

UFO

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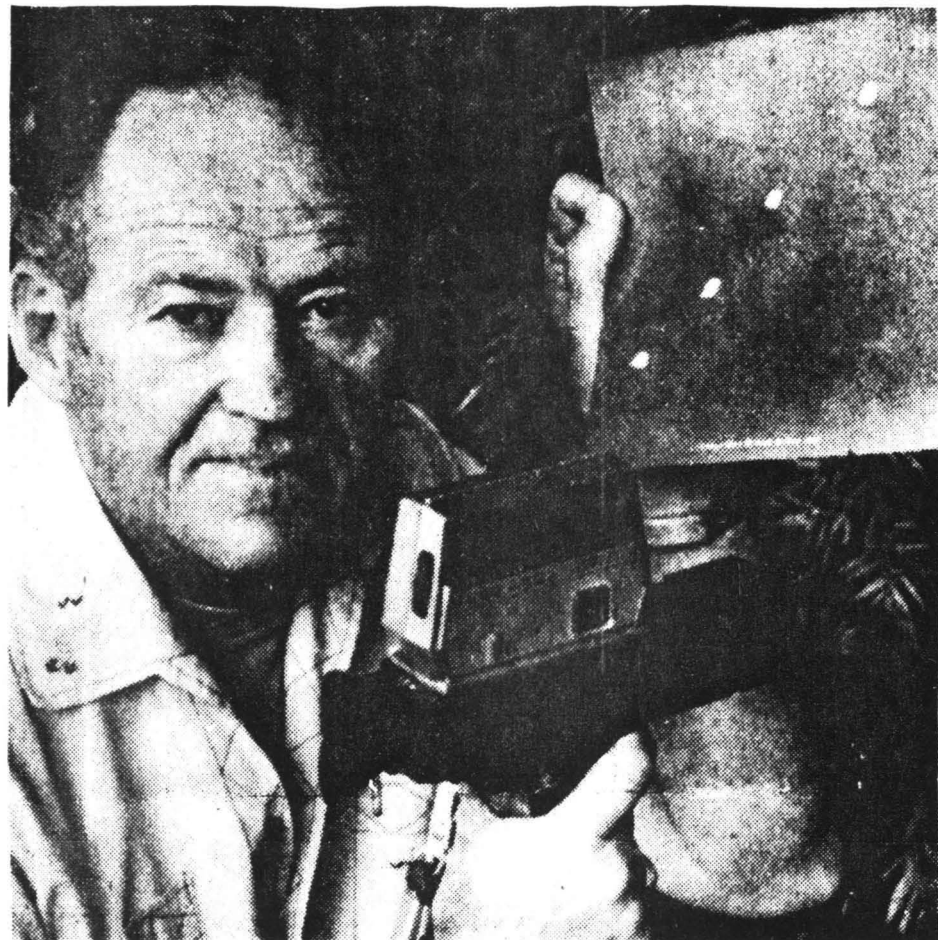
U.F.O. NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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TRIBUNE, Redwood City, CA - Jan. 4, 1978

Hereabouts...

Airship

Last week in this column I mentioned that Bill Teater reported sighting an airship over Stanford on Nov. 12.

At least two other people have reported sighting the ship. Mrs. Linda Russell and her family saw it on Rt. 78 going toward Hustonville at Turkey Foot Gap about 3 p.m. Mrs. Russell says they watched it for awhile and then it suddenly vanished in a golden cloud.

Larry Caldwell I.J. editor, saw what he thought was the ship as he was returning from Crab Orchard to Stanford about 7:30 p.m. Saturday. He said it disappeared suddenly over Jim Cherry's former Cherokee sales building on Lancaster Road.

INTERIOR JOURNAL, Stanford, KY Nov. 24, 1977

Flight they'll remember

By DAVE SCHUTZ

Eva and Fred Svihus of Belmont were on the final leg of a flight back from the South Pacific a short time ago when they saw something that has changed their lives.

The two were aboard a Pan Am flight from Los Angeles to San Francisco. It was about 8:40 a.m. and the aircraft was above Vandenburg Air Force base at the time. It was a bright, clear day, and the 747 was flying at an altitude of about 20,000 feet.

* * *

Suddenly, Mrs. Svihus cried out, "Oh my God! What's out there? Fred, do you see them?"

Yes, he saw them, and his movie camera was busy clicking off what the Svihuses were seeing out the left side of the ship.

What they saw were four objects, seemingly flying in formation at approximately the same height as their airplane. These four (whatever they may be) are illustrated in the picture at left that Fred Svihus is holding.

The enlargement was made from his original motion picture film, and the four specks

have been enlarged so they could be rephotographed by the Tribune.

* * *

How did that episode, which only lasted a few seconds, change the Svihuses' life?

Fred suddenly has found himself in the company of some of the top experts (if, in fact, there are experts in this field) in unidentified flying objects.

His film has been presented to Walter H. Andrus Jr., international director for Mutual Unidentified Flying Objects; Paul C. Cerny, regional director for Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON); Thomas M. Gates, director of the space science center at Foothill College, and James M. McCampbell, author of books on UFOlogy and MUFON research director. He has been flown all over the country.

* * *

Svihus, a professional photographer, had his Bolex working even before the UFO shocker. He had been impressed with the flap action on the 747 wings and was filming that when the squadron of UFOs appeared out the window.

Shooting at 18 frames a

second he managed to catch the four objects on 32 consecutive frames before they disappeared from view heading in a southerly direction.

Actually, the four objects appeared as not much more than specks on the movie film, but Svihus had a professional film processor enlarge them to the size of pinheads. The picture at left was copyrighted by Svihus and remains in his sole possession.

The best description that the Svihuses could give of the objects was that they appeared to be oval in shape, flying in echelon formation and moving from upper right to lower left out the portside window. The Svihuses had both taken window seats, one behind the other, in the only partially filled aircraft.

* * *

How has that experience affected Fred Svihus? Let him tell you as he told me: "How did it change me, my philosophy, my belief in God or the Bible and life on earth? Until that moment I hadn't given these things more than a fleeting thought; I was too busy.

"Then my whole thought process was awakened and alerted to the world around me like never before. It's like being born again. My life now has new priorities and meaning.

"I'm still not certain that I believe in UFOs, but I know from talking with others who have seen things we've seen that they experienced changes. There is a new fresh look about them.

"My experience that morning has put me in contact with some brilliant scientists. These men and women aren't crazy; they're dead serious, and they believe there's a remarkable story in them."

* * *

Meanwhile, Svihus, who once earned a Redwood City Chamber of Commerce "Newsmaker Award" for his efforts in producing a championship bike race here, is plotting new trips, new adventures.

And he promises to always keep his camera ready. He shouldn't have any trouble, either, because he has possibly the best private camera collection of anyone on the Peninsula.

OMSI offers new UFO slant

By JACK PEMENT
Journal Staff Writer

UFOs don't have to be space ships from other worlds to merit the attention of scientists.

That's the theme developed in "The UFO Factor," a new program produced at the Kendall Planetarium of OMSI. Garry T. Stasiuk, planetarium director, has let his imagination run rampant in writing the show.

"Can the electric potential in the earth's atmosphere cause the human brain to malfunction, causing hallucinations?" the show's narrator asks. "Could a change in this potential cause internal combustion engines to stop running? Could UFOs be a life form composed of pure energy?"

Whatever unidentified flying objects might be, they deserve continued investigation because "they could reveal entirely new physical laws giving new insights into the nature of the universe," the narrator informs his audience.

UFOs might be psychological in nature, he continues, or they might have spiritual origins, or they might be something as comparatively understood as an aurora, which "can appear to descend and surround an observer in a phenomenon called 'the umbrella effect.'"

On the other hand, the script concedes, UFOs might indeed be visitors from a planet of an alien sun.

"The UFO Factor" traces in detail "the Zeta Reticuli Incident," a bizarre and fascinating "close encounter of the third kind." The Zeta Reticuli Incident is said to be the most thoroughly investigated of all UFO reports, and it remains one of the most puzzling. Barney and Betty Hill of New Hampshire were the "encountered."

Scientists have not been able to discredit the Hills' story of having been invited aboard a space ship, where they said they were "benignly prodded," closely scrutinized and courteously treated by their strange hosts. Under hypnotic influence supervised by impartial and well accredited investigators, the Hills were able to expand on their story, revealing details they had not remembered or had not chosen to speak of in their conscious states, says the planetarium's narra-

tion.

The Kendall Planetarium will be closed through Tuesday for technical maintenance. Regularly scheduled showings of "The UFO Factor" will resume Wednesday. The show is scheduled as the planetarium feature through Feb. 28.

OREGON JOURNAL, Portland, OR - Jan. 9, 1978

ARKANSAS GAZETTE,

Little Rock, AR

Jan. 5, 1978

James Cornell, the public affairs director of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, said at Cambridge, Mass., that since the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" was released there had been a big increase in the number of reported UFO sightings.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Jan. 15, 1978

Perhaps the Force was with her

Dear Editor: I read your page-one news story ("Close encounters in Arkansas," Jan. 8) and, since the movie, "Close Encounters" seems to have sparked renewed interest in UFO sightings, let me share my own "close encounter" with your readers...

I have done everything I know of to be "free" of this experience... I don't know what happened to me. At first, I hoped what I had seen was just a balloon — that it had something to do with a movie they were making, using the tornado-damaged town of Cabot as a backdrop. But then, there were the voices — echoed voices of a young man speaking plain English from an object at least a half-mile away in the sky...

It happened to me about 3 p. m. on a clear afternoon, Sept. 6, 1976. I had gone to the high school to pick up my daughter and I noticed some friends parked across from me talking, and then my nightmare began. I began to feel funny... I saw this white thing at treetop level across the top of the school... I heard this voice saying, "Do not be frightened. We will not harm you." ... I was unable to move... Then I heard another voice say, "We must hurry. The Air Force is getting too close..." Then I saw this camouflage-colored Air Force plane... come from the southeast... passing over the "spacecraft"...

Still, the voice was all around me; yet there was nobody there.

Then the spacecraft started up... the smoke or fog covered the dome parts and the circular blade went around like the propeller of an airplane... so fast you could not see it. Then, they put it into gear, it jumped to the side once...

Later, a doctor hypnotized me so I could "relive" what happened, but I was too afraid or too unwilling to do it... I was advised to stay busy and try to put the incident out of my mind...

I now believe we who survived the Cabot tornado owe our lives to some strange power... Nobody knows why the tornado skipped the school that was in its path... As I watched it, seemingly picking up speed to destroy a nursery school in its way, the storm seemed to know my fear for those children because it veered sharply to the right, missed a house and went up the road to the right... Yet, we were all faced with certain death that day.

I believe some "force" was there that day — just as it was on Sept. 10, 1976...

MRS. WILLIAM H. DOYAL
Cabot

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR

Jan. 22, 1978

By TOM SHALES
Times-Post News Service
(Washington Post)

Jack Webb still does the best Jack Webb impression. He walked into a room in red shirt and red socks; he has the huge eyes of a suspicious basset hound and a burning-bush baritone that remains unmistakable. Webb is executive producer of "Project UFO," a new series supposedly about UFO sightings but obviously, from what Webb says, more of a love song to the Air Force as was "Dragnet" to the Los Angeles Police Department.

"The police in 'Dragnet' behaved exactly the way police in Los Angeles behave," Webb said. "We must show that the majority of our police officers are honest, hardworking men. And they are, aren't they?"

Webb said "Project UFO," premiering next month, will have "the aura of believability rather than high fiction" and will consist of "high entertainment coupled with high strangeness." This will not be "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" because all the UFO sightings will be explained away or left unexplained.

Col. William T. Coleman, for five years in charge of the Air Force's controversial "Project Bluebook" on UFO sightings, is the series producer and sat at Webb's side. One reporter asked Webb if his series was going to try to "clean up the Air Force's act" and Webb said angrily there was no act to clean up. But wouldn't he be portraying the Air Force in strictly a favorable light?

"Well what's a favorable light if I'm telling you the truth? You don't contest that, do you—that I'm telling you the truth?" Silence. "Don't. Because I have the documents from our national archives! There's nothing to clean up."

"You know I'm just a little weary, and I'm becoming somewhat apathetic too, with this great investigative race we seem to be creating here. Now let's keep our eyes open. Let's keep our government honest. But just because we've had some very sad moments and some heartache recently, our government isn't all bad, you know. Just because you find an agency or two doesn't mean they're all bad."

"Because if you believe that, then the hell with government. We have nothing to live for, do we?"

JOURNAL, Longview, TX - Nov. 3, 1977

Man Spots UFO

Longview police received a call early Saturday concerning what appeared to have been a possible unidentified flying object.

Aaron M Sawyer of 1807 Live Oak Drive reported seeing a bright, silver object hovering near the ground in North Longview.

Sawyer said the sighting occurred at approximately 9:20 a.m. Saturday. He said the object appeared to turn a full circle and left at a high rate of speed.

The sighting had been unconfirmed late Saturday night.

Close encounters in Arkansas

Movie's popularity gives support, but sighters reluctant to recall UFOs

At least since the prophet Ezekiel saw the wheel way up in the middle of the air, people have been reporting unidentified flying objects.

We have tended to regard their reports with skepticism, often with merriment—at least when they presented them in literal terms.

We're more agreeable to accounts of close encounters of the first and second kind if they're presented as religious metaphors, psychological legerdemain, optical illusions. We've even elevated to sainthood people who "saw the light" or perceived winged beings from unknown dimensions.

Most people who see UFOs are impatient as we rummage around in our big file of Logical Explanations. They know what they saw, and they don't have much time for the authoritative people who didn't see it but who come around later and say it was swamp gas or an overactive imagination.

The immense popularity of the current motion picture, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," finally provides some moral support to the people who say they have seen UFOs.

The movie weaves many of the phenomena that are common in UFO sightings into a single narrative, tacks on a happy if improbable conclusion, and jazzes up the UFO experience with the spookiest and most dazzling special effects ever filmed.

One result has been to make many people more receptive to the notion that UFOs really exist and are evidence of something extraordinary.

Another result has been that, after a lull which began at about the time the spectacular phase of the American space program ended, people are talking and thinking about UFOs again.

That was excuse enough, we thought, for us to get in touch with some of the Arkansians who in the past reported seeing unidentified flying objects, just to see how they were doing.

Not surprisingly, many of them were reluctant to rehash their experiences.

"I wouldn't have anything more to do with that, in any way, shape, form or fashion," a Pine Bluff man said. "It was the most embarrassing episode of my life. The government tries to make a fool out of you, and you get harassed and tormented by all these other agencies and outfits and groups."

"One guy I read about, up east somewhere, they ran him crazy, and I can understand why."

Despite all the presumptuous questionnaires that came in the mail and the quizzical treatment from his friends and associates, this man, who was a licensed pilot, did not recant any of his account of a circular craft that hovered in the Southeast Arkansas sky one clear moonless night in 1966.

He knows what he saw, hanging up there in the sky at about 3,000 feet, with radiant blue light emanating from the windows that encircled it. And he knows, by the speed with which it zipped suddenly out of sight beyond the horizon, that something unimaginable is happening up there in the night sky.

Bob
Lancaster



But like many of the others, he won't say anything about it publicly any more—or even privately, unless you promise not to use his name—because he had enough of being regarded as a kook.

There have been hundreds of them in Arkansas in recent years—people who saw the inexplicable lights, the columns

of flame, the aircraft that haven't yet been invented.

The majority of the sightings in the last 20 years have been in North Arkansas, in an arc that runs from Fort Smith to Memphis and generally follows the Arkansas-Missouri border.

Northeast Arkansas has abounded in them—the area around Paragould and Piggott is seemingly a regular UFO stomping ground.

One of the most troubling UFO reports occurred at Flippin in Marion County in the summer of 1969. Lawrence Willett was manager of the Flippin airport at that time and his sister-in-law, Vivian Kocher of Oakland, Calif., was visiting.

One afternoon she was snapping some pictures of the planes at the airport, and when she got the film developed, she noticed a blurred disc-shaped object in the background of one of the pictures.

She thought it was a flaw on the print or in the negative.

The Eastman Kodak Co., which processed the film, assured her it wasn't. Willett got the picture and the negative because he had his own ideas about what the blur might be.

Willett was no stranger to odd aerial sights. He was a pilot with more than 7,000 hours of flying time.

"Like most pilots," he said last week, "I'd seen things, especially at night...lights that I knew weren't attached to ordinary aircraft, other things...I never did report 'em 'cause they try to make pilots that report 'em look silly or something."

"Most experienced pilots have seen 'em, and don't any of them report 'em."

Willett didn't say anything about the picture, but he sent an 8-by-10 color print to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization Inc., a non-profit UFO research center at Tucson, Ariz., which turned it over to a professor of optical science at the University of Arizona for analysis.

The analysis was that the blurred disc in the picture was a flying object, between a half-mile and two miles from the camera, and measuring from 80 to 320 feet in diameter.

Other authorities have since examined the picture and none has been able to dispute that analysis, Willett said.

Among those authorities who agreed that the photograph showed an enormous unidentifiable flying something was Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a former Ohio State and Northwestern University astronomer who oversaw much of the satellite tracking network construction for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Dr. Hynek is now with the Center for UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill., and incidentally was a consultant for the movie "Close Encounters."

Willett disclosed in our conversation with him last week that his suspicions about the nature of the object in the photograph were based on something that had happened several months before Kocher snapped that photograph.

Late one spring night in 1969, Willett, who lived about half a mile from the airport which he managed, got a call from a neighbor who had been out hunting. The neighbor told him, "You better get over to the airport, somebody's trying to burn it up."

Willett dressed hurriedly and grabbed his rifle. His wife, Betty, meantime glanced out the window in the direction of the airport and saw what she later described as a great column of fire. She said it looked like a gigantic Bunsen burner, or a silo of flame.

She had no time to tell her husband what she saw. He was rushing out to his truck with the rifle. There had been some arson in the area, and Willett thought the culprit might be setting fires to the planes at the air field.

But when he got to the field—in a matter of seconds—he found nothing. "No fire, no smoke, no smell, no nothing," he said.

The only evidence of combustion that he found was in an adjoining field, wet with dew. It was a perfect circle, about 35 feet across, in which all the saplings and brush and grass had been charred. The charred circle hadn't been there that afternoon.

When Willett went back the next day, there was another one—almost identical—nearby.

There were other sightings of other scary aerial phenomena in the same area during this same period. But most of the people we talked to about them said they would rather try to just forget what they saw and experienced. It was a long time ago, and whatever the things were, maybe they had gone away.

Willett said, "There's something to it.... Something from another dimension, something from another planet—I don't know. But there's something to it. And one of these days, we'll know what it is."

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR
Jan. 8, 1978

DAILY REVIEW, Hayward, CA
Dec. 27, 1977

I SAW SOMETHING TOO

This is to Close Encounters regarding the UFO you thought you saw. I also saw something weird. I was driving home from Fremont and got off on Industrial Parkway and I saw a series of lights traveling faster than anything I've ever seen travel before. They were blue and green and it went so fast that I had it in sight for just a moment, just enough for me to see the colors. So tell your wife that you are not kooky.

F.O.O.
Hayward

Formation Flight For UFO's

UNION DEMOCRAT, Sonora, CA - Dec. 7, 1977

Nine Cherokee Rd. residents last night reported spotting five unidentified flying objects flying in formation.

Two people in Blue Bell Valley subdivision also saw the objects after one of the Cherokee Rd. residents called and asked them to look outside.

According to a spokesman for the group, the objects were a reddish-orange and were observed both through a telescope and with the unaided eye.

The objects were spotted at 6:15 p.m. and stayed in the area for about 30 minutes.

They moved together in an erratic flight pattern, the man said, moving rapidly to the northeast then to the northwest. They often stood still.

Through the telescope, the objects appeared to become brighter just before they changed direction, he said.

The man reporting the sighting said he has been watching the night skies through a telescope for the last 18 years.

He said he saw several large aircraft — possibly commercial airliners — fly between the objects. He estimated the UFO's altitude at between 20,000 to 40,000 feet.

The spokesman discounted the objects being balloons, flares or military aircraft on maneuvers.

ARKANSAS GAZETTE,
Little Rock, Ark.
Jan. 22, 1978

Bright Object Hits Atlantic

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (UPI) — What a police officer described as a meteorite trailed by a long, yellow flame slammed into the Atlantic Ocean about 400 yards offshore from Jupiter Inlet Friday, authorities reported.

"It was about the size of a car," police officer John Johnson said. "It had a trail on it about 100 yards long. It was bright yellow. The meteorite was bright orange."

Told of the report, Dr. Kurt Fredricksson of the meteorite division of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington said he found the incident "very strange."

"Usually when you have a fireball like that, it is much farther away than it appears," Dr. Fredricksson said.

"There are usually shock waves if the meteorite hits anywhere close. It would put up an incredible racket, coming in at supersonic velocity almost certainly. It would be worse than the Concorde."

Dr. Fredricksson said meteorites are seen hitting the earth four, five or six times a year.

A West Palm Beach science museum organized a diving group Friday afternoon in hopes of retrieving the object.

Flying Object Seen in Flemingsburg

TO THE EDITOR
OF THE FLEMING GAZETTE

While I was putting in the glass of our storm doors, on our glassed in back porch on Monday, October 3 at about 10 a.m. I saw a bright object in the sky coming from the North East. My first thought was surely no star was shining so bright and the sun shining so pretty. I soon realized it was something I had never seen before, then I called to our grandson, Rickey Bryant who was working in the back yard to look and what was it?

This object looked like two very bright propane gas tanks side by side with a large pipe of some sort connecting the two together. It didn't make a bit of noise. It went very quickly and quietly out of sight.

Erma Bryant
512 Woodlawn Ave.
Flemingsburg, Ky.

FLEMING COUNTY GAZETTE, Flemingsburg, KY

Nov. 3, 1977

CR: B. Greenwood

EVENING GAZETTE, Worcester, MA - Nov. 21, 1977

CARIBBEAN UFO'S Here is an interesting letter from Puerto Rico, and the writer probably never even heard of Columbia's movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," but the coincidence is uncanny: "We had a UFO sighting recently, some 3,000 people, the police and the radar screen, which is the world's largest and was erected by the U.S. for specific reasons in Puerto Rico. I find it odd that the defense and air service closed the books on UFO sightings in the states, but in P.R. they opened an office for just that purpose. "The Coast Guard took soundings at the spot the UFO was sighted in a place called Mayaguez where reliable onlookers said it had dropped into the water. They found nothing; it was about 8:30 p.m. when the UFO made several runs over the beach. Officials feel the UFO didn't fall into the sea but dropped past the horizon of vision at sea level which is about 26 miles." This brings us to the movie itself. There's no question that Cary Guffey is the star of "Close Encounters." The 4½-year-old had never seen a movie before, but after working with director Steve Spielberg, he was asked his opinion of acting. Said Cary: "I love it, but Steve cut some of my best scenes."

Lights in sky over Crystal puzzle observers

By STEVE JOHNSON
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Jon Spizale was up about 2 a.m. this morning and went to the kitchen sink for a drink of water. He looked out the window of his Crystal home at the sky and saw what appeared to be a falling star, but "it was moving strangely," he said.

Red and green lights seemed to be rotating end over end. "It would seem round, and then flat and long," he said. "It separated into four pieces" that seemed to form a lighted cross in the sky. "Then it seemed to form back into one shape and then two. It was all happening so fast I couldn't believe my eyes."

After about 2½ hours of watching, Spizale said, he saw about seven of the objects. "I didn't really know what to think," said Spizale, 20, 4733 Maryland Av. N.

Neither does Crystal police officer Boyd Barrott, who said he and several other officers watched one strange light in the sky on and off for about 2½ hours this morning after Spizale called to report what he thought was an unidentified flying object (UFO).

"It was kind of strange," Barrott said. Barrott said he, two other like a star. He said it can be difficult for radar to pick out airborne objects if the objects are stationary or fast-moving, and if they are seen as an object that appeared to be "multicolored lights up in the western portion of the sky." He said New Hope police also had seen the lights.

One of the officers reported the sighting to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport radar operators and to a UFO control team center in Chicago. Nick Conom, a team controller supervisor at the airport, said he told the officers wasn't anything in the sky, but we

Both Barrott and Spizale said the lights appeared to move. Barrott said the lights were traveling in what appeared to be about a 10-mile area in the sky, but "they weren't making any fast moves. They (the airport) said there was nothing in the sky, but we

were watching through binoculars."

Barrott said the sky was clear and stars were shining especially bright. He said he wasn't jumping to any conclusions about the sighting. "I'm calm about it, because I don't know what it was," he said.

Barrott and Spizale both said they had seen previous strange lights in the sky—Barrott in 1973 and Spizale last summer.

Spizale said he has seen the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," a box-office smash hit depicting the arrival on earth of beings in spaceships from another world. The movie features elaborate representations of UFOs, whose rotating lights seemed remarkably similar to those reported by Spizale.

"I couldn't believe how similar it was to the movie," Spizale said.

UFOs sighted over Carroll County

By Claudia Keith
Star Progress Staff Writer

"It looked to be about the size of a football field from the distance between the four lights, which were shining brightly downward. It was about 500 feet up and we could hear a low humming after it went by. The sound was like an electric engine and not that of an aircraft." This was the description of an unidentified flying object given by Mrs. Jim Hudson who lives two and one half miles north of Berryville.

"It had flashing lights on it and it was kite-shaped. There was a large headlight on each of the four points, two coming and two going," according to Jean Wingate, chief announcer for KHTA-KAAM radio station of Berryville, who also spotted the strange shape above Berryville last Thursday night.

"It came so low I thought it was going to hit the house. It was coming directly from Berryville and was making a humming noise that I have never heard before. When it got directly over the house I could see metal on the underneath side. The lights were a soft blue and red and there were four of them on this kite-shaped object. My daughter Patty and her friend, Tina Wells, had just finished washing their hair and were using an electric comb. I ran in the house when she screamed that the comb had shocked her. My dog, which is usually very quiet was barking like crazy. It was spooky! I finally told the girls it was Santa Claus just to get them to go to sleep," said Mrs. Arlie Long, who lives just south of Berryville, in describing what she saw about 9:30 Thursday night.

M.J. Timm, who lives near Saunders Heights in Berryville gave the following description: "A jet flew over and just after that I saw this thing coming slowly from the opposite direction, traveling west to east. It had two headlights with a pinkish-red flashing light in the middle. And several hundred enlisted men and officers in the Aleutian Islands saw the same thing in 1943, but everyone would have said we were crazy if we had told about it."

"It's lights were as bright as the landing lights of an airplane," said Bob Weathers, manager of Carroll Electric Cooperative of Berryville. "I watched it for quite a while and it wasn't really scary, but I think it was a hot air balloon."

"The lights were brighter than any I've ever seen on a plane," said Jackie Bunch.

"It was kind of like a kite with lights on the back end and made a low hum like a dirigible," according to Mrs. Gerald Grace of Highway 221, south of Berryville.

What were all of these Berryville residents describing? No one seems to be quite sure. A large number of persons in the Berryville and Green Forest area saw something out of the ordinary in the air between the hours of nine and ten o'clock last Thursday night.

KAAM radio station began receiving calls about the object that night and all through the following day.

The Berryville Police Department and Carroll County Sheriff's Department also reported receiving calls about a UFO.

Many of the reports seem to coincide in various aspects. Several mentioned its kite-like shape and a humming noise. Most people described very bright lights which did not give off a direct beam and sometimes blinked. Still others noticed red and blue lights and said the object was moving very slowly, but had the ability to stop and hover. The lights appeared to be glowing downward, rather than out to the front or the sides.

Paul Pearsall, manager of Carroll County Airport, said he took up his small plane to check out the report with the airplane's strobe lights at about 10:15, after he received a call from the radio station. "I circled Saunders Heights and went towards Green Forest and Eureka Springs," he said. "I didn't see anything at the time, but it is hard to see anything from the air at night, as there are so many lights on the ground to confuse you. I heard a lot of reports and it really sounded like some kind of air force confidential equipment, maybe a type of machine which can counteract the gravitational pull of the earth. You know individuals and the government are constantly experimenting with flying saucer type vehicles. I once had a friend who was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association who was developing a craft of the sort. I have had such an interest in aircraft for so many years, I would be tempted to try and build one myself."

"We had at least eight people call in that they had seen it," said Gregg Pyron, KTHS radio announcer. They called first at 9:30 Thursday night. We were on the air with KAAM, our fm station. Then the next day we asked on both stations for people to call in who had seen it. Out of those eight calls, about 24 people in all were reported to have seen it (whole families had observed it). We are still interested in hearing from people who spotted it, as we feel many never reported it."

STAR PROGRESS,
Berryville, AR
Dec. 22, 1977

"I was driving down Main Street in Berryville when I saw some very bright lights that were low on the horizon," said Jim Dwyer, of the Berryville Police Department. "I thought maybe I was seeing things so I went down by the Kraft Plant where I had seen state trooper Paul Neissl parked earlier. I asked him if he was seeing the same thing I was and he assured me he had been watching it. We drove up to Saunders Heights and watched it through a pair of binoculars for about an hour. At one point there were about eight people up there with us watching it. Finally it just left."

Many doubters were heard about town with various explanations. "I read in the paper that a meteorite shower was due in this area about this time," said Bill Kirkpatrick, Curator of the Heritage Center.

"I really don't believe in UFOs," said Gertrude Standley, secretary for the Berryville Police Department. "Guess they would have to land in my yard and little green men get out to convince me."

Several residents expressed the opinion that it was only Santa Claus checking out the area.

Meantime, Sunday night, two more Berryville residents reported sightings.

"My grandson, Wes Edens is here for the holidays," said Mrs. Marietta Edens, who lives on Highway 62, about two miles east of Berryville. "He was outside about 7:30 looking at the stars, as he is interested in astronomy. He came running in all white in the face and said he had just seen a UFO. I came out and watched it along with a friend of Wes', J.C. Usrey, and my daughter-in-law, Ann. It was like a small plane at a distance, but it didn't move the same and there was a glow around it."

"It was sort of reddish and different in color from plane lights or a star and it kind of glowed. I am familiar with different aircraft, as I once lived near a missile base and this wasn't at all like any aircraft I've ever seen. It was moving, but slowly."

Another Berryville resident, who asked to remain unidentified, said that she and three other members of her family watched two unusual objects in the sky Sunday night sometime between 6 and 7:30. "One was a very luminous cylinder-shaped object," she said. "The underneath portion looked to be rotating with lights flashing. The lights on the upper part never changed. The lights around it had a halo effect. The larger one was in the sky northwest of town. The smaller one was southwest of town with lights flashing on and off. I listened to the radio and no one reported anything like it. I just wish someone would report seeing the same thing."

MESSANGER, Ft. Dodge, IA
Nov. 17, 1977

More sightings back F.D. meteorite theory

Simultaneous sightings from the north and south of the Willis Moeller home, 407 Loomis Ave., lend credence to the theory that the object found on the Moeller lawn Sunday actually fell from the sky at 6:30 Saturday evening.

Whether the 4"x3-4" soft, whitish object is actually a meteorite remains for the experts to figure out...and they plan to have a look.

Gary Moeller, 21, son of the Willis Moellers, found the object while raking the lawn Sunday afternoon. It was lying on the surface of the lawn near a scorched section and a small hole where it apparently struck.

After The Messenger's pictures and story appeared yesterday, the Moellers received calls from two people who had seen some bright object fall from the sky at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

Mrs. Robert Hathaway, 1705 N. 14th St., had just stepped out of her car on the south side of the Holiday Inn, which is south on U.S. 169, when she glanced up and saw something fall to the north. "It was a very bright, fiery like substance — a yellowish-red color," Mrs. Hathaway said. "It wasn't like the usual shooting star you see. This came right down."

And at that same time, Mrs. Claude Prime of Humboldt was driving to her home after taking her three grandchildren to Rutland earlier in the day. She told Moeller that she too saw a very bright light and something falling to the south. "I remarked to my husband when I got home that it must have fallen somewhere in Fort Dodge," she said.

The timing of the sightings by the two women and the points from which they reported them make it likely that whatever they saw fell on the Moeller lawn. Until Mrs. Hathaway and Mrs. Prime made their calls, Moeller had had no word that anyone had actually witnessed any object falling from the sky.

Lyle Baker, science and math coordinator for the Fort Dodge Community School District, and Mel Sick, science instructor at Iowa Central Community College, plan to examine the object, possibly this evening. Both note that the possibility of the object being a meteorite is remote. Only about 20 new ones are found in the world each year and that nearly all reports of such falls prove groundless.

"Three things lead me to doubt that it's a meteorite even before examining it," Baker said Wednesday. "First, that a part of it dissolved in water. Second, that it wasn't buried into the ground — meteorites are usually imbedded. Third, that it set grass and leaves on fire — meteorites usually cool off on the way to earth."

Moeller and the instructors are anxious to clear up the mystery as to just what the fallen object is. "It may require testing and the best place in Iowa for that would be at the University of Iowa," Baker pointed out.

Close Encounters Of the First Kind

By RON DUNCAN
Special to the NEWS

"It made the awfulest, funniest sound—it just made you quiver inside to hear it. I watched it, and it had four lights. Two of the lights were big, sort of like car lights pointing down." This is part of a description of an unidentified flying object by Mrs. Arlie Long who lives in the area between Berryville and Green Forest.

A large number of Berryville residents—and those close by—have recently been observing a strange-shaped object that has a humming, whirring type of noise. Just how large the numbers who have seen the UFO is undetermined by Berryville police due to the many they feel haven't reported the object for fear of ridicule.

"It was sort of smokey looking with silver underneath," observed Mrs. Long, who has seen the UFO twice on Dec. 15 and Dec. 27. "The first time it came from Berryville and come right over the house. My girl, (Patti), she was drying her hair with an electric comb and she screamed while I was out in the yard watching it. The comb had shocked her and she threw it all the way in the hall. The neighbor girl was staying with us and she screamed and the little dog got tore up."

MRS. LONG continued, "I ran in the house to see what they were screaming about but I didn't let on about what I had just seen. I told the girls Santa Claus had gone over."

"I ran back out in the yard and watched it hover about five minutes in a field down below us and then it took off real fast. It was big...bigger than one of those big Army helicopters I have seen," Mrs. Long said.

The whole town of Berryville is buzzing now, not just with UFO's but with the aftermath of talk about the strange things observed in the skies on those two nights in December.

"It was a huge thing, about the size of a football field. It was pretty low to the ground so that I could tell," was the description given by Mrs. Jim Hudson, whose entire family north of Berryville observed the object.

"It had four real bright lights that sort of shone down with a red one in the middle," Mrs. Hudson explained, "and it made a sort of humming sound."

THE MANAGER OF Carroll Electric Cooperative of Berryville, Bob Weathers, reluctant at first to talk about the incident, said he thought it was some sort of hot air balloon. "As bright as the lights were it appeared to be about 1,000 feet high and the outside lights on the object would have been 80 to 100 feet apart," Weathers said in relation to the size of the object.

Terry Hussey, a standout performer on the Berryville High School football and basketball squads, and his brother, Jamie, also watched the object in the Berryville skies.

"I ran outside when this jet went over our house real low to see what was going on, then a minute or two later this object which had real bright lights like the headlights of a car came and hovered over some houses nearby and I watched it for about 15 minutes while it made a humming sound," Hussey explained.

"I checked with all the Air Force and Air National Guard people and all that," said Gregg Pyron, KTHS radio announcer, "None of them had any knowledge of any activity of the nights in question."

"I feel like what was seen was one of those hover craft that the Army uses," Pyron conjectured. "We have a low level jet training route in the area now and we've been having a lot of fighter traffic come screaming over about 100 feet off the ground and there's so many things flying around in the area from the military right now that I have to believe it was something from them," said Pyron.

Another UFO Sighted At Arthur

Excitement was at an all time this last Monday evening at the Norm Kramer Ranch, north of Arthur. Norm Kramer was leaving the barn when he spotted what appeared to be a bright star south of the house. When it began to move at a fast speed, Kramer realized that it was not a star. By this time Rodger Beeken was on the scene.

They watched the object for around 20 minutes through binoculars as it moved straight across the sky. According to Beeken the UFO was dome shaped and flew straight across!

the sky at an angle, until it finally vanished from sight. The object was a bright firey orange, moving much faster than an airplane could travel.

This is the second time that an UFO has been sighted in this area recently. Janet Magnuson reported seeing a UFO on August 17th.

Mrs. Magnuson's UFO was seen only a few miles from where the Kramers UFO was sighted. Many other Arthur residents have seen UFOs, but are not prepared to face the skeptics.

Pyron said all of the military in this state reported having nothing like that, but that it could have come out of the Kansas City area.

PYRON SAID, "The one biggy night we got at least a dozen calls inside of a half-hour span, and then the next day we had a talk show on here, and we had three or four people call in to tell what they saw. They all saw the same thing, the stories didn't vary, which is kind of unusual in UFO cases."

The descriptions given by everyone who saw it was that it was kind of kite shaped, with a large light on each of the points—white lights like a headlight—and in between the point lights there were two other lights and a red light. It also made a low, whirring noise, which everyone who heard it said they had never heard anything comparable. It would hover and it would fly around and no one knew what it was—even though many saw it.

Jim Dwyer of the Berryville Police Department reported watching the object with an Arkansas State trooper through a pair of binoculars for about an hour. "A lot of people saw it, and nobody could come up with what it was," Dwyer said.

Claudia Keith, a reporter for the Berryville newspaper and probably the person who knows more than anyone as to what happened on these nights in Berryville due to her investigative reports, said a lot of people saw something very unusual that first night. "Many are afraid to be identified, and I'm just starting to investigate the last sighting, (Dec. 27)" Keith said.

Strangely enough the more frequent and vivid reports came from the remoter areas between Berryville and southeast to Green Forest. A group of five Green Forest teen-agers was said to have been chased by the craft while a light shown down on them.

ANOTHER YOUNG man of that rural area, Bobby Briley, also felt he was chased. "Me and a friend of mine had been out partying a little, and I thought at first the cops were chasing us. We speeded up a little and pulled into my driveway here at home and then we couldn't believe what we saw." (His description was similar to the others.) "It made the funniest sound I ever heard, I guess that's why I thought it was a siren. Our dogs went crazy," Briley finished.

Many of the residents said their pets acted strangely when the object neared. Mrs. Long said her Pekingese and a little black dog of hers started barking crazily. "The black dog acted like he was going to go into fits," she said. "Used to, guns or airplanes or jets didn't bother him at all—I've raised him up from a puppy. But now if he hears one, he'll break his neck trying to get into this house now," Mrs. Long said.

So whatever has been seen in the skies over the Berryville area, it certainly fits into the description of a close encounter of the first kind—a sighting of an unidentified flying object.



TIMES-UNION
Jacksonville, FL
Nov. 16, 1977

Watergate look like kids playing monopoly.

Could the entire 5,000 plus population of Chester, Ill., be keeping silence about the strange invasion, and somehow Goodman and "Sheriff" Grisholm cracked the story?

"Ask anybody," snorts the mayor.

Whoever really wrote the story (could it be Jeffrey Goodman?) says, "In Chester, we have formed a committee to get ourselves heard. We have not been permitted to talk about the night of hell on radio or television. The newspaper editors won't print our story. We are being blacked out, censored, frozen, whatever you want to call it. We have tried to interest news magazines, but they won't listen...we have tried to buy air time, but to no avail." Here is a town supposedly laid waste by aliens, and the media is covering up?

But there is no such committee. And reporter Joe Airmond for the Southern Illinoisan said no one has ever contacted the media about a UFO invasion at any time. And in his editorial, Jeffrey Goodman says, "we must apologize for our 'colleagues,' the rest of the media. Newspapers, radio, TV seem to be conscientiously ignoring the obvious."

But who is going to apologize for Jeffrey Goodman?

Close Encounters Of the Fourth Kind

BY DON MEITIN
Times-Union Staff Writer

Now who would tell lies about Chester, a sleepy little Illinois town of 5,000 on the banks of the Mississippi River?

Jeffrey Goodman, would, and that's for sure.

Jeffrey Goodman puts his good name on the masthead of a magazine called Official UFO. His is listed thereupon as the Editor.

And as these things go, legally and morally, Jeffrey has to bear the responsibility of a little tale he ran about Chester, Ill., in the January, 1978 (publishing circles like to beat the season's arrival) edition of his UFO magazine.

Goodman ran a story about Chester, written by "City Sheriff Lake Grisholm," which claims on the night of Aug. 2, 1977:

•Six UFOs—Unidentified Flying Objects—appeared over Chester, Illinois and attacked the dozing river town.

•The glowing objects set fire to a great number of buildings.

•Chanute Air Force base in Illinois dispatched a jet fighter to investigate the UFOs over the town.

•A local television station locked in on the action and broadcast and taped the UFOs toying with the fighter which crashed and splintered into "thousands" of pieces only 20 miles away.

Some stuff. This kind of material is of global significance, surely

Jeffrey Goodman recognizes the significance.

Up front on the editorial page, Goodman says if his material seems a little...uh, sensational, "...In reporting the truth, Official UFO magazine has opened itself up to all sorts of accusations and dangers, the least of which is the possibility of ridicule."

Something a bit stronger than ridicule can be ascribed to Jeffrey Goodman in his Park Avenue office.

Let's call it mendacity.

The story on Chester, Ill., mentions Mayor Uhlan Moulton.

There is no Mayor Uhlan Moulton. There never has been. There is no Uhlan Moulton living in Chester.

(Goodman must have an obsession with the name Moulton. In an entirely different story in the same issue of the magazine there is reference to the "Moulton Corporation in Manhattan.") "The names in the story were changed to protect for libel," explains editor Goodman in a telephone conversation.

Protect who from libel?

There is Mayor Stanley Maciejki, who has lived in Chester, Ill., for over 20 years, who just happened to be the mayor on Aug. 2, the day Goodman's story says the town was attacked by UFOs.

He never told anyone the town had been under attack by glowing objects, that Main Street was on fire?

The mayor's explanation is rather uncomplicated.

"Nothing happened in town that day at all," he says in a telephone conversation.

He adds that actually, Chester

being the kind of town it is, extraordinary things rarely happen...period.

Goodman says his "investigators" thoroughly checked out the story before publication.

Any investigator worth his dark glasses and trench coat would surely check police records, then.

The story says in the morning the Chester Union Bank was robbed and that the sheriff caught the suspect within 20 minutes and the man was in jail.

Even small town cops keep records on a biggie like a bank hold-up, but nope, there's nothing there.

"Crazy," says the mayor, "not only was there no bank robbery, there were no arrests that day for anything."

Goodman, and "Sheriff Grisholm's" story is loaded with reports of fires, car engines failing to start when the UFOs were overhead, traffic accidents downtown on the day of the alien invasion.

But Joan Wilson was the dispatcher on that night for the sheriff's department and she laughs, and in doing so, she laughs at Jeffrey Goodman.

"Nothing like any of that happened at all," says Mrs. Wilson.

And area television stations, there are no local stations as Goodman's story implies, have no record of jet fighters vs. UFOs, on the night in question.

But wait. What we might have here is a cover-up. A conspiracy, which if carried off would make

In Bethany Chapel area

Flying saucer spotted Sunday afternoon in Adair

By ED WAGGENER

A number of residents of the Bethany-Chapel area on US 61 north of Columbia reported seeing a large, blue light in the sky at about 5:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Ruby Keltner, the wife of Philip Keltner, said that she saw the light at that time and that it was also witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Cox and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rogers.

"We've heard about the weather balloons," Mrs. Keltner said, "but this was definitely different." The light was in the northern sky, beyond Bethany Church, the observers said.

Mrs. Keltner's daughter, Cathy, Mrs. Jimmy Cox, said that she saw a similar light which appeared just west of US 61 in the area of Dixie Cash & Carry. "I looked over and saw this big flat object, with a huge light which looked like a headlight, and it had red and blue lights around the edge of the thing," Mrs. Cox said.

"When I saw it, it was about 1,000 feet off the ground," she said. "It appeared to hover. I was frightened and floor-boarded the car to get to Columbia," Mrs. Cox said.

When Mrs. Cox regained her composure, she returned to her

parents' home on US 61 and told them of the experience. "She was visibly shaken," Mrs. Keltner said. They called the Kentucky State Police to report the sighting.

Mrs. Cox said that the object looked to be as big as a large house. She had planned to draw her conception of the flying object, but on Monday morning, she said later, she couldn't draw what she had seen.

Mrs. Keltner said that Cathy told her that the object was coming after her as she rounded the curve at Tommy Nobles house.

Mrs. Keltner said that others in the neighborhood had seen such a

light before, but they had never reported it. "People are going to think we're crazy," she said, "but we all saw it and we think it ought to be investigated."

The Kentucky State Police sent the news of the sighting to the UFO Center at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, according to Dispatcher Ronnie Powell.

"We have a hot line to the center," Powell said. He noted that the center will decide whether or not the Columbia sighting warrants further investigation.

A call to the center Tuesday night reached only the center's

answering service.

Mrs. Keltner said that in the first sighting Sunday afternoon, the witnesses saw the object rise and move slowly toward them. It was silent, she said, and could not have been a helicopter.

"We had forgotten about it until Cathy told us about her experience," she said, "then we decided we ought to report it."

Mrs. Keltner said that she had talked to at least two other people in Columbia who had seen it, but the phone at that home was busy for quite some time when an interview was attempted.

Granby

Boy, 11, Sights UFO

COURANT, Hartford, CT - Nov. 18, 1977 CR: B. Greenwood

GRANBY — Mark Charette, 11, of the West Granby section, was asked to go out slowly in front of the moon and then do an about-face and move rapidly away. It also was unlighted and made no sound. Mark's mother, Lisa Charette, said she and Mark have studied UFOs. She hoped that by reporting the sighting, they might find a confirmation of what Mark saw. Granby police, on the other hand, said they received no reports of UFO sightings Wednesday night.

It was like an inverted saucer, but the rim was rounded and almost "pontoon" what he saw. Mark said he saw the object for only about five seconds, but he was able to draw identified flying object. he did, he saw what he described as an unidentified flying object.

The orange, glowing object seen hovering over a Brimfield Twp. home Nov. 13 was not a balloon, an area UFO investigator concluded Monday. A. E. "Mark" Candusso, co-chairman of the Akron-based Flying Saucer Investigating Committee, said the object has been recorded as "unidentified" pending further investigations. Two area couples reported seeing a huge orange object circling over a Tallmadge Road home on the night of Nov. 13. Candusso had been investigating reports of boys

launching dry-cleaning bag "balloons" with candles in the area that night. He said Monday, however, that he and the person who first reported seeing the object interviewed the boys and examined the balloons. He said the small plastic balloons were inflated by small birthday-type candles and were not likely to have presented the image the couples saw. Candusso said the man who saw the object, an area teacher who does not want to be identified, was "certain" the small balloons were not

what he saw. The man and his wife reported that they were driving along Tallmadge Road when they saw a huge object rise from a field and stop over their car. They rushed to the nearby home of Alvin and Kim Branhram, who ran outside to see the object circling their home. The object then reportedly moved off to the southeast and disappeared. Candusso said the teacher, although not identified publicly, has been harassed because of his reports.

Brimfield object was not a balloon

RECORD-COURIER, Ravenna, OH - Nov. 22, 1977

'Sober' Skycops Report Close Encounter

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - Dec. 31, 1977 CE: G. Fawcett

By **BOB DROGIN**
Observer Staff Writer

Charlotte police helicopter pilot Ronald Arey and his spotter, officer Howard Dellinger, haven't seen "Close Encounters of a Third Kind," the science-fiction film about unidentified flying objects.

Now they don't need to.

The officers spotted their own unidentified flying objects — flashing lights and all — over Charlotte Tuesday night.

The UFOs not only appeared on the control tower radar screens at Charlotte's Douglas Municipal Airport, but also might have chased a N.C. Highway Patrol cruiser.

The two city helicopter officers won't talk about their close encounter.

"I don't want to be sent to a psychiatrist," muttered a red-faced Dellinger.

"What UFOs?" grinned Arey, looking skyward.

"They're not even sure what they saw," said their supervisor, Sgt. Richard Williams. "They're afraid we'd be saying they were drinking or something."

Their story, however, goes like this:

The officers were cruising at about 1,600 feet altitude in Snoopy II, the police helicopter, near the Charlotte Coliseum about 11 p.m. Tuesday. Suddenly, they both spotted two objects hovering at about 1,800 feet, 200 feet above them.

"Arey said it just looked like a 100-watt light bulb hanging in the air with a parachute or something over it," recalled Ray Bader, the Douglas air traffic controller who talked with the officers.

Arey had radioed the control tower to see if control-

lers knew who — or what — was up there. Controllers replied they had been tracking the objects, but knew no more.

Not only that, a patrol official had called the tower earlier about a UFO supposedly chasing a cruiser down U.S. 601 in Union County. The chasing report couldn't be confirmed Friday.

"We could see some targets on radar," Bader recalled. "There were two of them, close together, then they split up. I guess they were about a mile apart laterally on the radar. They were moving." He said the UFOs stayed on the screen about 15 minutes.

The officers in the helicopter, traveling at 130 mph, tried to maneuver closer and use their spotlight.

"When they started getting close to them, they went right up to 4,000 feet and just took off," said Williams. Bader's screen also showed a third UFO near SouthPark shopping center. It disappeared when the officers tried to chase it.

"You know you have things up there you don't really know what they are," said Williams. "But usually, you have a logical explanation."

"I think they're seeing things," said Paul Buck, manager of the Coliseum, which was closed Tuesday night. "You know what it probably was? The moon shining from the roof here. It's real bright."

How about just plain moonshine?

Apparently not. When Arey and Dellinger reported to the Law Enforcement Center, Capt. Joe Europa duly noted in the police log what the officers said they had seen.

He added this note: "Both officers appeared to be sober and in normal control of their faculties..." when they reported the incident.

Are UFO's for Real? Town Wonders

Whatever else they may be, unidentified flying objects are the stuff of which excitement is made.

Nowhere is that truer than in Kingston, N.H., where Mrs. Betty Hill, a former resident and well-known UFO researcher, has said she and several other persons have been secretly watching UFO's in action.

According to Mrs. Hill, various cigar-shaped and disk-like objects have been observed hovering or landing in the area. Some of them, she added, have come as close to observers as a few yards.

Mrs. Hill has related her Kingston experiences to Erich von Daniken, author of "Chariots of the Gods," a book suggesting that

earth has been visited by beings from another world.

All of this has created a wide variety of opinions in Kingston. Interest is said to be high—or low—depending on whom you talk to.

Neil Parker, chief of the town's two-man police department, is one of those who tends to downplay the impact of Mrs. Hill's disclosures.

"There has been a little local interest," he said, "but it has been very minute."

Bruce Duchemin, part owner of a country store, disagrees.

"There have been quite a few people in here looking for different things for the landing sites and everything," he said. "Mrs.

Hill hasn't kept it very quiet."

Mrs. Al Moore, another store owner, said strange sights, such as "a great big flashing red thing coming out of nowhere," have been reported.

"It's kind of hard to disbelieve people you've grown up with," she said. "I would never tell anybody about it, but I think all of us would like to know one way or the other."

Some of the questions being asked by residents are these:

"Why would visitors from another world choose this peaceful little New Hampshire town as their landing site?"

"Are Betty Hill and her followers really seeing anything unusual?"

"Are the spacemen and their vehicles a potential source of danger to the citizens of Kingston?"

Most residents of Kingston are willing to leave the sightings to Mrs. Hill and the unanswered questions to scientists. But, like Mrs. Moore, they would like to know what is going on "one way or the other."



Bruce Duchemin



Police Chief Neil Parker

GRIT, Williamsport, PA
Jan. 1, 1978

Two County Residents Report UFO Sightings

Two Tuolumne county residents have reported sighting unidentified flying objects near their homes early Tuesday morning.

A woman living on Bellevue Rd. off Phoenix Lake Rd. told The Union Democrat that she saw a UFO between 1 and 1:30 a.m. and spotted two objects at 5 a.m.

A school teacher said she saw an object near her Tuolumne home.

The first sighting was made from the woman's bedroom window.

"It would move up and down, then sideways," she said. She asked not to be identified.

She said the object was red and oblong in shape with lights on it.

She went out again about 5 a.m. and saw two objects together with flashing green lights. Her husband came out and also saw them.

"They weren't stars because they were moving," she said.

"I've heard people say they saw those things and I never believed them," she said, "but I saw them with my own eyes."

At a distance the objects appeared to be about the "size of a dishpan," she said.

The first object was spotted in the eastern sky. The two craft hovering together about 5 a.m. were seen in the west.

The second woman spotted an unidentified object about 10:30 p.m. while looking out a window at the Tuolumne rancheira.

She said she saw a yellowish-white object moving through the trees. The object went down the hill and then traveled straight across.

The sighting lasted only about 10 seconds, she said.

"It was incredible," she said. "I'd never seen a UFO."

A person in the room with her described the look on her face as "petrified," she said. The object passed too quickly for anyone else to get a glimpse of it.

After spotting the object, she tried to determine what it could have been but ruled out most explanations such as an airplane or helicopter.

"I can't say that it was one," she said, "but I can't say it wasn't one."

UFO sightings are not unusual in Tuolumne county, according to Marvin Taylor, local representative of Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

"What they did see may well have been a UFO," Taylor said.

MUFON is an international organization that investigates UFO sightings and compiles statistics on them.

Taylor said UFOs exhibit erratic flight patterns—such as moving up and down or back and forth—emit a pulsating glow and make no sound. They may hover in one spot or accelerate or decelerate rapidly.

It is not unusual, he said, for the objects to be cigar or saucer shaped.

Tuolumne county is among "the highest areas in the state in terms of sightings for the population," he said. The local MUFON receives about a dozen reports each month.

The UFOs are most frequently reported in the Table Mountain-Melones area and Woodhams-Carne and Buckhorn mountain areas.

"They are less harassed there and have freedom of movement, without a lot of attention," Taylor said. Taylor speculates the aliens may be doing repair work on their crafts, taking ground samples or just in for a little rest and relaxation when they stop in these areas.

Numerous sightings are reported by security guards at Pickering Lumber, the Melones project and the Copperopolis asbestos plant.

When a sighting is reported MUFON's 12-member staff—including a physician, several engineers and an electronics expert—investigates. They check for physical evidence, such as scorched areas and tripod markings, and take statements from those reporting the sightings.

"We do our best to prove its natural phenomenon," Taylor said. Some reports turn out to be Venus or Jupiter.

"We get caught sometimes thinking we have a

UFO sighting and it turns out to be a car coming up a mountain," Taylor said.

About 65 percent of the time, however, the object is judged a UFO by MUFON. Nationally only about one-fourth to one-third of all sightings are unexplained, possibly being UFOs.

Taylor said the high local rate may be because MUFON has educated the public as to what isn't a UFO and so receives fewer false reports.

Other recent UFO sightings include a report by two security guards that a small craft was spotted hovering low over a pile of debris. The sighting, made three months ago, is still under investigation by MUFON.

In June, a family sleeping on their deck in the Sherwood Forest area near Twain Harte reported an object landed on a ridge about one mile from their home, about 1,000 yards of Highway 108.

DAILY TIMES, Harrison, AR
Jan. 13, 1978

Remember the news about UFOs (unidentified Flying Objects) being spotted in the skies in Carroll County when pre-Christmas parties were in full progress?

Now the story goes a step further. Allen Hendry, one of the nation's foremost authorities on UFOs, will be checking with Berryville residents during the next few weeks to get their accounts of the night of December 15, 1977, when more than one person reported seeing a kite shaped object with extremely bright lights fly over the area.

The UFO official said that it's seldom "we get to investigate a case where several persons saw the same thing. There is usually only one person or a family involved, and it's harder to verify."

Expect more sightings this year. Hendry said that "greatly increased sightings occur about every five years, and we are due for an increase now as this is the fifth year since the last upsurge."

Professor Links UFOs, Psychic Experiences

JACKSON, Miss. (UPI) — University of Mississippi professor Joseph Bruening not only believes in flying saucers and psychic experiences — he believes the two are directly linked.

"We're looking at the same kind of phenomena," Bruening said in a telephone interview from his Oxford office. "The bulk of UFO phenomena is the same as psychic phenomena."

Unidentified flying objects are "outside the bounds of normal science," Bruening, a sociology professor, noted, but said they are "not outside the bounds of parapsychological (or psychic) research."

"Maybe UFOs don't come from the physical world. They might come from some other dimension," he said. "They are solid while they're here and then they 'poof' — disappear."

Bruening contends that UFOs, while not a figment of the sighter's imagination, may be made of substances we don't know anything about. Or, he said they could be a form of psychic communication.

"UFOs appear to be for the benefit of the viewer, they seem to show up and do their thing and a lot of people look at them and they go away," he said. "There is some kind of psychic relationship between the UFO and the people looking at it."

Bruening has been collecting research data on those who have seen

UFOs and conducting experiments with the people. He said he has found an unusually high number of UFO sighters who have some kind of psychic ability.

He said most of the research in that area has been with hidden card guessing or other forms of psychic phenomena such as extrasensory perception or ability to predict the future.

The professor said this type of activity falls into the realm of sociology, his field, because sociology "deals in beliefs, attitudes and behavior and this is a very real thing for the people who are involved in it."

"I believe the data," he said. "These people are really seeing a piece of hardware, a physical thing."

He described a typical case of some people who reported seeing a spaceship landing on a highway. He said they observed some individuals getting out of the ship, appearing to repair something, getting back in, cranking it up and flying straight up and out of sight.

"In the interview I had with them, the people said they had seen other UFOs since," Bruening said. "And information comes to them somehow. They get messages from each other, and they know in advance things that are going to happen. This is a typical case."

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, NC - Dec. 7, 1977
Ch: G. Fawcett

Group probes reports of UFOs

By JEAN M. STEVENS
Staff Writer

Increased sightings of unidentified flying objects are being reported in the northwestern area of New Jersey, according to Mrs. Kathy Krogstad of Rockaway Township, chairman of Vestigia's UFO team.

Vestigia is a scientific organization with approximately 160 members investigating reports of flying objects, mysterious animals and other phenomena.

"People who have witnessed UFOs and other unexplained objects feel they can finally call someone who will not laugh at them," said Mrs. Krogstad. "We are serious about our investigations and always respect the confidentiality of our sources."

Two separate but similar sightings of UFOs in Warren and Sussex counties were reported to Vestigia members and separate sightings of apparently identical objects were reportedly witnessed on Sept. 18 in Parsippany, North Plainfield and Flemington.

Vestigia UFO team members Stan Zebrowski of Budd Lake and Paul Cipriano of Hackettstown have interviewed five members of a Warren County family who say they saw five multi-colored objects in the sky for approximately 40 minutes at about 6 p.m. Oct. 30. The family consisted of a father and mother, 23-year-old daughter, 9-year-old son and 6-year-old grandson.

"Each one of them told us they saw five round balls, one large and five smaller ones," Zebrowski recalled. "They said the yellowish objects, which were spotted in the back yard, came down close enough so they saw blue, red and green lights rotating on all of them. The large one led the group and there was no noise. In a few minutes they said the large one and two smaller ones moved around and the other two remained motionless in the sky. Finally, the larger one moved out of sight and the four smaller ones rose up into the sky until they appeared to be bright stars. Paul and I arrived at about 7 p.m. With binoculars, I spotted what looked like several bright stars. There was a difference, though. The objects were blue on top, green in the middle and red on the bottom. When I rechecked them, the colors were in reverse order. Paul and I interviewed the five people and got sketches from them of what the objects looked like. We left their house about 9:45 p.m."

At about 10:30 that evening, a 15-year-old boy in Sussex County looked out of his window and reportedly saw a similar sight.

"It was mischief night and he wanted to be sure no one was bothering the family car," Zebrowski said. "He saw an oblong object with red and green blinking lights and called his parents and two adult neighbors. They watched for about 20 minutes and saw three objects. Later they saw four others and called Bob Jones at home."

Jones, who lives near Stanhope, is president of Vestigia.

Kathy Krogstad, Zebrowski and Cipriano interviewed four of the people several days later and got them to make drawings of the objects.

"Whatever they saw sounded very much like the objects reported earlier in Warren County," said Zebrowski.

On Sept. 18, a woman was driving home from work and was on Rt. 46 near Parsippany when she noticed a "red and white light" up in the sky at about 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Krogstad reported. About a half hour later a man who lives in Morris County saw a strange light on Rt. 22 near North Plainfield.

"He drew a picture of what looked like a flying saucer with windows and some kind of forms inside," said Mrs. Krogstad. "At about 9:20 that same night a woman told us she saw a similar object on Rt. 20 near Flemington. Each of these reports came to us separately and individual investigations were made."

Mrs. Krogstad said most people who have reported seeing UFOs described them as "oval-shaped lights — or over-sized moons."

"We feel we are putting some interesting facts together and that we may be making some headway in our studies," she said.

Area residents who believe they have sighted UFOs and are seriously interested in the Vestigia team's investigations may call Mrs. Krogstad. Those who have observed other unexplained phenomena and are interested in joining Vestigia may write Robert Jones, R.D. 2, Brookwood Road, Stanhope, N. J. 07874.



With Mac Fiske— Stranger than fiction

The two young hunters pulled their heavy duty station wagon to the side of the logging road. It was 8 o'clock at night and they had spent the day in fruitless search of game.

Now they relaxed, their faces partially illuminated by the dashboard lights. Beyond the window of their vehicle they could see the horizon against the black tree line. Fields of low brush were on either side of the dirt road where they parked. At night, the station wagon's headlights probably could be seen for quite a distance. But who would be out here at night, six miles off the main highway (Rte. 9) some 50 miles northeast of Bangor, Me.

As they talked about where they would hunt tomorrow, one of them noticed a red light on the right side of the horizon. They guessed the light was 10 miles away.

While they were watching, the red spot on the horizon suddenly darted straight up into the air, a long way up into the air, and just as quickly plummeted back down to its original position. Then oscillated from side to side.

The hunters, in their late teens, watched it for maybe three minutes, trying to imagine what it might be. The fastest jet could not move straight up and down or from side to side so quickly, they agreed. A helicopter might, but with such speed? They wondered.

Then the red spot hurtled across the horizon and stopped. Then it darted towards them, and stopped at what they guessed was a half-mile away, 50 to 100 feet in the air. Then it came closer, and suddenly the whole field (probably 6 acres) on the right-hand side of the road began glowing—not from a light beamed down directly from the red object, but rather as if the object was drawing the light from the ground. The hunters shut off their headlights, but left the dimmers on. They heard nothing.

And while their eyes and ears strained against the night, the red light (they saw no actual shape) flew over them and stopped. This time a two-acre area of logged-off field glowed in the dark.

They had their station wagon moving by now, headlights on, driving for the main road. One of the hunters kept looking back through the rear windows. He could see the red light through the trees. It was moving after them. And then it disappeared.

When they got back to the farmhouse where they were staying, they told a native of the area about their experience. He was a stable man, a man they felt they could trust to make some sort of a judgment. He was the police chief and fire chief and just about everything else important to Wesley, Me.

"Strange things happen around here," the man told the boys. He had a

story of his own to relate.

The boys nodded and listened:

The man was out hunting with his nephew in an area called the Barrens, a huge chunk of land maybe 50 miles square, he said, where all the trees had been burned off three years earlier by a forest fire.

It was an overcast night with no moon, so dark, in fact, that the man couldn't see his nephew only inches away. They had to touch each other repeatedly to make sure they didn't get separated.

Soon, they were lost and trying to find the main highway. A maze of logging roads criss-crossed and wound through the Barrens.

The nephew noticed a light ahead—a white, bright light that didn't light up anything above it or below it or on either side of it, but simply glowed unto itself in the blackness.

Then the man saw another white, bright light. Then the nephew saw another and all three paralleled them as they moved ahead. The three lights dropped behind them and a much larger one appeared in front of them. This one gave off a light that lit the ground below like day. The nephew panicked and wanted to shoot at it. The uncle stopped him and they walked on. The brightest of the lights closed to within 200 feet, they guessed, and became recognizable as a glowing saucer, with three lights on its underneath side that made a path of light on the ground. Then in seconds, it had darted out of sight over the horizon. When they turned, the three lights behind them were gone.

The man told the young hunters that stories such as theirs were common in the Wesley area. People see strange things that go unexplained, and they hear strange things, such as huge machines working at night on the Barrens, he said. But in the day, the machines are gone and there is no sign they were ever there.

"It was eerie," the hunters agreed, once back in Hopkinton. "But not so frightening that we won't be going back," one said.

"We paid \$60 for hunting licenses. We're going up again over Thanksgiving to get our money's worth," the other said.

They seemed to be hoping that their "money's worth" included another bright light on the horizon.

UFO group probes sightings

Floyd Hallstrom's New Year's Day sighting of an unidentified flying object near Santa Monica has captured the interest of two UFO research organizations who have already labeled the Oxnard resident's documentation of the incident as some of the best they've ever seen.

Dennis Leatart, an Oxnard resident and field investigator for the two organizations, learned of Hallstrom's experience through last week's front page story in the Ventura County and Harbor News. That prompted Leatart to conduct a two-hour interview with Hallstrom, an Oxnard resident and employee of Abex Corporation.

Leatart, who represents the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization of Tucson, Arizona, and the Phenomena Research Organization in Seattle, Washington, came away from the Hallstrom interview and declared. "It's the best case I've ever had in the county. It's well documented. You find this very seldom."

"I think he's (Hallstrom) telling the truth. He impressed me as knowing what he saw," Leatart said.

Leatart is now in the process of preparing his report which he will forward to the two non-profit research organizations.

Leatart also disclosed that Hallstrom's sighting of a flying saucer-like aircraft over Santa Monica New Year's Day may not have been the only one. A man in Downey, located in the Los Angeles area, reported a similar sighting 10 minutes after Hallstrom's encounter. The two are likely related, Leatart indicated.

Both Hallstrom and the Downey man described the strange craft as a metallic spheroid.

Hallstrom made the sighting at 1:07 p.m. New Year's Day while flying his small airplane south to San Diego to bring a fellow flyer back after the latter sold his aircraft.

Hallstrom left Oxnard Airport shortly after 12:30 p.m. and was maintaining an altitude of about 7,500 feet when he observed an object approaching him at a lower height. He made several efforts to report the sighting to airports in the area, but was unsuccessful.

Hallstrom, 56, who has 30 years of flying to his credit and whose parents were both flyers, told the Ventura County and Harbor News in an exclusive interview that his main frustration after the incident was not being able to report what he saw to someone in authority.

In the wake of new interest in his UFO sighting, Hallstrom said, "It makes me feel alot better...not for myself... There is no question in my mind what I saw."

Hallstrom said the establishment of his credibility by Leatart and his research organizations will hopefully encourage other people to speak out on sightings they may have had.

A major problem in UFO research, Leatart admitted, is getting people to publicly disclose what they saw. It is estimated that upwards of 90 percent of UFO sightings go unreported because people are afraid of the reaction of people around them.

Leatart, acknowledging that most UFO sightings are reportedly made by commercial airline pilots, charged that some airlines have even gone so far as to threaten their pilots with fines should they report UFOs, fearing such news would be bad for their business.

"How many times do you have to yell fire before someone puts water on it?" Leatart submitted.

At present, there is no governmental agency conducting UFO research, Leatart noted. He said Dr. Frank Press, President Jimmy Carter's director of science and technology recently approached NASA (National Aeronautical and Space Administration) urged it take up the matter of UFO investigations. But NASA rejected the idea unless it can first be supplied with "hard evidence."

Leatart urged the public to report any unusual sightings

Sightings Of UFOs Reported

Two sightings of unidentified flying objects were called into state police at Indiana Monday night.

One caller, whose identity was not released, called police at 9:10 and reported seeing an object from Ben Franklin Road in White Township.

According to the caller, the bright light in the western sky flew from one end of the horizon to the other and made two right turns before leaving with three planes following it.

An anonymous report of a similar incident was received by police at 6:10 p.m.

The reports were to be passed along to the Westmoreland County UFO Study, police said.

EVENING GAZETTE, Indiana, PA - Nov. 1, 1977

DAILY NEWS, McKeesport, PA - Nov. 4, 1977

Did City Man Sight UFO In Skies Over Duquesne?

"I don't know what it was, but I know it was something I've seen before."

So said McKeesport resident Raymond Birmingham, a man who has joined the not-so-exclusive ranks of thousands throughout the world who have cited unidentified flying objects.

Mr. Birmingham, of 516 Park St., a scrap stocker for basic oxygen furnaces at U.S. Steel's Duquesne plant, had his brush with the unknown yesterday morning, shortly after leaving work.

Suddenly, in the brightening morning sky over Duquesne shortly after 7 a.m., "it" appeared — a bright object — moving, but with no sound.

"I was standing at the bottom of Library St. waiting for my bus," Mr. Birmingham explained. "I was looking up the hill watching for the bus."

"Then, all of a sudden, I saw the object in the sky. It was moving across the sky from behind a building."

Mr. Birmingham said it is "hard to describe in words" exactly what he saw, but he knows that he saw it. He said it was "somewhat" saucer-shaped but its configuration on its sides distinguished it from a saucer.

What he is able to recall, however, is the color.

"It was pinkish-white, a fluorescent pink," he said. "It really stood out from everything else."

"I'd say it was moving rather fast," he continued. "Probably faster than 200 miles an hour. But there was no sound. That's what got me."

Mr. Birmingham said he observed the object for about 10 to 15 seconds before it disappeared behind a building up the hill. At that point, he said he turned to a woman who was standing about 50 feet away from him and asked:

"Did you see that?"

"See what?" he said she asked. Then Mr. Birmingham said as he pointed up the hill, the object reappeared, still moving in the same direction.

Mr. Birmingham said he recognized the woman as a worker in a cafeteria at the Duquesne Works. However, initial attempts by The Daily News to contact the woman today did not succeed.

"It was after dawn and it was light," Mr. Birmingham said. "I could see everything around me. There were no shadows and visibility was perfect. The sky was a light blue with a few clouds scattered around."

Mr. Birmingham said he first contacted the district office of the Federal Aviation Agency yesterday morning to report his sighting. He said he was told the FAA does not take UFO reports anymore.

Then he said he went to an Air Force recruiting station in Pittsburgh where he received a similar story.

"Then I decided to come to you people at the newspaper," he said.

Contacted today, Duquesne police said they did not receive any reports of UFO sightings over the city either yesterday or today.

A real "Close Encounter" by ed smith

Floyd Hallstrom knows he saw something.

In a sense, it was his own "close encounter" of a real kind.

But what happened to Hallstrom in the skies over Santa Monica New Year's Day 1978 has left him frustrated. The frustration comes not from comprehending what he experienced, but convincing those who sit in high places that his "encounter" was genuine.

Hallstrom, 56, a resident of Oxnard, has 37 years of aviation experience to his credit, but his exposure to flying goes back a half century. Both his mother and father were pilots.

"I'm not a novice at aviation. My whole life has been aviation," Hallstrom, a 15-year employee of Abex Corporation in Oxnard, said.

Here is what happened:

At 12:35 p.m. New Year's day, Hallstrom took off from Oxnard Airport in his Cessna 170A following a friend, Jim Victor, who was flying his plane to San Diego where it would be sold. Hallstrom was going along for the ride, so to speak, and to bring his friend back to Oxnard.

At 1:07 p.m., Hallstrom called Victor on the radio to report he was seven miles behind him. Hallstrom, at this time, said he was flying at 7,500 feet above the business district of downtown Santa Monica. Victor was at 7,700 feet over Los Angeles International Airport.

"I was looking ahead to see if I could see him (Victor)," Hallstrom recalled, noting he could observe a smog layer at about 6,500 feet.

"I saw a black spot and thought it was him," Hallstrom said

Watchful eye

Hallstrom said he knew it was some type of aircraft approaching him, and so he kept a watchful eye as it grew larger, approaching at a lower level.

"It took on the form of an aircraft, but there were no wings on it," he explained. "I figured it was a helicopter," he added, noting he had some experience flying helicopters from his 30 years in the Navy.

But then the questions began surfacing in his mind.

"What's he doing out of LAX at 6,000 feet?," Hallstrom inquired of his own mind.

"By God he's moving at a terrific rate of speed for a helo," Hallstrom thought, noting that the strange craft coming toward him had neither wings or rotors.

As the craft approached off Hallstrom's left shoulder about 30 to 40 degrees below, "it took on the full shape of a saucer," he said.

"And I could see the dome on it that looked like a half-sphere," he recalled.

There were no signs of markings or smoke or evidence of any form of propulsion.

"It had startled me...my subconsciousness had recognized it as a flying saucer before my conscience did. It is extremely clear 1,500 feet below me. I became very much aware of it. I didn't panic. I grabbed a piece of paper for notes. I started drawing a picture of it," Hallstrom said.

Hallstrom estimated the diameter of the passing craft at about 30 feet as it continued on a straight line of flight, maintaining its same altitude.

"The last I could see it was going over Beverly Hills toward Van Nuys," he said.

Lasted 25 seconds

Later, Hallstrom charted the flight of his small plane and that of the flying saucer (or unidentified flying object if you prefer) and concluded the time the craft was in "identifiable view" encompassed only 25 seconds.

Hallstrom estimated his plane had traveled a total distance of 2 1/2 miles, while the saucer-like craft had covered 12 1/4 miles during the incident. He based that

on his air speed of 136 miles per hour and an estimate of 650 m.p.h. for the other craft.

At that point, Hallstrom said, "I realized I had to do something."

As he flew over Los Angeles International Airport he radioed ahead to his friend.

"My God Jim, I just saw a flying saucer," Hallstrom declared.

Victor, as expected, passed the incident off with a joke. Another pilot in the area, overhearing the conversation, did the same.

Hallstrom attempted to report the sighting to LAX, but radio traffic, in his words, was "mind boggling" at the huge facility.

He called for any flight frequency and Ontario Airport answered. Ontario told Hallstrom to report it to LAX, but again he couldn't get through the heavy radio traffic.

When he arrived at the small airfield in San Diego, he was told to report the incident to Mission Center in San Diego. He finally reached Mission Center and after listening to his tale told him to make out a written report to the Federal Aviation Administration back in Oxnard.

Compassionate reaction

Hallstrom discovered upon his return to this area that the personnel at Oxnard Airport were "extremely compassionate." However, they told him he should notify the military. Further, FAA procedures really didn't satisfy his need to report what he had seen.

"I tried to confirm if anyone else had seen it," he said.

He even called a Los Angeles television station to see if anyone else had called in such a story. As soon as he mentioned the words "flying saucer," he recalled, they immediately became disinterested.

"At this point I said I am emotionally drained trying to confirm what I saw," he said. Confronted by rejection on all fronts, Hallstrom admitted he began to develop doubt himself. Had he really seen what he knew he had witnessed?

In the days that followed, Hallstrom recorded his experiences on tape, accompanied by appropriate charts and drawings "for whomever wants to know."

Today, Hallstrom maintains his normal lifestyle of work and home life. He is not bitter. But he feels there should be an avenue someone who has gone through what he has to make the appropriate inquiries.

Do flying saucers exist?

Does the government know about them and is it covering up?

If such things exist, shouldn't the people of the United States be properly informed?

These are but a few of the many questions that still race through his mind.

"I feel there ought to be a way of pulling up the strings and bringing us together," he said.

Hallstrom is a member of an elite community that has encountered something that defies normal definitions. But it has not altered the philosophy he brings to the practice of his life.

"Life is great...life is beautiful...this is just one more brilliant spot in the diamond," he believes.



Unidentified flying object

ANOTHER case of a strange flying object over the Crays has just occurred.

Mrs R. Higgins of Wootton Green, St Mary Cray, writes:

Last Thursday at 12.55 I was in my kitchen in a maisonette opposite the railway embankment overlooking Star Lane with my daughter Julie when we looked up to the sky to see what we thought at first was a plane as there was a vapour trail. But something made us keep looking. It was then quite high up but in the next few seconds we saw this round object passing just over the houses in Star Lane, lower than a plane would come. Its colour was silver but at the height it was it then had no vapour trail and it made no noise as it passed by. There was no tall and no wings.

We kept looking until it was out of our sight.

I am only supposing it was a UFO as I have never seen anything like it before.

CHIPPINGTON & KENTISH TIMES, Kent, England
Nov. 17, 1977

UFO spotted over Castle

AN unidentified flying object — UFO for short — has been seen over Farnham.

The "Thing" was spotted hanging stationary over Farnham Castle just before 1 o'clock on Monday by a Farnham man.

The man, who prefers not to be named — "my friends would never stop pulling my leg" — is quite adamant about what he saw. And he reported it to the police.

He told the Herald: "I was driving down Firgrove Hill, and from there you have a very good view of the castle. Right there in the sky, what seemed like about 50 feet above the trees, and slightly to the right of the castle, was this long thin white shape. It was like a matt white tube, with brilliant lights at either end. It was nothing at all like an aircraft, and was not moving at all.

"I watched it for about five seconds, then I stopped the car and got out to have another look. But by that time it had just vanished.

"There's no question of it being sunlight glinting on anything. It was a heavily overcast sky, and this 'thing' showed up very clearly.

"Of course it could have been much further away in the distance, and, so it would have been much higher up in the sky."

He emphasised: "This wasn't an hallucination, and it isn't a legpull. I'm quite certain about what I saw, about its description and its position.

"I just hope someone else saw it, too."

HERALD, Farnham, Surrey, England — Nov. 25, 1977

Housewife's UFO claim has university space boffins baffled

By a staff reporter

A HOUSEWIFE'S claim to have seen a UFO has caused a stir in Sheffield University's space-physics department.

The boffins are scratching their heads after the reported sighting of a whiteish-yellow light passing over houses at Dronfield Woodhouse.

It was spotted by Mrs Jennifer Vickers, of Wentworth Road, Dronfield Woodhouse, while she was driving yesterday morning.

Mrs Vickers, who admits

an interest in strange sightings, stopped her car to get a better look.

"I watched for about ten seconds, then this light faded from view. It was travelling horizontally in an east, south-east direction and appeared to be quite low in the sky," she said.

Silence

Mrs Vickers swears it was not an aircraft because there was silence. Nor was it a meteorite.

"I've already seen those and there was no

resemblance," she said.

She said the sky was overcast, very grey and with a few snowflakes around.

A member of the space-physics department said he could not offer an explanation for the sighting.

"Had the sky been clear it could have been something from outer space entering the earth's atmosphere and burning itself up.

"In view of the conditions and the way in which it was reported travelling, this seems unlikely. It makes it a very interesting sighting."

THE STAR, Sheffield, Yorkshire, England
Nov. 22, 1977

Straw in the wind

It was just the last straw for Mrs. Brenda Helm, a Silsden old people's home warden. For the third time in three months she's seen a UFO.

It's not that Mrs. Helm, of Briardene, is an excitable person. But three extra-terrestrial manifestations is more than anyone could keep under their hat.

She is interested to know if anybody else saw Thursday's light in the sky besides herself, her 14-year-old son Alan and a neighbour.

It was about five o'clock and Mrs. Helm was about to draw the curtains when there it was — "a bright light with no shape". It was stationary in the sky and then shot straight up and went behind a cloud where it looked smaller, she said.

"It stayed there for a few seconds then it started to travel across the sky towards Kildwick at a terrific pace. I opened the window and there was no sound," said Mrs. Helm.

The Friday before the object had travelled across the sky towards Cowling and in September in the other direction, towards Silsden.

TELEGRAPH & ARGUS, Bradford, Yorkshire, England
Nov. 26, 1977

Mystery of light in sky

A mysterious light which moved across the sky above Canterbury was sighted by Mrs Margaret Parish last Thursday.

Mrs Parish was returning from a meeting to her home at 49 Cossington Road, Canterbury just after 9 pm when she noticed an unusual light over the New Dover Road and St Martin's Hill area of the city.

"It was most extraordinary," she said. "There was an orange light surrounded by sparkles going in all directions. It was an oblong shape and seemed to move very, very slowly across the sky from left to right. Then it stopped, or perhaps turned towards me.

"This all took about 30 seconds. I had time to think that it was not an airplane when the light vanished leaving just a glow like when a lamp is switched off. I waited, expecting something to happen, but nothing did.

"It was very strange because all this time there was no sound. There was no-one else in the road and no cars around. I am not given to seeing things that are not there and am very sceptical about UFOs, but this certainly made me wonder. It is altogether rather a mystery."

Mrs Parish estimates that she saw the light for about one minute.

Canterbury police said they had received no reports of the light, but pointed out weather balloons occasionally passed over the area.

KENTISH GAZETTE, Canterbury, Kent, England
Nov. 25, 1977

More reports of UFO sightings in East Herts

REPORTS of UFO sightings on Hallowe'en and other nights have continued to come into the Mercury office.

Readers have reported seeing unusual lights, either stationary or moving, constant or flashing, in the skies over East Herts.

Said Mr D. F. Hale, of Fanshaws Lane, Brickendon: "With more and more evidence coming to light to support the theory that earth has been visited for thousands of years by people of superior intelligence, it is about time UFO sightings were taken seriously."

Mr Hale recalls that about a year ago, he spotted a large shining object travelling at a terrific speed across the early-morning sky. On the Tuesday morning, following Hallowe'en night, he witnessed "a large object" in a ploughed field to the right of Brickendon Lane, which later disappeared.

SAW LIGHTS

Bright lights in the sky on Hallowe'en night were also reported by Mrs P. A. Clark, of Parkhurst Road, Bengoe, Mrs Gwen Garrett, of Cole Green, and Mr H. J. Page, of Post Wood Road, Ware.

But Mr L. Jones, of Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth, says that a week later, on November 6, he saw a bright orange light similar to a street sodium lamp with a white edge, descend very low over Green Tye, Much Hadham.

"After about three minutes it ascended, the light appeared to get smaller and when it moved away it was showing a very small light . . . It went off in the direction of Ware," said Mr Jones.

An even more distant date is recalled by a Waltham Cross woman who wishes to remain anonymous. On March 8, this

year, she says, she saw two white lights just over the rooftops which seemed to hover over her as she walked along. It had given her a considerable fright and worried her ever since.

Finally, comes a letter from Mr Peter A. Clark, one of a group of dedicated UFO and Leyline "buffs" who have formed an association at Stevenage.

"We are most anxious to contact anyone having a serious interest in this subject, with a view to pooling ideas, information and resources, and perhaps to combining into investigative teams at a future date," writes Mr Clark.

If any readers are interested, they could telephone the association's secretary on Stevenage 722707 or write to Mr Clark at 2 Rooks West Cottages, Weston Road, Near Stevenage, Herts.

MERCURY, Hertford, Hertfordshire, England - Nov. 25, 1977

KENTISH GAZETTE, Canterbury, Kent, England - Dec. 2, 1977

More see the light

More sightings have been reported of the mysterious orange ball of fire seen over Canterbury on November 17.

Mrs Patricia Salmon of 21 City View, Canterbury, said she was watching television when her husband, Edward, told her to look at a light in the sky.

"It was like an enormous ball of fire in the sky to the left of the Cathedral. It seemed to be stationary for some time. It stayed for a good minute and then it just disappeared. It went out like a light."

Too long

"From where we were it looked like a fair sized football. At first I thought it was a firework, but it stayed there too long."

Mrs Salmon dismissed the idea it could have been a visitor from space: "I don't believe in that sort of thing. I think that's a load of rubbish."

The light was first reported

by Mrs Margaret Parish, of 49 Cossington Road, Canterbury, who said it was over the New Dover Road and St Martin's Hill area.

Her description was "an orange light surrounded by sparkles going in all directions. It was an oblong shape and seemed to move very, very slowly across the sky from left to right."

The strange light was also seen by a motorist travelling home from Canterbury to Barham, but his sighting was the previous evening.

Mr Graham Coe, of Ford Lodge, Barham, had just turned off the A2 when he saw what he thought was an aircraft on fire: "It moved slowly and turned towards me, then dipped and went out. It was way up above the skyline against a very dark sky."

The explanation that it could be a weather balloon was discounted by Mr Coe: "What could make it light up? There was nothing to reflect off it."

UFO was 'mother ship'

WASHINGTON GUARDIAN SERIES, England Nov. 25, 1977

Housewife Mrs Olive Magraw thought she was still dreaming on Tuesday when she woke up and saw a cigar shaped object drifting through the clouds.

"I have never seen anything like it", said Mrs Magraw, of Fearnhead Lane, Fearnhead. "It was cigar-shaped and tapered at the end, a bright white image."

Mrs Phyllis Henderson, of 1, Anthony Road, a member of the Aetherius Society, which studies UFOs, claims Mrs Magraw saw the mother ship of Mars satellite No. 3.

There was another UFO spotting on Wednesday by Mrs Henderson herself. She and another member of the Aetherius Society saw what appeared to be a great star with a long tail.

The UFO was low in the sky and could be seen over the Letchford area, she said. It was watched for about two minutes.

NEWS OF THE WORLD, London, England Nov. 27, 1977

And an inspector sees the light

INSPECTOR Desmond Condon had never seen anything like it in his 24 years in the police force.

Residents of Earlsfield, in South - West London, couldn't believe their eyes either.

It was the biggest UFO they had ever seen—a column of light reaching 3,000 feet into the night sky.

Insp Condon said: "It was about three or four miles away and formed a perfect pillar."

"I've never seen anything like it. It glowed

with a blueish-haze and stayed motionless for more than half an hour."

The 40-year-old Inspector was alerted by a young PC on duty at Earlsfield police station who received calls from worried residents.

He added: "I'm interested in astronomy and have puzzled over what could have caused it. But I still haven't come up with an answer."

The sighting, which happened two weeks ago, was revealed when the inspector reported it in the Metropolitan Police magazine, The Job.

Star bargain for sky gazers

BUSINESSMEN at Frome got an unexpected boost to the town's tourist industry at the weekend — a visit from the most famous unidentified flying object in the business, the celebrated Amber Gambler.

A party of 30 young people, who had come from Scunthorpe in the first UFO package tour, spent a chilly Saturday night on Cradle Hill and were rewarded with a three-minute display by the Amber Gambler —

a ball of orange fire which moves across the sky, changing direction and shape.

The spectacle was witnessed by more than 30 people.

The visit could not have come at a better time for Frome, which has just issued a brochure entitled Frome is Flying Saucer Land.

It is being circulated around the country to encourage families to visit

the town for UFO spotting holidays.

Mr Barry Gooding, who runs a UFO information library at Trowbridge, said: "I am absolutely delighted. These people came all the way from Scunthorpe with mixed feelings about the existence of UFOs and now they have gone back having seen one. There is no doubt that this was something out of the ordinary and certainly wasn't anything to do with the Army."

The leader of the Scunthorpe group, Miss Linda Robinson, said: "I am sure after this that UFOs do exist and I think that Frome will have people of all ages arriving for their package tours. It was the best holiday we've ever had."

Perhaps the most surprised person was Mr Freddie Giles of the George Hotel, Frome. He saw the UFO and said: "I'm amazed although I did believe before that they existed."



Does Bigfoot Roam The Area?

By BOB DAILEY and
HAROLD GONZALES

EDITOR'S NOTE: This report was compiled from statements made by the involved parties and from an actual on-site inspection of the location where the prints were found. There has been no attempt to sensationalize or diminish the incidents testified to by several persons. The Post-Signal will continue to investigate this and other related stories, and report its findings to the readers.

RICEVILLE, La. — On New Year's Day, little Rhonda Duval went fishing in the pond behind her home, just north of the Riceville Bridge across Bayou Queue De Tortue. Minutes later, she was back at her house telling her father about a "trespasser's footprints" she had found near the pond.

Her father and a neighbor, George Kutch, investigated. What they found, they're still not sure of. But one thing is for certain, they found something.

What these two men saw, and later photographed, has led The Post-Signal to other persons living along Bayou Queue De Tortue who say they've seen similar things and more.

Duval, a fur trapper, said that he was in the habit of leaving the skinned carcasses of nutrias on his boat dock at night. He said that for two weeks leading up to the incident on New Year's Day, he returned in the morning to find the nutrias eaten. He said that he thought dogs were eating the rodents.

When his daughter reported the footprints, Duval and Kutch found markings like the one at the right, Duval said he followed the tracks for three-quarters of a mile into the swamp and out again. He finally lost the tracks at the edge of the swamp.

All of the footprints measured approximately 13½ inches long and 7½ inches at the widest part. The stride averaged between 32 and 36 inches apart.

The men say that they have never seen footprints such as these before. Thus far, no one has been able to identify the prints.

We visited Kutch and Duval and followed the tracks into the Bayou Queue De Tortue swamp. At one point, we both witnessed where the tracks went into Bayou Queue De Tortue and then came out again at a point of land about 100 yards away.

Duval speculates that whatever made the prints had probably been using the route regularly. "It had probably been feeding on those nutria carcasses," he surmised.

Why, then had no tracks been observed before. Kutch offered an answer. "It rained Friday night. (A Pacific cold front moved across Louisiana the night before New Year's Eve, a Friday.) It's almost impossible to make prints in this hard clay unless it's wet. We never noticed any prints because the dry clay didn't hold any prints," Kutch said.

Finding the bizarre prints isn't the only strange thing that has occurred recently in the Bayou Queue De Tortue area.

Mike Richard, who lives three miles east of Duval, says that he has seen "something" at least three times while out hunting raccoons at night.

"We were out hunting and something tall stood up and looked at us. Its eyes had a red glint in the beam from our lights. It seemed like it was black," Richard said.

"We saw it about three times. Every time, it was around eight or nine p.m. One time it made a loud noise — like a growl — it scared us. We didn't have any guns or anything, so I went back to my truck and loaded up some buckshot, but we didn't see it again that night.

Richard says that one time he saw the thing, it jumped a six-foot fence around a cattle enclosure. He says that he may have seen two, but he wasn't sure.

Richard also says that one night while hunting, he came across the skeletons of two of his father's calves. Both calves had been approximately one-month-old.

He says that the skeletons were within a foot of each other. In both cases, Richard says that complete skeletons were present, although the bones had been scattered.



BIGFOOT PRINT? — Nolan Duval and George Kutch photographed this print just after they found it. Note the heel of toes.



COMING OUT OF THE WATER, left, two footprints climb the bank of Bayou Queue De Tortue. Reporters followed the prints until they disappeared into the bayou and then found the prints coming out of the stream about 100 yards away. Right, Nolan Duval points to the area where the tracks begin, about 300 yards west and north of the Riceville Bridge. George Kutch, Duval's neighbor, looks on. (Post-Signal Staff Photo)

POST-SIGNAL, Crowley, LA — Jan. 7 (?), 1978 CR: E. Miller



Did Sasquatch leave this 7x17-inch footprint?

Photos pose questions

Big footprints Bigfoot prints?

By DOUG BABB
Of The Daily Astorian

I don't believe in the legendary "Bigfoot," — at least I don't think I do, but I believe there are plenty of sincere people who think they've encountered such creatures.

Glenn and Paulette Lauper, Lewis and Clark area residents, think they have evidence that Sasquatches reside in the hinterlands of Clatsop County.

Glenn Lauper has photographs he shot of 17-by-7½-inch footprints discovered on a Clatsop County mountainside on Nov. 18. Tucked away in his neighbor's freezer are the deteriorating remains of an actual footprint embedded in ice. Now almost melted beyond recognition, the footprint — and that of a smaller animal which Lauper believes could be an infant Bigfoot — has broken into several pieces.

Lauper, on subsequent trips to the site, collected hair samples. He has sent two strands of black and brown curly hair to a laboratory in Portland. There has been no report from the lab.

Does he think he's actually discovered the elusive man-ape?

"I'm satisfied with the knowledge that there is something walking around with feet that big," he said.

Lauper, a 25-year-old forestry student at Clatsop Community College, has experience working in the woods. He, his wife Paulette, and their two-year-old son were sledding in the year's first snowfall when they encountered the unusually large tracks.

"Whatever it was made a heavy impression in the ice," he said, showing off pictures of footprints after car tires had driven over them. Even under the tire impressions, the large foot marks were clear.

What could it be? A bear? A hoax?

Lauper doesn't believe it to be a bear. The hair samples, he said, are different. And as far as a hoax, the footprints were in brush so thick only a very large animal could have passed through, he said. The stride, angle and depth of the footprints, he contended, could not have been made by a man.

Bigfoot here?

Large tracks found in mountain snow

By JIM HALEY
Staff Writer

Two sets of large, human-like tracks were spotted on a snow-covered mountain logging road late last week.

Do they belong to Bigfoot and his mate?

Local phenomena investigators are looking into that possibility, but it is unlikely a definitive answer will come from the tracks discovered Thursday by Dan Becker of Snohomish.

The tracks had melted and frozen again, and there was another covering of snow on them by the time investigators got to the scene on Green Mountain, 15 miles northeast of Granite Falls.

But Jerry Phillips, Snohomish County investigator for a Seattle-based group which looks into phenomena reports, doesn't believe the find is a hoax.

"That would be pretty tough to do in the snow without leaving other tracks around. If you're going to do a hoax, why do it on a mountain where there's not much chance of it (the tracks) being found?" Phillips asked.

The tracks were 17 and 14 inches long. The shorter one was up to 6½ inches wide and had a stride of four to five feet, Phillips said.

Distance between the longer print was six to seven feet, he said.

Phillips went to the logging road Sunday, accompanied by Becker, who said he found the tracks while looking for a place to sled.

Phillips said the tracks traveled along the road about 150 or 200 yards before they apparently scrambled up a bank and into the timber.

He made plaster casts of some of the prints and photographed the area.

Phillips, who works in the Snohomish County dispatcher center in Everett, said he hasn't seen many Bigfoot tracks before, "but I've seen a lot of pictures and a lot of casts."

Phenomena investigators from Seattle and Sedro Woolley have viewed Phillips' casts.

"I'll write up a report and anyone who wants it can have it. But Bigfoot researchers have better examples, and I doubt they'll want this," Phillips said.

Tree branches in the area were broken between 6 and 11 feet above the ground, Lauper said. "We tried to break a few trees ourselves," he said. "Two of us could do it, but it would have been hard for a man to do it alone."

Lauper said he has returned to the site several times, escorting about 15 persons. They've all been amazed by the prints. Several hunters chanced by, he said, and were surprised at what they saw.

"They might have been humoring us," Lauper smiles.

"Somebody should investigate these things," he said.

"If it's a hoax, it should be exposed as a hoax."

Where were the tracks discovered? Lauper doesn't want to say.

"I'd like to give a location, but the first thing you'd have 400 people up there with rifles," he said. "And the first time a bush moved somebody would get blown away."

Lauper said he would share his information with people who are seriously attempting to verify the existence of Bigfoot, but that he would hate to see harm come to Bigfoot — if it exists.

"I would never want the responsibility of shooting one or seeing one captured," he said.

Lauper said when he discovered the prints they were separated by a two-foot stride. Then he noticed a similar, but much smaller footprint inside the larger print. From that he reasoned there might also be an infant.

Following the tracks, the stride increased to about six feet, and disappeared into the thick, almost impenetrable brush. The smaller prints weren't in evidence, so — Lauper theorized — the large creature must have picked up the infant and carried it through the dense growth.

The prints, Lauper said, were four-toed — and twice the size of a man's foot. He followed them for awhile, noting the trail detoured through some heavy growth.

"It could have gone an easier way. That's when we discovered hair on the salmonberry brush," he said.

There have been other unpublicized Bigfoot encounters in Clatsop County, Lauper said. No one claims, however, to have actually seen the mysterious creature.

Call in the Wild: Is It Sasquatch?

By Steve Johnston

"If these are sounds of Sasquatches," University of Washington zoology professor Gordon Orians said yesterday "then they sound remarkably like coyotes."

But Jon Beckjord, a Sasquatch-seeker, said that Sasquatch, with a flair for mimicry, just might be aping the coyotes.

Beckjord supplied tape recordings of suspected Sasquatch sounds for analysis by Orians. Beckjord heads Project Grendel,

a Seattle organization studying the legendary Bigfoot.

The recordings were made in Washington, South Dakota and California and are purportedly screams, grunts and barks issued by the hairy creatures.

The recordings were played on a sound spectrograph, which makes a printed record of the sound, in hopes of finding similarities and differences in the sounds. Orians said he uses the machine to analyze bird calls.

At the end of one recording,

made on the Lummi Indian Reservation 18 months ago, was a sound that Orians said he had never heard before.

"But I could show you bird calls that look exactly like this," Orians said, glancing over the spectrograph chart. "There is no way I or anyone else could look at this and say it is not a Sasquatch sound."

But then again, Orians said, there is no way someone could say it was the sound of a Sasquatch.

Another sound, this time from Little Eagle, S.D., was best described by Beckjord as "a coyote pack going crazy simultaneously, at outrageously loud volume, mixed in with monkey chatter." Another sounded like car tires squealing around a corner or maybe a fingernail going down a blackboard.

Orians, who right away disavowed any knowledge of the tapes, later played a recording of a coyote and then made some comparisons between that recording and the other recordings. He said the coyote sound and the South Dakota sound were at the same pitch, but the alleged Sasquatch recordings were "very, very weak" and hard to distinguish.

But he said some of the recordings did sound like coyotes.

Beckjord explained that the Sasquatch sometimes mimics other animals and could be mimicking the sound of coyotes. He said that a Lummi Indian Reservation police officer played a Sasquatch recording over his car loud speaker and two Sasquatches wandered out of the bushes to see what was going on.

Asked if he tried this route to finally get some conclusive evidence of Sasquatch existence, Beckjord said he did try it, but it didn't work. "They didn't respond to me," he said. "I won't say this won't work, but it didn't work for me. Maybe I smelled wrong to them or maybe they thought they were fooled once, but not again."

The bottom line to the tests was that they were inconclusive in proving the tape recordings were of the same type of animal or in proving what kind of source they came from.

"All you've seen are what these sounds look like," Orians said. "The final proof will come from observing the organism actually uttering the sounds."



UW ZOOLOGY PROF. GORDON ORIANs held a voice print of suspected Sasquatch sounds. — P-I Photo by Cary Tolman.

DAILY HERALD, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS - Dec. 22,
1977 CR: D. Titler

Jackson's own Bigfoot?

JACKSON — Three Jackson residents have reported sighting a hairy, upright creature this week, but searches conducted in the neighborhood have thus far turned up no more than footprints. "It had hair like a gorilla and stood about 5-foot-11," said Donald Bracey, who claims he saw the creature Tuesday evening on his way home from work. "I don't know what a bigfoot looks like," he added. "But this didn't look like a bear or a horse." Bracey called police to report the sighting, and a second resident gave similar information a few hours later. Two police officers dispatched to the area found no creature but did discover a round, clawless footprint. A third resident reported sighting the figure Wednesday, and a search party of seven men and two German shepherds was formed. But they found only more footprints along a creekbed.

bigfoot invasion upsetting life in reservation hamlet

THE LINE, Bismarck, N.D.
("Farwest") - Nov. 26,
1977 CR: M. Hall

By MARK KINDERS
Farwest Editor

LITTLE EAGLE, S.D.—Many in this remote hamlet on Standing Rock Indian Reservation are convinced they are invaded by several Bigfoot.

And they are afraid.

Since early September three *Gigantopithecus* — commonly called Sasquatch or Bigfoot — have haunted the thick scrub cottonwoods that surround and fill Little Eagle's scattered townsite of 60 residents.

Twenty-eight sightings have been made in the last two and one-half months, according to Gary Alexander, whose general store serves as headquarters for the ensuing Bigfoot hunt.

Observations have come at all times of the day and night, from the southern edge of town along the meandering Grand River to the steep bluffs to the north, with the creatures viewed from as far away as 150 yards and up to 10-feet away during a "confrontation."

Little Eagle is not alone. The reservation towns of Timber Lake, Trail City and Eagle Butte to the south, along with Cannonball and Solen to the north also advise of Bigfoot sightings.

But the unusual frequency of sightings in such a short time span at Little Eagle has attracted nationwide attention from professional and amateur phenomena researchers alike. Likewise, an anthropologist from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, although twice delayed by winter snowstorms, has promised to visit the site.

When he arrives the Nebraskan will have a number of photographs and castings of footprints as well as Bigfoot droppings from near Solen to study, along with a slew of eyewitnesses to interview, "enough to fill a busload...two busloads."

Among them is LeMar Chasing Hawk, who was "confronted" by a Bigfoot lurking 10 feet away from him. Chasing Hawk, who has carried a rifle as protection ever since, relates it was about 10:15 p.m. on a September night when the incident occurred. He was on a pathway bordered by scrub bushes just outside his back yard at the fringe of town as he returned home from a nearby card game.

"I heard a noise by my side and turned to look when I saw something between some bushes stand up." It was Bigfoot, Chasing Hawk asserts.

While he was close enough to touch it, Chasing Hawk can only describe the animal as about nine feet tall and weighing over 600 pounds.

"I didn't stay around long enough to find out what it looked like," he explains. "I turned around and ran for home and didn't look back."

Chasing Hawk's consternation over the event is shared by many of Little Eagle's residents who are moving out of town until the situation dies down, including Rev. Angus Long Elk.

Long Elk, a Little Eagle resident for the last five years, left his home and the trim, white clapboard church along the Grand River for the safety of McLaughlin, fourteen miles to the north.

"I couldn't stand its running around shrieking all night," he says of Bigfoot's heralded coyote-like screaming noise. "It was doing it all the time. And about two weeks ago my wife saw it at night while she was down by the river. She's been afraid ever since and wanted to leave."

Bigfoot descriptions have been similar, according to Alexander. Generally, the creatures have been determined to be between six to nine feet tall and weighing from 600 to 900 pounds. Alexander, who has not seen a Bigfoot, says one of the larger animals is reported to be dark in color and the other light. A third Bigfoot reportedly is smaller, he says, at about six feet tall and 400 pounds.

Although not all three have been seen at the same time, during one incident two of the animals were seen by hunters simultaneous to other searchers seeing a third creature at a different location.

Alexander said searchers have been working each night in four to six-man squads on stake-outs throughout the town and close in on Bigfoot once they hear a tell-tale shriek.

Alexander is convinced the incidents are legitimate. "When we've found tracks in a row, the stride has been six to seven feet apart. It would take three men on stilts to make them and get that deep an impression."

Likewise, he can see no reason why someone would attempt to deliberately frighten the townspeople. He notes there are no known mineral deposits or other riches in the area. And if there were a clandestine discovery he says the land is held in trust by the Sioux tribe rather than individuals who might be scared into leaving.

"If it was a person doing that we'd have caught him by now."

Although authorities have asked the hunters not to carry weapons for fear of injuring each other, many still continue to do so. One argues: "We're not out to hurt it. We're all carrying .22 caliber rifles or .22 caliber magnums. We poor Indians can't afford anything bigger than that."

Bigfoot pursuing teams also are armed with tranquilizer guns in an attempt to immobilize the animal. Since the proper dose is not known, though, Alexander said if the creature isn't drugged "we'll shoot him in the leg, a place that will stop him but that will mend easily."

No conclusive reason has been offered for the sudden materialization of the animal. Theories have followed those common to Bigfoot phenomenon in other states: they are throwbacks to cavemen; the animals are curious about man's activities; they "want" women and children; are demonic creatures or the devil incarnate, or are "from outer space."

Attempts to document the Bigfoot's existence have taken a serious turn. Ed Meller, an unemployed gravel hauler and oil products distributor, has set up a mobile camper equipped with a tape recording system and manned by up to eight people on Chasing Hawk's property.

Meller has discovered a number of curiosities about Bigfoot's behaviour that are typical according to Milton LaSalle, a New York State soils engineer who has studied Bigfoot sightings on the East and West coasts the past 20 years and traveled to Little Eagle last week.

Among Meller's findings were that Bigfoot has a tendency to "sneak" around on all fours when the animal feels threatened instead of walking erect.

Of greater interest, though, is Meller and others say they have heard Bigfoot attempt to mimic the human voice. "They sound a lot like a coyote, but they can give you any sound they want you to hear," he contends.

He describes the vocalizing attempts as

"chattering" although he claims Bigfoot has successfully only said the word "Hey." LaSalle notes that such abilities by Bigfoot have been rarely experienced and are not documented as fact, but have been reported of the animal in the past as well as of his third cousins, Mono Grande of the South American Andes Mountains range and the Yeti of the Himalayas.

Meller attributes his success to the fact Bigfoot "is pretty nosy. Anything that goes on he just has to see." The animal showed up at the van two weeks ago Saturday and two of them appeared twice about 4 a.m. last Wednesday, Meller says.

About a dozen women and children set up a campfire and held a party to lure Bigfoot close to the van. Meanwhile, an eight-track stereo was turned up all the way with recordings of female vocalists.

"We had a couple (Bigfoot) crawling around behind and on side of us, about 50 yards away," illuminated by the campfire and yard light.

Meller said one of the creatures was black with a beige mantle across his chest and shoulders. The other was pure black. He said they appeared to be "sneaking". "They crouched so low in the brush that you could just barely see their outlines."

He explains: "They knew we had firearms — they were sneaking. But we could tell what they were with binoculars."

Meller said one eyewitness described them as having "long fingers". Meller said on a previous occasion he saw they had "red, glowing eyes".

"We've got some phenomena around here that the world just won't believe," Meller shakes his head and bemusedly adds.

However, he refuses to say why he thinks the Bigfoot is invading Little Eagle. "We have an idea what it is, but no comment. It's way beyond your wildest imagination. We've got proof of what it is, but there are a lot of people who don't believe us now when we say that Bigfoot is here."

He adds the creature has been around Little Eagle for several years now. "There were sightings before, or people now know the shrieks they heard previously weren't from coyotes. They didn't believe it was Bigfoot then."

LaSalle, the only Bigfoot enthusiast of substantial experience to visit the community, is convinced that something is going on there.

"There are far too many witnesses involved in the various sightings for it to be rigged. The sightings are conclusive that it doesn't fit the description of any wildlife native to the area. It's not a bear, either, that I'm certain of."

LaSalle says there is "some question in my mind whether the long distance sightings actually were of Bigfoot. But the other close up eyewitnesses seemed quite sincere and honest in their stories. I would say that at least a portion of the sightings are genuine."

Noting that many sightings took place within 25 yards and up to three minutes in duration, LaSalle thinks it would be impossible for someone to be hoaxing the community. "With animals that stand up to 10-or 11-feet tall, it would require a drastic costume that over a long sighting period would be eventually seen to be a quite obvious fake."

(continued on page 20)

THE BUREAU, Bismarck, ND
("Farwest") - Nov. 26,
1977 CR: M. Hall
(continued from page 19)

"But with the 'smaller' Bigfoot, the 6-foot one, it could be a fake. It's the size of a man, and it is quite possible that someone is pulling a hoax in that case."

LaSalle also feels that Meller's tapes and castings made of the Bigfoot tracks are "either genuine or very good fakes." The footprint castings found by the river measuring 18 inches long by eight inches across the ball of the foot "are about what I expect," LaSalle says.

The tracks show a double-balled big toe typical of Bigfoot tracks, and do not show an opposable toe that large apes use for grasping, but not a common Bigfoot characteristic. The toe size of Little Eagle's Bigfoot is "smaller than normal," he adds.

LaSalle is not bothered by the fact the sightings only recently began to occur. He notes that there have been a rash of sightings in the last few months across the United States, at California, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas, Minnesota, Utah, the Dakotas and British Columbia, in some instances where Bigfoot has not been reported before.

Nevertheless, LaSalle won't conclusively agree that Bigfoot has inhabited the Little Eagle area: "I won't say it's a Bigfoot, not until I see it myself."

Whether the townspeople will be able to track down and capture a Bigfoot remains to be seen. It is unknown whether last week's heavy snowfall on the Indian Reservation will aid the search. There are conflicting opinions as to whether the Bigfoot hibernates. LaSalle thinks the hominids "hole up" and ride out a storm until it is safe to move about again.

Whether the searchers will interfere with each other's efforts also remains to be seen. Several sources have been critical of the Bigfoot chasers with hints that some stalking it are under the influence of marijuana, that others are treating it as a lark and frightening the creature away when "capture" opportunities look good, or that evidence that may provide clues as to the animal's habits are being destroyed.

Moreso, local residents are wary of some residents who have been periodically firing their weapons at night, either at alleged Bigfoot or to lure it to the town by the disturbance.

Also, some stalking the phenomena are keeping at the hunt for extensive periods, up to two days without sleep, manning stake-outs at night and searching for Bigfoot lairs in the daytime.

And at least one resident who thinks the whole idea of a Bigfoot is ridiculous thinks the search is a nuisance. Lonnie Maxnor, 70, complains "pickup trucks are tearing around all hours of the night, people are shooting off guns and making noise." Still, he notes, "a lot of my neighbors are afraid of what's happening, and a lot of them are leaving town or talking about going."

STAR, Kansas City, MO - Jan. 13,
1978 CR: V. White

Booms Break Windows, Fray Nerves

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—Booms similar to the ones that occurred off the Atlantic coast in December rocked walls and broke windows in the Charleston area Thursday.

Residents flooded police, newspaper and broadcast station switchboards with calls to report the mysterious noises. The cause of the shocks has not been determined. No injuries have been reported.

Mrs. Jerry Young, who lives near Charleston, said, "I've felt most of the booms and this was the worst. I was running down the stairs and things were shaking so much I was afraid I wasn't going to make it."

Another resident who did not give her name said, "It sounded like the ocean rolling in. It rumbled right over the house, moved the chairs on the floor and shook the windows so much I was afraid they would break."

Reports of a sonic boom, apparently originating offshore, were received Thursday afternoon by officials at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Palisades, N.Y., located just north of New York City, the New York Times said today.

The newspaper said the observatory, one of the most sophisticated in the world, did not record the latest boom

although it did monitor similar disturbances last month.

A seismograph at Baptist College of Charleston registered earth tremors originating in the Beaufort area about 2 p.m. A college official said the shocks apparently were not from an earthquake but from "acoustical energy" at sea.

The first of the mysterious booms occurred Dec. 2. Booms later in the month prompted many different explanations—secret government tests, military air maneuvers and underwater explosions. However, the cause is still not known.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Dec. 25, 1977

Explosion reports elude explanation

WASHINGTON (AP) — They were heard last Wednesday and Thursday in New Jersey.

On Tuesday they had been reported as loud explosions by people in Connecticut.

In the past, similar reports had been heard from the Finger Lakes region of New York, Florida, Australia and the Middle East.

The topic each time were unexplained explosions — sonic booms some people said.

Experts at the U.S. Geological Survey here say the mysterious booms heard off the mid-Atlantic coast this week have been common for hundreds of years.

Along the way they have always eluded definitive scientific explanation.

"There is nothing really new in the fact that such sounds have been reported," James Devine, head of the survey's earthquake studies, said.

Devine said the muffled sounds have been known by such names as Guns of the Seneca, Barisal Guns, Jebel Musa Sounds and Mist Puffers. He said they have been particularly prevalent along the East Coast.

Military officials have denied responsibility for the noises. And sonic booms have been ruled out by a number of experts.

While some earthquakes have been accompanied by loud noises and displays

of lights, "we have searched our seismic networks and can find no recordings of specific earthquakes that could be related to the (most recent) noise," Devine said.

"Nor would we expect earthquakes of small magnitudes — which might not be detected on the instruments — to be capable of generating such noises," he added.

Some suspect the noise is related to the high state of stress of the rocks that underlie the eastern United States, Devine said. But he cautioned that there may not be any single explanation for the booms.

Dr. Stanley Klemetson of Colorado State University has offered one possible explanation: the dumping of treated wastes and garbage in the ocean.

This could produce gases such as hydrogen and methane, which collect, break loose to the surface and can be set off by static electricity, he said.

But the Environmental Protection Agency disputed that theory saying the gases would only develop in the absence of oxygen and the coastal waters contain considerable oxygen.

The noise reports — past and present — have one thing in common, Devine explained at the Geological Survey: "They (all) are scientifically inexplicable."

Mysterious Explosions Reported Back in 1890

United Press International

Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr. (D-N.J.) says a congressional report shows that mysterious explosions, similar to those felt off the Atlantic Coast in recent weeks, were reported throughout the world as early as 1890.

A report issued by the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress notes similar high-altitude phenomena were recorded in 1890 in India, Scotland, Australia, New York and Connecticut, Williams said.

Although some experts have attributed the explosions to seismic disturbances, no one agrees on the exact cause.

The report called for the creation of a special task force to analyze technical data on the explosions.

A series of high-level explosions rocketed the New Jersey coast on Dec. 7, 21 and 22. Some of the rumblings were felt from Atlantic City to Staten Island, N.Y. Other booms were felt off the South Carolina coast.

POST, Washington, DC - Jan. 10, 1978
CR: N. Josephsen

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR
Dec. 30, 1977

Probe Blasts, 3 Agencies Are Asked

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The White House has asked at least three federal agencies to report next week on what may be causing the mysterious high-altitude explosions off the Atlantic Coast, a spokesman said Thursday.

Art Morrissey of the Office of Science and Technology's National Security Section said that "all relevant agencies have been asked for potential causes of the explosions and their knowledge about them."

The agencies asked to probe their records included the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Defense Department and the Interior Department. All said they were unaware of any such programs.

Blasts accompanied by lights in the sky were reported in New Jersey three days earlier this month. A similar incident was reported in South Carolina December 22.

Scientists have said the blasts were caused by meteor showers, thunderclaps, sonic booms from aircraft or from offshore oil exploration rigs.