

UFO

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TIMES, Fayetteville, NC - April 3, 1978

The Thing In The Picture

Look at the picture elsewhere on this page — the picture that doesn't look like much of anything.

What is it?

I can tell you what it is alleged to be. It is alleged to be an unidentified flying object, and that's probably not a bad description.

The white blob in the picture seems to be some sort of object; it presumably is up in the air, if the photographer's story is to be believed, and there can be no doubt that the object is unidentified.

Steve Molnar, a young Ft. Bragg soldier from Delaware, took the picture on the night of Wednesday, March 22, just across from the 82nd Airborne museum.

Or he says he did, and he didn't strike me as either a liar or a hoaxer.

This is his story:

"I was coming back from the York theater," he said. "I had my camera with me, because I took up photography in December and was practicing taking pictures inside the theater.

"I left the theater at 10:30. I was walking down the sidewalk across from the museum when I saw this thing.

"It wasn't an airplane or a helicopter. It was close enough so I could tell that, and it was entirely silent, too.

"The thing had five sides. There were red lights in a circle. It stopped for four or five seconds and hung in the air. Then it took off over the barracks.

"It didn't seem like a balloon. It was more the shape of a pizza or a discus. It was very pretty, though. I liked it. Now, I'd just like to find out what it was."

Was It A Moonlight Blob?

Molnar said a friend of his, a trooper whose last name is O'Sullivan, reported seeing something strange while on sentry duty that night.

I haven't found O'Sullivan for confirmation.

He also suggested I call Pope Air Force Base, because he'd heard that Pope had confirmed a UFO sighting on the same night.

Well, Pope hadn't. Nothing showed on Pope's screens on that Wednesday night except things that were supposed to be airplanes.

A spokesman for Pope did hazard a guess as to what Steve Molnar took a picture of, however.

"The weather that night, if I remember correctly," said the spokesman, "was moonlit and foggy. In such conditions, it is not unusual for shapes to be formed by reflections in the fog. This might well be what happened."

Is This A UFO Or Is It A Fake?

So, again, what is it? What did Steve Molnar see?

Study the shape, and judge for yourself.

All bets are off, of course, if Steve isn't telling the truth. Anybody can fake a picture.

When viewed from that perspective, the thing in the picture could be a butterfly, or a pizza painted white.

We must assume, then, at least for the sake of argument, that everything happened as Molnar described it.

Then we can proceed to analyze the picture, or you can, because I believe the Air Force guy was right.

I believe the picture shows a blob of moonlight.

I talked to Steve Molnar over the telephone, then I talked to him face-to-face.

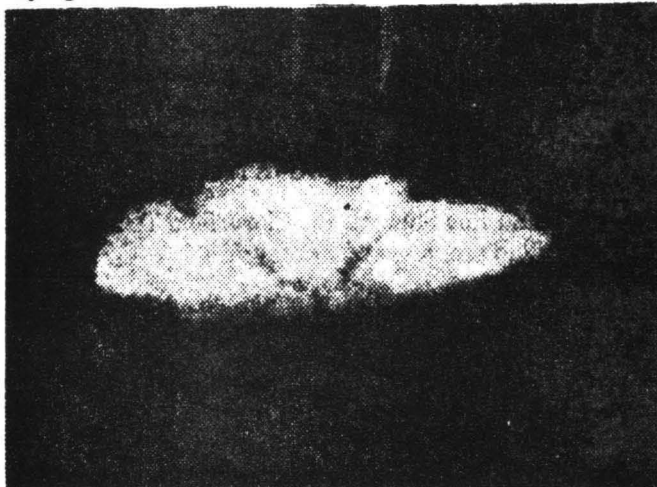
For whatever it's worth, I think he's telling the truth. He saw something, and he took a picture.

Steve feels a little insecure about the whole thing. He even wanted to know if I thought he was crazy.

I assured him that he seemed perfectly sane.

But regardless, even if he is sane and telling the truth, remember one thing:

That still doesn't make the thing in the picture a flying saucer.



Steve Molnar's Photo

DOES UFO LIKE YORK COUNTY?

DISPATCH, York, PA
April 3, 1978

Couple Reports Sighting In Strinestown Area

An unidentified flying object apparently has taken a liking to York County.

Several sightings of the craft have been reported since last Thursday night, and the latest known appearance reportedly occurred Sunday night near Strinestown.

Mrs. Norma Smith said she and her husband, Wayne, had just left the home of an uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Witmer, on the old Susquehanna Trail near Strinestown when the "big, round object" loomed up in front of their car.

It was about 100 feet above the ground, Mrs. Smith said, making a pulsating sound. There were three red lights at the back, she recalled.

Smith brought the car to a halt, and as he slammed it into reverse gear, the craft tilted toward them. A bright light from the top of the UFO beamed down on the car, Mrs. Smith recounted.

"We thought it was coming right at us," Mrs. Smith said.

Smith hurriedly backed the car into the Witmer property and he and his wife ran for the house. The Witmers came out of the house, Mrs. Smith said, in time to see the craft moving away in the direction of Strinestown.

Mrs. Smith recalled that the craft had wires, like antennae, projecting from the top, and there were small wheels on the underside. The noise got louder, she said, as it rose and moved off.

The Smiths, who live in Seven Valleys, say they plan to talk with other countians who reported seeing a similar craft recently.

MILD UFO FLAP IN YORK AREA?

Local Researcher Reports
Unusual Number of
Sightings

"I believe we're in a mild UFO flap."

Robert D. Barry was using a term of his trade to describe the recent flurry of sightings of unidentified flying objects in the York County area.

Barry, researcher-investigator for the 20th Century UFO Bureau, said at certain periods there are an unusual number of sightings of unknown craft, and this is one of them.

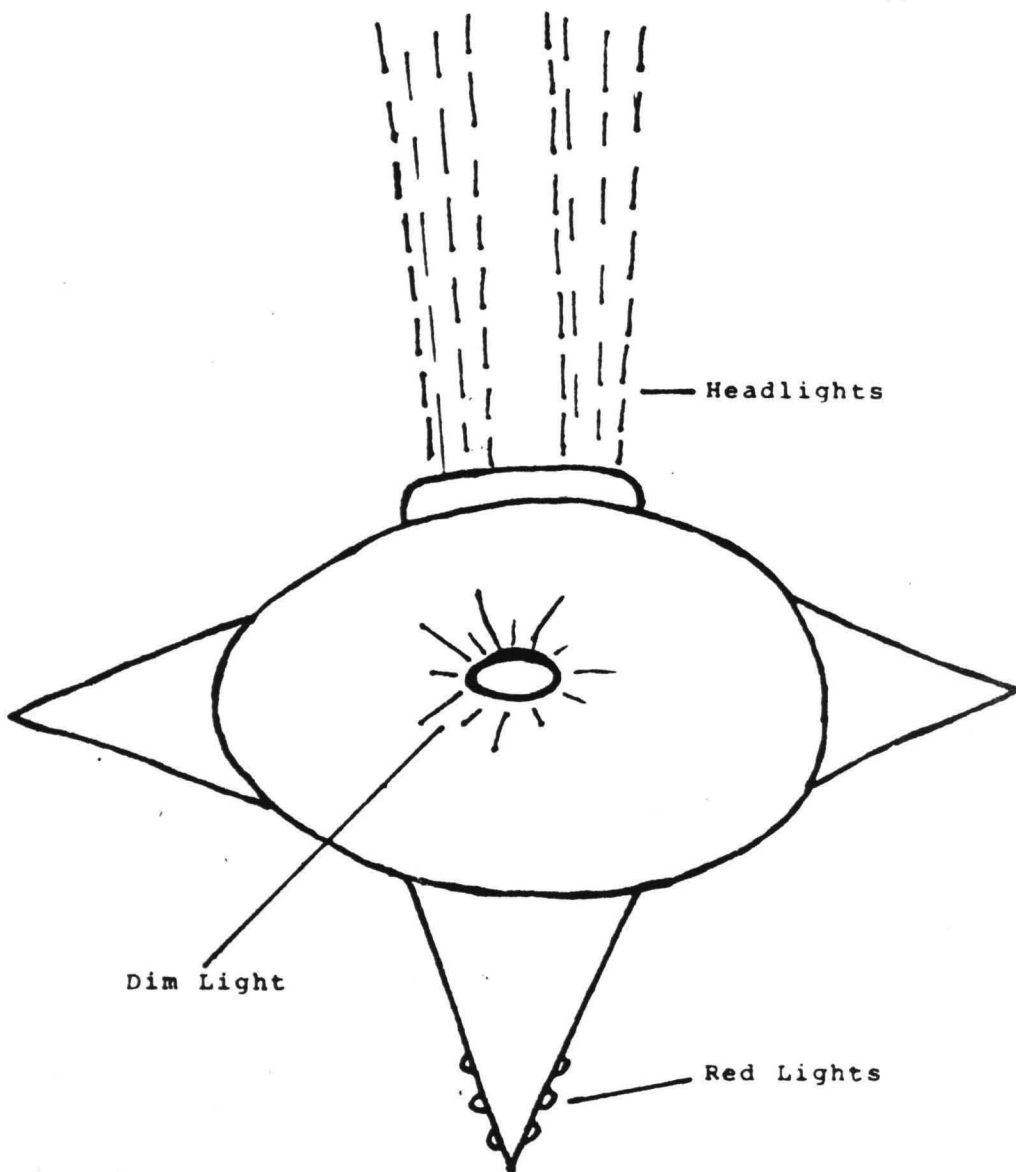
Barry was interviewing some of the 10 countians who reported seeing the airborne vehicle hovering over several spots around York County over the weekend.

The most detailed description of the craft, Barry said, was given by Robert S. Hake, Red Lion RD 1, who saw the vehicle at close range in the vicinity of the York County Shopping Center. Barry said he was especially interested in the incident because the UFO Hake described is a different design.

The round or oval shape is similar to other sightings but the winglike protrusions from the sides and the tail structure are something new in UFO reports he has received, Barry said.

He had Hake make a rough sketch of what the craft looked like from a top view. Hake was able to do this, he said, because the hovering vehicle tilted toward him several times as he watched from a parking lot just off East Market Street. This same tilting action was described by a Seven Valleys couple who spotted a craft near Strinestown.

Hake also told of two



A SAUCER "as big as a house," as sketched by Robert S. Hake after the craft tilted to afford an overhead view. (Story this page).

forward-shining lights on the leading edge of the ship, a dimmer light on top and three red lights on either side of the tail protrusion, Barry said. Additionally, there appeared to be a series of metal crossbars on the underside of the craft, he said.

The dimensions of the craft, Barry said, were estimated to be similar to those of a small or average size house. The sound it

made, he said, could be described as a combination of that made by a large fan, plus a whirring and humming.

Barry is convinced that many more persons saw the craft, but failed to report it. He noted that one county policeman admitted seeing it only after hearing another officer talk about it.

Many people never men-

tion seeing such things, Barry said, because of the possible ridicule to which they might be subjected. Oddly enough, he said, many sightings are made by people who previously were skeptics.

"I never believed in them before, but now I do," is a common statement by numerous UFO witnesses, Barry said.

DISPATCH, York, PA - April 4, 1978 CR: M. Hall

DAILY RECORD, York, PA — April 3, 1978

Three More Saw UFO

At least three other persons have verified the sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object said to have hovered over Greater York early Friday.

Three night-shift employees of Danskin Inc. — Keith Oberdick, David Golden and Terry Harris — confirm that they, too, saw a UFO Friday about 12:05 a.m. as they took a mid-night break at the downtown factory.

Oberdick said he called his co-workers outside to see the pair of bright lights first spotted in the vicinity of the sewage

treatment plant toward the north. The trio watched the lights, which Oberdick described as brilliant as flashbulbs, as they moved south toward Alexander D. Goode Elementary School and eventually to the East, presumably where the same lights were spotted five minutes later by Robert S. Hake as he left work at Campbell Chain Co.

Oberdick said the sighting only lasted about a minute before the lights moved out of sight. He said there was a humming noise associated with the lights, although at first the witnesses thought the sound emanated from a factory.

No craft could be seen in the night sky, Oberdick added. The path of the UFO could be followed only by the lights. The eye-witnesses said they had no doubt that the UFO was neither an airplane nor a helicopter since it moved too fast to be either.

Oberdick said he was pleased to learn of another account of the sighting by Hake and Red Lion Borough policeman James Tressler, as their experience helped to bear out what he and his co-workers saw but found hard to believe,

SV boys see possible UFO

Billy Pontbriand and Andy McVey, a pair of Simi Valley 13-year-olds got quite a shock early Friday evening as they rested from a strenuous Frisbee session at Hol-low Hills Elementary School.

"I looked up and saw this thing moving across the sky," Pontbriand said, adding that the object — whatever it was — was moving in a southwesterly direction.

"It was glowing; Andy said it had a tower and had a bright light on top of the tower," he noted, adding the object was visible for about seven seconds.

The object came over at exactly 7:35 p.m., the boys said, a time they were able to certify by looking at the clock in the school cafeteria.

The object wasn't a plane, Pontbriand said, because a jet had gone over shortly before they spotted the UFO; they were able to tell the difference in size and speed. "We thought we'd seen them before; this time was for sure," Pontbriand said.

ENTERPRISE SUN & NEWS, Simi Valley, CA - April 16, 1978

UFO sighting's no joke for two Dowagiac youths

By ERIC KINKOPF

DISPATCH, York, IA

April 5, 1978

UFO SIGHTINGS: MORE REPORTS

Two Countians Relate Encounters With Object

Two more York countians say they saw an unidentified flying object.

An East York resident, who prefers to remain anonymous, told the Dispatch he would not have volunteered the information that he saw the craft over York County Shopping Center if he had not read about the experience of Robert S. Hake.

"I saw the very same thing," the South Vernon Street resident said. It was about 12:30 a.m. Friday when his dog started barking, he said, and he went outside to see what the trouble was. He looked eastwardly, he said, and saw the craft described by Hake.

"I can tell you," he said, "it was not a helicopter or an aircraft."

As he watched the craft, he said, he could hear a hissing and humming sound.

Another countian, Gerald Young, told the Dispatch he saw an unusual grouping of lights in the sky Sunday night less than an hour before the strange craft loomed before the car of a Seven

Valleys couple near Strinestown.

Young said he and his family were driving to their home on Graffius Road, just off the Bull Road, when he saw the lights hovering overhead. He stopped the car and got out to get a better look.

"We have a lot of helicopters coming over this area," he said, "and that's what I thought it was." But there were too many lights for a helicopter, he said, and the usual flapping sound made by rotor blades was missing.

Young, a former pilot, said there was no rotating light like those used on airplanes, but there was a bright headlight and a number of red lights.

"Then I saw what appeared to be a wing structure," Young said, "and I just assumed it must be an airplane."

After reading about the craft with winglike protrusions near the East York shopping center, however, Young said he realized he probably had seen the same thing.

George Florian and Chuckie Smith swear that they weren't playing an April Fool's Day joke. They really believe that what they and two other youngsters saw in the sky over Dowagiac Saturday night at 9:12 p.m. really was an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO).

In fact, they were so sure of that, that they even called the Dowagiac Police Department and reported their "close encounter". But by the time the local police officials arrived, the UFO had disappeared.

Despite getting the feeling from DPD officials of disbelief in their story, George and Chuckie are sticking to their guns. And so are their buddies.

It was Chuckie Smith, 13, who was outside with George's younger brother Richard, 12, and another neighbor, Kevin Guntle, 10, who first saw the "object". According to Smith, the UFO was about 35 degrees above the horizon in the sky across the street from the Florian residence at 715 Alma in Dowagiac.

"At first there were two hazy lights in the sky that 'looked like two balls, and were larger than any of the stars', Chuckie Smith said.

According to Smith, the trio then went into the Florian residence and roused fifteen-year-old George Florian from his TV watching roost to come outside and see the "object".

The Union High student said that the "two balls of light came together one behind the other and made one, hazy ball of light".

Then, according to Florian and Smith, the ball would move in the sky from left to right, stop, fade out, fade in, and then move back from right to left. The elder of the group, Florian, said that that type evolution took approximately one minute. Both boys agreed that the object remained in view for about ten to 15 minutes.

The boys told the DPD officials that the object(s) made no sound, and that before the UFO disappeared from sight, it joined up with another object of the same size and luminous qualities.

The police suggested to the boys, according to Florian, that the lights be from some sort of antenna, or perhaps an aircraft circling in the area.

"We went outside the next day to check and see if any sort of antenna with a light on it was sticking up in the sky", said Chuckie Smith. "But we didn't see anything."

Florian said that he and his friends discounted the airplane theory because "we've seen aircraft lights before and those lights we saw were nothing like the lights on an airplane."

George Florian's mother was called outside by her son to see the "object", but refused.

"I didn't want that thing to get me", she said with a grin Monday afternoon.

"Before I saw this thing, I really didn't know if I believed in UFO's", Florian said, "But I do believe in what I see. And I think we saw a UFO. The police didn't believe us, Kevin's mother thought we were playing an April Fool's Day joke, and some people think we're crackin' up. But we aren't."

"It was up there alright. Whatever it was."

Saso debunks UFO sighting

MORGAN HILL - The Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) spotted by a family of four on the way to church on April 3 has been identified by another family as some type of flying craft with an automobile advertising message.

"It was all a publicity stunt," said Ken Saso who with his family saw the object the same evening while traveling on Blossom Hill Road going toward Highway 101.

Ken, his wife, Ann, and their children, Nino, 12, Marie, 9, and Tore, 3, all "gawked" at the object.

"At first we thought it was a UFO. We couldn't make out what it was. It was traveling toward the east and then it made a quick turn and returned west," Ken said.

All of the Saso family members thought they had spotted something "weird."

"We were getting ready for it to land and to see what happened when we noticed that the so-called windows had 'Datsun Saves,' Ken said.

The Sanford family, which first reported the UFO, described the flying object as a flying saucer with square windows and a space in between.

When Trisha Sanford, a Live Oak High School student, first spotted the UFO she thought it was a helicopter but closer examination proved otherwise.

Trisha's mother, Carol Sanford, who was driving on Highway 280 between Story Road and Race Street shortly after 7 p.m. when they observed the flying object. Also seeing the object were Harris and Suzy, the other Sanford children.

When Mrs. Sanford first reported the UFO she noted that she could not believe that others did not see it.

The Sanfords said the craft hovered over a section of San Jose and then slowly turned enabling them to clearly see window-like openings similar to what is observed when a passenger train passes by in the night.

The windows were the individual letters in "Datsun Saves," according to Ken Saso.

Rhonda Cease of MLA, an advertising agency for Downtown Datsun, said she knew nothing about a flying object advertising "Datsun Saves."

Another Datsun agency said the Northern California Datsun Dealers Association does advertise on a blimp with "Datsun Saves."

The agency salesman, who declined to identify himself, noted he did not see the advertisement on April 3. However, he added that other salesmen at the agency did see the blimp on its flight over San Jose.

DISPATCH, Gilroy, CA - April 14, 1978 (see Issue #106, page 7)

UFO reported by couple at Royal

By BENNIE IVORY

of the Sentinel-Record

ROYAL—Trudy and Vernon Vawter swear it was not a case of the nerves or a runaway imagination that sent them scurrying to the telephone to report what they believe was a UFO hovering over a mountain near their residence on Bear Road late Monday night.

"It was not imagination," Mrs. Vawter declared in an interview Tuesday morning. "My husband was in the bed sleep and I woke him up. I knew if I didn't wake him up, he wouldn't believe it."

Her husband agreed.

"I wouldn't have believed her," he said.

What the Vawters insist they saw was a bright orange, banana or crescent-shaped object traveling in a northwesterly direction over Brady Mountain. The couple reported the sighting to the Garland County Sheriff's Office early Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Vawter said she first observed the object when she heard their dog barking about 9 p.m. Monday.

"My dog barked an awful lot, and I looked out and first I saw a beam," she recalled. "And, I thought, 'my gosh, somebody must be way out in the mountain with a strong light.'"

She said the object ascended from the mountain and began moving from left to right.

"It looked like it was moving closer to us, then moved backward," Mrs. Vawter said. "It was traveling northwest toward Brady mountain. It was beautiful to look at."

Vernon Vawter, an artist, corroborated his

wife's account of the sighting and said he drew a sketch of the object.

"I drew how it looked from the living room," he said. "It looked first like a full moon. It appeared to be the crest of a moon."

He said they observed the object for about 30 minutes before it finally disappeared.

"The only thing I can say is it was some type of an object, an UFO," he said. "I know it could not have been a helicopter or an airplane. It was larger than a full moon and a little brighter."

Vawter said the object descended behind the mountain but even then they could see a bright glow.

He said a few minutes later he and his wife observed two or three stars ascend from behind the mountain.

"We saw stars and one was unusually bright," he said. "There were two or three of them and they disappeared."

Vawter recalled seeing a bright orange light once or twice a few years ago when the couple first moved to their present residence.

He said he believes the two experiences may be related.

"We had seen an orange light once or twice out here but never saw the source where it was coming from," said Vawter. "I would probably think it did (have something to do with Monday's sighting)."

"I know it's hard to believe somebody when they say they have seen something like this. I wouldn't have believed this if I hadn't seen it myself."

Eerie light reported

An eerie bright light, which emitted gray smoke and rays like the sun, is the latest unidentified flying object reported in the county.

The Times Improve reporter, Mrs. John McCain, said that five persons in her community spotted such an object Monday night about four miles south of Carson Springs Baptist Church. They observed it until it went down behind some trees and disappeared.

The object—whatever it was—was first seen behind the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen McKenzie. The McKenzies and her parents and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Thomas and Bryan, saw the bright light as the Thomases were leaving the McKenzie home.

"THE THOMASES continued to watch it as they drove along the road," Mrs. McCain said. She said that, at one point, Dan Thomas and his son, Bryan, got out of their car to get a better look at it.

"The light made no sound that they could hear, but it did emit a gray smoke," Mrs. McCain reported. She said they watched it until it disappeared behind a line of trees.

The sighting took place between eight and nine p.m. At the time, weather conditions were good—partly cloudy with a moon visible.

TWO SIMILAR sightings were reported in the same general area last year.

April 10th 9 to 9:30 P.M.

North West →



Last look at object

Circle like full moon
Dark Area Bright Orange
Light Area Silver.
No Stars seen until object left.
Object Rotated 1/2 disappeared behind
mountain (Big Bear). An Orange
glow appeared behind mountain
for 2 or 3 minutes & got dimmer.
Then 3 or 4 stars were seen,
One very bright and recorded
upward very fast until out of
sight.

Sketches by Vernon Vawter—Special to The Sentinel-Record

Sketches of what Mr. Vawter believes UFO looks like.

DISPATCH, St. Paul, MN

April 29, 1978

UFOs spotted over West Side

A group of unidentified flying objects was spotted from the West Side Friday by several citizens and three police officers.

One officer said a formation of 13 small, "black, round objects" was seen from East George Street and Livingston Avenue about 3:20 p.m.

The officer said he viewed the objects with the naked eye and with binoculars until they disappeared after about five minutes.

The objects definitely were not birds or helicopters, he said, and they made no sound.

It was not known whether there were any military flights in the area. A member of a St. Paul ballooning family, Denise Wiederkehr, said she knew of no balloon events in the area Friday.

Youngsters Say 'Really Spooky' Object Flying Saucer

By LYN BIXBY
Staff Writer

ENFIELD — Six youngsters who say they saw a large, "really spooky" object hovering low over the Green Manorville section Thursday night believe it was a flying saucer.

A woman who lives there and who asked not to be identified says she saw it, too, and is having second thoughts about what she had believed earlier was an airplane.

She says she was drawn from her house by the youngsters' screams, immediately

CR: B. Greenwood

dismissed the object as a plane, and went back inside.

But questioned about the incident Friday, she began to wonder.

Recalling what happened, she said the object appeared to be an airplane, but a very large one, like a 707 or a 747. She estimated it was flying less than 100 feet off the ground.

Asked what kind of sound it made, she hesitated, thinking for a moment, and then said she didn't remember a sound.

"Maybe it was something," she said. "I should have paid more attention."

The woman agreed with the youngsters that the object had red, white and yellow lights.

An air traffic controller at Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks, said Friday that airplanes do not have yellow lights. Sometimes white lights can appear to be yellow in haze, he suggested. But the woman and the children, who are between 11 and 13 years old, say they saw white and yellow lights.

One of the youngsters said the object passed overhead when the woman left her house. When she went back inside, he said,

the object returned and hovered a few feet above a power line.

He said the object, square on the top and round on the bottom, was flashing its lights and making a buzzing sound and, at one point, extended three or four metal legs from its underside.

The boy said he hit the object with a rock, which made a "ping" sound on impact.

The youngsters said their bodies felt "weird, like something was going through us," while the object hovered overhead. They compared the feeling to someone's foot falling asleep.

After the object remained overhead for an estimated 10 minutes, they said, it sped straight upward and appeared to be on a collision course with a small airplane flying overhead.

They reported the incident to local police who asked state police, stationed at Troop W. at Bradley International Airport, to check the report.

Lt. Doris Hughes, who heads Troop W, said Friday that no pilots reported near collisions with any objects Thursday night and that nothing unusual was spotted on radar screens.

The sighting of the unidentified flying object was the second this week. On Monday morning motorists driving south on Interstate 91 reported seeing an object flying north from Hartford.

Hartford police received more than 50 reports of a round or oval object with prongs extending from its ends. The most likely explanation, according to Windsor police, was that a string caught in trees above the highway was reflecting sunlight. But, police said, they were not definitely saying that was the explanation.

The youngsters who saw the object over Enfield Thursday night mentioned one other thing. At one point, they said, it dropped what appeared to be a glowing fireball from its underside.

When the glowing object hit the ground, it disappeared and may have landed in a field east of the Green Manorville area, they said.

But as of Friday afternoon, the kids hadn't gone out to look for it. They said they were a little scared and that nobody believed them. Maybe they'd take a look this weekend, they said.

Enfield police are continuing to investigate.

COON RAPIDS HERALD, Anoka, MN - April 21, 1978

Sighting of UFO reported

An unidentified flying object (UFO) was reportedly sighted by a Coon Rapids woman in the early evening of April 10.

Bessie Wilson told Coon Rapids police she saw the UFO between 7:30 and 7:40 p.m. April 10 on Highway 10 between Foley Boulevard and Hanson Boulevard.

She said it had blinking lights on the bottom and looked like a large air balloon laying on its side.

The woman told police it hovered close to the ground like a helicopter would, with red and green lights in front. The UFO was slow moving and very visible, she said.

JOURNAL, River Falls, WI

May 11, 1978

A squad car in the Somerset area called the St. Croix county dispatcher May 2 at 10:34 p.m. saying that he was watching what looked like UFO's over Somerset, which he said, were going in circles, stopping, moving very fast. Did not appear to be helicopters he noted.

Two minutes later the squad car reported them to be out of sight after moving toward Stillwater. Beyond that, no more reports on that group of so called UFO's.

CR: R. Heiden

Family Spots UFO In Area

BY JOHN WISLOCKI
American Staff Writer

In the early morning hours Tuesday Harold Pyle, Somerset RD 1, was awakened by a flash of light that started him and his son, Jeffery, on a ten-mile chase to the base of the Laurel Mountains.

"I didn't know if the noise or the flash of light woke me up," said Pyle "but the light moved over the top of my trailer."

The Pyle trailer is situated on the Water Level Road, back of Brown's Exxon Station.

"It was over the tree tops, about 60-70 feet off the ground," noted Pyle "It sort of stayed hovering like that. It was a real bright orange when I went out of the trailer to look at it."

"I heard him go out to the car," said Adele, his wife, "I looked out the window and it looked like a big oval-shaped orange light. It was flashing. It isn't something you'll forget. You remember it for a long time."

Harold Pyle came back into his trailer, got his car keys, and woke up Jeffery. For some reason, according to Pyle, he had difficulty getting the key into the door. The craft remained near the trailer until Harold Pyle and Jeffery attempted to get a closer look.

"The closer we got to it, the bigger it got," said Pyle, "I shot across the Chickentown Road, then onto Route 281. The object was moving into the hills. I drove past Weiner's farm towards Bakersville. It was still above the hills. When I got down the next hill, it disappeared. I lost track of it."

"I wasn't scared or anything like that," said Jeffery "I haven't seen anything like that before. It was weird."

Both Harold and Jeffery described the flight of the object as straight with no abrupt movements. The object disappeared from view, according to Jeffery, between the hamlets of Kingwood and Bakersville.

Neighbors of the Pyles talked about the strange early morning light later Tuesday.

Jeffery waited for the school bus yesterday and remembered the half-hour pursuit not yet able to shake what he called "that tingly feeling." "A little kid came up to me," said Jeffery, "and told me about the orange thing in the sky this morning."

The Pyles are awaiting word from officials at a U.S. Air Force Base in Ohio, who wish to see the area where the object disappeared.

FILESPACE FIDDLINGS

The Brazilian "lorry driver" abduction case (Nov. '77 issue, p. 13) has not been proven a hoax, as we reported in the April issue. See Coral Lorenzen's article in July FATE for details. Our apologies for the error.

They Saw Something: A UFO?

Janet Laming never thought too much about unidentified flying objects (UFO's), but Monday night she and a friend had what they believe was a close encounter of the first kind.

Mrs. Laming, 24, of Monroe, married and the mother of three children, and a friend from Ypsilanti, Denise Allen, 21, were riding in their car north on Exeter toward Carleton when she noticed "what we thought was a street light."

As they approached the light, though, it became apparent it was not a street lamp.

"I don't know what it was," Mrs. Laming said. "It was just sitting there. It was too low to be an airplane."

The women stopped their car and examined the object, which she said was hovering silently above the tree tops.

"Denise got out of the car, but I wouldn't," Mrs. Laming said.

She described the object as "boomerang in shape, with holes underneath. There were three bright lights in front and a red and a green light in the rear."

"After a few moments, the object flew toward Carleton and the women lost sight of it."

"We turned around and drove toward Monroe for gas," Mrs. Laming said. "At Telegraph Rd. north of Stewart Rd. we saw it again."

Mrs. Laming and Mrs. Allen were not the only ones who saw something in the sky Monday night.

Sheriff's deputies were called to Blue Bush Rd. near Stadler Rd. by several citizens who reported seeing something in the sky.

The Northern Lights were exceptionally bright, reported two deputies who went out to look, and it appeared that the lights were coming from the sky.

Looking north, the deputies said the Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant cooling tower lights appeared to be much nearer than they actually were because the night was so clear.

Mrs. Laming said what she saw was not lights on the cooling towers nor the Northern Lights.

But she stops short of saying it was a UFO from outer space.

It might have been an aircraft on military training, she speculated. She said she knows it was not an airplane or helicopter because she watches them fly into Detroit Metropolitan Airport all the time.

"I saw something," she said, "but I don't know what."

Members of a Dumfries family now appear not to be the only ones who saw a strange flying object in the sky a week ago Saturday.

Lydia Thomas of Lake Ridge said she had just seen her daughter off for Florida and was standing in front of her house on Collier Drive at 4:45 a.m. that day when she saw an extremely bright "gigantic spotlight."

She said it was hovering above a house over a hill on Martin Court nearby.

She said she thought at first it must be a helicopter, but it was not making a sound.

It was moving slowly at an altitude flown by most of the airplanes which fly over from Woodbridge Airport, she said.

It kept an easy and even path as it made its way toward the Lake Ridge Shopping Center, she said, and turned and moved back until it was on the other side of Collier Drive from where she was standing.

Then, she said, it flared up and it appeared that a piece of it had broken off and flew off on its own, leaving a trail.

After it flared up, she said, she expected to see smoke or hear sirens or something, but nothing happened.

Mrs. Thomas said she went back in the house and went to sleep. When she awakened, she said, she told her daughter about what she had seen and her daughter suggested that she call the Goddard Space Center.

She said she mentioned to her daughter that it might be a Russian satellite or something.

"My mind didn't even stretch that far to think that it might be a UFO. I'm usually the adventurous type. I should have waved or something," she said, laughing.

Mrs. Thomas said she did call the space center at about 11 a.m. and the attendant asked her if she would mind having her story taped. She said she told the whole thing just as she remembered it, and the attendant said he would call her if they heard about any other experiences similar to hers.

"I didn't tell anybody besides my family about it until I read about the Redder family in Monday's Potomac News," she said.

"I thought people might think I was ready for St. Elizabeth's," she said.

Geneva Redder, 28, said she, her brother, Jerry Bartley, 17, and her son, Brent, 7, were working in the Bartleys' yard on U.S. 1 across from the Stagecoach Inn at about 7:15 p.m. Saturday.

Mrs. Redder said she first noticed a red light blinking above a star. Later, she saw three red lights above the Little Dipper constellation and the one bright light.

Then, all of a sudden, from the direction of Manassas, something flat and round with two lights on either side and a bright light on the front came from over the trees and flew right over the house without making a sound, she said.

It flew toward Quantico and then ascended "extremely fast" in the direction of the Little Dipper.

Mrs. Thomas speculated Monday that if there really was such a thing as a UFO from outer space what she had seen may have been the "mother ship" and when she saw the flare-up a smaller plane could have been launched.

She said Mrs. Redder may have seen the "mother ship" above the Little Dipper and the smaller lights may have been on the craft that had been launched.

"It's fun to think about all the possibilities anyway," she said. She said the object she saw "did not have lights on it. It glowed as the said object, like a moon."

Another UFO sighting reported

POTOMAC NEWS, Dumfries, VA - April 18, 1978

Monroe residents report seeing UFO

A "vertical, banana-shaped" unidentified flying object was spotted by several rural Monroe residents Tuesday night.

The residents, who live about two miles northwest of Monroe on Wis. 81, said teenagers riding in an auto first noticed the UFO.

They hurried home to tell their parents, who also observed the object. The father of one teen said the UFO appeared to remain in one position in the northwestern sky for at least 10 minutes, then moved on and finally disappeared.

He said the UFO was "a funny-looking light, like a bright star, with red vertical

lights and fingerlike green rays coming off the top."

He reported the sighting to the Green County sheriff's office and to the UFO Midwest Research Center at Appleton. Deputies also sighted the object, but reportedly believed it was a "regular" aircraft.

"I don't believe in UFO's," said a Monroe businessman who made the report to the agencies. "I just reported what I saw."

In his comments to the Evening Times, the man requested that his name not be made public, warning reporter Judy Witt that if she did, he would "have the little green men pick her up, too, when they come after me."

moved up and down for awhile, then took off, leaving a cloud of fog settling over the apartment house.

Lt. Don Pinkney of the police said the sighting was reported to the UFO Center at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. He had no immediate explanation of the UFO, except to say the northern lights were bright that night.

Man Reports Sighting UFO

May 6, 1978

GERING — The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's office received a report Thursday night from a man who said he had seen a UFO.

At 11:34 p.m. an unidentified male caller said he observed "a very bright light" between Mitchell and Scottsbluff, about three miles off the road. He said the object was "flying in a zigzag pattern."

He said the object stopped in midair for a moment then took off vertically at a high rate of speed.

The sighting was reported to Fort Warren Air Force Base at Cheyenne.

No one else reported seeing the object.

UFO reported over Moorhead

An unidentified flying object was spotted hovering over a south Moorhead apartment building early Tuesday, according to a Moorhead police report.

Carol Sannes, 2409 4th Ave. S., told police she and three others saw the UFO about 2 a.m. She described it as a huge object with flashing lights. It reportedly

Councilman: UFO wasn't helicopters

By JIM NAGEL
Staff Writer

"I call what I saw 'unexplained.'"

That's what Fritz Werdouschegg, a New Brighton councilman, says to the explanation that recent sightings of unidentified flying objects in the St. Paul area were helicopters flying in formation.



Nagel "I don't know what it was I saw," said Werdouschegg, "but I do know what it wasn't — helicopters."

The councilman spotted an object in the sky over New Brighton or Shoreview between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. March 22, the same evening numerous other east St. Paul and suburban residents reported sighting a UFO about two hours later.

"WHAT PEOPLE saw later might have been helicopters," Werdouschegg said. "But there is no way what I saw could be copters."

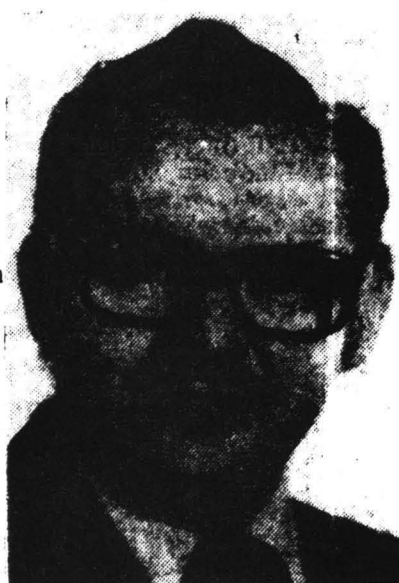
He said he has flown as a passenger nearly a half million miles in connection with his business as a chemical engineer in the paper industry. In a single year he has traveled as much as 70,000 or 80,000 miles by air. He claims he knows all types of aircraft when he sees them, night or day.

Werdouschegg said he observed the object between his New Brighton home and the Twin Cities Arsenal in Arden Hills for six or seven minutes.

It was a mile to a mile-and-a-half away at first and he tried to follow it in his car, he said.

"I EVEN STOPPED the car once and got out to make sure it wasn't a reflection.

"It had 14 or 16 yellow lights, about equal distance on either side of a center red light. They were very bright but there was no glare to them.



Fritz Werdouschegg

"The red light would dim and then get brighter, but it never went out completely."

Werdouschegg said he followed the object north on Long Lake Road as it moved over Irondale High School.

Gradually, he said, the UFO got farther and farther away and he lost it when it went below the horizon. He estimated the distance, however, by using triangulation, and figured it must have passed over the Anoka County Airport in Blaine.

THE OBJECT, whatever it was, made no noise, Werdouschegg said. It moved too slowly for a jet, he said, and there was no way the lights could resemble windows in any plane he's ever seen.

To the question, "Do you believe in intelligent beings from outside earth?" he responded: "I would ask, 'Do you believe there are not?' We are just one infinitesimal planet in the universe. What do I know? I haven't been there."

Werdouschegg said he tried to contact Brad Ayers, a UFO investigator who came to the Twin Cities after the March 22 sightings.

"I wanted to set him straight," Werdouschegg said. "But he never returned my call."

Another UFO Sighting Reported

ROCKWOOD — A gigantic gray machine with a scroled tail like a Viking ship made only a hissing sound as it flew past a Rockwood woman's home at 11:45 Wednesday night and into the sky, according to the woman's report this morning.

Marie Schmidt of 20950 Woodruff Rd., Rockwood, said she'd never seen anything like it before, although she'd hoped she would.

"If the window was open I believe I could have touched it," she said this morning.

Mrs. Schmidt said the thing had to be from another planet. "What other thing would fly so close to the ground and be so big," she said.

She said she had had dinner with friends (her husband is deceased) and was home by 10 p.m. She said she only had one beer that night and was watching the Miss USA Pageant on television when she saw the ship outside her window.

"Neither dog barked or noticed it and they notice everything," she said.

Mrs. Schmidt said the ship was lighted only on the bottom with many individual lights and a large flood light across the back. She said she only saw the side at first because it was so large that it filled her picture window.

"The top was gray metal," she said. And "when the light (her outdoor flood light)

would hit it, it would glow," she said.

She said it was close to the ground "and almost brushed the building, it was so close."

She said it was moving toward Carleton to the west, so she ran to her west window. By the time she got there she said it was over the tree tops.

"The outline of the ship as it left looked like a big whale," she said.

Besides the curled tail portion and the flood lights on the bottom, she said the only other feature she noticed was a door.

Mrs. Schmidt said the door was rectangular and had a large knob on each corner bigger than one of our door knobs.

This morning Mrs. Schmidt theorized that it had landed in a field nearby and was on a take off, although it moved very slowly past her house. She lives in an attached unit at her business, the Mirror Lite Co. which makes truck and bus mirrors.

Asked if she's ever seen such a thing before, she said "Never, and I don't want to see it again."

She said she's never been to the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," the most recent flying saucer movie, but she does watch "Project UFO" on television.

Unlike the experiences described on television she said there was no wind blowing "and no bright red lights."

UFO sighted on Hi-way 13 near Ralph White Lake

Although Moffat County is hardly the place for extra-terrestrial sightings, a UFO sighting was reported here Tuesday night.

At about 11:30 p.m. Tuesday night Steve Bourdette a jailer at the Moffat County Sheriff's Department received a call from a Mr. James Wehunt from 1618 Yampa Avenue, who sighted the UFO. He offered to take someone out to the scene of the sighting.

Two deputies, Wes Hodges and Bruce Johnson, went with Wehunt and his son, and sure

enough they all spotted a large bright round object that changed colors in the sky. They spotted it approximately 750 ft. high. The report said that the object disappeared over the hill in a vapor type mist.

Wehunt said he hadn't seen anything like it before and the deputies agreed. The object, according to the report disappeared and reappeared in the sky several times. It was very bright and changed colors from orange to yellow, purplish and pinkish.

'Unidentified flying object' triggers calls

Four callers spotted a low-flying unidentified flying object hovering over Redwood City last night, police reported today.

CR: W. Thompson

The callers telephoned just after 10 p.m. to report the saucer-shaped craft which they said was moving slowly northbound over the city.

The UFO had a red light on top, blinking lights around the perimeter.

Bucks men report UFO 'encounter'

By ROBERT JOFFEE
Staff Writer

A UFO sighting reported yesterday by a prominent Bucks County businessman is being investigated by an independent research group recommended by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Automobile dealer Gene H. Epstein said he is not a UFO buff. "I fell asleep during 'Close Encounters,'" he said. "It bored me."

Ironically, the experience Epstein describes resembles some of the opening scenes in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," a recent film by Steven Spielberg.

Epstein said he and a friend, accountant John E. Karpac, were driving along Route 532 near Washington Crossing late Wednesday night when they stopped the car to observe a configuration of four extremely bright, white lights that appeared to hover a couple thousand feet overhead.

When they got out of the car to take a closer look, he said, the lights began to move, accelerating "from a hundred miles an hour to infinity in a couple of seconds" and disappearing over the horizon.

A SPOKESMAN for the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) said Epstein

seemed to be a "reliable witness" and that NICAP would look into his report. Epstein said a NICAP investigator is scheduled to meet with him Thursday.

NICAP, a nonprofit research group based in Kensington, Md., is "probably the only respectable organization" investigating reports of unidentified flying objects, said Don Zylstra, a spokesman for NASA. He said the federal space agency has been referring UFO sightings to NICAP ever since the late 1960s, when the Air Force stopped its own investigations of the sightings.

Epstein said he and Karpac were returning home from a business meeting in North Jersey when they spotted the lights.

"They got a better view when they stopped the car and got out, he said. There were four lights that seemed like headlights on a dark object that was silhouetted against the sky, he said.

"THERE WERE two large pontoon-shaped things attached to it," he continued. "There was a red light underneath and a group of eight or ten lights that were less bright at the rear."

Epstein said he grabbed a loaded camera from the back seat but couldn't get it to work. "When I pressed the shutter button, the aperture

opened wide — but it wouldn't close until that thing was out of sight."

Karpac, perhaps less awed by the experience than Epstein, said the lights could have been from an airplane, "but not like any plane I ever saw."

Karpac compared the lights to the floodlights seen on towers above baseball fields, but added, "They didn't illuminate anything."

The lights may not have been accelerating, the accountant said. "If they were coming toward us and then moving away, they could have seemed to be accelerating while their speed was constant," he said.

KARPAC SAID he saw the red light and pontoon-like shapes described by Epstein, but not the smaller lights at the rear of the object.

When the two men finally resumed their trip home, it was midnight, Epstein said.

Epstein said Jerry Marchetti, who flies an advertising plane with a grid of 315 lights out of Mercer County Airport, was not flying the plane Wednesday night.

Epstein, 39, lives on a horse farm outside Newtown. He is proprietor of a used-car sales firm headquartered in Bordentown, and is a former owner of Gene Roberts Buick. He is a member of the Bucks County Sani-

tation Commission and of the advisory board for Bucks County Technical-Vocational Schools. Karpac, 29, a Yardley resident, is a certified public accountant in Morrisville.

TIMES, Trenton, NJ - April 29, 1978

Cat 'Crazy' As UFO Is Sighted

An Estral Beach woman, like numerous other Monroe County residents, saw something in the sky Monday night that she couldn't explain.

Unlike some others, though, she kept quiet about the UFO sighting. But when she saw the same thing again this morning, she thought she had better say something.

Mrs. Mavis McBride, 47, said her husband had gone to work this morning at 5:10. Ten minutes later her cat,

which was outside, "started acting crazy again." Just before the UFO sighting Monday her cat "had tried to claw the door down."

Outside this morning, she saw the same UFO hovering silently in the dark sky.

The UFO was long, maybe a couple of car lengths, she said. "There were two big bright lights on it, and a 3-foot diameter reddish-orange light underneath," she said.

"It lingered in the air about three minutes, then disappeared real fast towards Monroe."

Mrs. McBride stops short of saying it was a spaceship from another planet, but she does believe "there must be something out there we don't know about."

It could have been an experimental aircraft, she said. But it was no ordinary plane.

NEWS, Eden Prairie, MN - May 4, 1978

UFO was 'brightest thing I'd ever seen'

A strange flying craft was performing a maneuver similar to a yo-yo one night last week in the vicinity of Edendale Golf Course, says an Eden Prairie resident.

Sally Stoddart says that she was driving home, northward along Baker Rd. at 11 p.m. last Wednesday, with her husband, John, following her in another car.

That's when they saw it, Mrs. Stoddart recalls: an object that was passing over I-494 to their right at a height of about 200 feet.

"It was the brightest thing I'd ever seen," she said. "I thought a street lamp was falling over."

Also, she said, it sounded like a helicopter. But she was sure it was not a helicopter.

Mrs. Stoddart described the object as being triangular with a row of about 12 red lights going down the center, and two bright beams of light coming down from the sides.

Another car with five male occupants was ahead of them. After the craft went over, the three cars stopped and everyone got out to get a better look.

In the area of the golf course, it started bobbing up and down—to the ground and up to a height of about 100 feet—before continuing west. She said the five males jumped back into their car to chase the object.

Eden Prairie Police have received no other reports on Unidentified Flying Objects. Control towers at Flying Cloud Field and Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airports also said they had no reports.

"We were stunned," Mrs. Stoddart said. "Our knees were shaking. It definitely was something weird."

DAILY GLOBE, Ironwood, MI - May 2, 1978

Claim UFO Sighted in This Area

BRUCE CROSSING — The Ontonagon County Sheriff's Department was called early today to investigate an unidentified flying object reported in the Bruce Crossing area.

The department received the call from the Wakefield State Police Post at 11:15 a.m., saying Gail Brady, Bruce Crossing, had reported she had been followed by a UFO. Police went to the scene and deputy Tim Streeter reported, "there was definitely something up there."

Brady told officers she had been followed by the low-flying, blinking lights for five miles in the U.S. and Two-Mile Rd. area of Bruce Crossing and went to a nearby home to report it.

Streeter said the object appeared to be cylindrical in shape and flew low in a two-mile radius. The department contacted K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, near Marquette, to ask if it had any aircraft in the area, but received no reply.

The Negaunee Post of the Michigan State Police suggested that possibly the strong northern lights were creating the vision.

Streeter told fellow officers, "I don't know what it is, but it sure was something up there."

The Ontonagon County Sheriff's Department will contact the airbase again today to request information, a department spokesman said.

UFO being warns doc of nuclear disaster

S.A. newsman to air tapes



MICHAEL PACKER
... interviewed Diaz

after reading a story in last April 17 edition of The News.

The newspaper story revealed a select committee of the United Nations was investigating the doctor's report; however, his name was being refused for publication.

Packer's exclusive.

one-hour copyrighted interview with the physician will be broadcast at 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on WOAI Radio.

Here is some of the excerpted information taken from that tape recording.

Diaz said he found the being in his waiting room, who immediately asked to be given a physical examination.

When the doctor asked if the man was suffering from any disease, he only insisted on the examination. Diaz complied and was shocked at what he learned.

The being told him he wanted the examination only to prove he was "from another world," which the visitor would only say was somewhere "beyond your sun."

The being said he wanted Diaz to listen closely to his message.

Diaz was told instead of nuclear energy, earthlings should be utilizing "what you call electricity" that is all around us. The man said this power could easily provide all the energy needed on this planet and was the source of power for interplanetary space ships used by the visitor and his other beings.

"Static electricity" was said to be the basis for this power.

He said earthlings were abusing their energy sources and especially warned of the growing use of nuclear power.

The visitor told Diaz beings from his planet have been visiting Earth for over 2,000 years, each time repeating the message. But now, these warnings have even more meaning because the end of the world is near.

Diaz said he has been a

Roman Catholic all his life but had never fully understood the meaning of "The Holy Trinity" until it was explained by the visitor.

Physics

He gave the doctor "the most beautiful description of man's relation to his creator that I have ever heard."

"He told me the source of power in all living things comes from the creator. It's electricity — static electricity," he said.

The physician, who admitted he had never fully studied such subjects as physics, was given very detailed and graphic information about various technical subjects.

The being told the doctor there are 12 planets in our solar system, not nine as we know it.

He said electricity is composed of "over 15" sub-atomic particles, while until recently we knew of only three.

He said beings from his

planet are now living on Earth along with us, trying to turn us from our destructive ways.

The visitor told Diaz direct contacts have been repeatedly made with our government leaders, that they are fully aware of many other personal visits and warnings, but are withholding this information from the public.

And, the being told Diaz, he would return to see the doctor again and pass along other information.

Diaz said at first he told only his family and close friends of the visit because he feared people would call him crazy.

However, a woman visiting Guadalajara connected to a California UFO investigating group learned of the doctor's encounter and contacted him.

"I was shocked to learn many, many other people have also been contacted and have been given exactly the same message," he said.

CR: B. Greenwood

Vermonters Report Two Close Encounters Of The First Kind

WEST ARLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — A group of Vermonters say they are watching the night sky for signs of silent, multi-colored lights that they say have hovered over the town twice in two weeks. Residents say a triangular configuration of lights hovered and moved in the night sky for more than three hours April 26.

A week later — on May 3 — some of the same people returned for what they said was a repeat performance.

Peter Johnson of Arlington, who viewed the performance through a rifle scope, said he saw a "a triangular object with bright lights at the top and a hue of pastel colors coming down from it."

Johnson said the object was "about the

size of a silo. It gave me shivers right down my spine when I saw it."

Johnson and Mrs. Sandy Wright, also of West Arlington, said they reported the sightings to airports, the U.S. Air Force, and the Vermont State Police. They said they have received no explanation. Wright said she was sitting in her living room one April evening when a red blinking light caught her eye.

"It was over the treetops and I thought it was a plane at first until I realized that if it was a plane, it was so low it might crash," she said. "Then I thought it might be a helicopter and went outside to look."

She said she expected to hear the whir of a helicopter. Instead, she said, "there was absolutely no sound. Then the light

changed from red to a steady blue-white and began ascending."

Wright said she called Johnson, who grabbed his rifle scope and ran outside. Watching it for awhile, he said, he saw it turn quickly, as if on a pivot. He estimated it was located 10 miles due north, but could not estimate the elevation.

Both Johnson and Wright said they were reluctant to talk publicly about the sighting.

"At first I told several people, but then I stopped telling anyone because of their response," Johnson said. "You kind of get strange vibes, if you know what I mean."

But both said they would continue watching the skies over West Arlington to see if the incident recurs.

MONITOR, Concord, NH - May 11, 1978

Another belated UFO sighting told to J-T

The Journal-Tribune has heard from another person who has seen an unidentified flying object. Like the first woman we heard from, this man is completely reliable, and like the woman, a longtime citizen.

His sighting was in May of 1967, and he hasn't talked about it since. Immediately after viewing it, he went into his house and made the accompanying sketch.

He reported the incident like this:

He was returning to his home in the southeast section of the city about 9 p.m. and was just after dark. He was by himself. Upon alighting from his car he looked into the eastern sky at what he believed was a big star.

But, all of a sudden it started a rapid descent and stopped abruptly at what he believed to be no more than 500 feet above the ground. He thinks it was several miles away to the east.

The upper, circular portion of the vehicle, appeared to be silver or light gray in the late evening sky. He said it was longer than a football field as he viewed it from the side.

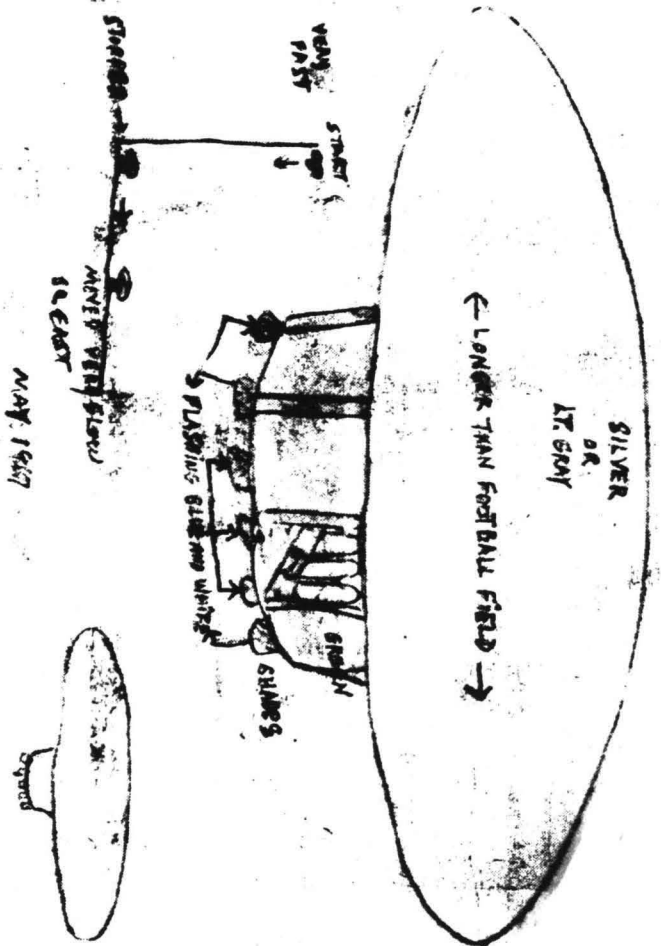
There appeared to be several protrusions underneath what he believed to be an observation gondola, which showed blue and white flashing lights. He believes that these were propulsion engines or mechanisms, probably electronic, because he heard no noise as the vehicle moved away slowly to the southeast toward Ponca City.

He said that one portion of the gondola appeared to be open, or behind transparent material of some type. Behind this transparency appeared to be a room, lighted and perhaps filled with a light green-colored gas. He saw no fixtures or life inside the vehicle in this enclosure. He said he was astounded at what he knows he saw, and didn't talk about it. However, after that time he was interested and always watched the heavens when outside.

He said that since that time about 11 years ago, he believes he has seen two other UFOs. None of the three were the same type, except that he heard no noise associated with any of them.

The J-T borrowed his drawing to make the halftone negative for this reproduction.

Drawing of what HE saw in May of 1967



Webb's PROJECT UFO on TV on Sunday evenings...dramatization of incidents from Blue Book.

What we saw last night honestly happened. It was real. They were huge. There were at least 7 of them. They were there in plain sight and we saw them. We can ardently wish that some of you had seen them also as added confirmation.

After this unsolicited excitement sleep was long in coming.

Objects unidentifiable, completely unearthly, obviously guided by some grade A intelligence, source unknown, destination unknown, purpose unknown are using our skies nearby and have been and are being seen by thousands of ordinary people. The unknown is unnerving, disturbing, turbing.

We all see the stars. No one doubts that they are there to be seen nor is it required that we prove their existence. No one suggests that we must hold pieces of them in our hands to prove what we see. To see stars is enough. We know they are there. One's sanity is not questioned.

The more we study, the more we learn, the more we know we don't know. It is imperative that we watch, observe, speculate, add to our knowledge by every reasonable means; try to remain calm, reasonable, minds open.

And WAIT. - Lisa.

Have You Ever Stopped to Think About -

MEANINGFUL HAPPENINGS

Lisa Breckenridge

Are you of the impression that nothing meaningful occurs in our normally peaceful area short of the recent, "Marshallgate" events?

We can conclude only that there must be sufficient potential riches or resources in Searcy County to warrant some risk toward more money and power.

Most of you likely slept through the New Happening, or were preparing for bed.

This is a meaningful happening because it is full of meaning although we do not as yet understand the purpose or reason. We do know there is one.

I will tell you what was written on my yellow pad only last night. The date was April 24, 1978. The time was 10:25 to 10:28 p.m. Weather clear and cool with a full moon. Temperature 56 degrees. Wind velocity 6 mph. Visibility excellent.

Standing in the front yard with Carroll and the dogs, I was relating to Carroll the contents

of a late article in the National Enquirer about the gigantic UFO witnessed Dec. 15, 1977, area of Berryville and Eureka Springs. Witnesses included the Carroll County Sheriff, a police officer, two radio announcers, an experienced pilot and biologist, a retired nuclear chemist, along with some 25 or 30 other local residents. It was a fascinating account of a huge, slow moving, well documented UFO.

All at once, Carroll grabbed my arm, spun me about facing south, exclaiming, "Look fast, Lisa....I just counted 7 UFO's here and now!!!"

Knock me over with a feather! I spotted them at once.... counting 6. (NO. 7 had already passed behind the west trees.) These were evenly spaced, single file formation, identical, moving on a straight line at Horizon 23 degrees, speed extremely fast, no sound could be heard. Any plane at this distance would have been plainly heard.

Gasping in astonishment, starting to get my startled wits together, wanting a closer look through binoculars, I dashed into the house, out again at a run, out the side gate into the road managing to get only the

last two in focus. The rest had already zoomed behind the barrier of trees.

These were a pale self-luminous yellow in color, a vivid red glow pulsating on and off at the rear of each one. The shape was a long oval. They were utterly, unbelievably huge in size; far larger than any plane.

We had no idea if they had come up from south, right angled to the west as we had observed previous ones doing...or if they had come straight on from the east. Too, we had no idea if there were MORE of them than had already passed from sight before we spotted these??

To see 7 majestic, huge UFO's belting along in a line at such a speed is a memorable, distinctly unnerving and haunting sight. Our deep regret is that we hadn't spotted them sooner so we would have had them in sight for a longer observation.

Considering what we have already seen of UFO's since 1974, we have no need or reason to invent imaginary UFO's. We get the APRO bulletin, subscribe to several UFO magazines, have quite a few books on the subject including a copy of Project Blue Book. We have been avidly watching Jack

Close Encounters In Ocala Forest

Eerie Lights, UFO Sighted On SR 19

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sunday 14 May 22:05—Duty Officer Robert J. Clark logs phone call from Silver Glen Springs woman who claims to have seen eerie lights in sky.

22:15—Clark logs second phone call from man who reports possible UFO sighting on SR 19 in Ocala National Forest. Clark contacts Jacksonville Naval Air Station requesting all data on aircraft currently in area. Jacksonville reports none.

22:20—Duty Officer reports visual sighting over Pinecastle Electronic Warfare Range. Object tracked by radar...

By **ALYSE LOUNSBERRY**
Lifestyles Editor

Sunday nights are pretty quiet at Pinecastle Electronic Warfare Range. In a secluded area of the Ocala National Forest, the Navy trains its pilots in ways to stay alive in simulated combat training. Seven days a week, 8 a.m. to midnight.

But on Sunday nights when things are kind of sleepy and there's nothing more exciting than the hum drum of everyone's turn at duty, you don't get jarred when the phone rings and it's some woman who wants to know about weird lights in the sky. You don't get excited. You simply follow procedure.

That's what Pinecastle's Duty Officer was doing Sunday night at 10:05 when the first phone call came in.

"She wanted to know if we were using any flares in the area," explains SK-1 Robert J. Clark, the Duty Officer.

"I told her there were no flares in the area, and that the range wasn't operating at the time."

Clark went back to his routine.

The phone rang again, and a man who wouldn't give his name reported that he and seven others traveling on SR 19 near Silver Glen Springs had also seen something strange. The man described the sighting as an object 50 or 60 feet in diameter with flashing lights. He said it flew right over the top of the vehicle he was driving. Close enough to get a good look before it disappeared.

Clark logged the second call and contacted the Naval Air Station at Jacksonville for details on all known aircraft in the area.

Jacksonville reported no known aircraft currently over Pinecastle's neck of the woods.

"So we got out the binoculars and went up on the tower," Clark continues.

"And we located an object due north, approximately 1,500 feet above the trees. We watched it for 15 or 20 minutes and it looked like it was pretty stationary."

Clark guessed that if it was an aircraft—a helicopter, say—it would have to show up on Pinecastle's radar.

So the men brought in the radar, and the tracking rapidly picked up an object on the screen.

"We locked in on it and then all of a sudden, it was gone..."

"I've never seen anything like it and I don't want to see anything like it again," says TD-2 Timothy Collins, who was manning the radar scope Sunday night.

"First it was heading south and then it was heading north..." All in the split of a second, Collins claims.

"Planes just don't have a turning radius like that," he adds.

Collins describes himself as a confirmed skeptic. He was that way before Sunday's strange set of events, and his attitude probably won't change.

"A blip is a blip on the scope," he comments offhand.

"At the time I was too busy doing my job to think very much about what it was we were looking at."

"I just know I couldn't lock in. We were tracking it, and at first I thought I had it. But it started moving and by the time I caught up with it, it had changed direction."

Collins refuses to hazard a guess as to how fast the object was moving through earth's atmosphere. He says he tried to figure it out mathematically.

"At 500 knots, we can lock up on an aircraft pretty fast."

But this object was apparently traveling at a much greater speed. "A knot is slightly more than a mile."

"The computer wouldn't handle it," remarks Pinecastle's Lt. Commander John Sullivan.

"As far as I'm concerned, it was just something that happened," returns Collins. "If I'd seen it up close, I might have been shook."

Instead, he is simply puzzled.

In the eight years he's spent as a radar technician with the Navy, Collins has never recalled a time when he saw anything move quite like that on the screen.

"The way it moved—it was very abnormal."

Carol Synder's reactions to the sighting were a little more enthusiastic.

TD-AA Snyder went to the top of the tower with some co-workers and some binoculars to join in the watching.

She describes the experience as memorable.

"Nothing like that ever happens to me," she quips. "I always have these really boring watches..."

There was nothing boring about it though, for Snyder and about 12 others who watched and wondered and compared notes.

"We saw three very blurry lights—red, white and green," she reports. "We watched them for about 30 minutes. We couldn't see how fast they were traveling. We were holding

the binoculars and the lights appeared to be bouncing."

About UFOs, she claims to have few opinions.

"I don't know if I believe in them or not," she says.

"I never really thought about it much..."

Collins and Clark recall three separate instances of viewing the lights in the sky in a period that lasted from shortly after 10 until nearly midnight. The radar was in use only 15 to 20 minutes during that time.

The first sighting was due north of Pinecastle. This was the first visible blip on the radar scope. At first, the craft appeared to be hovering, and the computer attempted to estimate its air speed and altitude for a print out. A preliminary digital read out showed the object to be hovering at about 3 knots.

And suddenly it was on the move, turning in a hairpin maneuver that fouled up the computer and eluded further tracking.

"We were trying to determine the height of the object, the speed, and if it indeed was an aircraft," Clark explains.

"I can't explain what it was," he says now.

"It didn't seem to us like an aircraft."

Clark, too, has seen nothing like it in his career with the United States Navy.

After the northbound sighting, Clark says a second object was seen in the eastern sky. This time, the object was picked up by radar only.

"It could have been the same one," he qualifies.

The last sighting was reported by the Pinecastle personnel sometime between 11 p.m. and midnight. This time to the south.

"Afterwards we sat around and talked about it," Clark says.

The Pinecastle people were still talking when Lt. Commander Sullivan arrived for duty Monday morning.

"I've already called the Forestry Service to see if they had any helicopters in the area," Sullivan remarks.

"And they said no..."

Sullivan, a Navy man since 1944, says this is his first encounter with a situation like this. The easy thing to do would have been to explain the incident away to some atmospheric experiment. Instead, he appeared confident in his men who had followed a standard set of procedures, and open to the idea the men shared of not being able to explain away the group of sightings.

UFOs? Maybe.

"This is certainly the first one I've heard about in the 28 months that I've been here," Sullivan says.

Policeman: 'Illumination' Burns Him Then Turns Blue, Vanishes Into Sky

EEB, Fresno, CA - May 19, 1978

KERMAN — Police officials here are reluctant — somewhat understandably — to comment on what they describe as an "illumination" in the early morning sky witnessed by one Kerman police officer.

The story surfaced when sources at Fresno Community Hospital said a police officer came into the hospital emergency room Saturday afternoon for treatment of minor first-degree burns on his face and neck. Asked how he was burned, the officer reportedly told this story:

While patrolling the small West Side city early Saturday morning, the officer noticed a reddish glow in the sky just outside the western city limits. Thinking it might have been a fire, he drove to the vicinity of California and Del Norte avenues.

The officer reached a plowed

field and said he discovered the glow was not caused by a fire. He reportedly told hospital officials he saw a large, circular,



Bee Drawing

glowing illumination in the sky which turned blue and then disappeared after three or four minutes.

Apparently, the officer's colleagues commented on his burns, approximating a sunburn, later in the day and he

went to the hospital for treatment.

Kerman Police Chief James Van Cleaf would not release the officer's name. He did say, however, the officer reported the incident to the U.S. Air Force.

The Air Force, which in the past has been rather closed-mouthed about such things, did not have any record of the sighting Thursday.

However, The Bee learned Thursday the officer has applied for state workmen's compensation funds to pay for treatment of his burns. Sources said he is claiming he was burned while watching "a UFO" on his rounds in Kerman Saturday morning.

One source described the officer as a "well-trusted member of the (Kerman Police) force." Van Cleaf said he investigated the field during

daylight hours and found no sign of fire. He noted a natural gas line runs near the field but said another check of the field did not reveal evidence of gas leakage.

Van Cleaf said his office is still investigating the incident. He said a crop dusting company which uses a helicopter equipped with "very bright lights" may have been operating in the area that morning

Government agencies give no explanations for UFO sighting here

STA, Green River, WY - May 24, 1978

by WIL PHINNEY
managing editor

"... southeast Green River ... size of a basketball ... egg shaped ... heavy and forward ... faster, faster ... heading into the clouds ... orange light ... gone ..."

About noon Thursday, Alan Trudel, a 13-year-old eighth grader from Monroe Junior High School, was sitting in a chair in the kitchen of his family's mobilehome.

By chance, Alan glanced out the window and through the curtain, and saw what still today is simply, an unidentified flying object (UFO).

A handful of government agencies said they didn't know of any low flying objects in the area at that time.

The weather bureau in Cheyenne said it had no information on weather balloons flying in this area Thursday. The Federal Aviation Administration in Denver didn't know of any report at all.

At Rock Springs, Joe Kruljac, flight service engineer, said radio contacts "indicated no traffic at that time." And the nation's UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wa., hadn't received the report by Tuesday.

Alan Trudel said he went to the door of the trailer and continued watching the mysterious object for more than a half minute.

"It was maybe 1000 feet up," Trudel said, "But it looked pretty big from where I was." He described it as "greyish blue, heading upward in a southeast direction." He even drew a picture for Green River police.

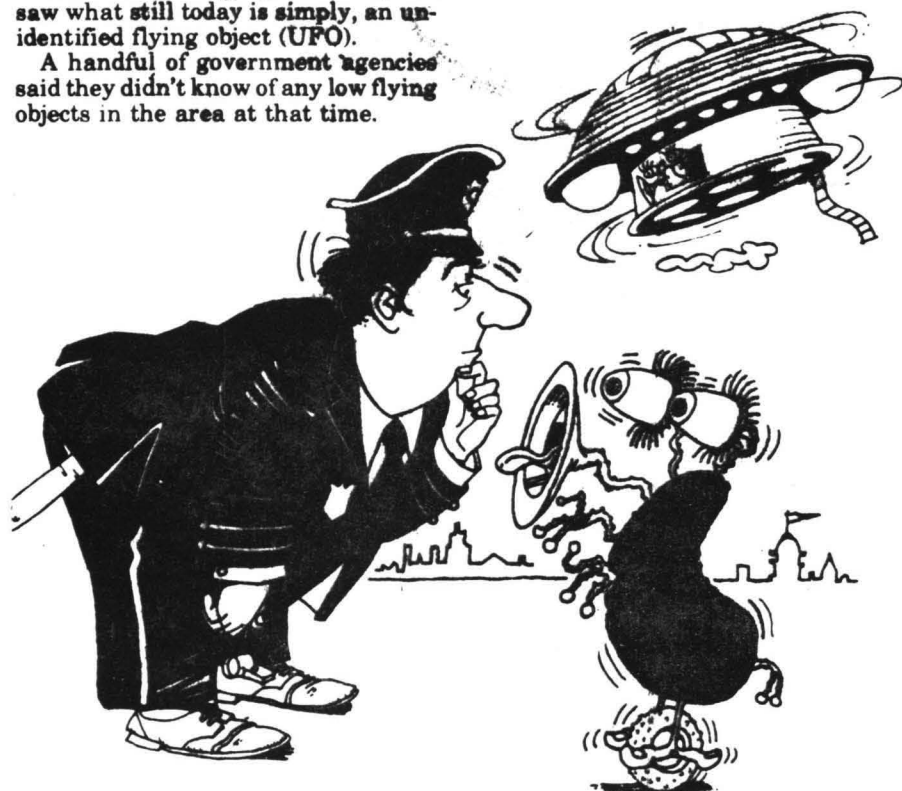
At first he said the object looked circular but changed that diagnosis to oval. There was also a "square thing" in front of the egg shaped UFO.

When he first saw it, Trudel said the UFO was moving through the air at a slow rate of speed. But as he watched, the speed grew "faster and faster, heading for the clouds." And, just before it disappeared in the clouds, Trudel said, "a little orange light came on the bottom of the object."

According to a police scan radio Thursday, two planes were preparing to land at Rock Springs airport at the approximate time. However, Kruljac said the Rock Springs service has no radar scope and the radio "indicated no traffic at that time" in this area. Besides, the airport in Rock Springs is more than 15 miles away from the reported sighting.

Police said it might have been a weather balloon but the Cheyenne weather bureau discounted that explanation. The Washington based UFO Reporting Center was very much interested in the information from Green River but had no explanation for the sighting when called Tuesday.

Trudel's encounter was less than one of the third kind and anyway, nobody knows why this UFO was so far away from Devil's Tower to begin with.



Majority of Americans believe UFOs real

By GEORGE GALLUP

PRINCETON, N.J. — For many Americans, the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" is not so far-fetched. In fact, a solid majority of Americans now express a belief in UFOs, with the proportion having grown steadily since 1966 when the first measurement was taken.

In the latest survey, 57 percent of those aware of UFOs believe they are real, while 27 percent doubt their existence. In 1966, the comparable

figures were 54 and 34 percent, respectively.

The survey also shows that as many as one American in nine (11 percent, or a projected 13 million people) has had a "close encounter," that is, has actually seen what he believes to be a UFO.

Among those who have made a "sighting," opinion is overwhelming (90 percent) that UFOs are the real thing. Even among those who have not seen a UFO, however, believers far outnumber disbelievers.

The college-educated and younger

people, as well as those living in the Far West, are most likely to have sighted a UFO and to believe in their existence.

One of the believers is a 30-year-old housewife in Iselin, N.J., who described her sighting to a Gallup Poll interviewer.

"We were out by a lake one night about midnight," she said. "We were all sitting around talking when I saw a bluish light in the sky of some type. It hovered over the lake for a few minutes and lit up the whole area. Then after a couple of minutes it just disappeared."

Although there is a growing belief of the UFO phenomenon among adult Americans, they are more skeptical than teenagers.

A Gallup Youth Survey conducted at the same time as the one reported today showed teens proportionately more likely to say they have sighted something they believe to have been a UFO, and less likely to question the reality of UFOs and the existence of extraterrestrial life.

Among the 30 percent of adults in the current survey who said they had heard

or read about UFOs, the following question was asked:

"Have you, yourself, ever seen anything you thought was a UFO?"

Here are the percentage results nationwide as well as by significant population groups:

(Based on those who have heard or read about UFOs)

NATIONWIDE	9
East	9
Midwest	8
South	9
West	14
Under 30	15
30-49	9
50 and older	6
College	9
High school	11
Grade school	5

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - May 28, 1978

BEACON, Wichita, KS - June 2, 1978 CR: S. Hicks

Are you ready for another close encounter?

We are not alone.

Richard Palacios moves among us, busily collecting eyewitness accounts of close encounters of the first, second and (yes, even) third kinds.

Way back when I invited you to write in with your flying saucers stories, Richard—who's kind of the Johnny Appleseed of UFO sightings—started sending me transcripts of his interviews with folks who've reported such encounters.

And here comes another one . . .

Our subject is a college English major and poet who sees auras around people and practices astral projection to roam around outside his body.

Other than that, he's just your average guy.

He doesn't want me to use his real name, so we'll call him Luke.

Now, Luke says that in November of 1971



Jon
Roe

he was driving outside of Hillsboro, when this bright silver saucer-shaped craft came zooming down to hover about 12 feet off the ground in a nearby field.

Luke went over to investigate.

As soon as he got there, a hatch opened and formed a ramp from the ship to the ground, and out walked two beings about 4 feet, 6 inches tall, wearing white robes.

Their facial structure wasn't much different from ours . . . but their bald heads were larger than ours.

They walked down the ramp and communicated with Luke through some kind of extra-sensory means, giving him a feeling of calm and security.

He communicated back the same way, asking them to stay. And they replied, OK.

Then Luke asked if he could go inside the ship, and they said sure.

They guided him up the ramp and around the ship, which had a brightly lighted ceiling and a very shiny acrylic-like floor.

He says a series of what looked like computer banks lined one wall, with a master control panel containing five rows of four buttons each. Beside the panel was a window and two high-backed chairs that were seemingly supported by invisible swivels.

Luke took it all in, then walked back down the ramp and watched the ship soar up and out of sight.

Was he "rightened?"

"Not at all," he says. "I was shocked, but never worried. The overall feeling I had was one of warmth and understanding."

Since then, Luke says, he's made contact with other beings in ways "that are difficult to explain," but have to do with astral projection.

But he hasn't seen those two particular visitors again.

So there you have it . . . Luke's close encounter. I pass it on for what it's worth to you.

But — lest you scoff — don't forget that Jimmy Carter himself has said he believes in flying saucers.

Of course, he's never been inside one . . . as far as we know.

This question was asked next of the same group:

"In your opinion, are UFOs something real or just people's imagination?"

(Based on those who have heard or read about UFOs)

	Real	Imag.	Not sure
NATIONWIDE	57	27	16
Midwest	61	26	13
South	48	32	20
West	69	19	12
Under 30	70	20	10
30-49	63	23	14
Over 50	40	38	22
College	66	23	11
High school	57	27	16
Grade school	36	38	22
Have seen UFO	90	8	2
Haven't seen	53	30	17

Here's the trend in belief in UFOs: (Based on those who have heard or read about UFOs)

	Real	Imag.	Not sure
1978	57	27	16
1973	54	30	16
1966	46	29	25

The growing belief in UFOs coincides with an increase in the percentage of Americans who believe there are hundreds living somewhere else in the universe.



WEEKLY NEWS, Runcorn, England - April 13, 1978 CR: P. Rogerson

Poachers volunteer more information on UFO

THE POACHERS who claimed they saw a U.F.O. in Frodsham are in great demand at the moment.

A group of U.F.O. investigators from Manchester and Chester believe that their sighting could be genuine and are anxious to trace the men.

The sighting, reported exclusively in the Weekly News at the beginning of February, was one of the first in Frodsham and the men gave a graphic description of the "silver balloon with flashing lights".

They said the object was standing end up at Devil's Gate near the River Weaver and had a skirt around it. The windows along the side glowed with a blue green light.

FUNNY LIGHTS

One of the eye witnesses said: "We ran down to the bridge but two men with funny lights on their caps came out and I got scared. They had a cow in a cage and were doing something to it, I ran down to Ellis Lane."

Another witness said: "It was a frame of aluminium or silvery metal and there were bars around the cow, they were measuring the height and length."

"There were men inside the windows of the balloon but you couldn't see their faces or masks properly as the light

was funny — like the light from a gas cooker in a darkened room."

HUMMING

"The balloon was on a type of tail or stand underneath it. It was ten feet off the ground on top of this stand and there was a flame, or flames, underneath it on the top part of the stand."

There were two different types of sound. One was like a

breeze blowing and the other sound was quite funny. It was a humming or throbbing sound like pylons make and it seemed to make our ears buzz."

The witnesses, who don't want to be named because they were poaching on private land, have now written out a detailed report of the experience which the Weekly News will be forwarding to the investigators.

SAULT STE. MARIE STAR, Ontario, Canada
April 4, 1978 CR: H. Gontovnick

UFO sighting reported

WELLAND — Two girls and an elderly woman said Monday they saw on Sunday night an unidentified cylindrical object, which emitted a piercing sound, hovering over a residential area about five kilometres from the downtown area of this city. Police say they received a number of other reports of the object, sighted between 8:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. EST.

Tetia Blokzyl and Lorraine Velkers, both 12, said they saw the object twice in 15 minutes in different parts of their neighborhood. The elderly Welland woman, who asked that her name not be used, said she spotted the same object as she was getting into her car in a rural area less than four kilometres from where the girls spotted the object.

The girls and the woman said the object was about 60 metres in the air, had square red lights revolving around its top and emitted a blinding, bluish light.

EXAMINER, Huddersfield, England
April 14, 1978

UFO over Brighouse puts police in a jam

ASTONISHED policemen watched in silence early today as Brighouse enjoyed a close encounter with a UFO.

At least six officers, in different sections of the area, saw the giant glowing globe hover over the town then fly off to the south.

And when the first witness tried to radio in with details of the object, he found his pocket transmitter jammed by unknown signals.

The eerie sighting came about 11.15am when an officer from Elland was on patrol duty at Southowram with a colleague. He suddenly spotted a vivid

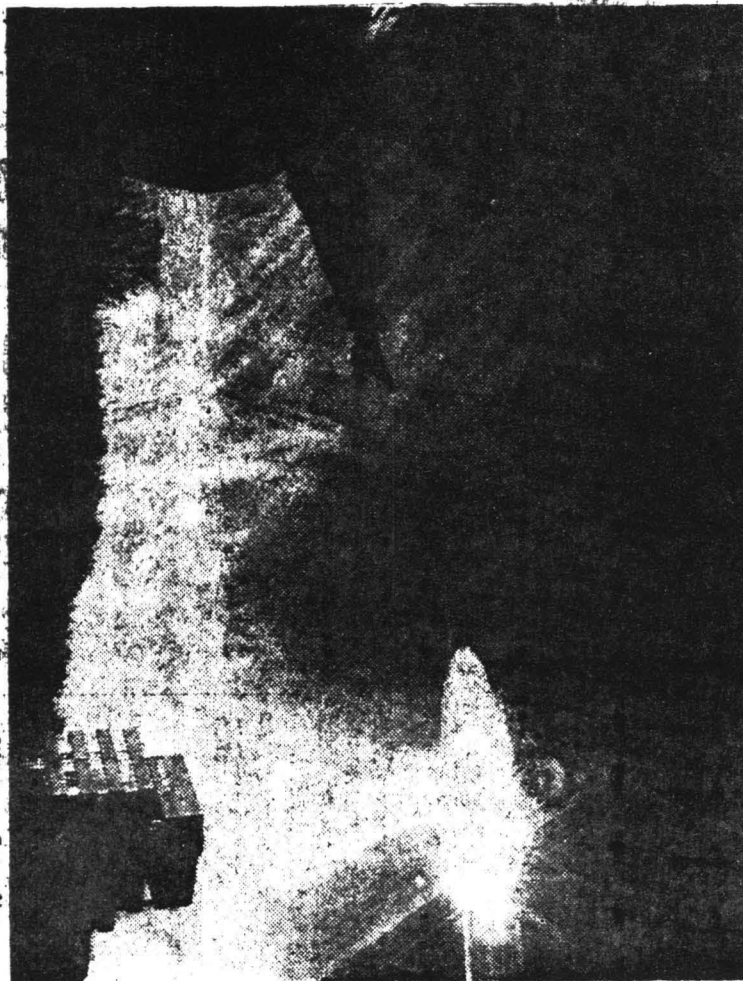
hovering over the centre of Brighouse. He said that it was shaped like a giant football and although remaining in the same area it moved slowly to and fro. It glowed with a bright white light before starting to move away slowly from the town.

The officer, who has not been named, then saw the mysterious object change colour through shades of red, blue and green — and quickly sped as it flew off.

He tried to radio in, but encountered unknown interference before managing to get through to the control room.

Other officers were told of the object, but at least six, in other sections, saw it before it disappeared.

What is it? A close encounter of the first kind over Campus West on Saturday.

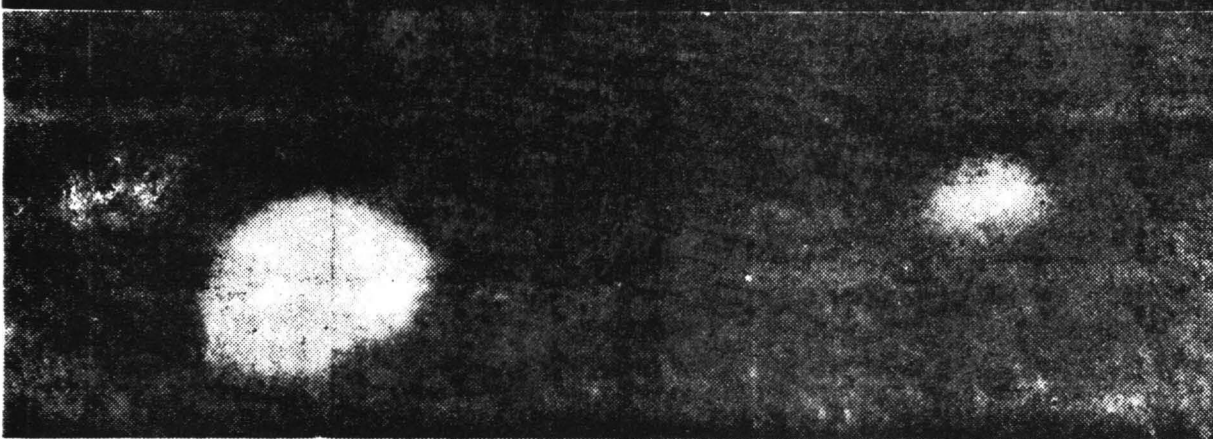


A SHOCK awaited Welwyn and Hainfield Times photographer Nigel Willoughby when he developed this picture of what had looked to the naked eye like a number of lights hovering over Campus West on Saturday. Instead of the points of light the photo revealed a strange saucer-shaped object in the sky, with a bright star at its centre down over Campus West itself. For the information of other UFO spot- ters, Nigel used a Zeissor ZG 116 camera set at f9 with a shutter speed of 200 and Kodapan Hi-Speed film. The picture was taken at 11.55 am on Saturday, and Nigel would very much like to know if anyone else managed to see the UFO and photograph it successfully.

WELWYN TIMES, Hertfordshire, England - April 7, 1978

Our Nigel captures a UFO—the proof

Mystery lights in sky



A copy of the UFO cine film taken by Gary Colgate which shows a semi-circular light moving across the sky.

Gary's film baffles astronomy experts

by John Wardle

SCHOOLBOY Gary Colegate believes he has captured a UFO on a remarkable 60-second movie film shot through his bedroom window.

The film clearly shows a bright, semi-circular light moving swiftly across the sky near his home on Chapel House Estate, Newcastle.

It is certain to excite UFO groups and an expert admitted yesterday it was difficult to find a logical explanation for some parts of the film.

Gary, a 15-year-old pupil at Walbottle School, had his close encounter on March 21.

He spotted the light in the south-east sky at an angle of about 45 degrees. It disappeared, but came back at 8.55 p.m.—and Gary had his home movie camera ready.

As it moved across the sky before disappearing in the distance, he filmed its progress.

In the developed film, the bright light can be clearly seen, followed by a smaller green light which, says Gary, was not visible to the naked eye.

"Obviously people will say it is not a UFO, but I definitely saw the light—and this film is the proof," says Gary, of Frenton Close.

"It could not have been a plane because it was far too bright and the moon was some distance from the light.

"I didn't really believe in UFOs before, but I do now. It's the only explanation."

Yesterday we showed the film to Dr. Michael Scarrott, a Durham University lecturer and an authority on astronomy.

His first reaction was that it was the moon, with the movement caused by a panning of the camera, but if the light had actually moved across the sky, there could be no known explanation.

"I would need a lot of convincing that it was not some spurious image of the moon but there's no explanation for the fact that it moved so rapidly," said Dr. Scarrott.

The possibility of it being a UFO could not be totally ruled out.

Gary's friend, David Park, and his father, Mr. Malcolm Colegate, also saw the light—and both say it was definitely moving quickly through the night sky.

Last night, the Cleveland Alternative Phenomena group, which collects UFO sightings in the North, said Gary "could be on to something very big."



Gary pictured with the camera which took the shot.

SUNDAY SUN, Newcastle, England - April 16, 1978

Schoolgirl claims she saw Streatham UFO

STREATHAM NEWS, London, England - May 5, 1978

AN UNIDENTIFIED Flying Object was seen flying above Mount Nod Road in Streatham last week.

Schoolgirl Susan Gardner said she was sitting inside a car when she saw the object flying above Dunraven Secondary School.

"It was shaped like an upright cone with a red light on the top and a lot of flashing lights on the bottom.

"The craft was whirling round very fast causing the beams of light to bend", said Susan, aged 15, of Wellington, Kent.

She was passing through Streatham when she saw it during the evening and says by the time she told the other passengers in the car to look it had gone.

"I found it very scary and couldn't believe my eyes at first. Although I have always thought that UFO's do exist—this has simply confirmed my belief in them."

SOUTH LONDON PRESS, London, England - May 16, 1978 CR: N. Oliver

POLICE TAKE 'UFO' SERIOUSLY

TWO policemen thought a hoaxer was at work when they received an emergency call on Sunday night saying a UFO was hovering over Lewisham.

But yesterday PCs Louis Bennett and Stewart Funnell were convinced they had a close encounter after spending 20 minutes watching a "distinct yellow glow, six times brighter than a star" shining through a cloud over Coldbath-st., Lewisham.

"We took it so seriously that back at the station we checked it could not have been any air traffic. Heathrow Airport told

us there was nothing on their radar at the time," said PC Funnell.

Mr Peter Knight (27), of 86 Coldbath-st., who called police, said he had seen "a large object with a variety of lights making a low hum" at 9.45 p.m.

Mr. Norman Oliver, a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society who lives in Lee, said, "If it had been a clear night and they had been looking west, Jupiter and Venus are both visible. But there have been five or six sightings of strange lights in Clapham and Battersea in the last month."

IS THIS THE TRUE ANSWER TO THE FLYING SAUCER MYSTERY?

GREAT BALLS OF FIRE!

Glowing UFO... scene from the amateur film

A FILM showing a formation of four glowing UFOs over Stonehenge holds the solution to many of the flying-saucer sightings, including some of the baffling cases reported recently in the Daily Express.

The film was shot by an amateur cameraman from Cheshire. And other reports from the area confirm that something strange was going on over Salisbury Plain.

A total of 18 luminous UFOs were seen on three successive nights by two Cheshire families who were holidaying near Stonehenge last October.

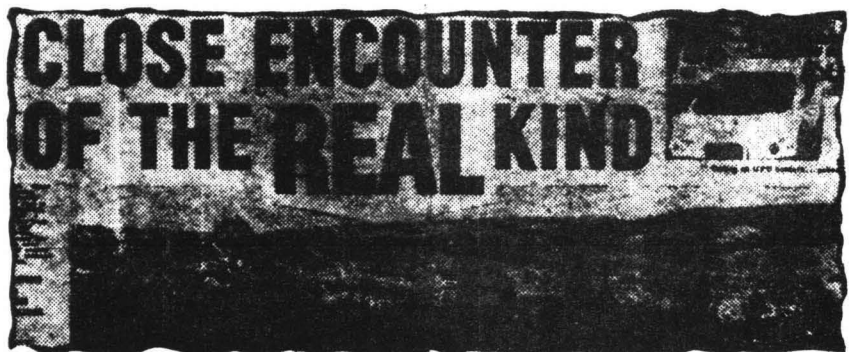
And the answer experts have come up with is that they are a very rare phenomenon known as "ball lightning."

The families involved have asked to remain anonymous. But their Super-8 colour film has been pronounced genuine by Kodak analysts.

In one film sequence, which lasts approximately a minute, a group of four pulsating golden-orange balls appear in darkness, flickering and moving around before fading out.

In a second sequence, a brilliant single ball of light is seen hovering in twilight over the surrounding countryside before fading away.

A member of one family was burned when he approached to 100ft from one of the UFOs and later spent two weeks in hospital.



Flashback... UFO hunt in Ashdown Forest earlier this month

Report by Ian Ridpath

Glowing

Sightings of other similar objects in the Stonehenge area were received by the local newspaper in Salisbury during October. And a rash of glowing orange UFOs have been reported in the area from last June to as recently as March.

The film, to be screened in the North tonight on Granada TV's "Reports Extra" programme, actually shows ball lightning appearing as pockets of electrified air glowing, spinning, and moving erratically.

Never before has ball lightning been captured so clearly on film, and this new evidence proves the link between ball lightning and a typical UFO encounter.

A typical ball, say scientists, is one to two feet in diameter and contains many megawatts of power.

One famous close encounter with ball lightning occurred in 1975, when a Smethwick housewife had a hole burned in the front of her dress by an exploding ball which appeared in her kitchen.

This case was studied in detail by physicist Dr Eric Wooding of the University of London's Royal Holloway College at Egham, in Surrey, who has since received reports of 30 other incidents.

They include one of a ball "as big as a bus" which a coastguard saw drop out of a cloud and roll downhill.

Ball lightning activity seems to be on the increase.

Burned

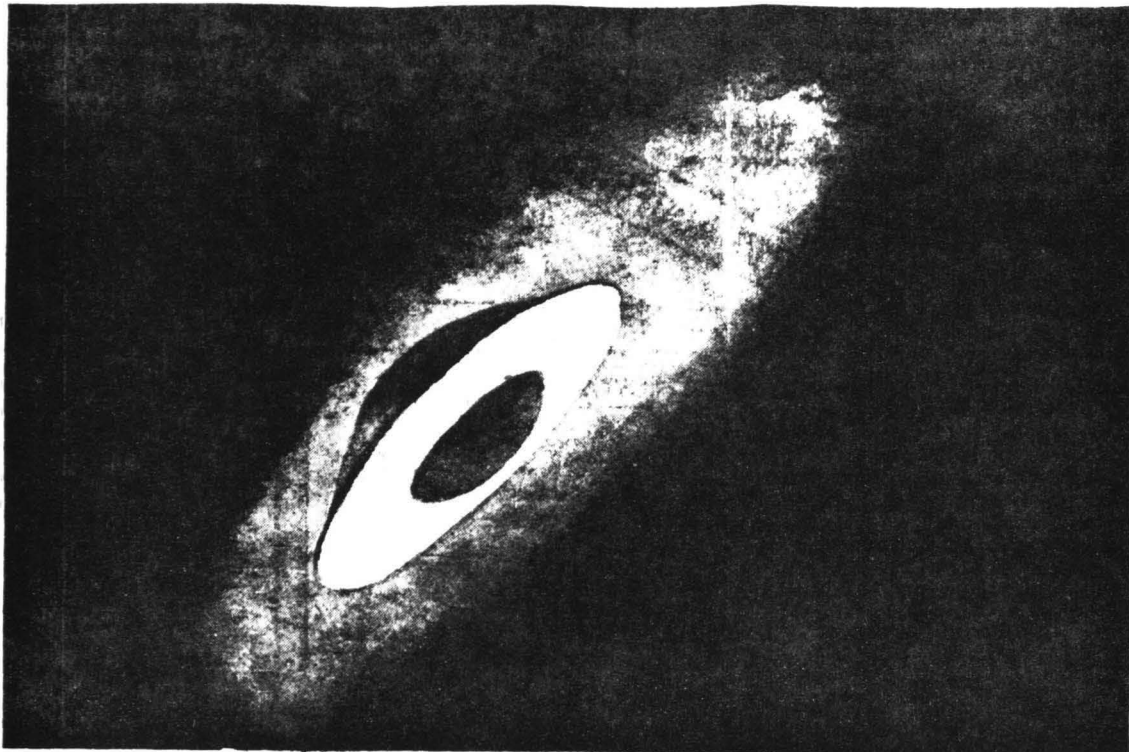
On April 3, the Daily Express reported the case of Mrs Ethel Field of Bournemouth whose hands were burned by a blindingly brilliant UFO that was also seen by coastguards. And that same week a glowing UFO fell on Ashdown forest, Sussex.

"Both these events appear to be caused by some kind of electrical atmospheric phenomenon like ball lightning," says leading UFO researcher Jenny Randlese.

UFO experts expect to find many ball lightning sightings among the 7,500 reports submitted to the Express UFO Bureau.

Jenny is adamant that modern UFO research has moved away from the quest for little green men.

"Some cases have a psychological explanation," she says, "but ball lightning can explain the majority of otherwise baffling UFO reports."



Times reader Joan Amos gives an eye-witness account of a UFO she saw from the Bedford Ward of Tavistock hospital. An artist drew the object from a sketch she submitted.

Flying saucers DO exist. What I saw convinced me

Having read your report on the front page of the Times on 'the close encounter of the first kind,' I felt I would like to give you a much fuller picture of what happened on that morning.

I awoke at 6 am in the hospital ward, where I had entered the day before for an operation, which wasn't to be carried out till Tuesday.

I was not ill or in any way impaired at the time.

It was a beautiful day and the sun was shining brilliantly.

The sky was blue and clear, with what is known as a high ceiling.

I had just got acquainted with the other patients in the ward, who were all strangers to me. We called each other by our christian names.

Watching

In the next bed to me was Thelma, and in the corner bed was June, and opposite me was Betty. We were awaiting the arrival of a morning cup of tea, and commenting on the beautiful sunshine.

Then Thelma, whose bed was facing the window opposite the moors, looked puzzled and said:

'Hey! Come and look, Can you make out what that is up in the sky?'

'I've been watching it. I think it's a UFO.'

June knelt up in her bed and was looking too. She said: 'I think you're right — it is.'

'Come and look at this Joan.'

By this time I was beginning to think I was having my leg pulled.

If not I wasn't going to

miss this for the world.

I got out of bed and went over to where they were.

There, high in the blue sky, was a bright white light and contained in the centre was a saucer shaped craft.

Longish

It hovered motionless over the Tavistock area.

The halo of light that surrounded it was emitted from the craft itself, and even in the brightness of the morning sun you could see its brilliance.

It was NOT a reflection.

The halo was elongated outwards at either side which gave the whole thing a longish appearance.

But as we watched we saw the flying saucer perfectly in the middle of its radiation.

It tilted on a slight angle to the left and the domes on it, top and bottom, were clearly visible.

It appeared to hover in the air, not rotating, but still and steady.

It maintained its position, as if observing the Dartmoor area, for as long as three minutes, from when we first saw it.

We had such a clear visibility that morning. We watched fascinated.

It tilted again, this time to the right and started to veer away. You could see it was being manoeuvred.

It moved off towards the north east, the radiated light surrounding the craft moved with it, and as it went away over the moors, it looked longer and longer till it faded in the distance.

It just glided away at a

steady speed and we watched until it was out of sight.

Vapour

The whole incident lasted about five minutes in all from when we first saw it.

You can just imagine the incredibility of it all, and the excitement that went on in the ward afterwards.

I wouldn't have missed that experience for anything, but one thing I know now with absolute certainty is that **FLYING SAUCERS DO EXIST**. It was **REAL** alright. There were no vapour trails, and it was nothing like an aeroplane or a balloon, which has been suggested.

Even at that great height we could see it was quite a large object.

I know one thing. I shall never doubt a sighting again.

Yet the big question remains unanswered. What was it? Where did it come from?

It was a fantastic machine with a powerful radiation.

Was it from another planet? (after all they are light years away). Or is it some nuclear powered craft

that we are experimenting with.

Perhaps it's from another country that seems to be very interested in the military arm of the south west.

And that's not funny, when it's up over our town.

Figment

I cannot stand these people who laugh at it and say: 'Have you seen some little green men.'

They just don't realise how serious this thing can be to us.

There are too many sightings and activity going on in this area lately to be ignored.

Surely somebody must know what is going on!

Well I, for one, know now that it is not a figment of imagination.

There are, too, other happenings, such as the numerous bangs at night when it is not Concorde time. And those terrific white flashes that lit up the night sky which I reported before. Now this strange sight, first thing in the morning when there are not many people about.

Did anyone else see it besides us?

Fly with me says Saucer Sue

CR: N. Oliver

THE SPONSORS of a £1 million prize for anyone who can produce a genuine flying saucer have had their first claim.

Mystery 'balls' in the sky

SCIENTISTS are puzzled about the content of an extraordinary film shot by a Crewe businessman during a holiday near Stockport.

Part of it has been sent to the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration centre at Houston, Texas, for examination by U.F.O. experts.

Shown recently on Granada television, the film features hovering spherical objects described as "balls of fire".

Mr. John Flattley, of Church Lane, Wistaston, his family and a party of friends made 18 sightings over a three-day period.

Only after Kodak, the photographic company, had vouched for the authenticity of the content — "It is optically correct and no fake," said their report — did Mr. Flattley give permission for its screening on television by Granada.

Mr. Flattley said: "At first we thought they were reflections of car headlights, but soon realised the shapes were not consistent."

"Then it was suggested they were flares — being so close to Army ranges — but they were not lighting the ground up underneath nor dropping."

"One person suggested they might be 'balls of lightning' but, as one of the objects hovered in our sight for about 50 minutes, a scientist has ruled this out."

Scientific investigation is continuing.

"I don't think they came from another world", said Mr. Flattley.

Within hours of the offer being launched a telegram arrived from Californian Sue McMahon.

And not only does Sue claim to have the genuine article, but she offers to take people for a ride in it to a new planet.

Sue, who lives in Willow Way, Carmichael, California, sent off her claim to **Sue Sark** director Mr Russ Taylor last Friday, the day after the whisky firm announced the prize.

Truth

It reads: 'I am applying for the prize, you have advertised.'

'I will do more than you ask. I will take you and three other people on a ride in a vehicle which could be called a flying saucer by the ignorant.'

'We will go to the new small planet recently discovered.'

'Yours in truth, Sue McMahon.'

Although he is a little bemused by the reference to a new planet, Mr Taylor will be checking on Sue's claim.

'This seems interesting,' he said. 'She's certainly gone to some expense sending a telegram from the States.'

The flying saucer must be authenticated by the Science Museum in London before the prize can be won

DAILY MAIL, London, England - June 6, 1978



JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM
June 16, 1978 CR: F. Hudson

Mutilated Cow Is Discovered In Dulce Area

Journal Special

DULCE — A mutilated cow — the seventh in the area this year — has been found near Dulce and a State Police officer says he believes he has found evidence the cattle are being transported elsewhere for the mutilations and the carcasses returned to the animals' home pastures the same night.

The carcass of the most recent mutilation was discovered Wednesday. The udder and the rectum of a 4-year-old Hereford cow had been severed, and a portion of the lower lip was missing.

Investigators estimate the mutilation occurred Monday night. On the same date exactly 2 years ago, a carcass and a series of mysterious tracks were discovered in the area. State Police officer Gabe Valdez said the carcass this week was located within 500 yards of where the carcass was found in the 1976 case.

Valdez said he could not discern any tracks in the area of the Monday night mutilation, nor could he find any hoofprints left by the mutilated cow.

In examining the carcass, Valdez said he found that the left front leg and the left rear leg had been fractured. He said he could clearly perceive indentations in the flesh, near the fractures, and he believes they were left by clamps attached to the animal's legs.

Valdez has for some time theorized the mutilations are being performed elsewhere. He believes the cattle are airlifted from the pasture during the night, taken to a secluded area, mutilated and returned to the pasture.

"You could tell where these clamps or vises were attached," he said. "I'm positive they do their work somewhere else."

The cow, he said, was lying on its right side and there was no evidence of a struggle. Only a minimal amount of blood was near the body.

Valdez said the animal's vertebrae were broken.

Thursday afternoon, a Paris, Texas, team of investigators — recently formed to probe mutilations plaguing ranches throughout the West for the past three years — arrived in Dulce to examine the site and the carcass. There was no immediate report of their conclusions.

The mutilation occurred on the Manuel Gomez ranch, in a pasture 13 miles east of Dulce. Gomez has lost four cattle to mutilations since 1976. There have been a total of 10 mutilations in the area during the past two years.

RICE COUNTY MONITOR-JOURNAL, Little River, KS - May 11, 1978

Possible cattle mutilation cases under investigation

A possible cattle mutilation was reported Monday morning by City Marshall Art Johnson Jr., who investigated the incident in a pasture approximately six miles north of Little River. Two steers, weighing 550 and 600 pounds, were found dead Monday morning by the owner, Norman Crandall, in a pasture he rents. The two were 150 yards apart. An ear on each steer had been removed and the sex organs had been removed on both animals. How the animals died is unknown. No visible signs such as lightning marks or wounds could be located on the animals. No animal or human tracks were found in the vicinity.

The incident was reported by Mr. Johnson to Rice County Sheriff Richard Tucker. Tucker indicated he had investigated such cases in the past, as have veterinarians in the area, and it is not possible to distinguish knife from animal lacerations.

The cattle were last checked by the Crandalls on Thursday. The loss was placed at around \$600.

CR: S. Hicks

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Peterborough, England - May 5, 1978

Face to face with a monster of the deep

'Nessie' has reared her head again

THE mysterious Loch Ness-monster "Nessie" has made a surprise appearance before two local families this week. It rose from the murky depths of Loch Ness to come face to face with the Russell and Pears families who both live near Wisbech.

Susan Russell, of Wisbech Road, Outwell, said: "Because of the mist we thought it was a dinghy at first. But there was a large whirlpool around it and it looked very black. Three black lumps appeared on the surface and then suddenly disappeared."

With her family Mrs Russell was on a Hosesons motor cruising holiday on the Loch.

John Pears of Upwell was on another boat several hundred yards away. "There was a sudden swell about ten feet across and a mass of bubbles rose to the surface. Then I saw a black outline."

TIMES, Kansas City, MO - June 8, 1978 CR: S. Hicks

Cynic Ponders 'Bigfoot' Evidence

SEATTLE (AP)—An expert who has "a more profound belief in Santa Claus than I do in the sasquatch" says samples of hair from three purported sightings of "big foot" creatures are neither those of a human nor any North American wild animal.

But Dr. Stephen Rosen, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Maryland, says further examination is necessary to determine whether the hair samples prove the existence of the fabled 8-foot-tall sasquatch. The samples were collected in Washington, Oregon and California by Project Grendel, a group devoted to searching for evidence of sasquatch.

Repeatedly frustrated in attempts to unravel the mutilation cases, Valdez Thursday said he intends to assemble most of the Gomez cattle "to see if they are being marked in any way that can be identified in the darkness."

He said a retired scientist in Albuquerque is assembling a device to examine the cattle. "We'll get the herd in a corral and run them through the squeeze chute and see if we can find anything," Valdez said. He said he expects to conduct the experiment next week.

"None of these cattle that have been mutilated were imported," Valdez said.

Meanwhile, Cattle Inspector Carlos Lovato said a mare found mutilated near Las Vegas, N.M., is believed to be the first horse to fall victim to the mysterious animal deaths.

According to the The Associated Press, the uterus, udder and rectum of the horse, belonging to Arthur Padilla, were removed with "perfectly round" incisions, Lovato said.

Albert Padilla, who found his brother's dead horse last Friday, said there were no clues — no bullet holes, no tracks and no signs of a struggle.

Soviet Scholars Believe in Bigfoot

By Alan R. Berry CR: W. Thompson
Special to The Chronicle

Vancouver, B.C.

Is North America's "Bigfoot" real? Most scientists scoff at the notion for lack of tangible evidence, but a team of Soviet researchers is convinced of the creature's existence — based on studies of a 10-year-old California film.

The Russians' findings were the hit of a recent academic conference on "humanoid monsters" sponsored by the University of British Columbia in Canada.

The three-day symposium, which drew scholars and scientists from throughout Canada and the United States, was organized to open science's door to serious study of such phenomena.

The scientists discussed alleged physical evidence and sightings, and the "historical, psychological, cultural, and social dimensions which also bear investigation."

Of the controversial film footage shot by Roger Patterson on a remote creekbed in Northern California, the creature portrayed was "too apelike to be human and too human-like to be simian," Dimitri Bayanov, head of humanoid research at the Darwin Museum in Moscow, declared in a paper submitted to the conference.

Bayanov's conclusion was based on analysis of the creature's unusual gait, and the way certain leg muscles bulged and knotted as it walked; by its elongated heel structure and other anatomical differences that separated it from both man and other primates, Bayanov said.

Taking obvious delight in the pronouncement, Bayanov said his team's success in authenticating the film was "a triumph of broad-

-mindedness over narrow-mindedness, which serves a world in need of such success."

Russian scientist reportedly have conducted systematic research of presumably humanoid remains for more than two decades. In another paper the Russians discussed a kindred spirit of Bigfoot, the Almatra, a Neanderthal they believed to roam the Caucasus mountains of the Soviet Union.

Among other Bigfoot evidence presented and discussed were unusual vocalizations said to have been tape-recorded in a remote High Sierra camp three years ago. According to R. Lynn Kirlin, electrical engineering professor at the University of Wyoming, the results of a year-long computer study of the sounds "indicate a speaker, or speakers, of physical size larger than an average adult male."

Kirlin said he based his conclusion on a comparison of voice pitch and vocal tract length with those of an average tall man. Then, using human proportions, he theorized that the unknown speakers would range in height from 6'4 to 8'2".

"If Bigfoot is actually proven to exist, the vocalizations on these tapes may well be of great anthropological value, being a unique observance of the Bigfoot in his natural environment," Kirlin said.

A new film of an alleged Bigfoot was shown by Frank White, a Seattle resident, who claimed to have photographed the sequence on Mt. Baker last fall while picnicking there with his wife.

Asked exactly what he was eating at the time of the sighting, the retired government worker smiled shyly and haltingly replied: "I hate to say it, but I think it was baloney."

Planets Are Orbiting Stars in Milky Way, Astronomers Report

By WALTER SULLIVAN
New York Times News Service

NEW YORK — Ten to 20 per cent of the 100 billion or more stars forming the Milky Way galaxy probably have planets in orbit around them, two astronomers have concluded from their observations atop Arizona's Kitt Peak.

Their conclusion is based on a statistical study of the motion of stars spinning so fast that they have shed companion bodies. The companions observed range in size from full-size stars down to objects whose presence is marginally detectable. From this, the astronomers have concluded that there also must be companions of planetary size.

The astronomers said this could mean that the number of habitable planets beyond the solar system may be much larger than previously supposed.

While it appears that there may be some 10 billion planetary systems whose stars are visible as the Milky Way, Dr. Helmut A. Abt of the Kitt Peak National Observatory at Tucson noted that "we don't know what fraction of them are habitable."

He also said that no direct evidence for the existence of the planets had been observed. Their presence is inferred from the finding that, contrary to previous belief, many stars have shed companions much smaller than themselves, probably including those that qualify as planets.

An earlier argument for the existence of many planets was the presence of stars that, like the sun, rotate much slower than "normal." The sun takes

almost a month to spin on its axis, whereas the fast-spinning, and usually hotter, stars rotate within hours.

It was assumed that the sun spins slowly because it had, in some way, transferred its spinning momentum to the planets. It now appears that the fast-spinning stars are just as likely to have planets, Dr. Abt said.

Dr. Abt, who made his observations with an assistant, Saul G. Levy, was quoted by the National Science Foundation, which financed the study, as saying: "The evidence we have that hot stars, as well as cooler stars like our sun, have companions orbiting them could mean that the number of stars which can have habitable planets is greatly increased."

In the interview, however, he noted that very hot stars burn out in tens of millions of years — presumably too soon for the evolution of higher forms of life.

Using the 84-inch telescope on Kitt Peak, the astronomers first surveyed 123 cooler stars, cataloging the characteristics of their observable companions. They inferred that 10 per cent had nonvisible companions of planetary size. They then studied 42 systems with hot stars and deduced that 16 per cent had such companions.

More evidence of planetary companions might be obtained through spectroscopic observations sufficiently sensitive to detect the effect of very slight motion of a star toward and away from the Earth under the gravitational tug from a planet.

'Bigfoot' spotted in Louisiana

KROTZ SPRINGS, La. (UPI) — A man told St. Landry Parish sheriff's deputies Sunday he may have seen the hairy, 7-foot tall, ape-like creature known as "Big Foot" for the second time in less than a year.

Leonce Boudreaux of Krotz Springs said he and his wife saw a towering figure early Sunday at a fishing camp near their trailer home. Authorities made a plaster mold of a footprint that

measures 19 inches long, but said it was too early to tell if an animal made the print in the soft, muddy ground.

Boudreaux said he and his wife were returning home about 2:30 a.m. when they heard a strange noise. He said he flashed lights in the direction of the noise and saw the outline of a hairy, reddish creature.

Kenneth Vidrine, an official from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, said the impression should

have been deeper for a creature Boudreaux estimated to be 7 to 7½ feet tall and 400-500 pounds.

It was the second time in a year Boudreaux says he has seen the creature. He claims to have sighted Big Foot last October or November in woods near Belville, La., several miles from the sighting Sunday morning.

Sheriff's deputies searched the woods Sunday and are reportedly planning to make a horseback search Monday.

Many Americans believe in occult, supernatural

By GEORGE GALLUP

PRINCETON, N.J. — A rising large number of Americans — particularly among the younger and better educated — believe in paranormal phenomena such as the occult and supernatural beings.

This conclusion is based on a recent survey of the nation's adults, who were asked to indicate whether they believe in a wide variety of phenomena, ranging from such everyday topics as astrology to such esoterica as *deja vu*, the feeling that you have been someplace or done something you haven't.

Here are the main findings:

- A solid majority (57 percent) of those aware of UFOs believe they are real and not imaginary. In Great Britain, where there have been far fewer "sightings," many more skeptics are found: 27 percent say they believe in flying saucers.

- A majority of 54 percent believe in angels. The percentage increases to 68 percent among persons surveyed who say their religious beliefs are very important in their lives.

- About half of those interviewed (51 percent) believe in ESP (extra sensory perception). Two-thirds of persons with a college background (64 percent) do.

- About four in 10 (39 percent) of the sample say they believe in devils (50 percent of those who say their religious beliefs are very important in their lives).

- Precognition (the feeling that something is going to happen that hasn't actually happened) and *deja vu* (the feeling you have been someplace you haven't been before, or have done something you haven't done before) are common beliefs. Four in 10 (37 percent) Americans believe in precognition, while three in 10 (30 percent) believe in *deja vu*.

- Twenty-nine percent of Americans say they believe in astrology and think their lives are governed by the position of the stars. Attesting to the popularity of astrology in the U.S. today is the fact that astrology columns are carried by 1,200 of the nation's 1,750 daily newspapers.

Interestingly, those who say their religious beliefs are

"very important" in their lives are as likely to believe in astrology as those who say their religious beliefs are "fairly" or "not at all" important.

- About one person (13 percent), in eight and one person in four in the West, believes in Sasquatch, or Bigfoot, a purported 8-foot, 900-pound Pacific Northwest humanoid.

- A like proportion believe in the Loch Ness Monster, a creature that supposedly lives in a 24-mile long, mile wide stretch of water in Scotland called Loch Ness. Although there have been an estimated 2,000 reported sightings of "Nessie," little agreement is found on what the creature looks like.

- One American in nine (11 percent) believes in ghosts. As many as 20 percent of the British, however, say they believe in ghosts. And 7 percent report that they have actually seen a ghost.

- One American in 10 (10 percent) believes in witches, with younger adults far more likely to believe in witches than older persons.

Respondents were handed a card and asked this question: "Which of the following do you believe in?"

Here are the percentages saying yes, ranked from highest percentages to lowest:

UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects)	57
Angels	54
ESP (Extra Sensory Perception)	53
Devils	50
Precognition (the feeling that something is going to happen that hasn't actually happened)	39
Deja Vu (the feeling you have been someplace you never have been before — or done something you have not done before)	30
Astrology	29
Sasquatch (Bigfoot)	13
The Loch Ness Monster	13
Ghosts	11
Witches	11

The results reported today are based on in-person interviews with 1,553 adults, 18 and older, taken in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the country during the period Feb 24-27.

Explorers Hope To Find Atlantis In Bahamas

New York News

NEW YORK — Films of what appears to be a great, coral-covered pyramid submerged in the Bermuda Triangle has raised hopes of a group of undersea explorers that fabled Atlantis may be lying only 45 miles south of Miami.

A videotape of the object, filmed two weeks ago under 600 feet of water on the continental shelf of the Bahamas, was shown for the first time Monday by the explorers, who are outfitting another expedition.

Scuba divers could not reach the pyramid object, about 400 feet tall and about 200 feet below the surface, on the first expedition. The explorers are chartering a submarine so that deep-sea divers can approach the pyramid on the next trip, scheduled to get under way in a couple of months.

Greek Searching

The two expeditions were organized by Ari Marshall, a Greek industrialist residing in the United States.

"Plato, who first described Atlantis, was a Greek," Marshall said at the film showing. "I want a Greek — myself — to be the first to uncover the real Atlantis."

Marshall said the expedition was spurred by sonar images of the pyramid written of by Atlantean author Charles Berlitz, who discovered the object in 1977.

Berlitz will accompany Marshall's second expedition, which will be led by Jacques Mayol, who holds the world's record for deep-sea diving without scuba gear and who photographed the pyramid with a camera lowered on a cable.

Mayol, on the first expedition, also examined and photographed submerged trenches and road-like rock arrangements, which the explorers believe are man-made, about 100 miles from the pyramid.

"About 12,000 years ago, great glaciers melted and the oceans rose," Mayol said, "submerging 100,000 square miles of the Bahama land mass. It is not unlikely that the pyramid and other such objects are remnants of an ancient civilization that built on what would have been the shoreline — before the waters rose."

The pyramid videotape showed two holes on opposite faces of the four-sided object. Water and mysterious particles shot out of one opening and were sucked into the opposite hole.

Berlitz wrote of the pyramid's discovery in the recently published "Without a Trace."

It was raining dead ducks!

WALKER — It was raining cats and dogs and ducks here sometime Friday night — DEAD DUCKS. When the Clarence Williams' arose this morning, they found nine dead ducks scattered around their farmyard within 500 feet of each other... not domestic ducks... wild ones, mallards, five drakes and four hens.

Williams, initially at a loss to explain the occurrence, performed his own autopsies on them Saturday morning. One thing for sure, they weren't shot.

What he found though, gives a hint to the birds' fates.

In each case there were either

broken legs, wings or necks and bruises.

Williams now figures the birds, "they were nice and fat, healthy birds," were part of a flock that crossed paths with an airplane. "I don't know if lightning can do anything like this or not."

One puzzle remains though — how all of the ducks managed to fall in such a small perimeter, if in fact an airplane was the culprit.