

# UFO

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## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OVER BROOKLYN

By RICHARD GOODING

Scores of people in Brooklyn and Queens think they saw a UFO last night.

An official of the Federal Aviation Administration at Kennedy Airport saw the eerie lights hanging in the southwest sky for about three minutes before they simply vanished.

"It was not a normal star sighting," he said.

A Brooklyn mail clerk, sky gazing from his Ralph Avenue stoop, watch similarly mysterious lights — unmoving, close together, bright—for almost two hours. When he went to his roof for a clearer view, they were gone.

"I've never seen stars like that before," Steve Horvatt said. "And they didn't move like a plane or satellite."

And other calls came in from Brook-

## Was it a bird, was it a plane—or was it a UFO?

lyn and Queens from people reporting other-worldly sightings.

All thought they were seeing UFOs.

But Bernard Faraino thinks they were seeing him, buzzing the Brooklyn shoreline with his night-light advertisement for "Randazzo's Seafood Restaurant, Sheepshead Bay."

"You can only see that there are letters and words when you're directly below the plane," said the Brooklyn School of Aviation pilot. "From anywhere else, all you see is a stream of bright, flashing lights."

"That's when I'm over the shore. But when I circle back over the water, I cut all the lights on the billboard and plane—that explains the disappearance."

"I can't blame people for going out of their minds. It does look like a flying saucer, especially as it chumb."

"But that's why this unit is made this way. It's supposed to attract attention."

Apparently it did. But if Faraino's Cessna 150 with its 40-foot grid of 375 bulbs is what some people saw between 9:30 and 11:30 last night, Horvatt and the FAA officer are not convinced it is what they saw.

The time period matches, but not the description.

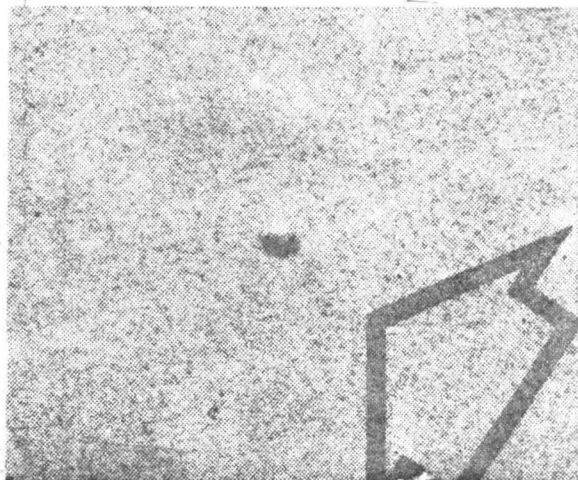
"I would have seen the motion if that was it," said the FAA officer, who declined to give his name.

"No, these lights were stationary, about 30 degrees off the horizon, west-southwest. They gave all the appearance of being stars—but they vanished."

### SOMETHING ELSE

And then there were other sky phantoms yesterday that didn't match anything anyone else reported seeing.

Dan Noonan was taking photographs at 3 p.m. from



the roof of the 14-story New York University Medical School dorm along the East River. He was alone.

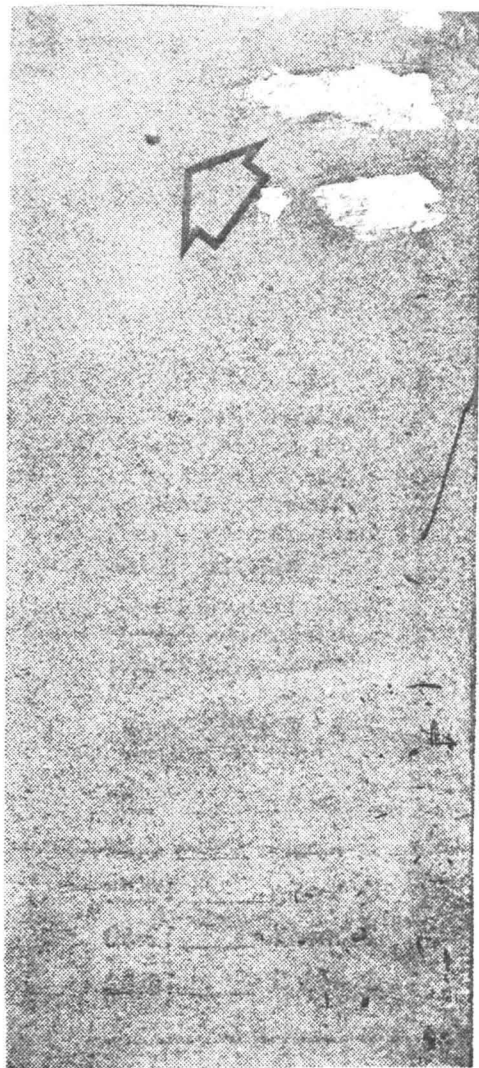
"I was looking down at the FDR Drive when I saw something flying around that at first I thought was a frisbee," said the 26-year-old medical student.

"It couldn't have been bigger than three feet across. It was round and white. But it wasn't acting like a bird or something floating in the wind."

"It was flying—but it made absolutely no noise."

In the five minutes that the "unidentified flying object" stayed in Noonan's sight, he said, it rose to the level of the roof, "hovered" over the middle of the East River, then "took off" in the direction of Kennedy Airport, reflecting the sun metallically as it went.

"I thought it was a UFO at the time," he said later. "But I wasn't willing to admit it even to myself until I'd heard other people had seen something."



Earlier yesterday, medical student Dan Noonan spotted this object over the East River. It took off towards Kennedy Airport as he took this photo. "It was flying," he said, "but it made absolutely no noise." Inset is an enlargement of Noonan's UFO.

NEWS-RECORD, Gillette, WY  
July 17, 1978

## 'UFO' seen here

"It streaked in fast, and we thought it was a shooting star at first," Mrs. Robert Starr of Rawhide Village said Friday night.

The Starrs, their son, John, and his two friends watched a "thing," which they came to believe had to be an unidentified flying object, from their living room window for about an hour and a half.

The UFO came in fast from the southwest and then appeared to stop and hover. After a period of time it seemed to become smaller, but they deducted it was traveling due west away from them.

"It moved up and down, and side to side, as it traveled to the west. The light seemed to pulse and then the thing stopped again," Mrs. Starr reported.

# Something Happened in Kerman

## Report of UFO Tightens Lips in a Small California Town

By STEVE COMUS  
Herald Examiner Staff Writer

It was about 3:30 a.m., May 13. Lisa Harrison's husband, Greg, had taken his cement-mixer truck to an overnight job in Los Angeles, and she couldn't get to sleep.

She was watching the late movie on television, sitting next to the living room window of her duplex apartment in Kerman, on the far west side of the San Joaquin Valley, near Fresno.

Her 1½-year-old daughter, Christie, was asleep in one of the apartment's two bedrooms, and light from the television reflected family pictures on

the white living-room walls. All was peaceful.

Suddenly, there was a strange noise, like none she had ever heard — and the home began to vibrate. She took three quick steps out the front door to see what was happening.

Looking up toward the northwest, she saw two lights moving southward at tree-top level.

"The noise was really loud—a loud whurr,rrr," she said last week. "There were vibrations — not like an earthquake but more like a vibrator. And then I saw this white light and behind it was a reddish light — not like

the red lights on airplanes, though.

"I couldn't tell exactly how big it was, but it was big. It was going just above those trees," she added as she pointed to trees about a half-mile west of her apartment.

"It was going slow and it was just lights, but it made a real loud noise... a strong and smooth hum, much smoother even than a jet engine.

"I knew it wasn't an airplane or a helicopter," she said. "I ran back into the house after I watched it go out of sight behind those houses (to the south)."

Although the humming lights had

startled her, she didn't think much more about the incident. She didn't even mention it to her neighbors — not a first, anyway.

Mrs. Harrison's next-door neighbor, Nenette Pallesi, was also awake that night. She was due to give birth to her first child any day and had been sleepless for hours.

All the lights were out, and her husband, Mike, was asleep when suddenly: "I heard this humming noise," she said. "I thought it was the air conditioner — I thought the air conditioner was going berserk."

She went to a room she and Mike had

prepared for the baby, thinking the humming noise might have been coming from there. But it wasn't.

After a minute or two, the hum stopped.

She went back to bed and woke her husband. But he only kidded her about "flying saucers." She dropped the subject and tried to fall asleep.

Downtown that night, officer Manuel Amparano was working overnight patrol. He was the only member of the nine-man force on duty.

Suddenly, he spotted a glimmering light southwest of town. He thought it might be a fire, so he drove to the

corner of Del Norte and California avenues to investigate.

As he got closer in his new white Chevy Nova squad car, however, he could see that the light wasn't a fire. Whatever it was, it was hovering about 100 feet above a 60-acre cotton field just south of the Southern Pacific Railroad Tracks.

He drove closer — within 100 feet of it — and looked up, peering at the strange sight for about five minutes. It was circular, about 30 feet in diameter. At times it seemed orange; other times it turned a shimmering bright white.

(Continued on Page A-8, Col. 2)

Suddenly, the light zipped off to the southwest, over the seemingly endless table-flat San Joaquin Valley and out of sight.

Later that afternoon, when he was off duty, Amparano checked into the emergency room at Fresno Community Hospital for treatment of first-degree burns on his face, neck and hands. The policeman told the doctors who treated him that he got the burns staring at a UFO.

\* \* \*

Kerman, all one-square mile of it, seemed frozen in suspended animation the day The Herald Examiner reporter arrived to investigate the officer's report.

Kerman (population 3,000) isn't much of a town. The business district along Madera Avenue is nine blocks long. And there aren't any traffic lights.

City Hall, a new building on the south end of town next to a park, houses all the administrative offices and the police department.

It was 9 a.m. and the glass door to the police station was locked. A sign on the door in both English and Spanish explained what to do:

"If an officer is not in the office, go to the telephone and call the operator."

Information was only a dime away.

As it turned out, the policeman on duty was only two blocks away, sitting in his patrol car next to the Kerman News building, the city's weekly newspaper. The name tag over his right pocket read T. (for Tom) Gilpin.

Gilpin looked up.

"What's the story about the UFO?"

"It's already out," said Gilpin. "I can't say anything that's not already been reported. It was in the (Fresno) Bee last week and on television and radio."

"Which officer saw it?"

"I can't say," he replied sternly.

After reciting the dry facts — a policeman had spotted an "illumination" early on May 13. He thought it was a fire, but it was only a bright light. He saw it out by Del Norte and California avenues in a cotton field. And that was all there was to the story.

"Maybe it would be good for me to talk to the chief."

"You want to talk to the chief?"

"Yes."

"Okay, I'll call him."

Gilpin picked up his car microphone and mumbled something.

"Okay," answered a woman's voice over the car's loudspeaker.

There was the sound of the phone dialing and then a ring at the other end.

After several rings, Gilpin looked up and said:

"I guess the chief's not home. He'll be here tomorrow if you want to call him."

"What about the mayor?"

"He's probably home."

"What's his name?"

"Uh, it's kind of odd," said Gilpin. "Scia . . . Sciakka, something like that."

"Thanks."

But the mayor, Lee Sciacqua, who lives in a ranch-style house a couple of blocks off the main drag, said he couldn't add much. He said he didn't want his town to look silly, but he stressed that the officer who saw the UFO was highly respected. He refused to name the man, and referred all other questions to the chief, James Van Cleaf.

Van Cleaf was in his office early the next morning, a Monday, but refused to elaborate on his formal press statement which he read in a monotone:

"On 5-13-78 at 0330 hours, an officer observed what was first believed by him to be a fire. Closer observation revealed there was no fire. The cause of the illumination is unknown. He saw it for about 4 to 5 minutes. Later that day, the officer who observed the illumination received treatment at a Fresno hospital for first-degree burns and was off duty for one day. We are unable to link the cause of the burns with the illumination."

The chief added that a group in Seattle was handling the investigation.

City officials seemed to have constructed their own little cosmic cover-up. No, the chief wouldn't name the officer. No, the chief wouldn't allow the officer to answer questions anonymously by phone. "The man has a right to privacy," the chief said.

Maj. James Arthur at the Air National Guard unit at the Fresno Airport, said he had not received a report of the sighting: "There was nothing routed to me."

Paul Schultz, director of the tower at Fresno airport, said no one had called him either — there was nothing on the log.

"The group in Seattle" the chief mentioned was a privately funded UFO reporting center, headed by a man named Robert Gribble. He said the report was being handled routinely. It would be at least 30 days before the facts could be gathered and evaluated. And no, he could not name the officer either. His name had been "classified confidential" at the policeman's request.

(continued on page 3)



(continued from page 2 - "Something Happened in Kernan" - HERALD-EXAMINER, Los Angeles, CA - June 5, 1978 CR: J. Cratty)

The UFO sighting is one of the biggest stories to hit Kerman since the Southern Pacific Railroad put it on the map in 1891 by building a water tower there for its steam locomotive. Yet the local weekly, the Kerman News, did not mention the sighting in its Wednesday morning edition following the Saturday incident.

Mark O. Kilen, the editor, said he was content to go along with the town officials. "They don't want to say anything about it," Kilen said. "So, that's it."

But a number of town residents didn't share their leaders' studied disinterest in the incident. They wanted to know more — and tell what they knew. The town seemed split between those who knew the actual details, and those who wanted to know.

For the next two days, as the reporter went around town interviewing residents, a police car seemed to follow — cruising down alleys, or parking just around the corner.

Anita Davis, the barmaid at the White's Bridge bar, said there was a lot of talk about the UFO. "But we haven't been able to find out much of anything," she said. "They're keeping it a secret."

Ed Burgess was hooking a travel trailer to his pickup truck at the rear of his small house a quarter-mile south of the city limits, sipping from a can of Coors beer.

"It's very possible," Burgess said, taking another sip. "I seen one here about 10 years ago. The one I seen, it was a big red light right by the railroad tracks. It started to turn right, it went swoosh, and it was gone."

"There was seven of us that seen it. It was about 30 feet in diameter and round. The closer I got, the bigger it got. It shimmered, kind of like aluminum. Then when it took off, sparks came off it."

He took a final sip, crunched the can in his hand and tossed it into the truck's bed. Burgess went back to the trailer, turned and repeated. "Yep, it could be."

"I believe it," said Kerman Food Market clerk Ann Perez. "It was near my house, but I didn't hear anything or see anything."

"I don't believe in UFOs," said 67-year-old Raymond Hayworth, who owns the 60-acre field where the officer spotted the illumination. "We didn't hear anything, and we (he and his wife, Carolyn) were sleeping right there in the bedroom (at the opposite end of the field.)"

"The first of last week (several days after the sighting) a policeman came out and asked if we heard any planes . . . (or) if somebody was (crop) dusting. There wasn't."

"But if that thing had burned the cop, it would have burned the field. And it didn't."

Hayworth, like other residents in town, was not frightened by the possibility that a UFO may have visited Kerman.

"It don't worry me," he said. "We sent a man to the moon and some people believe there may be life on other planets. I suppose that's possible. But I still don't believe it."

Meanwhile, at Ma's cafe near the four-way stop at the north end of Kerman, several farmers sat around a table, joking about the incident.

"I've heard of all sorts of things," one quipped, "but this is something else."

"Yea," said another, "just because there's one kook don't mean the whole town's crazy."

Many of the residents said they thought the officer who saw the "illumination" was Bill McKinney, but he denied it heatedly to a reporter — "It wasn't me!" And McKinney added: "If it would have been me, I wouldn't have said anything to anybody."

Finally, after some checking in nearby Fresno, The Herald Examiner was able to establish that officer Manuel Amparano was the one who saw the light and was later treated for the burns.

A reporter went to his home, but could only speak to his wife. No, her husband was not available for an interview. The chief had told him not to talk to anyone about the incident, least of all out-of-town reporters. Yes, she thought her husband would be willing to talk — he had nothing to hide — but only if the chief said it was all right.

But the chief was adamant. No interviews.

Recognized UFO experts say the Kerman sighting was classic. Every detail known about it is typical, including the efforts of local officials to cover up what happened.

Nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman, of Hayward, a well-known lecturer on UFOs, said that even the time of the sighting was right.

"That's an interesting time," he said. "There are two periods when many are seen — one at about 9 p.m. and one at 3 or 4 in the morning. That time fits very much into the general pattern," he added, referring to a study of more than 1,000 reported sightings in this country and a like number in France.

What about the burns on the officer?

"There are other reports of physiological effects of UFOs," Friedman recalled. "Many of them are consistent with microwave effects — like a sunburn. It is frequently reported that there is a feeling on the skin, of heat or a tingling."

The weird sounds heard by the two housewives is also common, Friedman explained.

"One of the most striking things about most close encounters is that the sounds are quite different from those normally associated with high performance aircraft."

"Some say it's a strange hum, a whurr or buzzing noise like bees. Others say it's like a generator, or a (giant) vacuum cleaner."

Friedman went on to say that the Kerman case reminded him of "one of the more famous close encounters" in Socorro, N.M., in 1964.

"Lonnie Zamora was a cop, well-known and trusted by everybody in the community including the mayor," said Friedman.

"He was chasing a speeder, when he saw something go overhead. It was about 5 o'clock in the afternoon."

Friedman said Zamora chased the object over rough terrain and spotted what looked from a distance like a car standing on end with youngsters around it.

As he approached, there was a loud noise and the object took off almost straight up and off toward nearby mountains, apparently leaving the burns and marks that were formed on the ground.

"He (Zamora) got such a hard time, especially from the outsiders, that after a while he didn't want to talk about it," Friedman said. "He just got dragged over the coals. He eventually went off the police force."

Friedman explained, "Most people think most people don't believe in UFOs when actually they do."

He also said that a recent Gallup Poll revealed that a majority of Americans believe there are flying saucers.

When asked whether they thought UFOs were real or the product of imagination, 57 percent said they were real, 27 percent said imaginary and 16 percent weren't sure.

Dr. Jacques Vallee, a computer scientist and author, recognized as a leading authority on UFOs, agreed with Friedman that the Kerman encounter was "a classic."

Vallee also added that "sometimes people try to keep it quiet (as in the Kerman sighting) because they are afraid of harassment."

"It's not uncommon."

Regardless of whether the "illumination" in Kerman was a UFO from outer space, one town resident, 16-year-old Scott Miller, believes in flying saucers and would like to ride in one.

"There has to be UFOs," he said. "In another galaxy, or somewhere, there has to be those things. If I seen it, I'd go with them. I'm ready to go anytime."

Something happened in Kerman, and the town will never be quite the same again.

## Not a jet!

# 'Hauling' object startles youths

Summer vacation began on a bizarre note Saturday for five Salinas students. The youths ranging in age from 10 to 14, reported seeing a UFO in the Pine Canyon area across the Salinas River from Spreckels.

The five youths, Don Ogawa, Bill Backus, Tim Price, Randy Moger and Brian Clasmeyer, told the Californian they saw a wedge-shape object in the sky about 1:20 p.m. Saturday. The youths reported they were walking on a road in the Pine Canyon Area at the time of the sighting.

According to Ogawa, who served as spokesman for the group, Backus saw the object first and pointed it out to the others.

"There was no smoke, no sound. We thought it was a jet at first," Ogawa said. He said the object was shiny, so it was impossible to describe the color as anything other than bright white.

"It looked like a big wedge," Ogawa said. "We watched it for about 40 seconds."

When the youths noticed the object it was flying straight and level, Ogawa reported. He said

the object disappeared behind the crest of hill, then reappeared before going straight up and flying out of sight in a northwesterly direction. It was, Ogawa said, "really hauling."

Ogawa said he and his companions at first thought the object was a jet plane, but concluded from the object's behavior that it couldn't be a jet. It had to be a UFO.

CALIFORNIAN, Salinas, CA

June 12, 1978

# Ayers: Officials didn't cooperate in UFO probe

By JIM BROEDE  
Staff Writer

Aviation officials have been "uncooperative" in an investigation of the sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO) northeast of the Twin Cities, says investigator Brad Ayers.



Ayers

"But that doesn't surprise me," Ayers said in an interview. "It (lack of cooperation) happens all over, not just in the Twin Cities. I don't know why."

Ayers, representing the Center for UFO Studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., said this tends to feed speculation that UFOs are real.

"I HEAR PEOPLE say there must be a government cover up," he said.

"But others," he added, "suggest that aviation officials are just scoffing at reports of UFOs."

Ayers said that with full cooperation from aviation officials, it may be possible to determine if helicopters were mistaken as a UFO sighted the night of March 22 over New Scandia in northeast Washington County and in suburbs east of St. Paul.

"But now it's just an ambiguous case," he stated. "The witnesses possibly misinterpreted and misidentified a close formation of helicopters which was possibly flying at an unauthorized low altitude."

"A housewife claims that she positively identified the 'UFO' as a group of helicopters . . .

"Of course, on the pro-UFO side, there are internal contradictions and inconsistencies between witnesses."

"SEVERAL EVEN reported seeing the helicopters and the UFO at the same time."

"However, it is strange that few witnesses reported seeing the UFO and the helicopters at the same time, since all evidence points to the fact that both were in almost exactly the same place at the same moment."

The U.S. Army Reserve Aviation Support Detachment at the St. Paul downtown airport acknowledged helicopter operations in the vicinity of the UFO reports, according to Ayers.

"However," he said, "the operations duty officer assured me that the aircraft had been in the area around 8 p.m. and would have cleared the area well before the sighting of the UFO (about 9:15 p.m.)."

"But continued investigation on March 27 and 28 revealed that this initial report was not accurate."

"It has subsequently been established that a flight of five U.S. Army Jet Ranger helicopters departed St. Paul downtown airport at approximately 7:30 p.m. on a training exercise flight to an undisclosed location in northwestern Wisconsin . . .

"The helicopters made the return flight in 'V' formation, according to the reserve detachment officer in charge. The aircraft . . . landed at St. Paul downtown airport at 9:35 p.m."

"Their inbound (course) was not disclosed."

"However, assuming calm surface winds, the formation may well have been over the New Scandia Township area at about 9:15 p.m. — the time of the initial sighting reports."

"THEIR ASSUMED direct flight path to the St. Paul downtown airport would place the formation of aircraft near the center of the 20-mile swath from northeast Washington County to the eastern suburbs of St. Paul, from where the majority of the UFO reports originated."

Ayers said he was denied permission to interview the helicopter pilots "although a local news reporter later identified and interviewed one of the pilots."

He added, "Specific flight information, such as altitude, heading, air speed, groundspeed, etc., were requested from the officer in charge."

"Except for adamant and emotional public denials on the part of the Army Reserve detachment that the helicopters may have stimulated the UFO reports or may have deviated in any way from the prescribed 'normal' operations, no additional information has been forthcoming."

According to Ayers, the officer in charge directed him to the Minneapolis Approach Control Radar for specific data on the inbound flight of helicopters.

"The officer . . . informed me that the flight leader contacted Approach Control in the vicinity of Osceola, Wis., for vectors (course direction) for the formation from that point to their destination at St. Paul downtown airport."

"Subsequently, the FAA (Federal Aviation Agency) Approach Control team supervisor on the evening of March 22 was contacted."

"I requested the specifics on the March 22 flight of army helicopters."

"THE SUPERVISOR treated my verbal request with something akin to disdain and no specific information has been forthcoming."

Meanwhile, the Center for UFO Studies is "keeping the case open," Ayers said.

"Without specific flight data requested," he added, "a more exact analysis and evaluation of the Army helicopter activity cannot be made."

"It is essential that the exact groundtrack of the helicopter formation through the Washington County area be established if that information is to be correlated with UFO sighting reports."

Ayers said that numerous witnesses reported one or more widely separated clusters of intense, sometimes pulsating red orbs of light arranged in a horizontal 'V' formation.

At the apex of the 'V,' the witnesses generally told of a blue green source of light, he said.

Others described a vague dark mass, suggesting the shape of a domed saucer, he noted.

He added, "The entire 'apparition' was moving very slowly (estimated five to 10 miles an hour), sometimes in a wave-like motion, sometimes bobbing and jerking, sometimes hovering and sometimes seeming to move almost instantaneously from northeast to southwest at an altitude estimated at 100 to 300 feet."

"Witnesses reporting sightings used comparisons such as 'as large as a 747 jet aircraft' and 'as big as a 3-story building' in estimating the size of the 'apparition.'"

"The light clusters moved silently, according to observers. This struck many as being quite extraordinary and caused them to discount aircraft as a possible explanation for the light clusters."

VALLEY NEWS,

Lebanon, NH

July 15, 1978

CR: L. Coleman

## Strange Lights Puzzle Man At Goose Pond

ENFIELD — Strange lights were seen over Goose Pond Road in Enfield Thursday night and the Lebanon man who saw them said he had never seen anything like them before.

Robert P. Tobin of West Lebanon was fishing out on the dock of his parents' summer home on Goose Pond at about 9 p.m. when he noticed some slow moving lights.

"I always look up at the sky when I'm fishing," said Tobin. "And when I saw the lights I didn't think much of them. I thought it was probably an airplane."

However, the lights, said Tobin, came closer to him. He said two white lights settled over the Enfield end of the pond about 1,000 feet up in the sky.

Then suddenly a "big ball of light came flying out of the sky and stopped in front of the other lights," he said.

When he looked at the lights again there appeared to be about five or six different colored lights.

Tobin said he yelled out and to his wife and to anyone else around.

He went to his house to tell his wife and then heard "a big roar and the lights were gone."

Upper Valley police departments report no calls concerning strange lights in the area were received Thursday night. The Lebanon Regional Airport Flight Service had no calls concerning the lights either.

However, Tobin maintains he saw something strange, not the Northern Lights which have been visible this year, nor an airplane.

"It was really something," he said.

Richard Heiden has provided the following corrections for items appearing in past UFONS issues: #87, p. 3, lower right/ should be New London, WI PRESS STAR, June 30, 1976 - #87, p. 11, labels on Elmwood, WI and Mt. Airy, NC items are apparently reversed - #91/92, p. 19, Racine, WI item should be dated Sept. 10 - #91/92, p. 23, Fond du Lac, WI "green men" item should be dated Aug. 10.



# Strange object sighted in Galt

Two individuals reported to the **Galt Herald** last week that they had seen an unusual-looking object in the sky last Monday around 10 p.m.

The first individual who asked his name to be withheld said he was driving southbound on Lower Sacramento Road between 10 and 10:30 p.m. just past the undercrossing at Forest Lake Golf Course.

"When I got there there were from five to eight cars already parked watching the thing. It had two wings, was round in the middle, and no tail.

"It had two bright white lights under both wings, like spotlights and a red one underneath the middle," the first man said.

He said it was about a half mile high and was on the east side of the road. "It made a weird humming noise," he added.

It just hung there for a moment or two and then took off real quick towards Galt, he noted.

The other observer, a Galt man, said that he was located at 5th and C Streets near Galt Auto Supply when he saw what seems like the same "thing" as the other man.

"It was about 50 feet above the water tower by the club. It had white lights on both sides. One thing's for sure—it was no jet or helicopter. I've never known a jet to stop and stay in one place before, he commented.

"It was low, real low. But I couldn't see any red light on the bottom. Although it had a funny-shaped bottom."

He said it stayed for just a few moments and then took off slowly in a northwest direction. As soon as it started leaving he jumped in his car and didn't look back.

There was a call at the police department from

an older lady who asked if there had been any reports of strange sightings in the area that night. She would not give her name.

Another girl who lives here in town mentioned that she had also seen it and that it was no helicopter.

Numerous other residents in town had either heard something strange that night or saw something around the time of the sighting. But what it was, we may never know.

## Three report seeing UFO

Although there was only one report, three Prairie Village youths told Johnson county Sheriff's officers they saw a UFO Thursday night.

According to the report, the youths were on an overpass at 183rd and U.S. 69 when they saw the objects for about 15 minutes. They described the aerial display as "yellowish-colored objects bordered by green."

The youths — ages 17, 17 and 18 — said the object "followed sporadically through the sky at about jet altitude."

The sighting was about 10:15 p.m. and the report was made to sheriff's officers shortly after 11 p.m.

Sheriff's officers said they had no other reports, but could not attribute the source of the strange display.

SUN, Beatrice, NE - June 28, 1978

## TWO NEAR BEATRICE

# UFO sighting makes you think about your sanity

By STEVE STINGLEY

Beatrice policeman Doug Klevemann is beginning to take UFOs a little more seriously.

In the past month, Klevemann has sighted what he says was a UFO and has investigated another reported UFO sighting.

"Personally, I do believe in them," he admits.

But Klevemann is cautious not to exaggerate his sighting.

"It makes you think about your sanity," he says, "when you see something like that."

The "something like that" spotted by Klevemann appeared June 10 in the sky north of Beatrice. Klevemann was in his patrol car when he saw a small, round light that "looked like a planet."

He said it fluctuated in size, moved away and then "zoomed off into nowhere."

On June 15, Klevemann was near the Pizza Hut on U.S. 77 when he received a call saying two teen-age boys had sighted an odd circular object in the sky near the airport.

The call said the object had blue blinking lights. When Klevemann arrived at the airport the only blue lights he could see were those on the airport runway but they were not blinking, according to Klevemann.

Klevemann said he was about to pass the report off as an exaggeration of the runway lights when the two boys who called the police station arrived.

The boys were Charles Chapp and Robbie Sandersfeld, both of Beatrice.

"By their description and what they did to get a closer look," Klevemann said, "I'd have to classify it as another UFO."

"They (the boys) were definitely scared. One didn't even want to get out of the car to talk to me—he was that shook up," Klevemann said.

Even though Klevemann didn't see the "object" June 15, he seemed empathetic toward the boys who thought they did.

"You want to report it so others can see it, but if you do report it people are going to think you are crazy."

DISPATCH, St. Paul, MN - June 20, 1978

## UFO may have left trace, Ayers says

An unidentified flying object (UFO) may have left a "physical trace" near Square Lake in Washington County, according to investigator Brad Ayers.

Ayers said he inspected the area March 23, the day following the reported sightings of a UFO northeast of the Twin Cities.

"Although a number of witnesses reported 'it nearly touched the ground,' only one suggested a possible area of physical trace," the investigator stated in an interview.

What was it?

"A GENERALLY CIRCULAR spot on the ground, six to eight feet in diameter, where the snow had melted very rapidly," Ayers said.

Ayers, representative of the Center for UFO Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., declined to give the exact location of the spot, other than to say, "It's in a family's garden."

He also refused to identify the person who reported the "physical trace."

# Shermans Dale family visited by mysterious nocturnal interloper

by Wade Fowler

When Barry Palakovic, of Sherms Dale RD 1, returned from work in the early hours of Jan. 20, 1978, he found his household in turmoil. All the lights were on, and his wife and four children were wide awake.

"That was just not in their routine for 4 a.m.," he said. "I knew something was wrong."

Something was indeed wrong. At about 9:25 p.m. on the night of Jan. 19, Pat Palakovic and her children Deb, 16; Brian, 14; Barry, 12; and Darian, 9 experienced a close encounter of an as-yet undetermined kind.

Mrs. Palakovic had just sent her children to get ready for bed. Brian, Barry and Darian were in their rooms, and Deb was taking a shower.

"I was watching T.V. and reading the

paper, when I noticed a rumbling noise," she said. "The noise got steadily louder, and soon the walls, and the floor were shaking. My first thought was that a plane was having engine trouble and was going to crash into the house."

The noise was so intense that it drove Deb from the shower. Mrs. Palakovic called upon Brian to investigate. "I was afraid to go outside," she said.

"I ran down the stairs, but none of the family followed me," Brian said. "I ran out the door about 50 feet, and saw it over the house."

According to Brian, the object was about 45 feet long by about 20 feet at the widest point. "It was hovering directly above the house," Brian said, "about ten feet above the roof, and remained in that position for a full five minutes."

Mrs. Palakovic, who was watching from a window, saw the object fly out across the field. "It hovered above the field in front of our house shining a light back and forth," she said. "And then it traveled over a line of trees and did the same thing in the adjoining field. Then it took off in the direction of New Bloomfield."

While the object was in the area, television reception was interrupted. "The picture went snowy," Mrs. Palakovic said. "And our two German sheppard dogs reacted strangely. They made growling noises deep in their throats like they do when they sense danger."

The needle of Brian's compass was also affected. "Brian keeps his compass on his desk with all his other junk," she said. "The needle locked in one spot, and he had to pound on it to set it free."

When Gene Shank of WGAL television learned of the incident, he asked Brian to take a look at the roof. Brian climbed onto the roof and discovered that most of the snow had been melted away.

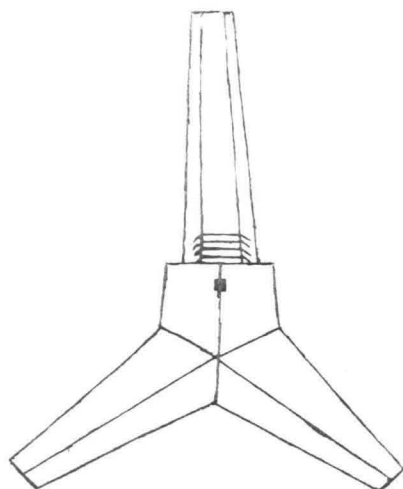
The Palakovics were the only people in the area to see the object, but other neighbors reported hearing loud noises at about the same time.

After the incident, Mrs. Palakovic called civil defense and asked if any planes had been in trouble in the area at that time. Civil defense said there were no reports of aircraft in trouble in the area. But this really didn't surprise her. "The motor was not like anything I had ever heard," she said.

She then called her brother-in-law who is a state policeman in Pittsburgh. He told her the proper federal agency to contact about the sighting. Mrs. Palakovic thought that the object might have been an experimental government aircraft. But the federal government responded, no.

Her inquiries alerted the local news media, and she and son, Brian, have appeared on two local television programs to describe their experiences. The National Enquirer has also contacted the Palakovics, and will soon do a story concerning their experiences.

Some people write the incident off as a helicopter sighting, but Mrs. Palakovic thinks not. "I don't know what it was," she said, "but it wasn't a helicopter. It's strange that they can't tell me what it was."



**THIS SKETCH** is of the underside of the object Brian Palakovic sighted hovering over his house on the night of Jan. 19. He estimated it to be 20 feet wide and 45 feet long.

Mr. Palakovic was skeptical when he learned of the incident. "I thought they were all crazy," he said. "But now I believe that they did see something out of the ordinary."

Brian didn't hedge his bets. "It wasn't a flying saucer because it wasn't in a saucer shape," he said. "The correct term would be UFO."

Mrs. Palakovic said that except for the publicity, the event hadn't changed her life. "But Brian is now a confirmed UFO nut," she said.

She is still troubled by the incident, but has learned to live with the publicity and the skepticism of her neighbors. "I'd still like to know what it was," she said, "just to satisfy my own mind."



Since his experiences last winter Brian Palakovic has become a UFO enthusiast.

IDAHO ENTERPRISE,  
Malad City, ID -  
July 6, 1978

## UFO sighted in Oneida?

Could a UFO have been sighted in Oneida?

The Malad Volunteer Fire Department hosted just one of Oneida's aerial sights during the evening of the Fourth of July.

About 11:00 p.m. that evening a vertical column of hazy light was sighted in the west-northwestern skies of the Valley. The 'light' rose from just above the horizon disappearing behind a cloud. The cloud later drifted away, revealing the phenomenon which seemed to fade away at the top surface.

Viewed from Malad City, the 'light' looked similar to a puff of smoke, but away from the lights west of the City boundary, the seemingly self-luminated pillar appeared in full view. Spectators concluded that it was not smoke from fireworks nor the northern lights.

The 'light' remained in a vertical position during its appearance, with the top slightly wider than the bottom.

The 'pillar' held its position over the horizon until it began to disappear about 11:50 p.m. In a few minutes it faded out of sight.

Among those viewing the phenomenon were Jim and Kris Jones, Ralph, Kathy and James Burton, Alan and Sheena Gardner and Sheriff Ken Wharton.



# Sleuths to film movie on visitors from outer space

By **BILL McCLELLAN**  
Gazette Reporter

There are times when John Stefanelli probably wishes he were back in the comparative reality of fantasyland.

The Scottsdale film producer used to work for Walt Disney Productions and Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Jiminy Cricket seem a more plausible set of characters than Stefanelli's current business associates.

They include:

- a one-armed man from Switzerland who claims to have had repeated contacts with pretty girls from the distant galaxy of Pleiades

- a retired Air Force colonel turned UFO sleuth who has hunted extraterrestrials from the jungles of South America to the arctic wasteland of the North Pole

- a soldier of fortune with an affinity for electronics and a resume James Bond could envy

- the director of Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, one of the world's largest UFO investigatory agencies.

The glue that holds this unlikely cast together is the \$2.8 million in rewards for the person or persons who can prove the existence of visitors from outer space.

The cast of characters — and their quixotic quest — seems more the stuff of movies than level-headed business ventures.

Stefanelli is in an ideal position. Movies are his business.

He has been given the film rights to dramatize and document the efforts of the UFO sleuths to prove or disprove the one-armed man's allegations.

"We hope to start shooting in August," says Stefanelli. "We're calling it a docu-drama."

The documentary portion will be involved with the investigation. The drama portion will utilize special effects to portray the one-armed man's tales of repeated visitations.

Those visits apparently began late in 1974 when flying saucers allegedly landed near the one-armed man's cottage. The story reached a Swiss ufologist who went to the site to conduct an initial investigation. While she was conducting her investigation, more contacts allegedly took place. She obtained some photographs from the one-armed man and got in touch with former U.S. Air Force Colonel Wendelle Stevens.

"She didn't want to break the case in Switzerland because she feared the Swiss government would confiscate the photographs and do what they could to gain control of the case," claims Stevens. He says she contacted him because they had worked together and had exchanged information previously on other cases.

Stevens says he was impressed with the photographs and with his colleague's report.

"I decided I would have to go there myself, look the man in the eye and ask him some hard questions."

So Stevens went to Switzerland, talked to the one-armed man and was impressed with the answers he received. When he returned to this country, he contacted two other people.

One was Jim Lorenzen, director of Aerial Phenomena Research Organization. Lorenzen agreed to help coordinate an investigation to determine the validity of the physical evidence which by then, in 1977, consisted of more than 300 photographs, 2,000 pages of notes and scraps of metal allegedly taken from a spacecraft.

Stevens also contacted Lee Elders, an adventurer who had previously accompanied him on various UFO-related trips to South America. Elder operates a Phoenix-based company called Intercep. His business card identifies him as an "electronics communication protection specialist." He says he debugs things.

Elders agreed to help with technical aspects of the investigation and subsequently went to Switzerland to visit the one-armed man. Like Stevens, Elders was impressed.

It was through a friend of Elders in the film business that Stefanelli heard of the situation. He was introduced to Elders, then to Stevens and finally to Lorenzen. They asked Stefanelli if he would film the investigation.

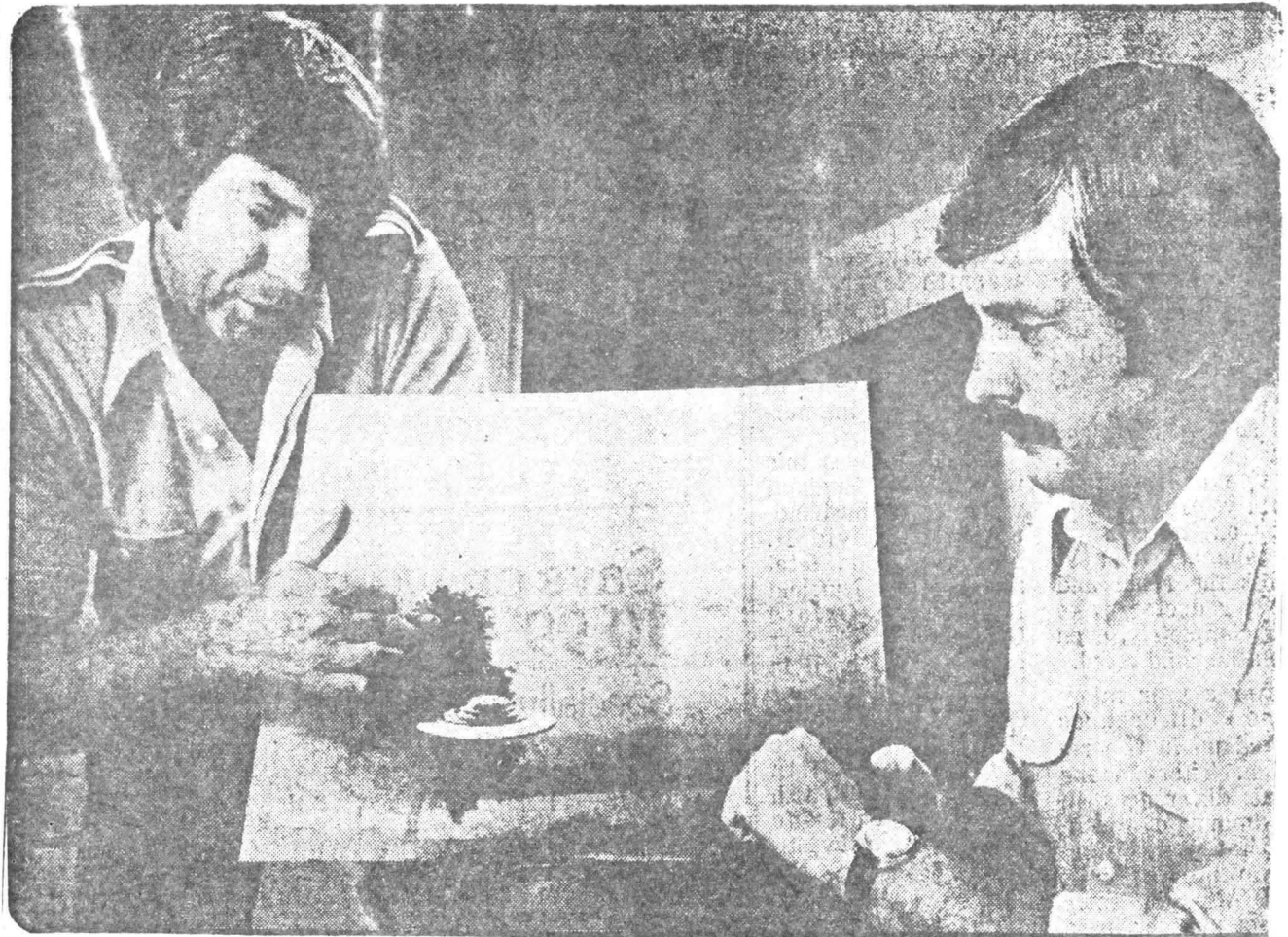
"We had talked to other, larger production companies," says Lorenzen. "They wanted to give this a 'gee whiz' treatment. We have in mind an honest, scientific investigation. That's what the movie will be about. There will be no attempt to slant it. What it shows will be what it shows."

Stefanelli agrees. He says he has always been neutral about the existence of UFOs, but he is impressed with the evidence the team has accumulated so far. Evidence now includes three 8mm films as well as the still photographs, 17 witnesses who collaborate the one-armed man's stories and rock samples

supposedly from the galaxy of Pleiades.

"No matter what the investigation ultimately shows, it ought to be the basis of a very good movie," says Stefanelli.

Even if it turns out to be "Close Encounters Meets The Sting."



Gazette Staff Photo by Rick Gian

GAZETTE, Phoenix,  
AZ - June 30, 1978

Lee Elders, left, and Scottsdale film producer John Stefanelli study one of more than 300 photographs allegedly showing space craft from the galaxy of Pleiades.

# Unidentified Flying Objects Seen When Cows Mutilated

• One of a Series  
By WOODY GREENBERG  
of The Progress Staff

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Reports by Goochland state farm guards of seeing an unidentified flying object during the series of cattle deaths and mutilations in March and April parallel similar descriptions of bright lights in the sky associated with cow deaths in Midwestern states.

But the UFO reports from Colorado and other states have also been coupled with sightings of helicopters, which may provide a link with an occult group named in a federal agency's report as being responsible for the mutilation-killings.

Two corrections officers in Goochland reported, independent of each other, they had seen something out of the ordinary swoop out of the sky at 5:15 a.m. on April 10.

Officer Ben Eldridge was on a stake-out, waiting for whatever or whomever it was that had killed eight of the cows in the previous three weeks.

Killed them and left them with teats and ears surgically removed. Killed them without a trace of how or why.

On that morning, Eldridge was standing in a corner of the field, near a hay barn, looking at a herd of 30 to 40 black Angus and whitefaced cattle, which were to the east. He looked over his right shoulder.

"Here the thing was," he recalled later, "pointed directly at me. It was round, red and real bright, about 10 to 12 feet long, probably longer. It really scared me when I first saw it."

A red glow surrounded the cylinder, about 18 inches out from the silver metal it seemed to be made of, Eldridge remembered.

Eldridge described the object as being "300 to 400 yards away. I thought somebody was shooting at me." But Eldridge didn't hear a sound.

At first, Eldridge thought he was going to have to run to dodge the object, "but then, in a few seconds, it was going sideways. There was no noise at all. It was level, slow, smooth. The farther away it got, the smaller it got."

His report, filed the next day with the state farm superintendent, reads, "it was very bright red with a flaming tail and was traveling approximately 20 feet over the tree tops. This object was coming from the northeast direction going southwest. When it got over the pasture field it went down in the woods where it burned out."

"I checked the cattle and there were no problems."

No problems for Eldridge, except perhaps with his credibility among fellow officers.

But Eldridge was not alone in his sighting of the night visitor.

Two miles away, at the same time as Eldridge, Corporal R.W. Sluss was working the tower shift at the prison complex. In a report filed the next day, he stated he had seen "an object in the atmosphere. It appeared from the northeast direction and disappeared in a southwestern direction."

"At first sight...I knew it was a large object. It looked like a cloud of steam in front of it and was shooting red sparks behind it. Then it burst in a white light blinding me. It then broke up into large chunks forming a long, brilliant tail of white, light blue and light green light. The tail disappeared fast but the main body

continued on its horizontal flight disappearing low on the southwest horizon. At the time it disappeared it was breaking dawn and the object appeared to be approximately five miles away from me and about 600 feet off the ground.

"The object seemed rather slow to be a meteorite but was traveling faster than any plane. It did not seem to be at great height."

Sluss added at the end of his report, "In my belief, this object was a little flying meteorite."

Although no dead cows were found that night, the descriptions of the UFO's given by Eldridge and Sluss bear a resemblance to what law officers and ranchers in the Sterling, Colo., area report having seen during a two-year skein of cattle mutilations there.

According to newspaper accounts in Oct., 1977, Sheriff Harry Graves reported a "very definite connection between the lights and mutilations because each time we've had a mutilation the lights have been seen."

The sheriff said he and four other officers had seen eerie bright objects - dubbed Big Mama and the Baby UFO's - which look "like a huge, brilliant star that hovers high in the sky for up to 90 minutes and then suddenly disappears at great speed."

Graves said that sometimes as many as three baby UFO's have "come out of the belly of Big Mama and their lights are very bright," according to news accounts.

The sheriff said the little UFO's "get done with whatever they're doing (and) join up with the big one and disappear."

In Goochland, another guard at the state farm, 16-year-veteran William Tyler, reported seeing a "big light, the size of a car light," on April 11, the day after the sightings by Eldridge and Sluss.

Tyler said he watched the light for five minutes at about 11 p.m. "It looked like it was standing still. Then all at once, it just disappeared. I made the remark, 'here comes another flying saucer,' " Tyler said, adding that like Eldridge, he had not heard anything.

A check with the radar room at Byrd International Airport disclosed no reports of unusual sightings on either April 10 or 11.

In Colorado, a newspaper photographer took pictures of the mysterious objects, and watched them through a telescope. According to news accounts, a deputy with the photographer said the object at first appeared round, but then disappeared. When it reappeared, it was more "pear-shaped," the deputy said.

However, in Goochland, no cows were found dead between April 4 and April 20, according to farm manager Sidney Strawderman.

State farm superintendent Walter Riddle described the men who reported the UFO sightings as reliable, with Eldridge having 12 years in corrections work behind him.

Riddle said he had gone to the field where Eldridge had seen the UFO to check if the ground had been scorched where Eldridge had seen the object go down. He found nothing.

The UFO reports not withstanding, in Colorado law officers spent a good deal of time trying to confirm the sightings of helicopters during the rash of mutilation killings there.

In February, 1976, the Sterling, Colo., newspaper reported that the Colorado Bureau of Investigation had a military officer in Colorado Springs under surveillance.

The paper reported the officer had access to military helicopters, owned a ranch west of Colorado Springs, and that he may be the head of a religious occult group in that area.

A wire service story in Sept., 1975, quoted a teacher at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Frank Iannella, who teaches courses in the occult, as stating "Satanism seems to have more of a rich, upper-class following, especially people that get bored and don't know what to do."

The use of helicopters by such a group could explain the lack of tracks or blood near almost all the mutilated carcasses reported.

But the bright lights reported by Eldridge, Sluss and Tyler in Goochland could also have been a diversion to lead investigators off the track of finding the drugs suggested to have been used in a report by a federal agent in Minnesota in 1975.

That report, based on interviews with several prison claimed to be part of a "Church of Satan," pointed towards the use of PCP (phencyclidine) to tranquilize animals and amyl nitrate to speed up body functions to allow the animals to be bled.

The blood and the body parts removed were to be used in rituals by the devil-worshipping group, according to the report.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent who made the report suggested the activities of the occult group should be looked into more closely, and his report contains the names of a number of people said by two inmates to be members of the "Church of Satan."

In the report, criminal records of each of 14 individuals named were supplied by law enforcement agencies around the country, which, according to the agent, tend to corroborate most of what the inmates said.

A group known as the "Church of Satan" is said to exist in the Richmond area, and two of its members are inmates in the Powhatan Corrections Center adjoining the state farm where the mutilations took place, sources have told The Progress.

But while the UFO reports are intriguing, of more concern to state farm and other state officials is what exactly killed the nine dead cows there, a question a state laboratory was unable to answer.



# UFO sightings reported

By KAREN FRIEDMAN

At 2 a.m. last Saturday, Roy V.R. Grogan struggled from bed to quiet a quarrel his dog and cat were having outside. Barely awake, he dragged himself to the door, clutching a flashlight in one hand and a .22 rifle in the other.

Once outside, his senses snapped to life. A narrow beam of light gleamed stiffly onto his front yard sending the frightened animals scrambling for shelter.

"Then I heard a noise," Grogan said, smoothing his white hair. "I looked up and there it was, a huge, round object sitting perfectly still above my house." When the disc-like form began blinking red, green, blue and white alternating lights, Grogan pinched himself to make sure he wasn't still dreaming.

He wasn't.

Aiming the flashlight upward, he blinked it several times and then made a mad dash for the house when the object responded.

"I saw it coming right for the house," he said, convinced it would land on his roof, trapping his sleeping wife inside.

Scrambling to a nearby window, he said the object began heading towards four smaller rotating lights in a nearby field. "As soon as the large object got near, the smaller ones disappeared." Like vapor.

At 10 p.m. the preceding night, Terri C. Butler of Oil City was driving with her husband on Route 313 near Grogan's home. Suddenly, she said she spotted a red and green, T-shaped configuration in the sky to her left. She said she was moving too fast to notice any other form.

That same night at 10:13 p.m., the National Aeronautics and Space Administration located on Wallops Island in Virginia, 113 miles south of here, launched a rocket from a 180-foot Russian vessel. Although the rocket left a fiery-looking exhaust trail, Joyce Millinir, public information officer for NA NASA said there was no way the glow could be visible in Denton.

She also said there were satellites or other rockets fired that night which could have caused the sightings described by Mrs. Butler and Grogan.

Some say, including Grogan, there is only one explanation for what he saw: Denton has been picked as a UFO target.

Such a possibility is far from absurd to Cindy Dwyer who works for the National Investigatory of Common Aerial Phenomenon in Washington, D.C. She said the non-profit organization has accumulated 20,000 cases since it originated in 1957, 30 percent of which still are unexplained.

Of the approximately three calls a week she receives from persons claiming they witnessed UFO's, she said the majority come from rural areas and begin the same way Grogan's experience did.

"Because of the ultrasonic sound known to be emitted from such objects, animals are the first to react," she said. "They usually run for shelter and if exposed enough to the sound, can experience brain damage and even death."

Grogan said he noticed nothing unusual about his animals' behavior after the incident.

The flashing lights described by Grogan are common among UFO callers, she said. Since the release last winter of the movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," in which outer space beings land an elaborate space craft on earth, Miss Dwyer said the number of callers and letters describing UFO sightings has increased.

Grogan, a former army and navy war veteran, said he believes in UFO's. Surprised that none of his neighbors awoke to the noise of his fighting animals June 24, still hasn't been able to forget it.

That night, he climbed back into bed and said he laid there until dawn, staring blankly at the ceiling.

## UFO

UNION COUNTY JOURNAL, Lewisburg, PA - July 6, 1978

(Photo will not reproduce. - LF)

## Young photographer saw it in valley

by Bob Derr

ELYSBURG—Fifteen year-old Philip Seba was surprised when he saw the objects hovering just above tree-top level in back of his Elysburg home. It was a clear day about 4:30 pm, so Skeba ran for his camera.

As he stood ready to snap some photos, he found that the shutter on his tele-instantmatic was jammed. Running upstairs, Skeba grabbed a screwdriver, unjammed the shutter, and began taking pictures through the screen on his bedroom window.

Skeba took four photos. He saw two objects, and one flew to within 100 yards of his house where it hovered for about three minutes. The second one glided to meet the first and both hovered momentarily before they turned and disappeared from sight over the mountain.

According to Skeba's written account of the sighting, the objects looked like "a long flat disc with a ball in the center; the ball in the center could be seen from the top and the bottom; the top of the ball was bigger (than the bottom) with a pink light on top; the bottom of the ball was smaller with a white light underneath; the front two lights were pink and green, and the back (of the craft) had two pink lights as it flew away." The objects were dark silver in color and emitted no noise.

Initially, young Skeba wasn't going to tell anyone about his sighting because he thought no one would believe him. He decided against this, however, because he "figured he had proof" if the photos came out okay.

After the pictures were developed, Skeba and his parents sought professional advice.

They first contacted Marilyn Schramm, Lewisburg. Schramm is an area volunteer for the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research. When UFO sightings are reported, she interviews the individuals involved and sends a complete report to the Pennsylvania Center.

BU professor contacted

Schramm recommended that Dr. Emil Polak, professor of mathematics and astronomy at Bucknell University, examine the photos and discuss the sighting with the Skebas. Polak has been associated with Bucknell since 1948, and he's been director of the university's observatory since 1961.

Polak had high praise for Skeba and his photos. "There's no question they (the photos) had the general appearance (of other UFO sightings)," Polak said. "He (Skeba) was a sincere and honest young man and he did as thorough a piece of work as possible."

According to Schramm, the Pennsylvania Center sent the report of Skeba's sighting to the national center for UFO studies which is located in Evanston, Ill. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who wrote the book, "Close Encounters of the First, Second, and Third Kind," on which the popular movie was based, is associated with the national center.

During a telephone interview with the national center's administrator, Estelle Postal she said she did not recall receiving information on Skeba's sighting, probably

because it occurred on Jan. 10 of this year and as Postal noted, "we receive three to 15 new sightings per day. We also receive information on old sightings anywhere from two months to 75 years old."

Postal explained that the national center stores information on sightings in computer banks. When possible, the center attempts to gain information regarding the sighting's time, date, description, how it was first noticed, the duration of time it was visible, how it disappeared, the weather conditions, colors and/or sounds, and names of other witnesses.

When necessary, the national center will send representatives to investigate a sighting, (as will the Pennsylvania center). Postal noted that the Pennsylvania Center is independent of the national center, but that the two do work together when possible.

The national administrator added that she had recently received information regarding a sighting in 1914. The information was sent by a former British Army soldier who had kept a daily diary which he sent home to his parents. The soldier's diary stated that the unidentified craft hovered above the battlefield and both sides (German and British) stopped fighting to witness the spectacle. The soldier added that the craft's maneuvers were not in any way similar to conventional aircraft.

In further trying to reassure his parents and to eliminate any doubt, the soldier added that neither he nor his buddies had had anything to drink, and that "all I had for lunch was lemon squash."

# 'Object with lights' seen in sky by two women

by SHARON JENSEN

"I was absolutely flabbergasted!"

"I'm a skeptic and I've never been one to believe in flying saucers but I know what I saw and it was something really different!"

These are the exclamations made by two Silverton grandmothers as they told of what they saw in the night sky over Silverton last week.

Joanne Walker and Idane Osgood, neighbors on S. Church St., were outside their homes enjoying the cool evening breezes after the scorching 90 degree heat of Tuesday, June 27. It was after 10 p.m. and as they chatted they were also star watching.

Joanne was seeking the evening star when she exclaimed to Idane "I've never seen it so bright!...It's moving Idane...come see!"

Both ladies pretty much agree about what they saw. They first were astounded by the huge "headlight-like" lights and they kept straining their ears for sound. None came to them until the object was directly overhead and then all they heard was "a humming noise...kind of like an electric motor makes".

The object came out of the south east and the ladies said that the big lights on it "went out just about directly over the town." They said that the lights were off for a period of 15 to 30 seconds then came back on.

"It just seemed to be cruising," Idane said, "It was going fast but seemed to cover the area thoroughly."

Idane and Joanne both said they couldn't be sure of the shape of the object, "When you are seeing something that strange for a brief time you just can't absorb everything," Idane said.

However the ladies said that the object had "little white lights" around what seemed to be the perimeter of it, giving them the impression that it was oval or rectangular.

After they watched the unidentified flying object disappear into the night sky toward Portland they went into their homes to relate the story to

their husbands.

"Joanne is not a hysterical person," Lowell Walker told us, "But when she told me about what she saw she was so excited that you just had to believe it."

Joanne and Idane have very different feelings about what they saw. "I'm really afraid that people will think I'm crazy when they read this," she told us, "But I know what I saw and nothing can change that!"

We checked with control towers at air ports from Portland to Salem as well as meteorological stations in the valley. Their records and logs show nothing in the air that night to explain what Idane and Joanne saw.

While Joanne told us that she "doesn't believe in that stuff (flying saucers)" Idane would like a closer look.

"I wish they had landed in our front yard," Idane said, I'd like to talk to them.

Heavens, there's nothing to be afraid of. They've been around a long time, people have been sighting them for hundreds of years. It's ridiculous to say something doesn't exist because you're ignorant of it! If they had been going to harm us they would have done it before now!"

Father, Daughter

## Countians Claim They Saw UFO

A York County woman and her father claim to have spotted a UFO early Thursday morning in rural Adams County.

Connie Spangler, 2669 N. Sherman St., and her father, Lloyd Spangler, East Berlin RD 1, said they saw the object at 1:10 a.m. Thursday while driving along a dirt road near Spangler's home about four miles north of East Berlin.

"All I saw was a lot of lights," Spangler said.

Ms. Spangler said she saw red flashing lights circling a round object about 50 to 100 feet above the ground. She said it moved from west to east and was visible for about one minute.

Spangler said when he stopped his van to get a better view, it had disappeared behind the trees.

He and his daughter both said they are sure it was not a flying object they could identify.

"If it would have been an airplane or something like that, I think I would have recognized it," Spangler said.

A spokesperson at the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research in Irwin, near Pittsburgh, said Thursday it has not received any other reports of UFO sightings Thursday in the York area, although some sightings of a different type of UFO were reported in the Pittsburgh area.

## RIDE FOR CARTER?

CR: G. Duplantier

# She 'has a saucer'

LOS ANGELES (Reuter) — A woman who took up a British challenge to produce evidence that people from other planets can travel to earth says she will display an interplanetary vehicle next Jan. 3 and hopes to take President Carter for a ride in it.

Sue McMahon, who described herself as an artist, fashion designer and scientist, said she has entered a competition launched by a British whisky firm to produce a flying saucer for a prize of \$1.8 million.

She said a UFO landed through the

ceiling of her hotel room while she was spending a few days in Sacramento.

"It was manned by people who looked fuzzy, as though I was looking at them through a fuzzy television screen," she said.

The flying saucer took her to another planet, she said, and then brought her back through the ceiling before taking off again.

She said she intends to invite about 30 people, including Carter, California Governor Edmund Brown and foreign scientists, to fly with her to another planet.

# U.F.O. Driver Checking Out Movie?

Did a UFO hover over McComb Wednesday night?

Two projectionists at the Ren Drive-in Theater told McComb police they saw an oblong object with two bright white lights and red and green lights hovering over the screen at 9:30, according to a police report of the incident.

The projectionists, Jim Russ and Wayne Alexander, both of McComb, said the object hovered over the screen, left and later returned.

A light plane was practicing night landings at the county airport before that, but Galen Burge, FAA facility chief, said the plane landed at 9:38 p.m.

The police report said "several" McComb police units saw the object near Interstate 55 west of McComb at 10 p.m.

"We had an aircraft making night practice take-offs and landings at the airport," Burge said, "but that was between 8:40 and 9:38 p.m. That was the only aircraft in the area we were aware of."

Burge said sometimes planes fly over the area without contacting the airport FAA station, "so we don't have any way of knowing they're out there," and he said the station has no radar "so we can't be of any help there."



# Unidentified City Sees Most UFOs

DENVER (UPI) — University of Wyoming professor Leo Sprinkle says there is a small town somewhere in the nation which has had more than its share of UFO sightings in recent months.

Sprinkle, 49, a psychology professor who devotes much of his time to interviewing people who have sighted UFOs or who have talked with aliens from other worlds, says he will not identify the community. The townfolk don't want the publicity.

"There is a town we call Clearview, because its residents don't want the identification of the community known, where all sorts of sightings have taken place recently," Sprinkle said. "There have been cattle mutilations, humanoids encountering people and all sorts of inexplicable things going on."

Sprinkle made the comment while in Denver Saturday to address the International Speakers Congress. Sprinkle said he personally has interviewed hundreds of persons who claim to have seen or spoken with aliens from other worlds.

"These people are, quote-unquote, normal, average people who genuinely believe they have had communications with aliens from outer space," Sprinkle said. "I think we are being shown that there is a life out there. The question is who is showing us."

Sprinkle said he also has observed the spaceships. He said he sighted his first UFO when he was a college student in Boulder 27 years ago.

"At first I scoffed at it," he said. "I figured it was a balloon or a helicopter, some kind of government deal, so I

dismissed it. But six years later, my wife and I saw another one near the Flatirons in Boulder, and I was puzzled because there was something going on that I couldn't figure out."

Sprinkle said he now hypnotizes people who spot UFOs and studies their psychological reaction. He said people who make such sightings could be dreaming or fantasizing, but through hypnosis and polygraph tests, he has determined that most of the people he investigates are telling the truth.

"That is what's exciting for me," he said.

"Many people I have spoken to have said that once board the ship, the creatures ask all kinds of questions about nuclear energy," he said. "They seem to say that man is polluting the world with nuclear power and better get his act straight or else."

One Wyoming hunter told Sprinkle he had zeroed in on a bull elk and watched with amazement as the bullet stopped in mid-air and floated gently to the ground. The hunter, Sprinkle said, told him a spaceship then appeared and he was invited inside the ship.

Once inside the craft, the man saw a cage filled with elk, Sprinkle said. The man said the aliens placed an X-ray-like machine in front of his chest and then told him: "You're not what we're looking for. You can go home."

Sprinkle said the man was extremely nervous after the experience, but "calmed down considerably through hypnosis. He now jokes that he is a UFO reject."

# Lincoln County UFO Sighting

Saturday nite fervor hit the Lincoln County Communication Center over the weekend with fires, a shooting incident, a break-in and the report of an unidentified flying object (UFO) that passed and stopped a motorcycle on the Buffalo Shoals Road near the Heavner Brothers Car Farm.

Dispatcher Wink Finger at the center received a phone call from a badly frightened eyewitness, Terry Mayo, a former Ethan Allen, Inc. employee in Maiden. The incident occurred just prior to 11 p.m.

Mayo reported that his motorcycle was passed by a strange flying object that 'looked like a cup inverted on top of a saucer' as he drove to his Buffalo Shoals home. The witness was scared and stuttered as he talked to the police.

A Maiden newspaperman and Lincolnton resident, George D. Fawcett, who has investigated UFOs for the past three decades was notified and investigated the case over the weekend.

According to Fawcett, Mayo said, "the object, which he referred to as IT was about the size of a four or five room farm house." It was domed on the top and flat on the bottom and gave off yellowish-white light.

When it passed near his motorcycle it caused his cycle lights and motor to conk out, as it hovered nearby for approximately one minute, before it lifted up and shot straight up in the sky with a loud humming noise. No other motorists were on the road during the almost five minute Mayo "close encounter."

When the UFO left the area, Mayo reported his lights came back on automatically, but his starter switch did not work, so that he had to foot kick it to re-start the motor and return home.

A check with police revealed no other sightings reported that night and a check with advertising plane personnel showed no plane in the Lincolnton area that night. The object that moved from North to South is still "unidentified." The electro-magnetic (E-M) effect is a well documented one worldwide, Fawcett reports.

Fawcett is seeking additional witnesses and has asked that persons call him at night at 735-5725 or write to him at 602 Battleground Road in Lincolnton. Reports will be kept confidential if so requested.

CR: G. Fawcett

# Boys report "space battle"

Two Concordia youths, Curtis Sullivan and Eddie Burton, reported to the Blade this morning that they were witness to a "space battle" over Concordia early this morning.

The boys said they were sleeping out when they saw red and green lights shooting back and forth across the sky at about 3 a. m. An occasional "hit" produced an explosion of light as the colored lights shot back and forth at one another, they said.

The boys said that when they reported the sighting to officials at City Hall, they

were referred to the Blade, and told that the police department had moved if they wanted to report it to the police.

In an effort to explain what the boys might have seen, Don Adcock, a meteorological technician at the National Weather Service station in Concordia, said the skies over Concordia were clear last night and that the meteor shower season was approaching. He said he believed Aug. 4 or 5 would be the best times to spot the meteors, but he didn't know what else to attribute the boys' sighting to.

# UFO reports move to Fort Wood area

By CHARLES J. OSWALD  
Globe-Democrat Staff Writer

Those elusive UFO lights in the sky — one of which reportedly terrorized a woman motorist — had apparently moved away from Union, Mo., Friday but something similar was seen 100 miles away, at Fort Leonard Wood.

The lights have been intriguing — and scaring some — area residents since Wednesday.

Now soldiers at the Fort Wood Army base have reported seeing a bright, star-shaped object that appeared to come at them and then fade away.

"It looks like a star and it seems to become bigger as it comes toward us and it vibrates," said Spec. 5 Gary Love.

Love, his wife, Ella, and a neighbor, Mrs. Pamela Green, told a reporter they saw the strange light early Friday for the third night in a row.

**LOVE SAID HE REPORTED** the light to military police at the base, but they told him it must have been a helicopter.

He said, however, he checked with the duty officer and with the Missouri Highway Patrol, who told him there were no helicopters in the sky Thursday night.

He said the light moved very slowly and it would get "real white."

"When it got close, you could see a V-shape with a ball under it," he said.

He said that when it was at its closest, you could see a little yellow spot in

the center with a blue haze around it.

Love said he saw the UFO from his home at around 12:35 a.m.

"It just seemed to hang in the sky," he said. "I have the feeling I'm being watched."

**A FRIGHTENED MRS. CLORA** Winscher, of Arnold, told police early Thursday that the back end of her car was lifted off the ground briefly by a bright ball of light as she drove along Highway 50 on the edge of town.

The police report said: "A UFO with a brilliant light rode over the top of her vehicle. She heard a crash toward the rear of her car, and the rear end lifted off the ground for a few seconds."

Sgt. Robert A. Reichardt, of the Union city police, said Friday that he and a county sheriff's deputy examined the car.

He said the auto, a 1974 Mercury Comet, had two distinct dents in the trunk "like nothing I have ever seen."

**HE SAID THERE WERE** no scratches and it didn't appear to have been involved in an accident with another car.

He described Mrs. Winscher as "shaken but rational about what happened."

At breakfast at the Flying Saucer Cafe (named after plates, not UFOs) in Union Friday, waitress Jeannie Carter, 21, said she saw an orange ball Wednesday night, the same UFO reported by others in the area.

She said: "I followed it in my car. It

turned down a road and disappeared."

Ralph Lee, 71, of Union, said he didn't see any strange lights upon leaving the cafe.

"I seldom look up, and I stay in the house at night," he said.

**B.R. BRANSON, A PIPELINE** company employee who was having coffee at the Flying Saucer, said he had not seen the lights or anything unusual but that he keeps an open mind.

"I once saw a mountain lion walking across a field followed by a fox," he said. "I had my boy with me, and I told him we were going to have to quit drinking. If you see something like that you can believe anything."

Mrs. William J. Stieffermann, wife of Union's mayor, was working in a department store Friday when she talked about the lights she and members of her family reported seeing Wednesday night.

"I couldn't be sure what it was, but it did not appear to be an airplane," she said.

## UFO reports have police spaced out

By RICK STOFF  
Globe-Democrat Staff Writer

A rash of unidentified flying object reports has kept police in Union, Mo., hopping. One woman told police the back of her car was lifted off Highway 50 by a UFO early Thursday.

Two other sightings, late Wednesday, were reported to police — one by three members of the Union mayor's family — and were followed by a number of daylight sightings Thursday which were verified as aircraft, said Union Police Chief Don Fowler.

So far, the chief said, police have not been able to investigate the first sightings.

"At this point, we've been too busy talking to people still making sightings, along with our normal amount of other calls," he said Thursday.

**BESIDES, FOWLER** said, "Where do you really start? There's not too much one can investigate."

The first report came from Mrs. Clara Winscher, who said the back end of her 1974 Mercury Comet was lifted off the ground for a few seconds as she drove along Highway 50 at the eastern edge of Union at 12:45 a.m.

"A UFO with a brilliant light rode over the top of her vehicle. She heard a crash toward the rear of her car, and the rear end lifted off the ground for a few seconds," Fowler read from a police report.

"She had no control of her vehicle and couldn't turn it or stop. Then the UFO allowed her car to go back down and left the area."

**A UNION POLICE** officer and a Franklin County deputy sheriff examined the car and found two indenta-

tions on its trunk lid, Fowler said. Both men concluded the dents did not result from an accident.

Although several thunderstorms passed over Union during the night, the three sightings occurred either between or after the storms, Fowler said.

About 8:45 a.m. Thursday police received a report from Mrs. Velma Clines, who lives about six miles west of the first sighting.

"She said that shortly after midnight she observed an object come from the east," Fowler said. "It was shortly followed by another object. They were both orange in color, they made no sound and they were at tree-top level."

**MRS. CLINES GAVE** police her report after hearing the first recounted on the radio.

The third report was given by Mrs. Ruth Stieffermann, wife of Union Mayor W. J. Stieffermann.

Mrs. Stieffermann said she, along with her daughter and son, saw an unusually bright light in the sky between 9:30 and 10 p.m. Wednesday.

Jerry Stieffermann, 25, and Mary Stieffermann, 15, watched with their mother as the light crossed the sky in a westward direction for about one minute, Fowler said.

"They noticed it was not blinking like an airplane light. They heard no noise. They could not determine its shape," he said.

The third sighting reported was about a mile from the first. Fowler said the local persons reporting the UFOs were known to be reliable, and the woman reporting the first object "seemed to be a very sincere, mature individual."



Ralph Lee, left, and Denson Ranson discuss reports of strange lights over Union while standing in front of (where else?) the Flying Saucer Cafe.

— Globe-Democrat Photos by T.V. Vessel

GLOBE-DEMOCRAT, St. Louis, MO - July 28, 1978 CR: N. Short





# A UFO 'sausage' and green glow

Baffling reports of unidentified flying objects have been causing furrowed brows in Anglesey and Arfon.

The playground of Rhiwlas Primary School was agog with excitement recently during the first reported sighting.

While enjoying the sun during a mid-morning break, six girl pupils say they

saw an unidentified flying object above the playground.

Although it was some distance away the girls could see that it was made up of a narrow sausage-like bottom half, with an inverted U-shaped top half. Joanne Warren drew a diagram of the object for the Chronicle. This shows a distinct resemblance to

they were having a look to see what was going on."

When the UFO flew behind the school, the girls rushed around to the other side of the building, but by then

people from the village who are pupils of Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen, Bethesda, also saw something strange in the sky last Thursday evening.

Stuart MacNeill

## —startle the sky watchers

Westerly direction.

And a resident of Bull Bay was returning home with his brother early last Thursday morning when they saw what looked like a huge green ball of fire streaking across the sky.

### A TRAIL

They watched in astonishment as it came over the Wylfa headland, formed an arc around Bull Bay, and then carried on in the direction of the Isle of Man.

It was about 5,000 ft up in the air and left a trail across the sky at least a mile long. It was coloured fluorescent green and was moving very quickly.

The brothers thought that it was travelling about five times faster than a jet aeroplane.

The other thing that intrigued them was that although the object was obviously travelling a great speed, it made no noise. After seeing this, the Bull Bay resident said his brother "was so astonished he couldn't speak for a couple of minutes."

They immediately contacted RAF Valley to report their sighting.

Although RAF Valley received no other reports, residents on the mainland side of the Straits told the Chronicle of a huge green glow in the sky followed by a comet-like object which quickly disappeared.



Girls of Rhiwlas Primary School show the spot where they first saw the mysterious object in the sky. They are, from left to right, Rhian Evans, Joanne Warren, Bethan Williams, Sharon Owen, Margaret Jones, and front, Louise Warren.

what science-fiction buffs and sky watchers call a "flying saucer." It was coloured silver, red, and white.

The girls, Bethan Williams, Joanne Warren, Sharon Owen, Rhian Evans, Louise Warren, and Margaret Jones, all of Standards Three and Four, watched the object for a few minutes. Then, even though the sky was cloudless, it suddenly disappeared.

### FLASHING

After a few seconds it re-appeared, with a couple of white flashing lights on the front. "It was going really slowly" said Bethan. "I think

the strange object had disappeared. They immediately ran to tell the headmaster, Mr. Selwyn Griffiths, of their sighting.

Other pupils at the school claim to have seen similar objects in the sky. Nicola Wright says she saw one the same evening. Wyn Griffiths, of Castell Farm, says he saw one flying above his home a few weeks ago. He rushed into the house to get a pair of binoculars, but when he returned it had disappeared.

Two other young

and Paul Steel were out in the garden early in the evening when they noticed an object travelling slowly across the sky above the village. It then seemed to break up into small pieces and disappeared, they say.

Recent U.F.O. sightings have not been confined to Arfon. Unfamiliar objects in the sky have also been seen in Anglesey.

A Moelfre resident last Wednesday, at about 7 p.m., saw a white cigar-like object travelling above the bay from a South

CAPE TIMES, Cape Town, South Africa - July 20, 1978 CR: J. Brill

## Is Cape Town a UFO base?

Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN seems to be a stopover for UFOs, judging by flying objects seen by Capetonians.

Yesterday three women who travel to work together by car told of a silver saucer-shaped flying object which they have seen twice in a week.

Mrs Yvonne Disney, her daughter Desiree and a friend Miss Coleen Sield, all of

Gardens, travel to work in Pinelands by De Waal Drive.

"Last week we all saw a strange silver saucer shaped object in the sky over the Tygerberg. It was very far away and it is difficult to estimate how big it was but the shape was unmistakable. We watched it for about 10 minutes while we were driving along De Waal Drive. Then suddenly there seemed to be a

sort of explosion and the object went off at very high speed leaving behind a white cloud," said Mrs Disney.

Miss Disney confirmed this, and the three saw the same "thing" again on Wednesday morning.

There has been a spate of UFO sightings by City dwellers. Some weeks ago callers told of strange lights in the evening sky. The Air

Force could throw no light on the matter.

Recently a Cape Times journalist, Mr Louis Heiden, saw a circular silver object arc over the tailplane of an aircraft and then disappear.

The aircraft circled and changed course. A spokesman for Silvermine radar installation said at the time there was no record of any flight over the area.

# Couple's fear of mentioning UFO sighting

An Anglesey couple who rushed into their house and locked the doors after seeing a strange object in the sky were so upset about the incident that they have told no-one about it, until now - prompted by last week's story in the Chronicle of local UFO sightings.

Mr and Mrs E. L. Cornish, who live in a 15th century house at Gironnant, Llanfachraeth, thought people might think they were imagining things, so they kept quiet about it.

Mrs Margaret Cornish said: "It was dusk, one evening in the winter. I went outside and saw this huge saucer-shaped ball of fire in the sky, over

been 30 feet across, hovering, moving backwards and forwards. "It moved off towards Menai Bridge and then came back again shortly afterwards. It had a perfectly smooth outline, and lit up the whole field."

Her husband, Mr Edwin Cornish says he saw it clearly too. He said: "It must have

"I've never seen anything like it at all. I felt very uneasy about it, and told Margaret to get in the house. We

rushed in and locked the doors.

"I have felt almost afraid to mention it because people think you are mad, or imagining things. But when I read the report in the paper I thought I would let you know."

Two other UFO sightings have been reported over Bangor. The first came last Wednesday, when Mrs Pauline Ann Mapp of

35 Ffordd Castell, Bangor, saw a white dome hovering above Bangor golf course, with "brilliant" light emanating from it.

Mrs Mapp said that the object was hovering only a few feet above the ground and then it disappeared behind the golf course.

She told a neighbour, who im-

mediately reported it to RAF Valley. They reported it to the Ministry of Defence as an Unidentified Flying Object sighting. The other sighting came last Thursday when 19-year-old Tony Tipton of Tan-y-Bryn, Maesgeirchen said he spotted an oval object above the estate, also with a brilliant light shining from it.

NORTH WALES CHRONICLE, Bangor, Caernarvonshire, Wales - June 22, 1978 CR: J. & C. Bord

# Yet another UFO sighting

The latest in the recent spate of UFO sightings in the Anglesey and Bangor areas, occurred last week when a Beaumaris woman spotted a "huge, round, sun-like" object moving across the Menai Straits towards Aber.

The woman, who lives in the west end of Beaumaris, described it as a "big, round brilliant light," and through a telescope she saw what appeared to be "slits, or

window - type things, on the side of the object, and through these slits I saw brilliant goldy - copper lights shining."

At the time, there was quite a bit of movement on the Straits, with sailing vessels moving about, and the object was moving fairly fast.

Before reaching Aber, the UFO disappeared "as if a light had been switched off."

# Housewives see 'shining gold' object in sky

By Mark Long  
Hayes reporter

HAYES housewives Mrs Augusta Pierce and Mrs Claire Payne had a close encounter with what they claim was an unidentified hovering object recently.

The two women were leaving Mrs Payne's home in Constance Crescent at midday when they spotted a "shining gold" object in the sky above a neighbour's fir-tree.

Mrs Pierce told me: "It was golden and about the size and shape of a door with rays of gold all round it - just hanging there in the sky. It was an extraordinary, beautiful sight."

Mrs Payne added: "The object had a sort of incandescent halo of light all round it. It was rather like staring at an electric light bulb."

The UFO did not move at all, and just hovered in the air. After several minutes, the women looked up again but it had gone.

Both women say they are not the kind of people to spin yarns, and when they told their families - they were believed.

Mrs Payne's husband, Eric, suggested the object could have been some form of meteorite burning up as it fell to earth. But that does not explain why it was stationary and "hovering."

Mrs Pierce also discounts the view that it was some kind of reflection, as there was no sunshine.

Mr Timothy Good, of Beckenham, and a top researcher into UFOs said: "It certainly sounds like a UFO - and at face value there is no way it can be explained away."

He added that the shape

seen by the women had been reported on other occasions, and described the sighting as "very interesting."

● Three alleged UFO sightings in Hayes were reported in the *Kentish Times* last year. Each occasion was at night and all the objects were seen to be moving. In April this year, an "incandescent blue ball" fell from the sky on to West Common Road - but that was diagnosed as a rare form of lightning.

BECKENHAM JOURNAL, Kent, England - June 22, 1978

# Schoolboy tells of baffling skywatch encounter

A SCHOOLBOY astronomer reported one of the most baffling sightings on Saturday - the UFO-spotters' "skywatch" day.

Brian Ffitorini, 12, of Broom Grove, Belle Isle, Leeds, was outside his home when he saw a bright silvery speck moving in a gap between clouds.

His "close encounter" was one of 17 reported to the British UFO Society on their skywatch - and one of only nine that could not be explained.

He said yesterday: "I saw this dot moving with the clouds for about 12 seconds. When I put up my binoculars to take a closer look I couldn't get a good focus on it but it appeared to be multi-coloured."

The sighting took place in daylight at just after 8 p.m.

A few hours later two UFOs were spotted at Sheffield. One of them, witnessed by three other people, was a white light which had three coloured lights in formation when seen through binoculars.

But plans to stage a special watch from dawn to dusk on the North York Moors had to be abandoned because of low cloud and drizzle.

The nine sightings that could not be explained are now to be studied to see if there is any pattern.

YORKSHIRE POST, Leeds, England - June 26, 1978

# US pact on UFOs

REVELLE, London, England - June 13, 1978

AMERICA and Russia signed a pact in 1971 to swap information about UFOs and keep the rest of the world in the dark.

That is the claim of an Italian aviation expert, writing in the authoritative review of the Italian Air Force.

Carlo Di Folca claims the pact was signed on September 30, 1971 so that neither super-power would mistake UFOs for atomic missiles.

He also claims the two powers want to discredit the idea that UFOs exist to keep their own position as masters of technology.

And he says that if nuclear weapons spread beyond certain limits, America and Russia will announce the existence of UFOs, organise a world defence alliance... and be the uncontested leaders.



# 'FLYING WEDGE' RIDDLE

## What was the 'thing' zooming over forest?

PETER Franklin does not really believe in flying saucers. He treats reports of sightings as a joke. But when working high up on a drilling rig at King Standing on Ashdown Forest he saw something that will make him keep an open mind about UFOs in future.

"I could not believe my eyes," said 34-year-old Mr Franklin, who is carrying out a geology survey for the Southern Water Authority.

"I was looking down the valley towards Lady Castle Stewart's estate when I just saw something silhouetted against a high bank of fir trees.

"The forest around the radio station is something like over 600 ft above sea-level and I was sort of looking down at it. The object was 500 to 600 yards away and about 50-60 ft below me, but about 100 ft above the ground.

### RED ON TOP

"It was flying down the valley towards Nutley and I would have only seen it because it was outlined against the trees. It moved on over the A22 and vanished in the horizon. From where my mate, Norman Gray, and I picked up seeing it we reckon it covered about four miles in three to four seconds.

"I am colour blind but my mate tells me it was light coloured underneath and red on top. The first impression was of the shape of a high powered speed boat.

"There was no engine noise and I could not imagine anything like a plane travelling that fast and that low. It was moving too fast for a crop spraying plane, and anyway, there is nothing to spray there.

### NO WINGS

"I contacted the police in the hope that someone else might have reported seeing it. It was about 2.30 pm on Tuesday of last week (June 13), and as the object went over the big lay-by on the A22 I thought a lorry driver or some one who stopped there might have seen it and could have corroborated the sighting.

"I suppose a couple of seconds had passed before I tapped my mate on the shoulder to draw his attention to the object. He agreed with me that we could not see wings on it.

"It was about 20 to 30 ft long. I could not get a true idea of its depth because I was looking at it sideways and on top and it flew diagonally across our view.

"I had the impression it was wedged-shaped, with possibly a slight rise in the middle.

Mr Franklin, whose home is in Western Road, Crowborough, and has been working on the drilling rig for seven weeks, added: "I have never seen anything like it.

# COMMON'S UFO SCARES THREE SCHOOLBOYS

THREE YOUNG schoolchildren from Furzedown Secondary School, Tooting have sighted the Streatham Common UFO.

Their descriptions of the object fit with those given at the end of last month by four people who claim that they saw a "strange oblong shape ball of fire" over the common.

A leading UFO expert said then that the sightings could tie in with scorch marks found on the common in March.

Mr Norman Oliver, editor of the British UFO Journal said that there was a possibility that they could be some form of "landing marks".

Zachery Woodhouse and David Adams, both aged 12, and Andrew Bovermizer, aged 13, saw the strange object on Monday evening.

They were so convinced that it was a UFO that they did not stand around - they ran off because they were so frightened.

"It was about 3 feet off the ground and was moving in a

controlled kind of way but could move very fast at tight angles.

"It looked three dimensional and was an oblong shape with an orange glow to it," said David Adams.

"We were so scared that we ran off. I had never seen anything like it before in my life. It must have been a UFO.

"There just can't be any other explanation for it," he said.

EVENING COURIER, Halifax, England - June 21, 1978

# Report of three more UFOs

THREE more mysterious objects sighted in the sky at night over Calderdale have been reported after a story in the "Evening Courier" on Monday.

Mr Tom Taylor, of 146 Green Park Road, Halifax, saw an unidentified object early on Monday after a Luddenden woman had seen a mysterious light twice over the weekend.

"I do not believe in life in outer space, but after I had watched the World Cup football match on TV I went outside," he said.

"It was about 1.10 am and I saw an object, similar to a star but a sort of blue colour, moving at different speeds and travelling between Calder Valley and Southowram.

"I cannot explain it but, with its speed variations, it certainly was not an aeroplane".

Mr Trevor Whitaker, of the Yorkshire branch of the British UFO Research Association, said he had two other sightings reported, on Saturday and Monday.

But he discounted the report in the "Courier" on Monday as merely a sighting of Venus.

He learned this when the woman telephoned him when she saw the mystery light yet again and he looked at it himself.

He said he would investigate Mr Taylor's observations.

Mr Whitaker said he had a call from a man late on Monday. He said he had seen a light moving across the sky over Ogden and splitting into three.

A similar description was given by another man who saw it happen near Fly Flats reservoir. They could not have been planes.

"Quite a few people have said they have seen mysterious objects, but mostly they turn out to be a satellite or a plane".

EVENING TELEGRAPH, London, England -  
July 5, 1978 CR: N. Oliver

# Too close for comfort

THE family of Scunthorpe borough councillor Mrs. Brenda Kirk claim they have experienced a close encounter of the first kind.

It proved such a disturbing experience for steelworker Mark Kirk (23) and his wife, Tina (20) and his sister, Anne (17), that they have submitted a detailed report to Scunthorpe police.

"I thought all those stories about UFOs were a load of rubbish," said Anne, who lives with her parents at 4 Ashdown Avenue, Scunthorpe. "But this has frightened the life out of me."

Their nightmare began when Ann, a Scunthorpe shop assistant, decided to cut short a week's holiday in Skegness because of bad weather.

### Stopped car

Her brother Mark and his wife, of 30 Wilsons Close, Scunthorpe, offered to bring her back home in their Austin 1100 car. They were travelling between Market Rasen and Caistor when they noticed two white lights in a nearby field.

They stopped the car to have a closer look because they believed it was a farmer ploughing his fields by floodlights.

They continued their journey after failing to find the source of the bright lights.

Later they thought a helicopter was following them and stopped to have another look.

Anne described the unexplained object that was following them. "It was oval-shaped, about 100ft at its widest part, and it had small green, yellow and blue lights round the ends," she said.

### In pursuit

"There were two large white lights projecting under the body and the object made no noise at all" she explained.

The Kirk family took a wrong turn at Caistor and momentarily lost sight of the object. But it picked them up again outside Caistor and continued in pursuit until the car reached Mortal Ash Hill, near Scunthorpe.

"It was with us for about 50 minutes and we only lost sight of it as we journeyed through towns and villages," Anne commented.

When they arrived home, Anne and Mark related their experience to their parents, who in turn telephoned the police. "At first my mother thought we had been drinking, but then she realised we were deadly serious," said Anne.

The deputy commander of Scunthorpe police, Supt. Geoffrey Waddington, confirmed yesterday that the family had made a report of their experience to the police and had also drawn diagrams of what they had seen.

"If we consider such information is relevant, we pass it on to the Ministry of Defence," he added.



## CAMELON MAN SEES NESSIE

THOUSANDS of words have been written and hundreds of pictures taken of "Nessie," the Loch Ness monster. Witnesses claiming to have seen her vividly describe her shape and size down to the smallest detail, and swear their eyes weren't deceiving them.

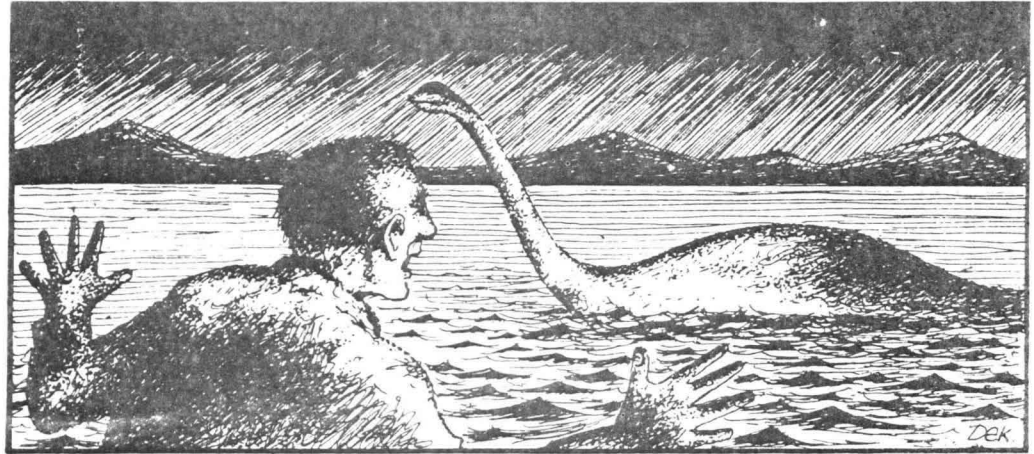
Now a local man has told "The Falkirk Herald" of what he saw last

By Frank Thomson

weekend while on a fishing trip to Loch Ness — and for 52-year-old Bill Wright it's something he's not likely ever to forget.

Bill, of 10 Ochiltree Terrace, Camelon, said this week: "I saw Nessie early on Saturday morning and my experience only confirms what I have believed all along that there is some truth in the Loch Ness monster."

He continued: "I was fishing at



"Herald" artist Derek Sanderson's impression of Mr Wright's early morning experience on the shores of Loch Ness.

the side of Urquhart Castle near Drumnadrochit Bay just after 3 a.m. as dawn broke when, suddenly, from out of the water only 30 yards away rose this large arch-shaped body, not unlike an upturned rowing boat. It was black in colour, and seconds later the creature's round brown head and long brown neck appeared. It was absolutely fantastic. I could hardly believe my eyes but there it was all right."

### DISAPPEARED

Mr Wright, heart pounding much faster than when he arrived at the spot, hastily departed to try and find a better view. In so doing he had to walk over a pebbled area and the noise of his boots seemed to frighten the creature because, he went on, "It just as suddenly slid its bulk under the water and disappeared."

An angler since boyhood, Mr Wright said he had never seen such a sight. "It was hardly credible and yet there it was a mere 30 yards away. I think I can claim to have been nearer the mammal than any other witness."

Mr Wright said some countries, notably America and Japan, were spending large sums of money on research into the Loch Ness "mystery." He added: "Well, after seeing what I did, I can save them their time and money. It's there all right and it seems to be operating in the vicinity of the waters around Urquhart Castle."

"It must live in a cave deep down in the loch because it's far too massive a creature to rely on small fish for a living."

### FOOTBALL

"I've read stories and seen pictures describing Nessie, but nothing I have read or seen has the same resemblance to the creature I saw on Saturday morning. To begin with, its head is only about the size of a football, and the length from head to its neck at the waterline looked to me to be about 12 feet. I never saw the tail end of the body, but I can only guess that what I did see was only part of the body," said Mr Wright.

It's now about a week since Bill, a process worker at the British Aluminium factory, Falkirk, witnessed this amazing phenomenon and he said: "I don't think I'll ever get that picture out of my mind. It was really something worth seeing, believe me, because what I've told you is certainly no fairy story."

STATE JOURNAL, Lansing, MI - July 2, 1978

## 'Bigthing' spotted near Mason

By JIMMY HARRIS  
Staff Writer

What was the strange creature James Jenks, of 768 Howell Road in Mason, spotted in the early morning hours of May 31?

Wayne King, of the Michigan Bigfoot Information Center in Kingston, thinks Jenks saw the legendary creature known as Bigfoot.

"AT NO time did I say I saw Bigfoot," said Jenks, a farmer and employee of Beurmann-Marshall Corporation.

"But I did see something that was bigger'n hell and it could move too," he said.

According to Jenks, he saw the creature from a distance of about 200 yards after being awakened by barking dogs at around 1 a.m.

THE CREATURE, he said, was

next to a house down the road from where he lived.

"When I went outside, I could see the head of the creature over the top of a pickup truck next to the house," Jenks said.

He said the creature appeared to be hairy and about nine feet tall.

HE SAID he watched for about 10 minutes as the creature entered a shed behind the house. Jenks said a bright light in the yard next to the house allowed him to view the creature.

Jenks said after the creature entered the shed, he retrieved a shotgun from his living room wall and returned in time to see the animal burst from the shed at a high speed and disappear into the night.

He said he returned to bed, thinking no more about the incident until he was contacted by King.

"I NEVER gave it a second thought

since it didn't disturb anything," said Jenks. "And the more I think about it, the more I think it could have been a horse."

Word of Jenks' sighting, however, did reach King, who was in Mason investigating a second sighting in Vevay Township by three youths.

King admitted Jenks never referred to the creature as Bigfoot, but he said his conclusion of the sighting was "that this account is true and valid."

KING SAID he based his conclusion on some torn bags of salt in the shed the creature entered, some missing chickens, and some unusual tracks Jenks reportedly saw in the snow last winter.

In the second sighting, Kenneth Rogers, Ron Lather, and John Henrich spotted a large, hairy, primate in Mason's Rayner Park.

No further details on that sighting were available.



## Vidor 'Werewolf' Search Continues

By JOHN RICE

VIDOR (Spi) — Sheriff's officers, in a six-man team, are scouring the dense undergrowth west of the 3900 block of North Tram Road near here in search of what has been dubbed "the werewolf."

A young married couple at 3925 N. Tram Road reported a bizarre sequence of events to sheriff's deputies Monday night. Deputy Jack Reeves confirmed the existence of the prowler during his investigation.

He described a 6-foot-2-inch form with long shaggy hair and large frame, possibly 200 to 250 pounds.

Reeves saw the figure only at a distance, however, before the prowler that howls and growls in an inhuman fashion, slunk back into the woods.

Sheriff's Capt. Jim Reed is heading up the manhunt at a three-acre site today. He said there is a possible suspect in the case.

"If it's the man we think it is, he's been in Rusk (state mental hospital) before," Reed said. "And from what I hear, it will take five or six men to bring him in."

Albert Adams, county poundmaster, joined the searchers at the site.

If today's search proves fruitless, Sheriff Ed Parker requests curiosity-seekers to stay away from the area.

Following publicity Tuesday on the plight of Bobby and Beckie Bussinger, the objects of the prowler's attentions, deputies reported numerous sightseers and joyriders at the site overnight.

Some of the curious arrived at the scene intoxicated and armed, Parker said, "and if they don't watch out they'll shoot each other or this prowler. In either case, they'll be in big trouble if that happens."

The Bussingers called sheriff's deputies when a prowler began roaming their land Sunday and Monday nights, banging on the walls of their house, clawing and ripping at the screens, howling and yelping like an animal.

Bobby, 20, told Deputy Reeves that armed with a shotgun he confronted the prowler by the light of the moon Monday. The "thing," as 18-year-old Beckie calls it, was not deterred by the gun or the shot that was fired, an apparent miss.

It chased the couple back toward their house. They moved out of the house Monday night to stay with their parents but returned Tuesday night.

Today at 8 a.m., the prowler was back at their house, but retreated to the woods before law enforcement officers arrived.

## A Space Oddity?

Farmers tell of finding the carcasses of cattle with the right eye, right ear, tongue, and sexual organs removed from the animals. Some speak of seeing mysterious lights in the night sky...

By FLOYD JETT  
Herald Staff Writer

Have creatures from outer space, equipped with laser-beamed surgical instruments and a hearty appetite for beef, selected a small Missouri farming community for a close encounter of the spooky kind?

Some farmers in Elsberry, Mo., a community of about 1,400 souls 50 miles north of St. Louis, think so after finding the mutilated carcasses of cattle and hearing reports of mysterious lights in the night sky.

MANY OF the residents are perplexed and frightened. They don't know whether the bizarre discoveries are the work of witchcraft, creatures from outer space, sick cultists or just somebody fooling around with Mother Nature.

Since April 26, the carcasses of five head of cattle have been found, with all the marks of foul play. The right eye, right ear, tongue, sexual organs and rectum seem to have been removed surgically from the animals. Folks say there's no sign of blood and that scavengers won't go near the carcasses. The latest grim find was reported Thursday night.

Several residents of this town on the Mississippi River have reported spotting lights hovering in the sky, turning from red to blue to orange, on nights preceding the discoveries.

Farmer Sam Mayes, in a tele-

"THERE WAS no blood and I thought that was strange. I've been farming for 35 years and I've never seen anything like it. You can't tell me it was done by any four-legged varmint. It was unnatural. I personally don't believe in UFOs or creatures from space; I feel it was done by some cult or devil-worshipper."

Margaret Ann Watts, editor of the weekly Elsberry Democrat, is one of the residents who saw lights in the sky.

"We have had several sightings of lights around here for some time," she said. "Last Tuesday night some friends of mine and myself were riding around the farm roads and we saw this strange orange glow in the sky. Some young men nearby were watching it through binoculars. It finally just disappeared."

Asked if she thought the cattle mutilations were caused by creatures from outer space, she laughed and said, "Well, there was a preacher here last night, quoting from Revelations, and he told me not to let them talk me out of seeing those lights. I saw them..."

WATTS ALSO mentioned another baffling aspect to the mystery. "Around several of the carcasses, some dead flies were found 'glued' to nearby tree branches. They seem to have been melted onto the branches. Entomologists can't explain it. Some people from the University of Missouri came down here last night and took them back to the lab to study them."

The police chief, John Livengood, is keeping an open mind. He's investigating it.

Dr. William Newberry, a veterinarian and former coroner, examined the cattle and said they died from natural causes.

"Scavengers, wild dogs or coyotes chewed on the animals," he said, "going for the soft tissues. The lack of blood was probably caused by gravity, the blood descending into the lower part of the animal's body and coagulating. The scissors-like teeth of the coyotes could cause the wounds to appear to have been surgically caused."

So far, nothing on the flies.

And the only thing that bothers Charles Oswald, a reporter for The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, is the frequency of the occurrences. And one biologist points out that cows' ears are not soft and tempting to predators but are made of tough cartilage.



phone interview, told about finding a mutilated calf:

"Saturday morning I found the calf. I wasn't expecting what I saw. At first I didn't notice the cuttings. They were about 14 inches in diameter and looked like they had been done with an extra sharp knife.

The mare, who usually accompanied five other horses through the fields of Gallinas Canyon, had been last seen Monday. Padilla found her corpse in a little meadow surrounded by trees two miles up in the forest between Gallinas and San Geronimo.

Lovato, who said he's looked at six or seven cows similarly mutilated in the district, could offer no explanation or motive in the killings.

"There are no clues as to who did them or what. A 1,600 pound horse is not easy to mutilate."

## Mutilated mare seen

A five year-old, brown mare found mutilated in Gallinas Canyon is believed to be the first horse in the state to fall victim to the strange, surgically neat animal killings reported in the past few years. The mare was owned by Arthur Padilla.

Like other incidents of mutilated cows found in the traceless slayings, the uterus, udders and rectum were removed with "perfectly round" incisions said Cattle Inspector Carlos Lovato.

Albert Padilla, who first sighted his brother's dead horse Friday night, noted there was no dirt in the hooves, indicating there had been no struggle. A search for clues brought nothing, he said. There were no bullet holes, no tracks, no signs of struggle.

"Not a drop of blood was left," he continued. Besides the sex organs and rectum, the left ear and eye were removed.

# 'Monster' Lives On

By Tom Tiede

POHENEGAMOOK, Quebec (NEA) - Even if he hadn't been seven feet tall, lumberjack Louis Berube would have become part of the folklore of this Canadian border region. According to accounts, by far, the huge woodsman was the first man to observe "la bete du lac," the alleged monster of Lake Pohenegamook.

That was in 1874. Berube was reportedly canoeing across the lake when he saw a roiling of the water and then the emergence of a "black thing," long and scaly, which wheeled up and over in the distance. The man was so shaken he told no one for weeks. When he did, the melodramatic legend of la bete du lac was born.

One century later the legend of the lake monster lives, even if the viability of the serpent itself has never been established. In recent years 50-75 people say they have seen the beast. Many residents scoff at the stories,

but just as many others insist something awesome and primeval is lurking at the water's edge.

Louis Fournier, for one, has seen the thing several times, usually from the balcony of his lakeside home. "I remember the first time," he says, "it was in the 1950s. I was sitting on the balcony when all of a sudden I see this big black object come out of the water. Mon Dieu, it sure in hell was not a fish."

Fournier says the thing he has seen may be as long as 50 feet, carries three humps on an opaque body, and moves very fast. Others give similar descriptions. The beast, they say, bears a resemblance to the more noted Loch Ness monster in Scotland, and, in fact, may well be related to that celebrated serpent.

Local speculation is that Lake Pohenegamook, which is a mile wide and six miles long, is connected to the ocean by a network of underground rivers. Perhaps Loch Ness is too. If so, the natives like to think monsters are

hatched in the Atlantic and then make their way to safe havens such as the Ness and Pohenegamook.

This notion is nourished by periodic reports of bottomless dropoffs and enormous caves in Pohenegamook. Officially, the lake has been measured at only 135 feet deep, but last year a monster-hunting crew from Toronto said its sophisticated sonar equipment detected deepwater holes that "seemed to go on and on."

So it is that the legend of la bete du lac goes on and on also. Not without its critics, however. Rennie Plourde, a customs officer stationed at the point where Pohenegamook empties into the state of Maine, says flatly that the beast is a myth established and perpetuated by "odd folks who drink too much."

Plourde says people in this isolated part of the continent are forever seeing things. Sasquatch, the man-monster, has been spotted in Quebec. So has the mysterious flying serpent of Lake Champlain. And there is the

Pohenegamook chap who laughs at the monster stories, but insists he has taken photographs of UFOs.

Even if the locals are really seeing something, Pohenegamook Mayor Lionel Charest says it is probably not a monster. There was a rash of sightings in 1956, he points out, and, coincidentally, that was the first year that motorboats were allowed on the lake. "The stories," he smiles, "they grow more impossible every year."

The mayor says monster watchers may only be viewing rows of ducks, or pitching logs, or a family of moose. An Ottawa chemist believes the phenomenon is in reality nothing more unusual than gas bubbles; he says the lake floor contains a large amount of decaying pulp, and so Pohenegamook burps periodically.

Then too, la bete du lac could be a sturgeon. When the Dominion government explored the Pohenegamook runoffs some years ago, it was determined that a cavi-



POHENEGAMOOK RESIDENT Elzear Sirios, an absolute believer that the lake is home to an awesome serpent, keeps replicas of it in his yard. A local customs officer counters that the monster is a myth perpetuated by "odd folks who drink too much."

ar-loving resident had put at least one sturgeon into the lake. Sturgeons, ugly and long lived, have been mistaken for serpents since the beginning of recorded time.

But never mind the rational explanations. Perhaps a majority of the 3,000 residents that surround Pohene-

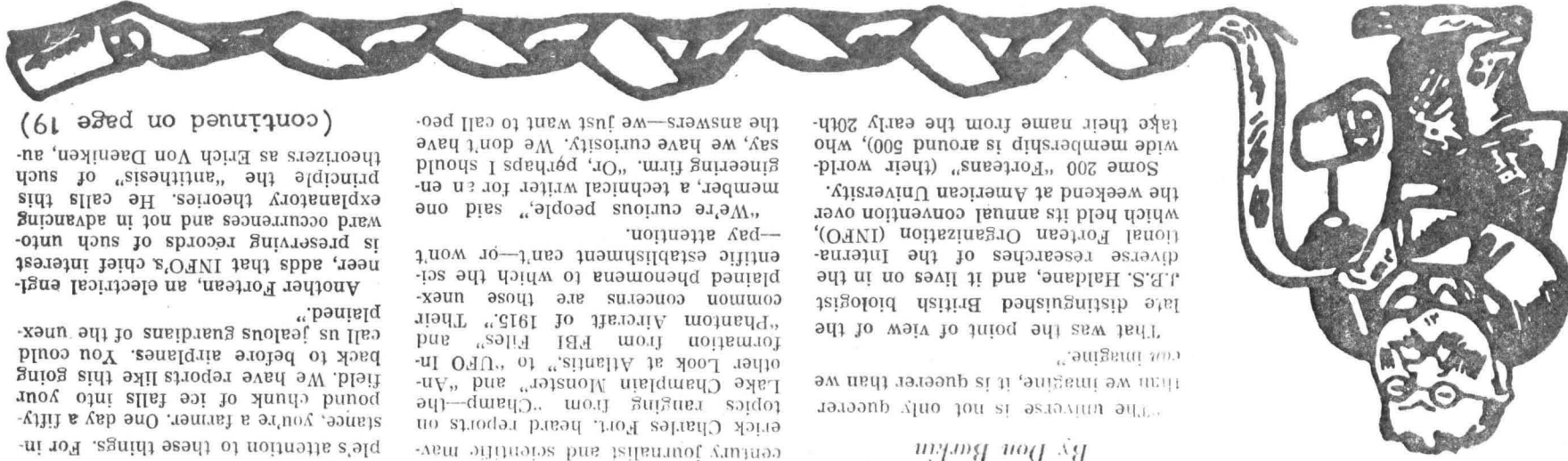
gamook would rather believe in the beast. "This is a quiet area," says Elzear Sirios, something of a historian, "and the monster provides some excitement." Sirios says he believes "absolutely" in the serpent.

So does the crew from Toronto which last year

spent \$15,000 looking for the monster. Some expedition members say they saw the thing personally, others believe the sonar picked up an electronic recording of "Ponik." Crew leader Bob Murray says he is convinced that there is something unexplained in the lake.

Advertiser, Lafayette, La., Thurs., July 6, 1978 CR: R. Calais

From an INFO leaflet



By Don Burkin

"The universe is not only queerer than we imagine, it is queerer than we can imagine."

That was the point of view of the late distinguished British biologist J.B.S. Haldane, and it lives on in the diverse researches of the International Fortean Organization (INFO), which held its annual convention over the weekend at American University. Some 200 "Fortean" (their world-wide membership is around 500), who take their name from the early 20th-

century journalist and scientific maverick Charles Fort, heard reports on topics ranging from "Champ—the Lake Champlain Monster" and "Another Look at Atlantis," to "UFO Information from FBI Files" and "Phantom Aircraft of 1915." Their common concerns are those unexplained phenomena to which the scientific establishment can't—or won't—pay attention.

"We're curious people," said one member, a technical writer for an engineering firm. "Or, perhaps I should say, we have curiosity. We don't have the answers—we just want to call people's attention to them."

Another Fortean, an electrical engineer, adds that INFO's chief interest is preserving records of such unward occurrences and not in advancing explanatory theories. He calls this principle the "antithesis" of such theorists as Erich Von Daeiken, and

The Fortean in  
Convention...  
Jealous Guardians  
Of the Unexplained

POST, Washington, DC - Aug. 7, 1978 CR: G. Farley

(continued on page 19)



## Fortean in Convention

thor of "Chariot of the Gods," whose followers held a convention last week in Chicago. "There is an adulation for Von Daeniken. These people are totally addicted to the theory that ancient astronauts visited the earth, as if all the evidence proves this."

Among Sunday's speakers was a young naval research physicist, Bruce Maccabee. He has gained access to FBI files which, he claims, show that in the '40s and '50s both the FBI and the Air Force conducted extensive investigations into UFO sightings. Though the FBI soon withdrew from the field, "as early as 1947 Air Force Intelligence concluded that UFOs were real," he said.

In 1969, however, the Air Force officially closed its book on UFOs with the publication of the controversial "Condon Report" and the termination of its Project Blue Book—its 21-year probe of UFOs—with the conclusion that UFOs are earthly phenomena.

At the same time, the Air Force admitted that some 10 percent of UFO sightings "are indeed strange and mysterious, impossible . . . to explain." And there were charges by scientists originally involved in the Air Force investigation that it was the product of scientific bias—the work of "non-believers."

Proceeding in the Fortean spirit of keeping an open—though skeptical—mind, Maccabee is trying to reopen the "closed book" on UFOs.

Another of Sunday's speakers was a bearded 26-year-old Canadian who calls himself Mr. X. He also calls himself "an unsuccessful writer and inventor," and publishes a review of unex-

plained phenomena titled "Chaos — The Review of the Damned" (a reference to Charles Fort's description of such phenomena as "damned" by the scientific community).

Lately he's been poring over old newspaper accounts, unearthing possible UFO sightings during the first World War ("Phantom Aircraft of 1915"). But his interests encompass the entire range of unexplained occurrences—the Bermuda Triangle, the Loch Ness Monster and poltergeists. He is quick to note that the scientific establishment "has always showed resistance to new ideas — to things that it was afraid to explain. . .", and to remind you that "before 1919, the size of the universe was considered to be the size of the Milky Way." He reminds you that even the revolutionary Einstein might be baffled by contemporary physics.

The Fortean is not without humor about their quixotic enterprise—an official leaflet offered free tickets to an exhibition of "Little Green Men." But a visitor to their convention could not help observing that a door left open to new ideas will also admit the pure eccentric. Which might describe the jovial executive director of the Texas-based "Association to Push Gravity, a retired civil servant who proposed to pierce the "Mysteries of Gravity" with his notion that the force that keeps man rooted firmly on the ground is not a pulling one, but rather the mass of the stars—of all matter—pressing down upon him.

But when another Fortean later seemed doubtful about this theory, it was with the gentlest incredulity that he averred, "We are a skeptical organization."

## Serpent Seen In U.S. Bay?

HEATHSVILLE, Va. (AP) — Undulating, gliding through the dark water, raising its head, then diving. Nessie of Loch Ness fame? No, it's Chesapeake Chessie, the sea serpent of Chesapeake Bay.

A handful of people have reported sighting strange creatures in the bay and a bit upstream in the Potomac River.

The descriptions match, if not in size, at least in general appearance. They bear a striking resemblance to the fabled monster of the Scottish lake.

Donald Kyker, a retired CIA employee, reported that on July 25 he and his wife, Ann, saw a creature about 25 to 30 feet long and about as round as a telephone pole. He said it stuck its head out of water and then dived.

"It wasn't a scary type thing," said Mrs. Kyker. "I'm sure I saw it."

John Merriner, head of the ichthyology department at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, said the creature described by Kyker "is one hell of an animal to be in the bay."

Merriner said the institute will question Kyker before the week is out.

"The trail is cold now," he said, "but we will try to track it anyway."

Kyker was the first person to report what he'd seen.

Myrtle Smoot and her husband, who live in Annandale, were at their summer cottage just down from Kyker's home.

Kyker telephoned the Smoots to tell them what he'd seen, and when they looked, there it was, heading toward the bay.

Mrs. Smoot said that within an hour they saw three more — one big and two small — heading upriver, and they frightened her.

She said the big one was longer than her 36-foot-long porch, and the smaller ones were 5 to 10 feet long.

Her husband shot one of the smaller monsters in the neck, she said.

"It rose out of the water and disappeared. Having children and grandchildren who swim and ski, we wanted to find out what it was. We didn't know whether it was dangerous, and we figured if we could get one, we could find out what it was."

Smoot fired several more shots. The creatures disappeared beneath the water.

C. Phillip Stemmer, 53, an electronics engineer who lives next door to the Smoots, was there at the time. He said they looked "like self-propelled logs."

"They weren't just three 'somethings' floating there. They were moving faster than the water. They were making wakes," said Stemmer.

Mary Lewis, an employee of Virginia Electric Power Co., said that on June 27 she and two cousins were swimming in a pool beside the Potomac, downstream from the Smoot cottage, when they saw several creatures too large to be ducks or snorkel tubes.

"It wasn't porpoises, either," she added, which was the original guess by officials of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission when first told what had been sighted in the river.

## Officials probe horse mutilation

HEREFORD — Deaf Smith County Sheriff's Department says it is "totally mystified and stumped" over the latest livestock mutilation case which was reported Friday.

Chief Deputy Art Burton said the most recent mutilation resembles those reported several weeks ago, except this time the mutilator or mutilators chose a four-year-old sorrel mare owned by Jau Don McCathern.

The horse was found dead early Friday morning on the McCathern Ranch, about 12 miles north of Hereford. Burton said cause of death could not be determined.

He said there were no traces of blood on the ground or wounds on the animal.

"I can't understand it," Burton

said. "There should have been blood."

He said the only trace of blood was found in the horse's nostrils.

The only body parts removed were the teats and rectum. Burton said there were no other apparent wounds on the carcass.

He said the owner told him the horse was "real gentle and would have walked right up to you."

"But you still have to have some way to get a horse of that size down," Burton said. "There were absolutely no signs of any struggle."

He said the horse was found about 200 feet from the ranch house, but no sounds were heard during the night or morning by the occupants.

"They did some pretty neat carv-

ing on her. Noway was it coyotes. It was cut out," Burton said.

He said he "has no idea or clue" as to who or what is committing the mutilations in his county—"I just wish there was something we could go on in these things."

He said he will send samples of the soil taken around the horse to a crime lab to be analyzed for chemicals, radiation, or any other substance which might shed light into his investigation.

"Right now, we're totally in the dark on this thing," he said.

Unlike the most recent steer mutilation he has investigated, Burton said no tracks of any kind were found at the scene. But the location of the incident, like that of the cattle mutilations, was no more than 200 yards from a county road.

Burton said the carcass was taken to Hereford Bi-Products for an autopsy.

"I can't understand it. When they skinned it they couldn't find any other wounds. There was nothing else wrong with her," he said.

The recent series of livestock mutilations near here has sparked talk that satanic or witchcraft cults, men from outer space, college fraternity members, or buzzards have been responsible.

Burton has been quoted as saying that he is "keeping an open mind" in the investigations.

# Deaths Cause Concern

By DAVE EDMARK  
NEWS Staff Writer

PRAIRIE GROVE—Residents of a rural area seven miles southwest of here have become concerned about the deaths of two calves recently, fearing the deaths to be caused by deliberate killings by humans. Sheriff Herb Marshall says his department's investigation hasn't confirmed that humans are responsible. But if people are involved, he says, a satanic cult isn't behind it.

The case involves calves owned by Jerry Hunton and Bud Mathias. Hunton's calf was found dead near the end of May. Mathias reported his calf was found dead last Friday morning.

The worry among the southwest county residents has been that incidents of cattle mutilation by mysterious cults have spread to the area. Benton County has been the scene of such happenings in recent months. Cattle have been killed there and lately there have been altars found which were apparently designed for satanic rites.

"I don't want to call it a cult, but I think someone is doing it," Hunton said. Marshall believes it's possible people are involved although there is no proof,

but the circumstances involving the Washington County incidents are so different from the Benton County cattle deaths that he does not suspect a cult.

Hunton says he found his calf dead with a small "smooth round hole" cut in front of the udder. He said it was a clean cut apparently done with a small object. Hunton says he requested the sheriff's department to investigate the situation with a veterinarian if it happened again.

Marshall says Hunton's calf was found having been chewed on by animals. Its intestines were strung out from the body. The sheriff says human involvement cannot be ruled out but it is not possible to say for sure. His department's investigation did not produce any evidence of the type of cut Hunton mentioned, according to Marshall.

The sheriff also says he recommended that a veterinarian be retained by the calf owners to get a better idea of what happened to the calves, but they never did so. Marshall said he was not going to retain one himself at taxpayers' expense.

The second calf incident involved the Mathias family nearby. Mrs. Bud Mathias found her family's two-month

old calf dead Friday morning. She said it was lying on its side with three ribs gone and possibly the liver and kidneys missing. A tiny triangle was cut out of the tongue and a section of the calf from the rib to the hip was cut, she claims.

Marshall says the calf was found with the intestine pulled from its left flank. There were no signs of animal teeth marks or knife incisions on this calf, he says.

The sheriff theorizes the calf may have died from a sickness and its insides swelled out and burst open. Black leg disease has been common in the area recently, he says, but only a veterinarian could say for sure if that happened in this case.

But whether the cause of the deaths is disease, people or other animals, Marshall emphasizes his belief that there is no cult involved. In the Benton County cattle mutilation cases, he says, the animals' eyes and tongues were always missing and their sexual organs had been cut. There have been no such circumstances in the two Washington County cases. Marshall also points to the fact that the Washington County animals were calves while in Benton County full-grown cattle were attacked.

HERALD, Cameron, TX - July 30, 1978 CR: T. Adams

## Youth Sees Hairy 'Bigfoot', Eight Feet Tall

Is "Bigfoot" roaming the wilds in Milam County? This was the question Friday after Jeffery Gelner, about 15, of the Ad Hall community reported seeing a mysterious creature running into the brush late Thursday evening.

The youth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Gelner, was in a maize field in the Little River bottom at Ad Hall with his grandfather, John Gelner, who was combining grain when the incident happened.

The Herald was unable to reach Gelner by phone Friday, but heard an interview the youth gave Sheriff Leroy Broadus and a radioreporter, in which he told this story:

He was sitting on the tailgate of a truck in the field, and when it was nearly dark he heard noise in the brush and a low growl. He started running towards his grandfather and when he was about 30 feet away he looked back and saw a creature which was running toward a slough. The creature seemed to trip, got up and disappeared down into the slough which had high brush on each side.

Gelner described the creature as being 7 1/2 to 8 feet tall and brown, covered in hair. He said

he was alarmed when he heard the noises because he'd found large tracks the day before in the vicinity of the field.

Sheriff Broadus, who was informed of the incident Thursday night, told The Herald he went out with deputies Friday morning and was shown tracks in a gully that were measured and found to be nine inches at the widest part and 24 inches long.

Broadus said there were no toe marks, however. He said the strides between the tracks measured from four to six feet. He took photographs of some of the tracks, and also of a gouged place on a tree.

Sheriff Broadus told The Herald he could imagine what was going to happen Friday night. "Everyone of those people out there is going to call us if they hear a noise tonight," he said, and one deputy said they might as well bring their sleeping bags.

He discounted the creature being a bear, and said he didn't know what his office could do, except answer a call if it came in.

Meanwhile, the mystery remains a mystery--Gelner said he could find no more tracks on Friday morning, and no sign of the creature, whatever it was.

NEWS, Paris, TX - Aug. 2, 1978

## Milam Sheriff doubts Big Foot monster story

CAMERON, Texas (AP) — Milam County Sheriff Leroy Broadus thinks the Big Foot monster story is just somebody's idea of a big joke.

But Broadus doesn't think it's so funny and may file criminal charges if he finds the person or persons responsible.

Broadus said Sunday he based his decision on a report made by the Big Foot Research Society of Dallas.

The monster story started last Wednesday when 15-year-old Jeffery Gelner found a mysterious footprint that was 24 inches long and 9 inches wide near the Little River. The next day he said he saw a large, two-legged hairy creature in a densely wooded slough near the river.

Broadus said he believes Gelner did see something in the woods and did not have any role in the hoax.

The sheriff said he got a telephone call from Mrs. Robert D. Thorneberry of

Dallas, who said her husband was director of the Big Foot Research Society and was interested in the case. Broadus asked Thorneberry to come to Cameron.

After Thorneberry and two associates made an investigation late Saturday they gave Broadus a statement. The statement said in part that the society "has concluded that there is not now, nor has there been in recent times, a Big Foot creature in or near the reported sighting area. The physical evidence at the location was carefully manufactured and skillfully constructed to mislead the people of Milam County. We conclude that a person or persons have attempted to play a dangerous and malicious prank on the Gelners and the Cameron community."

Broadus said he was told the Big Foot research group had about 400 members in its nonprofit organization.

CR: T. Adams