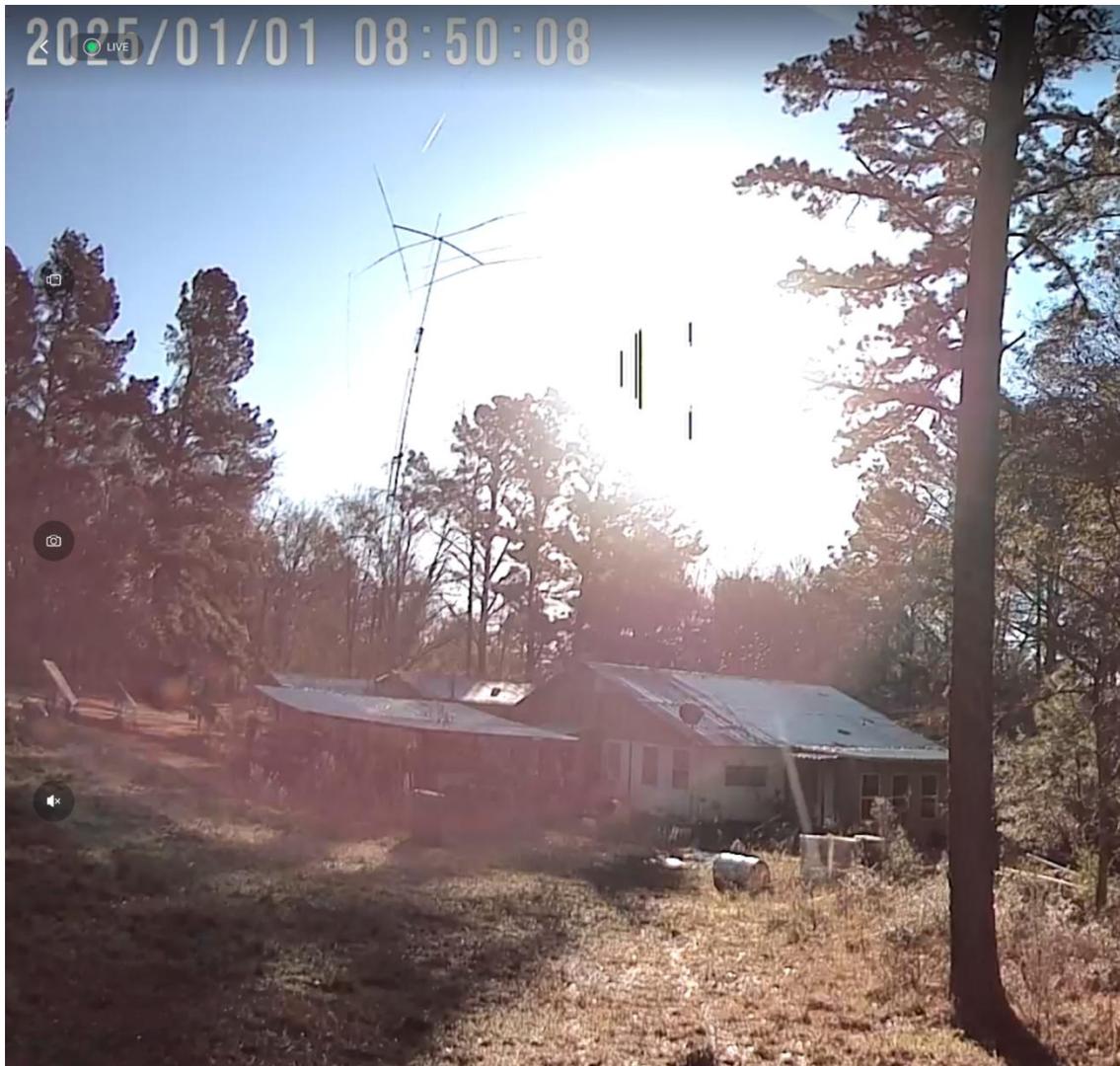


## A Strange New Years Tale

It was going to be a normal New Years Day. We live in the woods of East Texas, and being security conscious, we have a good “electronic surveillance platform.” Part of the mix is a half-dozen 2K solar-powered steerable live cameras.

While I was swinging the “gun range camera” from its usual down-range setting, from west, south, and then up through east, I noticed a weird aberration in the display. It was obvious because it was in the sky.



You can see the ham radio antenna (one element drooping) on the left. To the right of that are “the artifacts.” These were in a circular formation that came and went – sometimes all vertical black bars, sometimes some were green – but they came and went.

No change in their appearance relative to *sky*, though. So, I judged it unlikely to be a lens effect. I tilted the

camera – and swung it stop-to-stop – and back again. It was as though this artifact was “stuck in the sky.”

What was also “stuck in sky” was the halo effect. As a pilot, I’ve seen many such halos – when flying you see them when there are icy crystals in the upper atmosphere and the sun angle is just right. Not this time. The demarcation of “clear sky” was yellow and behind, to the left, was an odd greenish color.

After several more passes with the camera, I decided to “look along under the transition” zone and see what other cameras could pick up. The particular solar surveillance cams we use are not intended for sky viewing, so most would not look up into what (for now) we will dub “the portal suspect.”

One other camera (mounted south and west of our home a bit) did pick up an oddity in the sky. It was green and looked almost like chromakey green used in television.



This is strange, indeed. But things were about to get stranger.

## The Cursed Concrete

There's a back-story here you need to be read-in on.

About 10-years back, my buddy, who we will just call "*The Major*" was down visiting us. We were clearing the land south of the house and in the process, *the Major* had run the bucket of our small four-by-four tractor into a buried object.

When his efforts to move it didn't pay off, we worked together (me on the tractor, him doing the "arm strong" and we dug out an odd piece of concrete which seemed to have pieces of metal in it.

As I jumped down to help (and get a closer look at the object) my left interocular lens (from an earlier series of cataract repairs) was dislodged. This set off a sequence of eye surgeries.

Before we went to seek medical help, though, we loaded the concrete into the tractor bucket and I moved it about 75-feet where it was dumped into a shallow wash that flows from our yard area (uphill to the north) and down into a seasonal creek some 400 feet further downslope.

I'm telling you all this for a reason.

Because when I saw the view with the "green overcast" I decided to swing that same camera across the southern slope and see if anything stood out.

Sure enough, there was a bright yellow area just right of the big pine to the right of the trash container here. It was like a yellow "hot spot."



OK, this was getting a bit strange.

Grabbing a non-networked camera, I went down toward those two small trees. And when I got to the wash? There it was – that damned piece of concrete *the Major* had already identified as a cursed piece of material. Perhaps miffed that I'd started to dam up the wash with building materials from an old farm project, there it was, poking out as though to say "Hi!"



I waited a short time before calling *the Major* about all this high foolishness – it was still early out on the west coast, but he recalled all the facts of our initial encounter much as I’ve covered them here.

After that? Well, it was back to staring at the cameras. Now, an hour and some later, the anomaly is still there, looking like a different position from the two cameras, but still very much intact.



Whatever it is? It's not visible to the naked eye. But it's an intriguing way to "get reacquainted" with some cursed stone that led to multiple eye surgeries and resulted in a decline in vision that forced us to sell our airplane because without super-sharp eyes, why take chances flying?

**Science Rules – or Does It?**

I decided – since I had the old Canon *PowerShot* out – to see if the “portal effect” would be as clear (or even visible) on another digital camera. If it was a digital network effect (compression algo, or some-such) it shouldn’t be.

This one, honestly, surprised me: If you look closely from one cam you can see what looks like an old contrail in the sky left of center and going off to “portal green” right of center.



The next effort would be some pictures toward the ham radio tower. But there was nothing remarkable. And to be clear, at the same time, the camera aimed toward the ham tower showed the “portal effect” was quickly dissipating.



Artifacts in the sky? All gone.

Then to wrap up, swinging, the “gun range” view out west showed only a bit of color-shift toward green along the mid-elevation of sky with the Canon.



Though for comparison, taken a few minutes later, the mid-sky green was still highly visible on the network camera.



## Want a Crackpot Theory?

Nothing like a good story to kick off the New Year.

The leading theory is that there's a polarization issue with the lenses and it's only a coincidence that anything out of the ordinary was found.

HOWEVER, a competing view is that just like the tape bias oscillator in magnetic recorders, coupled with random noise, can create "virtual dithering" of low energy

information to make EVP (electronic voice phenomena” possible, so too there may be yet-undocumented effects of CCD (charge-coupled devices) photosensors which are not fully appreciated.

We have to remember that humans operate in a much more tightly-bound frequency range (perception depth) than animals like dogs or bats that hear better, and eagles and hawks that see better.

It’s a worthy topic to ponder as 2025 gets underway.

And a fresh year of personal woo-woo begins. The more sensitive and open we become, the more mysteries the Universe seems ready to deliver.

Bring it.

- Ure