

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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DAILY ITEM, Sunbury, PA - Apr. 5, 1979

## A bird? A plane? A UFO? Selinsgrove man hunts clue

SELINGSGROVE — Stephen H. Kurtz saw "something" in the sky as he drove to work early Wednesday morning, but he's not quite sure what he saw.

What the Selinsgrove RD3 resident thinks he may have seen is an unidentified flying object. But he wants to see if anyone else saw the bright light hovering over the north end of the Rts. 11-15 bypass about 12:20 a.m.

"I'm just trying to decide whether I'm crazy or not," he said.

The 28-year-old Kurtz, who works the third shift at the Mister Donut shop in Danville, said he was driving north on the bypass on his way to work when he saw the light at the end of the bypass.

At first he thought it might be an airplane coming in for a landing at the Penn Valley Airport.

"As I went along, I noticed the light hadn't moved," he said. "At the distance, it looked fairly big for an airplane."

Kurtz described the light as oval and white like a bright fluorescent light. As for the size, he estimated that whatever it was was "at least as big as my car."

As he passed over an exit leading into Selinsgrove, the object suddenly darted south. "It was faster than any airplane I've ever seen," he said.

Kurtz slammed on the brakes and pulled to the side to see if anyone else had seen it. Before he could look back, the object was gone.

Kurtz said that he never really believed in flying saucers before. Now he is not so sure. "I'd like to think there's an explanation for what I saw," he said.

GAZETTE, New Albany, MS - Apr. 22, 1979

## County family spots UFOs Monday evening

It was Monday evening just before dark.

Ernie Fuller, his wife Kathryn and daughter Lynn, were on their way home from an afternoon of fishing when it happened.

Off the highway between Cornersville and Macedonia and over a field in the western sky they saw three big, round discs. Two were side by side, and one was higher and to the right of the others.

They already decided they were viewing UFOs. "We pulled over and stopped to get a good look," Ernie said.

"But by the time we got out, one of the objects went up and out of sight real

quick. Then we went back to the pickup, and the others went up and out of sight real fast too," he added.

Fuller described the unidentified flying objects as being black or some other dark color. "They were lower to the ground than an airplane, but they were still real high. They kind of looked similar to the blimp at a football game (on TV)," he said.

The UFO sighter said the whole incident lasted about three to four minutes, and it was the first time he has ever seen an unidentified flying object.

Fuller said he reported his sighting to the sheriff but that no one else had reported a sighting.

STAR, Wilmington, NC - Apr. 20, 1979

## UFO? Fiery ball sighted over Brunswick

By Julie Ann Freeman  
Star Correspondent

BOLIVIA — The mysterious sightings in the Boiling Spring Lakes-Sunny Point area of Brunswick County Wednesday night remained a mystery Thursday.

Several area residents reported seeing an object that looked like a big ball of fire in the sky moving slowly toward the ground in the Sunny Point area Wednesday night.

A search of that part of Brunswick County during the night and Thursday by Boiling Spring

Lakes police and county sheriff's deputies revealed nothing unusual, a spokesman for the Sheriff's Department said Thursday afternoon.

The Sheriff's Department received two calls shortly after 7:30 p.m. Wednesday from the Southport area. Both callers described the fiery object. They said it appeared to be about the size of an automobile and that red beams extended outward from it. One caller said four adults watched the object drop slowly near Boiling Spring Lakes.

The Southport police received a similar call.

The Boiling Spring Lakes police received a call that a light plane had crashed. The Sheriff's Department checked area airports and industries and reported no aircraft were unaccounted for.

A Southport resident who declined to be identified, fearing she would be called "a nut," said Thursday, "This was no flare. It was a big object, not a meteorite, as it wasn't moving that fast."

The reports also noted the object had a trail of smoke behind it.

PRESS, Pascagoula, MS - Apr. 9, 1979

## Patrolman reports UFO sighting

OCEAN SPRINGS — The sighting of a UFO was reported by a patrolman here at 3:05 a.m. today while he was transporting a Biloxi police reserve officer across the Biloxi-Ocean Springs bridge.

"I know it sounds crazy," Patrolman Robert Rachuba said, "but it's true. We spotted a dome looking object with fire spurling from it."

Rachuba was transporting Biloxi police reserve officer Ricky Briggs across the bridge after his vehicle broke down in Ocean Springs.

"We spotted the UFO two different times as we were crossing the bridge toward Biloxi," Rachuba said.

DAILY AMERICAN, Somerset, PA - Apr. 13, 1979

## Pair sight UFO

A UFO was reportedly seen flying over Somerset Borough in a westerly direction Thursday night by two county employees who were near the county jail.

The employees agreed that the object seen at 8 p.m. was diamond-shaped and was lighted in the front, middle and rear sections of a craft that they say made no noise.

"We could hear absolutely nothing," said one employee.

Described as being off-yellow in color, the craft disappeared from view after being observed for 30 seconds.

The craft disappeared from view shortly after the sighting, that the employees say, could have been witnessed by more people.

Both agreed that the craft was flying at an altitude estimated to be 10,000 feet.

It represents the first sighting of an unidentified craft this year.

PRESS, Blairstown, NJ - Apr. 19, 1979

## Okay, what was it?

Three families, living in an area off Mt. Vernon road in Blairstown, saw an unidentified flying object on Sunday April 8. They were understandably reluctant to report it and it was not until April 10 that one of them called the Blairstown police, and admitted that she was afraid they might think she was "whacky" but she had to report what he been seen, hoping Chief Bedell might have a logical explanation. But after listening to their description, he is as baffled as they were.

It was just at dusk and everyone was inside; two boys saw a bright light outside their window and ran out to see what it was; their father, in another room on the other side of the house saw the blaze of light and went out to investigate; a woman preparing supper in a house some distance away was attracted by the sudden return of daylight; two children in a third house in the area were also startled by the brilliance. All told, six people saw the phenomena, and Chief Bedell says he has every reason to believe they were reliable witnesses; they are all well known and respectable citizens, but they naturally prefer to be anonymous.

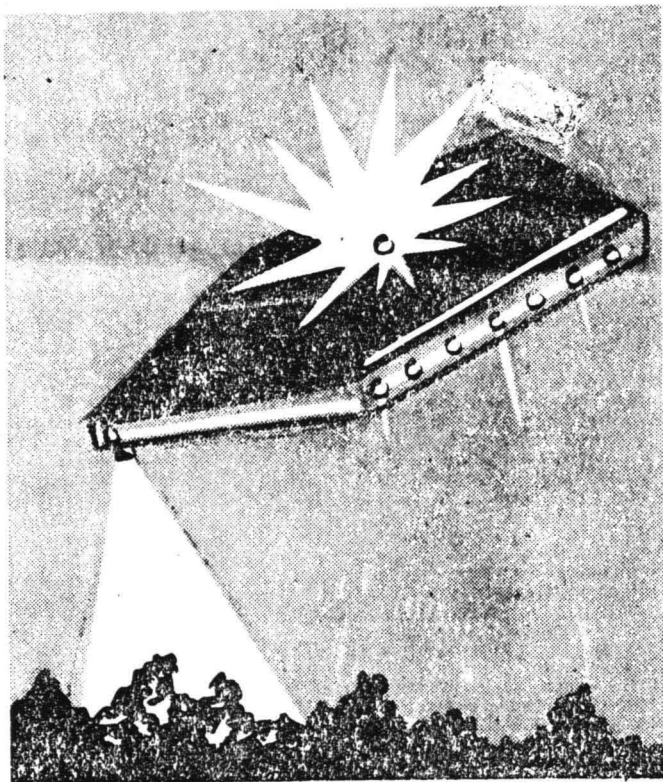
It could not have been a meteor, which flashes across the sky and is gone; furthermore, April 8 was cloudy and you don't see meteors through the clouds. It was a bright light that hung in the sky long enough for everyone to run from their houses and see it. It looked like a gigantic headlight and seemed to emanate sparks. Then suddenly it was gone.

The state police use helicopters with enormous search lights, but the observers said there was no sound. One boy said that a helicopter would have red tail lights, and there were no red lights on this UFO.

If the object had landed, the police could have tested the ground for radioactivity, but it stayed in the sky, and vanished as suddenly as it had appeared.

# UFO's over Randolph?

## Some persons say yes!



Since many people have reported seeing UFO's over Randolph, Enterprise artist Liz Dunbar went to work and transformed all the reports into a conception of what those funny things in the sky might look like.

By NANCY ABRAMSON  
Enterprise Correspondent

RANDOLPH — What's shaped like home plate on a baseball diamond, has a bright red light on top, a powerful white "headlight" on the bottom at the point, bright red lights on either side of the base and a row of white lights along the back edge . . . and flies?

It's not a bird, plane or Superman! But if you were to listen to residents around Randolph for the past few days and nights, it could be one of the many observed "white lights in the sky" or UFO's. This particular unidentified flying object was seen and described by Jerry Lopes, a radio newsman at WHDH in Boston and was reported to the UFO Hotline located in Rolling Meadows, Ill.

This was one of about 30 sightings this week that were reported to the answering service, Executive Locator, according to Mary Jean Maloney who was working the Sunday afternoon shift.

"A Sergeant Monahan (Randolph Police Sergeant Richard Mahan) called at 10:57 a.m. Saturday Central Standard Time to report the sightings," Mary Jean reported. "He said it shot sparks out of the back and was traveling in a southeasterly direction. It slowly disappeared after it was seen for about five to 10 minutes."

Most of the reported sightings came from California, but within the past week two others were called in from Eastern Massachusetts.

"On April 2 a Melrose man reported a silver cylinder moving at a moderate speed which shot a light beam down at him and he couldn't move," the operator read, "and on April 5 a Brookline man reported a large red

light with a yellow ball of lights circling it."

When asked if Ms. Maloney would like to see one of the UFO's she hears so much about, she said emphatically, "Nope! The people who call in here seem too frantic."

One who was not frantic at all was Lopes who recalled what he saw very calmly.

"I saw this thing in the sky about 4:20 a.m. Saturday, but the story begins back on March 23," Lopes recalled. "I saw it for the first time then but was silent about it. I was traveling down Route 24 with Steve Sbaccia, another newsman here at WHDH when Steve saw this light first. I told him it was probably some pole light, but when we got off at Route 106 it looked like it was about 10 o'clock high in the sky, about a mile or two away and moving."

"We stopped at a light and this thing was coming towards us. We got out of the car and it passed right over us. It was a perfectly clear night and that's how we were able to get a good look at it."

"We didn't say anything at the time but Steve called me on the 26th to say he saw it again over the Mass. Turnpike in Newton."

"Then came Saturday morning and I had to say something!"

"I was over Vin Maloney's house in Braintree and we were talking most of the night, and when I left I looked up and saw this light. It was a perfectly clear night and I knew immediately what it was. There was nothing else in the sky."

Lopes hurried down the street to the Braintree Police station, but he got little help there.

"There were three officers there

and I all but dragged them outside to see it," he said. "They all saw it, but when I suggested we drive over that way, they didn't want any part of it."

"The sky was crystal clear and as it took off there was a black puff of smoke. Sometimes it picks up speed and zooms."

"I was sort of skeptical before, but I believe it now," Lopes asserted. "Unfortunately there is no procedure for handling these cases. You report them to the police, but all they can do is give you the toll free number in Illinois to make a report."

"I've suggested the police look out for it, because it wasn't one of ours," the three-year newsman said.

Randolph police received numerous calls late Thursday night and early Friday morning about UFO sightings in addition to a report Saturday morning. And again yesterday there was another call.

"At 7:46 p.m. a Mrs. Ann Flaherty of Norway Ave. reported a light in the sky," Patrolman Joe Previti said. "She showed me a light in the sky, but I don't know. It looked like a light, but I really don't know what it was. There wasn't a star in the sky."

"She claimed the light was moving and the lights were changing, but I didn't observe any changing lights. There was no baloney about it," Previti assured. "I saw a light. Who knows? Maybe it's true. But I gave her the number to report it and she was happy."

"Then I got into my squad car and looked straight ahead."

Randolphians are looking up into the sky more often these days, and it's not to check snowflakes.

You never know what you might see!

NEWS-CHIEF, Winter Haven, FL - Apr. 25, 1979

"I saw these two round white lights, something like headlights but one higher than the other, heading toward us, then zoom past us."

- PCC Student

## Odd lights again seen near PCC

There must be something about the area around Polk Community College that attracts strange flying objects.

Not long ago, a police officer reported seeing a strange light hovering near the college, and Monday night a PCC counselor and student reported seeing two bright lights, "something like headlights," fly past them as they traveled on Sixth Street near Avenue I about 10:30 p.m.

"I saw these two round white lights, something like headlights but one higher than the other, heading toward us, then zoom past us," said student Pat Boss. "At first I didn't want to say anything because I was afraid I was seeing things, but my friend (PCC counselor Jude Macion) saw the same thing."

"We looked all around to be sure it wasn't a car or something else and we didn't see anything."

Adding to the strangeness of the incident, Boss said, was the fact that even though she had the accelerator to the floor, the car would only go about 30 miles an hour.

About a half hour later, on her way home, Boss again saw the two strange lights near the Lake Eloise-Lake Lulu canal and again her car wouldn't go more than 30 miles an hour.

"It was so weird," she said.

Macion added that "we're both very level-headed, and we hadn't been drinking or anything like that."

Winter Haven police said they had not received any UFO reports recently, another sighting was reported by News-Chief Production Manager Chuck Jesse.

"My son said he saw one the other day, but I didn't believe him," Jesse said.

HERALD, Haines City, FL - Apr. 26, 1979

Since reporting last week on a recent UFO sighting, I've heard of another sighting the same night and one about four weeks ago, both near Lake Marion.

The most recent one was the night of April 11 as Clarence Carter was out on his dock fishing.

He described it as a big blue light that headed northwest then zigged to due west and appeared to come down in the distance near Haines City.

He was by himself at the time.

In the second, two strange lights came up out of an orange grove near the lake.

One left quickly and the other hovered overhead as witness Lyle Winger flashed his headlights at it, perhaps hoping for a close encounter of some kind.

At the urging of his companion, Mary Clermont, he quit flashing his lights and the object left the area.

This one also was described as a very strange experience.



# Fishermen land with tale of possible close encounter

By Jack Stewardson  
STANDARD-TIMES STAFF WRITER

Neither Francisco Marreiros nor Manuel Pateiro is quite sure what they saw out there on the fishing grounds earlier this week, but they wonder whether they had a "close encounter" with a UFO.

The two New Bedford fishermen were on the bridge of the trawler Christina and Sandra Tuesday night when they saw a bright, circular flying object fixed stationary above the water ahead of them.

Before they finally turned their vessel away from the object about five minutes later, they said its flashing lights changed color — first from white to green and then to redish orange — and appeared to have an antenna.

Both fishermen talked to The Standard-Times about their experience through an Portuguese interpreter this morning as the Christina and Sandra unloaded its catch at the Pilgrim Fish Co.

Neither stated clearly how close the object came to their approaching vessel, nor how high the object was above the water. However, both indicated lights from the object flashed down from the sky.

According to Marreiros, owner and skipper of the 78 foot vessel, the encounter also disabled the vessel's Loran system for about 15 minutes after the experience and the trawler was also unable to pick up the object on the vessel's radar system throughout the time.

"I didn't appreciate seeing that thing," Marreiros said through the interpreter. "I am wondering now if it was a flying saucer, what would have happened if we had stayed."

The trawler owner said it had been raining for about 10 minutes before the crew first noticed the object. Marreiros said he first brought it to the attention of Pateiro, who was on the bridge with him.

He estimated the vessel's position was around 60 miles east of the Nantucket Lightship, around the 3200, 6250 Loran position lines. It was around 11:30 at night.

Pateiro, who drew a sketch of the sighting, said the object was about the size of the Christina and Sandra, and stood fixed in the sky at all times.

Marreiros described the flashing beacons much like the flashing dome of a police car.

"Something normal it wasn't," said Marreiros.

"We were steaming, just sailing toward it, and it was there," said Pateiro. "As we were navigating, it started changing colors."

"We turned away," Marreiros said.

Both men were at a loss to identify what they might have seen. They agreed that they had never seen anything like it before.

A spokesman for the Coast Guard 1st District headquarters in Boston indicated that "very few" UFO reports have been filed with the Coast Guard in the past. They said there have been no recent reports of UFO sightings. The Air Force usually investigates such incidents, they noted.

## No Trace Of UFO

The unidentified flying object sighted in the Bethel community Sunday night was possibly a hang glider, according to Deputy James Coleman who was one of the persons who saw the strange object.

The report was made early Sunday night, and Deputy Coleman and other Sheriff's Department personnel visited the site during the night. Deputy Coleman said he spotted the object early Monday morning and observed that it was plastic and had a rope hanging to it and was 300 to 400 feet in the air. It was V-shaped and was about 10 feet wide.

Thinking that it might be a weather kite, the Sheriff's Department notified the weather station in New Bern. But they knew nothing of the object.

Officers then surmised that the object was probably a hang glider.

Charles Hinson, a local pilot, flew low over the trees in an attempt to get a glimpse of the object around 9 a.m. Monday, but he and other persons in the plane could not see the object. No other persons reported seeing the object after early Monday morning.

HERALD, Hermiston, OR - May 9, 1979

## Mysterious Lights

To the Editor,

I was driving home from Portland on Monday evening, April 30. Several miles west of Boardman, not far from the PGE plant, I noticed off to my right a moving beam of red light. A few minutes later I saw in front of me something like a jagged red line in the sky, and soon afterward, sort of a dim red flash.

Later on a long narrow whitish light appeared briefly in the sky ahead. Farther down the road I saw a white flash much larger and brighter than the previous one, seemingly right beside Eastern Oregon Farms. After I had passed the towers there I saw another narrow flash, again less bright, up ahead and slightly to my left. Last of all I observed a still dimmer one toward the north, as if it were across the river.

All this occurred during a period of 20 minutes or so ending about nine o'clock. I did not see any flying object, only lights that seemed unusual to me, but their pattern appeared to indicate movement. I am not aware that a conventional aircraft would behave in this manner. Some of the lights resembled brief flashes of lightning; however, it was not a stormy night, most of the flashes were well above the ground, and I have never seen red lightning.

Perhaps some of your readers in the Boardman area saw some of the same sights and can account for them naturally enough. If so, this would be of interest to me.

Yours truly  
/s/ Ron Ingle  
400 NW 11th  
Hermiston

DAILY STAR, Shelby, NC - Apr. 24, 1979

## Woman Says Object Not Plane, Lanterns

By JOE DePRIEST  
Star Staff Writer

"I'm not swearing what it was," said Mrs. A.G. Owensby about the "huge light" she said she saw in the sky near her home Friday night.

But she knows what the object wasn't. Mrs. Owensby said firmly Monday afternoon.

No way it could have been an airplane or lanterns being used by fishermen, she said. Those possible alternatives to an UFO sighting had been suggested by others.

Mrs. Owensby's three children — ages 7, 9 and 11, and her mother, Callie Robinson, agree. They saw the light too.

Mrs. Owensby and her son Robert, 11, were coming home Friday evening when they say they saw the big light almost over their residence on Metcalf Road.

When they arrived at home, Mrs. Owensby said she went inside to get her mother and other two children who all saw the object. Lighting up the yard, it hovered in the air below the house about 200 feet away in a clearing and made no sound, she said. The object had a row of lights and she had the impression of "gobs of windows" in it. The lights did not form any letters and the object gave off no heat, she continued.

## Strange orange lights reported in the skies over Lowell, Dracut

By BRIAN C. MOONEY  
Sun Staff

LOWELL — "Uh huh. Right sir. Strange orange lights. You say you counted 13 or 14. Got it. Out of formation? Yeah. One of them hovered you said? And they looked like they were heading toward Dracut. Okay. Thanks for calling."

Then the phones at The Sun started ringing off the hook last night, between 10:15 and 10:45. More than a dozen people called.

They were from Pawtucketville, Centralville, and Dracut, they said, and they all reported a group of eerie lights. No one mentioned unidentified flying objects, but that's what they thought they saw.

They called police too. Lowell Police reported at least a dozen calls around the same time, all saying the same thing. Dracut Police got two calls; same time; same phenomenon. One couple drove up to Dracut PD headquarters. Wouldn't leave their names. Didn't want anyone to think they were crazy, one cop said.

There were several theories: Air National Guard planes dropping equipment with lights attached at Fort Devens; government high atmospheric tests; maybe even a meteor shower.

Two Sun reporters, more than a little skeptical, drove off toward the University of Lowell's north campus, where most of the "sightings" were coming in from.

Nothing there. But the calls kept coming in. From Sparks Street, Exeter Street, the VFW Highway, Martin Street.

One man called from his Pawtucket Boulevard apartment. He was driving along the VFW Highway when he saw it. Several cars pulled over and watched, he said.

"They were big balls of light, about 30 of them. They moved very slow," he said. "One went vertically, the rest horizontally. They were headed from Lowell toward Dracut, right over the (Aiken Street) bridge."

Other callers said they counted either 13 or 14 yellowish-orange lights. No sound, and all of them headed east or east-northeast.

"Weird, huh?" one male caller said after giving a similar description. Several callers wanted to make sure they weren't the first to telephone The Sun. "You getting many calls about funny lights up around the Tech School?" one asked.

Michael Miles, a civilian CETA worker manning the phones at Lowell Police headquarters, said there were a dozen calls from people of varying ages and both sexes, mostly in Pawtucketville and Centralville.

"They sounded pretty authentic," Miles said. He called the UFO hotline in Evanston, Ill.

Then, The Sun called the UFO hotline in Evanston. The hotline operator said the Lowell PD call was the only call they received. They passed the information along to the UFO information center, also in Evanston, "in case there was a landing," she explained.

Dracut Patrolman Peter Apostolas said a couple in their mid 30s drove up to the

front of the station to report "a formation of 15 or 20 balls of light, like orange balls of flame going out toward the Kenwood section (in east Dracut). They seemed fairly serious," Apostolas remarked.

One Dracut Police officer called The Sun this morning and said he saw the lights too. Unfortunately, he's been getting grief from loved ones ever since, he said.

Another Dracut officer said callers refused to give their names when they reported the lights.

"They wouldn't tell me so I wouldn't think they were crazy," he said.

A check of military and scientific groups in the area turned up some interesting theories, the most plausible of which was that C130 transport planes dropped off material at Fort Devens about 15 miles from Lowell. The equipment dropped by parachute, has "illuminous lights attached to the chutes," says Gary Sebring, an aircraft dispatcher at the Fort.

"I'll bet that's what they saw. I've been doing C130s for 15 years, and people see all sorts of things," he said.

"It was a nice night out with plenty of stars; the visibility was probably 20-30 miles," Sebring said. The drops were made from an altitude of 1,250 feet, and depending on where someone was, the lights on the parachutes could have looked bright yellow or pale yellow, he added.

The C130s were out of the Rhode Island Air National Guard base in Warwick, but Capt. Stephan Stubits there said he thought the equipment

had green, almost chartreuse-colored lights. There were four drops at Devens between 8:50 and 9:45 p.m., two planes each time dropping heavy equipment and sandbags. Stubits said.

Also, he thought there might have been some C123 transports out of Westover Air Force Base in western Massachusetts making drops at Devens last night. Maj. Robert Hafner at Westover said this morning there were no drops in this area last night, however.

A check of the Federal Aviation tower in Nashua, N.H., which monitors all air traffic in New England turned up no explanation for the Lowell-area reports.

Astronomy Professor William Pinson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which operates the Haystack Observatory in Westford, confirmed there have been meteor showers recently.

"But they're not a very spectacular thing. It would have to be a real dark night and you would have to look hard to see them," Pinson said.

However, he recalled a few years ago when government high-atmospheric testing in Virginia was visible in southern New Hampshire. The firings released greenish barium vapors and yellow-orange sodium vapors high in the atmosphere, he said. Maybe something like that was what people in Lowell and Dracut saw last night, he theorized. "I'm not saying that's what it was," he cautioned.

Nobody could.

# Six weeks later, flying object still unidentified

By NED POPKINS  
Staff Writer

**VERNON** — An unidentified flying object seen last month by a Vernon man and at least nine other persons as far away as Norwich has stumped scientists at the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., according to the center's Connecticut investigator.

The bright object seen in the March 1 night sky was not an airplane and apparently was not a meteorite, either, Lawrence Fawcett, who also coordinates UFO sightings for the entire New England region, has said.

Fawcett said last week that testimony from Ronald Mocadlo of 21 Peterson Drive, who said he saw the object change direction as it went overhead, has scientists puzzled.

Mocadlo, a Manchester High School guidance counselor, said the object appeared to turn as it passed over the Vernon area.

Fawcett said other evidence also diminished chances of the object having been a meteorite. Some of the witnesses said they

watched the object for as long as ten or 15 seconds, while meteorites are normally visible for only two or three, he said.

"But after talking to the Vernon gentleman, we sort of realized it wasn't a meteorite or anything like that," he said.

Although Fawcett said he expected to receive a full report from the center on its conclusions, Dr. Alvin Hynek, the center's director, has told him by telephone that researchers have as yet been unable to explain the sightings.

The object, seen between 7:45 p.m. and 8 p.m. that evening, ranged in color from bluish-green to white, according to witnesses. Most said it appeared to be about the size of a pumpkin, but had no discernible shape, Fawcett said.

Besides Mocadlo, witnesses included an off-duty Manchester policeman, the news director at a Willimantic radio station and a Norwich newspaper reporter, Fawcett said.

A check of area airports showed that none

of them picked up the object on their radar that evening, he said.

Fawcett said that about 90 percent of all sightings investigated by the center, which handles UFO reports from around the world, are eventually explained.

The other 10 percent, however, remain in the center's computer banks as unexplainable, he said.

Fawcett said UFO sightings, which he called a "global phenomenon," point to the existence of life forms outside our sphere of knowledge.

The only way scientists will know for sure is through investigations of "close encounters of the third kind": incidents in which UFOs interact directly with humans, he said.

Although most UFO reports in this area deal with sightings of strange lights in the night skies — "nocturnal lights" — there have been several instances in which persons have been "kidnapped" by UFOs for short periods of time, he said.

Fawcett, a Coventry police officer with 15 years experience dealing with UFO sightings, investigated an incident during the 1960s in which a New Hampshire couple lost two hours of travel time while out driving one day.

Under hypnosis, the two described how they had been taken aboard a UFO and examined by strange beings, he said.

Fawcett would like to have area residents report any strange sightings to him as soon as possible.

Persons may write Fawcett at 471 Goose Lane, Coventry, or telephone him at 742-7988.

NEWS REPORTER, Whiteville, NC - Apr. 23, 1979

## Another UFO Spotted

Another UFO was spotted in Columbus County Friday around 2 p.m. and it is presumed that the object which was seen coming down in the Roseland community was a weather balloon from Charleston, S.C.

Neil Floyd, an employee of Columbus County Health Department, reported that he saw a flying object descending near the intersection of SR 1329 and SR 1330. He stated to Sheriff's Department personnel that the object looked like a deflated balloon.

Dispatcher F.M. Allen contacted Charleston Weather Station and learned that a weather balloon had been sent up Friday morning and the wind was blowing it in this

direction. Weather station personnel asked that the radio transmitter be removed from the balloon if it was located.

Deputies Harold Rains, Alton Lennon and Randy Williamson were dispatched to the scene but did not sight the object. It apparently went down in a wooded area.

An unidentified flying object was reported in the Bethel community last Sunday night and Deputy James Coleman was one of the persons who viewed it as it hovered approximately 400 feet above a field early Monday morning. However, persons in a light aircraft were unable to spot it later in the morning.

Deputy Coleman said the object was first believed to be a weather balloon, but none of the weather stations had sent one up.

TIMES, Dunedin, FL - May 10, 1979

## Close Encounters Of Some Kind

by Michael Szymanski

"I never thought about what I'd do if I saw one. I didn't really care about anything except the flower bed," said Judy Kozak. "If I had known the reaction I would get, I never would have said anything," she added.

Mrs. Kozak and her sister Monica Karnbach were working in the flower bed when their mother Monica A. Karnbach spotted the oval diagonal shape in the sky southwest of their home at 1590 Sandalwood Drive.

After the three women stared for awhile at the blob in the sky they wondered what it could be. Mrs. Kozak ran in the house to get a pair of binoculars.

"I looked at it," she said, "then I gave them to my sister and my mother and asked them to describe what they saw. We all came up with the same strange description. It's hard to describe something you've never seen before."

It was an oval shape with a colorless metallic light. "There was no real color," said Mrs. Karnbach, "You couldn't describe it as a silver or gold."

"It was sparkly," said Mrs. Kozak's 5-year-old daughter Kim.

The family saw the shape hovering in the same place for four hours Friday and saw it again Saturday from 7 to 7:30 p.m. The sky was clear around the object, but there were clouds below, according to their descriptions.

"The second night it appeared out of nowhere, it was just there," said Mrs. Karnbach.

"And it would disappear the same way," said Mrs. Kozak, "a cloud would go over it and then it would be gone."

They discussed many possibilities.

It was too high for a kite. ("It was) way above the clouds," said Mrs. Kozak.

"At first I thought it might be a glider," said Miss Karnbach, "but there were planes in the same general area and when they came near it, it moved down into the clouds."

Then it came back out again.

It couldn't have been a balloon. "It was always in the same angle, never moving," said Mrs. Kozak. "Sometimes it moved up and down, but it wasn't constant. Once it was horizontal and it looked more like a disc that way."

The Clearwater Sun reported the object as being a blimp for a new Publix store. The store was not in the same area where the object was sighted.

"And I've seen many blimps before," said Mrs. Karnbach. "I've seen weather balloons and blimps and toy balloons and this was something I've never seen

before."

"I've never believed in UFOs before," she continued, "but now I'm a believer."

"I never claimed it to be a flying saucer like on T.V.," said Mrs. Kozak, "but it's an unidentified flying object until someone gives me positive proof as to what it was then it is still unidentified. I'd accept a reasonable explanation for what I saw."

An official of the Federal Aviation Administration in Tampa said that there was nothing unusual on the radar between the time of the sighting on Friday.

Some people did not take the report of the UFO very seriously.

The Dunedin Police Department, according to Mrs. Kozak, "laughed the whole thing off."

"I asked them to step outside and look and see if they can explain what we are seeing," she said, "and the police said to call the UFO Hotline."

There is no UFO Hotline according to Information or the local operator.

According to the Dunedin Police Department, there was no call reported by Mrs. Kozak and there were no UFO sightings reported Friday, May 4. The police department said that it would probably write a report on a UFO sighting but the officer admitted, "I have never gotten any."

Other people, according to Miss Karnbach, have wiggled their fingers behind their heads as if they had antennas asking whether Mork had visited them.

"This thing was not to be taken lightly," said Miss Karnbach. "When I was watching it I felt a cold chill."

"It scared the living hell out of us," said Mrs. Kozak.

It's one of those things where you think it will never happen to you. I never thought I would see something like this. And I'm hurt to see what the public's reaction has been."

"I'm an accountant and a mother of three children," added Mrs. Kozak who is also a Sunday school teacher.

"Why would I risk my respect and reputation by making up this story. People have made a mockery out of this. I want some people with open minds to see this thing and explain it."

The three women had not read books about UFOs, but they had heard about sightings before. None of them believed in UFOs previous to this incident, but what they have seen has made them have second thoughts.

"People who are not open minded about things like this," said Mrs. Karnbach, "are in for a rude awakening."

TIMES, Dunedin, FL - May 17, 1979

## The Kozaks Are Not Alone

Last week it was reported that Judy Kozak, 1590 Sandalwood Drive, and her mother, sister and children saw a shimmering strange Unidentified Flying Object in the skies of Dunedin.

Since that article in The Dunedin Times and The Clearwater Sun, Mrs. Kozak has received letters from people who have seen an object with her same type of description.

One Clearwater school teacher and her husband spotted glowing diagonal objects like the one seen by the family. Another sighting was at a different time and place from where they watched the object two weekends ago.

Other Dunedin residents have admitted to the women that they saw similar objects in the sky that weekend.

In Omni magazine, a new science fiction magazine, a pilot gave a true account of a UFO sighting very similar to the Kozak's description. Mrs. Kozak's husband, who has never before been interested in the subject, read the description in the magazine. The sighting was in Australia, but was the same glowing cylindrical shape.

The sighting was made before the magazine was locally distributed.

Next week, The Dunedin Times will ask Dunedin residents what their belief and views are towards UFOs and the reports of the sightings.



## What Was It? Well — It Came From the Sky

CONCORD — Flying saucers in Contra Costa? A couple of young Concord men swear they saw one over Concord Monday night.

Gary Peterson, a resident of Concord and a sportswriter for the Valley Times in Pleasanton, said he received a call from his friend, Bill Gleffe, also of Concord, around 9:30 p.m. Gleffe, who has been traveling north on I-680 excitedly told Peterson about the sighting. Peterson met Gleffe at the I-680-Route 21 intersection and both men followed a bizarre object for some time.

However, the California Highway Patrol had not received any calls concerning the sighting late Monday night.

The County Sheriff's office also had no calls, although Peterson reported that several residents in Dana Estates were outside of their homes peering skyward.

The deputy on the night desk did say that for the past several nights, a strange plane, similar to the famous Goodyear blimp, has been seen in the area. Peterson described the object this way: "It was like a saucer, with sides hanging down like a lampshade. It had lights that pulsed and rotated, about five or six rows of them. It changed colors from time-to-time, from white to orange to green to red."

"It didn't perform like any typical craft I've seen."

It would hover, then turn over on its side, like a quarter on a table top.

"It was a very controlled motion. As it rolled over, I saw one light in the middle, like a lid to a pot."

He said that the mysterious vehicle was visible for

about 50 minutes, from shortly after 9 p.m. until 10.

The astonished duo followed the lights to Ellis Lake, then it turned and headed toward the Pleasanton-Castro Valley area. They said they proceeded

back out on to 680.

The UFO in the meantime, had retraced its flight pattern and was again dipping over Concord.

At last glance, it appeared to be headed in a northwesterly direction.

SUN-STAR, Merced, CA - May 14, 1979

## 2 UFO Sightings in Atwater

ATWATER — There were some strange things going on in the sky here over the weekend — at least several local residents swear so.

Two unidentified flying objects were spotted Saturday and Sunday afternoon, and sheriff's deputies say the people genuinely believe they saw UFOs.

The first sighting came about 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Joaquin Mendoza, 3669 N. Steinberg Road, told deputy James Williams that he, his wife, Lupe, and son, Joaquin Jr., spotted the UFO hovering

near his home.

Mendoza described the disc-shaped object as three feet wide, seven feet long and metallic in color. He said it hovered at the tops of telephone poles, made a humming noise and attracted birds, which followed it.

"I don't believe in UFOs either," Williams said this morning. "But I believe these people. They were scared."

Louis Krecy, 9132 Sunset Drive, saw the same object from about 1/4 mile away. Williams' report said. He described it as shiny blue and said it had an odd tail.

The second UFO was spotted by Al Chibante, 3620 N. Steinberg, about 1 p.m. Sunday. He described the object as having a two-foot diameter, about 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches thick, with two bow-type protrusions from the top. He said the object was shiny, rose to a height of 200 feet, then disappeared.

ENQUIRER-JOURNAL, Monroe, NC

May 10, 1979

## Researchers say local UFO sightings unexplainable

UFO investigators believe that seven of 12 reported UFO sightings in the Metrohina area on March 12 cannot be explained. That's the conclusion a panel of researchers has reached after several weeks of investigation.

A total of 37 people reported seeing UFOs that night. Investigators have attributed five of the sightings, seen by 16 people, to a flight of four military helicopters that arrived at Charlotte's Douglas Airport from Greensboro that night. The helicopters stayed at the airport for approximately an hour before flying back to Fort Bragg, S.C.

The remaining sightings have not been explained.

"Everybody's seen basically the same object at the same time," said local UFO investigator Wayne LaPorte. "It's been seen over many cities and by many people."

LaPorte says most UFO sightings take place in isolated areas and are witnessed by relatively few people. The sightings are also usually brief. But on the evening of March 9, there were three sightings in Union County, two in Charlotte and one each in Matthews and Pageland.

Investigators believe the sightings happened in the following order: —At 8:30, two people living on Providence Road in Charlotte saw an object with two white lights and a red light traveling at tree-top level toward Monroe. The object appeared to be triangular in shape. —At 8:45, Nelda Bahr and her daughter, Kathy, saw three clusters of lights, the size of a house, in Matthews. The lights were in a "V" formation. The Bahrs heard a humming sound as the object passed overhead. —Three Union County teenagers

saw a similar object at approximately the same time as they traveled west on U.S. 74. They saw two white lights and a red light, and said the object appeared to be V-shaped. They heard no sound as it headed southeast. —Steve Morton, Union County Building Inspector, and seven other people saw the same object or a similar object over a field on the Corinth Church Road, southeast of Monroe. The object made no sound, and with its red and white lights, moved slowly away to the east. The time was approximately 9:00 clock.

—Four people saw a blimp-like object southeast of Monroe at about the same time. The object was covered with white lights.

—A Pageland couple went outside their home after hearing a sound. The sound stopped and they saw an object the size of a house with red and white lights on it. The object seemed to turn on its side and left the area at high speed, heading south. —Two Charlotte residents saw two white lights and a red light in the sky at approximately 10:45.

He said the March 9 sightings are not unique in UFO history. There was a similar case in Minnesota in March 1978, when UFOs were sighted about the same time as there were helicopters in that area.

## ...And What Do You Think? About UFOs And Their Sightings

A special poll of 50 area residents ranging from 18 up, revealed that 78 percent believe in the possibility of Unidentified Flying Objects, yet only 13 percent would ever report one if they saw one.

"Anyone would be a fool to not believe in UFOs," said Pam Farley, now attending summer school at St. Petersburg Junior College, "anything that's in the sky and is unidentified is a UFO."

One middle-aged dark-haired man said that he saw a "dish shaped glowing object," while in his backyard Saturday afternoon. "It sped laterally," he said, "and then it stopped and disappeared into a cloudless sky." He said it disappeared in the west.

The man never saw anything like this before and was unaware of other sightings in the area. The Kozak family in Dunedin spotted a similar object, but remaining relatively stationary, three weeks ago.

One elderly gentleman refused to answer whether he had seen an UFO. "I'm saying 'no comment,'" said the man, "I'm old and people'd think I was senile."

One man answered the poll in one of many questionnaires handed out at local shopping areas. He wrote that if his wife claimed she saw a UFO he would "divorce her right away."

Mme. de Bernardo-Cushing, renowned concert pianist, talked to John Reeves, from Brooksville, who was taken aboard a UFO. He was hypnotized by psychiatrists and studied by professors from Cape Canaveral and the University of South Florida who found he was telling the truth.

Mrs. Cushing was taken to the sight where the UFO allegedly landed. "There were markings in a huge round circle and all the outer branches and bushes were singed," she said, "there wasn't a single tree in the area that didn't have the top of it burned. And throughout the whole forest area there was no sounds of birds chirping."

Although Mrs. Cushing has not read or seen much publicity on UFO sightings and reports, she spoke to many people about the subject after being intrigued by Reeves' report.

One professor from Europe, Dr. Hans Newberger, told her that he absolutely believed in life on other planets in the universe, "Why should this be the only unique planet," he told her, "that can sustain life."

Mrs. Cushing went with Reeves to the slightly radioactive area in Brooksville in the early 70s.

Recently Reeves claimed that he saw another UFO and was taken to the dark side of the moon. Tests showed that Reeves was not telling the truth in this account.

TIMES, Dunedin, FL - May 24, 1979



UFO LANDING. Mme. E. de Bernardo-Cushing and John Reeves stand around area of singed grass and slight radioactivity where Reeves was taken aboard a UFO.

# UFOs - Are They Fact, Fiction Or Fantasy?

By NORM SWETMAN  
Staff Writer

About two weeks ago there were reports by several persons who said they witnessed a bright object crossing the night sky and it seemed to come to earth somewhere in the Brooksville area. We checked with the police in Brooksville and Inverness who responded with chuckles and disclaimed any knowledge of any such Unidentified Flying Object.

Bill Dyer, our editor of the Crystal River Sentinel, however said he did get some reports and he checked them out with local astronomer Oscar Carter. Carter said he had seen a brilliant shooting star which was probably what it was because we have seen several in the past month.

The report did give rise to the fact we have been having a small UFO flap around Citrus County since last fall.

Residents along Lake Rousseau and that part of the Withlacoochee River reported seeing four brilliant red balls of light speeding along toward the west one night in October. The lights were noiseless and they were following the course of the water.

Last winter a shrimp fisherman out of the Crystal River area reported he flashed his searchlight into the night sky when he was several miles out in the Gulf. He was rewarded a few minutes later when a large, silent glowing object steered a course for his vessel and hovered over it for several minutes. The skipper reported his crew was terrified and made him promise not to repeat the experiment.

After more than thirty-two years of hard UFO sightings by countless thousands of people, government investigations and written testimony there are still people who scoff and will not be convinced that UFO's exist.

Controversy began on June 24, 1947 when Kenneth Arnold, a business man was flying his private plane in the state of Washington. He was about 20 miles away from Mt. Rainier, when a flash of light caught his attention. Standing out against the background of snow on the mountain were nine shiny discs. For three minutes the amazed Arnold watched the perfect formation of the discs as they moved in and around the mountain peaks. He estimated their height at 10,000 feet and their speed at about one thousand miles per hour.

On reaching the city of Yakima, Arnold reported the sighting and added they looked like a kind of saucer silver in color that glittered in the sunlight.

The 'saucer' name stuck for quite awhile until official government reports called them Unidentified Flying Objects and shortened that name to UFO's.

Arnold's report brought a rash of reports from all over the country when it was printed in newspapers and given in radio newscasts. The United States Air Force took more than a passing interest in the sightings and they started an investigation under the code name of Project Sign. Later it became Project Grudge and then Project Blue Book.

When it finally became clear that neither we or the Russians had any such secret weapon that could maneuver in the

fantastic anti-gravity manner of the UFO's, the Air Force clapped a lid of secrecy on their investigations. They were perhaps remembering a night of panic that swept the country in the '30's when Orson Welles aired his version of H. G. Wells War of the Worlds. It was done with such realism, using news bulletins and frantic voices of announcers, that many families fled their homes in terror thinking the United States was being attacked by Martians.

Private investigating groups, including scientists and astronomers insisted people had a right to know. The lid was clamped on even tighter and a double veil of secrecy was raised. To further their efforts the government and the Air Force started a campaign of ridiculing anyone who said they had seen any such object.

On December 16, 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower stated, "Flying Saucers exist only in the imaginations of the viewers."

Early in 1948 the Air Force hired a top astronomer to help debunk the reports. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University and also Chairman of the Astronomy Department became the chief scientific Air Force UFO consultant. Dr. Hynek and his staff did their work well. Many people today who raise their eyebrows and snicker at reports of UFO's are a product of that era when it was unpopular to say you had seen one.

As late as November 1965 Dr. Hynek reported to the Associated Press, "Instead of investigating the reports of UFO's it might be better if we investigated the people who report these things."

Then in 1966 a strange thing happened. Dr. Allen Hynek, who for 18 years had helped lead the jeers against people who claimed to have witnessed a UFO, suddenly became one of the greatest proponents. He admitted they existed, they were indeed real and called them, "One of the great mysteries of the 20th Century."

In his reports from over the years Dr. Hynek said, he had pictures and written statements from top astronomers around the world. His files also included investigations by scientists and other individuals of which he said, "come from reliable, stable, educated people who generally consider such reports as bunk until shaken by their own experiences. Very few are cranks or low IQ people."

In another statement he said, "Instead of having UFO a synonym for crackpot and ridicule, let's make it scientifically respectable."

Dr. Hynek's world famous explanations of sightings that ranged from "swamp gas" to "weather balloons" and "temperature inversions" were torpedoed by his own statements. He has become one of the nation's leading lecturers and investigators of UFO reports. It took a great deal of courage on his part but it also enabled a great number of outstanding scientists to come forward and admit they too, were firm believers in UFO's. Many had documented evidence of their own ex-

periences to back up their statements.

I have had my own personal encounters with them. To see one fairly close and unexpectedly is slightly terrifying and thrilling at the same time.

The first time it happened was in the late 50's. My wife and two small children were traveling with me in our station wagon. We were heading northward through the Everglades on Route 27. It was past dusk and the sky was getting dark with the first stars popping out. The two youngsters were asleep in the back. Suddenly my wife said, "There's the moon." I was intent on making time and getting out of this long, lonely stretch of the glades and I paid little or no attention until she said, "Now isn't that funny, the moon is getting bigger."

I glanced up through the top curve of the windshield and immediately I knew what it was. Trying to keep my composure I began braking down from the 70 plus speed careful not to pull on the shoulder too quickly. Signs along the swale warned, "Danger - Deep Canal."

She asked why we had stopped and I said, "Get out quickly and look at this thing." It was coming down toward us there was no mistake about that. There was nothing - no one else in sight for miles around.

It was round shaped and glowing. In the center of the circle there were three distinct lights that melded and formed a three-leaf clover. The edge around the circle seemed to be spinning at high speed. I either saw the rotation or had the impression it was moving. We couldn't see the top or the superstructure because it was tilted toward us from a 45 degree angle coming from the northwest.

For a moment my wife was frozen speechless. "What is it?" she whispered. I told her and at the moment I was more thrilled than scared.

Finally she said in a low voice, "Let's get out of here. Let's get out of here." The object was slowly descending as though looking us over. "There is no place to go," I replied.

My attention was suddenly diverted to some headlights rounding a curve about two miles up the road and they were coming fast. I slipped in the seat and pulled my lights on. Three cars roared past in quick succession.

When I turned the lights out again the UFO was gone. We stood there for a space of two minutes or more and searched the skies but it had disappeared.

One afternoon several years later my daughter Sandy, my son Rob and a friend of theirs were out in our backyard. When I walked out they were staring skyward toward the west. "Can you see stars in the daytime?" my daughter asked.

"Sometimes you can see the planet Venus if you know where to look," I replied. They pointed out a shiny object glittering silver in the sunlight.

It was small, hardly bigger than a 707 four or five miles high. We checked it out with a telescope.

It was capsule shaped and definitely a silver, metallic color. We all agreed it was

something other than an airplane or balloon. For over three hours it stayed in that one spot. At sunset it slowly started moving westerly and then suddenly it seemed to leap upward and disappeared.

On a November night several years ago I witnessed a landing not far from my home. It was so completely unexpected I couldn't get the words out to shout to my wife.

We had moved into the house in a heavily wooded area in Citrus Springs. Our nearest neighbor, Bob Dencer, his wife Elsie and his widowed sister-in-law Erma Rickenbaugh lived down the road about 100 yards from us. Our next nearest neighbor at that time was about a half mile away.

It was one of the first cool nights we had after a very hot summer. Ludie and I stepped outside to the front walk. There was no moon, the stars were cold bright and the Milky Way stretched overhead like a thin wisp of cloud. Looking back now, I recall the first peculiar thing that happened, the dog refused to come out. Usually he was at the door whining and wagging his tail as soon as you put your hand on the latch.

We had been standing there several minutes when something caught my eye. Across the road there is a natural corridor in the trees that creates an open space. Looking through that natural opening I saw a string of colored lights, red, blue, green, orange much like those that rim the cab of a truck. The lights were descending slowly at the end of the open space about a quarter of a mile away.

At first my brain and my mind refused to accept what I was seeing. The lights had reached the tops of the farthest trees and the word, "Look!" that I had been trying to get out seemed to be locked in my throat. When I finally did get it out it was too late for Ludie to witness it.

She refused to believe what I had seen claiming it must be lights from the distant highway reflected in ground mist. A few minutes later we saw lights through the trees. This she couldn't deny because she saw them too. They were brilliant, non-glaring lights almost like a fluorescent but much more powerful. They would come on, move a few paces and then either go out or be hidden behind the trees.

I was excited and a little unnerved by the sudden and unexpected sighting. Finally I said I was going down to get Bob.

There was the usual neighborly banter when I walked in but I was still apprehensive, "Bob," I said walking through their living room and out to their window enclosed sun room, "Something landed up in back of your house a while ago and Ludie and I have been watching lights in the woods."

They passed it off as deer poachers but I was insistent and asked him to come back to the house with me. A little reluctantly he agreed. Ludie was still watching when we walked up. The lights were still moving among the trees. One of us would point one out and if you didn't look quickly it was gone. Bob never did see the lights, "I'll tell you," he finally said, "I have lousy night vision that's why I don't drive

anymore at night than I can help."

About a half hour later he decided he would go back home. He still hadn't seen the lights.

Both he and Ludie had me half convinced that what I had seen was a reflection of some kind. The lights were gone and they both lost interest in the project.

After Bob left Ludie decided to go in the house and turn on television. I was about to give it up but then I thought, no, I had seen something and if it had landed then it would have to take off. I went into the house and got my binoculars and waited. The dog still wouldn't come out.

I stood there for perhaps another ten minutes when suddenly a black object ringed with brilliant round red lights rose up over the trees from the landing point.

Yelling for Ludie to come out I tried to focus the glasses on it as it noiselessly and slowly moved past the tree tops.

Ludie came out as it gained altitude over the hill about a half mile away. "My gosh, what is it?" she kept asking.

The object stopped above the hill, hovered for a moment and came back toward us. Still without a sound it was slowly gaining height. It was ringed with the glaring circles of red lights that seemed to be about two feet in diameter. It was impossible to distinguish the object behind it, because it was much like trying to see a car behind highbeam headlights.

It moved slowly past us perhaps two to three hundred feet in the air. It passed over Bob's house, gaining speed and altitude. As suddenly as it had appeared it was gone in the eastern sky.

I felt relief that someone besides myself had seen it. I felt really vindicated when I told of the incident at a meeting of the Citrus Springs Players a couple of nights later and Betty Stutzman, who is now the executive producer said, "Why that's the same thing my husband and I saw on that same night." Betty and her husband live north of Dunnellon in Morriston. They have large open pastureland surrounding their house. On this night her attention was suddenly drawn to the peculiar red lights hovering over a field not far from their home.

Betty said they both witnessed it and she described it exactly as I did. We figured out it visited her area shortly after it left my house.

Citrus County is a good sighting place for UFO's and there are many sightings that go unreported for one reason or another. As one farmer in Marion County called and told me one day after seeing a round red pulsating object pass over his farm in the wee hours of the morning, "I don't believe in those saucer things but I just wanted to talk to someone who knows about them so they could tell me what I saw."

A lot of people complain that everyone else seems to see them but they never see them. The answer is simple; how often do you look up in the sky when you get out of your car or walk out your door?



# Valley UFO Sightings of March 22, 1978, Described

**Editor's Note:** Robert Engberg is a private practicing mechanical consulting engineer and serves as President of Gas Dynamics Corporation in St. Paul, Minnesota. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1969 with a B.S. degree in Mathematics. He is currently a Registered Professional Engineer in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

His studies in UFO phenomena began over ten years ago and for over four years he has been investigating UFO sightings in Minnesota. He serves as an investigator for the following UFO groups: Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc. (APRO) out of Tucson, Arizona; Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) at Seguin, Texas; and with National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) in Kensington, Maryland. At this time all of Bob's time and expenses for UFO investigations are gratis so there are considerable restrictions on his involvement in many sightings.

The geographic area of his investigation responsibilities is largely East-Central Minnesota but he will certainly respond to any significant sighting anywhere in the Upper Midwest if time and circumstance permit and if the event is not covered by other investigation organizations.

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By Robert E. Engberg

March, 1978 brought to Minnesota the greatest UFO flap that this state has ever recorded. It is my opinion, after studying UFO reports, data, and books on the subject for over a decade, that in the evening of March 22, one of the boldest UFO fly-overs took place over the Minnesota - Wisconsin border area. This includes the St. Croix Valley recreational area and the east and northeast suburbs of St. Paul extending to the Wisconsin state line.

The flight path has been traced out over eighty-five miles from Cumberland, Wisconsin, to Newport, Minnesota, where the last known sighting of a UFO was reported near Carver Lake. My investigation revealed two

berland, Wisconsin, about 20:45 to 21:15 hours and followed the eighty-five mile course to the Twin Cities area.

My investigation of these events began in July and continued to December of 1978. Joyce Shapiro, another field investigator for APRO, compiled the newspaper reports and witness log initially and turned the case over to me because of her time and family restrictions. Twenty-four separate interviews followed, in many cases involving more than one witness. The process of interviewing produced a "chaining" of unreported witnesses and many related and unrelated sightings over the past few years. All witness interviews were tape recorded and index cards were made up for each interview. My files now contain over nine hours of these taped reports and in excess of two dozen witness summary cards for convenient recall and data retrieval. For purposes of confidentiality, which most witnesses preferred, in the following report I will give only the person's first name and last initial.

The weather data for March 22, 1978 from the U.S. Weather Bureau files and as recorded at the Minneapolis - St. Paul International Airport is as follows:

Maximum and minimum temperatures: 49° and 32° F. resp., Zero precipitation with a trace of snow and ice on the ground. Wind out of the NW averaging 10.3 MPH with a high reading of 21 MPH for the day, sky cover from sunrise to sunset 20%; All data taken at ground elevation of 919 feet above m.s.l.

A check was made of the radar stations overlapping the general area of the sightings. The three bases at Farmington, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, and the Twenty-third NORAD Regions in Duluth, Minnesota, all reported "Negative" on the evening of March 22. This is one of the highly unusual circumstances of these sightings. Obviously, there were a number of very large craft in the area, yet nothing was picked up on radar in the sighting region.

## DETAILS OF THE SIGHTINGS

The first wave of sightings began about 19:30 hours on the south end of Chisago Lake in Chisago County when the Kenneth O. family witnessed five red lights with the end one blinking. Sometime between 19:00 and 19:30 hours Clarence M. and his wife saw three steady red lights going from west to east to the south of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. They judged the objects to be 4 to 6 miles south and going between 95 - 115 MPH with no apparent noise. Clarence estimated the objects pattern size at 4 to 5 feet in diameter at arm's length. Clarence M. is a night duty police officer with a retirement from the United States Air Force.

This area south of St. Croix Falls had an earlier sighting that evening as well. Sometime between 17:00 and 18:30 hours, Bernice V. and her two girls were visiting a residence three miles south of St. Croix Falls on Highway 8. They viewed a stationary object for at least 15 minutes. The object appeared to be surrounded with bright, clear

lights, similar to car head lights. No revolving or motion was seen with the lights and no noise reported. Bernice estimated the size of the UFO to be a hands width at arm's length.

A second wave of sightings began in Cumberland about 20:45 to 21:15. This report as yet has been unconfirmed, but was first reported in The APRO Bulletin as being seen by 11 individuals. They reported seeing: "...A very large object, possibly up to 150 yards in length sporting bright, round, red lights. It made no sound, traveled from NE to SW, at a low rate of speed and was estimated to be at approximately 1000 ft. altitude."

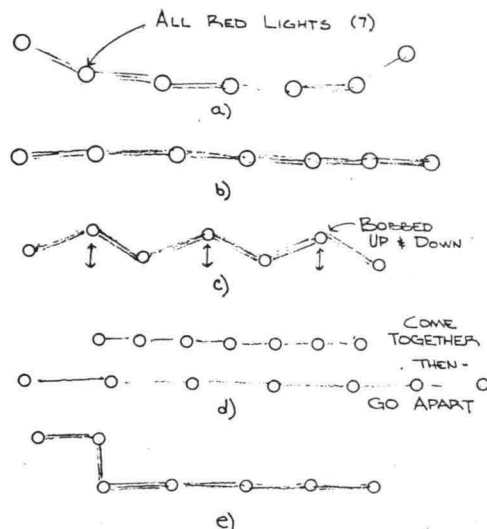
Next to observe a fleet of unusual objects was a night-duty police officer in Milltown, Wisconsin, some 25 miles west of Cumberland. Craig J. watched five steady red lights fly in formation for 5 minutes going from east to west north of Milltown. The first 3 objects held a constant oblique formation with the fourth object trailing with some vertical oscillation. The fifth light trailed with a large vertical, rapid oscillation of a 3 inch amplitude at arm's length within a period of one second or less. Craig estimated the entire formation at arms length to cover a spread of 1 foot to 3 feet at the point of closest approach. He also said that the formation appeared to split up to the southwest with the leading three units going west toward Minnesota and the trailing two units going more to the south. The approach angle of elevation was about 15 degrees and increased slightly thru the duration of the sighting until the lights moved into the south-southwest horizon. The lights were about 0.25 inches in diameter at arms length. The time was 21:00 hours or slightly past.

The UFO flight path appears to cross over into Minnesota near the Wild Mountain Ski Resort north of Taylor Falls approximately 7 miles. John W. and many others witnessed the approach of 3 huge objects from their vantage points on the chair lifts and at the top of the ski slope. John related to me that he watched 3 units as big as tires held overhead come from the East NE, make a turn to the south and finally disappear over the tree line. The objects were about 100 to 200 feet in elevation. The time John recalled as being about 21:00. The craft making no sound. They were described as big orange globes as they approached the ski slopes with a steady speed of about a C-130 military plane. As the objects went over head, they became white in color and perfect circles in shape, but became an orange color, again they disappeared to the south over the St. Croix River, heading for Taylors Falls. John also describes the night as nearly perfectly clear.

The next sighting occurred in Taylors Falls by Mrs. Betty A., her son Brent (14), and friend Mike L. (14) at 21:05 hours. Their sighting lasted for about 10 minutes. Betty's narrative best describes the event:

"I was driving north on West Street with my son Brent and his friend, Mike. The boys were discussing the evening at the Dalles House where they had been swimming. I had driven past the first entrance to the school when all of a

AT 21:15 HOURS Rita D. and her children watched this light formation travel to the southwest over Schafer.

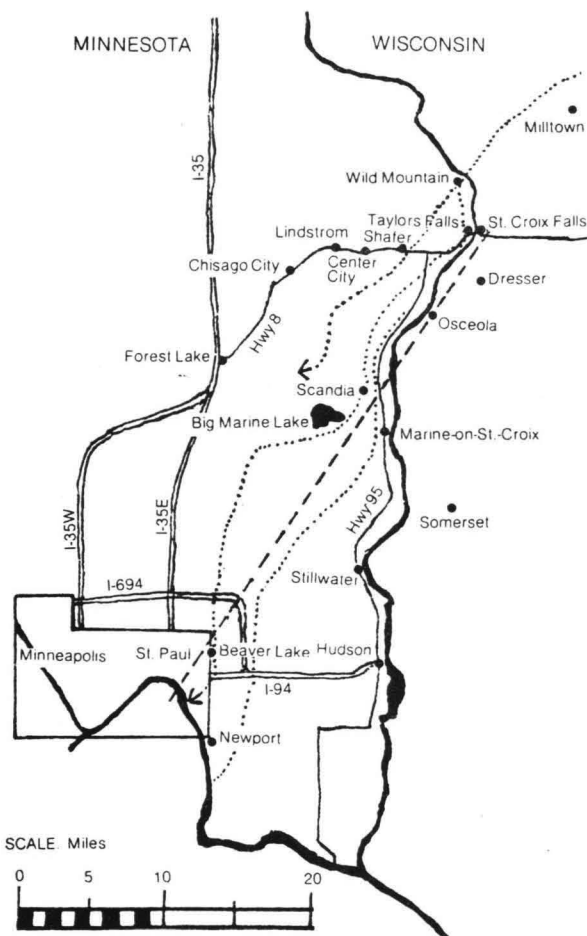


sudden I saw in the sky five milky blue large lights perfectly spaced in a straight line appear from nowhere. The lights were about the size of a 9 inch luncheon plate (at arm's length - R.E.E.). It was the most spectacular sight I have ever seen in the sky, and against the clear blue sky it was beautiful. I told the boys to look out the windshield and the first reaction came from Mike: "Oh my God, what is it" and slumped down in the seat. My answer was: "I think you boys are seeing a UFO." I stopped the car and Mike and I got out and walked into the school parking lot and were underneath the object. Brent stayed in the car with our dog.

Triket, a German Schnauzer, who was quite excited and nervous at the same time and we did not want her to get out. Brent was also scared. From underneath we did not see any kind of ship or object, but the five large blue lights which remained the same as they did when we first saw them, milky blue, globe shaped and in a straight line. We did hear a low humming sound, but no engine sound of any kind. As we watched the lights heading towards County Road 82 (Southwest) the lights changed instantly to a milky white and they were in a V-shape instead of a straight line, but the lights remained the same size. I did notice a

## OBSERVED UFO FLIGHT PATH

### HELICOPTER FLIGHT PATH



(continued on page 8)

ROBERT E. ENGBERG



patterns of UFO flight; the earlier being at about 19:00 hours on Chisago Lake near Chisago City, Minnesota, and going east in a flight of three units between Dresser and St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. The second pattern seemed to originate near Cum-

small red light, about the size of a baseball, on the light on the right. The object was still very clear to us and was heading southwest when we got back into the car and back home. Once in the house, we realized all three of us were upset and nervous."

Betty further describes the event details as placing the objects formation speed at 10 MPH with an elevation of about 200 feet. The night sky was clear and the sighting lasted approximately 10 minutes.

It appears that the 3 objects over Wild Mountain were joined by 2 others before the original formation approached Taylors Falls. We recall the 5 unit formation that initially appeared to split up into groups of 3 and 2 objects Southwest of Milltown. Did they recombine again at Taylors Falls?

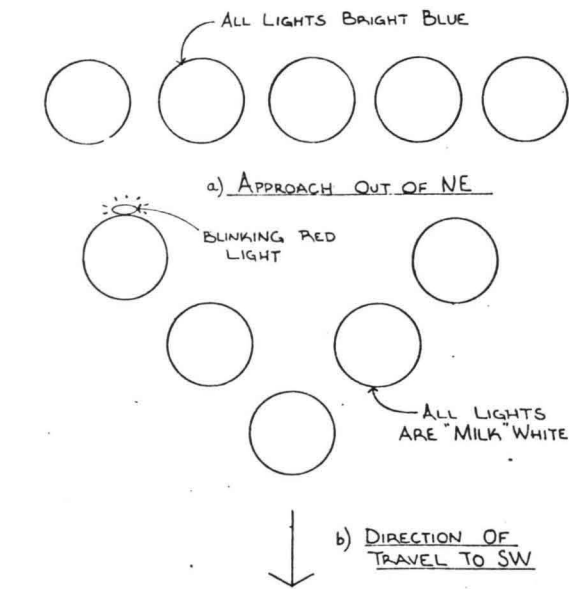
What is a logical continuation of this flight occurs next in the small town of Shafer Southwest of Taylors Falls. Rita D. with her children and their young friends watched a formation of 7 bobbing red lights heading to the southwest. The lights were first seen about 1/4 mile east of town near and over a farmstead. It was exactly 21:15 hours for a sighting time and Rita estimates the speed as 5 MPH. Her impression was that the lights were on a single, round object the size of a 747 airplane at a height of 500 feet.

Their initial sighting from the deck of their mobile home lasted 3 to 4 minutes. The younger members of this group gave chase to the light formation for 3 to 5 miles till it was lost from view over the terrain. No object appeared to connect the lights and no one recalled seeing any rotation of the light pattern.

A similar set of lights were next sighted at the south end of Chisago Lake by the Kenneth O. family. Altogether there were eight people in a van heading south near County Road 83. The lights were described as the apparent size of 1 inch diameter balls extending for 5 feet, all at arm's length. The lights were a steady, dim, solid red color which would start and stop intermittently and travel at about 5 MPH. The formation made no noise, yet all the dogs in the neighborhood were barking excitedly. The flight path was to the southwest away from the observers and about 2 blocks distant. An estimate of the time of the event was between 21:15 and 21:30. Suddenly and simultaneously the lights went out or just disappeared!

The UFO activity next progressed south a few miles to the area of Bone and Goose Lake located in New Scandia Township in Washington County. Multiple sightings began to take place now as people in scattered areas began to witness flying objects. Simultaneously, for instance, after 21:00 hours, Marie I. and a companion noticed 4 red lights, 2 large and 2 small on a descending saucer shape which had a very poor outline. Again the object came out of the east with a southwest heading. A 4-inch in diameter disk would best give its apparent size. Their length of sighting was 5 minutes as the object headed to the southwest past Bone Lake.

Three miles away to the southeast of this location David and Cathy H. were having their own excitement as they watched from their living room. Ten to 12 lights in two rows, one above the other, the bottom pattern in the shape of an ellipse crossed over Goose Lake heading from north to south at about 15 MPH. They made an estimate of the unit as



being 40 feet in diameter with a height of 20 feet. Considering their location the size was that of a tennis ball at an arm's length. The lights were dominantly red but noticed also some were blue and yellow lights all with the now typical "bobbing" behavior. Throughout the 4 to 5 minute sighting duration neither David nor Cathy heard any sound from the object. The moon, David recalls, was at about a 40 degree elevation and the formation of lights was below it at about 20 degrees elevation and with a north to south travel. This path after another mile would place the UFO directly over Scandia, Minnesota a town soon to become a byword with Minnesota UFO activity.

Scandia is a town of a few hundred people just south off the busy east-west State Highway 97. The quantity of sightings will increase sharply at this point due to a greater population density combined with a much reduced speed in the object. Also, the craft have now dropped to elevations on the order of 100 to 300 feet as an average. Many people within Scandia saw the object(s) but my interviewing in this area was restricted as the authorities were reluctant to give out any names whatsoever. My contacts had to be tracked down by strictly word-of-mouth, hearsay, and newspaper clippings.

One such contact was the Wayne E. family living about two blocks to the east of Scandia's business district. They reported to me that 5 red lights making no sound passed over town near their home in a northeasterly to southwesterly direction. The pattern of lights was described as 3 car lengths long and 1 and 1/2 car lengths high at a level just above the tree height. Roxy M., a neighbor, saw the same UFO at what appeared to be between Roxy's residence and Wayne's home. Just as a coincidence, one month earlier Wayne's children observed a UFO near the ground in the area that they were sledding about dusk a few blocks distant from their home.

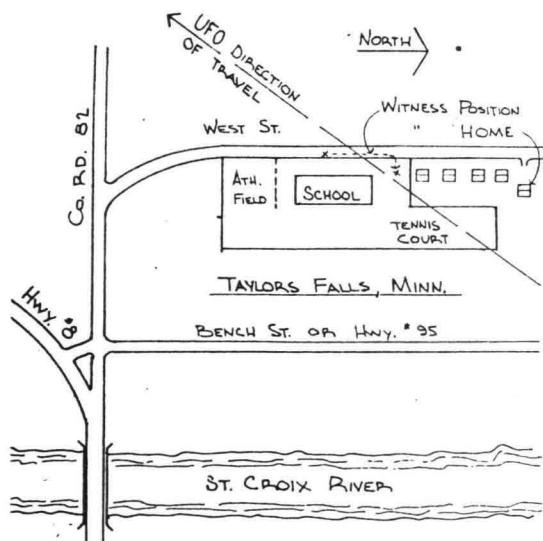
East of Scandia 1/2 mile on Highway 97 near the intersection with Highway 95, Dean A. and two companions watched a UFO cross the highway directly above them going from north to south. He describes the object as surrounded by ten red and green flashing lights which they watched for a time interval of from 30 seconds to 1 minute. The sighting time was about 21:30 and the estimated height was 200 feet. When spotted, the UFO was stationary above the road and had a wobble to its motion with no perceptible noise. The lights

were of a solid color with no definite shape to the background object. The apparent length was 12 to 18 inches at arm's length. It disappeared to the south in 5 to 10 seconds.

A consistent continuation of Wayne E.'s sighting described above was to occur just about 1 and 1/2 miles southwest of Scandia on County Road 3. Carol A. was driving south on 3 about 55 MPH when she suddenly noticed to her immediate left a large object pacing her car. The object had 5 large solid red lights and appeared at tree top height. This large, grey mass with the lights wobbled and hovered at first but then steadied and followed her car for 1-1/2 miles till she arrived home. No radio static or car malfunction was noted. She describes its apparent size as 2 feet long and 4 and 1/2 inches high at arm's length. The unit left the side of the road and circled around the house as Carol got out of her car and ran into her home. As she watched from behind drawn drapes, the craft turned west and crossed Big Marine Lake still maintaining a constant height without any perceptible noise. Her dog was in the house for most of the sighting and had no apparent reaction even when let outside. The time of arrival at her house was 21:15 hours and the sighting duration was about 15 minutes. Carol's reaction was that of curiosity, interest, and a little fright.

The object next flew over Kuno's Store situated at the intersection of County Road 15 (Manning Trail) and 192 Street North on the west side of Big Marine Lake. Here it again was sighted by Dan M. and as yet his sighting is unconfirmed. At this point, it is my belief that this object's flight path is no longer traceable and at this time a different style of craft appears 6 miles southeast of Big Marine Lake, that is, over Square Lake.

John and Nancy K. are our witnesses, the time is 21:20 to 21:30. The location is County Road 7 on the south side of Square Lake. John and Nancy K. were driving east when the object(s) was seen coming over the lake from northeast, dipping a bit over the lake, then leaving to the southwest. Nancy describes the emanating sound as a fine, low tone humming (fan type) noise. John and Nancy's description differ somewhat. John says there were 5 groups of 2 lights, one red and one orange. Nancy maintains 5 groups of 3 lights in a repeat pattern of white - white - yellow. The flight pattern was in a half chevron, Nancy describes the grouping size at 1 to 1/2 ft. at her arms length and the length of time to travel from the northeast



MRS. BETTY A., her son Brent, and his friend Mike saw lights like those at right in the sky above Taylors Falls at 21:05 hours on 22 March 1978. The sketch above shows their location in relation to the town.

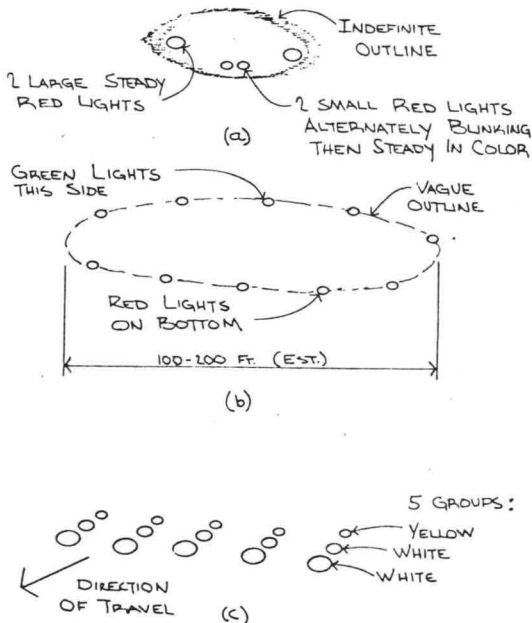
over the lake, and recede to the southwest was 3 to 4 minutes, flying just above the tree line.

Behind John and Nancy's car another lady was following and observing the UFO approach. She, however, has still another visual interpretation. She is Nancy W. who immediately drove home (also on the south end of Square Lake) and got her husband to catch a tail-end glimpse of the light group before it disappeared over the horizon. Nancy and Jim generally agreed that 16 lights, each the apparent size of a 50 cent piece, moved as a group about 10 to 20 MPH from northeast to the southwest with no noticeable noise. The over-all pattern size was that of a basketball at arms reach and the lights, "four times brighter as plane running lights," were steady bright red. It also appeared that adjacent lights "bobbed" up and down while flying at a constant height over the tree line. Their sighting lasted 5 minutes during which they observed a clear atmosphere and saw that the moon was up. The estimated time of this occurrence was between 21:00 and 21:30 hours.

The next set of sightings are to take place much further to the south-southwest in the suburb of

Oakdale and at Beaver Lake, 15 miles distant from Square Lake and about in line with the two Oakdale sightings. Ken J., a reserve police officer with the Oakdale force, was waiting for his ride to work when he noticed 5 solid red lights coming out of the north and going approximately over Interstate Highway 694 to the south and then to the southwest. The formation made a low humming noise similar to a washing machine and appeared to be going 30 to 50 MPH at an elevation of 200 feet. When Ken first saw the group 3 miles to the north, it had an apparent size of 2 inches but while over I-694, the size grew to 5 inches at his arm's length. He interpreted the object size at 80 to 200 feet in diameter at the point of closest approach being 1 mile. He also noted the time at 21:15 to 21:20 hours which was confirmed by his wife and daughter who also observed the lights. His wife was very frightened.

At 21:35 hours, 2 and 1/2 miles due west of Ken's sighting, Keith L. and Jean P. watched a huge object cross the south end of Beaver Lake. It had orange and red lights on its circumference and lights that appeared to be suspended on rods beneath the bottom surface. The direction of



SOME TIME after 21:00 hours Marie I. and a companion watched lights like those in Fig. A over New Scandia Township. One-half mile east of Scandia, at 21:30 hours, Dean A. and his two friends saw the light formation shown in Fig. B. John and Nancy K. described the formation sketched in Fig. C., which they observed between 21:20 and 21:30 hours from County Road 7 on the south side of Square Lake. All witnesses say the objects were moving to the southwest.

(continued on page 9)



(continued from page 8)

travel was to the west and at times it would stop and "teeter," revealing the bottom lights. Terrain and street lights did get behind and reveal the objects outline more clearly. The 2 minute sighting duration revealed that the larger side lights had a rapid pulsating or "flutter" effect to their appearance. Keith defines the apparent size as 1-1/4 inches in diameter by 3/4 inch high at his arm's reach when the object was 6 to 8 blocks distant.

Sequentially, Trudy G. and her family's sighting at 21:40 hours is next in time but is also in the same location as Ken J.'s Oakdale experience given previously. She describes seeing 8 steady, very bright, red lights traveling in a straight line with somewhat of a "wave" motion. She and her family watched these objects travel over I-694, at about 75 to 100 feet above the ground, for 10 minutes. The formation was going north to south and turned to the southwest at about the intersection of I-694 and Highway 12.

The last sighting to the south end of the object's course was at Carver Lake in Woodbury Township some 4 miles to the south-southwest of Trudy's location. However, due to witness reluctance to be interviewed, this last point remains an unconfirmed event in the flight path.

A complicated coincidence to the Scandia sightings involves a flight of 5 helicopters that followed a similar path as the UFO trajectory courses. These helicopters were on a vector extending from over Osceola, Wisconsin, directly to Holman Field in St. Paul. There is a temptation within many quarters to explain the sightings with this Army Reserve Flight and there are unconfirmed cases where a witness saw both the flight of helicopters and the UFO.

I interviewed the lead pilots, Wayne Resemius and Dan Meyers the supervisor of the

Army Reserve Aviation Support Facility at Holman Field. Wayne related that he was flying the lead copter in a tight "V" formation at 90 knots per hour (103.6 MPH). The craft were at a 2 rotor (80 ft.) spacing running with their usual night lights which included one larger, steady red light. Adding Wayne's airspeed to the wind velocity, we get approximate relative ground speed of 105 MPH. Working backwards from the landing pattern approach time of 21:20 hours would put the flight formation over Osceola (32 air miles away) at about 21:02 hours (9:02 p.m.) Also given was their elevation of 2500 feet (m.s.l.) or about 1500 feet off the ground which was approximately constant from Wisconsin.

Based on the above information, the wing of helicopters would be 1.5 miles southeast of Scandia at 21:06. They would be 1 mile southeast of Big Marine Lake at 21:08, at 21:15 the helicopters would be near the southeast tip of White Bear Lake over Mahtomedi, and at 21:18 the "Jet Ranger" helicopters were 1 mile to the northwest of Beaver Lake in St. Paul. At 21:20 the flight would be within sight of Holman Field; approaching from the northeast. The supervisor gave me 21:30 Hours as the touch down time of the group of helicopters. This time was given earlier to the papers as 21:35, a five minute discrepancy with my personal information.

The course of my investigation revealed a number of other sightings in the same general area of Scandia and Taylors Falls both before and after the major sighting just discussed. Mary Beth was traveling east on Highway 97 with two other friends when she noticed some strange lights above the St. Croix River near the intersection of Highway 95 and 97. The time about 22:30 hours on June 7, 1978. She described the object as:

"...Very large and had bright red, blue, and blue grey lights

which appeared to rotate. The lights did not blink, they seemed to become brighter and darker... There was no noise. Then we could see a shadowy mass above and below. (The lights were located on the equator of the object)... Its shape was like an Ellipse. All of a sudden it darted very quickly in a NE direction - and it was gone." (At her arms extension, a 5-inch diameter would cover the object.)

Other sightings near Bone Lake, Chisago Lake, and Taylors Falls had occurred some weeks both before and after the major sightings at Scandia. The area is generally a rolling, hilly, forested recreational area with numerous lakes, parks and campgrounds. Stillwater to the southeast has a very large electrical generating facility with many high voltage transmission lines crossing the area. The highest frequency of confirmed sighting times occurred at 21:15 hours. At least 6 separate locations, ranging from Shafer to Oakdale and along an approximate line 35 miles long, simultaneously described grossly different object shapes, lights, courses and speeds. Therefore, one can easily conclude that a minimum of 5 or 6 units were involved in the Scandia sightings just in Minnesota, to say nothing of the Cumberland, Wisconsin UFO also seen at 21:15 hours.

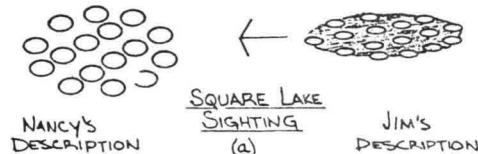
If any reader has information on the March 22, 1978 sightings in Eastern Minnesota which he feels would further this investigation or any other sighting data, that person may forward his data or request for an interview to:

Robert E. Engberg, P.E.

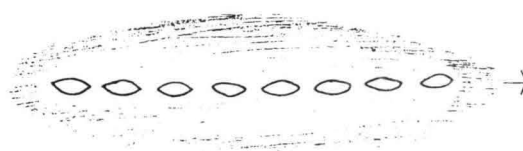
P.O. Box 80143

St. Paul, Minn. 55108

Any assistance which would complete the Scandia sightings would be very much appreciated and interview details and names will be held in strictest confidence if so requested.



BEAVER LAKE SIGHTING (b)



TRUDY'S SIGHTING AT OAKDALE (c)

OTHER WITNESSES at Square Lake, John and Nancy W., saw lights like those in Fig. A some time between 21:00 and 21:30 hours. Further south at Beaver Lake, at 21:30 hours, Keith L. and Jean P. observed the object that Keith has sketched in Fig. B. Trudy G. and her family watched the light formation drawn in Fig. C from the suburb of Oakdale at 21:40 hours.

### TOWN TOPICS, Princeton, NJ - May 16, 1979 Streakers and UFOs Back in the News

Two phenomena from past years -- streaking and UFOs -- surfaced last week in Princeton.

Police received a call from Princeton University security at 9:41 last Wednesday evening that student streakers were on Witherspoon Street. Two minutes later, Leon Christen of Lahiere's called police to report a streaker inside his restaurant. Police patrols, aided by university security members, however, were unable to locate any of the evasive streakers.

An unidentified flying object was seen between 11:30 and 11:45 one night last week just above trees on Rosedale Road by an employee of the Princeton Medical Center on her way home from work.

She described the object to police as triangular with rounded curves, showing red and green lights that didn't blink. The large object, she said, wasn't moving but just seemed to be suspended. She reported the incident four days after the sighting.

POST, Houston, TX - May 20, 1979 CK: J. Schuessler

## Group seeking to apply UFO phenomena

By JIM MALONEY  
Post Reporter

If an engineer wanted to learn about the kind of propulsion system it would take to visit planets light years away, one way to find out might be to study the spacecraft that may have come from these distant planets.

So that is what a small group — Vehicle Internal Systems Investigative Team — would like to do.

"Our purpose is to study the Unidentified Flying Object phenomena in an attempt to gain an understanding of the physics and technology which UFOs may represent," Alan C. Holt, VISIT secretary and a scientist at the Johnson Space Center, said in a recent interview.

Holt, 34, recently completed a master's thesis (in physics) that he believes may have applications in the development of new sources of energy and advanced propulsion techniques.

"I have had a lot of ideas over the years about advanced propulsion techniques, but until recently I have not had the academic background I need," said Holt, who has been at the space center for 12 years.

VISIT, WHICH IS two years old, has 10 members. Four of them are JSC engineers or scientists, Holt said. "We are not interested in a large membership. We are interested in having those who want to do serious research into what we think is an area to be taken seriously," Holt explained.

He hopes the research "will stimulate some ideas

about advanced propulsion systems that could become very important. We are not interested in proving they (UFOs) exist."

Is Holt a UFO believer?

"I believe UFOs exist, things that have been observed that we can not understand or explain," Holt, who says he has never seen a UFO himself, replied.

"I have not come to that conclusion," Holt said when asked if he also believes that UFOs are manned by intelligent beings from other worlds.

What interest him, Holt said, are the many detailed observations by many persons, in many places over many years.

Accepting the assumption that observations of some UFOs are real, Holt sees the next step as an analysis of the data from these observations by those familiar with space flight technology theories for its advancement.

HE KNOWS IT IS speculation, but he suggests that what could be occurring in UFO travel "is fourth dimension space-time transformation, rather than the simple three dimension travel we are familiar with — the three dimensions and time."

Holt explained that the earth's magnetic field merges with interplanetary magnetic fields as the solar wind streams toward the planet.

Theory holds, he said, that the merging of these magnetic fields is the cause of magnetic substorms, which cause such phenomena as the auroras.

Other theories say magnetic fields merging on the sun are responsible for solar flares, Holt said.

He said the energy produced by auroras and solar flares is tremendous and that perhaps the processes producing it could be harnessed.

Space travelers from other planets may understand the effects of merging magnetic field lines and may have converted this knowledge to propulsion systems we have yet to understand, Holt said.

He said VISIT is anxious to investigate encounters of the second and third kind.

The second kind are defined as cases in which individuals watch a UFO for a considerable time while observing such effects as power blackouts and electrical equipment being affected.

Encounters of the third kind involve persons being abducted by UFO occupants.

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - May 23, 1979

## Sighting In Charlotte Named Best UFO Case

By LaFLEUR PAYSOUR  
Observer Staff Writer

Somebody's bound to blush over this one.

Chances are, it'll be people who snickered at UFO reports pried out of two Charlotte police officers last December.

It might even be officers Ronald Arey and Howard Dellinger, who from their police helicopter saw what looked like 100-watt light bulbs hanging from parachutes.

They, after all, were willing to believe what they saw was nothing more than somebody's idea of a prank — plastic bags filled with drinking straws and birthday candles.

Not so, says a blue-ribbon scientific panel set up by the National Enquirer.

After a sober investigation of the Arey-Dellinger sighting, the five-member panel has concluded that the world has reaped "the most scientifically valuable evidence that UFOs do exist."

That's why the National Enquirer is calling the Dec. 27 Charlotte

sighting "the best case reported during 1978" and why the two officers received \$2000 each from the newspaper.

"The Charlotte case has a high credibility and a high degree of strangeness because of the soft luminosity of the object and its interaction with the helicopter," writes Enquirer panel member Dr. Willard Armstrong, a retired professor of chemical engineering.

He's on the panel with four UFO researchers — a psychologist, a physicist, an engineer and a radiation oncologist. More than 30 sightings were considered.

"I'm just tickled pink about the award," said George Fawcett, a Lincoln County UFO investigator who helped compile a 50-page report on the Arey-Dellinger sighting for the Enquirer panel.

"... Because it was awarded by a group of serious scientists, it makes a better climate for UFO reporting. It'll free people to come out of the closet and talk about what they've seen," Fawcett said.

CK: G. Fawcett

NOTE: The photo on page 20 of the UFONS Special Issue 1978-79 (DAILY EVENING ENTERPRISE & TIMES, Brockton, MA, Jan. 29, 1979) has been determined to be a hoax, according to information received from Barry Greenwood. Copies of the Special Issue are now available at \$8.00 (\$9.00, 1st Class).



INDEPENDENT HERALD (City Unknown), New Zealand - Apr. 11, 1979

## UFO SEEN IN NEWLANDS

The Independent Herald received the following letter and a roll of film from a Newlands resident. He did not want to be named as he did not want to be called a 'UFO Crank' he said.

Our photographer printed his film. The photo we reproduce was a straight print but much enlarged.

The Newlands man said the object was metallic as in the photo, but bluey grey and very hard to see against the cloud. He said it was much harder to see than in the photo.

The Independent Herald checked with the Air Traffic Control at Wellington airport. They said no sightings of UFO's on March 24 had been reported. However we print the letter and the photo for the information of our readers.

We were looking out over the harbour from Newlands when something caught my eye — I looked up and saw this thing moving north very fast, and climbing quite steeply.

It looked like a cigar with a dark underside — certainly not a plane because we see a lot of these from Newlands and they don't travel nearly as fast.

We could only see it for a few seconds — I think it must have just come into sight, climbed very fast and very high. Then it just slowed down and disappeared. It wasn't very easy to see, but when it slowed down it just seemed to merge into the cloud.

It seemed quite far away. I don't think it was over the harbour — further away from the Wainui hills, but it can't have been all that far away from us because it was going at tremendous speed.

My wife had her little camera out in the garden to finish the film off. I don't even think she saw the thing — she just pointed the camera at the power pylon and took a photo when I told her there was something funny up there. Then she saw it too and we both watched it until it faded away.

I don't know what it is and I don't really believe in flying saucers and UFO's, but this was flying much faster than anything I've seen in New Zealand and it didn't just go far away, out of sight. It just faded out of sight when it got really high and there's no aeroplane that can do that.

(sgd) NOT-A-CRANK  
(Newlands)

CK: R. Poole via W. Thompson

WEMBLEY OBSERVER, Middlesex, England - Apr. 20, 1979

## Girls report UFO sighting from West Harrow street

ANOTHER UFO sighting has been claimed in the borough — this time in Butler Road, West Harrow.

Wendy Fuggle and Hilary Smith, both aged 25, say they saw an unidentified flying object above Hilary's flat at 37a Butler Road at 10.10 pm on Tuesday, and again at about 11.30 pm.

"There was no possible way it could have been a plane. It couldn't have been

a helicopter either," Hilary of 16 Fulbeck Way, North Harrow, said.

She and her friend described the object as dome shaped with flat sides "like a flying saucer". It had a row of red lights at the bottom and larger white lights above.

"It made absolutely no noise," said Wendy. "It was hovering rather than moving but seemed to be turning slightly."

They watched as the object moved over the house

and then stood on a balcony at the back where they saw it disappear over some trees towards South Harrow.

Both girls saw a bright light in the sky again at about 11.30.

"We looked out the window and saw it again," Wendy said. "I have lived here for five years and seen hundreds of planes going across and it definitely was not one."

They reported their sighting to Harrow Police who notified the RAF.

EVENING ECHO, Watford, England  
Apr. 14, 1979

## UNIDENTIFIED FLYING EGG...

HOUSEWIFE Kathy Cayford is recovering today from a close encounter of the Easter egg kind.

For Mrs Cayford, 36, and her son, Robert ten, claim they saw an egg-shaped UFO through their front room window, in North Watford.

They say the large silver object hovered around the back of houses in Green bank Road before floating away towards Hunton Bridge at 10am today.

HERTFORDSHIRE MERCURY, Hertford, England - Apr. 6, 1979

## TOWN SIGHTING INTERESTS SCIENTISTS

# UFO has strange effect on family

A STRANGE object seen in the sky over Hertford has caught the interest of a UFO research association.

For not only did the object hover for about five minutes in the sky, but it is claimed to have had curious effects on a Puckeridge family and their car.

The woman who reported it to Mr Anthony Steel, an investigator for the UFO Scientific Research Association, based in London, said about 10 or 15 other cars stopped along Ware Road, Hertford, to watch the object overhead.

The incident took place at 7 pm on Saturday, March 17, when the

woman was in a car driven by her husband, and with her daughter and son-in-law.

On the stretch of road by the A10 bypass the family noticed that the headlights on their car began to grow dim and the music from their cassette player faded.

They could not understand what was happening, but they continued to drive along the road. Looking out of the window the woman saw approaching from the south a round yellow ball of light which appeared very large in the sky.

She told Mr Steel that she and her family watched the ball of light for about five minutes, during which time it stayed in the

same area. Other cars in front also stopped, and drivers and passengers wound down their windows to see more clearly.

The woman said the object had two red lights on the top and two on the bottom. It also appeared to have four legs, two at the top and two at the bottom, and the object was spinning round because the woman could see the legs turning.

The family then noticed that a cloud of vapour began to form around the object, partially obscuring it, and it then began to move away in the direction of Hertford police station. As it went it got smaller and smaller, and appeared to descend.

As the object passed over their car the woman and her daughter both felt sick and very heavy. They also experienced misty vision, with colours in front of their eyes.

Mr Steel told the Mercury that the vapour cloud emitted by the object was fairly common during UFO sightings. It was used, he claimed, as a disguise to confuse people watching.

He thought the sensations described by the two women after the object passed over their car was due to electro-magnetic energy, and he likened the feeling of heaviness to that felt before and during a thunderstorm. The research association—whose

membership includes scientists and astronomers—is particularly interested in the sighting, which it is finding difficulty in explaining.

"There is no way it could have been an aircraft, because of the lights," said Mr Steel. "It couldn't have been a helicopter either, because of the legs."

He said an independent witness had also described having seen the same object over Hertford town five minutes before 7 pm, and the association was trying to contact him for further information.

If anyone else saw the object they are asked to phone Mr Steel on 01-591 6615.



OUR ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE UFO

## Ministry men 'trying to hush up UFO witnesses'

A SOCIETY specialising in researching UFOs is claiming Ministry of Defence officials are impeding their investigations.

The society has long wanted to establish a "hot line" to encourage members of the public who have seen a UFO to contact a society member with a full description of what had been seen.

But the society member who deals with UFO's, has received a visit not from members of the public, but two men wielding Ministry of Defence passes.

Mr Alfred Mills chairman of the Isle of Angelsey Society for Psychical research and UFO's said: "They asked about UFO's and then to my astonishment and amazement one of them said: 'If you want hot news leave the subject alone or you'll get your fingers burned'."

"There is a bureaucratic group referred to as the men in black who are known to all UFO researchers. They go round various houses whose inhabitants have spotted a UFO and try to hush witnesses up."

Now Mr Mills has enlisted the aid of the Earl of Clancarty, the spokesman on UFOs in the House of Lords and author of several books on the subject to help combat "the men in black."

The earl has written to Mr Mills saying if any society member receives any more visitors to "refer them to me".

During the past 12 months there has been a spate of UFO sightings on Anglesey.

All UFO items reported to the RAF are passed on to the Ministry of Defence.

A spokesman for the Ministry said: "We are only interested in those flying saucers who take an inordinately long interest in the defence establishments of Britain."



# Strange lights—UFOs?

MARTIANS. UFOs of whatever they were, have appeared in the night sky over Swindon. Three amber coloured lights were seen, moving slowly and very low, for about three minutes. They were spotted by people at Pinchurst, who saw them moving from the direction of Moreton and disappearing in the direction of Blunsdon. Mr John Morton, 33, of Cunningham Road, had just been to the office in Torrey Road and was walking home with a couple of cans of lager when he saw the lights appear over Moreton.

## STRANGE

"They were very strange indeed. They all moved independently and they moved forward a bit, then moved backwards and stopped, then moved forward again. "They went on like this all the time — and as they moved forward they glowed brighter and as they moved backwards they went dimmer. "As well as this, they were moving up and down in a sort of wave-motion. "They were about a quarter of a mile away and very low, much too low for any kind of aircraft or helicopter and much too slow for that, either. "Several other people in the street saw them too, but I've absolutely no idea what they were," he said.

# Couple spot mystery light

A HOVERING light that disappeared vertically persuaded a couple they had joined the ranks of UFO sighters.

Just before midnight on Tuesday Deana Ott, 17, of the Rose and Crown, West Malling, and David Waken, 21, of Spruce Close, Larkfield, spotted the mysterious light.

They stopped their car at Larkfield traffic lights and saw it low in the sky ahead of them.

"It was a circle of white light," said Deana. "David saw it better than I and he said there were two spots, like headlights, in front of the circle.

"I got the impression of one mass of light, just hovering there. It didn't seem to be very high and was quite large, although it is difficult to be definite about its size or position.

"We heard nothing. After about a minute, it just went straight up and vanished. As far as I remember, it was quite a clear night with a big moon and few stars. It certainly wasn't an aeroplane."

# UFO scare for mother and son

By OLGA WOJTAS

A CROY man and his mother are today recovering from a terrifying encounter with a UFO on a lonely Inverness-shire road.

"I'm still wondering if it really happened," admitted a shaky Mr John Milroy (32), as he relived the event which forced him and his mother to flee from their car in terror.

"I was driving from Ardersier to Croy with my mother about 11.30 last night. She had a car accident a couple of years ago, so I was driving pretty slowly—about 20 m.p.h.

"It's a long straight road, and I could see headlights quite some distance away."

Mr Milroy dipped his own headlights to avoid blinding the other driver but the other lights came steadily towards him. Then they seemed to open out across and above the road.

"I said to my mother, bloody hell, it's an aeroplane trying to land. The lights didn't get brighter or dimmer, I flashed my own headlights at it."

## NO SOUND

Mr Milroy's mother, Mrs Amelia Baxter, begged him to reverse down the road but the lights of Ardersier were blinding him from behind.

"We decided to get out of the car and my mother took my hand and said: 'If we're going to die at least we're together.'"

"Then I realised that although I'd revved the engine and we'd slammed the car doors, there wasn't a sound anywhere. There was no sound when I put my foot on the ground. I couldn't see any shape behind the lights in the sky.

"My mother and I ran towards a ditch, and when we got there everything came back to normal. The sound came back, the light went—it was fantastic.

"I went straight to the police and told them. We were quite calm at the time, but I'm feeling quite shocked this morning."

Mrs Baxter, who was visiting her son from her home in Lanarkshire, is today under sedation.

● One possible explanation for Mr Milroy's experience came from Flt-Lt. John Hunter of RAF Kinloss. He said today: "We had a Nimrod in the area between 11.15 and 11.45 last night. I think Mr Milroy saw its landing lights—they are very bright and can be seen from 20 miles away.

"The lights would disappear when the Nimrod turned to flying north. Mr Milroy wouldn't hear anything because of the wind direction and because the Nimrod was some distance away.



● Mr John Milroy explains his reaction on sighting the UFO from his car.

# UFO seen over Scarborough

Scarborough motor-cyclist Chris Hughes felt he was not alone as he rode to his Esplanade Gardens home at night.

Looking across towards Racecourse Hill from Queen Margaret's Road he saw an array of red, yellow, and blue lights pulsating and floating across the sky.

To get a clearer view he rode round the side of Oliver's Mount.

"Looking across I could see two lights, one a red one flashing on and off, and the other a dim yellow light.

"The lights were stationary, and then the red light stopped flashing and very slowly moved from Racecourse Hill across the valley to the Mount area.

"As I looked up there were three lights, blue, red, and white, in a triangle formation. I switched my engine off and listened, but could not hear anything."

Mr Hughes said that one of the objects turned back from the Mount and moved to join the other red light.

"The red light stayed stationary and then started pulsating again. The other object started pulsating a red colour.

"The second light suddenly rose up very, very slowly in a straight line, level with this other object."

Mr Hughes said that both objects were pulsating red, and the first went back to its yellow colour.

"The second object started coming towards me. I was in the middle of nowhere so I turned

my bike round and shot off up Queen Margaret's Road."

He said that the object came across Queen Margaret's Road and stopped still. "I watched it through the trees. It stopped flashing, and then I went back and there was nothing there."

Mr Hughes wonders if anyone else saw the flashing lights. Sightings of unidentified flying objects were made by a Stony Hags resident in February, but Dr Derek McNally, assistant director of the London University Observatory, said

that the two could not be linked.

"There is nothing astronomical about this sighting," he said.

"If it were anything astronomical it would not be in the same region as the sighting made in February."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said that as far as he knew there were no RAF training aircraft in the area at the time.

There had been no recent reports of UFO sightings in Scarborough.

# UFOs sighted in Philippines

ZAMBOANGA CITY (Philippines), April 24 (AP)—Residents of two southern Philippine cities reported sighting unidentified flying objects before dawn on Thursday, including a disc-like one that vanished after two mysterious explosions, a witness and a Government official said.

In Manila the official Philippine news agency said similar sightings were reported by residents of two municipalities in Bohol province, in the central Philippines, at about the same time.

Mr Cesar Orcajada, general manager of the Zamboanga Veterans Security and Intelligence Agency, said yesterday he was in Pagadian city, 185 km north-east of here, and that he and the Pagadian police chief saw a disc-like object in the sky when they stepped out of a hotel at 4:35 a.m.

Orcajada said the object, which was moving in a northerly direction, emitted such bright and multi-coloured light that it roused residents from their sleep. After three minutes, two explosions were heard and the object disappeared, he said.

# 'Flying saucer' sighted, say villagers

BUKIT MERTAJAM, Tues. — Several residents of Kampung Pertama here claimed today that an unidentified flying object resembling a flying saucer landed in a padi field near the village last week.

A nurse said she was talking with her neighbour at about 7 p.m. last Friday night when they saw a shining object like a star hovering over the padi field a few kilometres away.

The UFO was moving towards Bukit Merah and as it approached it began to grow in size.

## 'Sparkled'

She said the object was elliptical and sparkled like a star. It landed on the padi field which was several kilometres deep inside the kampung.

"We were frightened and my neighbour rushed home to close the window shutters and doors," she said. By then, 20 other people had gathered to watch it.

She said as the UFO landed, it began to get smaller and she saw one of the lights split into three smaller UFOs. — NST.

# UFO seen hovering over Kenton house

A GIGANTIC silver object, shaped like a toilet seat, hovered over a house in Dorchester Way, Kenton on Sunday morning.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond of 80 Dorchester Way, her daughters Amanda (11), Michelle (8), and a friend, Mrs. Jacqueline Williams, said they saw the unidentified flying object for about four minutes, from 10.10 a.m.

Mrs. Hammond said she

was lying in bed, talking to her children and Mrs. Williams, when she looked out of the window and saw the object, swaying and hovering about 10 feet above the roof of number 71.

## Silent

She said the UFO was silver, about the size of three inflated dustbin liners, with a white light shining from underneath. It made no noise.

Mrs. Hammond said she went downstairs and outside with her two dogs. "They are usually very rowdy, but they just lay down in the road. There were no birds singing, just like it is before a thunderstorm."

She said the object then moved off and seemed to take off, straight upwards. "It was unbelievably near. We don't believe what we saw."

It was the only sighting reported to the police.

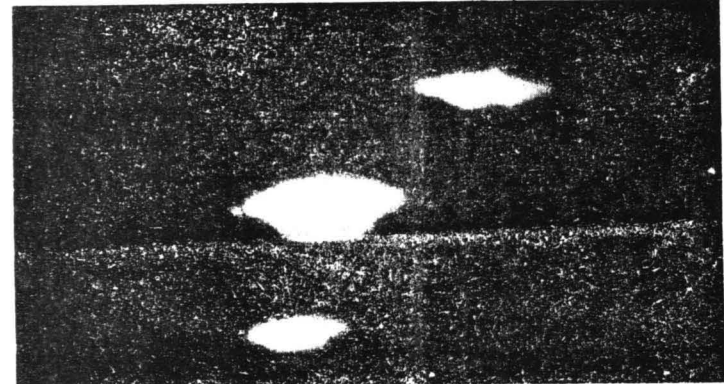
## FILLSPACE FIDDLINGS

I am considering a series of special issues covering the 1947 - 1968 period. In some cases, it might be necessary to combine two or more years in one issue. I would welcome comments on this idea. Issues would probably be 20-50 pages in length, selling for \$5.00-\$8.00.....LF.

(All items pertain to recent sightings in the Philippines. Exact dates and sources unavailable. No translation available for PEOPLE'S JOURNAL article of April 29. All items credited to Jim Moseley.)

## Katingalahan nga UFO's nagpakita makadaghan

Ang Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) gitaho nga nakakita nga susama kali nagpakita kining mga lugar sa illog ug nagdala sa Cebu, karong bag-o. Ang mga lumulupyo sa Sa laing bahin, ang pag-Bogo, naukay gumikan sa pagpakita sa UFO's sa Bogo, pagpakita nila sa 30 ka buok nahitabo usab sa laing dapit, nga katingalahang talan-diin mao usab ang nakita sa awon nga nagpakita sa mga taga siyudad sa Iligan, nga ika-alas 4:30 ang takna sa nakita sa mga kawani sa Nakabuntagon karon pa lang tional Steel Corporation. gayong bag-o, kini sumala sa Si Pedro Nayon, mid-taho nga nadawat gikan ni night supervisor sa naasoyng Rudy Garcia ang municipal buhatan ug ubang mga ka-informasyon officer sa mga wani, nakakita nga ang nakahatag usab ug kaguli-asoyng dapit ug kini nasaksi-UFO's nagpa-antaw sa may han sa mga kadagkoan sa ba-gilay-on nga usa ka libo ka ranggay. tiul ang gilay-on, haduol sa ug Bacolod. (PNA)



Ang katingalahang UFO's nga nagpakita sa makadaghan sa Bogo, Cebu; Iligan City, Zamboanga City, Butuan City, Baroy, Lanao del Norte, Bohol ug Bacolod.

PEOPLE'S JOURNAL, (City Unknown), Philippines - Apr. 29, 1979

PEOPLE'S JOURNAL, (City Unknown), Philippines - (Date Unknown)

### FLYING SAUCERS OR METEORS?

Nellie Malvas, 25, runs a cafeteria inside the Talisay-Silay Milling Company compound in Negros Occidental. She saw the thing in the sky first.

"I thought at first it was an airplane taking off from Bacolod. Then I noticed it was emitting different colors - blue, green, yellow, red. I've never seen anything like it."

Nellie's fascination turned to fear as the saucer-shaped object hovered over the mill. Others saw it, too, as the thing split into many parts, forming a "V" formation.

The strange, glowing objects then disappeared, leaving in their wake nothing but smoke.

The time was 4:22 a.m., April 19. UFOs - Unidentified Flying Objects - had been seen in Talisay.

Pat. Edgardo Larraga was on patrol with six other Talisay policemen that same morning.

They had just returned to police headquarters when Larraga saw the same UFOs. His companions saw them, too. They said the UFOs stayed in the sky for a long time.

George Donesa was jogging with a group when he sighted the UFOs hovering over Talisay. The joggers stopped in their tracks.

The strange objects were also seen by jeepney drivers, market vendors and early risers. They described what they saw as a "beautiful fiery phenomenon."

The people in Talisay were not the only ones. UFOs were spotted in Midsalip town in Zamboanga del Sur the other day. Last April 9, UFOs were also seen in Masbate and three towns in Bohol.

Director Roman I. Kintanar of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said what was seen might have been a fireball, or a meteor, or parts of man-made spacecraft falling back to earth.

He said there was too little information on the sightings to be sure.

Spacecrafts, green men, UFOs ... they're everywhere. In barrio Parola, Calatagan, Batangas, a UFO sighting was reported recently.

Engineer VIRGILIO P. MENDOZA told media he and several companions actually saw a blazing golden-coin-shaped flying object emitting a bright, reddish color.

The flying object was seen by Mendoza and company one eve-

ning as they were whiling their time on the beach. The light radiated by the mysterious object glared so much it overpowered that coming from the lighthouse of the barrio.

The object, according to Mendoza, hovered for only a minute over the lighthouse.

It was about 9 in the evening of September 27, 1977 when the spacecraft was seen.

An unidentified flying object (UFO) was sighted at barrio Gulod, Sta. Maria, Bulacan, by a couple and two relatives at around 8 p.m. Sunday.

Alfredo T. Santos, a lawyer, said he was at home with his wife, Marietta, brother-in-law Paul, and teen-age cousin Bobot Sanchez when they saw the UFO.

"It was a glimmering brightness behind clouds, like some mercury light that went on

### UFO testimony from a lawyer

and off, and gradually disappeared and "a red grew as we watched," Santos said.

The four witnesses were so amazed at what they saw they even went up to the roof of their house to observe.

Santos said after a few minutes, the light

disappeared and "a red dish object appeared." Then it sort of exploded but without making any sound. "After a while, the red object in the sky began appearing again. It was like the sun rising," he said.

(Paper Unknown) - Apr. 29, 1979

### Boy gives clearer UFO description

Fifteen-year-old Arnaldo Ignacio of Cainta St., Project 8, Quezon City, was certain he saw a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) early the other day.

Excited, he woke up the five other people in the house including his mother and together they watched as the object disappeared behind the rooftops in the distance.

Then another object appeared, Arnaldo said, smaller than the first, with a weaker light. It also dropped very slowly to where the first object disappeared.

He said he was about to sleep after watching a late TV show when he saw a strange, pinkish glow outside his window. Looking out he saw the thing in the sky.

"It was circular, and had a bluish rim. It was emitting the pinkish light," Arnaldo said. The object was descending very slowly.

### UFOs seen over Zambo mountains

Unidentified flying objects (UFOs) similar to those sighted over Masbate and three Bohol towns were seen yesterday over midsalip town in Zamboanga del Sur.

A report on Camp Crame said several residents saw the strange objects moving in flight formation at a low level over Mount Sugar Leaf before they disappeared behind Mount Balung in Midsalip.

Residents near the two mountains told PC investigators they heard a loud explosion coming from the direction of the UFOs before the strange objects disappeared.

The flying objects emitted streaks of blue, green, red and white light, the residents said.

Last Thursday, similar flying objects were seen by hundreds of residents in three Bohol towns. Last April 9, UFOs were also sighted over San Pascual town in Masbate.

Roman L. Kintanar, director of the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), said there was too little information available on the sightings to make a conclusion on the UFOs.

### UFOs sighted over three Bohol towns

Sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) were reported Thursday by hundreds of residents in three Bohol towns, a report to Camp Crame said yesterday.

The mysterious objects were flying 200 feet above sea level near the coastline and were emitting streaks of blue, red, green and white light, the report said.

It was the second sighting since the one on April 9 in the Bicol region. The first was in San Pascual, Masbate where residents reported seeing a strange object flying low over their area and later disappearing into thin air.

The PC in Bohol said the UFOs hovered at about 4:30 a.m. over the towns of Capipian, Ubay and Batuan for several minutes, then moved over the sea in formation before disappearing into the air.

### UFO sighted in Masbate?

HUNDREDS of residents of san Pascual, Masbate, reported the sighting of a bright-colored unidentified flying object last April 9, a report to Camp Crame said yesterday.

Lt. Col. Orlando Madela, Masbate PC provincial commander, said the strange object flew low over San Pascual town at about 8:45 p.m. before it vanished into thin air.

Madela said the object hovered over the town for several minutes and emitted colors of blue, red, green and white.

He said it was the first time that residents in the area had seen such kind of object.



By BRIAN SHEWRY

**TWENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD** Leigh Chandler had a frighteningly close encounter with a 'flying saucer' in Worthing while driving home in the early hours of Saturday morning.

It was about 2.30 a.m. when Leigh, a trainee nurse at Southlands Hospital, saw the UFO. She was travelling along the A259 near the Sussex Yeoman at Durrington.

'All of a sudden noticed an orange glow in the sky and there was an object rather like a foot-

# Leigh's close encounter...

ball cut in half,' she said. 'It was in the sky just ahead of me and getting lower all the time. It was coming down at such a rate that I was frightened I might collide with it.'

Leigh, from Littlehampton, said that the UFO was still coming down when she

reached the roundabout at the Angmering junction.

'Then, as I went over Windmill Bridge, it disappeared,' she said.

## Milkman 'stunned' by UFO

A MILKMAN on his way to work at Wymondham on Wednesday was "stunned" when he saw a large, reddish-yellow, dome-shaped object hovering in the sky.

The object, about 500-600 yards away from Mr. Barry Isbill, hovered above some trees near Morley College before flying off at high speed, he said.

It then stopped again before "shooting off", said Mr. Isbill, who was travelling from his home at 10, School Lane, Spooner Row, on his motor cycle when he saw the unidentified flying object at 4 a.m.

The mystery object, the first UFO which Mr. Isbill has seen, looked like the sun, he said.

"I do not disbelieve in UFOs," he said. "I am open-minded about them."

## UFO sightings

Sir, - In reference to the UFO reportedly seen over Scarborough on Tuesday evening, it was stated there had been no reports of UFO sightings at that time. I think it possible many people have seen UFOs over Scarborough but have said nothing because it is like reporting seeing a ghost, with the feeling that people are sceptical about these things.

I say this because on a very clear night about 6 o'clock last November my daughter and I were driving down Fieldside when we saw a peculiar-looking object in the sky. We got out of the car and watched it moving quite slowly over the cemetery. It was flying quite low, so we had a good look at it.

It appeared to be greyish in colour. I thought it was round in shape, but my daughter thought it more long than round. It had

bright rays of coloured lights on one side only. It made no sound whatever and moved slowly towards Woodlands or Scarborough Hospital.

There is no doubt there are unidentified flying objects, and I liken them to ghosts, and that is why no-one has yet come in close contact with one and probably never will, because, like the ghost, it has the power to disappear completely. - Yours, etc.,

Mrs Margaret Holton

61 Fieldside, Scarborough.

**EVENING NEWS, Scarborough, N. Yorks., England - May 8, 1979**

## UFO Reported In Philippines

MANILA (UPI) - A disc-shaped UFO with flashing lights sailed over a city on the main Philippine island of Luzon, a published report said Sunday.

The *Daily Bulletin* newspaper said residents of Legazpi in Albay province, 220 miles southeast of Manila, rushed out of their homes to view the object last week and were "enthralled" at the colors it emitted before it disappeared over the eastern horizon.

The paper quoted a radio station manager who described the sighting on the air as saying the UFO had an "unearthly" glow and appeared to be "about the size of a man's fist."

It was the second time a UFO was reported seen over the Philippines in a week.

May 20 an American scientist said he and hundreds of villagers saw a UFO with two appendages land in the southern Philippines.

Brightly colored UFOs reportedly have been seen by villagers in wide areas of the central and southern Philippines since a month ago but military probers have never announced any findings.

## TRANSLATIONS

### ARGENTINA -- Credit: Jane Thomas

City and country of incident: Casanare, Colombia  
Date of incident: January 24, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: *Crónica*, January 25, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### TRUCKER SAW TWO EXTRATERRESTRIALS

Tunja, Colombia, 25 (EFE) - A craft manned by extraterrestrial beings landed near the village of Casanare, emitting yellow and green flashes, according to versions by the residents of Paramo de Toquilla, 100 km from Tunja.

The driver of a heavy truck, Hernando Pineda, disclosed that the strange flying object landed smoothly on the ground and bright colored lights appeared.

"Then another light appeared which began to descend and materialized into an object, apparently metallic, which shot out three legs to anchor itself into the ground", added the trucker.

"Then, he said, a hatchway opened from which three biped beings came down, wearing very tight-fitting suits with very big helmets over their heads". Other travelers passing through Casanare, in the Cusiana highway, ignore what happened with the extraterrestrial beings or the craft, because at the time of the object's landing and take-off, a whirlwind struck all the surrounding surface.

On August 26th last, several peasants near the village of Moniquira saw a UFO over a cattle-raising farm, attempting to land.

The manager of the Banco de Occidente of Tunja, Manuel Silva Serrano, was intercepted by a UFO on the northern highway while driving his car accompanied by his wife.

The flying object, according to Silva, gave off multiple-colored lights which blinded him and made him stop the car. When he recovered his sight, the UFO had already disappeared.

City and country of incident: En route Tokio - Los Angeles  
Date of incident: January 31, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: *Clarín* - Feb. 11, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### DID A UFO CAPTURE A PLANE?

A mystery  
Rio de Janeiro, 10 (AFP) - The disappearance of a 707 Boeing from Varig last January 31st over the Pacific Ocean while en route Tokio-Los Angeles, is the biggest mystery of the history of Brazilian commercial flights.

The efforts by the Japanese salvage teams failed within the logical search-periods, and no trace could be found of the cargo plane commanded by Gilberto Araujo da Silva, a famous character in Brazil, who was awarded the Legion of Honor by the French government.

The mystery that surrounds the accident led the Pilots Association of the Brazilian Commercial Aviation to request the Japanese consul in Sao Paulo to take steps to procure other searches in a larger area than the one originally covered.

"In my 26 years as a professional pilot, I never heard of a plane disappearing without a trace", said Adalberto Araujo da Silva, Gilberto's brother.

The Boeing 707 took off from the international airport of Narita at 20.23 local time on January 31st, held its first contact with the control tower of the Japanese airport at 20.55, and, according to the commander, all was normal aboard.

The second radio contact was scheduled for 21.33, but the tower had no call from the Brazilian plane.

Whatever happened in that 38-minute interval is a still unexplained mystery.

On the other hand, retired General Alfredo Moacir Uchoa admits the possibility that the plane was captured by a UFO.

Speculations abound, but up to now no one could identify the cause of the disappearance of the plane which was under the command of famous pilot Gilberto Araujo da Silva, who on July 11, 1973, suffered an accident with another Varig Boeing near the French airport of Orly.

The plane caught fire, 122 passengers died, but Araujo da Silva's skill

avoided a higher number of victims.

For his action at that time the French government decorated him with the Legion of Honor.

City and country of incident: -  
Date of incident: -  
Name of paper and date of clip: *La Razón*, February 15, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### THEY SAY UFOS HAVE ALREADY CAPTURED 200 PLANES

Lima (EFE)- According to the president of the Peruvian Institute for Interplanetary Relations (IPRI), Carlos Paz, some 200 planes belonging to different countries were captured in flight by UFOs to study their crew. (as in the above clip, the same applies here: since when? - JT). Paz also said that many of the captured fliers are shortly afterwards returned, but in a completely amnesic state and dazed by very complicated electronic devices. The expert in extraterrestrial subjects assures that big-sized UFOs got hold of the Brazilian Varig plane recently lost while en route Tokio-Los Angeles. Something similar occurred with planes lost in Japan, Spain, U.S. and other countries. Paz kept a detailed list of the planes that have mysteriously disappeared, which he attributes to abductions by UFOs.

City and country of incident: San Miguel, near Santiago, Chile  
Date of incident: February 16, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: *Crónica*, February 22, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### MORE UFOS IN THE CHILEAN SKY

Santiago, Chile, 22 (EFE) - Four residents from the interior, the Chilean city of Arica, disclosed that three UFOs flew over the town of San Miguel a few days ago.

The experience was suffered by young agriculturist Víctor Baluarte and three friends, when at midnight last Friday they were returning to their homes.

The sky was filled with a luminosity and a noise was heard like that of polishing machine, when the oval-shaped UFOs appeared.

One of the members of the group got off the car and a strange wind made his hat fly off. The next minute the three craft disappeared behind the mountains at vertiginous speed.

A trail of pink smoke remained in the sky after the motions of the unknown objects.

City and country of incident: Rivera, Uruguay  
Date of incident: March 3, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: *La Razón* - March 3, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### SURPRISING REVELATIONS CONCERNING A UFO IN URUGUAY

Montevideo (ANSA) - The residents of the city of Rivera (bordering Brazil), were disturbed by the sighting of a UFO, in an experience which some experts did not hesitate in calling a "close encounter of the third kind". Some thirty workers of the local Municipal Supply -as was reported- made contact with the object while they were on their way to work outside the city.

From the truck in which they were, they observed the UFO moving over the vehicle at an approximate distance of 50 meters. Another worker who was waiting for the truck along the way, frightened by the stranger sighting, desperately took to the field. According to statements from the witnesses, the object's shape was ovoid with changing colored lights which alternated light blue and red, yellow and white. The occurrence would have had no other consequences in spite of the number of witnesses should there not have been another experience, with special characteristics, suffered by a young boy of 13. Plinio Fagúndez, the son of the watchman of the Radio Reconquista transmitting plant, could observe the same craft with the features already mentioned by the workers, at close distance (some 30 meters from the ground), and see the silhouettes of at least four beings inside, as he later said. Young Fagúndez claimed the UFO moved around the transmitting tower for several minutes, giving off a piercing humming noise, until it hovered over the end of the metallic construction. At that time Fagúndez said he observed some beings whose heads were covered with some kind of a helmet. He even said he could clearly see red letters on the UFO.

City and country of incident: Rocha, Uruguay  
Date of incident: March 4, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, March 5, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### MORE UFOS SIGHTED IN URUGUAY

Montevideo, 4 (ANSA) - The UFO phenomenon continues calling the attention of Uruguayans on it being disclosed today the details of the sighting of three very intensely luminous objects in the sky of the department of Rocha (bordering to the NE with Brazil).

Several families sighted last night in the capital of that department three objects which by their motions they defined as UFOs, which emitted lights changing from yellow to blue and then to red.

City and country of incident: Murcia, Spain  
Date of incident: March 19, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, March 22, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### BLACKOUT IN SPAIN: UFO SQUADRON BLAMED

Murcia, Spain, 22 (EFE) - The blackout that kept the whole Spanish East coast in the dark for one hour the night of last Monday, could have been caused by a fleet of more than sixty UFOs.

The UFOs were detected over the coast of Alicante at the same time the blackout occurred. The local paper "La Verdad" publishes today the testimonies of several witnesses who saw the strange phenomenon.

These witnesses agreed in telling "La Verdad" that they heard strange and piercing noises accompanied in some cases by powerful luminous projections perfectly visible in the dark.

One of them even said that with a pair of binoculars he saw some 60 luminous objects in two formations and explained the UFOs moved from one group to the other at incredible speed, continuously changing color.

"I could see that most of them were pointed. There were others in the shape of a half coin and the largest of all resembled a Z."

He also said that when the light came back on only three of these objects remained, which disappeared after half an hour.

According to the paper several other witnesses observed these UFO formations and their continuous motions.

Towards 11 pm last Monday a blackout affected all the country's East coast. According to the first explanations given by the experts, the failure was due to an overcharge in the lines that carry the electric fluid to France.

City and country of incident: Viedma, Rio Negro province, Argentina  
Date of incident: March 23, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, March 23, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO SEEN IN SLOW FLIGHT OVER VIEDMA

Bahía Blanca - The slow course of a UFO over the Viedma (Rio Negro) sky excited the neighbors of the populated district of General Belgrano of that capital. Numerous witnesses agreed that the craft had many lights on its upper part. It is the first time a UFO is sighted practically in the center of Viedma, since previous appearances were registered in the city's airport sector. Two hours after that appearance another could be seen over the same city, observers stating it was a "lighted balloon".

City and country of incident: -  
Date of incident: -  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, March 24, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

46,219 UFO APPEARANCES WERE RECORDED IN LATIN AMERICA  
Lima (EFE) - The first statistics on UFOs in Latin America record 46,219 cases of different types, among them some 120 contacts "of the third kind", between extraterrestrials and humans. The list and classification were published at the first congress that evaluated the actions of UFOs, which was recently held in the Peruvian city of Trujillo. 41 different models of UFOs could be identified, as well as their possible origins (?-JT). The organizer and president of the Peruvian Institute of Interplanetary Relations (IPIRI), Carlos Paz García, explained to EFE that Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay are the countries where the largest number of UFO appearances occurred.

(Note: the clip -or Mr. Paz García- did not specify the period comprising those statistics. JT)

City and country of incident: Maspalomas beach, Great Canary  
Date of incident: March 30, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, March 31, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### "UFO" - ENVOIS OF TOURISTS

Las Palmas, Great Canary, Spain, 31 (EFE) - Another UFO was seen last night flying over the tourist area of the Maspalomas beach, in the southern part of the Great Canary island, according to today's paper "La Provincia".

The UFO was visible for a few minutes, it seemed to go towards the sea and was at once lost in the horizon. The witnesses assured "La Provincia" that it was not a plane and that they had already reported the sighting to the air zone of the Canary Islands. Those who saw the UFO - José Lameiro and Mercedes Massuet - claimed that the strange phenomenon was visible around 0900 pm.

According to the witnesses, the UFO had the "shape of two points of light of relative intensity with a rear beam".

City and country of incident: San Carlos beach, Panama  
Date of incident: March 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, April 3, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### MIGHT THE STRANGE REMAINS FOUND IN A PANAMANIAN BEACH BE THOSE OF AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL CHILD SKELETON?

Panama, 2 (EFE) - A strange skeleton that might be that of an extraterrestrial child, according to the first scientific reports, was found in a Panamanian beach at the beginning of last March. The strange bones, some 30cm in length, is similar to the famous skeleton found in the Erendira beach in 1972, in the Mexican territory of lower California.

Dr. Francisco Ramón de Aguilar, a Spanish psychologist and psychiatrist working in Panamá, has the skeleton well guarded, since he considers it one of the most important discoveries for mankind.

Dr. De Aguilar is president of the CIPE (Center for Panamanian Extraterrestrial Investigations) and has paid a thousand dollars to the young messenger of another Panamanian doctor who had found the skeleton, to turn it over to him.

The skeleton was found in the beach of San Carlos, some 100 km to the SW of the Panamanian capital, when it was being lapped by the waves.

The discoverer states that when he saw it, it was dressed in "some strange rags", and that he later undressed it and took it home, because he was intrigued by its almost human appearance.

He is now looking for those rags and other objects that were in the skeleton's clothes scattered all over the beach, since Dr. De Aguilar has promised him another 1,000 dollars for each extraterrestrial object he should find.

Dr. De Aguilar told EFE today that he is fully convinced the skeleton is that of an extraterrestrial child, maybe fallen from a UFO that had been seen by the hundreds in the San Carlos beach some days before, precisely during Carnival.

"My skeleton is much better preserved and clearly discernible than that of the Erendira beach, stated the president of CIPE, who is in a state of euphoria and has already reported the found to numerous international organizations and experts, among them NASA staff.

The San Carlos skeleton has only two cervical vertebrae while the one

from Erendira beach has five, but it is complete and even has part of its arms and legs, more precisely the bones, since the rest of the extremities were still cartilaginous and were lost.

The skeleton of the Erendira beach was at that time studied by numerous scientists, among them specialists of the National Institute of Anthropology and History of Mexico, who concluded that "it was 'not terrestrial'". It did not fit into taxonomy, a science that studies the classifications of beings. Nothing similar had been seen before.

#### \* ATHLETES WITH ENORMOUS HEADS

According to Dr. De Aguilar, the skeleton of the extraterrestrial child leads to the conclusion that adults of that race must be approx. some 90 cm tall, and they have an enormous head and an athletic body, with a very strong thorax.

The skeleton has no ribs, instead it has a bony shell which protects the place where the heart and lungs would be. The vertebral channel is unproportionately big and the tube through which the spine and nervous ends run is proportionately enormous, 5mm in diameter, which indicates that they are very intelligent beings and that their spine must support a big and heavy head.

Lastly, the shoulder blades of the extraterrestrial "baby" are winged, and open in inverse order, unlike humans'.

#### \* They are among us

Logically, the president of CIPE believes in extraterrestrials and considers that the discovery of the skeleton must serve to convince man that "they exist, are here among us and carry out a task of selective education among humans, the results of which we will soon see".

A skeleton similar to those of Erendira and San Carlos was found in Manta (Ecuador) in February 1978, but that one was more mixed up and in a worse state of preservation.

According to Dr. De Aguilar, the baby of San Carlos is the most formidable proof on Earth that extraterrestrials exist and are among us.

City and country of incident: Córdoba, Córdoba province, Argentina  
Date of incident: April 2, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, April 4, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### CORDOBA: DISCIPLINED UFO FORMATION WITH ITS COMMANDING SHIP

Córdoba, 4 (From our correspondent) - An impressive fleet of UFOs was detected by a married couple early last Monday. The Cortez live in a high rise apartment building in the exclusive district of Alberdi, a sector of this city where other appearances have previously been recorded.

#### \* A reddish light

The news was published by a local paper and later confirmed to this correspondent by the Cortez themselves. They said that approx. at 01.45 of said day they were sitting in an outer balcony of the department where they live, when they saw a reddish light approaching from the NE towards the southern center. While the strange light advanced they noticed it was a cluster of approx. eight or nine "flying saucers which moved in a disciplined formation, one of them ahead of the others, as if it were a commanding craft."

#### \* They ask for three favors

Upon discovering the luminosity -they added- we thought it was one of those continuous appearances of stars "and closing our eyes we asked for three favors". But on opening them -they stated- we noticed the luminosity had grown and was now at least 80m wide. They then said they moved at a "really extraterrestrial speed" and stopped some 500m from where they were, to resume high speed immediately. The UFO fleet was finally lost in the horizon in the above stated direction.

#### \* Other cases

It isn't the first time the residents of Alberdi have experiences of this kind. Less than six months ago an 8 year old boy photographed a UFO. Two months before, a servant woman claimed that when she was returning home "an enormous light" followed her until she took the bus. At that same time another couple was unexpectedly visited by a UFO while watering the lawn after midnight, last summer. All these documents are available to experts who thoroughly study each case. They now have another testimony awaiting them since Monday.

City and country of incident: Belfort, France  
Date of incident: April 3, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, April 5, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO WATCH

Belfort, 5 (DPA) - Fifty testimonies from people who were witnesses to the appearance of a UFO were collected by the police of Beacourt, a little French town near Belfort.

The appearance of the alleged UFO occurred last Tuesday. Observers describe it as a cigar-shaped object which passed approx. one hour "observing" the town, thus enabling the local firemen to photograph it several times.

A similar artifact had been reported at the end of March in Montbeliard, somewhat more to the South.

Although people is more incredulous each day about the truth of the appearance of these objects, there are always country tales.

City and country of incident: -, Nicaragua  
Date of incident: ?  
Name of paper and date of clip: CRONICA, April 20, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### SHARK - The Skeleton was not that of an Extraterrestrial Baby

Managua, 20 (EFE) - A strange skeleton similar to that found in Panama which according to the Spanish parapsychologist Francisco Ramón de Aguilar corresponds to that of an "extraterrestrial baby," was found by a young man on a beach in Nicaragua.

But after having the skeleton examined by Dr. and Jesuit Priest Ignacio Astorqui, it is claimed it is not an "extraterrestrial baby," but the skull of a shark.

An article sent from Panama claims that Dr. De Aguilar considers the small skeleton from Panama an irrefutable proof of the existence in this world of extraterrestrial beings.

De Aguilar acquired the strange object at a cost of US \$1,000.

According to a comment sent from Nicaragua to the paper "La Prensa" of this capital by Jesuit Astorqui, the skeleton was obtained free from young Ivan José Quant Ley.

Astorqui's theory, who is an expert in zoology and specializes in ichthyology at the University of Miami, Florida, that it is not an evidence of space beings, but the head of a shark, disappointed the young man who found the bones.

"The disagreeable smell like rotten fish was suspicious in an extraterrestrial, unless he should come from a planet of fish-men. Neither is it very convincing that an 'evolved' being should have a rigid skeleton and thus not be too functional."

This skeleton (the one found in Nicaragua) is more complete than that of Panama.

#### SPAIN -- Credit: F. Cerda Guardia (Translator: Richard Heiden)

Country of incident: United States (?)  
Date of incident: December 1976  
Name and date of paper: Hoy, Feb. 4, 1979  
City of paper: Badajoz (Badajoz), Spain  
(This article, reprinted from an article in the French Nostradamus magazine by Jacques Bergier, talks about several mysteries and one UFO incident. Only the UFO portions (the third subtitle, and the last three paragraphs) are translated here.)

(continued on page 15)



Pursued by a strange orange-colored ship

Another pilot of the United States Army [Air Force?--trans.] has dared to speak about a supposed flying saucer. This time it is Commander Claude Riddle, whose adventure is still rather recent, dating from December of 1976.

Riddle was "pursued" (this is the word he himself used [translating to French to Spanish to English again could very well have changed the word--trans.]) by a luminous ship "as big as a Boeing and orange in color" that began to follow him when he was piloting a helicopter.

"Each time it came closer," relates Riddle, "so much so that there was a moment when I thought a catastrophe was inevitable. Finally I tried an evasive maneuver and the mysterious ship let me go, shooting out a green cloud of smoke and moving away at a dizzying speed."

Location of incident: provinces of Murcia and Granada, Spain

Date of incident: Feb. 6, 1979

Name and date of paper: La Verdad, Feb. 7, 1979

City of paper: Murcia (Murcia), Spain

(This is the same date and geographic area as the Tamames freighter case, though previously-translated coverage of the case did not specify the date. See UFONS #116, p. 15.)

UFOS RETURNED OVER MURCIA

Yesterday numerous people saw UFOs in the province. Many of them called our office. Among other places, they were seen in the areas of Murcia, Alcantarilla, and Balsicas [another article had spelled this "Balsinas"--trans.]. In this last place a couple observed their maneuvers for thirty-five minutes. "We saw four, which began moving after staying still for about ten minutes. They crossed each other. Stopped, they were red in color. When they went from one spot to another they emitted an orange light," the husband told us yesterday.

UFOS were also seen over the mountains of Granada yesterday. A great many people gathered in the main plaza in the Albaicin district of Granada [this is the Gypsy quarter of the city--trans.] to see the maneuvers of a UFO that was moving at a low height.

Name and date of paper: Baleares, Feb. 1, 1979

City of paper: Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Spain

(The lengthy and rather wordy article is briefly summarized here.)

Juan Miquel Zurano, a guitarist for a rock group, and a grade school drop-out, invented a perpetual motion engine that could be the propulsion for UFOs. It would not require any fuel, and could have infinite acceleration. Such an engine used in a car could cost 10,000 pesetas [\$143, based on the exchange rate in the Wall Street Journal of Feb. 1 for the day before--trans.]. Zurano would not give any details (because he has not yet filed for a patent, which he is in the process of doing), but indicated that magnetism was involved.

Location of incident: over Pacific, between Tokyo and Los Angeles

Date of incident: c. Feb. 1, 1979

Name and date of paper: Ya, Feb. 8, 1979

City of paper: Madrid (Madrid), Spain

According to a Brazilian general

The airplane disappeared in the Pacific, kidnapped by a UFO

BRASILIA. (Efe.)—General Alfredo Moacir de Mendonça Uchoa, a specialist in "unidentified flying objects" (UFOS), is convinced that the Brazilian cargo airplane that recently disappeared between Tokyo and Los Angeles "was kidnapped by a flying saucer."

The airplane, of the Varig company, disappeared a week ago without a trace when it was flying between the Japanese capital and Los Angeles with a crew of six and 20 tons [probably metric tons, approx. 22 U.S. tons--trans.] of cargo.

Varig reports the end of the search operations undertaken by Japanese and United States planes in the Pacific.

Nevertheless, the wives and relatives of the missing crewmen sent a letter to the President of the nation, General Ernesto Geisel, so that the Brazilian government would ask for a continuation of the search, with the hope that they are in some lifeboat.

The Varig press secretary considers the disappearance of the craft a "mystery" as "it would be hard for it to have been affected by atmospheric turbulence, since radar shows those phenomena in advance, and the crew was very experienced."

For General Mendonça—author of works on "flying saucers" [see a review of one of his books in the MUFON UFO Journal of April 1978, pp. 15-16--trans.],—there already "have occurred similar cases previously in which craft disappeared without leaving the least trace and without the crew having called for help."

City and country of incident: Peñíscola (Castellón), Spain

Date of incident: Feb. 7, 1979

Name and date of paper: Mediterráneo, Feb. 9, 1979

City of paper: Castellón (Castellón), Spain

A UFO at Peñíscola

An "unidentified flying object" was seen the night before last at Peñíscola by resident Antonio Andrés Vicente and his family. It occurred at about 8:30 and the craft was over the sea, about a kilometer [0.6 mile--trans.] from the coast and at a height of about two hundred meters [660 feet--trans.]. It consisted of some oval pieces, with an intense light in the middle and other intermittent ones on the ends. The sighting lasted about three minutes. The object disappeared without leaving the least trace.

Location of incident: Cartagena (Murcia), Spain

Dates of incidents: Feb. 6 and 8-9, 1979

Name and date of paper: La Última Hora, Feb. \_\_, 1979 (clipping is labelled Feb. 7, but from the context of the article it must be at least several days later)

City of paper: Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Spain

(This article provides a date for the Tamames freighter case, which other papers--e.g., that translated in UFONS #116, p. 15--did not date.)

WHEN THE "TAMAMES" DETECTED A GROUP OF UFOS

PERTURBATIONS AT THE "URANIA" OBSERVATORY

(From our staff).—

It is "highly probable" that there is some relation between the perturbations observed in the laboratory of astronomer Ramón Compte, an informant of Última Hora, and the UFOs detected by the captain of the butane freighter "Tamames" the night of Tuesday the sixth.

According to accounts gathered from different sources of information, the lights observed by the captain of the ship were parachutists, even though the crew of the "Tamames" butane freighter insist, through their captain, that they were UFOs, according to statements gathered yesterday by U.H.

Astronomer Ramón Compte has stated, referring to the strange event: "Being observing that night, from the 8th to the 9th [sic]—two nights after the "Tamames" case--trans.] of this month, and for the purpose of making some calculations of planetary coordinates, of Jupiter and Saturn to be specific, I noticed, not without a certain surprise, that the principal magnetic compass that the Urania observatory has, experienced significant and unusual fluctuations, oscillated wildly, without the balancing mechanism being able to stabilize it, despite its effectiveness."

Concerning the time the perturbations were produced, Ramón Compte specified that it all happened between 11:00 p.m. on the 8th and 3:00 a.m. on the 9th.

Location of incident: Canary Islands, Spain

Date of incident: March 4, 1979

Name and date of paper: ABC, March 10, 1979

City of paper: Seville (Seville), Spain

(This is a follow-up to the March 9 Union article translated in UFONS #118, p. 15.)

It was detected by Air Force radar

THE UFO OF THE CANARIES COULD BE A MISSILE LAUNCHED BY A SUBMARINE

\*Two pilots estimate that it was going at a speed of 21,000 kilometers per hour

The UFO that was seen at dusk Sunday by hundreds of people in the Canary Archipelago, and that could even be photographed (see yesterday's ABC, page 36 [this article was really March 8; unless "the day before

yesterday" is meant here, the present article was of March 9—or perhaps there is a combined edition for the 9th and 10th--trans.]) could be a missile launched from a submerged submarine, according to what Efe has learned from journalistic media of the Canaries.

Apparently, the unusual event was detected by radar in the air zone of the Canaries, even though the Air Force has not made a statement about the matter, despite repeated inquiries by the news media.

Two pilots of the Canary charter flight company Naysa, Eufonio García Monforte and Miguel Molledo, saw the strange object when they were making a flight between Las Palmas and Mauritania. According to what they declared, the UFO "must have had a speed of 21,000 kilometers per hour [13,000 mph--trans.]."

For the moment, there has been no official communiqué about the strange flying object, even though it is said that it could be a water-to-air missile, fired by a submerged submarine.

(Report from Efe)

[According to ABC of March 8 (via Efe) and the Madrid Pueblo of March 6 (via its own correspondent), the hour-long sighting, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m., was of "a very strange cloud orange in the middle with bluish edges" (Pueblo) or of "a reddish cloud" (ABC, which omits the total duration, except to say that one phase lasted 15 minutes). The missile spoken of in the above article could explain the object that came out of the cloud.]

Credit: Ignacio Darnaude sent the ABC articles to APRO. Fernando Cerdá Guardia sent the Pueblo article to UFONS. Translation and commentary by Richard W. Heiden.

Cities and country of incidents: Santa Margarita de Montbui (Lérida)

and Elche (Alicante), Spain

Date of incidents: March 19, 1979

Name and date of paper: AHC, March 23, 1979

City of paper: Seville (Seville), Spain

A parapsychologist predicted it days before

THE GREAT BLACKOUT ON MONDAY, RELATED TO THE APPEARANCE OF UFOS

\*Up to sixty, says an Alicante man who watched with binoculars that night

\*Many other people contemplated similar phenomena

Ramos Cos Teixido, member of the Igualada Parapsychological Society, predicted last week, via the microphones of a broadcasting station, that on the night of Monday, the 19th, starting at 11:00 p.m., a UFO phenomenon would be produced.

Some have related this prediction to the general blackout suffered throughout Catalonia [Catalonia comprises the provinces of Lérida, Tarragona, Gerona, and Barcelona; other articles say that the blackout also extended to the provinces of Castellón, Alicante, Murcia, Valencia, & Zaragoza--trans.], plus the fact that several people observed a UFO over la Tossa Mountain [42°20'N, 1°54'E--trans.], in Santa Margarita de Montbui, where supposed unidentified flying objects have already been seen several times.

According to Señor Cos, there were two, and not one, UFOs over the mountain, one in motion and the other static, beginning an approach between the two, to finally disappear. The event and, especially, the prediction in advance has caused the expected comments in Igualada.

In Elche, coinciding with the same blackout, numerous residents observed strange phenomena in the firmament, according to news in the paper "La Verdad."

Several witnesses agree in indicating that they heard a strange penetrating sound, accompanied, in some cases, by strong luminous projections perfectly visible in the darkness reigning at 11:30.

One resident stated that, when the blackout occurred, he went up to the roof of his house and could make out with binoculars about sixty luminous objects at Santa Pola, Guardamar, Crevillente, and also on the Alicante coast.

"The objects moved," he has stated, "from one group to another at an incredible speed, continuously changing color. With the binoculars I could see that most had a spearhead; there were others in the shape of half a coin, and the biggest one of all looked like a mushroom. After a little while, the lights came back on, and when I went up to the roof again only three objects remained, which disappeared after a half hour."

There are several other witnesses who likewise observed these phenomena.

(Report from Efe)

[The article in the Madrid magazine El Caso of March 31, 1979, which gives a photo of Cos, states that his prediction was made on Radio Juventud in Igualada a week before the blackout. Ignacio Darnaude also sent APRO articles on the blackout itself from the Seville ABC of March 20 and 21. No definite explanation for the blackout was made yet, and El Caso quoted a public relations man of the electric company (Unión Eléctrica de Electricidad, S.A.—Unesa) as saying cynically, "that it is all very dark (obscure) yet."]

credit: APRO (Ignacio Darnaude via Richard Heiden)

Location of incident: Cuzco, Peru

Date of incident: March 22, 1979

Name and date of paper: El Comercio, March 24, 1979

City of paper: Lima, Peru (credit: APRO)

They spotted a flying object in Cuzco

Cuzco, 23 (Correspondent)—An unusual "stellar show" was witnessed by numerous people when an unidentified flying object made maneuvers in the Cuzco sky.

On Thursday the 22nd, at approximately 7:00 p.m., there was a regular disturbance on Cultura Avenue, where they even paralyzed some minibuses to look at the celestial phenomenon.

A type of very bright star appeared that slowly grew dimmer. Then something like a spherical red cloud was seen, from which descended a bright body that gave off colored flashes and maneuvered in a north-west direction.

After some moments, the flying object returned to the red cloud, and lost itself in space.

This spectacular and unusual event caused all sorts of talk among the people who were able to witness the phenomenon.

-Location of incident: northeastern part of department of Loreto, Peru

Date of incident: March 22, 1979

-Location of incident: southwest part of Bolivia

Date of incident: not given

Name and date of paper: El Comercio, March 25, 1979

City of paper: Lima, Peru (credit: APRO)

They Say They See UFOs in the Peruvian Jungle

La Paz [Bolivia], March 24 (AFP).—A flotilla of UFOs interrupted a conversation between a Bolivian ham radio operator and a Peruvian colleague, reported today El Diario in this capital.

According to the version in the La Paz newspaper, the event took place the day before yesterday at 8:45 p.m. Bolivian time (15:45 GMT [according to the 1979 Reader's Digest Almanac, it would have been 00:45 GMT the next day--trans.]), and the interference lasted some thirty minutes.

The UFOs appeared about 400 km. [250 miles--trans.] east of Iquitos, in the middle of the Peruvian Amazon region. [Peru extends only 350 km. [220 miles] east of Iquitos, and then Brazil and Colombia start. Unless there is a territorial dispute in that area, there seems to be an error in the article.--trans.]

Moreover, a UFO that landed on a Bolivian highway in the high plateau region surprised the occupants of several private vehicles, El Diario added today.

#### NETHERLANDS ANTILLES -- Credit: Bob Ewing

City and country of incident: Antofagasta, Chile

Date of incident: ?

Name of paper and date of clip: NOBO, May 26, 1979

City and country of paper: Diasabra, Netherlands Antilles

MILITARY AIRCRAFT CHASES UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

Antofagasta (Chile) — A Chilean military aircraft has chased for some minutes an unidentified flying object. The information comes from Antofagasta, a city located 1370 kilometers from Santiago de Chile. The pilot of the military aircraft F-5 has observed an unidentified object that was flying circles around Antofagasta. The object had a triangular shape and was moving at a tremendous speed. The Chilean Air Force is making a complete investigation to learn the origin of the object.

Apr. 9, 1979

# Snake-headed, animal-eating monster mystifies Soviets

Scotland's Loch Ness creature is also a descendant of a prehistoric family of aquatic creatures.

An American-led scientific expedition scanned Loch Ness with electronic equipment in 1976 and reported finding something sizeable in the waters. But unbelievers contend the pictures show only a tree trunk or a sunken boat.

Some Russians say their animal may be a giant "schuka," or northern pike. The fish grow to lengths of nine feet and are known to be carnivorous and aggressive, even attacking canoeists.

After an article on the creature appeared in the widely read Soviet newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda in the 1960s, many expeditions traveled to explore Labinkir's mysteries, but all failed to come up with any concrete evidence that the "monster" exists.

One scientific expedition that included divers and underwater photographers spent several summers trying to find the animal without success.

Some biologists speculate the animal could be descended from prehistoric dinosaurs who once roamed Siberia's depths.

British experts contend that

But he said the most spectacular sighting took place when a hunter shot a goose near Labinkir and sent his dog to fetch it. Suddenly, out of the depths of the lake, a creature rose and caught the goose and then the dog.

Undaunted, the hunter made a fire on the shore, put some fiery coals atop a buoyant animal skin and pushed it out on the lake. The creature caught the skin in its mouth and went down with it.

But a short time later it reappeared, thrashing around wildly and "making terrible sounds, probably because he had swallowed the fire," Pankov said.

snake rising out of the murky lake's surface.

The animal glided about and "with a sound much like a child's cry," disappeared back into the 150-foot waters, Pankov said.

Other geologists claimed that while they were walking on a thin layer of ice over the lake they saw a long, grayish animal under the surface, unlike anything they had seen before, Pankov said.

In another incident at Labinkir, a group of reindeer herders claimed they saw a bird flying along the lake's surface and a giant pair of jaws emerge from the water "to snap it up," he said.

Omyakonsky Meridian," by Soviet journalist Anatoly Pankov.

The book describes the peculiarities and history of the Omyakon region, the world's coldest inhabited place.

Pankov reports the many sightings of a creature in Lake Labinkir in the Siberian province of Yakutia, about 250 miles north of the Soviet eastern coast on the Sea of Okhotsk.

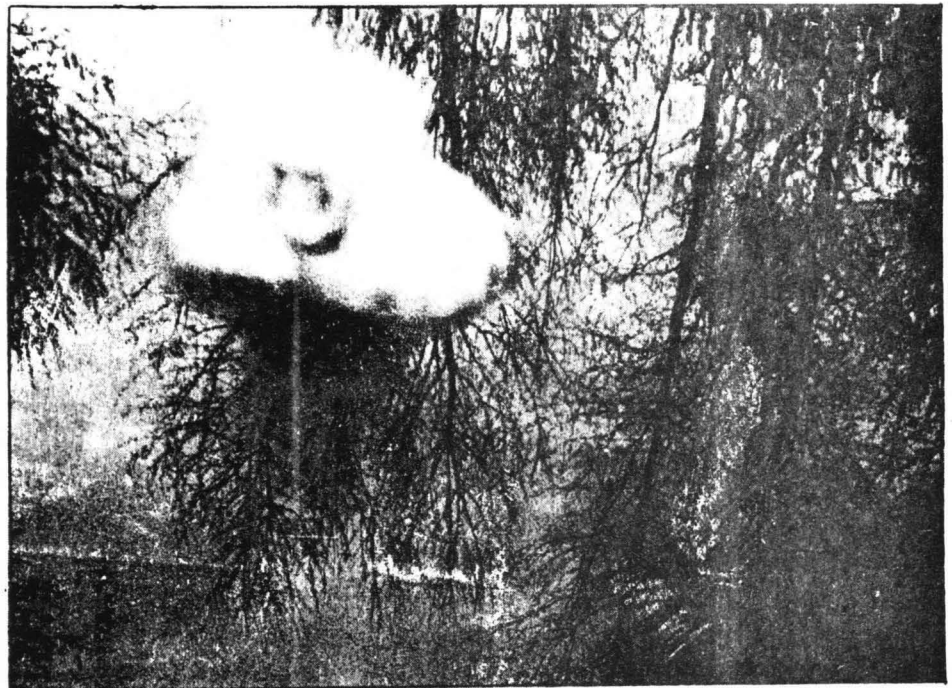
In an interview, Pankov said the first "trustworthy" sighting of the creature was in the 1950s when a group of geologists said they heard a "big splashing noise" and saw a long-necked creature with the head of a

UST-NERA, U.S.S.R. (AP) — A snake-headed, animal-eating creature said to glide through the frigid waters of a Siberian lake is mystifying Soviets who speculate it might be a relative of Scotland's Loch Ness monster.

Geologists, hunters and Siberian natives have reported sightings, but the creature has so far eluded scientific explorers in its lair deep in the coldest reaches of the eastern Soviet Union, 150 miles south of this gold-mining town.

While the creature is well-known among locals, it has come to wider attention because of a best-selling book about Siberia, "The

## Bigfoot?



This photo, sent recently to Bigfoot hunter Cliff Crook by an anonymous source, purports to show a blond Bigfoot rising from a mountain pond near Monte Cristo in the Cascades. The apparently upside-down trees are forest reflections on the surface of the water.

### New evidence

## 'Bigfoot' tracker hits trail

by JOHN SUTHERLAND

BOTHELL — Bigfoot tracker Cliff Crook is hot on the trail of the elusive creature again.

In fact, by the time you read this, Crook already may have found conclusive proof of the giant beast, which has been reported in various locations around the world for years.

What makes the Sasquatch tracking veteran more confident of finding his quarry on this hunt are several photos he recently received, which Crook calls the "clearest known photos" of Bigfoot ever taken.

He received the photos in the mail April 2 from a man who refuses to disclose his identity. The photos purport to show a hairy, tawny-colored creature standing in a swamp at Monte Cristo, a ghost town in the Cascade foothills east of Granite Falls.

"I have no idea if this is a hoax or a prank," Crook said last week, "but I'm going to search it out. It's either the real thing or a hell of a mystery photo."

Crook received six snapshot-size photos. The sequence shows a white ape-like creature which appears to be partly submerged underwater in a couple of the pictures, and standing shoulder-deep in the other pictures.

Facial features are discernible in the photos.

THE EVIDENCE prompted Crook to plan an expedition to the Monte Cristo area this week. He plans to take with him Edd Kaye, president of the fledgling International Sasquatch Society, plus a state game warden and a Snohomish County

deputy sheriff who reportedly has seen Bigfoot previously.

Crook isn't sure how long the expedition might last. "If we find anything, it will turn into a real project," he says.

Crook's anonymous source told him the exact location where the photos were taken; he won't disclose it because of fear of publicity-seekers who might go to the area.

He said his mysterious photographer took the pictures March 9. The man isn't interested in Sasquatches himself, but had heard of Crook's reputation and decided to pass along the photos, Crook said.

The photographer may be afraid to disclose his identity because of

He had his own run-ins with what he says was Bigfoot during this time. One night, he and a friend investigated noises in a pasture. Their probing flashlight caught the glow of two blue-green eyes, about seven feet above the ground. The creature turned and walked away before the boys could investigate further.

A few weeks later, four boys, including Crook, camped out in the woods. Just after snuggling into their sleeping bags, a dog who came with them on the trip began growling and ran into the brush. A fight commenced, which woke up the boys in time to see the dog flying through the air, six feet off the ground. The dog and boys ran.

### 'Bigfoot exists. . . I'm positive'

fear of ridicule, Crook says, something that Crook can understand, too.

"There's been no personal gain in this for me," he says, "it's the other way around. I've gotten more ridicule than anything."

CROOK HAS been looking for Bigfoot ever since his growing-up years in the 1940s and 50s, when he lived with his family in a thickly wooded area north of Kirkland.

It was there he learned to track the footprints of deer, bear and other animals and came to distinguish those tracks from the huge unexplained prints which occasionally were reported in the area.

THAT STARTED Crook on a trail he's been traveling ever since. . . a trail that's been frustrating more often than not, but one which leaves Crook convinced that Bigfoot exists.

He has found the same evidence — large manlike tracks, droppings and hair samples — in several places of reported sightings. Just this January, he found eight 21-inch-long footprints in an area near Redmond after a woman reported finding one of the prints in a frozen stream near her home.

"Bigfoot exists, I'm positive about it. Someday we'll know about it, one way or the other," Crook promises. Maybe sooner than later, if the new pictures prove to be what Bothell's Bigfoot tracker hopes they are.



# Santa Fe DA To Direct Cattle Mutilations Probe

By THOMAS DAY  
Of the Journal's  
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — The Santa Fe District Attorney's Office Tuesday was awarded a \$41,170 grant to coordinate investigations of the widespread cattle mutilations that have puzzled experts in recent years.

The Office of District Attorney Eloy Martinez is to hire a director who will coordinate FBI, State Police and other investigations and gather information about the puzzling mutilations.

The grant application by the DA's Office received the backing of the FBI and of U.S. Attorney R.E. Thompson, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, was told Tuesday. The group awards Law Enforcement Assistance Administration money in the state.

Council members include First Lady Alice King, Supreme Court Chief Justice Dan Sosa, Criminal Justice Secretary Charles Becknell and State Police Chief Martin Vigil.

Martinez's application said 8,000 to 10,000 mutilations have been reported in the nation since 1970. More than 60 have been in Rio Arriba County, the application said. The First Judicial District based in Santa Fe includes Santa Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos counties.

The application describes the mutilations as bizarre crimes against property that are expensive for ranchers.

"... the animals killed and mutilated for some reason tend to be the best livestock in a rancher's herd," the application says.

Mutilations are "a mystery ... that only deepens with each new unsolved case," it adds.

At Tuesday's meeting, District Judge Joseph Caldwell of Taos said he had been surprised to learn, when he was district attorney in Taos, that "there was no central repository of information" about the mutilations.

Last week, Sen. Harrison Schmitt, R-N.M., U.S. Attorney Thompson and others held a conference in Albuquerque to bring coordination into the mutilation puzzle.

Thompson said at that meeting that within the next two weeks, "We will decide which of the agencies will act as the primary investigative group and the central data collection agency."

The agencies discussed as possibilities to coordinate the investigations were the FBI, the State Police and the Santa Fe DA's office. Tuesday's grant award to the DA's office was a step toward designating the DA's Office as the central agency in the investigations of the cattle mutilations.

John Ramming, administrative assistant to Beknell, said Thompson had told him he had no objection to awarding the grant to Martinez's office.

Caldwell said the Santa Fe DA's office was "probably not the best" agency to coordinate the investigations because of its limited jurisdiction, but he also noted that mutilations are "a criminal problem" and that "no one else has applied" except the DA's Office.

Chief Justice Sosa said he assumed Martinez would have the director of the cattle mutilation project designated a special assistant attorney general, to give him statewide jurisdiction. Some out-of-state travel by the director also is a possibility.

Martinez apparently tailored the job description for director of the one-year project to a particular person. He declined to identify the person except to say he works with a federal agency. The job description calls for at least 20 years investigative experience.

Martinez said the prospective director asked to be able to notify his employer before his name is released.

Albuquerque City Councilor, Jo MacAleese said she favored the idea of the grant but she cast the lone vote against it, citing as a basis that the job specifications had been tailored to a particular person.

The DA's Office will add \$4,908 to the federal money. Martinez said that based on past experience with Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grants, the money should be available almost at once.

# Dreaded yowie scares tough NSW truckies

MELBOURNE, April 18.—The dreaded yowie is back — this time frightening drivers along a lonely stretch of highway in New South Wales.

Latest reports of the Yowie, Australia's answer to the abominable snowman, have come from desolate scrub country on the Newell Highway between Coonabarabran and Narrabri. Fear has spread so far that truck drivers have put up a warning sign north of Coonabarabran: "Beware. Yowies for next 121kms."

Constable Wayne Warren, of Coonabarabran police, said today truck drivers and holiday-makers heading for Queensland were too frightened to sleep by the roadside anywhere on the 125km stretch to Narrabri.

"It's really quite amazing," he said. "One Victorian driver returning from Queensland drove more than 50km the

other night with two blown tyres because he was too scared to stop on the road.

"He said he had heard the reports and was not going to take any chances."

Constable Warren said stock carter had reported "mysterious happenings" while driving through the state forest at Baradine, about 40km north west of Coonabarabran. Several drivers had reported large footprints in the ground by the roadside.

"One bloke said he was asleep in his cabin when he heard this thump, thump, thump. He said he was too frightened to investigate and drove his truck to Narrabri," he said.

"When he got there he found two running boards had been pulled off his truck. Another said he felt his tarpaulin being shifted while parked one night. It was dead calm and when he got up the courage to investigate he found it had been pulled down one side more than 10 feet."

Yowies have been described as the counterpart of the yeti or abominable snowman of the Himalayas and the sasquatch or big-foot, of north-western America. — NZPA.

EAGLE AND BEACON, Wichita, KS - Apr. 29, 1979 CR: S. Hicks

# Mutilations Attributed To Bobcat

ASHLAND — Sheriff Loftin Messer believes he has discovered what's behind recent cattle mutilations in the Clark County area.

Messer said authorities believe "some sort of a cat" gutted three cows found mutilated in the southwest Kansas county within the last year.

Messer said a plaster cast made of a track found near the latest mutilated cow April 11 is possibly that of a large bobcat.

That cow, like ones found last May and June, was found with its udder and genitals cleanly removed and there was no blood.

"It certainly wasn't torn or ragged," the sheriff said. "I think he just eats around the tender area."

He said he thinks the animals died of natural causes and the cat found them shortly afterwards.

CR: J. Fuhrmann via W. Thompson

# Bigfoot leaves huge 'footprint'

BARRIERE, B.C. (UPC) — A teacher who visited the site where a teen-ager last week claimed he shot at a 9-foot-tall sasquatch said Tuesday that he found a 16-inch-long footprint there and made a plaster cast of it.

"The print was like a huge, human foot," said agriculture teacher Jack Wood, who went to the site at Dunn Lake, 38 miles north of the British Columbia interior city of Kamloops, with his son, Kyle, a few days ago. "It was 16 inches long and nine inches wide, measuring six inches wide at the heel."

Last week, 16-year-old Tim Meissner claimed he'd seen the "black hairy" sasquatch while out hunting.

The footprint was found by Wood on the side of a mountain trail.

"There were no claw marks, as you would expect if the print belonged to a bear, but there was the imprint of what appeared to be five toes, one much smaller than the others," he said.

Wood, who said he has hunted grizzly and black bears for many years and knows their prints, said the footprint was unlike any paw print he had ever seen.

He described the teen-aged Meissner, whom he has known for many years, as "a very level-headed kid, raised on a farm and knowing enough about animals to recognize a bear when he sees one."

"We are laughing pretty hard about the story here," said a local forest ranger. "Most of the people here know the woods very well and there have never been any reports of a sasquatch being spotted anywhere in the area."

"The kid saw a bear and panicked. There are lots of bears in this part of the country and it's not unusual to see them wandering around in the forest," he said.

A spokesman for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Barriere said initial interest in the story has since died down. He disclaimed earlier reports that "hordes" of curiosity-seekers had trekked into the rugged, heavily timbered area in search of the creature.

Provincial government conservation officer Frank Richter, stationed in the area for 10 years, said he went to the scene of the shooting, but couldn't find evidence to support Meissner's sighting.

"I am quite sure that Tim Meissner is convinced he saw a sasquatch and not a bear," Richter said. "But on the evidence available and my experience of the area, I believe that what he saw was a bear."

Richter said there has never been a reported sighting of a sasquatch within 200 miles of Barriere, to his knowledge.

Meissner said last week that he and three friends were at Dunn Lake when he saw a creature watching him from the trees about 50 feet away. Meissner said it stood silently watching him without moving until he raised his rifle and fired at it.

"I was aiming at between his eyes and he went down on one knee and one hand," he said. "At first, I thought he was dead, but I guess I only grazed him because he got up and ran away at about 30 miles an hour."

CR: R. Caudell

# COW FOUND DEAD OF POSSIBLE MUTILATION

ANTON CHICO—A cow expected to birth a calf in three weeks was found dead of mutilation Sunday morning, according to the Velasquez family.

Juaquin Velasquez of Los Sisneros found his six year old cow dead in a dirt bank watering trough on his ranchland in Dilia. Its udder had been sliced off.

A state cattle inspector, noting lacerations on the cow's back, said lightning might have caused the mutilation.

But a member of the Velasquez family discounted this, saying the scratches were undoubtedly caused when the family dragged the dead cow from the trough and across rough ground. She also noted that the family could not find the udder, or even traces of it. She said the udder had been cut off with a slice as sharp and clean as that of a razor.

Mrs. Nila Velasquez said that a similar incident in this area occurred eight or nine months ago when a cow belonging to Frank Maestas of La Loma was found dead, with its udder removed, on his grazing land near Dahlia.

concern among New Mexican victims of what he called "a possible, if not probable, crime." The meet was law-enforcement oriented and was well-attended by police personnel on all levels of government. The FBI was represented, as were the New Mexico State Police, the U.S. Attorney's office in Albuquerque, and law enforcement persons at the state and local levels from 11 states. Senator Schmitt opened the meet by calling the mutilations "a dangerous pattern of crime," one in which law enforcement efforts particularly are hampered, because, despite the fact that there have been more than 8,000 mutilations reported nationally, at a cost of more than \$25 million to cattleman, "no leaks or informants" have surfaced to shed any light on the criminals. Four primary theories about the crime were presented — that the mutilations involve UFOs; that they involve some sort of experimentation concerning nuclear activity; that predators are to blame, and that they result from cultist activity.

A number of the victims of the crime, which cost a rancher from \$400 to \$600 a cow, live in Rio Arriba County. County residents and State Police Officer Gabe Valdez, who is one of the country's more experienced mutilated cow investigators, have been more than instrumental in focusing attention on the mutilation problem.

Rio Arriba County has in the recent past experienced two waves of mutilations, one in 1976 and one in 1978. Each wave was heralded by the slaughter and subsequent mutilation of an animal belonging to Dulce rancher Manuel Gomez. Gomez addressed the conference and tagged the problem "Cattlegate."

Gomez called himself "the hardest hit in the northern part of the county where mutilations are concerned."

He said that State Police Officer Gabe Valdez has offered much help to him in dealing with the mutilations, but that "his outside help has been limited."

In seeking help with his ranching problems, Gomez said, he "found that the Feds have had no authority to intervene," but that through Senator Schmitt's interest, he has "opened gates at a federal level."

U.S. Attorney R. E. Thompson, co-host of the meet, said there were three possible areas of federal jurisdiction where the mutilations are concerned.

They are the operation of aircraft with no identification numbers, the destruction of property on Indian Reservations, and the destruction of property on forest service lands.

Valdez received a strong applause following his presentation to the meet. He proposed that a task force be formed to deal with the problem.

Thompson praised the idea of a "task force approach," explaining, "I will be happy to work with Eloy Martinez and Gabe Valdez."

He suggested that FBI facilities be utilized in the investigations, "including computers."

Forrest Putnam, agent in charge of the FBI's Albuquerque headquarters, said "It will be very difficult, but I go with the task force."

Putnam, who has been told through directives from Washington that he has jurisdiction only on Indian lands, indicated that to ignore information gleaned from other mutilations, when instances are so similar, he would "have to have a blind eye."

He said he is in favor of a "cooperative effort" and that in his investigations into the problem, he is "not going to go straight down with blinders on."

Raleigh Tafuya, chief of police of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, where Rio Arriba's mutilation attacks have been centered, said "threats" have been made to people in his area.

"We don't know what we are dealing with," Chief Tafuya said.

"Will the life of humans be next?" he questioned.

Chief Tafuya told the congregation that he has lost three cows to the mutilators.

Tafuya said he still is skeptical of the existence of UFOs, but "my officers saw something," referring to a sighting of a "silent aircraft" by two members of the Jicarilla Apache Police early this month.

The Apache Chief expressed a hope that through combined investigative efforts, the mutilation mystery will be solved.

Eloy Martinez, in addressing the group, said that he was pleased to see so many representatives of "federal and local governments" at the meet, explaining that "for the first time we are all cooperating toward one point."

He sought from those present an endorsement of his yet-to-be approved grant.

John Ramming, of the Criminal Justice Coordination Council informed the group that federal funds were available to investigators through LEAA and explained Martinez' grant to the group.

Carl W. Whiteside of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation explained that his department has exerted a large amount of energy toward its investigation of mutilation activity in Colorado and that it "substantiated in a few instances that a mutilation did occur."

"Sadly, the majority of our efforts netted no results," he said further.

Of carcasses of suspected mutilated cows received by his bureau, he said, "19 were in good enough physical condition for a pathologist" to examine.

Of those, he said, 11 died natural deaths, 8 deaths were undetermined, five were victims of predators, four were mutilated with a knife, three were mutilated by predators, and three were "controversial."

Summarizing the public meet, Senator Schmitt said that participants gave "an excellent philosophic as well as a detailed presentation."

"I hope through the FBI an overall network of communication will be developed," explaining further that he "encouraged the FBI to move as rapidly as it can to establish such a network."

He praised a presentation by David Bernd of the BDM Corp., an organization of scientific and engineering technicians, as to how law enforcement officials could best deal with the problems.

Bernd suggested that investigators "integrate law enforcement with a scientific team" in conducting the investigations so that they could "address all aspects of the problem."

He recommended extensive documentation of the phenomena and form a data base incorporating all New Mexican literature and scientific reports about mutilations; the cataloging and sorting of physical evidence for analysis, as well as statistics and psychic analysis, and from these, making inferences by ranking mutilation data "in order of possibilities" to helpfully answer the question of "how and why" mutilations are accomplished.

offices of conference co-host U.S. Attorney R. E. Thompson to discuss further the mutilations.

An inkling of the directions and the dimensions of the full scale investigation of one of Rio Arriba county's more perplexing mysteries might take was evidenced by speeches made by participants in the public part of the conference.

The conference was called by U.S. Senator Harrison Schmitt, who is responding to a growing

Cow Investigators held in the Albuquerque Public Library last Friday and attended by more than 200 persons.

Receipt of the funding represents one step in putting into effect law enforcement strategies discussed by participants in the meet. Though the public meet was originally set as a full day of hearings on the mutilation problem, law enforcement participants attending met privately during the afternoon Friday in the

Assistance Association, a federal funding body, has approved his application for a \$50,000 grant to assist his office with its plans to launch an investigation into the mutilations.

The grant provides for a \$27,000 salary for a special investigator, who will work full-time on the project, and for additional investigative expenses, such as "expert services," including veterinary consultations and lab expenses, and travel expenses for the investigator.

Martinez intends for his office to become a "repository" for mutilation data and he hopes the First Judicial District investigation will become a "national springboard" in a "multi-state" effort toward finding the motivation and the answers behind the mutilations.

Martinez' receipt of the grant came in the wake of the nation's first congregation of Mutilated

## CHIEFTAIN, Pueblo, CO - May 23, 1979 CR: D. Perkins

### Bull mutilation baffles Huerfano authorities

WALSENBURG (C-SJ) — The Huerfano County Sheriff's Department remains baffled by the mutilation of a bull sometime late last week on the Miles Ranch.

Undersheriff William Johnson said the animal was discovered by a ranch employee Saturday and he can't offer any reason as to why the animal was destroyed. He said the bull weighed nearly 2,000 pounds and that, after its death, the sex organs, rectum and tongue were removed.

"I have no idea what anyone intends to do with these organs and we are mystified as to how and why this happened," he said.

Johnson had no estimate on the animal's value, but that it was a prized animal and probably worth a good sum. He said the department continues to investigate, to determine how the animal died and who may have been responsible for the mutilation. He said clues are meager.

Lou Girodo, district attorney's investigator, said recently that he had been contacted by a national

television network concerning possible mutilations in Las Animas and Huerfano counties. He said that, to the best of his knowledge, there were no widespread reports of mutilation.□

## CHIEFTAIN, Pueblo, CO

### May 21, 1979 CR: D. Perkins

### Mutilation of bull under investigation

WALSENBURG — An apparent cattle mutilation is being investigated by Sheriff Harold Martinez.

The animal, a 1,300-pound prize rodeo bull named Fool's Gold, was found Saturday evening in the Rattlesnake pasture, north of the Bustos sheds on the Johnny I. King lease east of here by a King Ranch cowboy.

The rectum and sexual organs apparently had been surgically removed. There was no sign of predator tracks and the only footprints were those of the cowboy who found the animal. It was reported that there was no sign of a struggle and no bullet holes were found in the animal.

This is the first apparent cattle mutilation reported in this region in several months.□

## HUERFANO WORLD, Walsenburg, CO - May 24, 1979

### HUERFANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATION IS continuing into the latest cattle mutilation in the county reported to Dep. Gary Hurtado Sunday, May 20, by John King, owner of King Ranches east of Walsenburg. According to Hurtado's report, the animal's left ear, tongue, sex organs and rectum had been removed. There were no shots fired to kill the animal, and no sign of any struggle or of tracks near the carcass, Hurtado's report said. King said the mutilation occurred sometime between May 13 and May 17, and was reported Sunday morning about 8:30 a.m. Value of the bull was placed at \$700. Cattle mutilations reported in the county late last year remain unsolved.

CR: D. Perkins



# Spokesman Suggets Nuclear Studies, Mutilations Related

By GAIL OLSON  
Of the SUN's  
Santa Fe Bureau

David Perkins, a participant in the recent Conference on Cattle Mutilations, suggested to those attending that there could be a relationship between mutilations and nuclear activity.

Perkins, a member of the Department of Research at Libre School in Farasita, Colo., said the theory that cattle mutilated could be "test animals for some agency," is supported by a "correlation" in that "where they lie" when they are found often are places which are "sources

of environmental problems."

Perkins brought with him a map which, through colored pins, marked the spots in the country where nuclear testing has taken place, where nuclear power plants are operated, where uranium mining and milling operations take place, and where nuclear weapons and military operations are located.

## MAP

On that map, he pinpointed the spots where cattle mutilations have been reported nationally.

The map showed that mutilations occur near areas involved in nuclear

development on various levels.

The answer to the mutilations, Perkins told the Conference, "May well have something to do with man's survival on this planet."

Perkins works with AMP, an acronym for Animal Mutilations Probe, which he explained is a Colorado based clearing house for the collection of data on the mutilations.

He told the conference audience he never has "run into a phenomena that challenged the rational mind" the way these mutilations have. They "assault rationality" he explained.

"Everything you know is wrong," Perkins said, as far as investigating the phenomena, adding that he finds the mutilations "troublesome."

Man's investigations into the phenomena have been to little avail, according to Perkins.

"Our best efforts for several years have netted nothing," he said.

## NOT SNAKES

He continued that the mutilations might not have attracted so much attention if "the mutilated animals were snakes."

"It looks like UFOs could be involved," Perkins said, adding, "there have been some

quite unusual occurrences."

His suspicions that the cows are being mutilated for nuclear-related test purposes was echoed by a number of persons at the meet.

The proximity of discovered mutilations to nuclear test sites is borne out, for example, in Rio Arriba County, near Dulce. Many of the county's mutilations in the past two years occurred in the remote northern portion of the county near or on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation.

Also located in that vicinity is Operation Gasbuggy, the site of the nation's first underground nuclear explosion designed to stimulate the production of natural gas.

That experiment was conducted as a part of Operation Plowshare, a plan designed under the now-defunct Atomic Energy Commission, to harness nuclear energy for "peaceful purposes".

El Paso Natural Gas and the AEC worked together on the plan, which failed because the resulting gas was deemed too radioactive to sell to consumers by AEC's successor, the U.S. Department of Energy.

The experiment, which took place on Kit Carson National Forest Land near the Jicarilla Reservation, last October was sealed by the U.S. Government after remaining gas was flared.

## STRANGE

"Something strange and significant is occurring," Richard Sigismund, who described himself as a Boulder, Colo., mine owner, told the conference.

Sigismund is a proponent of the UFO theory and he cautioned investigators not to pooh-pooh the possibility of alien involvement in the mutilation phenomena.

"In areas where cattle mutilations are frequent,

UFO activity is heavy," Sigismund said, explaining he has for 20 years been a student of UFOlogy.

He also said that another "reality of UFO phenomena" is that the unexplained aircraft tend to "hover over nuclear weapon sites" and obviously are effecting "national security."

Of a relationship between UFOs and mutilations, he said "a possible association should not be lightly dismissed."

He said the federal government, during the production of Operation Blue Book, a series of reports made by the U.S. Airforce of its investigations into UFO reports, was making a "scientific investigation" of UFO phenomena "while ridiculing" persons interested in the phenomena.

"The quality and quantity of reports" regarding UFOs, however, has "made an impact" according to Sigismund.

Sigismund said the Washington Post recently reported there are many government reports in existence of "visits of UFOs to military bases and to missile launch sites" verified both by eyewitness accounts and by radar.

## SIGHTINGS

These sightings have occurred in Montana, Michigan, and Maine, he said, and many sightings occurred only "after base security was penetrated."

He said that in the past years, international reports of UFO activities have surfaced.

Many "classic UFOs" have been seen in "relationship to cattle mutilations," Sigismund continued.

He mentioned the "surgical skill with which the mutilations are performed" and reiterated that canine predators won't approach a

mutilated carcass.

"New Mexico has had more than its share of mutilations and of UFO sightings," he said further, explaining further that it is getting "increasingly difficult too link the mutilations with cult activities or coyotes."

"We do know that the mutilations do not lack organization," Sigismund said.

Sigismund, who said, "We are past the point of debating whether UFOs exist," said this "should cause alarm since there is no government agency to which UFO sightings may be reported."

## NO REPORTS

The government is not receiving UFO reports, he said, because there is "no agency to report to."

As a result, he explained, it is the law enforcement agencies people turn to when they see things they cannot explain. Law enforcement interest in the problem increases as the number of reports received increase.

"There should be a federal UFO investigation agency," Sigismund said, adding, "The president should start such an agency."

"Local police units are understaffed and lack facilities to study the phenomena," he added.

Sigismund does not believe the mutilations are the work of experimenting government agencies.

Supporting this contention he explained, is the equipment mutilators apparently use, which is "behind the means of the average citizen."

"It's an untenable process and it would call for such public clamor that I believe we can rule out covert government activities."

The "classic mutilations", he said further, "do not bear the characteristics of the work of predators."

They "share similarities

of UFO phenomena," he said, and both the mutilations and UFO sightings are "subheaded under general UFO activities."

A UFO he defined as "Unidentified aircraft, whether man made or terrestrial or not man made."

## PREDATORS

Dr. James Prine of Los Alamos also addressed the conference. He said he has studied samplings from mutilated cow carcasses and has looked into the phenomena, but he still believes the mutilations he's studied to be accomplished by predators.

Dr. Prine agreed, however, to keep an open mind about the phenomena.

Dr. Clair Hibbs, of the New Mexico State Veterinarian Diagnostic Lab, said he is new to this state, but he has studied the mutilation phenomena in Kansas and Nebraska.

He said that there, mutilations fit into three categories, the major facet being mutilations caused by coyotes and predators. Some, he said involved cattle which died from some cause other than mutilation, such as poisoning, with the mutilations caused by knife-bearing humans. A third category involved "kids" who "did some for fun and pranks."

He believes the best approach to solving the mutilations would be to study each new report with "a group of scientific people, along with others, investigating each mutilation."

RIO GRANDE SUN, Espanola, NM - May 3, 1979 CR: D. Perkins

## Washington's Mount Vernon Haunted By Strange Something

DAILY GLOBE, Atchison, KS - May 18, 1979 CR: S. Hicks

By SAM HARTZ  
ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) —

George Washington once slept here, but he might find it harder nowadays. A strange something is at large, waiting or screaming nightly a mile from the ancestral home of the Father of His Country.

For nine noisy months, the mystery creature has haunted a patch of woods surrounded by \$150,000 homes near Mount Vernon, wrecking the peace and delaying spotting and identification.

Local teenagers have caught its act on tape. It goes something like: "oahkra-ah," or "eeveakgo-ah," or even "aaooahna-ah-oo."

The Mount Vernon Monster, some call it. Others, Bigfoot. More guesses: hoot owls, loud frogs, a radio with a stuck button, wild boars, a prankster with a bullhorn, the ghost of George Washington, the ghost of George Washington's pigs.

"One person suggested a peacock," said George Stickman, Fairfax County game warden, who has ruled out bears, bobcats and other fauna found in the vicinity.

The peacock theory may not be too exotic. Experts at the nearby Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge said peafowl are often kept as yard pets in the South. One could have flown the coop and fluttered to Mount Vernon.

"They have a loud, penetrating cry, almost like a

scream," said John Aldrich, a retired fish and wildlife researcher.

Mike Morgan of the National Zoo said the birds used to escape frequently when allowed to roam the grounds.

Whatever it may be, the creature is elusive as well as vocal. It has foiled police watches, flyers by a U.S. Park Police helicopter, volunteer youth patrols and the determined efforts of warden Stickman.

"The thing seems to know when you leave the woods. Then it starts to holler," said Stickman, who staged a fruitless overnight vigil to catch the interloper.

Meanwhile, residents continue to discuss the problem at get-togethers, playing tapes and advancing theories.

"Maybe it's a wounded animal or bird with damaged vocal cords," said Maggie Oyer, who thinks the sound it makes is a "low wailing."

One resident, Thelma Crisp, says she spotted the Monster. She described it as a creature about six feet tall which lumbered into the woods after being sighted.

Could it be a Bigfoot, trying to reach headquarters of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, 15 miles away? "If it's Bigfoot, and there's proof," said a spokesman, "we'd protect it."

# At Least Three Drugs Used in Bizarre Cattle Mutilations, Arkansans Tell Meet

By PEGGY WATSON

Gazette Northwest Arkansas Bureau

BENTONVILLE — Lt. Don Rystrom of the Benton County sheriff's office and Sgt. Doug Fogley, a criminal investigator for the State Police, who have been investigating a series of baffling cattle mutilations in Northwest Arkansas, told investigators from 12 other states where mutilations have occurred that at least three different drugs were used in the Arkansas cases. Just how, they aren't sure, but they think it a significant lead in the mystery.

In the last five years, more than \$2.5 million worth of livestock has been killed by mutilation, mostly in New Mexico. Since late 1977, there have been 28 reports of cattle mutilations in Northwest Arkansas.

Officers from the 13 states are becoming increasingly perplexed and alarmed by the bizarre killings. The meeting Rystrom and Fogley attended was called by Senator Harrison Schmitt (Rep., N.M.) to pool information in the hope that answers could be found. It was held in New Mexico.

Schmitt also has asked the FBI to enter the investigation. The FBI has been involved previously only in some mutilations that have occurred on Indian reservations.

## On Scene Quickly

Rystrom and Fogley were able to get their information on the use of drugs because they reached a number of mutilated cattle within hours or perhaps even minutes after the killings, something other officers have been unable to do. Fogley said some

cattle on large ranches were not discovered until days after they had been killed.

Through laboratory tests, in three of the cases the officers found traces of PCP (an animal tranquilizer commonly known as angel dust), mescaline and santonin, a toxic drug formerly used as a worming agent. They have been unable to determine how the drugs got in the animal's blood stream.

## Remain Baffled

Even with this confirmed use of drugs, the officers remain as baffled as they were in October 1977 when the first cattle mutilations were reported in Benton County.

They have no explanation why mercury vapor lights near the scenes went off for 20 minutes on the nights of the killings. Nor do they know what was used to burn the cattle, but they agree that the burned tissue was like to burns made with laser beams.

Some of the information they took to the meeting was similar to those reported in other states. In some cases, unidentified helicopters flew over farms two days before the mutilations occurred in Northwest Arkansas. In Missouri, officers said tree tops were chopped off near the sights of killings, indicating helicopters may have been there.

## Altars at Sites

In Benton County, as in other sections of the United States, crude altars made with stacked stones were found at the sites, leading some officers to theorize that witchcraft was involved.

Rystrom and Fogley have a collection of slides of the mutila-

tions and the altars, but they are not sure the two are related. One altar has the words "Zytos Wrath Is Upon You" and another has a small cross made of tree branches held up by stones.

The officers were told by persons knowledgeable about witchcraft that the organs were removed from the animals for use in rites and there would be no more until a certain phase of the moon months later.

"But we have four the very next week, so that shot that theory," Fogley said.

## Blood Drained

Rystrom and Fogley initially leaned toward the witchcraft theory because blood always was drained from the animals at the time that an eye, tongue or the sexual organs are removed. They still haven't figured out how anyone could remove about seven gallons of blood, which weighs about 60 pounds, from an animal and never be seen. Laboratory tests on small amounts of blood left behind determined the use of the drugs.

The killings all have occurred before 6 a.m. and near areas where there was a body of water, they said. In one instance, a cow was killed within 40 yards of the owner's house without anyone being disturbed. There were dogs in the yard, which the officers said were pretty vicious, yet they did not bark.

## Surgery Expert

The surgical procedure used in the removal of the animal's organs was expertly done and area veterinarians said that even the worse job was good, considering that it was done in darkness.

Even Rystrom lost a calf to mutilation and the deed was done about 300 yards from his home.

The 400-pound animal was left at the site for three weeks and the carcass remained in remarkably good condition, he said.

## Didn't Decay

In another instance, officers left a mutilated horse in the open for 58 days. The animals did not decay, Fogley said, and the coyotes wouldn't touch them. Buzzards, he said, landed on the dead animals, but made no effort to peck at them.

One of the veterinarians thought that an embalming fluid was used but there was no evidence of it. The veterinarian also theorized that a vacuum-type bottle was used to pull the blood from the animals. In one case, there was slight evidence of bruise near the jugular vein of a cow, indicating that a needle may have been used. However, no puncture marks were found.

Another theory of the veterinarians is that a powerful muscle relaxant was used to bring the animals down before the blood was removed, but there was no explanation of how this could be done without noise.

There were as about as many theories about the mutilations as there were officers at the New Mexico meeting, Fogley and Rystrom said. Some officers said bright lights hovered over helicopters near the sites, and some thought something or someone from outer space was responsible. Even the Central Intelligence Agency and devil worshipers were mentioned.

Since their return, they got a

call from officers in New Mexico telling of finding a large cow mutilated in a tree.

After that, the officers said their thoughts that one of the Benton County cattle appeared to have been dropped out of the sky didn't seem too farfetched. All the legs of the cow were spread out as if it had been picked up and dropped, they said.

Mutilation is a misdemeanor, punishable by a small fine or a short jail term. "They — whoever is doing this — would be turned loose in a short time and would be free to repeat the mutilations," the officers said.

Still they are doing what they can to catch the offenders because of the brutality of the killings and the loss to farmers.

"I just don't like unexplainable things," Fogley said. "I'd like to catch them — I think."

# Tuning In to the Primeval Scream



C.W. Gusewelle

Something grotesque and hairy and alarming dwells in the deep forest of our collective imaginings—something not quite a man but a little more than a beast. Sometimes he strays tantalizingly near the edge and for just a moment we see, or half-see, him standing and staring out, disturbing our well-ordered notions of reality.

He is called by different names—Bigfoot, Sasquatch or Yeti—depending on where in the world he is seen and what language the witness speaks.

Sometimes he finds his way into the news.

Only the other day there was a wire dispatch out of Peking quoting a Chinese scientific journal as saying that soldiers of the People's Republic had killed and eaten a Yeti in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Maybe the account is true. Or maybe it is just a clever piece of psychological warfare by which China's propagandists mean to intimidate potential foes. What mother's son from Kansas City or anywhere would want to go into battle against an army that eats the fallen?

An afternoon or so later there was a television documentary which purported to review the global evidence for and against Bigfoot. I had already heard or read most of the arguments, and have given up expecting any final solution to the mystery.

And yet whenever the subject is raised, as it continues to be in the occasional reports of sightings, I am always transported out of the moment and across time to a swampy lowland woods in the cold November of six years ago.

During two weeks that autumn the residents of Murphysboro, Ill., had been excited by no fewer than seven separate instances of a huge, manlike creature prowling the outskirts of their small community. The New York Times had published a story and there had been telephone inquiries from as far away as London and Paris.

And in due course, with a little discreet guidance, The Star's editors, too, became convinced that they should no longer let this important journalistic matter go unattended. (No insubordination is intended by saying that most editors, if approached with the right blend of audacity and tact, can be persuaded to underwrite nearly any sort of folly.)

So this newspaper's Sasquatch I expedition was mounted and dispatched. Not to kill a Bigfoot, and certainly not to eat one, but only to investigate.

We prepared carefully. If one goes looking for a monster, one has to deal seriously with the possibility—however slight—that a monster might actually be found. Otherwise it is nothing but a stunt, a fool's errand.

But what does one use to restrain a creature eight feet tall, weighing 600 or 700 pounds? And how does one convince the thing to permit itself to be bound? And having drugged and trussed a Bigfoot, what next? With the help of a veterinarian and various zoo and police officials, we solved these problems after a fashion.

There remained the question of what bait might attract the creature.

"I wouldn't worry about that," said the zoo director. "All primates are curious. You're the bait."

And on that reassuring note we struck forth—two staff writers, a photographer and a lawyer friend with a taste for adventure, joined by the expedition's official consultant, a St. Louis insurance man who had made a second career of pursuing and collecting Bigfoot data.

In Murphysboro we first spoke with the witnesses, and found them impressive. Then, in darkness and pelting rain, descended by Jeep into the wilderness below the town to make our first night's camp.

You would expect to find no such desolate and forbidding terrain in this part of the country. Sometime in antiquity the Mississippi shifted its course, and there in the river's primordial bed has evolved a tangle of forest hammocks and bamboo thickets and peaty bogs some 10 miles wide and 40 long—400 square miles in all—bounded on the east by a steep bluff, atop which sits the town of Murphysboro.

Hunters do not follow their lost dogs in there. The only visitors are herpetologists collecting poisonous snakes. It is a place no one spends the night.

Our consultant's theory was that floods earlier in the year had routed Sasquatch from his lowland fastness and up onto the bluff where, like a suburban raccoon, he had found happiness for a time in the garbage cans of the Murphysboro subdivisions. But now, after the commotion he had caused, he likely had retreated again to the bogs.

We set out gasoline lanterns in a wide perimeter and stood watch by twos.

All that first night nothing presented itself except one soggy opossum who shuffled through our light circle, seeming mystified and rather pleased by the attention.

Mud Camp, we called that place. For as the autumn rains continued without break, the ancient river silt turned to black soup. We threw down platforms of logs to stand on. Then before long logs and men would be seen sinking away together

into the ooze. Tents filled up with slime and water. Shoes, too.

The second night it turned bitter cold. The St. Louis man and I were standing the graveyard shift together, and as we huddled over the fire in damp and smoky misery I think that not even he really believed in Sasquatch any more. Or much cared.

Then, at some awful hour of morning—3 o'clock or maybe 4—the first cry came.

We had rehearsed it all. One man would operate the tape recorder. The photographer would stand his ground with strobe lights flashing. At a range of 20 steps or so, a third man would activate a fire extinguisher whose sudden hiss and burst of vapor would slow or turn the beast.

Whereupon, backed up by the fifth man with a heavy gun in case of a determined charge, I was to fire a tranquilizer dart into some fleshy part. (The one drawback was that the potion needed 20 minutes to work—promising what might be the longest, most vigorous and possibly the last 20 minutes of a lifetime.)

That was the plan.

What happened instead was that the two of us careened stumbling and shrieking through the mud in mindless terror, crying the camp awake.

My lawyer friend remembers lying in his underwear in his wet sleeping bag, wondering irritably at the commotion that had snatched him out of the mercy of sleep. Then the second cry came from the woods, much closer and much louder—a piercing scream that descended through several octaves to a great resonant, guttural roar.

It filled the mind. It seemed to fill the world. My friend's next memory, without any elapse of time, is of standing fully dressed beside the fire, gun loaded and aimed out into the night.

We waited like that until morning, pressed close together in a line,

our eyes like onions in our heads. But nothing came at us out of the woods. Nothing ever came.

We ventured out by daylight in the direction from which the cries had come and did find there something strange. Over a single area about the size of a living room, the trees had been freshly broken—living saplings, some of them as big as your arm. Not gnawed off, but torn off and partly peeled of bark, flung about as if in a giant's frenzy.

That day it came to my lawyer friend that he had some urgent business which required his immediate return to Kansas City. We believed him, of course, though his timing was odd.

And by that third night, our last, we remaining members of the expedition had withdrawn out of the bottoms and up against the bluff, our backs pressed against the stone, fronted by a wall of fire, braced for one last bloody stand against a hairy monster or a whole platoon of them.

That was six years ago.

I won't presume to tell you what made the cries we heard, or what it was that did such unexplainable violence to that area of woods. Any firm conclusions I might have reached while cowering there against the cliff have softened now.

The present editor of the newspaper has heard from another source the tale of Sasquatch I. He confesses to being a little troubled by the Roman numeral after the expedition's name. If there's a Sasquatch I, it follows that someone might have in mind a II, III or more.

But I promise him here, in print, that someone won't be me.

For two terrible nights, something I still hesitate to name seemed much too close to stepping into the open and becoming truth. I have driven it back now into some deeper, safer region of my mind. I mean to keep it there.