, as "the original story for the 'beam' story was a misquoted engineer, Fred Stein, who clearly debunked the misquote,"³⁸ according to Swords. Regarding the hole-in-the ice story, it has also been proven bogus by Chief Casazza. In fact, NICAP's bulletin published that Stein saw the UFO's glow reflecting from ice in the water. He added: "Garbling of this report evidently caused a widely published account that a beam from the UFO had cut a large hole in the ice."⁴³

Yet it is always fun and encouraging to see how both skeptics and believers coincide in a common judgement.

Originals from the photographer?

The latest chapter in this unfinished record until now dates from October 2017. A significant discovery by Anthony Bragalia. He affirms he has finally identified the person who took the five famous photographs! It was someone by the name of Claude Coutant, Bloomingdale, 46 at the time and a "factory worker for a rubber mill in Butler, NJ." Coutant died in July 1985 at 65, and left no wife or children. Bragalia contributes two prints of photo number five. He states that the pictures were taken "on a cold winter night in late December 1966."⁴⁴



Alleged original prints of the photo #5 of the Wanaque "beam" series. On the back is handwritten "Winter 1966". Courtesy of Anthony Bragalia.⁴⁴

Bragalia assigns to the testimony of Wanaque Reservoir Police Chief John Casazza, 61, the major support for the real existence of a sighting which in his opinion would mirror the "beam" pictures. This is an extract of Casazza's tape-recorded deposition to reporter Lloyd Mallan: "It was a bright white light...it was funnel-shaped...it spread out as if it were focused through a telescope. It was narrow at one end in the sky and spread out into a very wide beam as it approached our upper gate house at the dam."⁷ (Casazza was standing, in the company of other police officers, on the top of Raymond Dam, the head works of the Wanaque Reservoir.) Bragalia adds: "John Casazza, December 1966, describing the UFO that he viewed while it was photographed by a nearby resident."⁴⁴ Checking this with Bragalia himself, he confirms that it was taken at Wanaque and offers as authority for this assertion...Casazza's son, 51 years after the event.⁴⁵

Some clarifications seem indispensable. Firstly, the above sighting occurred after 9:00 p.m. on January 11, 1966, as Mallan clearly reports, not December. Secondly, Casazza also declared that *this light had been seen several times at the reservoir that evening but no one had paid too much attention to it* (my emphasis). Thirdly, the same light had been there about 20 minutes before, Casazza was viewing it for some minutes and it lasted about half an hour more: one hour with "no motion...it seemed to stay stationary over one spot in the reservoir."⁷

Long-duration sightings of this type are normally compatible with the observation of an astronomical object. We do not know the viewing direction: if it was southeast,

there were two potential culprits. A white, motionless light could be Jupiter, at its maximum radiance (-2.54) located at an altitude of 67°. The most probable, conspicuous *Sirius* being visible lower (24°), less brilliant (-1.45 magnitude) but radiating its characteristic multi-colored flashes.

As regards the upside-down funnel shape, the effect of cold winter conditions on the eyes may produce optical distortions of this type, as Belgian professor M. Minnaert explained in a master work.⁴⁶

On the other hand, we cannot forget the illusion phenomena which cause observers to distort and miscalculate their sightings,⁴⁷⁻⁵¹ or bona fide UFO eyewitnesses to exaggerate or inflate recollections of their observations.^{52,53}

I have asked a panel of researchers and image experts that I respect to pronounce about the validity of the “unique colorization analysis” presented in the latest Bragalia entry. Their assessments follow:

1. *My opinion on the ‘unique colorization process’ and the ‘analysis’ that supposedly reveals ‘three-dimensional figures or forms floating within the light shaft’: Fantastic garbage. The process is really only heightening contrast, quantized in a grey-scale. Just turning the result into pretty colors does not generate any new information. There’s no reason to think the density pattern produced is any more than a map of some gross brightness variations in the source (whatever it is) broken up by random ‘noise’ in the emulsion chemistry and processing. The noise probably masks any useful information. I do not think it tells you anything.*⁵⁴

2. *Nothing is said about what software was used to color the gray tones of the photo, I find it strange that this technique, or another, is used to find supposed hidden things in the “ray” of light. Besides, the light is overexposed and lacks any details (I think nothing hidden can be extracted from there), it is an analog picture (film) that has been digitized and, in the process, it will have lost quality and artifacts have emerged. The so-called three-dimensional figures in the retouched image are rather pareidolia.*⁵⁵

3. *I feel this ‘analysis’ simply highlights noise in high contrast. As I understand it, the process is just changing a monotonous gray scale for luminous intensity (the more luminosity, the whiter; the less luminosity, the blacker), for a color scale. This usually helps to see details that are not evident in a gray scale. However, that does not imply any relation with ‘three-dimensional shapes’. A photograph is a 2D representation, it losses 3D information. The ‘colorization process’ only represents in color areas of more or less luminous intensity, to better differentiate more or less bright sections in the photograph, but it does not say anything about its three-dimensionality.*⁵⁶

4. *Ignoring the methods, file formats used by Christian Toussay, ignoring his knowledge of imagery, ignoring the story of the digital version of the image and the process used to obtain it, I can only say that the chessboard pattern could be due to*

*jpg compression artifacts, revealed by the false color palette used. The palette still allows highlighting the lighter areas in the "beam". In particular, that the lightest area is near the tip of the cone. Which is not inconsistent with the idea of a beam. The lumps in the tip of the "beam" may very well be only a consequence of the overall, structured background noise of the image that can be seen throughout the upper half of the image. This noise is still revealed by the chosen color palette.*⁵⁷

5. *That processing technique enhances the contrast of the irregularities of the photo, but it's just about trivial irregularities, like the granulation, inhomogeneities of the emulsion, light gradations, etc.*⁵⁸

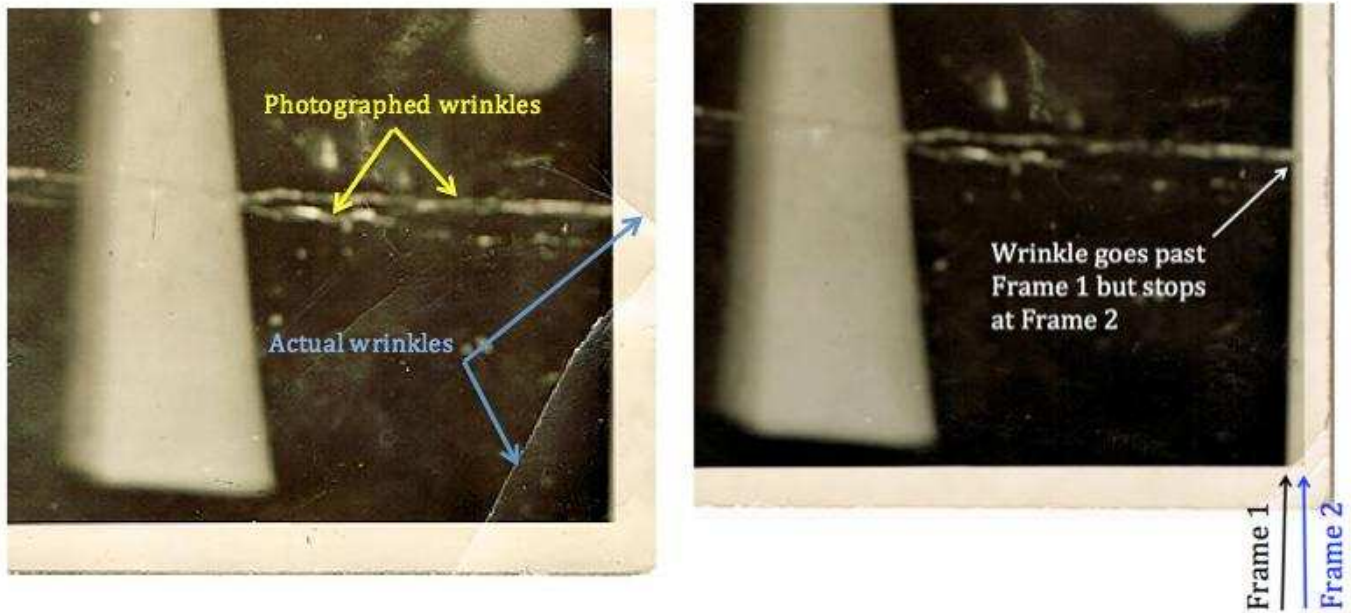
6. *Regarding the 'unique colorization analysis', it is pseudoscientific nonsense. Similar image 'analyses' were performed on other fake UFO photos to prove that there were pilots and instruments inside the photographed 'ships'. Suggesting 'three-dimensional forms' (presumably hinting here at some sort of alien presence) in the light beam is just an exercise in imagination.*¹⁶

At the same time, some of the consulted experts provided insights about the photograph itself:

1. *Based on the photo all I would want to say is that some areas of a print emulsion have been exposed to some source of light in some fashion, possibly involving a lens. Assuming it is a true optical image of something, it could be almost anything. I do not see any reliable data on camera and film type, date, time, conditions, pointing direction, location, aperture, exposure, etc., or any other collateral information of even the vaguest kind that could help to interpret the photo.*⁵⁴

2. *What appears in the image can be anything. There is no spatial reference with which to compare and the blog provides no data of the shot as focal, exposure time, sensitivity, aperture, whether or not the photo is cropped, etc.*⁵⁵

3. *With regard to the quasi-horizontal lines crossing the lower part of the beam: these are not created by light reflecting off breaking waves near the shoreline. Segments of the lines continue as darker lines inside the beam, which is impossible if this were a reflection on water behind the beam. The lines are wrinkles that are due to a glossy photograph having been folded. Oddly, they miraculously end where the picture's white frame starts (note that there are other sharper defined wrinkles at the bottom right of the brighter version of Bragalia's two prints which do run past the white frame). This proves that the prints that Bragalia obtained are actually photos from other prints, not originals. In fact, the edge of the photo that was re-photographed is visible in Bragalia's darker print, as can be seen in the image below right. One will also notice that in this print one of the wrinkles goes past the photographed frame but stops where the actual frame begins.*¹⁶



Let us come back to the ownership and the dating. Through subsequent correspondence with Bragalia⁵⁹, it was disclosed that the sole informant for the authorship and related history details is a certain M.E., a woman from the Wanaque area, formerly associated professionally with *The Star-Ledger* (Newark, New Jersey). She prefers to remain anonymous. M.E. knew about the photos in the 1990s from an unnamed woman, formerly fiancée of Claude Coutant, who told her he had taken this photo. It was in June 2011, when Bragalia posted his first blog entry on Wanaque that M.E. contacted him and emailed him scans of the prints and a photo of 18-year-old Coutant extracted from the High School Yearbook. She also provided other information she received from Coutant’s former girlfriend, who is now deceased.

Is M.E. a neutral observer, simply a casual middleperson? It seems she is not. For example, the way she interprets the images in the photograph makes you think she is a UFO fan with a tendency to fantasize. She “sees” humanoid figures in the body of the ray of light emerging from below the object. The position of consulted long-time experts in the study of UFO photographs is absolute: “This is clearly a case of pareidolia,⁶⁰ inspired no doubt by the much publicized Linda Napolitano abduction case⁶¹ (which set off a gigantic stream of artists’ renderings of beings floating in a light beam underneath a UFO).”⁶² It takes a great amount of imagination to interpret these blobs as “flying humanoids”. Dark and bright patches and streaks are present all over the image.

In spite of the fact that Bragalia repeatedly calls these pictures “originals”, these are not prints from an original negative but photographs from a photograph. Please consider how irregular it is that an amazing photograph like this lacks all proper data regarding date, location, circumstances, companionship, camera, etc. A most

impressive-looking picture with the least possible information. However, Coutant would not have faked the photographs, explains Bragalia, because, in the opinion of M.E., he was “not a very bright guy who barely graduated high school [and because he displayed] lack of ‘smarts’ and an insistence on anonymity.”⁶³ A quite tenuous argument, as there are multiple instances of “convincing” UFO photographs created by people with modest backgrounds. At the end of the day, probably he did not fake them because he did not take them.

I have requested Bragalia to share with me the email address of M.E. but he chose to protect his source on the basis that “she really wants nothing to do with this. Just wanted to pass on the information that she had. She is now an old lady in retirement.”⁵⁹

Somehow, the ubiquitous August C. Roberts enters into the picture (pun intended). According to M.E., Coutant’s girlfriend told her “he had shown people his photo right after he took it. He wanted people to know it was photographed, but he was a simple man and did not want to get too involved either. Therefore, he showed it to some folks in the County right after it was developed. Roberts (they lived just 6 miles apart) likely heard about it from townfolk. Roberts made prints of the originals.”⁵⁹ He used them for various publications, as we know. Roberts died April 1994 at Wanaque at the age of 73.

One may doubt this story of how a humble person shrinks from the limelight, turning down recognition and probably money for the most extraordinary UFO photos ever taken and hides completely in the dark forever. “Coutant did not want his name associated with the pictures as he was a very private man,” M.E. said. This behavior is difficult to understand, especially in a region where civil authorities, police officers, newspapermen and many citizens had reported seeing UFOs recently. I tend to believe Coutant did not take the photos but someone else with the means, experience and motivation to do it.

Final comments

The photographs (one series or two) pivot around two queer personalities. One is a hidden source of multiple, dramatic UFO adventures that everyone would qualify as lunatic fringe, except psychiatrist Dr. B.E. Schwarz. The other is a discredited character in UFO photography, A.C. Roberts. The only available, supposedly first-generation print of the series satisfies none of the conditions for scientific analysis: no negatives, no camera data, no exact timing, no first-hand deposition, etc. With no elements to study the pictures, the quality of the originators of the material must weigh heavily in the balance. Precedents in photography (footage) are found in a film by a popular contactee from New Jersey, closely related to the two above personages.

Personal conclusion

The photograph is a fake. The series is a fake. The method of analysis employed to extract supposed 3D data is simple, useless and ineffective for the purpose, if not entirely erroneous. The pair of prints from the alleged author Claude Coutant are

reproductions of prior-generation prints, not originals as implied. The probable author of the present series of photographs was August C. Roberts. He could do it and was in the central place at the right time. The “beam” series of pictures were brought to the attention of standard media and the UFO community by him, “a known hoaxer and promotor of dozens of outlandish claims.”⁶² The date of December 1966 cannot be valid as the first print was released mid October 1966.¹⁹ My best guess is that Roberts made the series of pictures during or after the January flap, and presented it on the occasion of the October recrudescence.

Prior series of pictures resembling these may exist, probably related to Howard Menger and probably fabricated by August Roberts as well.

~October 10, 1966 – Debris, Press Photo

Wanaque received a second major avalanche of UFO sightings starting October 10, 1966, one that received ample media coverage.^{3,28} On this occasion, however, no photographs were achieved. Even though multitudes met around the reservoir expecting to see a UFO. As the press reported: “Entire families, bored with the usual television fare, turned out with thermoses of hot coffee, cameras, and high-powered binoculars hoping to see a UFO.”⁶³ It should have been a glorious spectacle to watch!

Suburban Trends is a New Jersey newspaper providing coverage for local areas such as Bloomingdale, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood, Wanaque, and others. In 2007, a publication’s staff writer published an interview with Wanaque longtime resident Frank Cavallaro who disclosed an up-to-now unknown aspect of the “Jan. 11 and 12, 1966” UFO flap around the Wanaque Reservoir.⁶⁴ According to this information, in 1971 Cavallaro was working for a molding company in the borough. One day, UFOs popped up in the conversion with his coworkers. Two of them “would just roll on the floor laughing hysterically.” When approached, “the two...admitted responsibility for the whole UFO hoax and provided him with a detailed explanation of how they pulled it off.” Apparently, the two men, youngsters in 1966, “filled clear plastic dry-cleaning bags with propane from a nearby tank off a forklift and then sealed off the tops. After setting each aflame, a fiery ting would appear and the bags would lift high into the air, similar to a hot air balloon.”⁶⁴ Without a doubt, this is important knowledge: young people were creating false UFO sightings with their own Chinese Lanterns! How many sightings they provoked, and whose, we do not know.

I question myself if they did it really in January 1966. Because there was a posterior flap in Wanaque in October 1966. Is a feasible hypothesis considering that those prankers performed their flying hoaxes during the October outbreak? I base my assumption on a jocular letter published in *FATE* in spring 1967 where the writer reported that high school boy practical jokers hoaxed a whole nation by faking sightings over Wanaque Reservoir. “Take a plastic bag—the kind dry cleaners use to wrap clothes—, a wire hanger, a strip of electrical wire, a wad of cotton, a can of lighter fluid, a roll of tape, and a six-inch piece of string.”⁶⁵ With those elements miniature hot balloons “may account for the numerous sightings of UFO’s over Wanaque Reservoir.”

In the very same issue, the mystery and occult magazine publishes an apparently confirming photograph with the following caption: "Police Sgt. Edward Earles discovers that UFOs reported in November, 1966, in Roselle Park, New Jersey, were dry cleaners plastic bags fashioned into balloons."⁶⁶ It is the third time in a row where hand-made balloons are associated with the New Jersey 1966 UFO observations. To what extent these boyhood pranks relate to the January or October flaps we do not know, but there must be certainly something to it!



November 1966 find at Roselle Park, NJ. © FATE.

Notes

- (1) FOTOCAT is a worldwide database of over 12,000 UFO and IFO sightings that contain photographic images, having occurred up to December 31, 2005: <http://fotocat.blogspot.com/>
- (2) A sudden increase in the rate of UFO sighting reports in a given area during a short period (days or weeks).
- (3) The NICAP website has collected and uploaded information compiled by Michael Swords, Barry Greenwood, and Robert Swiatek: http://www.nicap.org/660111wanaque_dir.htm
- (4) *The APRO Bulletin*, May-June 1966, p 3.
- (5) Edward J. Babcock & Timothy Green Beckley, "UFO Plagues N.J. Reservoir," *FATE*, October 1966, pp 34-44.
- (6) Brad Steiger & August C. Roberts, "The Many Weird Nights at Wanaque," *The Flying Saucer Menace*, Award (New York), 1967, pp 22-26.

- (7) Lloyd Allan, "What Happened at Wanaque, N.J.?" *Science & Mechanics*, July 1967, pp 52-57 & 66-69.
- (8) Wendelle Stevens & August C. Roberts, [UFO Photographs Around the World \(Vol. 1\)](#), UFO Photo Archives (Tucson), 1986, pp 203-211.
- (9) Lloyd Allan, "What Happened at Wanaque, N.J.?" *Science & Mechanics*, June 1967, pp 42-47 & 70-72.
- (10) Joseph Goodavage, "Seeing is Prickles, Pressure and Belief," *Flying Saucers. UFO Report*, No. 2, spring 1967, pp 6-11.
- (11) Anthony Bragalia, <https://www.ufoexplorations.com/returning-to-wanaque-silence-broken>
- (12) Michael Swords, <http://thebiggeststudy.blogspot.com.es/2013/02/wanaque-1966-part-one-microcosm-of.html>
- (13) John A. Keel, "Mystery Men Flash Government Credentials," *Saucer Scoop*, March 1967, p 12, <https://tinyurl.com/y74b8rsz>
- (14) <https://www.fold3.com/image/8722320> to image 8722360.
- (15) <http://www.bluebookarchive.org/page.aspx?PageCode=MAXW-PBB2-570>
- (16) Wim van Utrecht, e-mails dated December 16 and 18, 2017.
- (17) *The Jersey Journal* (Jersey City, N.J.), January 25, 1966.
- (18) Armand Laprade & Joseph Ferriere (editors), "When the Flying Saucers Returned to Wanaque," *Probe*, spring 1967, pp 27-29.
- (19) Thomas Sullivan & Jerry Pulwer, *The Morning Call* (Paterson, New Jersey), October 13, 1966, cover and p 8.
- (20) Justo Bautista, *Record* (Hackensack, New Jersey), December 9, 1996.
- (21) http://www.velikovsky.info/Joseph_Goodavage
- (22) Mike Moss, *Flying Saucers. UFO Reports*, No. 4, winter 1967.
- (23) Rich Reynolds, <http://ufocon.blogspot.com/2011/09/1966-wanaque-ufo-sightings-revisited.html> Comment dated September 21, 2011.
- (24) Tim Printy, *SUNlite*, November-December 2011, p 3, http://www.astronomyufo.com/UFO/SUNlite3_6.pdf
- (25) Hayden Hewes, *Interplanetary Intelligence Report*, March 1966, p 14.
- (26) Juan Carlos Victorio Uranga, e-mail dated December 3, 2017.
- (27) *Saucer News*, June 1966, p 27.
- (28) *The Record* (Hackensack, NJ), October 11, 12, 13 and 17, 1966. *Paterson Evening News*, October 11, 13 and 14, 1966. *Newark Evening News*, October 11 and 12, 1966. *Herald News* (Passaic, NJ), October 11, 14, 16 and 17, 1966. *The Jersey Journal*, October 13, 1966. *Sunday Star-Ledger* (Newark, NJ), October 16, 1966. *Evening Times* (Trenton, NJ), October 19, 1966. *World Journal Tribune*, October 24, 1966. (A sample).
- (29) Carmena Freedman (editor), "How It Was At Wanaque," *Flying Saucers. UFO Reports*, October 1967, pp 58-59.
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- (31) Michael Hesemann & Natalia Zahradnikova, 2000, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ID2xCceakY>
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- (33) Howard Menger, From Outer Space to You, Saucerian Books (Clarksburg, West Virginia), 1959,
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- (34) Anthony Braglia, <https://www.ufoexplorations.com/witness-to-wanaque-great-mass-ufo>
- (35) Anthony Braglia, <https://www.ufoexplorations.com/returning-to-wanaque-silence-broken>
- (36) Brad Steiger, e-mail dated December 11, 2017.
- (37) Michael Swords, <http://thebiggeststudy.blogspot.com.es/2013/02/wanaque-1966-part-two.html> (comment April 10, 2017).
- (38) Michael Swords, <http://thebiggeststudy.blogspot.com.es/2013/03/wanaque-part-three.html>
- (39) Rich Reynolds, <http://ufocon.blogspot.com.es/2013/02/wanaque-braglia-vs-reynolds.html> (Page not found, 2017).
- (40) Lance Moody, <http://ufo-scepticisme.forumactif.com/t3744-la-photo-de-wanaque-1966#66679> (Reply #18).
- (41) Tim Printy, *SUNlite*, November-December 2017, p 3,
http://www.astronomyufo.com/UFO/SUNlite9_6.pdf
- (42) Andrés Duarte, e-mail dated October 26, 2017.
- (43) *UFO Investigator*, January-February 1966, p 3.
- (44) Anthony Braglia, <https://www.ufoexplorations.com/copy-of-home-1>
- (45) Anthony Braglia, e-mail dated November 12, 2017.
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