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SPEAKERS

Speaker 6, Speaker 4, Speaker 5, Speaker 2, Speaker 3, Speaker 1, Speaker 7

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Speaker 1 00:17

Coming to you from the city of the weird, exploring topics from the esoteric and unexplored to dimensions unknown, shining a light of truth on the darkest corners of our reality. Welcome to the curious realm. Well, hello everybody, and happy Tuesday night from Austin, Texas. Hope everybody is doing well. Hope you've had a great week amidst the madness of this spinning road that we all live on. I am looking forward to a nice, a nice little break away from the monotony of home and going back to the road to a little bit of chaos in my beautiful AV world. I'll be going back to Vegas, so next week, everybody, we will have a fully pre-recorded show. I will be by locating here in the studio in a pre-recorded fashion as my wife, my beloved Amy, plays my show out to everybody. As always, even though I am not in studio, we always have new content on this show. We've never had replay, and every week it's a live guest, pre-recorded guest. Whenever I'm on the road for work and clients, it's two pre-recorded guests. So next week, we will be joined by our amazing friend Jason McLean talking about the Lake Worth monster in the first part of the episode, as well as the founder of Archaeo X, Jared Murphy. We will be talking about lost civilizations and lost knowledge. In the second part tonight, I'm very glad to welcome back our good friend of the show, Reverend Michael J. S. Carter. He's a popular guest on Ancient Aliens. He's on a few episodes this year, actually, and and we we dig deep tonight, folks. Whenever he comes on, we tend to get a little bit into the spirituality of things, and we we get into metaphysical morality and the idea of do you need religion in your? And this is a reverend, folks. Do you need religion in your life to live a moral life, to have morality to begin with. So yeah, we get into some pretty deep philosophic conversation in the second part, and tonight's first part is no less deep. I have been very very excited about this conversation since I lined it up shortly after MUFON this year, I had the chance to meet and panel with Alex Dietrich, Lieutenant Commander. She was one of the USS Nimitz UFO witnesses, and she gave a great talk about her experience there at MUFON, and I was very happy to be able to welcome her to the show tonight. Welcome. How are you doing? How are you tonight, Alex?

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Speaker 2 03:27

Good. Thanks for having me.

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Speaker 1 03:28

Absolutely. Thanks so much for coming on. A lot of this show, as I told you when we met, was is focused on the idea of demystifying topics for people. There is so much in the media. There's so much out there. There are so much half truths, partial truths, interwoven falsities on social media, Alex. That a lot of people do not understand the facts of situations. A lot of people do not really understand a forest and the trees view of situations, and the the case of the USS Nimitz, the the Tic Tac UFO specifically is is one of those that it is probably the most scrutinized piece of footage that has has ever crossed media right next to right next to the Patterson Gimlin film in Bigfoot, man, like seriously, and and the Zapruder film, like it is it is up there as far as the analysis that has taken place of it. So before we get into that, tell us a little bit about yourself. What first brought you to military service? What brought you to want to be a fighter pilot to begin with?

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Speaker 2 04:56

What brought me to military service? You know, I. Every time I'm teaching, when I'm talking to a group of students or really introducing myself to a group, I kind of give my origin story. That when I was young, when I was in high school, and then now when I'm teaching undergraduates, you know, I say when I was in in college, I was very selfish and self centered, and I chose the path of an ROTC scholarship and going into the Navy because I wanted to travel and I wanted to see the world, and I wanted to have an adventure. You know, it was all about me, and it it just so happened that I graduated and commissioned in May of 2001, and headed down to flight school. So I had ground school that summer, and then I had my first flight on 911, and so and so when I get asked that question, you know, to reflect and think about it, and especially, you know, we just celebrated the 25th anniversary of 911, and every year I reflect. But this year, you know, was an especially big milestone for that.

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Speaker 1 06:19

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 06:20

you know, thinking about again my selfish motives, and then where I found myself very, very soon after commissioning, and realizing that I had raised my right hand and I had taken an oath, and I was a part of something bigger than myself, and I needed to figure out what that meant and how I was going to contribute in a meaningful way, and so that's you know that that's my story is that I was not really thinking about service. I wasn't thinking about the military as in terms of a mission. I was thinking about it for my own personal and professional.

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Speaker 1 07:02

It's it's interesting though that even still that you chose flight school, Alex, because there. Hey, if you were going to go see the world and ride, there's 1000 ways to ride that time out on a boat. Yeah. Other other than going to like you may as well have chosen to almost go be a surgeon or something like that. the The rigors of going through flight school and that kind of stuff is is no joke. It's it's pretty sincere. So, what brought you to want to do that to begin with? Yeah,

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Speaker 2 07:35

I had always been an athlete, so I had always played sports. I was a d1 athlete in college, and had better than 20. I still have better at almost 50 years old. I have better than 20/20 vision, and so you know that was an opportunity to use this hand eye coordination and use sort of this physical ability in a way that would be the most adventurous. Okay, you know if you've seen Top Gun, the original. Yeah, you know I love I love the the most recent Top Gun too, but you know that really seemed like the ultimate adventure to get old G's and get catapulted off the the front of a carrier, and

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Speaker 1 08:25

yeah, yeah. Well, and just the the horrifyingly frightening experience of trying to trying to land a school bus on something, you know, like something literally the size of a school bus on a moving platform out in the middle of blue water. It's it's not like that shallow water that you're near or anything like that. Like that is that is miles deep. So there

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Speaker 2 08:55

exactly yeah, and I think that that's why my background as an athlete always served me well, and and it was very satisfying. It felt very familiar to be either in training or when we were out on mission to you know have these events that that felt very much like warming up and executing as you do when you're playing sports.

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Speaker 1 09:17

Well, now let's let's get into a little bit of the the day to day of what it was like to be a navy pilot aboard ship, and and then we'll move into your actual experience. Just so people can understand, what was this a routine day? Was this a training day? What what was the everyday like, and what was the day of the Nimitz experience like?

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Speaker 2 09:45

Sure. So in November of 2004, we were on a detachment. So we were on a not a full deployment. We were just training off the coast of Southern California. But it was still routine. So, you know, what's it like to be on a ship? It's really kind of boring. You're confined in in a small area, even though it's a large ship. You stay to your your zones within it. So you have your little stateroom. You have a place where you eat. You have your ready room. Maybe going to the the exercise gym, but but other than that, you're just moving through the passageways, and everything's very confined and stuffy. You know, it's it's not comfortable. It's not like a Disney cruise or a large trip. Imagine. So you you have your routine. You have your flight schedule, and you show up ready to fly. And you don't just jump in the jet. You have to prepare. You have to brief. You have to go through all the maintenance logs and pre-flight and do all of that. So you know it's it's more than an eight-hour day just flying. You have a collateral duty, so all the officers in this modern have a day job. So you could be assigned to the maintenance officer, the admin officer. You could I was the AV arm divv. So folks who were fixing the radars and the the ordnancemen who were loading our our ordnance onto the aircraft, so making sure that you know everything's right in those divisions, and then and then you have to take care of yourself. So after your your flying mission's completed and your day job's done. Then you have to, you know, eat, go to the gym, sleep, personal hygiene, and all that. So every day you just wake up and do it again. You're wearing the same thing every day. Flight suits. You know, there's there's really no break in the routine,

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Speaker 1 11:59

or or truly a whole lot of glamor in that routine. That's and that's kind of what I'm getting at is the fact that like no, no, it is. It's a pretty mundane life. On occasion, there's some flying involved. You know, yeah, a couple few times a week, there's some flying involved, but it's not like you're like spending eight hours a day in the air every day, flying and that kind of stuff. That's that's

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Speaker 2 12:26

so on on deployment. You you could be certainly a you know in the aircraft for that long, especially when you're tankings. You get fuel airborne multiple times, but even then, I mean you know Hollywood always does us a disservice by portraying these these situations as glamorous or sex, but you know you're on the flight deck. It's 110 degrees. You sweat through.

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Speaker 1 12:55

Yeah, diesel fumes in your face. Yeah, yeah. Get up

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Speaker 2 12:58

to altitude, and so you're all sweaty, but then you get to altitude and it's freezing, and so now you're shivering. You know, if you're in there for more than a few hours, then you have to pee, right? Which is not always an easy job, or you know, it can be messy when you're like refueling in the air, you don't always get a seal, and so there will be fuel just sort of streaming by, and so your tears, you know, not coming down. It's like it's not sexy. Yes.

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Speaker 1 13:36

Yeah.

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Speaker 3 13:36

Yeah.

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Speaker 1 13:37

Well, and like so many things, it's something that is defined by moments, you know. Just like any any part of life, just like college or you know a career. It's one of those things. It's not defined by the everyday. It's defined by those those special moments that happen. Those moments that you're out on mission or sortie, you know that kind of stuff. Did you did you ever actively see any active combat things like that?

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Speaker 2 14:09

Yeah, we went to Iraq and Afghanistan. So in 2005, we did a tour just to Iraq, and then in 2007, we went to Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Speaker 1 14:20

Okay,

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Speaker 2 14:20

same deployment. Yeah.

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Speaker 1 14:24

Well, and that was that was kind of a comment that I made in my email to you was the idea that like your your preparations for things like that because the only way that you can prepare for something like that is drill, drill, drill, drill, drill, drill. Practice to the point that just like any karate reflex, it is-it's a rope motion that you do not think about, you know, until the thinking has to happen in that kind of way. But the idea. Of coming across what you came across, let's start getting into the day of your experience and what it was like to be in the cockpit for you that day, specifically.

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Speaker 2 15:13

It was it was a regular day, and whenever I say that, you know, it sounds kind of arrogant or cocky to say, you know, it was a boring day.

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Speaker 1 15:26

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 15:27

but it was. It was a routine day, and now I'm wearing one of these heart rate monitors. You know, tracks my steps and my sleep and stress throughout the day and all that. If we didn't have these in 2004, but if we had, if you put these on all all of the crew, you know, we would have been just like resting heart rate.

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Speaker 1 15:51

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 15:52

you know, it was to your point. You know, we train like we fight, so we can fight like we train, and it gets to the point where there is no real adrenaline, right? And again, it sounds really kind of shitty to say,

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Speaker 1 16:09

yeah. But that's also that's also the idea. Like you are flying a billion dollar piece of machinery, and you're flying it mock whatever, whenever whatever you're engaged in flying, so you you can't you can't make decisions based on adrenaline. You can't make decisions based like that's life or death every second that you're in the air in that situation,

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Speaker 2 16:36

right? So to that point, you know, launching and and doing our rendezvous, which is where we meet up in the air as a section. A section is two aircraft, and then a division has four. So we were just a flight of two that day. So if you had taken our pulse, measured our adrenaline, it would have been just calm, cool, collected. and we were we were flying out to do red air, which means we were going to scrimmage against some of our own that were presenting as blue air. So they were going to practice their tactics, and so we were going to present different scenarios for them that they would react to.

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Speaker 1 17:19

Yeah, yeah,

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Speaker 2 17:20

and so you know, we launch, we rendezvous, we're doing this administrative phase of flight, which is where we're, you know, checking our fuel, we're checking our systems, we're drinking our our water Gatorade or snacks or whatever it is, and then getting ready, you know, heading out towards our cap point, getting ready to do what we call fence in. So, so before you get fenced in, your administrative. Usually, you're not expecting any, especially if you're just off the coast of California. Like things are

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Speaker 4 17:58

just

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Speaker 2 17:59

pump. When you fence in, that's when you turn your tapes on. That's when you start recording. That's when you're really on the lookout and kind of fangs out, ready to fight. So a question I get asked a lot is, why didn't we have our tapes on during the encounter? And it's because we weren't expecting anything, and we hadn't been pre-briefed, so you know the fact that the Princeton had been seen on their radar some anomalous anomalous hits for days, if not a few weeks prior, nobody had given a heads up. You know, and if they had, we would have prepared differently. We would have briefed our formation differently. We would have brought our binoculars, brought our SLR camera. I don't know if we had GoPros at that point, but you know, we would have we'd have would have brought different equipment and just done things a lot differently if we we were looking for UFOs, but we weren't. We launched, and we were going to go do red air. So yeah, that that was our mindset going out that day, and then obviously everything went sideways.

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Speaker 1 19:20

And and describe for us what you saw from the cockpit, from your vantage point. What exactly? How did things play out?

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Speaker 2 19:32

Yeah. Well, we didn't see. I didn't see something right away. You know, the the sense that there was something different, or that we were not heading out on our normal mission, came when the the Princeton controller interrupted us and diverted us, vectored us to intercept this strange radar track that they were seeing, and. I think that they were surprised that there was something there. There, like we were surprised at what we saw. But then when we reacted and we started, you know, yelling on the radio, I think they were also surprised. Like, oh, whatever was on the radio was on the radar in terms of altitude, airspeed change in in heading and all that wasn't making sense to them. So then, when we saw something there, that they were,

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Speaker 1 20:35

yeah, they were they were basically looking for an a confirmation of an anomaly, like yeah, there's nothing there.

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Speaker 2 20:43

Yeah, there's nothing there. It's just a glitch in the system. And so when we were vectored and had this intercept and actually saw something but couldn't really describe it, that's when that's when I think they realized, oh, this is real. You know, we're actually there's something out there, so whenever I describe this, I am also careful to give the caveat that I was the most junior person on the flight, so I was the least experienced. So it cut me some slack. And

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Speaker 1 21:18

likely the least person to be speaking on calm at the moment, as as all of this is going down. Exactly. So

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Speaker 2 21:27

I'm the wingman. I'm I'm the dash two trailing Dave Fravor, Commander Fravor, who was the commanding officer of my squadron at the time, and probably the most senior aviator in our entire air wing at that point.

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Speaker 1 21:44

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 21:45

certainly much more experienced, and you know 1000s of flight hours. He had a senior lieutenant at the time in his back seat, and I had a senior department head in my back seat, so a full lieutenant commander.

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Speaker 1 21:59

And

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Speaker 2 21:59

so I was just hanging on. I was just trying to.

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Speaker 1 22:02

At the point of this encounter, how long had you been, I guess, on stick in the in the cockpit?

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Speaker 2 22:10

Well, oh, so so I had had I had just left the fleet replacement squadron, so I was only in the fleet for about three months, I'd only been with this squadron, the Black Aces, for about three months when this happened.

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Speaker 1 22:26

Okay, and and how much experience total as as a pilot?

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Speaker 2 22:34

So I got my wings in March of 2003.

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Speaker 1 22:38

Oh wow!

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Speaker 2 22:39

After yeah,

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Speaker 1 22:41

wow. So, so within your first year or so is when when this event occurred, and and I think that's an important thing to bring up because as as you said, it's not like you had seen a whole lot in that kind of right. I guess you had been been over influenced sorties, that kind of stuff. Had you done that at that point yet?

 Speaker 5 23:10
No, not at that point.

 Speaker 1 23:11
Okay. No, I had

 Speaker 2 23:13
only flown within you know the continental United States, Alaska, Key West, or sort of the furthest points that I had been.

 Speaker 1 23:22
All right, and

 Speaker 2 23:25
yeah,

 Speaker 1 23:26
what when you saw this? Did did you get visual of it? Not just not just instrumentation. Were you able to actively see it visually as well?

 Speaker 2 23:39
Yes. So the the two aircraft and the four people in our flight never got a radar lock or instrument, you know, flare footage of it. That was the flight that came behind

 Speaker 1 23:54
us.

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Speaker 2 23:55

Yeah. So a separate third aircraft was the one that got the act yeah.

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Speaker 1 24:01

What I was just showing a second

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Speaker 2 24:04

ago. So so for us it was all visual, and so my caveat of being the most junior person is to say you know give me give me a break, cut me some slack because you know everybody else in the flight probably had a tally before me, sure. And the whatever was going on in the water, this sort of disturbance that that was beneath us churning in the water, which I don't know if it was related to the UF. And I'm always careful to say, "Hey,

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Speaker 1 24:42

well, you know, I I have held for a lot, and I I honestly the one thing that I loved more than anything in the talk that you gave at Mufon Alex was the fact that you said I I saw something I can't explain." What it was, I don't know what it was, but I'm not willing to make the leap to alien because between my experience and that statement is where the science lies, and that science is very important, and and that's just it is the idea of how do we get to that science? How do we how do we end up there? But at the same token, when you have experiences like yours, was I how long was your sighting? How long was this experience elapsed?

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Speaker 2 25:42

Yeah, the whole thing probably took a few minutes. So my tally was, you know, I estimate about 10 to 12 seconds. But again, I was probably the last person to get a tally, and then the first one to lose it. And you know, if you if you just pause and count to 10, that's still a long time.

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Speaker 1 26:04

It is. It is. My example for people normally is feel free to hold your breath for 10 seconds a week. You know, at around around eight or nine, like it. It's like, oh wow, wait a second. Yeah, because it 10 seconds is a long time, and and that's just it. Like you know, feel free to let go of the steering wheel for 10 seconds, and and that's something else to consider. Is the fact of it's not like you were just like on a joyride going 35 miles an hour through the neighborhood. I was stopped at a red light, you know, something like that. You are actively like you got to be going 500 miles an hour just to have airspeed, just to stay in the air. You got to be going like 550, you know. So it's not like you can exactly let go of your stick to keep a long term tally on something, like you are saying, to keep eyes on something for that long of a duration.

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Speaker 2 27:06

Yeah. Yes. And you know, my my place in the flight, my responsibility was to make sure that I didn't lose sight of my lead.

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Speaker 1 27:15

Yeah.

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Speaker 2 27:15

That I didn't hit my lead. Yeah. You know that it provided this top cover for my lead, and so that required, you know, breaking the visual lock with whatever we were saying, and then looking over, making sure I could see Commander Fravor and his aircraft, and then the erratic nature of the the tic tac and the way it was moving was hard to, you know, to to anticipate where it was going to be next. It was so hard. So

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Speaker 1 27:47

yeah, yeah.

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Speaker 2 27:47

People people take issue with like, oh, you know, her story is so different than than Dave Fraver's, and I think well, you know, he saw what he saw, and for as long as he saw it, and I saw what I saw from my perspective, my yeah, it doesn't bother me.

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Speaker 1 28:05

Well, well, and it doesn't bother me that it's different, Alex. You know the example that I give all the time is me and my brother both received Castle Grayskull as a Christmas gift together. Like it was, it was a joint gift for us both to enjoy. But if you ask us both what that Christmas was like in 1983,

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Speaker 4 28:26

we

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Speaker 1 28:27

both had like same spot, same place, same Christmas, same excitement, totally different experience as a person. Yeah, you know, and that's that's just it. We all experience things in a different way, we all take things in a different way. We all filter things in a different way, and now, now I guess is when we start getting deep. Alex, what what was what was that experience like for you? What was the first thing that came into your head? Let's say let's say second three into 10. Well, once you had eyes on something and your brain started processing, where where were you at mentally at that point?

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Speaker 2 29:14

Yeah. Well, let me back it up. So so started boring or bored as the predominant emotion, and then curious and excited when the controller diverted us, right? Not understanding or not, you know, like, oh, what are we going to go do? Then concerned, right? Because it's not too long after 911,

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Speaker 3 29:43

yeah,

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Speaker 2 29:43

and we're you know off the coast of California.

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Speaker 1 29:47

There have been attacks on Navy ships at that point,

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Speaker 2 29:50

right?

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Speaker 1 29:51

Yeah.

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Speaker 2 29:52

So then, you know, I I asked my wizard. I say, what what do you think is happening? They said, well. Maybe there was some drug runners coming up the coast from Mexico, so then I thought, okay, you know, we might go do something interesting. But we didn't have any ordinance on board. We didn't have anything that we could actually, you know, do a real intercept with. So I thought, you know, how's this going to work? Then, kind of that that things that out mentality as we came to the merge, the merge plot, which is where the rate tracks are coming together, and going back on the training of like, okay, I've got to get this scan pattern. I've got a certain sector that I'm responsible for because I'm the wingman and I'm the pilot. You know, my wizzo's got this other sector that he's looking, and then. then, sort of shock and awe when you know, hey, what's in the water? You know, what is that? So, so this very rapid sort of emotional roller coaster, seeing something in the water and thinking whatever we were trying to intercept has crashed and is sinking, right? And now we are on scene commanders for search and rescue effort.

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Speaker 1 31:10

Yeah.

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Speaker 2 31:10

So my heart sinking and thinking, oh God, you know, that that must whoever that

 Speaker 1 31:15
whoever that

 Speaker 2 31:17
is. Yep. And then like just as quickly, right? This tic tac thing enters and having the the sort of shock and awe, like what is that, and how is it how is it doing what it's doing and

 Speaker 1 31:32
yeah,

 Speaker 2 31:35
you know, to then coming back to the ship and being concerned that you know being pissed that that could have been a blue system that we could have almost blue on blue. You know we've been in over vectored into like a test range or something like that, and then

 Speaker 1 31:55
yeah.

 Speaker 2 31:56
So so yeah, a full emotional roller coaster up and down of

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Speaker 1 32:01

Yeah, and now you bring up an interesting point there, and something that I have brought up almost since the beginning with this in 2017, when Lou Elizondo first, when the details of it first really started coming out, and that is the idea of the red team versus blue team. The idea of horribly, what if there was a technology? Because yeah, there were upgrades just made on the radar system to the new passive radar, things like that. There were all kinds of new systems that had just been put into place. What what if there was a test of something that you guys were not made aware of in that kind of way, and even our even our investigator Mike Turber that we have on the show regularly put out a paper recently about how it may have been a a kind of like a sabot fired drone from from a submarine, which might explain the the bubbling of the water, things like that, directly underneath that y'all saw. So there's there's all kind of hypotheses out there about that. What do you what do you make of the idea of it possibly being a a red team, blue team gone awry. Would it be the fact that y'all would be put in that kind of situation?

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Speaker 2 33:29

So that was my my same day, just getting back from the flight, not having talked to anybody concern. But as I sit here today, I have you know a 0%

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Speaker 1 33:43

yeah

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Speaker 2 33:44

theory that it was a a blue system.

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Speaker 1 33:48

Okay,

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Speaker 2 33:49

yeah, there were no subs in the air, and

 Speaker 1 33:51
and and nothing nothing like that that we would have in our inventory in that kind of way that would behave in that in that kind of erratic flight pattern,

 Speaker 2 34:03
right? Now, and

 Speaker 4 34:06
there's

 Speaker 2 34:06
a couple of reasons. Go ahead. In my multiple trips to the Pentagon, in the in the years, many years now, decades since, you know, having been briefed and had an opportunity to to talk this through in classified spaces and with the appropriate people.

 Speaker 1 34:24
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 34:24
you know there there were no tests in the area and and so

 Speaker 1 34:28
okay

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Speaker 2 34:29

for that reason I'm I'm assured. And then the second thing is that if you if you do encounter tech or or that sort of scenario in the wild, we have protocols for that, and you know, if you see something that you're not supposed to see, then you will be briefed. You know, sign the appropriate non-disclosures, and then be read out. Yeah, yeah, be read in, and then read out in a way. That you know, I can say with confidence that that that wasn't the case.

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Speaker 1 35:06

Well, and you know, once again, with in the in the heart, I'm not

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Speaker 2 35:10

saying it's not a drone. I'm not saying it's not some man-made technology. It's just not our technology or a technology that we're aware of.

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Speaker 1 35:18

Yeah, yeah, and and that's that's exactly what I was just about to say. It doesn't mean that it's not man-made. Still, just means that it's not something that we are aware of in that kind of way. And with that being said, in the in the heart of demystifying things, Alex, you know there have been there have been people for years, even at the conference, who I heard talking about, like, well, you know, she went and worked for this government agency afterward, this and that, and there, there, there seems to be a want of an institution of lies. Which government

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Speaker 4 36:00

agency do they work?

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Speaker 1 36:00

Exactly. I guess your time with Lockheed Naval Personnel.

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Speaker 1 36:04

You know, yeah. You

S Speaker 2 36:05
know, HR folks. Yeah, yeah. No,

S Speaker 1 36:07
exactly, exactly, exactly. You know, it's a benefits

S Speaker 2 36:11
conspiracy.

S Speaker 1 36:12
That's that's just in

S Speaker 2 36:14
my retirement.

S Speaker 1 36:16
Yeah. Well, it's kind of like whenever people. One of my favorite. I'm I'm a fourth degree knight of Columbus, and that's always one of my favorites. Is when people involve them in a conspiracy, and I'm like, that's fine. I didn't hear anything about that at the fish fry. Like that did not disseminate down to me. How did I not hear about this plan? And and that's just it, you know. The idea of why didn't she come come forward earlier, you know, things like that. Those those pathways and lanes were not open. I have never

S Speaker 2 36:52
come forward. That's the thing. I don't identify as a whistleblower.

 Speaker 1 36:55
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 36:56
you know, I say yes to invitations like this to engage when there are curious and concerned citizens, curious realm, right? Couldn't be more curious. But you know, I wasn't hiding. No,

 Speaker 1 37:11
exactly.

 Speaker 2 37:12
Never classified, but I never felt compelled to go out and you know raise a flag or or go out on a campaign of trying to convince people,

 Speaker 1 37:23
yeah,

 Speaker 2 37:23
of what we saw that day because I don't know what we saw, and I don't feel a need to convince people that it happened because there were plenty of us there that experienced it and knew what happened, and we did what we were

 Speaker 1 37:40
exactly what you were trained

S

Speaker 2 37:42

to do. We were trained to do, and and sort of had a duty in the moment to report and to document in the ways that we could. And then, you know, I had no obligation beyond that. Yeah. And so don't I don't consider myself now to be a whistleblower, and I don't consider myself then to have been withholding or

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Speaker 1 38:02

yeah exactly fighting yeah now are you are you a believer in extraterrestrial life Alex do you do you think that there is something else out there

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Speaker 2 38:19

probably you know I yes statistic. speaking, sure. Do I connect dots and say that that's what we saw that day? No, not necessarily.

S

Speaker 1 38:31

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Does now? In what way has that afternoon and that that sighting in particular, how has that changed you? Has it changed the way that you look at things in any way, or

S

Speaker 2 38:48

it hasn't? No, it hasn't. No, and I get asked this all the time, right? Like, what impact did it have on you? Yeah, yeah. It didn't. It doesn't haunt me. I don't think about it. I actually, I forgot that we had this this engagement. I think when you when I saw you move on,

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Speaker 1 39:07

yeah,

S

Speaker 2 39:07

maybe when you when you made the ask, I said okay, but make sure you send me a reminder. You

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Speaker 1 39:12

did. You specifically said please please make sure to send me a reminder the day before. Yes,

S

Speaker 2 39:18

because I I have a job. I have three kids. I have I have hobbies and pets and and you know home. I have all these friends. You know that, and and so I'm I'm very much enjoying this conversation with you here now. I really enjoyed our time together in in Cincinnati for Move On. That was an interesting experience for me, but it's not one that I I seek out. It's this is not my hobby.

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Speaker 1 39:54

Well, and it's it's not like a defining moment in your life or even your career. I don't

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Speaker 2 40:01

identify with it. I don't. I don't identify as a UFO person. I have been unwittingly thrust into this story just as a as a witness.

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Speaker 1 40:11

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 40:12

and and as a former military officer who raised my right hand and took that oath and wore the cloth of the nation,

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Speaker 1 40:22

yeah,

S

Speaker 2 40:23

and then spent you know a decade teaching leadership and ethics to the next generation of officers and and marine navy Marine Corps candidates. I feel that duty and obligation to respond,

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Speaker 1 40:39

yeah,

S

Speaker 2 40:40

to the curious and concerned citizens, whether it's you know a legitimate reporter that reaches out, CNN or NPR or PBS or BBC, you know I've done all of those, or if it's somebody who has a show like this that asks curious questions and has has fun with the topic without making fun of it is really important to me. Absolutely, you know, I liked your intro. Thank you. But but you know, if I go, I did an episode once or an interview once with the news crew, and they started playing the spooky music.

S

Speaker 1 41:17

Oh yeah, yeah, the the X Files music and stuff.

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Speaker 2 41:20

Yeah, and I was like, you know what? No, thank you,

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Speaker 1 41:23

Mark Snow.

S

Speaker 2 41:24

Yeah, because because then I'm just

 Speaker 1 41:27
yeah

 Speaker 2 41:27
clickbait, right? I'm just content with their

 Speaker 1 41:31
yeah,

 Speaker 2 41:32
they're they're fluff, they're fuller there, and so when somebody wants to have an interesting conversation or advance the conversation, or if you want to start talking about critical thinking, if you want to talk about science, exactly inquiry, then then I'm all about it. And I actually, with my students, when we do we do a whole section on on critical thinking, great. I give them a choice. I say, you know, here are the elements of thought. Here's some some frameworks and models. All models are wrong. Some models are helpful. Here's here's some tools to put in your kit. And we're going to practice this. We're going to do an exercise. And you choose classroom full of students. Do you want to spend the next hour talking about the opioid crisis in America, gun control, or UFOs.

 Speaker 1 42:31
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 42:32
and you know, in over 10 years, well, now it's probably been 16 years. Anytime, you know, 100% they want to talk about UFOs.

 Speaker 1 42:42
Yeah,

S

Speaker 2 42:43

because it's fun. You know, it's not. You know, the other topics are just.

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Speaker 1 42:48

It's they get heavy real quick.

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Speaker 2 42:50

Yeah, they get heavy real quick. We get beat over the head with them constantly, and so to be able to say, you know, what are our assumptions and where could we find more and different and better information? What are the different stakeholders and

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Speaker 1 43:08

absolutely

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Speaker 2 43:08

question and issue that can that can be a worthwhile topic, which is why I love what I don't know. Have you talked to David Marler out in Rio Rancho, Mexico.

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Speaker 1 43:23

I'm connected with David, but I have not had him on the show yet. He is on my very short list of people to contact in the next few months.

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Speaker 2 43:32

You should, you should, and you you should get him to do a a virtual tour, or if you ever have a chance to go out there, should do a

 Speaker 1 43:39
yeah

 Speaker 2 43:40
stream from from the actual archives, so he has all this material there.

 Speaker 1 43:46
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 43:46
and what I love about David is he found this opportunity to take what is sort of this this raw.
What files are they? Project Blue Book is that a that's a thing. Yep, he has several.

 Speaker 1 44:04
Yeah, blue book, grudge, all kinds of documents. A

 Speaker 2 44:08
few sets of, and they're all in these filing cabinets, and they're all neatly stored and and
collated and all that. And then he's got other multimedia tapes and And things, and he said,
"Look, I don't know if this is fact or fiction or folklore, but it's worth preserving.

 Speaker 1 44:31
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 44:32
it's worth holding this space, like a library or museum and archive.

S Speaker 1 44:36
Yeah,

S Speaker 2 44:37
to to preserve this material and to to hold space for these conversations, and it's this public private partnership with the Rio Rancho public schools there, and so for the same reason that that my students always choose UFOs for critical thinking exercise, those students can come in and. You know, the English teacher says, "Hey, we're going to do essays or creative writing, or the art teacher says, "Okay, we're going to do something inspired by flying saucers. I

S Speaker 1 45:12
did my 10th grade research paper on the Nazca lines.

S Speaker 2 45:16
I don't know what that

S Speaker 1 45:18
is. See, that's how long I've been into it. It is. It's. is. It's very large petroglyphs in Peru, like the the that go on for miles. Yeah, it's the stuff that you

S Speaker 2 45:29
can see from space. Yeah,

S Speaker 1 45:30
yeah,

S

Speaker 2 45:31

yeah, yeah. I know about those.

S

Speaker 1 45:32

Yeah, the ones that are supposedly like the the the airstrips of the gods and stuff like that. There's like a bird and yeah

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Speaker 4 45:41

yeah yeah

S

Speaker 1 45:41

exactly. So, but that's just it. That's just it. The idea of being able to have these conversations, Alex, and and the whole reason that I brought up, a were you a believer before, and b did it did it change you in any way? Is man one of the one of the biggest things that people bring up all the time in the world of conspiracy stuff like that is of course the moon landing, and and the idea of when when they got back and they were interviewed they were just like unaffected by by going to the moon. It's like, like you were saying a minute ago. When when you train for this, you train for it, and you train for it, and you and you train for it so much that it becomes something rote, and it's no longer exciting every day. It's kind of like when people ask me, like I do AV for a living. I spend a decade of my life doing rock and roll, like I, I, I, I drum teched for Neil Parrott one night for Rush, like I was on video crew for for Roger Waters the Wall. Like I have seen some cool shows in my life, but it gets to a point where you're just lifting a rig to the ceiling and unloading 23 trucks again on a Thursday night, you know it's it's it's not a major rock and roll show. It's not Tom Petty. It's just a Thursday night at work, you know. And people wonder, like, how do you get to that? How can you get to a point where? How can you get to a point that you've done your job so rotely for so long that an experience like the Nimitz encounter is is not something that you intrinsically tie yourself to in life, you know. And I I think that's a conflict of mentality for a lot of people that can't understand that concept.

S

Speaker 2 47:42

Yeah, it's really well well studied. Well, those I'm getting very excited thinking about all the experiences that you've had. I would like to interview you about Neil Pert. I had I

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Speaker 1 47:54

had some fun times. It was cool. It was great. Yeah, and now I do corporate AV, and I'm so much happier. It's weird because people like, did you like to rock and roll more? It's like, man, I didn't work in nearly as much air conditioning as I as I do now.

S

Speaker 4 48:10

Yeah,

S

Speaker 1 48:11

but at the same time, it's it's once again one of those things that it's proof to the fact that even, and this is something I've been working with with my nine year old is is the idea that a moment does not have to define you. It's a part of who you are, but it doesn't have to define. It's up to you whether or not you let it define you in that kind of way, you know. And that's that's any paranormal experience. That's in anything.

S

Speaker 2 48:49

Yeah, you know, there are so many other moments in my life that are on replay, or that you could say were traumatic, or that that stick with me. You know, I've had three children, right? Like all, you know, natural vaginal births. Yeah, one of them, my middle child, his umbilical was itself tied into a knot.

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Speaker 1 49:13

Yeah,

S

Speaker 2 49:13

and it was wrapped around his neck. And when he came out,

S

Speaker 1 49:17

yeah, that was my brother.

S

Speaker 2 49:19

Yeah, yeah. He so everybody was concerned with him as they should have been, right? To get him breathing and all that. And then I went into shock.

S

Speaker 1 49:28

Oh wow!

S

Speaker 2 49:30

So and he's got that personality. He's nine now. He's always been fine ever since. But that traumatic birth experience and the fact that you know he almost killed us both in the process is something that you know. A few times a year, I'll I'll get like I'll look at him and I'll think, God, you know, this we almost didn't make it. Like we're we almost didn't care at this moment. You know, other other moments in the aircraft. You know, I had a I had a. Real mishap, actually, over near our home field in California, where we lost hydraulics and lost, you know, our nose wheel steering and our brake and our anti-skid and all these things. And so, while there's hide one and hide two, so there's redundant system, but we lost the entire, you know, half of the the hydraulics, and I brought it in and was able to touch down, but the snubber pressure on the hook didn't. They they rigged the arresting gear at the field. This was at an outlying field at China Lake, and so we had a hook skip, blew both tires, the main mounts, and got airborne again. And my wizzo was was cinching down in straps because he thought we were going to have to eject. It's like there's hope that we're going to be able because come around, we don't have tires. As soon as you touch down, you're going to flip over. And I said, you know, give me one more chance. Give me one more chance. I flew the path of my life. I did a flying arrestment and and smacked it down on the deck. But like that flight to me was more. There was more adrenaline and more excitement and more like. There's more memory and and recurring like oh that could have could have would have should have you know

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Speaker 1 51:28

yeah

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Speaker 2 51:30

but for the grace of God you know that worked out but I don't I don't replay the Tic Tac incident in in the way these other things that have happened in my life play out.

 Speaker 1 51:42
Now, one last question about the Tic Tac incident.

 Speaker 6 51:50
Yeah,

 Speaker 1 51:50
because I mean,

 Speaker 2 51:52
but let's talk about it some more, just

 Speaker 1 51:54
a little bit. Well, I mean, as as we wrap that topic, just the idea of where do you think things are going? Where do you, after your experience, after seeing that, after knowing that, I mean, I guess not knowing what it is, knowing that it's not our technology, are you afraid in any way?

 Speaker 2 52:23
I'm not. No, you know I don't know what it was that we saw. Sure,

 Speaker 1 52:28
sure.

 Speaker 2 52:28
On November 14, 2004, people refer to the East Coast incidents and say, you know, oh well, they saw. I don't know that that was the same thing, right? That was unidentified. So

 Speaker 1 52:46
yeah,

 Speaker 2 52:47
it would be irresponsible to say that that's of the same technology or the same origin or or anything like that.

 Speaker 1 52:53
Yeah.

 Speaker 2 52:54
I mean, as far as we know, nobody's been injured. Nobody's been, you know, there hasn't been loss of life or limb or major mishap, loss of equipment or material in that way. So I'm not, I'm not scared. I am concerned that we don't have domain awareness. So, I mean, the events of 911 want to know what's in your airspace. You want to have everything accounted for, and when things are operating in your airspace, just from a safety, you know, deconflicting. You want to make sure that you have you have awareness, and then of course, from a national security standpoint, we want to know what's friend and foe, or know if somebody is spying on us, right? Doing some sort of information surveillance, reconnaissance,

 Speaker 4 53:55
yeah,

 Speaker 2 53:55
monitoring, and so you know, I'm not scared, but I I am another reason that I do these interviews and and advocate for critical thinking is to say, hey, we need to have we need to lower the stigma so that anybody who's out there that sees something will come forward and and say something, and then we also need to have a capture mechanism, so we need to have a system in place where people can report, and that information can be ingested,

 Speaker 1 54:31
yeah, and

 Speaker 2 54:32
then you know compiled and and analyzed in a way that we can make sense of the encounters that are happening, and maybe even predict when next encounters might happen, so that we can show up with our

 Speaker 1 54:46
yeah

 Speaker 2 54:47
fancy gadgets and tech

 Speaker 1 54:49
and and there were some real like I've got one of the fancy gadgets here at the house, the Madar system, which I guess is now TSIG. They were they were there at. And and yeah, Mufon and these passive systems are wicked cool. Where it's a have

 Speaker 2 55:07
you seen anything with it?

S

Speaker 1 55:08

I have I have had a few anomalous pings on my system. Yes, where where I've gotten an alert that there's like an because this one specifically monitors a lot of magnetospheric anomaly things like that, and then we'll cross reference it with flight logs and that kind of stuff to be like, no, at this time, at this altitude, there was there was nothing as as far as public flight logs go, you know, stuff like that. So it's it's wicked cool and yeah the idea that and you know I think Lou Elizondo really said it best in it was it was the Senate hearing that happened just before the just before the drone flaps that started happening across the country because they they asked about the appearance of these things over nuclear facilities, all that kind of stuff, and they're like, "Why aren't why isn't this a bigger conversation? He was like, "You know, well, because if it's a bigger conversation, then we would be publicly admitting that we have a gaping hole in our security in things that we can't identify in our skies over sensitive areas.

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Speaker 2 56:29

Well, you know what was in 20 was it 23 when the the weather Chinese weather balloon

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Speaker 7 56:37

yeah

S

Speaker 2 56:37

was just yeah just

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Speaker 1 56:39

just hovering over yeah and

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Speaker 2 56:41

I love that you know because everybody's wringing their hands and all the news channels. It was like it was a couple weeks and there were

 Speaker 1 56:49
and then ordinance over American soil,

 Speaker 2 56:54
right? That was

 Speaker 1 56:55
wild.

 Speaker 2 56:56
Well, I mean, there was the debate about like why can't we identify it? Why don't we know its origin, where it came from, or what it's doing here? Its intent,

 Speaker 1 57:06
yeah.

 Speaker 2 57:07
But then also this question about jurisdiction,

 Speaker 1 57:10
yeah.

 Speaker 2 57:10
The fact that the military's up and out, right? They can't point sensors and in our backyards. Yes, full sense of privacy and yeah, whose job is it right? Not just the authority, but who's going to pay for

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Speaker 1 57:28

it? Yeah, well, and I had brought that up in the panel that we were in at MUFON. The idea of Arrow asking NOAA and all these other NASA, all these other agencies. Like, if if you have sensors, yeah, that that we can use and get data from, let me know. He's like, I'm I have access to some of the best sensors in the whole world,

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Speaker 2 57:54

yeah,

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Speaker 1 57:54

with the NSA, but I can't point them inside the boundaries of our country. That's that's highly illegal. Like I can't point it at Iowa or Poughkeepsie. Yeah, that's that's highly illegal to do so, and people don't realize that. People, I don't think that the average person out there, and even even when it comes to the tranches of data from the War Department, things like that. Alex, you know, like I said at the conference, like I say on the show all the time, these are not for us. They are not for those of us that have been entrenched in this research for 20 years and that kind of stuff. People that have been following rabbit holes and reading about this. These are for the other 60% of the American populace. People like my dad, for whom this is not a daily conversation. You got to onboard them somehow before they understand that. Like, well, apparently the federal government's been very interested in this topic for 80 years, to the tune of billions of dollars of research, and they still don't have answers, and they would love to know what that five to 8% anomaly over our skies is. You know, so it's it's the fact of that. I don't think they're hiding a whole lot because because they don't know, you know, um, that's that that's the fact of most of it. Do I think that there might be some technology squirreled away somewhere, that kind of stuff from a recovery? Sure, possibly. I don't, I don't know if that's a reality in the world, you know, we had some pretty wild leaps in technology for certain, but I I don't think that we can fully attribute it to that, because once again, it's like saying you're a Bigfoot expert. You first have to prove Bigfoot exists before you can be an expert in it. You know, so yeah, we would have to prove the alien technology exists before we could say like, "Hey, microwaves came from alien technology. So yeah, I don't, I don't jump to those extents. I, I try not to. My my head's in the clouds, but my feet are firmly on the ground now when it comes to this stuff, so before we let you go, where do where do you think all of this is going? What words would you have for those that I guess are out there that that may have dire consequence in mind in some way, shape, or form.

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Speaker 2 1:00:48

Well, I think it was the panel that we were on, and the gentleman to my left said that you know that there would be catastrophic.

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Speaker 1 1:00:58

Whoever whoever gets control of this technology will rule humanity for the next 10,000 years.

S

Speaker 2 1:01:04

Yes, was the exact quote. Right, and I thought, well, and then he said, and then everyone's going to start eating each other.

S

Speaker 1 1:01:12

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:01:13

and that's when I started to inch my chair over dogs

S

Speaker 1 1:01:18

and cats living together.

S

Speaker 2 1:01:20

I didn't know it was going to be that kind of party. So, I, you know, again, I'm I'm not that scared. I'm not that worried. I I feel like if you know the government came out tomorrow and said, you know, you're right, you're right. We actually we've had this-the alien cadavers, you know, stuck in the freezer here.

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Speaker 1 1:01:45

Yeah,

S

Speaker 2 1:01:46

and and this is all true, and and they've been here all along, and we're, you know, in this treaty with them, and and all this. I feel like people would there would be a news cycle, just like there is about everything else.

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Speaker 1 1:02:04

Yeah, to be

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Speaker 2 1:02:04

upset about or outraged, or you know, I just filled up my car with gas today, and it was \$130.

S

Speaker 1 1:02:13

Yeah, yeah,

S

Speaker 3 1:02:14

\$130.

S

Speaker 1 1:02:16

Yeah,

S

Speaker 2 1:02:16

I mean that makes me want to eat somebody,

S

Speaker 1 1:02:18

Right,

S

Speaker 2 1:02:22

right. So I just I'm not that worried about catastrophic disclosure.

S

Speaker 1 1:02:28

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:02:28

what's going? I think that you know, especially if we've been talking about this, has been for decades, and this is, or even you know, there's ancient art or ancient aliens. Yeah, what was project on 10th grade.

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Speaker 1 1:02:42

Yeah, the Nazca lines.

S

Speaker 2 1:02:44

Yeah, I mean, how many 1000s of years? Yeah. So we're here. We're we're surviving. I don't know if we're thriving at this point, but I think we're doing the best we can, and we've just got to keep trying to do better,

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Speaker 1 1:03:01

yeah, yeah, and and I that is that is a great call to action at the end of all of this is the the do better as humanity period do better we we end every show Alex with the words of thank you for your open hearts, your open minds. That's what makes the conversation. And without the conversation, humanity does not march forward. We've got to be willing to, in that epistemologic way, hold two truths the same. And I, I, I think, sadly, what comes to conflict with so many people with your experience, Alex, is that it only brings more questions. It brings zero answers to the table, you know. And I, I think that people, people think that for some reason you would have an answer as to what you saw or why you saw it or any any of that, and and yeah. Once again, I don't know if they know how to handle that. I don't know if they know how to handle that. Like the it's it's like when you find out that the person with the collar at the altar every Sunday has just as many questions as you do, you know, you know that like they are just as much a human being, and they have crises of faith, they have crisis of conscience, they like you know like whoa, wait a minute, like Michael Jordan eats wheat, like actually eats wheaties, like he eats breakfast like a human, you know, like it's it's it's strange. So yeah, yeah. I wanna I wanna thank you for your time. I wanna thank you for your time at Mufon and for coming out to that because it is it can. Be interesting stepping into those communities sometimes as somebody who who once again is is not necessarily a a believer capital B in that kind of way and not it despite being an experienter and a witness is not wearing the capital E experienter badge in that kind of way, you know.

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Speaker 4 1:05:28

Yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:05:30

you know, it was an honor. It was bold and very glad to engage at Mufon. I did have to hold boundaries, you know, and make sure that people Respected that I call it my aggressive. I'm aggressively neutral. Yeah. So a lot of folks, you know, they came up and they just wanted to say, oh, you know, here's my experience and here's what I believe, right? Yeah. You know, and there's wink and a nod and a

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Speaker 1 1:05:58

yeah,

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Speaker 2 1:05:59

and And so, saying respectfully, you know that that's what you believe, and I'm I'm I'm okay sitting here with my unanswered questions.

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Speaker 1 1:06:10

And yeah, yeah, and you know I think that's it. A lot of people find that unresolution unnerving in that kind of way, and I'm I'm one of those people that hey the the more questions there are, that just means the more that we get to look into it. That just means the more that we get to have conversations like this. Like I am I am all about that exploration of humanity and philosophy and and that kind of stuff. So more more to the fact, even that frequently I will just I will take the devil's advocate side of something that like I don't even believe the point that I'm defending. I'm just bringing up the fact that hey, this is a point.

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Speaker 2 1:06:56

Yes.

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Speaker 1 1:06:57

Have you considered this facet on the gym? I don't look through that facet. Not my facet, but it's there. So,

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Speaker 2 1:07:07

and that I loved at the at the conference the um, you know the art,

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Speaker 1 1:07:11

the the

S

Speaker 2 1:07:12

books,

 Speaker 1 1:07:13
yeah,

 Speaker 2 1:07:13
the the tech, right? All of these different angles that people were coming, and it really was a community. It is, and the network and the relationships, you know, that that were there.

 Speaker 4 1:07:26
Yeah,

 Speaker 2 1:07:26
it was cool to be a part of, and I was glad to be included.

 Speaker 1 1:07:30
Yeah, well, thank you so much from the community. Thank you so much for being there because it really is. It's a different conference than a lot of the others. So many other conferences, especially in the world of UFO UAP, are very much pop culture cons in their way. Whereas there's there's a lot of a lot of science talk. There's a lot of a lot of really cool discussion that goes on at the Mufon conferences. So I want to appreciate you or tell you thank you so much for tonight. I appreciate you. It's been a fantastic conversation, Alex.

 Speaker 2 1:08:10
I appreciate you, Chris, and thanks for the invitation. And I look forward to seeing you soon. And all my best to Amy.

S

Speaker 1 1:08:15

Absolutely, same to Mike and the kids. Hope everything goes well. Hope they have a great school year, and I'll I'll be in touch. I'd love to have you on again and again to talk about this because it really is, it's one of those people ask me all the time, Alex, why I don't do more. There's a lot of a lot of hosts out there do experienter stories, experienter episodes, things like that. These are much more the experienter stories that I like to bring in. Like there has been a couple of children of experiencers. Like I've I've met Travis's Travis Walton's son, things like that, and I've asked him to come on the show not to talk about his dad's experience, but to talk about what the spill over to families is, what what it's what it's like growing up with that talk about your family in such a small town, you know, like my family comes from a very one red light town, Mamu, Louisiana. Like my cousin graduated with like 30 other kids, you know. Everybody knows everybody. So what's it like living in a town like that when when that's the family story? You know, those those are the explorations of conversation that I like having because I think it really shows a different aspect of what experience is, and a part that so many of us forget about that that true human connection of how this affects somebody's life for the rest of it. So, yeah, thank you. For the honest and open conversation this evening, I greatly appreciate

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Speaker 2 1:10:04

it. My pleasure.

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Speaker 1 1:10:05

Awesome. Well, take care. I will be in touch with links, all that kind of fun stuff. You have a great evening.

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Speaker 2 1:10:12

Thanks, Chris.

Speaker 1 1:10:12

Awesome. We'll talk to you soon. Bye, man. Incredible conversation, folks, and it really is that idea of when it comes to humanity. Where, what are we looking at? How are we looking at things? How are we? I'm I'm in the midst right now of finishing up awakening together. As many of you know, I I wrote the group therapy protocols for paranormal experiencers, kind of like a paranormal anonymous protocol for group help, group therapy to kind of help normalize this kind of experience in a non-judgmental atmosphere, and the idea of so many people, this becomes an identifying moment, and I think it's truly beautiful for Alex the idea that this is not a moment that is a pivot point in life in that kind of way, you know, because that in and of itself, that linchpin can become a breaking point at some point. It can become a point that can hinder you from family, from friend, from so many things as we talk about on this show regularly. And when we come back from this quick break, everybody, we will be getting into more deep, deep conversation with Experiancer and Reverend Michael J. S. Carter. We will be talking about metaphysical morals, the idea of morality. What is the source of morality? How can you epistemologically hold two thought forms at the same time, even though they be competing? How can they both be valid? Do you need religion to have morals? We will be getting into that and so much more with our good friend Reverend Michael J. S. Carter right after this, folks. The key to good science is good research. At the heart of good research is a good data set. With the field observation and encounter log from Curious Research, you can easily keep track of your investigative information all in one place, making it easier to review cases and readily see comparisons and contrasts between them, whether out in the woods squatching in a back room gathering EVPs, or using high-tech gear to track UFO UAP activity, this easy-to-carry pocket-sized scientific data log is the perfect companion for any field researcher. You can find your copy of the Curious Research Field Observation and encounter log at Amazon.com, or visit the official Curious Realm store at curiousrealm.com/store to reserve your copy for yourself, your family, or a mine that you want to open. That website again is curiousrealm.com/store. slash store. Well, hello everybody, and welcome back from that quick commercial break. Thank you so much for staying through with us. Also, thank you so much to our sponsors, especially True Hemp Science. If you're a user of CBD products like I am, stop on by TrueHimpScience.com today. Christopher Lynch and TrueHimp Science use a spideric process where every part of the hemp plant is used. That's every part. Everything from the seeds to the stems to the fibers to the leaves to the buds to the roots, every part is used, combusted, and reused, and that process followed time and time again until nothing remains but an amazing spideric product, complete with terpene profiles and all. Stop on by truehemscience.com today. Use the code Curious Seven on your way out the door to save 7% off your entire cart of \$50 or more, and get free edibles as well. Our guest in this segment is the amazing Reverend Michael J. S. Carter. He is the author of Initiation and A New World. If you can take it as well as God consciousness. The topic for this evening is metaphysical morals, and and when you pose this topic, I I love just so you know I I love when guests pose topics frequently. I'll. I'll contact the guest, and they'll be like, "What's the topic? And I'm like, "I don't know. I just want to talk to you. What do you want to talk about?"

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Speaker 3 1:15:09

I love it. I love it. I love it. I I was very happy when you said that because you know you and you said it. You just said, "What's been on your mind lately? Yeah, and you know we're all thinking and feeling people, so I just said, "Yeah, I'm going back and revisit. My sabbatical is over, brother. Three months has flown by. Wow! I'm going back to work Monday, and already I'm going back to some challenges and fires to put out. But it's okay. That's why they pay me the big,

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Speaker 1 1:15:41

right? Right. That's that's what all the space credits are for at the end of it.

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Speaker 3 1:15:46

So yeah. So yeah. But it was great three months. I'm I'm rejuvenated. I'm looking forward to it. I've been thinking, as you know, and got some new sermons coming up. And before you know it, man, we'll be writing 2027.

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Speaker 1 1:16:03

Well, we will be. It's it's flown by. I was literally doing some work earlier today and noticed that it was like, wow.

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Speaker 3 1:16:12

You know, brother, you and I talk, and we're we're spiritual people. I like to think we, and I practice all the mindfulness things and trying to take it a day at a time. Yeah. But even with that, now let's be honest. I'm a little older now. Even with that, I still have to go. Wow. You know, I I went by \$1 General store the other day. They got Christmas stuff up.

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Speaker 1 1:16:37

Yeah.

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Speaker 3 1:16:39

Christmas last year. I'm watching less TV. Last year, because I sit around and I'll watch old documentaries on World War Two. You know, just stuff. And you know, I remember in August, like not the end of August, like maybe you know, obviously Hallmark, which I don't. My mom used to like that. Christmas in July, but but there were Christmas commercials in August. I'm like, well, wait, what happened? You know, I'm not even a big Halloween person, but you get my drift, and it just makes the time seem like it's even going more rapidly. But you know what? It's good to be alive, and and and this is what it is, but you know, last quarter of the year, it rolls right by. Yes, so here we are, you know, thankful for another day, as Marcus Aurelius reminds us to be, and others. And I was. This is what when you when you ask that question, when you say, "Oh yeah, what's on your mind? You know, I when I first started this journey, even before the UFO stuff, you know, when I left the African American Baptist Church and my theology was changing, I was changing. I got into obviously metaphysics. You know, got into paranormal stuff and what have you. And I remember I was attending a science of they call it religious science now, and then there was unity and you know, positive thinking and manifestations and all this stuff, and I loved it. I loved it, and but I noticed as I got pushback from friends, and even I started seeing it. You know, obviously, there's a difference between well, sometimes there is philosophical metaphysics, which is the nature of reality and what is real and how. And you know, there's there's you know all philosophical metaphysicians are not don't do not believe in God, which kind of you know I was getting confused, and then there was the spiritual metaphysics of the new thought movement, and yes, the the study of being would actually exist in the world. And then I thought to myself, Chris, that okay, you got to figure out what you believe, what is real, before you can act on that. What is reality?

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Speaker 1 1:19:23

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 1:19:23

is there some morals or virtues or whatever to it? But the challenge I got, which was very, even though it made me bristle, and then I wound up being a UU minister and went the whole other way, and now the pendulum's coming back more to the middle as a 69-year-old man. How does that equate to the community, the the the the the community, not just the cause, because you have. To be careful, I think one has to be careful because it stresses individualism so much. I can meditate. I can, I, you know, I can manifest. Okay, I can do the affirmative. I can, and it's part of the culture. And the pushback I would get, which was more for me being a you you, when because my my my my systematic theology teachers and whatever they didn't really yeah what about you you but who are you accountable to and where's your authority come from and I would say my authority came from the spirit within me thinking my link to the higher power, God source, call it what you will, but they couldn't understand that link. They why I had to say it a certain way because to them it was blasphemous.

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Speaker 1 1:20:52

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 1:20:53

and I was like, "Come on, guys! If you're saying the kingdom of heaven or whatever is within you, which is a form of metaphysics, then you know what I'm saying, but the pushback I got was is that you know for me and listening to that that we can be so individually focused, thinking that well this is my spiritual goals and do I need to forgive or I can forgive you for me or what it's it's a subtle way it comes back to the ego self of it's really all about me,

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Speaker 1 1:21:22

yeah, yeah, yeah.

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Speaker 3 1:21:24

Where the thing is, how do I use that to fit in? Well, not to fit in as in conformity, but remembering that I'm part of something larger.

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Speaker 1 1:21:34

Yeah, yeah. Where, where do you fit in? Is the greasy cog in the whole machine? Yeah, if I'm just a universe

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Speaker 3 1:21:41

on me, me, me, me, me, and manifesting for me, and you know, what are your thoughts on that?

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Speaker 1 1:21:47

Well, well, you know, I mean,

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Speaker 3 1:21:48

you're seminary. You went to seminary. I mean, what do you think about?

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Speaker 1 1:21:52

I tend to go go with what with what you would define, and and it gets me in trouble. It got me in trouble in the seminary. Gets me in trouble. It got me in trouble in a lot of ways, but but that is the fact of my agency and free will

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Speaker 4 1:22:10

is

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Speaker 1 1:22:11

is where I derive my authority. Yes, my agency and my free will, which was given to me and bestowed upon me uniquely by God of all of creation, I was given free will. So that is where I draw my agency, and that is where I draw my authority for anything. That's

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Speaker 3 1:22:32

that's that's what I like to hear. That's what I said to my professors at the time, and I think I was an anomaly because I was a person of color in Unitarian Universalism, which you know was rare. Which

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Speaker 1 1:22:44

is the UU, by the way, everybody. Yes,

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Speaker 3 1:22:47

yes, the Unitarian Universal. So yes, thank you. And so now that's changed a bit, but but at the beginning when I was there 20 some years ago, but but it was they want they wanted that formula.

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Speaker 1 1:23:00

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 1:23:00

I know what they wanted me to say, but that's not where I was coming.

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Speaker 1 1:23:03

Yeah, yeah. Sorry, I'm. I'm not going to say it derives from the papacy and being a part of the Holy See, and like

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Speaker 3 1:23:11

yes, that's what they wanted to hear. And so, but there, the underlying question was, who are you accountable to? Yes. At that time, I thought I'm a rebel and I'm doing the thing Jesus wanted me to do, whatever. And I was because he was doing that with Judaism. He was a Jewish person, but he was a different kind of Jewish person.

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Speaker 1 1:23:38

Yes.

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Speaker 3 1:23:39

Um. But but but but but after I got off my high horse, and started saying, "Look, well, let's let's look at what they're asking, or what you know, and they were saying, "Yes, we wanted you to say you're accountable, that you have a structure behind you, a diocese or whatever that. But also, who are you accountable to as your neighbor? Because as you and I talked the last time, well, we talk all the time about this in one way or another.

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Speaker 1 1:24:10

Yeah,

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Speaker 3 1:24:10

this part of the cross, and I'm using that terminology for whatever. But you don't have okay. You could be Hindu, whatever. We stress this, we stress the power. You know, there's, there's, there's God, and then there's the high priest, and then there's, you know, the the po. You know, you know that with their power. You got to know the power structure, Michael. You got to know how things work. We could argue that, but we don't stress the horizontal. We don't stress the relational. The reach, the

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Speaker 1 1:24:47

reach of the cross, not not just the support of it.

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Speaker 3 1:24:52

Yes, and we need to be talking about how how we treat sentient non sentient life. My my my brothers and. Sisters, who's our boy? Who we're not humans having a we're not you know we're not human beings. We're spiritual beings having a human

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Speaker 1 1:25:11

experience.

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Speaker 3 1:25:12

Yeah, the the the priest, the Jesuit. Oh, he's my I'm getting older. You know who I'm talking about. Deschardan, yes, Pilia Tillyard Deschardin. He was talking. about that, and so the metaphysics. I think that we need to be stressing. There he is, my man. Is how we stress that because it always comes down to, and you and I all talk about this. It comes down to I don't care. Wednesday night you're at Bible study. Yeah, I used to be. You know, Thursday if you know you're in the temple, you're in the shul, you're at the mosque, you're in church on Sunday for several hours. But I know what you believe by how you treat me.

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Speaker 1 1:26:00

Yeah, that's

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Speaker 3 1:26:01

when I know you're doing all that Jesus talk about. You you you you make sure the outside of the cup is clean. I want you to make sure the inside of the cup is clean. And so I'm so I said, well, what are the morals? What are the you know what does it mean to have virtue? Can metaphysics, and I kind it's a straw person argument. I kind of know the answer, I think, but it's. I think it's we need to talk about that. That can it guide our morals coming from the point of departure? That I do believe in a God. Yeah, I use different words for it, but I do because how I look at the cosmos is how I'm going to conduct my interactions.

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Speaker 1 1:26:49

Yeah, yeah. No, it's exactly how you're going to negotiate a conversation with somebody.

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Speaker 3 1:26:55

Yes, to be in relationship with you, and you'll know what I believe. Now, I'm not saying that if you don't believe in a god, if you don't believe, I'm not saying that you don't have that. That's not what I'm implying at all. So I want your listeners to hear that. But can metaphysics can be a guide to morals? I think, but we constantly have to be vigilant on the individualism of

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Speaker 1 1:27:22

it, yeah,

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Speaker 3 1:27:22

because it's all about my self transformation, which it is about, and how that transformation influences vice versa the world around me. Otherwise, I become an island to myself, You know, otherwise I become, you know, just a law unto myself. Yeah. How many times have we talked to people about forgiveness, and now there's this whole thing with forgiveness, especially? Well, let's bring it up. Yom Kippur is coming up. Lashana Tova to our Jewish listeners. Happy New Year, but but the forgiveness aspect, and I hear a lot of people talking about forgiveness. Well, you're not doing it for them; you're doing it for you because it's really all about you, so you can move forward. I used to think like that, and I'm not saying it's wrong.

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Speaker 1 1:28:19

I can see that in a reductionist aspect, absolutely.

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Speaker 3 1:28:23

There we are, and so, but it's it's not just for me; it's for them as well. It's for them as well. I can't control that how they take it, but it's for them as

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Speaker 1 1:28:36

well. Well, and you know, in in Catholicism, we have the right of reconciliation, and we're we're the only ones that really have a right of it in that kind of way. Yes, yes. Everybody else, it's up and down. It's up and down the the path of forgiveness. But what people forget is that while the priest is also the up and down, and he's in that support branch. He's in that the cross

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Speaker 3 1:29:05

hierarchy,

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Speaker 1 1:29:05

most definitely. He's also where that where that cross bar begins. He's right there at

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Speaker 3 1:29:12

that jut. He's right there at

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Speaker 1 1:29:14

that juncture. So, so it's the fact of when you step into that confessional, you are confessing to everybody in the church, it's it is a community confession and a community forgiveness.

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Speaker 3 1:29:28

Yes,

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Speaker 1 1:29:28

because that's that's what it originally was in the church. Like you, you, and you basically had one confession. It was done like before you were unitarily at the same time baptized and confirmed as an adult, whenever you came into the cult of Christianity, so you had one chance in which to confess your sins in front of the congregation, in front of everybody, and we, as a community, forgive you, brother. One, one. One loving embrace of forgiveness from all of us right now. Come get the group hug, and that's what that was. And it became it became the the continued rite of confession because because of the whole concept of well, you know, we all have sufficient grace. There's always that seed of grace inside of us doesn't matter how bad or what you've done. There is always the chance of forgiveness. So, because of the fact that there is always sufficient grace, that means you have the chance to reconfess. That means you have the chance to be reforgiven of later sin, in that kind of way. So, philosophic argument, most definitely, when it comes to the teaching of the church, and I I may have butchered that for a lot of you Green Book Catechism folk out there, but that that's in a in a nutshell where where confession comes from, and and a lot of this, especially when it comes to metaphysics, Reverend, the one that I have been bringing up that I think you really got to reconcile yourself with before metaphysics is epistemology, and that is that is how you even come to believe what you believe. How you even come to the point of what is capital T truth? What do you consider a source of knowledge? What do you What do you consider these things? Because if you weren't willing, and this even comes down to the point of being able to hold two competing concepts in your brain simultaneously, and both of them being valid.