



Press release

January, 2018

60 years of ufo research

People have always encountered mysterious aerial phenomena. In the latter half of the 1940s and the beginning of the 1950s, the Cold War and cultural climate gave these phenomena a concrete form as flying saucers, and later UFOs interpreted as alien visitors – and this hasn't changed significantly since.

In this climate of fear of a devastating nuclear war between the great powers and the hope that the “space brothers” from beyond would visit Earth and save us from annihilation, the organisation Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI) was created on December 17th, 1957.

Its purpose was simple in 1957. SUFOI would collect as many UFO reports as possible in order to convince scientists and politicians that Earth was being visited from outer space, and that the visitors could help us save the planet.

Today – 60 years later – SUFOI still exists, and people continue to see unexplained things in the sky. But the world has changed. The SUFOI of today is a completely different organisation from that of 60 years ago. Today, the many years of experience and knowledge we have acquired allows us to interpret UFO phenomena in a new way: Nothing suggests that Earth is being visited from outer space, and there are many down-to-earth explanations for UFO sightings.

With this approach to the UFO myth, SUFOI as an organisation is currently very isolated. Around the world there are many UFO organisations that base their membership activities and publications on a belief or hope that some UFO encounters could be signs of alien visitors. For these organisations, the amount of sightings is proof of these visits, and they still have the goal of collecting as many reports as possible – just as SUFOI did 60 years ago. These organisations seem uninterested in investigating the reports in depth, perhaps because they would then risk finding out that they have plausible explanations, even the ones that seem most mysterious. The livelihood of these organisations (member interest and income from the sale of publications) would then crumble. SUFOI's experience is that this approach to people's interpretation of aerial phenomena does not increase our knowledge about ourselves and our surroundings, but simply maintains the status quo and keeps the UFO business running.



SUFOI goes against the stream and, to commemorate the organisation's 60th anniversary, has published the book *UFO'er – Myter og viden* (UFOs – Myths and facts), the first Danish publication to bring together the many years of research, giving an insight into the historical development of the subject and our knowledge of UFOs.

“UFO'er – Myter og viden” is bound in A4 format with 204 pages and 120 illustrations in black & white and colour.

Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI) – info@sufoi.dk

Free Danish newsletter: www.ufo.dk/ufo-mail/ufo-mail.php

English section on ufo.dk: www.sufoi.dk/english/english.php



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We experience the world as we believe or wish it to be

Many UFO enthusiasts have found that the more UFO sightings they have investigated, and the more they have been involved with the UFO myth, the more they have moved away from a belief in visitors from beyond. It is not a mystery (that is, the search for an answer to the question, "Are we being visited from outer space?") that needs to be solved, but an exploration of the many different phenomena and events that can give rise to UFO encounters. We experience the world as we believe or wish it to be, and this is clearly reflected in the report material.

Since its establishment on December 17th, 1957, the Danish UFO organisation Scandinavian UFO Information (SUFOI) has collected and analysed more than 15,000 UFO sightings, and over the years hundreds of members have invested thousands of hours of their free time in learning more about the UFO myth. SUFOI therefore feels an obligation to provide the public with objective facts about the UFO myth as an alternative to the internet's information chaos. This public information work is being carried out today via the website ufo.dk – and lately also through the publication of the book *UFOs – Myths and facts*.

At ufo.dk anyone can report their UFO sighting and later read whether others have observed something similar at the same time or place, and whether there may already be an explanation for the sighting.

Even though SUFOI's work has led to the conclusion that Earth is not being visited from outer space, the organisation continues to explore the UFO phenomenon. Firstly we are interested in understanding what ordinary people experience, and why we interpret aerial phenomena (aircraft, parachute flares, sky lanterns, meteors, burning space junk, the Moon, stars, and so on) as visits from outer space. Secondly we want to continue to analyse, understand and interpret the development of the UFO myth.



*This is how many people imagine a UFO encounter taking place, but it is very far from reality. The truth is not out there, as they say in *The X-Files*, but much more down to earth. It is this, together with SUFOI's work, that "UFOs – Myths and facts" addresses.*

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