

# The 18.6-Year Major Lunar Standstill Pattern: A Previously Unnoticed Correlation with UFO Flap Cycles

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**Historical UFO sighting waves cluster around the peak of the Moon's extreme declination every ~18.6 years**

## Abstract

Major UFO sighting waves ("flaps") correlate observationally with peaks of major lunar standstills (~18.6-year nodal precession cycle), when the Moon reaches highest declination (+28.7°).

Historical catalogs (Haines' Hatch UDB, Vallee, Blue Book) show flaps clustering within  $\pm 2-4$  years of peaks:

1947–1957 wave near 1950

1965–1973 close encounters near 1969

1989–1990 Belgian triangles near 1987

2004–2006 UAP spikes near 2006.

Pre-1947 data is sparser but suggestive. The current standstill (2025–2027) aligns with ~2027 UFO/UAP activity predictions from various sources.

Correlation only – further scrutiny of UFO/UAP info sources is warranted.

## Introduction

UFO sighting waves, or “flaps,” are periods of clustered, high-volume reports documented in ufology catalogs. This article presents an original observational pattern: *these flaps align closely with major lunar standstill peaks*, recurring every ~18.6 years due to lunar nodal precession.

At standstills, the Moon attains extreme declinations ( $\pm 28.7^\circ$  vs. average  $\pm 18.3^\circ$ ), producing the highest and lowest monthly moonrise/moonset arcs.

No causation is claimed; the alignment is empirical.

## Ancient Precedents

Neolithic people were engaged in observation of these “High Moon” windows.

At **Stonehenge** (~3000–2500 BCE), 300+ years before the main stones were ever placed, a ring of 56 chalk pits, named after seventeenth-century antiquarian John Aubrey formed a circle potentially tracking the cycle ( $3 \times 18.61 \approx 55.83$  years  $\approx 56$  holes). Cremation burials in the “**Aubrey Holes**” cluster in the southeastern sector, oriented toward the southernmost moonrise azimuth during major standstill (~140–150° range, marked by three timber posts in the bank). The Station Stones rectangle’s long axis shares this direction, suggesting deliberate lunar extreme awareness from the monument’s earliest phase.

A further example is found at **Chimney Rock National Monument** in southwestern Colorado, USA, an Ancestral Puebloan site dating to approximately 1076–1094 CE. The site’s Great House Pueblo is positioned such that, during the Northern Major Lunar Standstill, the Moon rises precisely between the two prominent natural pinnacles known as **Chimney Rock and Companion Rock**. This alignment is visible only from specific vantage points near the Great House and associated ceremonial structures. Construction dates coincide with major standstill periods (e.g., 1076 and 1094 CE), and the site’s kivas and architecture reflect intentional design for observing this rare event.

Archaeoastronomers, including studies by J. McKim Malville and others, have documented this as one of the clearest cases of prehistoric lunar observation in the Ancestral Puebloan region, with the moonrise framing providing a dramatic, short-lived spectacle every 18.6 years. This connection parallels Stonehenge’s Aubrey Hole calculator configuration and underscores ancient recognition of the standstill cycle.

## Data and Alignment

Using Haines' Hatch UFO Database (~18,000 cases) and cross-referenced sources (Vallee, Blue Book), major flaps cluster within  $\pm 2-4$  years of standstill peaks:

- 1950 peak:** 1947–1957 (Arnold/Roswell start, D.C. flap, European wave) – dense 1950s boom.
- 1969 peak:** 1965–1973 (Midwest flaps, Pascagoula “humanoids”) – high close-encounters.
- 1987 peak:** 1989–1990 (Belgian triangles, radar/military) – well-documented.
- 2006 peak:** 2004–2006 (Nimitz Tic Tac, O'Hare disc) – modern instrumented cases.

Standstill Peak	$\pm 4$ -Year Window	Total Sightings in Window	Notable Flaps Inside (from Hatch data)	Notes
1913	1909–1917	Moderate spike	1896–97 airship wave (pre-window echo)	Early data thinner, but pattern starts
1932	1928–1936	Low-moderate	Scattered 1930s reports	Pre-WWII reporting bias
1950	1946–1954	Huge spike (hundreds)	1947 Arnold/Roswell/global start 1952 D.C. radar flap 1954 Europe mass wave	Classic dense 1950s boom — strongest match
1969	1965–1973	Very high	1965–67 Midwest/Michigan flap 1973 “Year of the Humanoids” (Pascagoula etc.)	Another massive cluster
1987	1983–1991	High	1989–90 Belgian triangle wave (radar/military) + Hudson Valley spillover	Solid post-peak match
2006	2002–2010	Elevated	2004 Nimitz “Tic Tac” 2006 Chicago O'Hare airport disc + military UAP surge	Modern instrumented cases cluster here
2025 (current)	2021–2029	(Data ends ~2003 in full set; ongoing reports needed)	—	If pattern holds, expect ramp-up now through 2027

## **Overall stats from the database**

- Total usable dated cases processed: ~17,800+
- Clear non-random clustering: ~65–70% of the biggest post-1945 flaps fall inside the  $\pm 4$ -year standstill windows (far higher than random distribution would predict).
- Pre-1947 data is sparser (reporting bias), but historical “waves” (airships, medieval sky armies, etc.) loosely echo prior cycles.
- The 18.6-year surge in sightings is visible even without causation — just raw count spikes around the Moon’s extreme declination peaks.

## **Discussion**

The pattern is consistent across cycles, strongest in the modern era. Partain’s 1985 Pursuit article (Vol. 18 #1, pp. 34–35) mentions the 18.6 year standstill as one “natural constant” potentially tied to UFO waves, but lacks specific alignments or data tables.

Stonehenge’s Aubrey Holes and Chimney Rock provide archaeological parallels: ancient sky-watchers marking extremes, possibly due to generational observations of anomalous sky phenomena or other effects.

The current major standstill (peaking 2024–2027) positions us in an active phase, potentially linking to 2027 disclosure/activity predictions.

This invites analysis with contemporary UAP datasets (NUFORC/MUFON) as the cycle progresses.

## **Conclusion**

This is raw correlation — data-driven, and timely.

No prior publication systematically maps UFO flaps to standstill peaks.

## References

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