

Cylindrical UFOs Over Washington DC

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Introduction

- Previous UFO and Paranormal experiences and personal background (brief)
- My own major UFO sighting on January 1, 2000 in Washington DC

Historical & Personal Settings

- Topic 1: The Historical Setting
- Topic 2: Personal Plans that placed me in the right place at right time
- Topic 3: Chronology of minor events leading up to the sighting
- Topic 4: Final setting for the sightings (Maps and Photos)
- Topic 5: The sighting itself (with Maps and Drawings)
- Topic 6: My personal reactions to the event
- Topic 7: New Year's Day dinner at IHOP and "Miracle of Lights"
- Topic 8: January 2, 2000...
- Topic 9: ...and beyond...
- Topic 10: *Ageless Messengers* by Moya Brennan
- Topic 11: Concluding remarks

Topic 1

The Historical Setting

- December 31, 1999 – January 1, 2000
- Celebration/Fireworks on National Mall
- Hosted by President Bill Clinton and movie star Will Smith
- Fenced in area on Mall with many police officers due to possible terrorist threats, especially from Al Qaeda or Algerians
- December 31 and January 1 were both sunny and above-average temperatures

Topic 2

Personal Plans that placed me in the right place at right time

- Once in a Lifetime Event
- Hard to find a friend who wanted to go; decided to invite Connie (mentally ill woman I helped)
- Dinner at Italian Restaurant
- Ride METRO Orange Line from Vienna to downtown Washington
- Stopped to see National Christmas Tree and State Trees, etc.
- Attending the “2000” Celebration on the National Mall near the Lincoln Memorial
- Ride METRO Orange Line back to Vienna station
- Drive Connie home; sleep on her couch; meet other friends at IHOP in Fairfax for dinner on New Year’s Day; drive through the Miracle of Lights Show at Bull Run Regional Park near Centreville and Manassas

Topic 3

Chronology of minor events leading up to the sighting

- “Crazy” man in big tree; Irate woman complaining about people continually going through to the portable toilets
- Bill Clinton, Will Smith, Bono, etc.; huge portable screens
- Very shocked by unexpected 1AM fireworks, nearing Foggy Bottom Metro station.

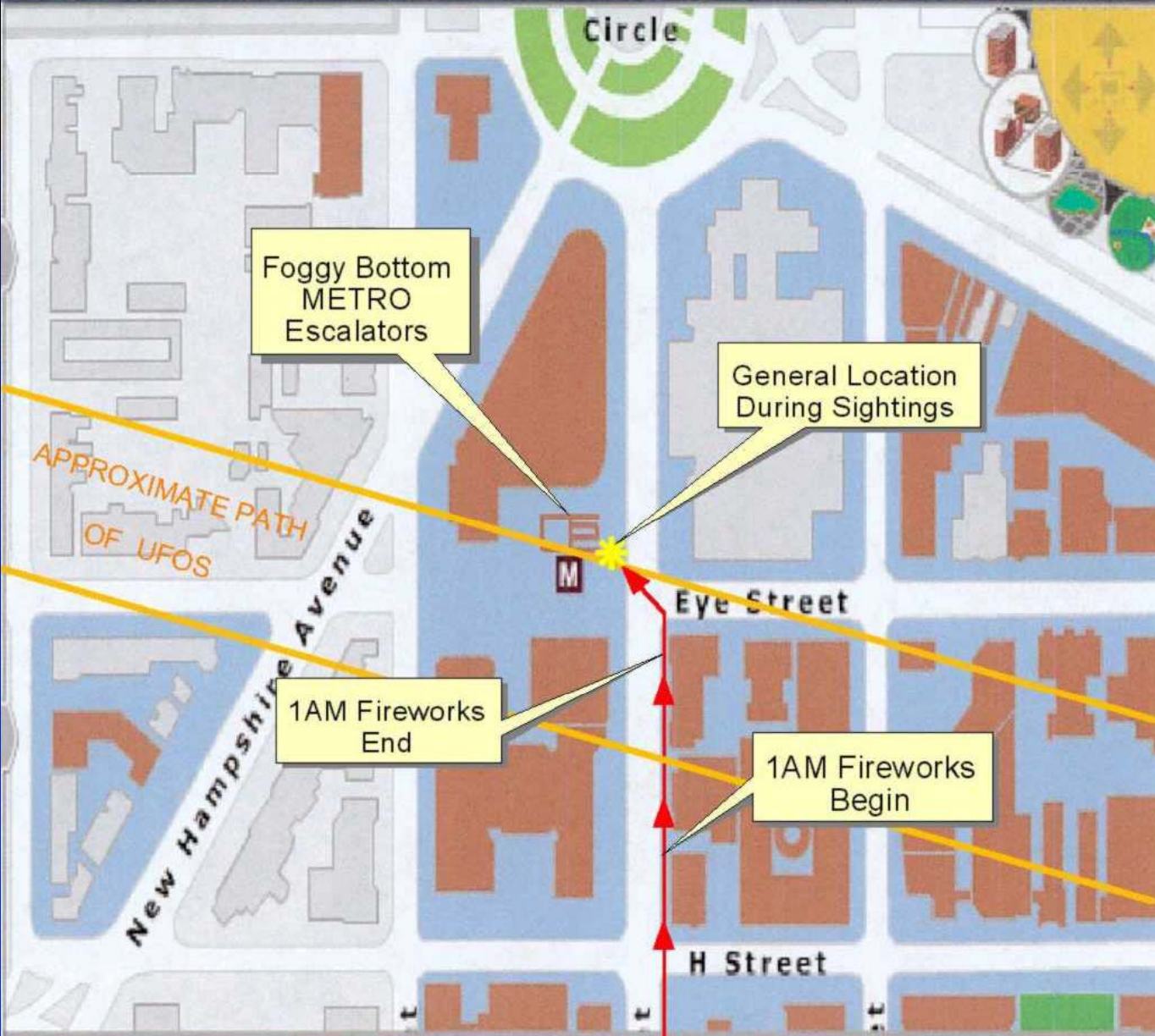
Topic 4

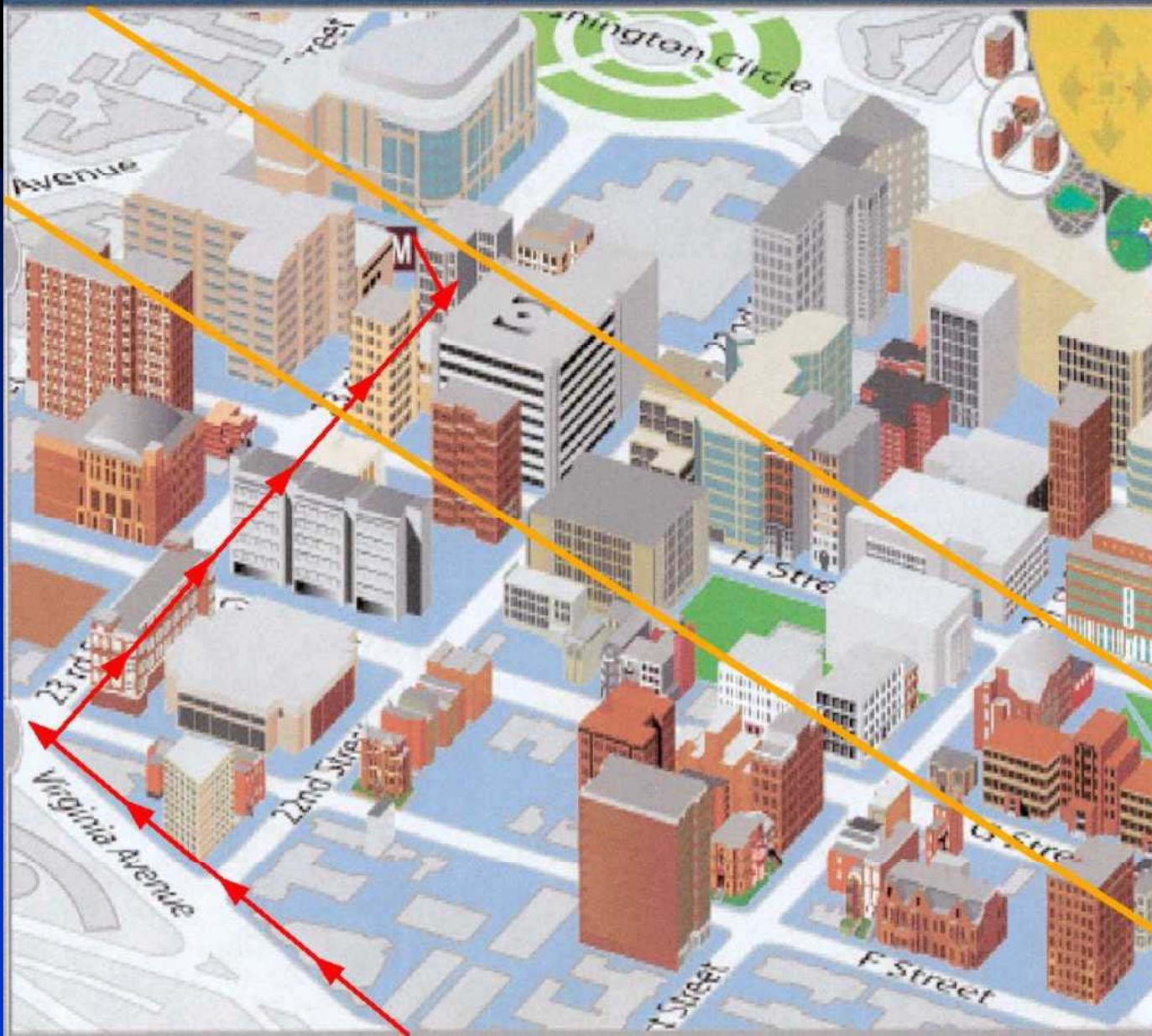
The final setting for the sightings

- We were on E side of 23rd St NW between H St and I (Eye) St when the 1AM fireworks scared the hell out of many people, including me. It started with such a **BANG/BOOM** that my initial reaction was that it was a terrorist bombing.
- It was shortly after the 1AM fireworks had ended and we had just crossed over to the west side of 23rd St NW, just north of I (Eye) Street, heading directly to the Foggy Bottom METRO escalators, that **the sightings began.**
- **See maps and [daytime] photos on following pages for a graphical representation of the setting during the sightings**



Map 1





Map 2

Photo 1



Photo 2

2



The Sighting !

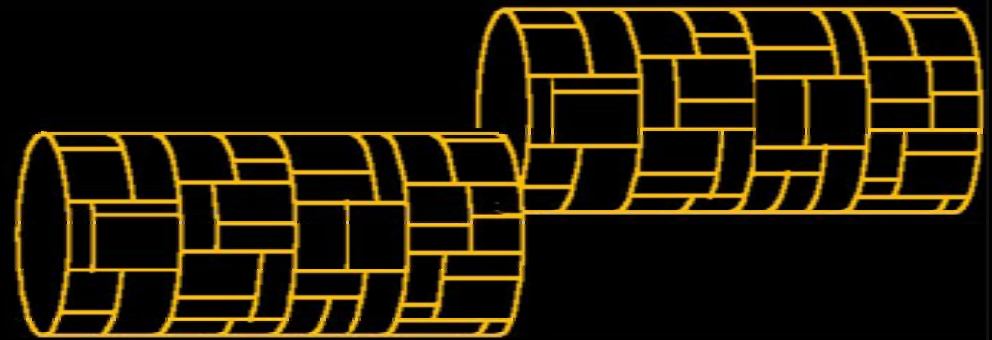
- Nearly across 23rd St NW, I noticed what I at first thought was a **shooting star** near the western horizon...
- And so I continued to watch the sky for more “**shooting stars**”. It became quickly obvious that what I had seen near the western horizon was *probably not* a shooting star!
- Obviously what I saw took me very much by surprise. I estimate that I saw a total of about 7 identical cylindrical objects, crossing the sky from roughly WNW to ESE, tracking nearly directly above to slightly south of my location. If the “shooting star” was one of these objects, it followed a different flight path (N to S) (cont'd)

The Sighting! (cont'd)

- Apparently all objects were the same design, but some flew in very close “buddy” formations (formations of 2) (see next slide)
- I *estimate* the altitude and size between 400 and 800 feet above ground, and perhaps each object about the size of a Greyhound bus, maybe larger.
- I estimate speed between 500 – 800 mph.



Appearance of UFOs as I remember them



Initial Reactions

- Unprepared to see such strange things, I was pretty “stunned” to say the least...
- I remember telling Connie that I thought I saw a shooting star. We were in a huge crowd trying to get to the METRO escalators; it was very noisy with all the people talking, yelling, laughing, etc.
- The next time I spoke was after seeing a few of the UFOs. I simply said, to no one in particular, “Am I seeing UFOs?” I noticed another young man standing near me looked at me and just smiled slightly.
- I noticed no reaction at all from anyone else nearby. Perhaps others saw them, too, but I can...

Initial Reactions (cont'd)

- ...not remember seeing any reaction. Of course, I was still mainly looking at the sky, while very, very slowly moving toward the escalators.
- Almost immediately I found myself with Connie at the top of an escalator, and it seemed the only thing I could do then was step on the escalator, which is what I did.
- After getting on the train, I told her what I had just seen. She was quiet, as usual, and just gave me a funny “what?!” look. I recall saying something like “Dang, now I’m ‘one of them’”!

The “following” day; actually the SAME day (Jan 1, 2000)

- We met several friends of ours at the IHOP near Fairfax Circle for dinner, probably around 5PM. The next “event” I found quite **disturbing**...in spite of the fact that it was just a pleasant get-together.
- Earlier that week I ate at this IHOP alone. My waiter did a horrible job, in many ways including getting my order wrong. *This* waiter turned out to be *our* waiter as well! I was especially worried since he did *not* write anything down!! And there were about six of us!
- He brought our drinks eventually; I don’t recall if he got them all right or not. However, I had no straw, and I always prefer to drink at restaurants using a straw. (**continued...**)

The “following” day; actually the SAME day (Jan 1, 2000) (continued)

- I looked all around the table at everyone else’s setting. Not only did I not have a straw—none of us did! However, just as I started to tell one of the friends sitting next to me about this, I noticed that we all had straws, JUST LIKE THAT!!! They just seemed to materialize “out of nowhere”!
- At that moment, I must admit I began to doubt my powers of simple perception, and began to doubt the UFO sighting as well. But after much thought, I decided that it all happened just as I experienced it.
- I was not prone to hallucinations. The only hallucinations I have ever had were once when I was very sick as a child with a high fever.
- After the dinner at IHOP, Connie and I went to drive through the “Miracle of Lights” Holiday season light show at Bull Run Park near Centreville and Manassas. I thought it “ironic” that *this* was called a “miracle”! HA!!

January 2, 2000 and Beyond: Further Reactions

- January 2 continued the balmy weather wave with a high in the Mid 60's. I drove back to my residence at that time, I house I shared in Stafford County, in a peaceful neighborhood called Aquia Harbour.
- I had just recently bought Moya (Maire) Brennan's latest album at the time, *Whisper to the Wild Water*. I drove with the sunroof open, and was enjoying this CD as I drove home. I had already played it a few times, but this time a certain track affected me quite strongly. It is called "Ageless Messengers" and much of the lyrics are in Irish Gaelic in addition to English. This early in my listening, I hadn't begun to pay much attention to the lyrics, but this time the English lyrics (and somehow the Gaelic too?) really "grabbed" and inspired me, probably because of the UFO sighting. No, I'm not saying I believe that the UFOs were angels, nor do I believe they were piloted by angels. However, I also did not want to jump to *any* conclusions about what the UFOs were. The experience did seem to make me more open to the phenomenon; I had always had an interest in it, but it was pure speculation—it still was to a large degree, but it was different for me now because I had seen them myself.
- (continued...)

January 2, 2000 and Beyond: Further Reactions (cont'd)

Ageless messengers

Born to the wilderness / Missing first on the line / Will the fear disappear

Curfa:

O aingil coimhead me, O aingil as na fhlaithis / Solas geal nil eaglea orm

O aingil coimheadach

(Angels of heaven watch over me / I have no fear of you / my guardian angel)

Behind the innocent / The last, the least and the lost / Will be found in the storm

(Curfa)

Burning by nightfall / Measuring by the light / Ageless Messengers

(Curfa)

Concluding Remarks

- It seems that the song boosted the additional feelings of hope for the future *and* that in spite of appearances and experiences, *All Truly Is Well*. This has been a continuing lesson for me over the last 5 years, and I believe it now more than ever.
- This is not to jump to the conclusion that *if* the craft I saw were alien-operated, that they are here to insure a positive future. Some things I have read, mainly about abductions, would seem to indicate that they are here for several purposes, one of which is to insure the survival of the planet (and perhaps the human race) assuming that we fail.
- It did seem like interesting timing and location for the sighting, as well as the way in which they presented themselves, almost flyovers at an air show. Perhaps they (the alien assumption) are aware of our calendar, holidays, and rare events like January 1, 2000. Or perhaps the craft were flown by American Air Force pilots, and they decided to make an exception and do this demonstration for the occasion?
- *I might never know.*
- **QUESTION REALITY**