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Possible UFO sightings scare wits out of boys

By KEN MILAM
Democrat Reporter

Either visitors from outer space or the U.S. Army scared the wits out of three Savanna teenagers earlier this week.

One of the three boys, all 14, came to the Democrat Wednesday with his grandmother, who said she had "never seen the boys so scared."

He related a story which the others confirmed of seeing eerie lighted saucer-shaped objects hovering above the treetops in a wooded area south of Savanna late Monday and Tuesday night.

The boys asked not to be identified for fear of embarrassment, and said they failed to notify authorities for the same reason.

One boy vividly described

three hovering objects seen about midnight Monday.

He said they looked like two saucers placed together, white in color with rotating bluish-green lights in the midsection, a red light which "would blind you, it was so bright" on top and a bright beam of light which seemed to search the woods.

He said the group was camping and fishing in the area.

The air seemed to grow suddenly warmer before they saw the objects, he said.

The boys said there was no sound except a weird "whooshing" noise when the UFO's rose. Two of the objects flew up and out of sight and the other disappeared in the treetops Monday, they said.

The next night the campers returned with a camera, and attempted to take pictures when they saw two red lights "coming down the side of the mountain" in the trees. They are waiting for the color film to be processed to find out if

their efforts were successful.

One boy said the group first thought the lights Tuesday may have been coon hunters with lanterns until they seemed to float up above the trees.

"We just took off" when that happened," he said.

No sightings of unidentified flying objects have been reported to law enforcement agencies in the area.

Except for the sound and white saucer shape, the description sounds suspiciously like army helicopters which are all equipped with a red light located on top and aft with bluish-green and red navigation lights on either side. Army helicopters are also equipped with a bright beam landing light to search for landing areas over rugged terrain after dark.

Phone calls to Ft. Sill, Ft. Chaffee, Ark., Ft. Hood, Tex., and local National Guard headquarters and pararescue units failed to confirm any helicopter flights in this area on either night, though spokesmen at Ft. Hood and Ft. Chaffee would not rule out the possibility.

A spokesman at the Ft. Sill airfield said two choppers were out on late night missions from that base on both nights, but records indicated they were "local" flights within a 100-mile radius of the base.

McAlester flight service said flyers in the area late at night seldom talked with the airport here except to request occasional weather information.

In the meantime, the boys said they intended to put aside their fears and return to the area again for further investigation.

UFO sighting leaves Lithia man frightened

By BENJAMIN WAKSMAN
Times Staff Writer

LITHIA — The thing was oblong, black and big, and it has a local man so frightened he says he can't sleep.

The "thing" is an unidentified object, or UFO, which Mike Lafferty, 28, and a neighbor say they caught a glimpse of it just before it disappeared as they were driving along Carlton Lake Road last night.

It is the second UFO sighting reported in east Hillsborough County in less than a week. Warren Coons of Bob Head Road north of Plant City said he saw a fiery object flying over his house at a high rate of speed Friday night. The object flew quickly away when his wife turned on a light to look for a camera, Coons said.

Lafferty told sheriff's deputies he and a neighbor, William Parrott, were driving on Carlton Lake Road about 9:20 p.m. when his truck's headlight suddenly reflected on the black, floating object.

Lafferty today described the object as being 18 feet long, six to eight feet wide and seven feet high. It was oblong, with square corners that "looked like a van, but larger," he said.

Lafferty said he has been "terribly scared" since the sighting and unable to sleep.

"I don't know what's going to happen," he said.

He said he didn't believe in UFOs until he saw the object last night.

"When I see something like this I want to know the whole truth about it," the 28-year-old dairy worker said.

Lafferty said he gets "cold chills" thinking about the object because he thinks it might be a bad omen. "I just wish I could put it out of my mind," he said.

Parrott said this morning he just caught a glimpse of the object before it disappeared.

"I wasn't going to say anything because I didn't want Mike to think I

was crazy, but then he asked me if I had seen it," Parrott said.

Lafferty said he and Parrott spent about an hour looking for traces of the UFO before reporting it to sheriff's deputies today to search in better light turned up no trace of the mysterious vehicle, he said.

Sheriff's office spokesmen could give no explanation for the incident, but said it is being investigated.

Tampa, Florida
Tampa Times
July 1, 1976

2 spot UFO complete
with lights and hum

he is not sure he would have believed what he was seeing, but his friend, Judy Parsons of Warminster, saw it too.

"We watched for about 10 minutes as it hovered closer and closer. We could definitely see it was saucer shaped with a dome."

"When it was about 800 to 900 yards away, a light was directed downward, sweeping the tops of the trees. Then I got scared, too."

"We were not drinking. We saw it and no jet could have traveled from the east to the west horizon in a minute. None would have had a light so bright. It got pretty spooky."

Matthew Graeber at the UFO Reporting Center, Philadelphia, said he had received no other reports of the sighting. He talked to Rossi and added the report to his records.

BY F.P. SCHAFFHAUSEN
Intelligencer Staff Writer
The first UFO sighting this year has been reported in Bucks County.

A young Hattboro man and woman were standing on the cliffs above Tohickon Creek in Ralph Stover State Park, Point Pleasant, shortly after 9 p.m. Sunday when, they report, a bright object appeared on the eastern horizon over the trees; disappeared and then reappeared on the western horizon.

"It hovered in the distance and then came gradually closer," reports Ronald Rossi, 28, a mail clerk in the Warminster Post Office.

"The light was very bright, like a movie marquee. I couldn't tell if it was spinning or it was a strobe effect. I could hear a hum - a low hum."

Rossi says that if he had been alone,

Democrat
McAlester,
Oklahoma
July 15, 1976

The Daily
Intelligencer
Doylestown, Pa.
July 20, 1976

Was Charlie Hickson Abducted by Spacemen? No, Robots, He Says Now

PASCAGOULA, Miss. (UPI) — Charlie Hickson has been doing a lot of thinking since that October night in 1973 when he told authorities a bizarre tale of being taken aboard a spacecraft by three "things" and examined for up to an hour.

"I've thought about it a lot," the 45-year-old shipyard worker said in an interview. "To the day I die, I'll believe the same thing. Those things were not from the earth."

"I believe they were robots," he said. "I'm convinced to my satisfaction that they were robots controlled by a mother ship somewhere. They acted like they had a job to do and they just did it. They didn't make any attempts to communicate and I didn't notice they were breathing."

"I'm no expert on space and I don't know about the galaxies and solar systems," Hickson admitted, "but I've had an opportunity to look through some big telescopes since it happened and I believe there's life out there and it's closer by than we think it is."

Fishing on Pier

Hickson and his young friend Calvin Parker, then 19, finished their workday at Walker Shipyards early in the afternoon of October 11, 1973. They were fish-

ing in the Pascagoula River from an old pier in the abandoned Schaupeter Shipyard about dark when Hickson said he heard a sound "like air or steam escaping from a pressure line."

Craft Hovered

Hickson said he looked up and saw an oblong metallic device about 30 feet long hovering just off the ground about 40 feet away. Two blue lights flashed from the craft in the gathering dusk, Hickson said.

A door opened from midway along the length of the craft and three things, vaguely resembling human forms, drifted out and toward him and Parker, Hickson recalled. The things picked up the two frightened shipyard workers and took them inside the device where an eye-like mechanism carefully scanned them for between 30 minutes and an hour. The same three creatures then delivered them unharmed back on the ground near the Schaupeter Shipyard water tower.

Hickson and Parker were subjected to a barrage of questions from authorities, scientists and reporters in the weeks after their experience. They stuck to their story. Even in a jail cell containing a concealed tape recorder, the two men marveled over their

experience. Lie detector operators who tested them agreed that something strange indeed had occurred in Schaupeter Shipyard.

He Gets Letters

After the initial frenzy surrounding them had died down, Hickson said he continued to receive letters from all over the world from people who said they had undergone similar experiences.

"Some of them were too unbelievable," Hickson said. "They just didn't make sense."

"I spoke with Jean Dixon [a self-proclaimed psychic] about this and she fully believed me," Hickson said. "She said they came from a planet that's just beyond Jupiter, one our astronomers think is there but they haven't seen it since Jupiter is always between it and the earth."

Though Calvin Parker now leads a somewhat reclusive life in his hometown of Laurel, Miss., the changes the experience wrought in Hickson's life are less profound than one might imagine.

He's still working as a welder to support his wife and the four of his five children who are still at home. The family lives in a small apartment furnished with a vinyl couch and dime-store prints of a matador and a Spanish woman.

But Hickson said his intellectual horizons have been broadened since the experience.

"I lived in my own little world then," he said. "I didn't think about things like this. The experience has helped to educate me to a lot of things."

"I was reared as a hardshell Baptist and done quite a bit of studying of the Bible. Maybe some other hardshell Baptists would say I shouldn't be talking like this, but I still believe in God or a master mind with a master plan."

"But why would a master mind with a master plan, who can create a universe so large we can't know where it ends, put us here and nobody else on all the billions and billions of galaxies and trillions and trillions of planets?"

"When the Bible was wrote maybe he saw no reason to worry us with all that other," Hickson theorized, "but maybe now he thinks it's time and they're the messengers. I don't know."

Hickson has not become rich from his experience, despite several lucrative offers from television and film companies.

"They wanted to fantasize it, put things in it that didn't happen," he said of is decision to reject the offers.

UFO Is Spotted Following Planes Near Page Field

By JAN GODOWN
News-Press Staff Writer

A National Airlines pilot and members of a prayer group are among the persons who say they saw a bright orange unidentified flying object (UFO) in Lee County skies late Friday.

The UFO was described by its watchers as a moving orange light that appeared to be following aircraft near the airport around 11 p.m.

It was also sighted in the sky by someone at Sanibel, according to Lee County Sheriff Department reports. A Federal Aviation Administra-

tion air traffic controller working on the 4 p.m. to midnight shift at the airport Friday, said Saturday the pilot and a caller from Pine Manor both told him they saw an orange object moving in the sky.

The controller requested to remain anonymous.

He said after the National flight landed the pilot radioed the control tower that he had seen an orange light north and northeast of the airport at about 2,500 feet. The object turned white as it moved away, the pilot told the controller.

"I didn't see it myself," the controller said. "If it had been any

length of time or brilliance, I would have seen it," he said.

He said he couldn't remember the pilot's name.

The controller said he also had a call from a man in the Pine Manor subdivision who reported the same sighting.

Jim Halm of 936 Lucas Road in South Fort Myers told the Lee County Sheriff's Department he saw a bright orange UFO following aircraft and hovering near the airport.

Halm said the UFO appeared over trees by the airport and changed in color from orange to white to red.

He said he saw it about 10:50 p.m.

Les Kessler a Sanibel Island resident, told the sheriff's department he saw an orange UFO in the sky between 11:10 p.m. and 11:14 p.m. Friday. Kessler described it as moving fast 15,000 feet sideways then moving up in the air several miles, having the appearance of a rocket exhaust but with no noise heard. The sheriff's department took the information but isn't conducting an investigation, a spokeswoman said Saturday.

Airport manager Gary LeTellier said he was unaware of the sightings. "This time of year there are some awfully weird phenomena associated with swamp gas and electric storms," LeTellier said.

At least one person thinks the cause is extra-terrestrial. Dave Lilly, 18, of North Fort Myers, was meeting in a friend's home for a prayer group Friday night near South U.S. 41. He and his prayer group friends saw the UFO from a porch. "I think it had religious connotations," Lilly said Saturday.

ANOTHER WITNESS reported that the "bright orange" light was a "long way up" in the sky. The alleged sighting was investigated by Sheriff's Deputies Heide and Hankins. They searched the area but did not see the light.

This witness reported no sideways movement of the light.

Torrington, Wyoming
Telegram
June 30, 1976

TORRINGTON — According to a Sheriff's report, an orange unidentified flying object (UFO) was reported seen about 12 miles north of Torrington about 12:20 a.m. on June 26. The Sheriff's officers were unable to verify the sighting.

REPORTEDLY, witnesses observed the bright orange light from about 11 p.m. until after midnight, at which time it disappeared.

One witness reported that the light seemed to glow from time to time, going from very bright to very dim.

"IT LOOKED like regular pickup lights when they're real close to you, only it was far away so it had to be pretty big," another witness reported. This witness described the light as appearing about half the size of a full moon and having a yellowish-orange color. The witness reported that the light had disappeared once and had "reappeared further away, like a couple of miles."

News-Press
AM 5,000 5-57,000
Fort Myers
Florida

JUN-27-76

UFO sighted

Palm Springs, Cal.
Desert Sun
June 12, 1976

Grants Pass, Ore.
Daily Courier
June 30, 1976

'Unidentified Flying Objects' Sighted Near Andreas Hills

By DAVID S. SMITH
Staff Writer

If you thought you saw an unidentified flying object Wednesday night, you're not alone. At least a half dozen Andreas Hills residents are still scratching their heads over a mysterious shape they say appeared over the Andreas Hills area Wednesday about 9 p.m.

Mrs. Nancy Shuken, of 1203 La Verne Way, called The Sun to say she and her hostess, Mrs. Zelda Segall saw what they described as a "dirigible-shaped object" that appeared to hover over Mrs. Segall's new home at 65-074 Ridgemoor Drive.

"We were in Zelda's backyard when we looked up and saw it," Mrs. Shuken said. "That was about 9:30 p.m. It was huge and bright. I told Zelda that I've never seen a cloud that looked like that

before. And if it was just a cloud, how come it didn't move even though the wind was blowing?"

Mrs. Segall said she rushed to find her camera but when she tried to take a picture of the object, the flash refused to work.

"What was really strange," she added, "was that when I took a picture of something else, the darn thing worked. But when I tried taking a picture of the object, nothing."

Both women said the camera flash was not the only electrical device that wouldn't operate while the object was "hovering" over the house. The telephone, radio and television also went on the blink. The house lights, however, presented no problem.

"What was even stranger," Mrs. Segall said, "was after we saw the thing disappear, all this equipment worked. And my camera battery was a new one. I'll tell you, we were scared out of our wits."

A Southern California Edison Co. trouble-shooter was unable to shed any light on the failure of the ladies' electrical equipment. He said he was on duty Wednesday night and received no reports of power outages in the Andreas Hills area.

"If we had been drinking," Mrs. Segall said, "I'd say we were drunk. But we hadn't had a drink."

Other people reported seeing the strange shape. Mrs. Mickey Fine, of Mickey Fine's Pharmacy in the Smoke Tree Shopping Center, said she and her husband also saw the object.

"If it was a cloud," she noted, "it was the strangest cloud we've ever seen. There was this one big elongated shape above us and down the valley, there were two other round shaped objects. They didn't move. They just sort of hung in the air."

She stopped short of calling the object a flying saucer, but said, "it really had

us wondering."

"We even joked that if it was coming after us, at least we would go together and could have some fun," she recalled.

An official of the Palm Springs Airport Tower said no unusual sightings had been reported that night.

Vandenberg Air Force Base noted that though a missile had been launched about 40 hours earlier, there should have been no trace of its contrail by the time the witnesses said they saw the object.

Police are also at a loss for an explanation of the sightings.

However, Carl Garczynski, a national weather service meteorologist in Coachella Valley, does have a possible explanation.

Pointing out that clouds have cloaked the valley's sky of late, Garczynski said there is a certain type of cloud formation that often is misinterpreted as an unnatural, luminous object.

"This is called a 'lenticularis formation'," he explained. "Though it is not too common here, it does occur here sometimes. Wednesday night, we had this type of formation over the valley. If the light is just right, it looks bright, almost aluminum. You see a lot of these type of clouds near Bishop."

But what about the distinct outline of the object? And how about the fact that the "cloud" didn't move even though the wind was blowing? And how about the failure of the electrical devices?

"Well," he speculated, "lenticularis clouds are known for their lack of puffiness. Wind around the cloud keeps drawing it back into itself, thus giving the impression of a distinct, almost man-made, outline."

"And these type of clouds don't move. They're trapped in a layer of air. As far as the failure of the electrical equipment, I'd have to guess that was just coincidence," he said.

Junction Couple Sees Weird Light

By JOAN HOWLETT
596-2708

CAVE JUNCTION — On Sunday morning, June 27th, at about 3 a.m., Glenda Kennedy of City Wood Drive in Cave Junction was awakened by barking dogs and howling coyotes. She looked out her bedroom window, and reported to have seen a most unsettling sight. Hovering in a field about 300 feet behind her home was what she has described as a giant ball of white light.

She immediately awoke her husband, and the two report to have observed a glowing object of about 20-25 feet high and 30 feet wide. They claim to have heard what they could only describe as an eerie sound above the persistent racket made by the animals.

Mrs. Kennedy states that the mysterious object remained in the field for about an hour from 3 a.m. to 4 a.m.

While both she and her husband were too upset to report the incident at the time, they later contacted the Josephine County Sheriff's Department on the advice of friends.

According to Mrs. Kennedy, the glowing ball of light caused no damage other than a possible change in color of the grass which it was reportedly observed to be hovering above.

While many of the neighbors were awakened by agitated animals of the time of the unusual sighting, none were in a position to see the object other than the Kennedys.

Although Mrs. Kennedy is making no claim that she saw an unidentified flying object, she certainly is still very shaken by the experience.

June 23, 1976

Berwyn, Illinois Life

Curious lights seen; UFOs?

Strange blue-white lights were sighted in the sky over Cicero Thursday night by Mr. and Mrs. Karl Pokstefl.

Mrs. Pokstefl said she and her husband were in their backyard in the 3900 block of Austin blvd. at about 10:25 p.m. that night when they noticed three bright lights, in relation to each other like the points of a triangle, "wavering back and forth" overhead.

Although it was difficult to estimate height, Mrs. Pokstefl said they appeared to be at about the altitude that a kite would fly.

THERE WAS no sound, Mrs. Pokstefl said. Although the lights appeared to be separate objects, they moved in complete unison, she said.

In less than five minutes, the lights moved away in a north-west direction, lost altitude and disappeared, she said.

Cicero police received no other reports of the lights, she said, nor did Berwyn police.

Mrs. Pokstefl said her husband told her, "I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it."

UFO's sighted in Waupaca County

Unidentified flying objects (UFO's) were seen by officers of at least five different area police agencies during the early morning hours of Friday, June 25.

The first sighting came at 3:37 a.m. The Waupaca County Sheriff's office reports that at that time they received notification of sightings by police officers from Iola, Weyauwega and Manawa.

The UFOs were described as having red, white and blue flashing lights, and traveling from south to north.

About five minutes later two Waupaca County Sheriff's officers, riding in the same car, confirmed the earlier sightings with a report of their own.

At 3:43 a.m., a New London police officer also reported a UFO, described as red and white, in the air northeast of the city.

Manawa and Weyauwega police officers reported sighting a second UFO at 3:46 a.m., west of Manawa, and at 4 p.m., the Weyauwega officer reported a third sighting.

Waupaca County Sheriff Larry Schmies takes the reports by his men and the other officers seriously. "They definitely saw something," he said.

New London, Minn.
New London Times
June 30, 1976

Aberdeen, Wash.
World

(Cir. D 17,325 - Sun 16,964)

JUN 5 1976

MAN REPORTS UFO SIGHTING

A West View Drive man told Hoquiam police that he had spotted an unidentified flying object in the skies above Hoquiam last night. An officer was dispatched to the scene and reported the strange object was actually a star.

Daily News
Chicago, Ill.
June 26, 1976

Outlook
FALMOUTH, KY.
Circulation: 4,944
JUN 25 1976

238 See Flying Saucer at Peach Grove

Becky Brillinger, 9, and Renee Brillinger, 11, cousins, children of Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried Brillinger and Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang Brillinger, saw a flying saucer Thursday night at the home of Wolfgang, on Highway No. 10 at Peach Grove. The young girls describe the saucer as having 10 lights on each side and lingering in the same place about 60 feet above the ground for quite awhile. When Mrs. Brillinger came outside and turned their car light on, the Saucer turned its lights off and disappeared. The young girls are very sincere as to what they saw.

Mid-Atlantic Newspaper

Services, Inc.
2717 N. Front St.,
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

YORK, PA. JUN 5 - 1976

Dispatch (e) 216
Circ. 46,646

Residents Say It Was a UFO; Police Not Sure

What several city residents called a UFO sighting early today was a frightening experience for Susie Roland, 543 W. King St.

She explained she was visiting at 533 W. King St. when some young girls came into the house and reported they were followed by the UFO.

Those in the house went outside where they saw the object, described as round with blinking red and green lights.

It made no noise but hovered in the Lincoln School area for about an hour-and-a-half, she said.

The sighting was reported to city police, who responded, but said today the sighting could not be verified.

Robert D. Barry, director of 20th Century UFO Bureau, said such sightings have been on the upswing since October.

He said the description given by the woman is typical of other reports received from individuals who have sighted UFOs.

Q. & A. with Dr. J. Allen Hynek

29 years after first UFO

By Michelle Stevens

The first "official" sighting of a UFO (unidentified flying object) was 29 years ago this week — June 24, 1947 — when an Air Force pilot spotted nine disk-shaped objects over the Mt. Rainier in Washington. A year later, the Air Force began its famous Project Blue Book, a classified study of UFO phenomena.

Since then, thousands of sane, serious observers all over the world have reported seeing "flying saucers," but none has been studied closely.

One man has spent his career studying the reports — as an astronomy professor at Northwestern University and as scientific consultant to the Air Force from 1948 to 1968.

He is J. Allen Hynek, 66, a spectacled, gray-haired man. He set up the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston a year ago as a clearing-house for reports of UFO sightings.

Interviewed in his cramped office on the second floor at 924 Chicago, Evanston, Hynek was quick to dispel any rumors that the subject has become blasé.

Q. What's the current status of your UFO study?

We still don't have any proof that they are vehicles from another planet. There's been so much baloney going around in the last quarter of a century about UFOs that it's easy to see why people haven't taken it seriously.

But the reports continue to come in from all over the world. And these are not crackpots; they're from police, professionals and astronomers, too. The descriptions have been basically the same from the very beginning, whether the person seeing it was in Japan or Brazil or America.

So there has to be something there. We just haven't found out what it is yet.

Q. The Air Force stopped investigating these reports in 1968. Why?

Mainly, they were tired of it. They weren't getting any place in their investigations, and they were basically trying to say there was nothing to the reports. Most of them were classified as natural phenomenon seen under unnatural conditions. Those that could not be explained were classified "unidentified" and ignored.

Q. What's happened to those files? Why haven't they been made public?

Funny you should ask. It just so happens that the Air Force is going to release its entire file to the National Archives in Washington at the end of the month. They're going to tell all, so to speak. They've asked me to edit this material and summarize it.

There are about 140,000 pages of top-secret and restricted material—the official investigation of UFO sightings from 1952 to 1969.

There are at least 700 cases in there of UFOs that couldn't be explained.

Some of them are very, very interesting. Those are the ones I'm going to concentrate on.

Q. Why hasn't anyone solved the mystery yet?

Probably because we haven't had a proper, scientific and statistical investigation. The government's investigation was not scientific.

Q. Could these be vehicles from another solar system?

Not likely. It's just too far a distance to travel. Assume the distance from the Earth to the sun is one inch. On that scale, the distance to the moon is 1/400th of an inch. But on that same scale, the very nearest star is more than four miles away.

We couldn't possibly do it with our technology. Of course, there might be a more technologically advanced civilization out there. Maybe they could travel here, but it probably wouldn't be in anything like a flying saucer.

Q. How would you explain these unexplainable visions?

We just don't have enough information to answer that. Whether they are from outer space, or something even more bizarre than that, like visitors from a parallel reality, I just don't know.



Dr. J. Allen Hynek: "We still don't have any proof"

First came the UFO... then came everyone else

By TERESA MORRIS
SCENE Staff Writer

LIBERTY, Ky. — For quite awhile, Mary Louise Smith, Mona Stafford and Elaine Thomas didn't want to talk to anyone about it.

They were tired of being laughed at. They were tired of people asking them what they'd been drinking, or what kind of dope they'd been on, or if they'd seen any little green men lately. Casey County had been their home for most of their lives, and they said it really hurt to be disbelieved there.

Six months later, the subject is easier for them to discuss. The gossip in Liberty has died down. They'd begun to learn to ignore it, anyway.

The vague fear that tormented them at first has gradually subsided, evolving into an effort to accept and understand what happened to them and why. It has not been an easy or pleasant six months, they said, and things still aren't the same as they were before.

Besides the incident itself, there have been all the other out-of-the-ordinary things that have happened to the three women in the past six months. "You can't help but wonder if they are connected," says Mrs. Stafford.

She is speaking of things like dead phone wires and interference that the phone company can't explain or correct, pets that refuse to come near, the eerie feeling of being "watched," more sensitive hearing, a fear of sleeping on a bed and bits of fire that splattered on the road in front of Mrs. Smith's car one recent night.

And they find themselves looking up into the night sky and regularly seeing lights that they are certain aren't stars or airplanes. It's things like that that make Jan. 6 even more difficult to explain and understand.

The three do not use the terms "UFO" or "flying saucer" to describe what happened that night. Those words came later, with the investigators who arrived from across the country. Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Stafford and Mrs. Thomas use the words "it," "they" and "them" interchangeably when referring to what they saw.

And whatever "it" was, they believe it's still up there — somewhere — watching them and watching all of us . . .

The sighting

It happened on a Tuesday, Mrs. Stafford's 38th birthday. She bumped into Mrs. Smith in town that afternoon and had gone to her friend's small trailer to help her sew a collar on a jacket. Mrs. Thomas dropped in later that evening. The three, all close in age, had become friends because they all liked to paint. They decided on the spur of the moment that night to go out for dinner.

They left about 9 p.m. for the Redwood Restaurant, a family-type establishment, located about 30 miles away between Stanford and Lancaster, Ky. The three women sat in the front room of the restaurant that night at one of the Formica-topped tables, where they remained for a while after they finished eating to talk and sketch pictures.

About 11:15, they all squeezed into the front seat of Mrs. Smith's green 1967 Chevy Nova to head home. They were talking about painting as they traveled west on KY 78, a narrow ribbon of road that curls through the hilly countryside between Stanford and Hustonville.

Then, just past the Davis Drive-in Theatre, they saw what they first thought was a jet on fire, falling from the sky toward them. At about tree-top level, the object stopped. It was "bigger than a house," Mrs. Stafford says, a football-shaped metallic object with red and yellow lights around it.

The object crossed the road to the left, went behind some small houses, shut off its lights and came up in back of the car. An intense blue light suddenly flooded the car from the rear.

The car became uncontrollable, first veering to the left, then, says Mrs. Stafford, "it felt as if we were being pulled back across those things they put in the road to slow you down." And while she and Mrs. Smith tried to control the car, Mrs. Thomas, who was sitting next to the door on the passenger side of the front seat, screamed that she wanted to get out and "see this thing."

"It was as though I was with them (the two other women), yet not with them," Mrs. Thomas remembers.

The women's heads and eyes began to ache. Mrs. Smith took her foot off the accelerator in an attempt to control the car, she says, but the speedometer registered 85 m.p.h., and as Mrs. Stafford puts it, "It felt like we weren't moving at all."

They believe now that they did stop the car, but the next thing they recalled that night was arriving in Hustonville.

They said little the remaining 14 miles to Liberty. The three arrived at Mrs. Smith's home around 1:30 a.m. The drive from Stanford to Liberty, normally a 40-minute trip, had taken them two hours and 15 minutes.

They had burns on their necks "like a sunburn," says Mrs. Stafford. The marks went away after a few days, but returned off and on for a month or so after the incident, the women say.

The next morning they noticed that bits of paint had bubbled up on Mrs. Smith's car, almost as if it had been blistered. The taillights and the brake lights on the car were not working.

The three women say they awoke feeling weak, with the memory of a wide, straight stretch of road, brightly lit and lined by a tall, stone wall covered with ivy. They went back to KY 78 that morning, but could find no such straight stretch and no wall.

"We were hurting and confused," Mrs. Smith remembers. And although they had roused Mrs. Smith's next-door neighbor the night before, who had told the women to separate and each draw what they had seen, they hesitated to tell others. "We didn't believe anybody would believe us," Mrs. Stafford says. "I didn't even tell my husband for some time," says Mrs. Thomas.

By Friday of that week, however, Mrs. Stafford felt she had to do something. She called the Kentucky State Police, who told her she should have called sooner because there was nothing they could do at this point.

Then she tried the Navy Recruiting Office in nearby Danville.

Chief Roger Compton remembers her call. "I get calls about all kinds of things," he says. "I don't know why, but people figure that I'll know what to do."

In this case, Compton admits, about all he could do was listen. He did call a Lexington television station.

Meanwhile, says Mrs. Stafford, "we lived in terror."

Studies begin

Soon, however, two things happened that gave the three some sense of security.

First, others in the Casey-Lincoln counties area reported seeing strange lights in the night sky, objects that they told a Danville reporter they were convinced were not airplanes, as some had suggested.

The second thing was the arrival of investigators from several international UFO groups. And it's no wonder they beat a path to the doors of the three women. The women's drawings of the object they had seen at a distance of maybe 100 feet or so, the object that had somehow appropriated roughly an hour and 35 minutes of their lives, was a classic "flying saucer."

And the investigators, like the object itself created somewhat of a stir. Representing several major international UFO groups, they all wanted to investigate the case.

While their purposes are the same — to collect data on UFO sightings in an attempt to come up with some answers to the "UFO mystery" — the various groups of UFO enthusiasts and investigators do compete. "Naturally you want to get to the best cases before anyone else does," says Dave Hauck, North American director of the International UFO Registry which operates a telephone hotline over which sightings can be reported.

In Liberty, two traditionally strong rivals, the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization (APRO), both showed up one weekend. And as one person, who asked not to be identified, remembers, "There was quite a commotion."

The result was a compromise. The investigation would be a cooperative effort, coordinated by Leonard Stringfield of MUFON, who says he liked the idea. "We've been striving to bring unity among the groups for some time," he said.

Stringfield says he could not divulge any details of the findings in the case until the investigation is complete, which may be three or four months from now. But he did say, "This is certainly a bona fide case."

"I believe they're telling the truth," he says.

"They've helped us a lot," Mrs. Stafford says of the UFO investigators. The three women also are hoping to find some personal answers in the results of the study.

Meanwhile they say they're coping as best they can with the changes the incident made in their lives.

Mrs. Thomas, for example, says she's "just not the same person anymore."

The tall, large-featured woman says she doesn't care about painting

Continued from
last page:

any more. She believes her "intuitions" about things have become stronger. And you know sometimes I feel kind of like a little child," she says softly. "I just want to get out and play."

"Emotionally," says Mona Stafford, "this has worn me thin." Sitting in the living room of the trailer in which she lives with her teen-aged son, the petite blonde woman admits that she spends most of her waking hours pondering the incident, and that her sleeping hours are few.

Early in March, Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, of the University of Wyoming, put Mrs. Stafford under hypnosis. She asked for a copy of the tape he made of her conversation, although, she admits, "I get so upset listening to it." She flinches at the sobs and is puzzled by some of her cryptic comments. For example, when asked about the car going 85 m.p.h., she answered, "I guess it did because we went flying."

"Now what did I mean by that?" she asks.

"This thing just gets more confusing all the time," she says. But Mrs. Stafford feels compelled to find out what happened. "I want to know everything," she says.

Of the three, Mrs. Smith has been the least troubled. Though her health has faltered some (she's lost 30 pounds and now weighs about 97 pounds), she has been determined, she says, to keep her spirit strong.

"I guess I've coped pretty well," she says. "I've just blocked this thing out, right from the beginning."

Her job (visiting families as a nutrition consultant for the Casey County Extension Agent's office) often takes her along KY 78. But sometimes, even when she's not working, she forces herself to drive that road alone and late at night to convince herself "that there's nothing to fear."

She is bothered most by the time lapse. "As Mona puts it, we really don't know where we might have been," she says with a half-smile, "and I'm not sure I want to know."

But she does feel that the experience had certain effects on her. "I feel I have a knowledge now," she says, "a knowledge that's hard to explain."

"You know, I never really thought much about UFOs before this. I think it's the kind of thing you have to experience before you can understand what it's like."

"I don't feel that whatever they are, that they intend to destroy or harm. I believe there could be life on other planets, and if we can go to the moon, why can't they come here? I think that eventually everyone will see 'em, maybe not in the same way they're there."

In fact, Mrs. Smith believes that if she had another close encounter with one of "them," her initial reaction might be different from the overpowering fear she felt this time.

"Looking back," she explains, "that was a beautiful thing. I'd like to study it. Maybe try to communicate. 'Or at least,' she chuckles, "say, 'Why pick on me?'"

Levittown, Pa.
Bucks County Courier-Times
July 21, 1976

it and no jet could have traveled from the east to the west horizon in a minute. None would have had a light so bright. It got pretty spooky." Matthew Graeber at the UFO Reporting Center, Philadelphia, said he had received no other reports of the sighting. He talked to Rossi and added the report to his records.

the dark.
"That park gets dark, really dark," he commented.
"When we found it we drove off as fast as we could. I didn't look back but my girl said the object still hovered."
Rossi adds ruefully, as do many observers, that he is sure people will scoff at the story.
"We were not drinking. We saw

would happen.
"We watched for about 10 minutes as it hovered closer and closer. We could definitely see it was saucer shaped with a dome."
"When it was about 800 to 900 yards away, a light was directed downward, sweeping the tops of the trees. Then I got scared, too."
Rossi says they ran for the car and had some trouble finding it in

effect, I could hear a hum — a low hum."
Rossi says that if he had been alone, he is not sure he would have believed what he was seeing, but his friend, Judy Parsons of Warminster, saw it too and was frightened.
"Let's get out of here, she kept saying," Rossi reports, "but I wanted to stay and see what

on the eastern horizon over the trees, disappeared and then reappeared on the western horizon.
"It hovered in the distance and then came gradually closer," reports Ronald Rossi, 28, a mail clerk in the Warminster Post Office.
"The light was very bright, like a movie marquee. I couldn't tell if it was spinning or it was a strobe

By F.P. SCHAFFHAUSEN
Courier Times Writer
An unidentified flying object was reported seen in Bucks County Sunday.
A young Halboro man and woman were standing on the cliffs above Tohickon Creek in Ralph Stover State Park, Point Pleasant, shortly after 9 p.m. when, they report, a bright object appeared

Couple reports UFO sighting

Hanover Man Says He Spotted a UFO

Was there a UFO in the Back Mountain Sunday night? According to a Hanover Twp. man and his family, there was.

James Donnelly, 19 Barr Lane, said he and his wife, two children and his sister-in-law, spotted a bright, white light about 9 p. m. Sunday at Harveys Lake. He said the object had no distinguishable shape, only that it was bright and stationary and "too low" for a star.

While returning home, Donnelly said he appeared to drive "under" the UFO near the bowling lanes along the highway near Dallas. He said he pulled his car into the bowling lanes parking lot and at this point, the object started to move.

The township man said the bright, white light then split into two smaller lights, and then

the objects became red. Donnelly said there was no sound attached to the sighting. He said the UFOs then began to move slowly and make various turns in the sky, disappearing over the horizon toward Harveys Lake.

Not believing what they saw, Donnelly said he stopped at his father-in-law's home in Shavertown, and while the family was sitting on the patio, the objects appeared again. He said the UFOs "appeared to circle the house, about five times" before disappearing.

JUL 20 1976

TIMES-LEADER NEWS
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. AD-60,000

Cork Couple Spots UFO

A Cork resident said a fiery Unidentified Flying Object hovering over his home late Friday night was so bright it hurt his wife's eyes before darting off into the darkness at an astounding speed when she turned a bedroom light on to find a camera.

Warren Coons said he was watching the 11 o'clock news when his horse and dog began making noises outside his trailer home on Bob Head Road north of Plant City.

His wife Mary looked out the window and saw a large, bright orange object in the sky approaching the trailer. Coons, a 46-year-old orange picking crew foreman, said he then looked out the window and saw the UFO.

"It looked like fire and hurt my wife's eyes," he said. He told Mary to get the camera but when she went into the bedroom and turned the light on, the object reversed its direction instantly and sped off silently at a high rate of speed and disappeared.

"My oldest boy Warren Jr. said our people couldn't stand the force of such a turn, which he estimated at 3,000 G's," Coons said.

He said he was reluctant at first to tell anyone about the UFO, thinking he might be thought crazy. "But I don't drink or smoke and I wasn't hallucinating. And my wife saw it too," he said.

"We told her she scared it off and that made her feel bad," Coons said.

The large, bright orange object "looked like fire and hurt my wife's eyes."

—Warren Coons

Plant City, Flor.
Plant City
Courier
June 30, 1976

Waukesha, Wisc.
Waukesha
Freeman
May 10, 1976

UFO Reported

A report by an anonymous male caller of having sighted a UFO over the 217 Wisconsin Building brought a police squad car to Wisconsin Avenue at 9:25 p.m. Friday.

The squad saw nothing in the sky to warrant the call.



Mystery

Something hit a soybean field Tuesday night about a mile and a half northeast of Barnes. Marvin Thompson said Wednesday morning he found new bean plants either burned or frozen in a 30-foot radius around two peculiar holes 15 feet apart. No footprints. Soil was white as though covered with detergent foam. Holes resembled blasts from buried explosive. By Thursday morning, photographer and Thompson found beans recovered except for small area around each hole. →



Shriveled

Soybean plants nearest the mystery holes are dead. No firm theory has developed on basis of evidence. Some neighbors suggested lightning. Thompson remembers seeing a balloon in the air a day earlier. And some people recalled that it was the same night — Tuesday — that five Danvers people reported an unidentified flying object in the sky, glowing a bright orange. Something either hot or cold appears to have been here. Thompson is curious. (Pan-
tagraph photos)

BLOOMINGDALE-
NORMAL, ILL.

JUNE 18, 1976

REFLECTOR
GREENVILLE, N.C.

JUNE 17, 1976

UFO

↙ Saturday we were riding near Williamston when we saw a large ball of fire in the sky. We first thought it was a plane on fire. It fell for a while, but then stopped and went back up into the sky and disappeared. What was it? E. S.

Hotline related your description to Frank Harrison, a professor at Mount Olive College, who is an investigator for the Center for Unidentified Flying Object Studies. He said it sounds like a classic description of a UFO seen at night and he'd like to talk to you himself, and to anyone else in the Williamston area who might have seen the same sight.

He is a volunteer investigator with the Center, which is located at Northwestern University in Illinois. He explained that the Center is not a part of the University, but is run by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy there, and is allowed to use the University's facilities. As a volunteer, Harrison's work is not funded and he cannot accept every collect call of a sighting, but is glad to talk to anyone who cares to call him at Mount Olive College, 658-2502. His mailing address is simply Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, N. C. 28365.

Luxemburg, Wisc.
Luxemburg News

↓ Thursday, June 3, 1976

ALGOMA RESIDENT SIGHTS SAUCER

Sometime during the latter part of last week an Algoma resident of the Cedar Corners area reported the sighting of an unidentified flying object, circular in shape.

The man took several polaroid photographs of the UFO which will be in this week's issue of the Algoma Record Herald. ↓

Vacaville, Cal.
Reporter
June 20, 1976

UFO's That Looked Like Electric Geese

Jim McKenzie of 107 Main St. says he saw an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) early Monday morning that looked like a "flight of geese all lighted up."

McKenzie and a friend, Doug Blackhorse of South Dakota, were in McKenzie's back yard at 107 Main St. at around 1 a.m. last Monday when the UFO flew over. "It came from the East and went to the West and disappeared," McKenzie told The Reporter last Wednesday. "From the time we first saw it to the time it disappeared took about three seconds. It was moving at a terrific speed and there was no noise."

He estimated its height at 30,000 feet, "but it was hard to tell."

McKenzie described the UFO as "five or six geese-like objects, with long necks, flying in a tight V shape." They were orange-red in color, he said.

"At first when we saw the lights we thought it was a shooting star," McKenzie related. He said the lights were so bright that he and Blackhorse could make out the outlines well. "They weren't planes, and I doubt if we have missiles that can go at that speed," he said. "There was no blinking of the lights, and no vapor trail and no sound."

"I wonder if anyone else in Vacaville saw them," McKenzie commented. He said he plans to report the UFO to Stanton Friedman, noted UFO authority.

Tale of UFOs and little people revealed in wake of tragedy

By JEFFREY von BELTZ

On Saturday, Apr. 22, Victor J. Mertes, a Valley resident, took his life in the Big Bear Sporting Goods store just west of Big Bear Lake.

According to reports following the incident, Mertes was "apparently despondent over the death of his mother from cancer within the last month, and he had broken up with his girlfriend only days before."

Last week, The Grizzly received a phone call from Mertes' ex-girlfriend, who asked that a reporter visit her and listen to her story of his last few months of life.

In a personal interview last week, the ex-girlfriend, who shall be referred to as Miss X, began to relate the extremely bizarre tale that follows —

She began by explaining that she does not drink, take any narcotics, and has never been in any trouble with the law, and continued with:

"Six months ago, Victor told me not to reveal any of this unless he was dead.

"His death wasn't really connected with being despondent over us breaking up or his mother's death, it was something more.

"Victor was sick when we moved up here in November, but he got sicker, and the sickness turned into a serious mental condition.

"First, I met Victor in September 1974. He was working for his brother selling campers at his brother's business in North Hollywood.



THE CREATURE — This is the picture Mertes found which he said looked exactly like the creature he said he saw earlier in Tujunga Canyon. The picture was found in, and reproduced here from "Saucerama," written by Frank E. Stranges PhD. The book is a documentation of alleged extra-terrestrial contacts and was called the "West Virginia Monster."

"In December we moved into a place together to cut on rent and bills. Once a week while we were living together he had to go to Anaheim on business for his brother.

"One night in January, on a Tuesday night, Victor came home from Anaheim about 2 or 2:30 in the morning. It was later than usual.

"We lived in Tujunga at the time, and this night he came running into the house really excited. I was asleep,

and he said 'get up. There's a flying saucer out there. You won't believe it. Get out of bed.'

"We got in his Porsche, and drove down to see it.

"Then this thing came out of the clouds. I thought it was just the moon glowing off something. He said that on his way home he watched it for about 45 minutes.

"Then the thing went back into the clouds and didn't come out for a half hour.

"Victor came home late

the next week and said that he saw more strange things. He had a power to bring on things.

"Every night he would come home and look in the sky between 12 and 1 o'clock. He would say 'I'm communicating with these people. I've seen them, and they don't have any ears.'

"After about two months of this something possessed him to say 'I've asked them through hypnosis of the mind, and I'm going to show you something. They promised me they'd show something, but I don't know what.'

"So we go up there, and here it comes. This star comes up over the mountain, rose straight up, stopped, and hovered, raised up again and stopped. It was something that airplanes can't do.

"He had some sort of power to talk with them.

"In about April he'd wake up, and start drawing pictures of how their spaceships worked. How they used the earth's gravity to fly, and start to explain the drawings with these words I knew he'd never heard of.

"I wish I'd kept the drawings but I threw them out. He even knew where their landing places were.

"I had to work on weekends, and one time I came home, and my kids said, 'Victor took us up a fire road and we seen these mushrooms that looked like brains, but they weren't growing in the ground.'

"Victor found in a library book that these mushrooms are a type only grown in Michigan.

"About four weeks later I said I wanted to see them. They weren't just scattered around, they were in rows like they were planted there.

"He didn't want to tell anybody about what he'd seen, but he told his cousin Ronny. One night we were home, and he said 'I got to go up there right now. I don't know why, but I'm scared.'

"He went up to get one of the mushrooms. It only takes about an hour to get up there. Ronny couldn't go so Victor borrowed his shotgun and went up.

"He was back in about an hour and a half. When he got home, he looked like he'd been scared by a ghost. He was all white, and his hair was standing straight up.

"He said while he was up there trying to pick up one of the mushrooms he heard the bushes moving. He said 'I turned, and saw this freaky little man floating on the air, the freakiest you've ever seen.'

"I fired the shotgun in the air.' Something told him not to fire at the man. He had big bulging eyes, and he floated Victor said.

"Victor said, 'I think it's a scare tactic they use to keep people out. They're bad people.'

"After that, Victor started getting sick. He got sicker and sicker.

"I told my mother what happened, and she showed me a picture. I took the picture home and showed Victor, and when he saw it he became ill.

"He was freaked out already, but the picture really did it.

"Victor told me that there were some good ones and there were some bad ones. He said these were the bad ones and they didn't want him messing around.

"He said he would never go again. He said 'I'm too scared, and I don't want to tell anybody about it.'

"About two weeks later I convinced him to go back to the place. When he got there not only were all the mushrooms gone, but there were small boot prints all around the area, and they weren't from any animal.

"People don't want to get involved with this kind of thing, but they're not like me. I don't mind putting my head out to tell what happened.

"Victor told me that this is the way they do it. They scared him so bad and it shocked his nervous system so badly that he got an infection, and the doctors didn't know what it was.

"He kept getting sicker and sicker. He had to quit his job. He just didn't care. It was like a cancer of his nervous system. He lost his truck, his unemployment, and his family dropped him.

"He knew he had a sickness, but the doctors and the hospitals told him not to come back. He kept getting in trouble with the cops, and all the time he would talk about space.

"Little by little the infection was killing him. He went into a mental depression, and he was constantly sick. I had to tell him to go to the hospital and get taken cared of.

"He drank a little to ease the pain of his infection, and a couple of sips would go right to his brain, and he'd start talking about space.

"He probably would have died a long time ago. This infection he had was eating away at his bones. When we moved up here he had no more fingernails. He was so sick he wanted to admit himself to a mental institution.

"That Saturday, he came to the door and started arguing. He said, 'I can't take it one more time. My family doesn't like me, and I can't come back here,' so he just took his suitcase, and walked out the door.

"He said make sure you tell nobody what I've done until I die,' and then he left.

"The whole story is true, and I'm willing to take a lie detector test to prove what I say.

Miss X said that Mertes had been to many doctors, including his family physician. All of them said there was an infection, but they could not locate the disease.

"They all tried to say it was a drinking problem, but one doctor at the Glendale Adventist Medical Center, during his stay there in January and February 1976, said his bones were being eaten away by something.

"He didn't know what it was, but it wasn't drinking. The infection was hitting the central nervous system, the doctor and Victor knew it," she said.

Big Bear Lake,
California
Big Bear
Life & Grizzly
May 6, 1976

According to Miss X, after Mertes' suicide, she explained to the San Bernardino County Coroner, Dr. Castro, of his condition, and asked that an autopsy be performed.

Apparently the coroner has gone beyond the standard cause of death procedures, and is investigating Mertes' health at the time of death.

As of Monday, May 3, according to Miss X, there have been no reports from the laboratory, although she spoke with Castro on that date.

The Grizzly, in an attempt to gain further information on Mertes' physical condition prior to his suicide, contacted his family physician Dr. Maynard S. Bourdeau in Glendale, and the Glendale Adventist Medical Center.

In both cases it was learned that no information on a past or present patient could be given without the written consent of the nearest living relative.

To add to this already fantastic story, Victor J. Mertes wrote his last will and testament dated April 11, 1976, citing that his death should be soon due to his "advancing illness."

Appleton, Wisconsin The bright object many saw in the sky

BY MIKE HINANT
Post-Crescent staff writer

very bright light" with a "jerky movement," according to Heiman. The officer and his partner were reported to have seen "a flashing light near the object for a very short period of time...It flashed five or six times, then disappeared."

Heiman said the officers state they noticed what they thought to be two falling stars "that came close to the object itself as it was moving." Twice in a 30-second period, according to Heiman, it "seemed the light itself turned away from the two officers and make a full sweeping turn."

The two policemen "watched the object for a full hour, from approximately 3:10 until 4 a.m., around Highway 26 north of Rosendale," Heiman said. "Sell, who is a pilot himself, stated the object seemed to have a rational movement. He said he couldn't imagine a plane moving like that," Heiman reported.

He also said the patrolman described the object as "rolling...it seemed to bounce and waver in movement."

Sell was not available for comment this morning, and a Ripon Police Department dispatcher said she did not know if a written report of the officers' sightings had been made.

The Ripon sighting was the first of about a dozen reports logged in less than hour by police radio monitoring at the New London Police Department.

According to those reports, possibly two significant UFO sightings had been made. Sightings of an object, or objects, were logged by New London police from 3:13 a.m. until 4 a.m. from information received by city and county officers in Ripon, Outagamie and Fond du Lac counties, Waupaca, Weyauwega, New London, Manawa and Iola.

At 3:17 a.m., an Outagamie County officer (not identified) observed the UFO "directly above Treasure Island" but was unable to determine the object's altitude, other than perhaps several miles, according to New London reports.

Eighteen minutes later, sightings of a "red, green and blue flashing object, moving vertically and horizontally at extremely fast speed" just north of Waupaca were reported by other officers.

Two minutes after that, a Manawa police squad said the object "was zigzagging at a very high rate of speed," and later, at 3:38 a.m., reported that "the color was changing from red to green to red to white."

The final sighting logged by New London police was a 4 a.m. report by Scoville in Weyauwega.

Heiman said that not all of those persons he had received sighting reports from this morning observed "dramatic movement" of the object. "One officer," he said, "saw an extremely high object which traversed the horizon in 30 seconds. Some people," he added, "did see the planet Jupiter — it's up there early in the morning."

However, Heiman claimed of the repeated UFO sightings, "We know when talking about a specific object of this nature, it definitely does not conform to natural or meteorological phenomena. It's extraterrestrial."

Heiman asked that any other persons having made UFO sightings this morning to contact the UFO Education Center in Appleton, 731-5001. He also urged anyone who might have taken photographs of what they saw "to hold onto those negatives. People should not give those away to someone who comes up and says, 'I'm from the government,'" Heiman said.

Appleton Post Crescent,
June 25, 1976,

Marysville,
Calif.

Appeal-Democrat
June 17, 1976

Flying Objects Cited

A formation of diamond-shaped unidentified flying objects was reported hovering over a Yuba City apartment complex early today, police said.

But when officers arrived to check out the report, they found nothing, police said.

The objects were reported about 1:30 a.m. today by Eddie Porter of 645 Queens Ave., Apt. 36, who said the objects were hovering "fairly low" over the area of the apartments. Police said he described them as being diamond-shaped with long ends and "feathery."

UFO Sighted In County 2

An Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) was sighted moving through central and northeastern Wisconsin including Sheboygan County, early today, according to the UFO Education Center, Appleton.

The object, with pulsating red and blue colors, was sighted in northern Dodge County, Fox Lake, Rosendale, Fond du Lac, Mauthe Lake, Greenbush, Kohler and Sheboygan Falls.

Persons who reported the sighting said the object was moving very rapidly at first, up and down and side to side. The object was reported to have dramatic changes in direction.

A Ripon police officer said he noticed a red light approaching the object for a short time...a few seconds...and then it was no longer visible.

An observer said it seemed like it was rolling, bouncing or wavering, making jerky movements at angles.

Dale Knol of Fox Lake first reported the UFO to authorities at 1:50 a.m. He said he and his wife had been watching the object since 1:20 a.m.

The UFO center believes the object was located near the Greenbush area. According to eyewitnesses the object was positioned east of Ripon, directly north of Mauthe Lake, west of Sheboygan Falls and northwest of Kohler.

Reports came in from Ripon police at 3:10 a.m., from Kohler at 3:20

a.m., Sheboygan Falls at 3:28 a.m. and was reported by DNR personnel at Mauthe Lake at 3:30 a.m. The object was also reported sighted by Dodge County police and Waupun police.

A Ripon policeman said the object seemed to slowly turn away its light and then turn it back on again.

Witnesses in Kohler and Sheboygan Falls said the object appeared to be somewhat like a star but seemed to be moving.

According to Thomas Heiman, associate director of the UFO Education Center, there were apparently no planes in the area at the time of the sightings that could have displayed the erratic motions described by eyewitnesses.

UFOs were also reported in Outagamie, Juneau and Waupaca counties about the same time as the sightings in Dodge, Calumet and Sheboygan counties, Heiman said.

Observers in Outagamie, Juneau and Waupaca counties said the object appeared to be oval with a white center. A glow surrounded the object with pulsating red and green lights on either side.

Persons with additional information or pictures to verify the sightings may call the UFO Education Center at 731-5001. The address is P.O. Box 1436 Appleton 54911.

Sheboygan Press

JUN 25 1976

Wisconsin

CR: Richard Heiden/Jim Auburn

UFO sited near here

If Michael R. Lusignan was hoping for an exciting vacation in the Colorado mountains this year, he certainly got his wish. Lusignan was lost for six days near Echo Lake and says he encountered an unidentified flying object (UFO) full of alien beings last week.

After spending most of Monday, June 7, hiking in the Echo Lake area, Lusignan decided to return there on Tuesday to continue his explorations. Unfortunately for him, he found himself lost Tuesday afternoon and unable to find his way back to his car. When he had not returned to Denver as expected by 5 p.m., his wife called the Clear Creek County Sheriff's Department to try to locate her husband.

The Sheriff's Department sent out a search party at 6 a.m., Wednesday morning. They were joined shortly thereafter by 17 men from Alpine Rescue, 20 men from the Arapahoe County Rescue and four dogs from the Colorado Dog Rescue Team. These men and dogs searched the Echo Lake, Mt. Evans and Evans Ranch areas all day Wednesday and Thursday without finding a trace of the missing man.

On Thursday the rescuers were also joined by a helicopter from Fort Carson and an army airplane from Denver. According to Sheriff Kiefer, the rescuers figured they were able to cover an approximately 140 square mile area searching for Lusignan.

By Thursday evening the rescuers, having found no trace of the man, decided to call a halt to the search.

Nothing more was heard until Sunday morning around 9 a.m. when the Sheriff's Department received a telephone call from two

cyclists at the Echo Lake Lodge. The cyclists reported that as they were stopped to view the scenery from Juniper Point, about one mile East of Echo Lake Lodge on Highway 103, they heard someone calling, "Help! Help! I'm dying!" Upon looking down the 600 to 750 feet cliff, they said, they saw an orange jacket and a man lying there.

The two cyclists shouted down to the man that they would go for help and then be back. They returned to the Lodge and called the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Kiefer and Lt. Gene Day responded immediately to the call. Lt. Day and Donald Krueger

climbed down to the injured man and administered first aid to his blistered feet and gave him as thorough an examination as time and circumstances permitted.

Twelve members of the Alpine Rescue Unit lowered ropes down to the men, but Lusignan was able, with assistance, to walk out on his own power, Kiefer said.

As soon as he was back at the road, the Sheriff drove Lusignan into Idaho Springs, picked up the ambulance and drove him on to St. Anthony's Hospital in Lakewood. It was on this trip to the hospital that Lusignan told Kiefer about his experiences while lost.

He told Kiefer that around 10 p.m. on Wednesday evening he looked up in the sky in the west and saw two rectangular flying objects come down and land on the creek (Vance Creek near where he was found). At first, he related, he thought it was rescuers who were out looking for him, so he went over to the people he saw and tried to talk to them. He said they talked in such low whispers that he was unable to understand what they were saying.

They set up camp, he said, and did not bother or try to harm him in any way. When asked if the objects made any noise as they were landing, Lusignan said, "No, they just floated down from the sky into the area."

Lusignan described the occupants of the UFO as numbering between 15 and 20 men, women and children, and dressed in Indian or gypsy clothing. He said they made him move to another campsite for the night and that when he awoke the next morning, they were gone. He further recalled hearing horses and dogs during the night.

Lusignan did not see the UFOs or the people in them again during the rest of his time in the area. By Sunday, he told Kiefer, he had just about given up hope of being rescued and was too exhausted to find his way out of

the area. When asked if he had heard the rescuers at any time, Lusignan said to Kiefer, "Yes, I probably should have walked toward them, but I walked away from them instead."

Since Lusignan related his experience to Kiefer on Sunday, the Sheriff has received one telephone call from Ohio, two from Washington D.C. newspapers, two from Los Angeles radio stations and one from a Commerce City UFO-ologist.

Leonard Stringfellow, Director of the National UFO Association in Cincinnati, Ohio, talked to Kiefer for about 25 minutes last Tuesday and verified a lot of the information Lusignan reported.

According to Kiefer, Stringfellow said most UFO sighters have reported the rectangular

form of the object and have noticed the sound of horses and dogs. The only details Lusignan reported which did not correspond to previous reports, he told Kiefer, were the dress and size of the people. Most sightings have found the people to be between three and five feet tall (rather than average human sizes) with the far apart eyes Lusignan described and dressed in tight fitting suits rather than Indian or gypsy clothing.

Lusignan was hospitalized overnight Sunday after his ordeal. He left for his home in Burlington, Va., around noon on Monday, June 14. Mrs. Lusignan has promised to contact Sheriff Kiefer with any further details her husband may recall about the incident.

Idaho Springs,
Colorado
Front Range
Journal
June 17, 1976

Leesburg, Florida
Leesburg
Commercial
June 30, 1976

Maybe UFO Was Only Glen Sellers

The Mount Dora Police Department says it may have an explanation for last Friday's reported sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object.

Glen Sellers was flying his Cherokee airplane on his way from Atlanta to Leesburg when at 10:45 p.m. he dropped down over Mount Dora.

Sellers suggests his plane's bright landing light may have been reflected by the close cloud cover, causing some area residents to believe they had witnessed a UFO.

Fifteen people called the Mount Dora police Friday, reporting that they had seen a brilliant light appear to drop down in Simpson's grove off North Donnelly Street, and then disappear.

A search of the grove by several police units Friday night revealed nothing, and a further search Saturday morning failed to uncover any marks where an object had landed.

Witnesses were convinced it could not have been a plane or helicopter. They reported there was no sound, yet windows shook with the vibration.

About the same time of the UFO sighting, the launching of a rocket bearing a secret military payload surprised people all along Central Florida's Atlantic Coast.

Fort Myers, Florida News-Press June 30, 1976 UFO Seen By Many Could Have Been U.S. Spy Satellite

A bright orange moving light that many Lee Countians have reported seeing Friday night might have been a spy satellite launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force station.

The Air Force launched a satellite aboard a Titan 3-C rocket at 11 p.m. Friday, Maj. Jim Craig said Tuesday.

He said what the satellite carried is classified information but the Gannett News Service reports that sources said the launch was a long-expected spy satellite.

Experts have said the United States plans to test secret new devices for safeguarding American aircraft against a Soviet satellite system, according to the Gannett report.

Several west coast witnesses to the light Friday about 11 p.m. described it as a bright orange moving object. Some said it turned to white and red.

Among those reporting the sighting were a National Airlines pilot who radioed his observations to the Page Field control tower and policemen in Punta Gorda who went outside to take a look at the light after a caller reported a UFO to the department.

"It would certainly fit the description you gave," Craig said Tuesday when told what Southwest Floridians saw in the sky Friday night.

"The tail of the launch could either look orange or white, depending on where you saw it," he said.

Jim Halm of 936 Lucas Road said the orange object he saw appeared to be following aircraft at Page Field.

Mrs. Grace Robinson of Sharon Drive in North Fort Myers described a double sighting Friday.

She said about 11 p.m. a "blue-white thing shot across the sky at a tremendous speed" as she was driving on Route 31 north.

"A few minutes later while driving on Shirley Lane, a huge orange disk-shaped craft appeared in the sky. I stopped my car and watched it hover for a minute or two," she said. "It suddenly disappeared, leaving a dull red light in its place."

UFO Sightings Continue Over Local Mountains

PAGE 1

The lights in the sky which attracted Victor Mertz, the Tujunga resident who claimed to have found mystic mushrooms and little creatures in the Tujunga mountains, have failed to dim apparently.

While suicide ended the life of Mertz, strange lights continue to appear over local mountains. At approximately 11:45 p.m. on April 14 Marsinah

than the search light on a helicopter until it got overhead, according to Ms. Murakami. Overhead it appeared as a dull greyish disc with four dim lights near the center.

She did not report the sighting to police but did talk to a neighbor and her sister.

Then last Sunday, June 13, she again sighted something over the mountains.

Ms. Murakami, who says she often has trouble sleeping when the weather is dry, had walked outside at approximately 3:40 a.m. A star, larger than the others in the area, caught her eye. It was "glinting" red.

Walking out to a chair in her backyard, she decided to watch it for awhile.

"It glinted red every second or so," said Ms. Murakami. The light

remained stationary as she sighted between telephone lines. The only sound was an unusual number of dogs barking. "It sounded like all the dogs in the neighborhood were barking," she said.

After a half hour of watching she got up to go inside. As she reached her back door she turned to look out where she had first seen the star.

It was gone.

Ms. Murakami returned to where she had been seated and caught sight of the glinting-red light. It was moving down on the horizon, "toward the mountains," she explained.

"It wasn't a helicopter. There wasn't any noise," she said.

Growing smaller as it

moves, she described it as "like a floating bubble."

"When it got to the mountains," she said, "I think if people would spend more time outside looking," she said, "they would probably see more..."

Ms. Murakami reported her story to the R-L after having read the June 2 story on Mertz' death and his girlfriend's explanation for his suicide.

Ms. Murakami never

Whatever "They" Are, They Are Still Around Here

The "Somethings" are still around apparently. Those who see them hesitate to call them "UFO's" because so many people just scoff at the idea. Any way you look at it, there is something that cannot be explained going on.

On May 20, Mrs. Gayle Bock and Mrs. Kathy Holt were returning to Elmwood from the course in Emergency Medical Technician training that they are taking in River Falls. It was about 10:30 p.m.

Just a little way out of River Falls on STH 29 they observed this object flying along side of them just above the tree tops. It was then obscured from their view for a short time and the next time they saw it, it was coming straight at them. There were two very bright lights, like beacons, in front of it and it made no noise.

They drove on a short distance and then stopped. When they stopped, they realized that it was directly over them. Mrs. Bock estimated that it must have been 80 to 100 feet above them. She said she was a bit frightened and didn't get out of the car, but put her head out the window to get a better look.

She said they sat there for several minutes and the object stayed right over them. It was perfectly round and had red and blue lights in the bottom of the "thing" that alternately flashed off and on. There was no sound that they could hear and it stayed above them as long as they were parked. When they decided to continue on their way east, it went on west. She said it did not appear to be as large as the one George Wheeler described.

This is the third time that the ladies have observed "something" on their return from River Falls.

The first time they saw the "orange glow" when they turned off STH 183 onto CTH "G". However, it was not nearly as close as the May 20 sighting.

The second time that something was seen, the car ahead of them with Mr. and Mrs. Don Yauch and Paul Fredrickson, who are also taking the course at River Falls, had stopped and Mr. Fredrickson got out of the car. He stated that they were not positive what they had seen that time. It had the orange glow and seemed to be moving very slowly.

Mrs. Bock and Mrs. Holt also stopped their car at that time to look at the object. They all agreed that they couldn't be positive as to what it was, but there seemed to be a different operation than that of the usual aircraft that one sees.

NEWS
MOUNT AIRY, N. C.
TU-FR-11,100

JUN-17-76

Elmwood, Wisc.
Elmwood Argus
June 3, 1976

UFO Sightings Are Reported

red, green, and white lights high in the sky. The lights disappear in a few seconds.

However, the lights spotted this time was golden-red and looked much like a star, except it was low in the sky and was moving, according to her report.

Two separate lights were spotted by the three—the first

light moved up and down until it was about 25 feet from the ground, according to their report, and would change from what looked like a star to a flashing, ray that would almost blind them.

The second light, the same color, reportedly moved from side to side as if guarding the other light.

The three were transmitting to a friend at Dobson, when her grandson first noticed lights in the sky.

Mrs. Phipps reports that she and other nearby residents have been seeing flying objects around their houses since winter. She describes the objects seen over her house as

A UFO sighting has been reported on the Blue Ridge Parkway by a CB operator and nearby resident, Mrs. Pearl Phipps.

Mrs. Phipps and her two grandchildren have reported witnessing the strange sighting on May 31 at Fox Hunters Paradise.

Dallas, Texas
Morning News
May 19, 1976

UFO sighting just a lot of 'hot air'

Mid-Cities Bureau of The News

GRAND PRAIRIE — Federal Aviation Air Control Tower officials reported Tuesday night they received dozens of calls concerning an allegedly unidentified flying object.

The object proved to be a weather balloon, which is routinely used to collect atmospheric data.

Tujunga, California
Record Ledger
June 16, 1976

FOREIGN

AUSTRALIA
CANADA

CANADA
ENGLAND

ENGLAND
AUSTRALIA

Hamilton, Ontario
Spectator
May 8, 1975

Sanitized UFO data emerges from hiding

Southam News Service
WASHINGTON — There
be more to flying saucers
than meets the eye, at least

as far as the Central Intelligence Agency is concerned.
The CIA recently was
forced to lift the veil off

some of its top secret documents and these suggest there was grave concern about unidentified flying objects in the early 1950s.

The CIA's office of Scientific Intelligence was sufficiently disturbed that it sought to have the National Security Council "establish the UFO problem as a priority."

The information emerges from catalogues of declassified documents compiled by Carrollton Press, Inc. The enterprising Washington and Inverness, Scotland, publishing house is gearing up to make a small fortune out of old secrets.

But even though it has been ordered by the White House and Congress to declassify some of its old material, the CIA has managed to hold on to the real secrets. All sensitive portions of the once hush-hush papers have been cut out or "sanitized," as they say in Washington.

The Carrollton indexes and microfilms can be bought on a subscription basis.

The publishers will have plenty to sell. Former president Richard Nixon ordered the bureaucracy to declassify tons of documents and when Congress passed the Freedom of Information Act it added to the flood of old secrets.

The UFO scare seems to have started assuming serious proportions in September, 1952. The then top scientific spy, H. Marshall Chadwell, assistant director of the office of scientific intelligence, sent CIA director General Walter Bedell Smith a memo suggesting that UFOs be investigated.

Three months later, in December, Mr. Chadwell was worried that the Air Force was not taking UFOs seriously enough. He got the National Security Council to add UFOs to its worry list. But what Washington found out and decided in the end is still not considered fit for

the public's eyes. The documents have been "sanitized."

It is possible that the UFO material and decisions would look so silly that to disclose them would be highly embarrassing to the CIA.

This too emerges from the Carrollton catalogues and microfilms. The only Canadian item in the sample shown to the press bore that titillating "secret" mark. But it would have made millions of Canadians roar with laughter.

It was the CIA's check-list for President John Kennedy on major events, dated June 19, 1962, and it contained the Canadian federal election results. Every Canadian knew that then prime minister John Diefenbaker had taken a severe beating the day before, seeing his massive majority reduced to a minority government in Parliament. But the CIA treated it as a secret "for the president's eyes only."

"SUNDAY PRESS"
Melbourne, Vic.
- 6 JUN 1976

Light in the sky a 'boomerang'

A RASH of UFO sightings have been reported in Melbourne during the past two weeks.

The sightings coincide with a "terrifying noise and flash of light" which exploded over houses in the small hamlet of Myrtleford in north-east Victoria on Wednesday.

Two Melbourne women have told the Sunday Press they saw a "mysterious flying object" over the city a week before the Myrtleford incident.

The women, Janette Harris, about 40, and Janette Stafford, about 30, both Myer employees, said they were driving home from work on May 26 when they noticed a strange object looming overhead.

"An object about the size of a helicopter, but its shape was totally different, like a boomerang," said Ms Harris.
"It appeared to have three large white lights hooked to it."

"MIRROR"

Sydney, N.S.W.

27 MAY 1976

'UFO' caused mystery grass burns

A mysterious ring of scorched grass discovered on a farming property near Robertson has police and scientists baffled.

The president of the UFO Investigation Centre, Mr David Buching, said it was caused by a UFO.

Geologists who studied the burnt patch yesterday said they were completely mystified about its origin.

The burnt grass ring was found on Tuesday by a Robertson farmer, Mr Harry Warren.

Mr Warren searched his property early on Tuesday morning.

Mr Warren told police he and his wife were about to retire on Monday night when they saw an

object glowing in the bush about three-quarters of a kilometre from their farmhouse.

"The object was luminous and gave a distinct red glow," he told police.

"It made no sound and there was no smoke or fire."

Mr Warren told police he saw the object about 10 o'clock on Monday night and he watched it with his wife for about 10 minutes before the red glow gradually disappeared.

Samples

Mr Buching said today: "This sounds like a classical UFO landing."

"We have investigated other mystery rings of burnt earth and grass but this is our best find for some time."

Dr Richard Facer, Professor of Geology at Wollongong University, went to the area yesterday with other physics and geology experts to take samples.

Dr Facer said they had found something that he "could not explain."

CR: Musgrave

MOVING GLOW A UFO?

A bright glow thought to be an unidentified flying object was sighted in the sky in the Tower Hill area about 7 pm on Tuesday.

The glow was noticed by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Lucas and their 10-year-old daughter, Jessica, while they were driving towards their home on the edge of the crater.

Mr. Lucas said he first saw the glow as he drove towards his home along the road that runs along the edge of Tower Hill.

The glow appeared to be 400 to 800 metres away and about 150 metres above the ground.

Mr. Lucas said he stopped the car at his home to get a better view. The light was stationary at first, then it began to move.

His view was blocked momentarily by a high hedge, but when he moved his position he again saw the glow disappearing towards the north-west at high speed.

Mr. Lucas said he saw it for about three or four minutes.

Mrs. Lucas described the phenomenon as a white, flattish glow which was quite bright at first, but which diminished as the object moved rapidly away.

"Standard"
Warrnambool, Vic.
July 2, 1976

Waterdown UFO photos '100% okay': world expert

The now-renowned Waterdown UFO photographs have passed every conceivable test . . . with flying colors.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the world's foremost authority on unidentified flying objects, said yesterday that he hasn't been able to find a flaw in them . . . and thinks they're for real.

"All I can say now is that the photographs show something which certainly appears to be a flying saucer. We've tested them thoroughly from every viewpoint and are convinced they're not fakes."

Dr. Hynek heads the U.S. Centre for UFO studies in Evanston, Ill. and was the former consultant to the United States Air Force on UFOs.

He revealed his findings on the Waterdown pictures two months after 19-year-old Waterdown high school student Pat McCarthy photographed the sombrero-shaped object, about a mile from his home.

Since that date UFO investigators, police, politicians, scientists and even the military have been involved in the bizarre incident, quizzing McCarthy, investigating the scene where the photographs were taken, and probing the sighting from every angle.

No one has ever been able to disprove they are genuine but it was felt Dr. Hynek, who has collected data on

thousands of unexplained UFO sightings, would be able to eventually give the authoritative verdict.

The Spectator, which processed the original McCarthy film, took the negatives to Dearborn Observatory near Chicago early in April where Dr. Hynek gave them some preliminary tests.

At the time he was 99 per cent convinced they were genuine, but said other tests — most importantly a thorough examination by photographic expert Frederick Beckman — were needed to authenticate them fully.

"I have never wanted to jump the gun by rashly saying a UFO photograph is genuine," Dr. Hynek said yesterday.

"I have been researching now for many years and I don't want the rug pulled from under my feet by making a bad judgment.

"But, Mr. Beckman studied the photographs in detail and is convinced they are 100 per cent OK. Many experts here have now looked them over from every possible viewpoint, so all we can say for sure now is that they are not fabricated.

"I still don't know what the object is, although it's very similar to photographs taken in other parts of the world, some of which have been impossible to authenticate."

Dr. Hynek said Mr. Beckman's only concern was that

there was no point of reference — such as a tree or telephone pole — in the photographs.

"That would have helped us considerably and because of that we had to give them a more critical going-over.

"But the fact that neither we, nor the scores of other people who have had direct contact with the boy, have not been able to discover one flaw, I think proves without a doubt authenticity."

Dr. Hynek said he would be happier if McCarthy was to take a polygraph — or lie-detector — test to prove to the public he had not faked the photographs.

"Basically, that can be of great importance to people who investigate UFOs but have been scoffed at over the years. We're convinced they're real, but there's a segment of the public which will never be convinced unless they see something they can relate to.

"People know what a lie-detector test is . . . and if McCarthy took one then I'm sure it would show everyone the lad is telling the truth."

During his preliminary testing of the photographs Dr. Hynek said that if the pictures were genuine, "then we are certainly looking at some form of extra-terrestrial life."

Yesterday he affirmed that this is still his feeling: "This is another point, and a

valuable point, on the curve."

Dr. Hynek has contended that the U.S. Air Force, for whom he has worked for 19 years, has covered-up many genuine UFO sightings: "The Pentagon would never accept anything that wasn't explainable. I investigated many cases which pointed to another life, but again and again they turned them down and cooked-up some logical, earthly explanation of their own."

He has, however, collected reams of data from his Pentagon days and insists governments, including Canada, will have to begin looking seriously at UFOs before too long.

"Basically, I feel the governments of the world are afraid of alarming the people on earth by telling them point-blank there is other life.

"But sooner or later it's going to come out. I just hope it's in my own lifetime."

Because of official reticence towards UFOs, Dr. Hynek believes the Waterdown UFO will only be accepted by his own centre and other UFO agencies for now.

"But their value lies in the future. As far as I'm concerned they are part — a large part — of the documentation that there is other life in this universe.

"One day they'll have a great part to play."

Ontario, Canada CR: Musgrave

UFO spotted by Hadsphen couple

A Hadsphen man and his wife last night reported watching an unidentified flying object for about 20 minutes through binoculars and the 'telescopic sight of a rifle.

Mr and Mrs Peter Le Fevre described the object as a bright silver light with a distinct rotating red light above it.

Mrs Le Fevre said she first saw the object about 6.45 p.m. while she was taking in her washing from the back yard clothes line.

"It was hovering at first then it suddenly shot up into the sky. It was like a falling star but going upwards," Mrs Le Fevre said.

She said she was startled by the object and called her husband.

Mr Le Fevre said the object made the upward motion twice before descending slowly towards the horizon towards Deloraine.

"It looked as though it was going to land," he said.

"It was as big as the brightest star in the sky with a red light revolving — much like an ambulance light.

"I could see it very clearly through binoculars and my rifle scope. "I was amazed. I've never seen anything like it before."

Mr Le Fevre said he has an open mind about the possibility of other forms of life.

"I've always thought, 'well, why not?'" he said.



● Mr and Mrs Le Fevre standing in the spot from which Mrs Le Fevre first saw a strange light.

"EXAMINER"

30 JUN 1976

Launceston, Tas.

"SUN"

Sydney, N.S.W.

355 UFOs
REPORTED

THE Unidentified Flying Objects Investigation Centre in Sydney had reports of 355 UFOs in Australia last year.

The Centre says 107 of these sightings remain unexplained. The other 248 sightings

had since been satisfactorily explained.

The centre says most sightings last year were made between 6 pm and midnight, with Fridays yielding the most number of reports and Tuesdays the least.

It has a large team of investigators, including a group of scientific advisers, to study and investigate all UFO sightings.

Mrs Le Fevre was too alarmed to finish taking the washing in, he said.

Mr Le Fevre was reluctant to be publicly identified for fear of being ridiculed.

"All I can say is I saw something that I know is not normal," he said.

"I hope somebody else has seen it, too."

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From

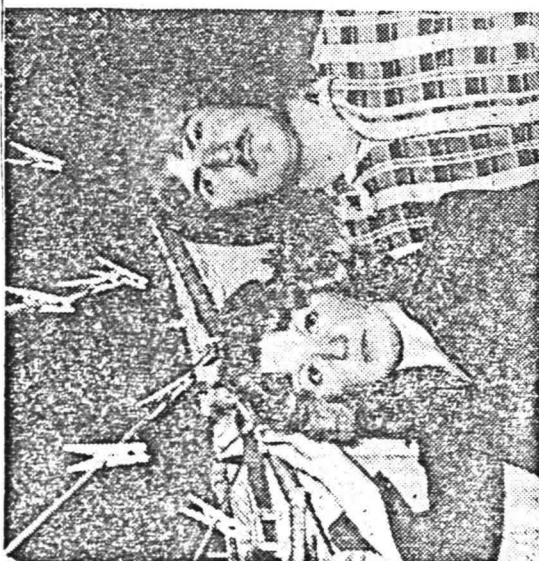
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- 1) City and Country of incident: Tres Arroyos - Buenos Aires Province, Argentina
- 2) Date of incident: May 9, 1976
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica - May 10, 1976
- 4) City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO SHOW OVER TRES ARROYOS

Tres Arroyos, 10 (From our correspondent) - The manoeuvres and swift flight of a UFO surprised yesterday the neighbors of this city, as well as the members of the Centre for Investigation of Extraterrestrial Beings of this southern city.

The UFO appeared over the horizon of Tres Arroyos at 6.40 pm, crossed a large part of the atmosphere over this city keeping over it during approx. 30 seconds to disappear leaving a luminous wake, towards the East.

Original Clipping

Transl.: Jane Thomas
May 17, 1976

CRONICA (vesp.)
BUENOS AIRES

10 MAY 1976

OVNI-SHOW EN TRES ARROYOS

TRES ARROYOS, 10 (De nuestro corresponsal). — Las evoluciones y el rápido vuelo de un Objeto Volador no Identificado (OVNI), sorprendió ayer a los vecinos de esta ciudad, así como a los miembros del Centro de Investigaciones de Seres Extraterrestres, con asiento en esta localidad del sur bonaerense.

El OVNI apareció sobre el horizonte de Tres Arroyos a las 18.40, recorrió gran parte del espacio atmosférico de la ciudad, manteniéndose en sus evoluciones sobre la misma por espacio de unos 30 segundos, para desaparecer luego, dejando una estela luminosa hacia el Este.

- 1) City and Country of Incident: Bahía Blanca, Buenos Aires Prov., Argent.
- 2) Date of incident: June 4, 1976
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica - June 5, 1976
- 4) City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO SEEN IN BAHIA BLANCA

Bahía Blanca, 6 (From our correspondent) - José Pascali is a TV technician who, until yesterday did not believe in "flying saucers". But now the man tells to whoever is willing to listen, that even though he does not believe in them, "they sure are there."

The change of opinion was due to an event which he witnessed yesterday afternoon. Pascali had gone to the Los Ranchos suburb in the Virgen de Luján town, in order to fix a TV set. On leaving, the car he was driving failed in the intersection of Guemes Ave. and the Arroyo del Medio.

It was then that Pascali saw, appearing at some 120m height, a very luminous UFO with an approx. diameter of 30m. The UFO flew over the place for some time and then rose taking off towards Tres Arroyos.

Like magic -says Pascali- when the UFO disappeared, his car went back to normal. He made a report to the police and now, as stated above, whenever he is asked to repeat what happened, he just says: "I don't believe in UFO's, but they sure exist."

As always, when these things happen there are those who believe and those who don't; almost always the latter are majority, but meanwhile Pascali keeps on telling to whoever wants to hear it that he saw a UFO.

Original Clipping

EN BAHIA BLANCA VIERON UN OVNI

BAHIA BLANCA, 6 (De nuestro corresponsal). — José Pascali es un técnico en televisión que, hasta ayer nomás, no creía en los platos voladores. Pero ahora el hombre afirma a quien lo quiera escuchar, que aunque no crea, "que los hay... los hay". El cambio de opinión obedece a un episodio del que fue protagonista en la tarde de la víspera. Pascali había concurrido al barrio Los Ranchos, ubicado en la localidad de Virgen de Luján, a los efectos de reparar un aparato de televisión. Al retirarse, el vehículo en el que se desplazaba registró una falla en el motor, en el cruce de la avenida Guemes con el Arroyo del Medio.

Fue en esas circunstancias que Pascali vio surgir, a unos 120 metros de altura, un Objeto Volador No Identificado, de gran luminosidad y un diámetro de aproximadamente 30 metros. El OVNI sobrevoló por espacio de un buen rato el lugar para luego, elevarse rápidamente y emprender rauda marcha hacia el sur, en aparente dirección a Tres Arroyos.

Como por arte de magia —dice Pascali— desapareció el OVNI, el motor de su coche volvió a funcionar con toda normalidad. El hombre procedió a formular la denuncia del hecho y ahora, como se consigna al principio de esta información, cuando se le pide que reitere la versión sobre el extraño suceso se limita a expresar: "Yo no creo en OVNI pero que los hay... los hay".

Como siempre, que ocurren estas cosas, aparecen los que creen y los que no creen en estas cosas; casi siempre, estos últimos son mayoría, pero mientras tanto, Pascali sigue diciendo a quien lo quiera oír que vio un OVNI.

CRONICA (Vespertina)
BUENOS AIRES

6 JUN 1976

RED SAUCER

As in all the best UFO stories, the Robertson red phantom has left tantalising doubts.

Meteorite, Russian space junk or something nameless and terrifying, the thing that crashed in a South Coast farmer's paddock did not just burn the grass — it withered it.

We report the incident today without reaching a conclusion. It could be just fungus on the farmer's grass. But there is always that romantic hope that it was something less commonplace.

"SUN-HERALD"

Sydney, N.S.W.

13 JUN 1976

- 1) City/and Country of incident: Posadas, Misiones Province, Argentina
- 2) Date of incident: June 1, 1976
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón - June 2, 1976
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

An alleged UFO was seen over Posadas, flying very high and fast, red-orange colored, and was photographed

Original Clipping

Another version says it was a plane

Posadas (Misiones) - The Centro Investigador de Fenómenos Extraterrestres (Investigation Center for Extraterrestrial Phenomena) issued a communique on the appearance of an alleged UFO in the skies of Posadas, yesterday at 06:45 pm. According to the Center, the object moved very fast and high, and its color was red orange. It was also informed that it has been photographed. On the other hand, control tower at the local airport was consulted and they stated that the log book registered the passage of a Canberra plane belonging to the Air Force, at 06:34 pm at 9,950 meters height. The plane went from Port Iguazú to Formosa Province. The Center informed that the UFO went in an opposite direction to that of the Air Force's plane.

Discussions have now started between those who maintain it was really a UFO and those who claim it was a plane.

Fue Visto en Posadas un Presunto OVNI que Volaba a Gran Altura y Velocidad, Era de Color Rojo Anaranjado, y se lo Fotografió

OTRA VERSION DICE QUE ERA UN AVION

POSADAS - El Centro Investigador de Fenómenos Extraterrestres dio a conocer una información sobre la aparición de un presunto OVNI en el cielo de Posadas, ocurrido ayer a las 18.45. Según la entidad, el objeto se desplazaba a gran velocidad y altura y era de color rojo anaranjado. Fue fotografiado, informó. Por su parte, la torre de control del aeropuerto local fue consultada al respecto señalando que en el libro de guardia estaba asentado el paso de un Canberra de la Fuerza Aérea, a las 18.34, volando a 9.950 me-

tros de altura. El avión se dirigía de Puerto Iguazú a Formosa. El centro investigador afirmó que el OVNI llevaba una dirección opuesta a la del avión de la Fuerza Aérea. La polémica se ha desatado ahora entre quienes afirman que era realmente un plato volador y quienes sostienen que se trataba del avión.

LA RAZON
BUENOS AIRES

2 JUN 1976

CR: Jane Thomas

Viedma

TWO unidentified flying objects hovered over this city for two hours on Wednesday night and disappeared just before dawn.

They remained for a long time in the sky a few kilometres distant from the local airport. Hundreds of people spent half the night looking at the objects which emitted coloured lights and zig zagged across the sky without any fixed direction. (NA)

Buenos Aires,
Argentina
July 16, 1976

AUSTRALIA

From: Joe Brill

ROY SAYS NOBODY WILL TELL HIM ABOUT HIS UFO

A Sydney man claims he has struck a wall of silence and apathy trying to verify his sighting of a bright green UFO over the city.

Roy Roberts, a sign-writer, said he has contacted various civil and government bodies which investigate such incidents in an attempt to prove he saw "something".

"They say, 'Yes, we'll

check it out,' but I never hear any more," Mr Roberts, 40, said today.

Lifetime

"It seems they just don't give a damn or don't want to tell me something.

"What makes me so mad about the whole business is that you see something as I did prob-

ably once in a lifetime, so you'd like to know what it was... or wasn't."

Mr Roberts said he encountered the UFO while returning to his flat in Hollis Lane, Newtown, on Friday night.

Speed

"It was 8.40 pm and I was walking in Fitzroy St when this brilliant green,

egg-shaped object shot across the sky," he said.

"It had a small white light up front and below and crossed from west to east about 20 degrees above the horizon.

"The thing was the size of a conventional aircraft but travelled at an incredible speed without a sound.

"I'd estimate it was moving at 8000km/h (5000 mph) as it crossed the sky in only five seconds."

Mr Roberts, who made a sketch of what he claims he saw, said he would not let the matter rest until he had a satisfactory explanation of the incident from a scientific organisation.

OOPS! Here are the Country listings for the clippings in the FOREIGN Clipping Section.

FOREIGN Page 1 : Sanitized UFO Data..... CANADA
Light in the Sky.....UFO Caused mystery.....Moving Glow..... AUSTRALIA

FOREIGN Page 2 : Waterdown UFO Photos..... CANADA
UFO Spotted.....355 UFOs Reported..... AUSTRALIA

FOREIGN Page 3 : OVNI-Show.....En Bahia Blanca.....SOUTH AMERICA/ARGENTINA Cr: J. Thomas
Red Saucer..... AUSTRALIA

FOREIGN Page 4 : AS MARKED

Expeditions, Too, Are a Loch Ness Legend

By ROBERT B. SEMPLE Jr.
Special to The New York Times

DRUMNADROCHIT, Scotland, June 11—Jimmy McLennan is one of the old-time crofters in the highlands. For most of his 62 years, he has worked 75 inhospitable acres on a ridge high above Loch Ness, renting the property from some distant landlord and doing well enough to raise five children. But he has never seen the monster—unless, of course, one counts a piece of garden furniture.

"I was down there with the sheep one day," Mr. McLennan recalled, sweeping a weatherbeaten hand in the general direction of a hillside that drops sharply toward the waters of the loch. "I saw something strange in the water. Then I saw some boys rowing towards it, and when they lifted it out, it was a lawn chair. That's the closest I ever came to a monster, and I've been looking at that water for most of this century."

But while Mr. McLennan has never had a "sighting"—unlike Winifred Cary, who says he has had 15, or Father Gregory at the monastery in Fort Augustus, who claims one—he believes there is "something down there." So do most of the people in these parts, which is one reason why so few of them seem to resent the intrusion of yet another team of monster-hunting scientists, an expedition sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science and The New York Times.

Mystery of the Glen

They have lived so long with the legend and come so firmly to believe it that the prospect of independent verification is not likely to affect the accepted continuity of their lives. The only thing they wouldn't like is for someone to catch the creature and put it in a tank, as a Japanese expedition reportedly set out to do several years ago. That would be stealing a bit too much from the mystery of the glen.

"Those little fellows couldn't speak a word of English," said Mr. McLennan, whose own highland burr bears only a vague resemblance to the smoother vowels of the south. "They just sailed around in a little boat, mostly in circles."

The people of the Great Glen, whose centerpiece is the dark and deep loch, have done surprisingly little to exploit the monster. There is, to be sure, a tatty little "monsterburger" stand on Route A-82 on the western edge of the loch and someone has put together a lethal blend called "Monster's Choice," which tastes suspiciously like bourbon. And Gordon Mackintosh is selling huge, stuffed "nessies" at his toy store in Inverness for \$400 each, which he hopes to unload on wealthy tourists at a rate of about one a month.

Little Bric-a-Brac

But there are no big, brassy hotels, no pubs named "Nessie's Arms," and very little bric-a-brac. One senses that the people here decided long ago that they could not conquer the geography of their lives with one-shot

commercial deals, that prosperity in the highlands means simply staying even. This is probably why Mr. Mackintosh not only runs a toy store but also sells land as well, why Tony Gerlings farms his acreage and rents but hillside chalets and hires himself out as a technical adviser to a television crew, and why farmers on the green but thin hillsides set aside a few rooms for bed-and-breakfast tourists.

Yet even though they do not depend on the monster for their livelihood, the highlanders of Loch Ness appreciate its value, and this in turn reinforces their otherwise mystical belief that something is there—a belief that is unlikely to be shaken even if the strobe lights and closed-circuit television cameras fail to yield any new photographic evidence.

One local resident put it this way: "Some people may have been drunk when they saw what they saw, and some may have seen a log; but there are a lot of people who say they have seen a hump or a head or a tail or a flipper, and there can't be that many liars in the Glen."

A man whose livelihood gives his word extra credibility is the Rev. Gregory Brusey, a subprior at Scotland's only Benedictine Monastery at Fort Augustus, at the southern tip of the loch.

Legend of a Saint

It was not far from here, according to legend, that St. Columba, whose statue sits in a niche in the monastery's wall overlooking the loch, saved a terrified swimmer by commanding "a certain water monster not to go further nor touch thou that man," it was here, too, that Father Gregory saw something four years ago.

"It was a lovely morning, and the sun was warm and the water smooth," he recalled the other day. "And

with me was a friend, an organist from London. We suddenly noticed a big commotion about 200 yards out in the water, and then a black neck appeared, about eight inches in diameter and seven or eight feet high, followed by a hump. It rose, then dove sideways back into the water. It was not a boat, or a log or a fish. It was a different animal."

Father Gregory — whose sighting corresponds to many others reported over the years—hopes that the present expedition will succeed. And then, he says, "we ought to leave the monster alone." "In this technological age, we've placed a label on everything," he said. "I am a champion of the unknown. Mystery intrigues people, and so it should remain."

If one's agnosticism fades when confronted by Father Gregory's stern faith, it disappears completely when confronted by Winifred Cary's cyclonic certitude. Now 69, with everything but her voice and conviction slowed down by arthritis, Mrs. Cary spent summers in



Jimmy McLennan, 62-year-old highland crofter, has never seen the monster.

the Glen before settling here in 1951 in a house high above Urquhart Castle, a medieval ruin that dominates the loch at midpoint.

"I first saw the monster in 1917, when I was 11, and I was out in a boat with my brother," Mrs. Cary says. "A huge hump appeared before us, like a large upturned boat, and then moved away very rapidly. We got out fast. I did not have another sighting until 1954, when my son Bill was home on leave, and I was down in the front field overlooking the castle."

Mrs. Cary herself has never obtained a photograph ("I can't go around with a camera draped around my neck all the time," she says). This illustrates part of the problem: those who have recorded good "sightings" have rarely carried cameras, while those who have spent hours with telescopic cameras rarely seem to get good sightings.

Despite nearly a decade of dedicated watching, for example, members and volunteers of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau obtained only a few inconclusive pictures of shapes on the water, a failure that has led to the newer efforts to use underwater photography and sonar.

This may have been the result of bad luck, or even a certain camera shyness on the monster's part, but Mrs. Cary has another explanation.

A Moribund Bureau

"Most of the volunteers were students who came up here for a lark," she says rather testily. "I think they spent their time in the woods. In fact, I know they did. Once I had a good sighting, and I rushed up behind the house to the garage, where a couple of students were supposed to be in charge of a camera. As it turned out, they were locked in each other's arms."

The investigation bureau is now more or less moribund, and there are only a handful of dedicated surface watchers left.

"What the bureau needs is money," says Richard Raynor, a 26-year-old who came some years ago to man a telescopic camera, then stayed on to run a small museum in Fort Augustus. "We need money in order to mount a dredging operation in search for bones on the bottom. Bones don't run away when you come near them."

Mr. Raynor was asked whether irrefutable verification of the monster's existence would take the charm out of the search and diminish his interest in the subject.

Not at all, he said. "This would encourage the kind of support we need to learn more—where the monster or monsters come from, how they get their food, what their habits are. The animals are much more interesting than the myth."

New York,
New York
Times
June 12, 1976

JUN 28 1976
The Evening Bulletin
Philadelphia, Pa.

Does Nessie Have Kin In Nearby Loch Moran?

By ROBERT COOKE
Boston Globe

Drumnadrochit, Scotland — Nessie has neighbors, a British research team believes, and they are hoping to find them in Scotland's remote, lonely Loch Moran long before an American team finds any creatures in Loch Ness.

"It's become something of a race, you know," said Adrian J. Shine, the tall, bearded leader of an expedition setting up on Loch Moran. "We've to keep up our side of this, after all."

This is Shine's fourth summer working at Loch Moran, which almost meets the sea on Scotland's western coast.

Shine explained that monsters similar to those supposedly seen in Loch Ness have been reported for many years on Loch Moran.

Since there are fewer people there, he said, there have been fewer reports.

"To me, we're hunting the same animal," he said as he drove a few visitors toward his camp site next to the lake on a pebbly beach. He said the descriptions of Moran's monsters seem to fit Loch Ness's creatures closely. Moran is some 30 miles from Loch Ness, but it is 100 miles via narrow winding roads.

At present, an American expedition sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science in Boston and the New York Times are monitoring an array of five cameras hanging from a boat in Loch Ness. Their hope is that flashing light



from one camera will entice Nessie to come within camera range for a portrait.

Shine believes the Loch Ness expedition "will only get glimpses" of Nessie because the water is so dark, the color of weak tea. Photographing the whole creature under water, he said, is next to impossible.

"The reason I'm here at Moran is the clear water. Loch Ness has that terrible peat stain, and there's no way round you can defeat it."

Shine's earlier work, referred to as the Loch Moran Survey has included observations with a glass-bottom boat, use of a small submarine, and the use of listening devices placed under the water. This year, he said, plans are to use two sensitive, low-light television cameras mounted on the lake bottom — in about 80 to 100 feet of water — looking straight up.

The goal is to record the passage overhead of one of the monsters and to observe the entire creature's silhouette.

The Mystery Remains

Scores of Western sheriffs and other law enforcement officers were deeply puzzled about the rash of mysterious cattle mutilations last year—so much so that they have continued to study the matter.

A meeting in March in St. Anthony, Ida., drew 130 officers from a wide area of the west. They related a fairly uniform pattern of mutilation—patches of skin excised and sex and other organs removed in surgical fashion. Often, there was no sign of blood or footprints near the carcass.

Undersheriff Bob Hart of Colorado's Garfield County hosted a similar conference in mid-April at Glenwood Springs. Hart, a veteran of 45 years in Western law enforcement, said following the meeting, which drew 31 officers:

"There are no experts. There are no explanations."

As if to underscore the recent event a six-week-old male calf was found dead and mutilated last Tuesday five miles south of Glenwood, according to Undersheriff Hart.

The animal was examined a few hours after death, according to Hart, and the usual pattern emerged: tongue and rectum surgically removed and an absence of tracks.

Hart said the calf was 600 yards from the corral containing its mother. And as is often the case, there seemed no way the animal could have walked through new alfalfa to reach the place of death.

"In that new alfalfa you could track a housecat," said Hart. "But there were no tracks, except that the animal went down once and then moved 21 feet to where we found it."

The Western sheriffs who care enough to keep on probing this phenomenon—which seems to break out in the summer months—are to be congratulated. Many state and federal authorities dismiss the thing as coyote damage in the wake of natural death. This may be true in many cases but, as the Garfield case indicates, not all the cases fit so simple an explanation.

As Undersheriff Hart says:

"I'll believe anything."

The Denver Post
Denver, Colo.
May 11, 1976
CR: Tom Adams

Scene of the Soviet search is in Siberia along the Indigirka River.

The newspaper Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya says people along the river have been seeing their version of Big Foot for years.

They call it Chou Chou, and describe it as twice as tall as a normal human. It is said to be strong as a bear, it dresses in skins, shoots a bow, runs swiftly and can't speak but emits a strange whistle.

They plan to mount an expedition to investigate. Now it will be up to our intrepid scientists from North American Wildlife Research to find Big Foot before they find Chou Chou.

We can't let detente stand in the way of our leadership over the Russians.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada CR: Gene Duplantier

The Globe and Mail July 9, 1976

First this year

Ogopogo sighted

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — The first sighting reported this year of Lake Okanagan's Ogopogo water monster has come from two fishermen near Fintry on the west side of the lake.

Stan Baron of Calgary said he and Lawney Scown of Coral Beach were fishing just south of Fintry about 4:30 p.m. Tuesday when they saw the celebrated resident of the lake.

"We were approximately 300 yards offshore," Mr. Baron said. "It was swimming parallel to shore about 100 yards further out in the lake. The creature was attempting to push us toward the shore."

Mr. Baron said he was getting nervous with the attention the often-seen out seldom-photographed creature was giving the small craft. "It was blue-black. We saw the head and tail appear as it moved in a caterpillar-like

fashion in the water." What concerned the men was the heavy wake left by the creature. "The wake was really substantial. We were afraid to get too close," Mr. Baron said. "We got the strong impression that we were crowding the creature's territory and that it was upset."

He estimated the length of the creature at from 40 to 60 feet.

"We observed it for five to 10 minutes the first time and then saw it again as we crossed the lake back to Coral Beach," he continued. "I thought Ogopogo was a myth. I'm convinced there was a creature in the lake. I'd like to have another look at him—this time with a camera."

The legend of a lake monster predates white settlement of the Okanagan Valley. Legends of the Okanagan Indians tell of a serpent-like creature in the 70-mile-long lake

Big Foot Roams Distant Lands

Word comes from British Columbia that a scientific expedition is about to set out to find Sasquatch, or Big Foot, and that's not too surprising because this is the season for it.

Specifically, Gene Cislser of North American Wildlife Research says the expedition's leader, Roy Lack, and a group of researchers have set up camp near Bella Coola, a wilderness area in the Canadian province.

For a long time we have been accustomed to claims by the Russians that they were first in just about everything.

However, this year they are getting into the Big Foot act.

Portland, Oregon
Oregon Journal
July 10, 1976

Centralia, Washington

Chronicle June 19, 1976

Bigfoot in Packwood area?

By DENNIS AUVIL
Chronicle Staff Writer

PACKWOOD — Signs of that legendary, hairy creature known as Bigfoot have been sighted three and one-half miles southeast of Packwood along the trail to Glacier Lake.

Human-like tracks measuring six to eight inches wide and 16 to 18 inches long were found Saturday by Dave Fryberger, Mossyrock, and two companions on a fishing outing.

Fryberger said the tracks, although weathered from the rain, looked authentic. One or two of the tracks, found in soft earth along the trail over

a distance of 300 yards, clearly showed an impression of five toes, Fryberger said.

Although there were no Bigfoot experts to verify the find, a group of amateur Bigfoot watchers, including Fryberger, J.M. (Merle) Auvil, also of Mossyrock, and this reporter, returned to the scene late Sunday afternoon.

Inspecting the tracks, which except for some rain Saturday evening had not been disturbed, Auvil and Fryberger seemed convinced they are genuine.

This reporter, however, after

examining the large tracks, concluded there is a 95 per cent chance they are faked. Except in one place, the tracks lead only a few steps and are found only in soft earth here and there along the trail.

Auvil and Fryberger counter, however, that the big fellow who made the tracks probably walked up the trail, moving off occasionally to munch on vegetation.

Auvil said the Goat Rocks Wilderness area, which begins near where the tracks were found, is a natural habitat for the creature called Bigfoot.

New York, N.Y.
Times
June 6, 1976

The Search Begins at Loch Ness

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD
Special to The New York Times

DRUMNADROCHIT, Scotland, June 5—The search for the Loch Ness monster has begun.

The Academy of Applied Science/New York Times Loch Ness expedition has already obtained 8,000 color pictures from one camera submerged in the murky wa-

ters of the Scottish lake. But until the film is processed some time next week it will not be known whether anything of significance revealed itself.

Late this afternoon, the engineers and scientists established a lakeside operations station. A television monitor and remote controls for underwater cameras were in-

stalled and tested. Only a late rain prevented them from deploying the television rig into the dark waters, at a planned depth of 40 feet. That move is set for tomorrow.

Two zoologists in the party settled in for an all-night vigil on the Malaran, the expedition's 33-foot cabin cruiser. From a mooring on the loch,

they will lower a side-scan sonar instrument into the water and watch for any patterns of returned sound signals that suggest large moving objects below.

Declaring the expedition "operational," Dr. Robert H. Rines of Boston, the leader, said:

"We have maximized our chances for success. We have some of the world's best experts, not only to design and build our equipment, but also to help us here install and operate it. We think we have that it will take to get the kind of information zoologists and others need to identify what these moving objects in the loch really are."

This summer's search for

The Search Is Started at Loch Ness As Television Monitor Is Installed

the elusive and legendary monster is sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science of Boston, a nonprofit society promoting invention and technology, and The New York Times. The expedition is expected to cost about \$75,000. Most of the expensive equipment is being donated by American companies that specialize in photography and underwater exploration.

TV Crew on Hand

Ten members of the expedition were on hand for the beginning of full photographic operations. Another dozen scientists and engineers plan to join the party later to conduct sonar, infrared and other types of surveys.

A film crew from NBC, which has exclusive television rights to record the expedition, covered the activities today at Temple Pier, a stone-and-earthen jetty opposite the crumbling ruins of a 12th-century castle where Urquhart Bay opens into Loch Ness.

At the pier are a cluster of weathered boathouses and a few parked camper vehicles and cottages, one of which is to serve as the expedition's film-processing and monitoring station. Members of the expedition are to take turns watching a television screen for any sight of a creature passing in view of the submerged TV camera and, in that event, to trigger the stereoscopic camera to take more detailed pictures.

Site of Many Sightings

Down the road, at the head of Urquhart Bay, is Drumnadrochit, a village of native stone and gray stucco buildings with smoke curling from chimneys at dusk. The name is a corruption of Gaelic for two 10-foot parallel steel bars, ridge of the bridge. Once it was the scene of battle between Noremen and Picts. Bolted to the frame from the top down, are two stroboscopic search lights, housed in separate steel cylinders less than two feet long because so many sightings of the monster have been reported in and near Urquhart Bay. It was here also that other teams led by Dr. Rines obtained underwater television pictures in 1972 and 1975. Though fuzzy and grainy, they showed what the creature's diamond-shaped flipper and a head considered definite proof of the monster's identity or existence.

"People tell me it's been a dry spring, which means the rivers are not flowing full into the loch," Dr. Rines said. "The salmon coming in from the ocean should be congregating in the bay now. But they can't get up the rivers to spawn—they are trapped, for the time being. That means the monsters are like-



The New York Times
Dr. Harold E. Edgerton studies a printout made by the sonar scanner.

murky and below 20 or 30 feet they screen out all sunlight. With artificial lighting, the cameras should have a range up to 40 feet.

At the lakeside cottage, where the TV is monitored, a videotape recorder will be operated at a slow speed of a frame a second. However, when an animal comes into view, the observer is to speed the instrument up to a normal recording rate.

3-Dimensional View

The onshore operator would at the same time, fire the 35-millimeter stereo cameras in an effort to obtain higher-resolution pictures. By snapping simultaneous pictures from slightly different angles, then looking at them through special optics, it should be possible to see the creature in three dimensions, for a better idea of size and distance.

The stereo cameras can take 36 photographs each, one in black and white and the other in high-speed Ektachrome film. After each film roll is exposed, the rig must be hauled up for reloading. The stereo cameras, Benthos "Edgertons," were donated by Benthos Inc., of North Falmouth, Mass.

Illumination for these cameras is provided by the two strobe lights, which flash intense 50 and 150 watt-second beams in unison with the clicking of the cameras' shutters.

Ordinary flashbulbs, packed in a watertight container, will illuminate the waters for the Polaroid camera. This was added to the rig late in the expedition's planning. The camera, donated by the Polaroid Corporation, is capable of taking 10 pictures before reloading.

Another camera rig, somewhat smaller, has been in the water since Wednesday night. It holds the 16-millimeter elapsed-time camera of Dr. Harold E. Edgerton, professor emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a member of the team.

A Picture Every 15 Seconds

This camera, and its 100-watt second strobe light, bolted five feet above the camera on the steel frame, has been taking color pictures automatically every 15 seconds. Four rolls of 2,000 exposures each have been shot over the last three days. The film will be processed sometime next week.

Power for all the cameras and lights is supplied from the shore by thick electric cables. These were deployed



The New York Times

Dennis Meredith, left, press relations man, and Charles W. Wyckoff, photo analyst, set up the main camera rig. Cameras are, from bottom, stereo, television, and Polaroid. The cylinders at top contain lights.

Wednesday, the first full day of the group's activities here at Loch Ness.

Since early Wednesday, the busiest man has been Charles W. Wyckoff. He bore the direct responsibility for unpacking, assembling, testing and de-shot over the last three days. The film will be processed by Charlie Wyckoff, 60 years old and a graduate of Dartmouth College and M.I.T., is a partner of Applied Photo Science Inc., of Needham, Mass. Like many in the expedition, he learned photography and engineering under Dr. Edgerton.

In World War II, Mr. Wyckoff developed photographic instrumentation for observing underwater explosions. Later, he handled the first high-speed photography

of atomic bomb tests for scientific analysis. This required him to invent a new kind of film, known as XR, which is virtually impossible to overexpose even in the intense illumination of atomic explosions. He has also developed color film for the Apollo project and for photographing solar eclipses.

In 1973, Dr. Rines asked him to help with the photography for that summer's Loch Ness hunt. "I was a non-believer as far as the monster was concerned," Charlie Wyckoff said the other day. "But I became a complete believer when I started analyzing the results from last summer. I'm so convinced that these creatures will come up to the cameras that I want to see it on TV."

Monster Myths Play Big Role for Humans

By JANE E. BRODY

The expedition that is searching the murky depths of Loch Ness may not find the long-necked monster that has been said to surface into the Scottish mist now and again. But whether Nessie, as the monster is popularly called, is discovered or not, people will continue to believe in such creatures, as they have throughout recorded history.

A belief in monsters, psychologists say, seems to fulfill a universal human need to explain the unknown, to reach beyond the dullness of ordinary life, to give form to undefined fears and hopes for a brighter future.

Angus Hall, in the book "Monsters and Mythic Beasts," says: "We need creatures to inhabit that strange borderland between fact and fantasy, and our interest lies not so much in whether they really exist, but in the possibility that they may exist."

Dr. June Singer, a Chicago psychotherapist, commenting that monster fantasies "lift us out of the known and give us the courage and imagination to create something new," said: "We need the Loch Ness monster the same way we need to make trips to the moon — to go beyond the known to what people have never before seen."

"If there actually is a Loch Ness monster it doesn't mean our fantasies will be stifled," said Dr. Gertrude Williams, a St. Louis psychologist. "We will simply look for something else. There's a whole push now for extraterrestrial life, for example."

According to Dr. Williams, "a belief in monsters represents an existential desire to get beyond the real, drab, predictable, plastic world." She added: "Just as there may be a fear of the unknown, there is embedded in the human psyche a wish for the unknown, a desire to explore the offbeat."



A sea monster, in an illustration from a 1555 book

In history and literature monsters have played ambivalent roles — they both fascinate and repel, stimulate and shock, frighten and protect. They represent objects to worship and to fear. They provide symbolic scapegoats for the evil forces in man and nature and give people opportunities to overcome that evil through courage and wisdom.

Dr. Bruno Bettelheim, the child psychologist, whose recently published book "The Uses of Enchantment" describes the psychosocial importance of fairy tales, said in an interview that man creates monsters to give form to his anxieties.

"Unnamed anxieties are much more threatening than something to which we can attach a name and form," Dr. Bettelheim said. "Anything we know, or believe to know, is more comforting than the unknown."

"It's not that different from man's creation of God to explain the origin of the universe," he said. Just as God can be pacified by sacrifice and good works, a great deal of effort goes into "the care, feeding and taming of monsters," he added.

From the fire-breathing dragons and seductive mer-

maids of ancient and medieval times to the elusive Nessie and U.F.O.'s of the present scientific age, monsters — both malicious and benign — have tantalized the imagination of man as well as fulfilling psychological and social needs.

As depicted by Mr. Hall in "Monsters and Mythic Beasts," dragons symbolized the struggle between deep-seated lusts and the demands of conscience; the mermaid was the ideal but unobtainable woman, warm and voluptuous on the surface but cold and elusive underneath.

Human beings formulated giants, says Daniel Farson, author of "Vampires, Zombies and Monster Men," in part out of a need to believe in and identify with larger-than-life human beings. Then, having created the monster, they had to create a myth by which it was conquered through dexterity or superior intelligence.

Ape monsters, as epitomized by King Kong, were "convenient repositories for all that is savage, ignoble and libidinous in man," enabling him to "exorcize the burden of his own frailties," said Dr. John Napier, a British anthropologist.

Monster worship, Dr. Na-

pier explained, is ancient and primitive, a "universal of time and space." It permeates all societies regardless of their technological development and all classes of society regardless of intellect or ability.

"Flying saucers may be a modern phenomenon," Dr. Napier has written, "but they come from the same stable as Pegasus, the flying horse of Mount Helicon."

Monster merchants have been quick to capitalize on this timeless fascination with improbable creatures and have made money with books, comics, films, T-shirts, puzzles and rubber and plastic models depicting vampires, werewolves, giant squid, Frankenstein's monster, King Kong, the supernatural and miscellaneous inexplicable phenomena.

Whether based on fiction or fact, the contemporary monster cult, as Dr. Napier terms it, is "a perfect example of the primeval urge

to regard with awe forces that are outside the normal range of human experience."

Dr. Napier is one of the few qualified scientists to make a serious examination of the evidence suggesting the existence of Bigfoot, a large man-ape that is said to inhabit the remote mountains of the Pacific Northwest, and of its Himalayan counterpart, the Yeti, or Abominable Snowman. His findings are described in a book, "Bigfoot," published three years ago.

Despite the intensive search for Nessie and the occasional reports of Bigfoot sightings and footprints, psychologists and other students of fantasy say that, beyond the significance for zoologists, it matters little if monsters are discovered.

"It is as if the very uncertainty, the remoteness and the scanty evidence on which

our ideas are based increases the hold on us, and gives life an extra dimension it would lose if final proof came," Mr. Hall wrote.

Many people would rather not find Nessie or Bigfoot or any other mysterious creature. As one put it: "I really don't want to know. I believe in Nessie, and I don't want my belief to be confirmed or not confirmed."

Dr. Williams, who is head of the section on clinical child psychology of the American Psychological Association, said: "Whether they find the Loch Ness monster or not, it's the search that's so positive because it means people are dreaming, fantasizing. Even if they find nothing, they've found something inside themselves."

When real monsters are exposed to scientific inquiry, they often turn out to be far less monstrous than myth would hold. The traditional image of gorillas as aggressive, sexually rapacious, terrifying beasts persisted long after their existence was confirmed late in the 19th century, and it was not until George Schaller lived among them less than 20 years ago that it became known that they are placid, almost fearful animals that keep to themselves.

Citing animals like the gorilla, devotees of Bigfoot and Nessie maintain, as Dr. Napier put it, "that yesterday's myths are today's scientific discoveries."

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Lights and Cameras Hunt Loch Action

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD
DRUMDRANOCHIT, Scot-

land, June 6—A full array of cameras and lights is now operating in the murky depths of Loch Ness, the electronic eyes in the investigation this summer to determine the nature of the mysterious creatures believed to inhabit this Scottish lake.

It took the Academy of Applied Science's New York Times Loch Ness Expedition nearly all of this cool, blustery day to complete the camera "splash-downs."

But by 6:30 P.M., after days of preparations and hours in wind-tossed boats, members of the party could gather before a small television screen at the shore control station and catch a glimpse of the underwater world of Loch Ness.

"It's still a spit an delatish-band rig," remarked Dr. Robert H. Rines, the expedition leader. "But it's all right, it's working. Who knows, it could happen tonight."

Problems With Rigs

His comments alluded to some of the problems encountered while deploying the two camera rigs from the Hunter, a 23-foot cabin cruiser serving as the expedition's work platform at the loch (300 feet off Temple Pier). It took some feverish improvisation, with lines and wood blocks and metal poles, to insure that the rigs remained level and in view of each other at a depth of 35 feet.

And what could happen to night, or perhaps some day or night soon, is the appearance of a creature. Leaders of the expedition are optimistic.

Because of the way the cameras are deployed, it is hoped that should such an appearance come it would be seen immediately by an observer at the television monitor in the expedition's control station.

The underwater television camera operates continuously. In the event of a sighting, a set of stereoscopic cameras and a

Polaroid instant camera would be switched on to get more and perhaps better pictures of the action.

Everything that appears on the television screen is also being videotaped for examination later.

Camera Lowered

Early this afternoon, the 16-millimeter elapsed-time camera with color film was lowered off the bow of the Hunter. Two yellow ropes attached to the steel rig, with the camera and a bright strobe light, were secured to the side of the boat. The camera is set to take a picture automatically every 15 seconds. In four submissions to date it has taken 8,000 pictures. Tapes are yet to be processed.

The other rig, to which the television, stereo and Polaroid cameras are attached, was much heavier and more difficult to deploy. When it was heaved off the boat, near the

stem, the Hunter listed sharply. Concrete-block ballast was added later to compensate for the weight of the rigs.

After considerable shore-to-ship shouting and hand signaling, all necessary to make fine adjustments in the camera positions, Dr. Harold E. Edgerton of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who was monitoring the TV screen on shore, reported that the elapsed-time camera was in view of the television, bobbing and turning slightly.

Dr. Edgerton wants to see the elapsed-time camera on the screen at all times—because he believes it acts as "bait." In previous years something came up to the camera, attracted either by the flashing, strobe light or the sound of the electric motor, and bumped it several times. This was indicated by the sudden shifts in the angle of pictures, even on days when the loch was heaved off the boat, near the

Searchers Look Again Into The Mystery Of Loch Ness

by George Kauffman

Do the Loch Ness "monsters" exist? Yes.

Have I ever seen "Nessie," as the Scots around Inverness affectionately call these mammals which live in the Loch Ness just outside of town? No (if I had, would you believe me?).

Not that I haven't tried to see one. My wife and I sat on the shores of Loch Ness in May, 1974, at the favorite "sighting-spot" -- Urquhart Castle ruins, dating from the 1200's. Nessie never showed up, so we repaired back to town for a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Today, however, a much more sophisticated attempt is being made to sight, record, and therefore prove the existence of Nessie. It is being mounted by

an expedition of top-flight scientists, sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science of Boston and the New York Times.

"I believe these data indicated the presence of large animals in the Loch Ness but are insufficient to identify them," Smithsonian institute curator of reptiles and amphibians, Dr. George R. Zug, says of this study. "This new evidence should serve to encourage research on the natural history of Loch Ness and its plant and animal inhabitants, and remove the stigma of 'crackpot' from any scientist or group of scientists who wish to investigate the phenomena in Loch Ness."

Before we get to the "new evidence," let us look at the "old evidence," plus a point never made before which just screams to be said.

While we were in Inverness, we bought the illustrated pamphlet "Loch Ness and The Great Glen" by Barrie Robertson. Not only does Mr. Robertson give an exact historical perspective on the loch (lake), he includes photographs of Mr. and Ms. Nessie by Frank Searle.

A word must be said, in reverence, for Mr. Searle. As Robertson describes him: "This remarkable man was a professional soldier for eighteen years with a good knowledge of wild life, both land water creatures. He first sighted one of the strange inhabitants whilst on holiday in the area during the 1960's. . . he decided to abandon the security of his store manager's job in London and make his home by the shores of the loch (in a tent)."

Spending every hour he could stay awake, Mr. Searle, on October 21, 1972, was able to photograph, from his rubber boat, the most remarkable pictures of Nessie ever taken. "On October 21, 1972," Robertson relates, "whilst actually out in his boat, the loch was calm and the creature surfaced some 250 yards away, revealing head, neck, and part of its body. Mr. Searle took several photographs in the twenty seconds it was in view, then it submerged to reappear two minutes later elsewhere. He was of the opinion it had passed almost under his boat. . . he thinks the monsters are likely to be of the prehistoric plesiosaur or elasmosaur type."

Let me describe what Mr. Searle's two full-page photographs look like. In the first one, Nessie is calmly cruising along, leaving a wake behind it which glints in the sun on the mirror-like surface on the loch. The body humps up like a whale; then there is water; then the head emerges with its clearly-defined sharp forehead.

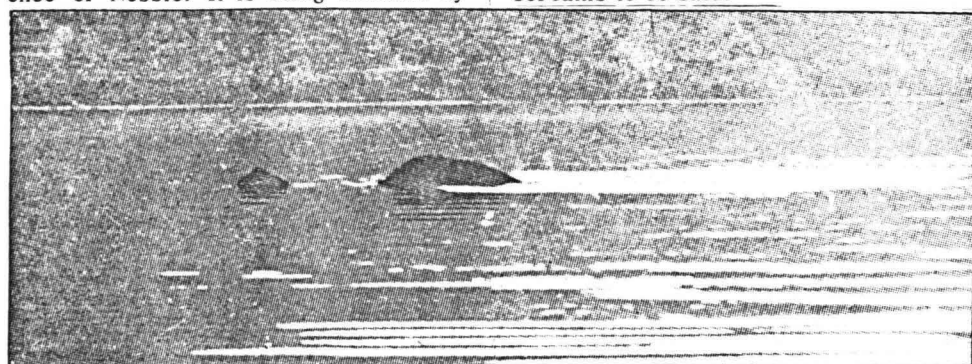
In the second photo, the entire body and long neck is exposed, with sunlight reflecting on the water under its arched neck! 'Tis worth waiting over 12 years for, I feel.

What Mr. Searle photographed will be the target of a massive scientific expedition this summer "concentrating in Urquhart Bay, an arm of the 23-mile long lake where 57 of 258 'reliable' sightings between 1961 and 1970 were reported," says the New York Times of May 29, 1976.

What has triggered this new effort were the underwater electronic-flash pictures, in 1972 and 1975, of what appears to be a huge triangle-fin sweeping through a network of wires underwater designed to flash-off the cameras. Planned and financed by Dr. Robert H. Rines, who is a modern Frank Searle, this imaginative dentist will be the chief organizer of this summer's expedition.

Supporting, and taking an active part in this effort, is world-famous Dr. Harold E. Edgerton, one of the pioneers of electronic-flash photography and inventor of the modern strobe light. He also developed his "old reliable," as he calls it, an underwater camera that takes color film every 15 seconds. This camera has helped find many treasures and shipwrecks, including the Civil War ironclad monitor lying off Cape Hatteras.

"I am putting my bets" Edgerton remarks, "on this camera being our bait."



This alleged photo of the Loch Ness monster was taken in 1972.

arrays to try for more precise detail if "Nessie" comes within range.

The equipment includes a closed-circuit television system which is monitored around the clock. If observers watching the screen in a darkened trailer see something moving toward the flashing cameras, a button will be pushed to take instant Polaroid pictures, plus some stereoscopic views.

A spokesman for the Academy said the cameras have been working properly. Early in the week they said they had already shot close to 8,000 frames with the automatic flash systems.

The search is expected to continue for at least three weeks. However, Edgerton, who is known as "Papa Flash" because he invented stroboscopic photography, will leave the research site in a few days to work on another project.

Edgerton's camera system took the previous photos of the "large animate objects" in Loch Ness.

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interview.

The leader of the expedition to Loch Ness, Dr. Robert Rines, says the research being done in Scotland's longest lake is respectable, that the photos taken by the Academy team in 1972 and 1975 -- plus sonar recordings of "something big" in the murky water -- have removed this work from the realm of fantasy.

But Sheals remains unconvinced by the December photos, which were said to suggest the outlines of a creature in the water.

"If you lowered a camera down into any lake," he said, "you might come up with some kind of images. It could be half-submerged floating wood or something else."

The search for more conclusive evidence is under way. Rines and several other investigators -- including Dr. Harold Edgerton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Charles Wycokoff, a founder of applied Photo Sciences, Inc., in Needham, Mass. -- have set up the same camera system that took pictures for them last time. They've added several new camera

By ROBERT COOKE
Boston Globe

London -- Optimistic attempts to catch a glimpse of the elusive Loch Ness Monster may excite the imagination, but London's oddsmakers are having none of it, quoting the chances at 33-1 against "Nessie" being found.

"Last fall it went down as far as 6 to 1," said a spokesman for Ladbrokes, the bookmakers, "but now it's back up to 33 to 1, and we expect more betting soon."

Those odds reflect the skepticism shown in London. At Heathrow Airport a customs agent remarks, "It's not really there, you know."

At the British Museum (Natural History), Dr. Gordon Sheals, keeper of zoology, sticks to his guns, which were first fired last December when pictures taken by the Boston-based Academy of Applied Science were published in the English journal "Nature".

"All we've seen is a series of objects that we can't identify. We really can't say that it is evidence for large creatures in Loch Ness," Sheals said in an

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