

# UFO

## NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

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## a ufo lands in every life

By Dorothy Centineo

I suppose all of us have a UFO story to tell if we would admit it — a startling light in the sky appearing and disappearing mysteriously. Ezekiel saw a burning wheel, the wisemen saw a moving star, shepherds saw and heard an angelic choir, Paul the apostle was blinded by a light, and John the Divine witnessed the holy city. In modern times many have claimed to see shining ships from outer space.

Once we have seen that light, we are convinced there is something beyond our everyday existence, something in the endless sky above our heads that does not relate to our store of known facts.

And I have my UFO story to tell.

I saw it before I had heard of flying saucers or UFOs, and even before I had thought about intelligent life beyond our earth. My idea of space travel was confined to my "little-big book" of Buck Rogers, the corners of which could be flipped to make a moving picture of his space walk. But I didn't understand the Buck Rogers fantasy then.

It was late in the evening when I stepped outside to visit the outhouse before going to bed. The sky was clear and all was quiet. The homes on the hill across the miles of woodland were already in darkness and there were no cars on the country road.

Then I saw it. A large orange-yellow disk, larger than a full moon darted upward from behind the barn. It held a fixed position over the trees, and in that instance a chilling fright moved through my body like a million needles. I wanted to run into the house or hide under the porch or just cover my eyes, but I was so intrigued I was cemented in my tracks and my eyes would not move from the object. No matter how terrified I was, standing before this strange ball out of the night sky, I had to see what it would do next. I couldn't find a voice to call out, so I remained hypnotized.

Even my childish mind quickly considered the logical possibilities in that split second of staring — the full moon, a shooting star, a comet, or a plane. But it was so big, so close to the earth, so fiery and brilliant, and so lifelike, I couldn't accept any logical answer.

As I stared, it moved across the sky like a giant firefly, leaving behind it a long, wide tail of light studded with glistening sparks. It did not move with a steady motion across the sky, but in a zigzag, stop-and-go pattern.

And then it was out of sight behind the apple trees of my backyard. There had been no sound. I have no idea how long I stood watching it, minutes maybe, but more likely only seconds, but the shiny disk and its path across the sky was indelibly marked on my mind.

After it was gone I could still see the irregular flaming path it had made across the black sky. I knew this was an optical illusion, for I saw the same path against the darkness of my eyelids when I closed my eyes.

It was then that I ran screaming and trembling into the house to my parents. I tried to explain between breathless sobs and thumping heartbeats what I had seen. They were patient and soothing, but could make no sense out of my choppy words: big—bright—thing—fire—tail. It could have been anything.

I desperately wanted my father to say, "Oh, it was a..." and with that settle the mystery. But he, being an honest man, looked puzzled as he held me in his arms. When my body stopped trembling and my sobs subsided, he handed me a pad of paper and a pencil saying, "Draw what you saw."

With an unsteady hand I sketched the sight that was still fixed on the inside of my eyelids. My parents watched with great interest as I drew sketch after sketch, each one becoming more graphic. Then I needed crayons so I could mix yellow and orange colors for my picture. I drew several disks across the page, each one with a tail, explaining carefully that there really had been only one, but it moved so quickly from one position to another that each time it stopped it left its light in that place.

ARGUS, West Milford, NJ - Jan. 2, 1980

## It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a UFO

AREA—The mystery of the December 9 UFO sightings over the area remains unsolved. Although three persons in addition to the dozen previous sighters called this newspaper's offices last week to report that they, too, saw four or five non-blinking red lights moving in an equidistant pattern at an unusually slow speed across the night sky between 7:30 and 9 p.m. on Sunday the 9th, any and all leads to a solution of the puzzle have dead-ended.

One Oakland resident theorized the UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) may have been an advertising plane which flies out of Teterboro Airport and frequently flies low and slowly over Northern New Jersey, with lights under the wing which "at a 40 degree angle does look like a flying saucer in motion." The plane, owned by Arnold Meyers of Starflight Aerial Advertising of Bergenfield, was mistaken for UFO when it flew over eastern Bergen County last year.

with a series of lights underneath it strung on mesh, was not in the air on Dec. 9. The last time it flew over Northern New Jersey was Nov. 27. Meyers adds that his plane has a grid of white lights underneath the wings and does not fit sighters' description of five non-blinking red lights.

The UFO was spotted by two Lindy's Lake couples, a number of Bloomingdale residents including a borough police officer, and residents of Apsahwa, Newfoundland and Pompton Lakes, Local airports, the UFO Sighting Center in Seattle, Washington, and the Hayden Planetarium in New York all have no record, report of, or explanation for the phenomenon.

Finally my father said, "It was probably a meteor burning out in the atmosphere."

No one else had seen it. For quite a while the sight was an obsession with me. I read books from the school library, studying descriptions and pictures of meteors and comets, but I was never satisfied. The object I had seen was too big, too close to the earth, and I had seen the thing stop in the sky several times. I felt that something inside it knew what it was doing.

I talked about it a lot. No one ridiculed what I said, for I was not a child given to wild fantasies or attention-getting lies. We did not talk about flying saucers or space ships because it was before the time these things were in the news.

I had always had an awesome fear of the black night sky. My mother had to take me by the hand to the porch to see the northern lights for the first time. Her explanation of them, although not truly scientific, soothed my fears. I needed to be shown the friendly "man in the moon" to appreciate the shiny planet and accept it as harmless.

The Christmas story with its moving star and host of angels was not unmixed with a chill of fear. On Christmas Eve I fancied the story might be reenacted and I peered through the window from the safety of my bedroom to see if I might see the same thing, half hoping I wouldn't.

I suppose I share this fear with the rest of the human race. The star-dotted night sky goes off into infinity like our unknown infinite future. Our greatest fears, as well as our hopes, are lodged in that unfathomable and everlasting time to come.

The sky and the future are not like our earth and its past, which we know quite well. A snake in the grass or a rat in the alley may startle us for a moment, but we can recover quickly, saying with certainty, "That's a snake," or "That's a rat." We may become intrigued by stories of sea monsters or snow beasts on the earth, but we feel certain these creatures inhabited our earth in the past, and we are not really afraid.

But, because we do not know what will visit us from our future, we can't imagine what will come from the endless black space above us. For that reason, our uncertainties about time and space can merge into one vision in the night sky.

Real or unreal, that bright light has appeared to most of us; and once we have seen it with our own eyes, whether it looks like a burning wheel, heaven four-square, or a space ship from another world, we are convinced there is something strange out there — something beyond our limited knowledge.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA EMPIRE, Juneau, AK - Jan. 25, 1980

## 'Close encounter' in Kake

By CRAIG MEDRED  
Empire Staff Reporter

An unidentified flying object (UFO) stopped near the village of Kake for about 15 minutes Thursday evening, according to residents of that small Kupreanof Island community about 90 miles south of here.

Marvin Kadake, head of Kake's volunteer search and rescue squad, was the first to spot the flaming orange ball which hovered near the community of about 600 people.

Kadake said this morning he saw a bright light moving up Keku Strait south of the village.

"It was moving at a rapid pace, a bright orange ball color," Kadake said. "It slowed down to a very slow pace. It hovered over the town here."

Upon deciding the object was a UFO, Kadake notified other villagers by citizen's band radio.

"The whole town, just about, came out to look at it," he said.

"We could see it pretty good," Jana Jackson of Kake said. "There was flames on top."

"I wasn't watching through binoculars. My boyfriend was. It wasn't too far away."

"When you looked at it through binoculars, it looked like a big ball of fire," Kadake said, except it had one bright object on top that went about the full length of the main part of the UFO and another object on top of that which went about half the length.

Through binoculars, it "looked like a flying saucer the way it's illustrated in books," Kadake said.

He said there was no sound.

After moving down Keku Strait to near Kake, the UFO came to a "complete stop — like coming to a stop sign when you're driving on the road."

"It stayed in place for about 10 minutes" after stopping off the city at about 8:05 p.m., he said.

"It had a controlled speed. It came in and slowed down and took off again," Kadake said. "Several people estimated it was about a mile from town when it stopped."

Upon deciding to leave, the UFO made an abrupt 90-degree turn away from Kake, Kadake said.

"When it did leave, it left in a hurry," he said. "There was no noise at all."

Kadake said the UFO headed off toward Baranof Island, almost due west of Kake. "It just kept blinking on and off" as it sped out of sight, he said, and then it was gone.

"I'd say more than half of them (the town) saw it," he said. "You could see it very visibly with your own eyes."

Unfortunately, he said "nobody got a picture."

The UFO caused quite a stir. People were making jokes about the Martians coming, and kids were doing Mork and Mindy imitations, Kadake said.

## UFO sighting reported in Mission Ridge area

Were extraterrestrials hovering in their intergalactic spacecraft over Mission Ridge Monday evening? Ted King, Riverside Mobile Home Court, East Wenatchee, insists he saw a spacecraft in that area in the early evening. He and his wife observed what they said was an Unidentified Flying Object from their home. They reported it to the Chelan County Sheriff's Department and the dispatcher suggested it might be the lights at the ski area.

department took no further action. King says it definitely wasn't lights from Mission Ridge.

"It was at least 600 feet above Mission Ridge. It was clear as a bell," he said. He described the craft as cylindrical with a red light that disappeared as the space vehicle turned. He observed for about 40 minutes then the craft moved away at high speed.

"It was gone in a second or reflecting off the clouds. The two," he said.

WORLD, Wenatchee, WA - Jan. 16, 1980

## Dorris Resident Cites 'UFO'

While Dorris may not be well known on national or world maps, it appears that it may be better known on celestial maps—at least Otis Taylor, long-time Dorris resident, believes.

While returning to Dorris from Klamath Falls last Sunday, Jan. 6, Otis was followed and observed by what he described as a giant, brightly-illuminated spaceship.

The unidentified craft was first observed, according to Taylor, between Kingsley Field and Highway 97 just out of Klamath Falls.

"I stopped to watch it," said Taylor, but when I stopped it stopped. When I moved it moved exactly at my speed."

"Once," Taylor reports, "I was really scared—it rushed up on me from behind. I was watching in my rear view mirror, and I thought I'd had it. But it nosed up just when I thought it was going to hit me, and flew up and over my truck and went off to the side and flew along side me some more."

"It's hard to say how large it was—probably 35-40 feet across and perfectly round. The light from it was so bright I couldn't make out any detail on it at all."



Taylor reports. "It lit up everything around me—my truck and everything. It was as bright as day."

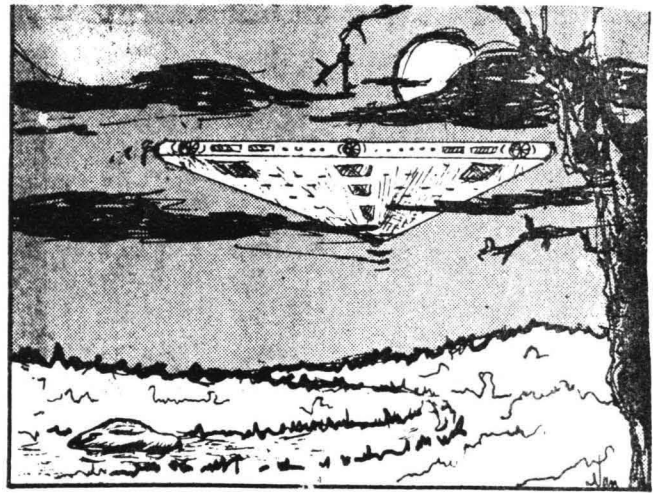
"It followed me all the way to Dorris Hill. But it was so foggy around the hill that I was afraid it would crash into the hill since it was flying only about house-top high off the ground all the time," Taylor said. "But as I went up the hill and into the fog I didn't see it any more. I waited for a crash sound or a bright flash, but it never happened."

Unable to attract anyone's attention on the highway or in Klamath Falls, Taylor

says he now carries a camera with him in case he sees the UFO—or whatever it was, again.

Taylor's strange experience was first brought to our attention by another long-time Dorris resident, John Wachter, who recorded Taylor's experiences during a recent conversation with Taylor.

Perhaps somewhere out there between the stars there is a map with a small pinpoint marked 'Dorris, California, USA, North America, Earth, Sol system, Milky Way ...'



## Elba woman claims she saw a UFO

by BOBBY MATHER

A 27-year-old Elba Twp woman says she saw a UFO on Jan 3 flying over the M-21 expressway.

She says the sighting occurred at 7:10 p.m. when she was driving home from Flint. The object was flying west at a low altitude, she says.

She first noticed red lights in the sky moving toward her.

She pulled on to the Elba exit and turned off her radio and heater fan, and rolled down her window to watch the object. She describes it as a big triangle silhouetted against the clouds.

"It went over me real slow," she says. "It was so close I could see white windows on the bottom. I thought it was a plane going to crash."

She says she heard "a rumbling, howling noise — kind of a roar," as the object passed over her.

"I'll never forget it," she says. "There's no doubt in my mind that it was a UFO."

"I don't want my name in the

paper because people will think I'm crazy," she says.

She says her father mentioned the incident to an acquaintance who lives in an Elba Twp trailer park, and the other man said that he had heard a strange, low rumbling sound "between 7 and 7:30" that evening while he was in his yard.

The woman says, "I know somebody else had to see it."

She's hoping that if anyone else sighted the object they'll notify The County Press. †

## Teenagers Report UFO Sighting

Two local teenagers have reported seeing a UFO headed toward the Chapel Hill Public Library about 10:40 Saturday night.

The lighted object Elizabeth and Garland Thomas saw pass over their North Street home Saturday night didn't look like the Starship Enterprise or even a flying saucer, but it was a UFO as it remains unidentified.

The Phillips Junior High students and four friends were outside in the yard when, according to Elizabeth, she spotted an unusual lighted object flying toward their house. They tried to follow it but were unable to keep up, she said.

No, it definitely was not an airplane, said Elizabeth. She described it as wide at the bottom and narrowing toward the top "like a vase." Garland said it looked like a megaphone.

A flying vase or megaphone may sound bizarre, but a blackboard drawing of the object bore a strong resemblance to a space capsule.

There was a big light on the bottom, a row of lights on the side and more lights on top, Elizabeth said. The lights were clear; they didn't blink and the object didn't make a sound, she recalled.

The object was in sight "at least a minute" and it moved the whole time, according to Elizabeth.

One of their companions saw an "X" shape on the bottom, made by the portion of the object not lit, Garland said.

"We couldn't believe we saw it; we got pretty excited," Elizabeth said when asked to describe how it felt to see a UFO. But some friends don't believe the story and the police who called to investigate the incident were laughing when they left, she said.

A photograph might have provided validity to their story, but, Elizabeth said, "We thought of that later."

However there was no reason for them to have a camera — they weren't expecting to see a UFO.

—PAT MILLER



IT LOOKED SOMETHING LIKE THIS — Garland Thomas, one of several local teenagers who reported sighting a UFO Sunday night, is shown above with a sketch of the object which was described as "vase-like" or looking like a megaphone. (Danny Moore—CHN)



# 5 watch tree-hovering UFO for 6 minutes, 'won't say it's from space'

By BOB SHAW  
managing editor

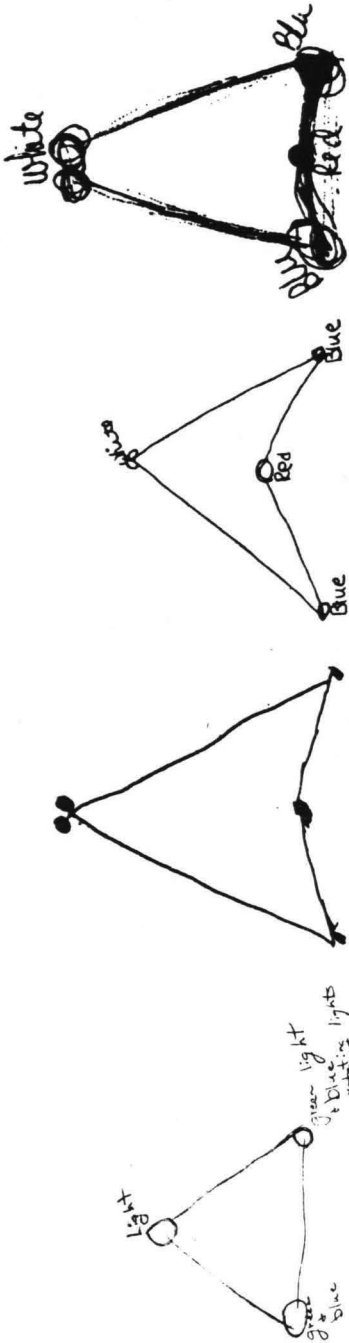
"I will not say it was from outer space. It was just the definition of a UFO." — Unidentified Flying Object.

That's how Brenda Simanski, Route 4, concluded her description of what she and five others saw above the Seminary Nursing Home Sunday night.

Working separately, each drew matching diagrams of what she saw. They described a flashing triangle of lights that appeared in the southeast sky, hovered silently for about 25 seconds in the treetops in the Seminary parking lot, then moved "slower than walking speed" until it disappeared over Highway 61. The lights were visible for about six minutes.

Their boss, Administrator Wally Sundberg sat in as the five were questioned for 90 minutes Monday night. Could they be believed?

"I have no reservations about any of them. They are all dependable people," said Brenda Simanski, daughter of the Donald Simanskis, Route 4, left work at exactly 9 p.m. with friend Janine Mattson. Seventeen-year-old Brenda had to wait for her mom to pick her up, so the two killed time, staring at Janine's car.



## Comparable renditions

Of the five women who saw the triangle of flashing lights above the Seminary Memorial Home Sunday night, four produced similar drawings of what they saw. The only discrepancy was the lack of a red light between the two rear blue lights in the drawing at left. Two women saw the lights for about two minutes, then were joined by four friends to watch for another four minutes before the lights disappeared.

"Janine, look at that funny thing. I think it's a UFO."

"Naa. It's just a plane."

Although it seemed to be moving very slowly to Brenda, in "no more than two minutes," it was overhead.

IT WAS A triangle of lights, white in front, blue in the back two corners, with a red light between the blue ones.

Whatever it was appeared quite flat, and "about the size of this room" — maybe 15 feet wide, 20 long.

The two hid in Janine's car. Janine said, "Shut the door so it won't see the

the "tail lights" were flashing blue and green.)

Whatever it was appeared quite flat, and "about the size of this room" — maybe 15 feet wide, 20 long.

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the "tail lights" were flashing blue and green.)

Whatever it was appeared quite flat, and "about the size of this room" — maybe 15 feet wide, 20 long.

The two hid in Janine's car. Janine said, "Shut the door so it won't see the

(overhead) light."

Brenda recalled, "It was directly above us when the two lights went on." She saw two "egg-shaped lights" on either side of the front white light. "They weren't spotlights," but they were quite bright, "glowing real strong."

IT WAS JUST above the large oak on the west side of the lot, a 50-foot tree. It stayed there for 30 seconds, Brenda said. Janine said 15 or 20.

Were they afraid? Janine said, "Well, why would something you see way over there come right over above you and turn two lights on?"

In the car, Brenda yelled, "Oh God, it's going to take us!"

Huddled in the front seat, Janine remembered, "We rolled down the window a bit to hear any sound." There was none.

The two of them leaned forward to twist their faces upward to see the lights.

The two were "screaming, kinda," said Janine.

ANOTHER WORKER, 39, who didn't want her name used, punched out of work at exactly 9:03 and walked through the west exit.

"I came out in the lot, didn't even look up at all, and heard the screaming. I thought, 'They're having a good fight.'"

Then Brenda said, "UFO!", and I said, "Where?" sarcastically.

"Then I saw what looked like a jet right over the parking lot. I thought it was a jet going to crash on us."

During the interview, she was asked: Was she scared?

"No."

"Yes, you were!" chimed two of her friends.

"I was excited."

"God, were you excited," came the reply.

THE "EXCITED" woman remembers seeing the identical triangle of blinking lights "about half a block up" in the air. It was slightly bigger than a Lear jet.

"It was barely moving, slower than you could walk. I was so in shock, I couldn't think."

Janine dashed inside — "the sidewalk was slippery" — to get more witnesses, Brenda at her heels.

"Janine came in and yelled, 'UFO! UFO!' They were four feet in the air," recalls Kathy Clemens, Route 1, Welch, who was on duty that night. She is in her 20s.

Mary Huron, Route 3, was working on the east wing of the building when a call came across the intercom: "Come to the west wing right away."

"I thought someone had fallen," said the 23-year-old woman.

SHE WENT TO the west entrance and joined her four co-workers out in the parking lot. "Everyone was screaming."

Kathy Clemens said, "It was right there, right there in the corner of the lot" at treetop height. She pointed to the 50-foot oak. "The lights were all blinking, but the headlights (the two "egg-shaped" lights described by Brenda) were not on when I first saw it."

When they turned on, they looked to her like "big heatlamps."

The five watched as the lights kept a steady north-northwest course, traveling very slowly.

The lights stayed at the same elevation. Kathy said, "We didn't have to look up. We just looked out."

The lights "went out over Fourth Street" and hovered over Highway 61. "We could see it right through the branches of that tree," said Ms. Clemens, pointing.

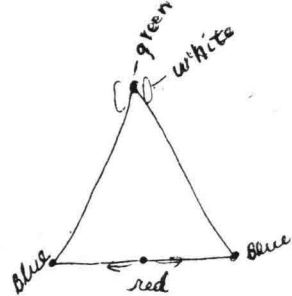
Ms. Huron said as it moved slowly away, the perspective of the lights changed, so the triangle slowly flattened into a line of lights.

THEN, OVER Highway 61, it disappeared. "Just disintegrated," said Ms. Clemens. Ms. Huron said, "In the blink of an eye it was gone."

Kathy Clemens called the police, who responded immediately.

"As soon as I got back outside, there they were," she said.

After the police arrived, the five



BRENDA'S DRAWING  
... similar to others

heard an airplane overhead. "It was very different, obviously an airplane," said Janine. "It was even much higher up, and we could hear it perfectly."

Of the three policemen, "only one believed us," said Janine. "What's the use of telling anyone if they don't believe us?"

That brings up a concern of all five. Each feared skepticism from friends, and plenty of kidding.

Consequently, they told police they didn't want their stories in the newspaper. They later changed their minds, but a little reluctantly.

WHEN SHE LEFT Sunday, Janine was shaken. She asked Brenda's mother to lead the way to her parents' house at 980 Pioneer Road.

Mrs. Clifford Mattson, who sat in on the interview, recalled that when Janine came home she was "so excited she could hardly get the words out."

About 10 that night, Janine glanced northwest from her brother's bedroom window. Then she went to get her parents.

"It was a star, brighter and lower than any star in the sky," said Mrs. Mattson. Through binoculars, she could see two flashing lights.

FATHER, MOTHER and daughter watched from 10 to 10:25.

"My husband and I don't believe in UFOs," she laughed, "but there were two lights there, a red light and a green one."

As a result of the whole evening, "I was sweating bullets," said Janine.

What do the five think they saw? They don't know, and hesitate to guess.

"All you can say is that it was unidentified," said Brenda Simanski. "I've wanted to see one for a long time, and now I sure have."

## CITIZEN, Greer, SC Jan. 16, 1980

### Women Spot UFO Here

Greer Police investigated a UFO (unidentified flying object) sighting here Monday night.

Investigating officers reported that two women spotted a UFO from the front porch of a residence on Pelham Street at 9:30 p. m. Monday. The women told police that the object had three bright white lights, and appeared to be much larger than an ordinary airplane.

The object was reportedly spotted near the horizon toward the east, remained stationary for about 15 seconds and then sped off at a high rate of speed toward the south.

Apparently no other witnesses saw the object. Officials at the Greenville-Spartanburg Jetport reported seeing nothing unusual on Monday night.

TIMES, Burlington, NJ - Jan. 26, 1980

## newsbreak

Are we being watched? Burlington County had its own "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" experience last night, if eyewitness accounts from some men in blue are to be believed. Shortly before 10, two Moorestown police officers reported watching three unidentified flying objects performing maneuvers in the sky. The amber objects vanished when an airplane flew by, but reappeared after the craft passed. More witnesses arrived, in the guise of two police sergeants who were beckoned to watch the mysterious objects head east toward Mount Holly, over the Strawbridge Lake area, where they were last seen. Before you conclude Moorestown's finest are suffering from a case of mass hysteria, the township police dispatcher said she took a call from the Maple Shade cops five minutes after the above sighting, to notify her that two calls had been received from residents who reported seeing two amber-colored UFOs in the sky over Moorestown. Stay tuned.

**CORRECTION:** The article, "Local man shares UFO experiences," (Feb. 1980 *UFONS*, p. 4) is from the *JACKSON HOLE NEWS* of Jackson, WY, rather than Laramie.

# Nobody knows about the UFO

By JOHN DODGE  
World Staff Writer

An orange and blue miniature doll sits on my desk, reminding me of a story with a weird beginning and no conclusive end.

The loose-jointed doll with the flickering, vacant eyes arrived anonymously at the office in a non-descript box, shortly after reports of a UFO sighting in the Elk River area near Westport Nov. 25.

The little fella was jokingly referred to as a survivor of the UFO crash landing. I was able to refute that rumor, but many other mysteries surrounding the UFO remain.

THE UFO saga began about 11 p.m. Nov. 25 when Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lake of Westport saw a fiery object streak across the Elk River mud flats and explode to the south.

Contacted yesterday, Mrs. Lake was reluctant to talk about her experience that night on the Elk River Bridge.

"We have been plagued to death with calls," Mrs. Lake said. "We reported what we saw to the sheriff's department and that is all I am going to say."

Robert Gribble, a volunteer worker at the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, said his office received several calls about the Elk River UFO. "Our first-hand account was of a big ball of white light with no tail or trail," Gribble said. "At ground impact, it shot out sparks like the Fourth of July."

"We've had several calls from people with all kinds of rumors — reports of a burned object on the ground, grotesque burned bodies removed from the crash and people being turned away by the military," Gribble said. "But they are only rumors."

One of those rumors apparently rings true.

JOHNS RIVER resident Henry Harnden told The Daily World last week that he was deer hunting at about 7:30 a.m. Dec. 10 in the Elk River area when he was confronted by four Army personnel who told him: "This area is closed."

Harnden said he was on a Boise Cascade logging road near Andrews Creek about five miles south of the Elk River Bridge.

Harnden said he turned his truck around and left the area without asking any questions.

"It didn't dawn on me until later that it was the same area as the UFO sighting," he said. Harnden said he returned to the area Dec. 22 to search around, but he didn't see anything unusual.

Bill Langford, Grays Harbor County emergency services director, suggested that perhaps an Army company from Fort Lewis was staging maneuvers in the area.

"If you have military operations in the area, you are going to have the roads blocked off," he said. "Otherwise the exercise could be hindered or people could get injured."

But an Army major privy to training operations at Fort Lewis and a National Guard colonel from Camp Murray said neither military group stages maneuvers in south Grays Harbor County.

"WE HAVE had no requests at all from the Army to use our property," said Al Cain, timberland manager for

Boise Cascade, a major landowner in the Elk River area.

"We've never encountered Army personnel down here or any evidence of the Army doing maneuvers down here or using heavy equipment," said Tom Mayr, forester-treasurer for Mayr Brothers Logging Co., the other major landowner near where the UFO was spotted.

"I can't imagine anything that the Army has that fits the description of the UFO," Gribble said. "In the 25 years that I have been tracking UFO reports, the Army has only been involved two or three times."

"And I have never heard of problems with people going into an area to check out a UFO sighting," he said.

Langford still contends that the UFO, which was also sighted in the Central Park area, was a military or logging company helicopter. He said the Lakes could have seen the exhaust of a helicopter changing direction in the Elk River area.

Langford noted that a Civil Air Patrol surveillance Nov. 26 revealed no UFO clues. He said the air surveillance did spot a logging show in the area, a logging company helicopter and evidence of a logging slash burn.

SHERIFF Dennis Morrisette also heard the rumors of military activity in the Elk River area after the UFO incident. He said some people accused the sheriff's department of participating in a UFO coverup. Not so, he said.

"If I or the department had any information other than rumors, we certainly would not cover it up," he said. "We have had no contact with any United States military installation or operation."

"If Harnden would have called us after being confronted by the Army personnel, I would have gone out there myself and checked into it," the sheriff said.

He said sheriff's officers searched the Elk River area all night after the report. They didn't find a thing.

IN A Dec. 14 letter to Langford, state emergency services director Betty J. McClelland said all the UFO response actions were "commendable, thorough and in agreement with the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle."

The UFO Reporting Center is an all-volunteer operation, funded by donations, Gribble said. He said the center monitors all UFO reports in North America.

"The government has no reporting center," Gribble said. "We are the only agency that receives calls about reported sightings."

"We receive one or two reports a day — the majority of which are just lights in the sky," he said.

He said the center investigates about six "high priority" cases a month. He defined a high priority case as one where someone reports seeing an object land or comes within 1,000 feet of a suspected UFO.

He said the Elk River UFO report is not a high priority case, but, he said, it is unusual because it involves reports of a UFO crash or explosion.

Gribble summed up the Elk River UFO case in two ways:

— "As long as the rumors keep coming in, the truth in the case will eventually come to the surface."

— "If it is a military top secret, then it is going to be covered up."

# UFO: Seeing's As Bad As Telling Story

By Robin Traywick  
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

STERLING — As if the fear and excitement of seeing a UFO weren't enough, Walter and Gladys Owens of Sterling have had to deal with the hassle of people who don't believe them, including officials at Dulles Airport who want to cover up their story.

When Gladys Owen called her husband on Tuesday night, Jan. 15, to tell him about the terrific boom and the strange lights she and their daughter had seen, Walter Owens, a Dulles Airport fireman, called the radar control tower to investigate.

"I called the tower and they said, 'Yeah, we felt the shock and it knocked our radar out,'" said Owens, 52, shortly after the incident.

However, Radar Unit Chief Ronald Valenzo told The Times-Dispatch that he had no record of any interruption in the radar equipment operation that night. He said that even momentary outages were supposed to be entered on the log by the technician on duty.

Chief Controller Robert Logan also denies any such break in the radar service occurred. "I've asked the men to let me know if they see anything unusual at any time, but they haven't reported anything, and there's no record of any radar break," Logan said recently.

Logan claims that all he knows about the incident "is what I've read."

NEVERTHELESS, AFTER The Times-Dispatch asked Logan about the radar interruption, the chief controller reportedly called Owens on the carpet.

"He called me up and he sounded like he was very disturbed," said Owens. "He wanted to get a little smart with me and I said, 'Wait a minute. Your man might be lying. I don't have any proof. But I'm speaking the truth' [about the phone call to the tower]."

"Then he settled down and got real nice, asked me about what my wife saw," Owens said.

What Mrs. Owens, 52, saw, following a blast that shocked her and her daughter, was three unusual lights hovering around the church across the street from their house in Broad Run Farm. "They were real bright and they were barely moving. One moved toward us and went over the house, and two went up Route 28 toward Dulles," she said.

The bright lights, which alternately brightened and dimmed, were about half to three-quarters the size of the moon, according to Mrs. Owens. "They were as high as the tree tops and one of them either fell into the trees or landed."

"We were scared to death to go outside because of the big blast. We thought from the blast that we would see something on fire," she said. "If my husband had been here, we might have ventured out. But we were afraid. You're liable to get scooped up."

WHEN THE LAST LIGHT went out of sight after about five minutes, Mrs. Owens called her husband

at the airport. He called her back later to say that the tower had felt the shock and it had knocked the radar out.

Mrs. Owens was upset to find newsmen waiting for her when she got home from work the next afternoon. "I was mad. You tell things like this and people will laugh at you. I didn't report it to anyone because the men in white coats will come after you."

"It makes you feel funny that people don't believe you," said Mrs. Owens, adding, "I know what I saw and I don't care whether they believe it or not."

The Owens family appeared on WRC-TV in Washington after the sighting, but it left Mrs. Owens with a bad taste in her mouth. "The newscasters were laughing and it makes you feel like a fool," she said.

What disturbs her most is that no one can explain what she saw. "It looks like if we went on TV, that someone who knew would come forth and explain it. It's too bad the government or somebody can't give us an explanation. They can send a rocket to the moon but they can't give you an explanation."

AN EXPLANATION of this kind of incident is elusive, says John P. Timmerman, chairman of the board of the Center for UFO Studies, a seven-year-old organization that investigates 1,000 or more reports of sightings a year.

About 90-95 percent of the reported sightings are explained. Only the remaining five or 10 percent are classified as Unidentified Flying Objects.

UFO Center employee Estelle Postol said, "We have better tools to help in our identification than we used to," but she admitted, "We're still where we started," as far as any breakthrough on identifying that mysterious 10 percent.

Collection of data is a major problem. "It involves witness reports that are incredible," said Timmerman. "I had a call this morning from a woman in Chicago who had a CE-3, that is, contact. She reported contact with humanoids in her house and they reacted to her. We have an investigator working on it, but what kind of background should a person have to interview people like that?"

Another serious problem is official cover-up of information. Timmerman reported a Nov. 11, 1979 encounter that a Lear jet and a Delta Airlines plane had south of Washington National Airport. The conversation between the two pilots was taped and the encounter was videotaped, but airline officials have so far given the center the runaround instead of access to the material.

Timmerman says this kind of response from officials is typical. "They don't know any more than we do, but they're scared."

The Owens family, meanwhile, has resumed its normal routine. Owens stands by his story and Mrs. Owens stands by hers.

"I'm always looking up now," she said. "All you can do is wonder."

## UFO sightings reported

Three sightings of unidentified flying objects were reported Sunday night from various areas of Lincoln County.

A long-narrow object, reddish-orange in color, was reported about half a mile above the ground in the Gleason area about 5:30 p.m.

At 8:20 p.m. a sighting was reported southeast of Merrill near the county line. The object was described as about a foot in diameter and a half-mile above the ground. It was red and blue in color and heading west.

At 8:40 p.m. a sighting east of Tomahawk was reported. The object was said to be bright and changing from red to yellow to green in color and moving up and down.

Law enforcement officers checked in the vicinity of all three sightings and reported all they saw was the moon and stars.

## Three sight UFOs

MERRILL — The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department received three reports of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in the area Sunday night.

Officers say the first was spotted at 5:10 p.m. near the Gleason area. The witness said the UFO was shaped like a yardstick and was orange-red in color.

The second reported sighting was at 8:20 p.m. east of Tomahawk near the Kings Dam. The witness told authorities the UFO was round in shape, red and blue in color, and moved slowly above the treetops.

The third, reported at 8:30 p.m., was bright red in color and reportedly was seen moving above the treetops near Kings Dam, east of Tomahawk.

DAILY HERALD, Merrill, WI  
Feb. 4, 1980 CR: R. Heiden  
NEWS, Rhinelander, WI  
Feb. 4, 1980 CR: R. Heiden





# UFOs?

## Scores say they saw something in the sky

By LINDA JANOWSKI  
and JULIE BUSBY  
Of the Courier-Post

Maple Shade police dispatcher Frank McCollian watched them for about 90 seconds Monday night.

Two Moorestown police officers watched them for between three and five minutes Friday night.

And scores of other South Jersey residents and police officers have seen them for varying lengths of time.

They're not sure of exactly what they saw, but the amber-colored lights hovering above Maple Shade and Moorestown on Friday, Monday — and again last night — were, as one police officer said, "something I never saw before."

It may be a prank, a natural occurrence or we may not be alone.

"It's a phenomenon to the point that I don't know what I saw," said one Moorestown police officer who asked not to be identified.

"I'm not saying what it was or what it wasn't. I just know I saw something," McCollian said.

The stellar events observed in Burlington County over the past few days almost read like the plot of a science fiction movie.

On Friday night, two Moorestown residents called the police station to report three amber lights floating over the Moorestown Mall. Minutes later, four police officers saw the same lights from two different vantage points.

The lights, flying in an orderly, triangular fashion, moved slowly across the sky from the Kingsway Plaza on Lenola Road toward Strawbridge Lake, the officers reported. Suddenly, they disappeared.

On Monday night, eight Maple Shade police officers, two Mount Laurel police officers and numerous residents saw similar amber or orange lights.

At 10:02 p.m., following a telephone call, McCollian said he and at least seven officers stepped outside the Main Street police headquarters and gazed at five or

six lights "flying in a semi-Y formation" near Moorestown.

Three or four minutes later, the lights began to disappear, one by one, until they were gone. The police department switchboard "lit up like a Christmas tree" with residents phoning in the sightings, McCollian said.

About 15 minutes later, a Mount Laurel police officer reported seeing six amber lights hovering in the sky, apparently in Maple Shade. Ten minutes later, another Mount Laurel officer spotted three evenly spaced lights hovering at a 45 degree angle in the same vicinity.

They were suspended, motionless in the sky, and "within 60 to 90 seconds, the lights simply disappeared as if they had been shut off," the officer said in his observation report.

And shortly before 11 o'clock last night, a Moorestown resident called police to report amber-orange lights "flying in an orderly manner at a high altitude" above the Moorestown Mall.

The man, a police dispatcher said, "was gratified to know he wasn't crazy."

But, in a detail that differed from other sightings, last night's caller said he saw flares coming from the bottom of the lights.

Some say the lights are unidentified flying objects. Others claim the Aurora Borealis is shining unusually bright in the eastern skies. And still others believe it is the work of pranksters, possibly prompted by the NBC television broadcast of "The Martian Chronicles" — a three-part science fiction film.

"I'm willing to accept any reasonable explanation but no one has been able to give me one that I can justify," said the Moorestown police officer. "Possibly it may be something of the ordinary, but I've never seen anything like it in the sky."

Officials at McGuire Air Force base and Fort Dix Army base just at the notion that South Jersey is being invaded. Army officials humorously suggest that the amber-colored lights are merely "Iranian jets flying over Jersey."

Authorities at both bases said nothing has been detected on the radar screens since the sightings began.

Lt. William Scully, a spokesman at Fort Dix, attributed the reports to "The Martian Chronicles," which was televised Sunday through last night.

"Nothing's been spotted here, but you know how these things sometimes get started and then get out of hand," he said.

McGuire officials reported one civilian call Monday night, but said nothing has been detected.

McGuire is attributing the sightings to the Aurora Borealis — the northern lights. The Aurora Borealis is described as a display of greenish or dark red lights in the upper Arctic air that are believed to be electrical discharges in ionized air.

Some, however, scoff at the thought that the northern lights would be visible in New Jersey for such an extended period of time.

Police officers have theorized that pranksters may be attaching flares to helium-filled balloons and launching them from an industrial park.

But whatever the cause, hundreds of South Jersey residents have seen something out of the ordinary in the winter skies.

"To tell you the truth, we haven't been able to explain it. It's an unexplainable phenomenon at this point," said Mount Laurel Sgt. M. Scott Fitz-Patrick. "These are bona fide police officers who know what they saw."

Moorestown police officers — the first authorities to witness the sightings — are reluctant to discuss their experiences because of the barrage of jokes and jabs launched by fellow officers and members of other police departments.

Now at least, they are more confident since officers in Maple Shade and Mount Laurel have seen the lights.

TIMES, Burlington, NJ - Jan. 30, 1980

## UFO 'sightings' a hoax, say police

By PETE PERROTTA  
Of the BCT Staff

MAPLE SHADE — A hoax. That's what police here are now calling recent reported sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) over the Moorestown Mall area.

Police came to the conclusion after an anonymous phone call to headquarters yesterday afternoon.

"A lady called and said 'I know what's setting off the lights in the sky,'" said Ptl. David Giroux. The lady went on to say a resident of the Spring Hill Apartments on Route 73 has been putting candles or flares inside or attached to helium-filled balloons and sending them in the sky, said Giroux.

The anonymous caller didn't elaborate and hung up, he said.

Meanwhile, Fred Schaefer, a field investigator for the Arizona-based Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), who was at the police station investigating the recent sightings, said the anonymous call may have solved the puzzle.

"From what I heard so far it could very possibly be a hoax," said Schaefer. Eighty to 92 percent of all UFO citations could be explained through natural causes, added Schaefer.

John Stuck, a deputy facility operator for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) at Philadelphia International Airport said the flare and helium balloon theory is quite feasible.

"I'd say it's quite a real possibility (flares and helium balloons causing UFO citations)," said Stuck. "As a matter of fact, if I had to explain it, that's how I would explain it."

Authorities and officials are not quite sure exactly how the Spring Hill resident may have perpetrated the hoax, technically, but they are sure it is possible.

According to one Maple Shade patrolman, a new type chemical flare may have been used, which glows for one-hour after breaking it in half. "It sort of has an iridescent glow," he said.

Stuck added, "A number of years ago someone sent up a balloon with a battery and light attached to it and that caused a number of UFO citing reports."

However, the recent reported UFO citations have caused quite a stir among county celestial observers, anyway.

A group of residents, including four Moorestown police officers, reported seeing three unearthly amber lights hovering in the vicinity of Strawbridge Lake in Moorestown shortly before 10 p.m., Friday.

"I don't care what anybody else says, I saw what I saw," said one Moorestown patrolman after the Friday night incident, adding he is knowledgeable about light patterns of conventional aircraft. "It wasn't the aurora borealis; it wasn't somebody shooting flares. It was nothing I had seen prior to in my life," he had said.

On Monday night, eight members of the Maple Shade Police Department reported seeing a "Y" configuration of six amber lights in the sky above the Moorestown Mall between 10 and 10:30 p.m. A different looking configuration appeared later, they said.

"I spent four years in the Navy working with all types of aircraft and flares and I never saw a configuration like that," said Ptl. Michael Brennan, after Monday's sighting.

During both incidents several calls were received from police by residents reporting similar sightings in the same areas.

Neither the National Weather Service, McGuire Air Force Base, the Philadelphia International Airport or many other such organizations could explain the unusual sightings.

However, when Schaefer arrived on the scene to investigate he began to get suspicious when Det. William Steck of Maple Shade offered a slightly different version of what he saw than Ptl. Brennan.

According to Steck, when some of the amber lights disappeared from sight they dropped from the sky leaving a tail of light, much like a flare would if it burned out in the sky.

This combined with the information supplied by the anonymous caller leads Schaefer to believe it probably was a hoax.

However, Schaefer warned, you never do know for sure unless you can catch the guy sending up the flares.

In the meantime, Maple Shade Police are investigating the Spring Hill tip and hope to answer what may turn out to be "The Great Burlington County UFO Hoax," they said.

TRENTONIAN, Trenton, NJ - Jan. 29, 1980

## More Burlco UFO's

By VIC LA VOLPE  
Special Writer  
MAPLE SHADE — Burlington County is fast becoming the "in" place for Unidentified Flying Objects.

Last night residents of Maple Shade — including five cops — said they saw strange lights in the sky, moving at a fast rate of speed from the southeast to the southwest.

"We've never seen anything like it," said police dispatcher Frank McCollian, who also handled a bundle of calls from frightened residents.

This follows a similar sighting Friday in Morristown where a number of residents, including four cops, said they saw UFOs.

The sighting in Maple Shade, McCollian said, happened for a few short minutes shortly after 10 p.m. The objects appeared over the Morristown Mall and were described by police as being amber-colored.

One of the lights moved away from the formation at a high rate of speed, heading towards the shore, police said.

Within minutes of the sighting, McCollian said, the lights appeared to disintegrate.



## 'UFO' blips across skies of Fairfield

An unidentified flying object allegedly seen hovering in the local skies last Thursday night was reported to police by a Fairfield woman.

Marie Bennet, 178 Glen Ridge Road, told police she was looking out of her kitchen window at approximately 6:25 p.m. when she saw what she thought were snow flurries. She then reported seeing what she believed was a large craft with a red beaming light. The object was reportedly one-half to one mile away in the sky.

The woman said she ran from the kitchen into her dining room in order to view the object from another window, and then ran back to her kitchen window. She observed the object for approximately 15 minutes, according to the report.

Bennet then called her husband, William, and two of her six children who were in the house at the time and they also observed the object, police said.

Mrs. Bennet called their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bodo, 458 Jennings Road. "I said, 'Look out the back and look straight over toward Rock Ridge and see if you see a light,'" she recalled. They looked out and saw the object, according to the report. From her perspective, Mrs. Bodo reported seeing "a green light" in the sky.

Mrs. Bennet said she went outside to see if she could here any noise emanating from the object but there was none, said the woman. "It was quiet as a church mouse out there," said Mrs. Bennet.

While the object was still in the air, the Bennets called police. They continued to watch the object for another five minutes before it left at a high rate of speed, according to the Bennets, before the arrival of police.

Mrs. Bennet reported the object was hovering in the same position before it sped off. The Bodos noted the object was "bobbing up and down" as they observed it.

Because of the lights beaming from the object, the two families could not distinguish the shape of the object, according to the report.

"I never saw anything like it," said Mrs. Bennet. "I said what the heck is this, what the heck is this? ... I'll be looking all the time now."

The last UFO sighting in Fairfield, police said, was reported approximately three months ago.

## UFO researchers hope to shed light on lights

By LAUREL REID GRAVETT  
and LINDA JANKOWSKI  
Of the Courier-Post

Local authorities say they still have no explanation for the strange amber lights sighted by scores of residents and several policemen in the skies over Moorestown and Maple Shade in recent days.

But the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, an international UFO group that is giving the matter serious consideration, has launched a two-man investigation into the sightings.

Field investigator Fred Shaeffer of Clementon said that while some earlier speculations as to the origin of the amber lights have been discounted, the exact cause of the phenomenon has not been determined.

"At this point, the investigation is incomplete," Shaeffer said last night. "I can't say (what it is) and I won't say. There are several theories."

So far, Shaeffer has four possible explanations that could justify the sudden appearance of the amber lights:

- Someone is playing a hoax.
- There are legitimate unidentified flying objects.
- A prankster has been reacting to legitimate sightings last Friday.
- It is a temperature inversion — a combination of warm and cold air that enables light to be reflected from the ground upwards.

Some police officers have theorized that a prankster may be releasing emergency flares attached to helium-filled balloons in order to create the illusion of invaders from outer space.

And, Shaeffer said, if it's a hoax, the prankster should be aware that he not only is breaking Federal Aviation Administration law, but he also has created a potentially hazardous situation.

The balloons, Shaeffer warned, could create serious problems by distracting airline pilots or getting caught in a jet's engines. The result, he said, could be an airline crash or a sudden movement of the plane that could injure passengers.

"There's a tremendous safety factor involved and if this person has any regard for human life, he'll heed what I say," Shaeffer said. "There is a potential for a terrible disaster. The loss of human life could be unbelievable."

Police officers and residents have reported seeing the amber lights hovering above Maple Shade and Moorestown on Friday, Monday and Tuesday nights. Some said there were three lights flying in an orderly, triangular fashion. Other sightings were of five or six lights flying in a "semi-Y" formation.

In some cases, witnesses said, the lights disappeared instantly, as if someone had shut them off. Other reports indicate the lights disappeared one by one.

Among the persons who reported seeing the strange lights were some 15 policemen from Moorestown, Maple Shade and Mount Laurel.

A Pennsauken woman, who asked to be identified only as Colleen, said she spotted three orange lights flying in formation as she was in a car heading east on Route 38 in Moorestown on Monday night. The lights were headed west, she said, but suddenly they made an about-face and headed east.

"I don't know what it is," she said. "But it scared me."

She said she watched as the lights suddenly disap-

peared, leaving a trail of smoke behind them.

A Delran woman said that while driving through Cinnaminson, she and her husband saw four amber lights, and what appeared to be a green light, at a standstill over Delran last Wednesday night — the earliest sighting reported.

She said she first thought it was a helicopter, but then realized it was something she'd never seen before. She said the lights eventually took off in a pattern toward Route 73 and disappeared.

Shaeffer also said a woman called Maple Shade police Monday, saying she and a neighbor saw 12 lights in the Moorestown-Maple Shade area that were drifting slowly in a formation.

Suddenly, the lights dispersed at a phenomenal speed in three different directions, she told Shaeffer. She said she and her neighbor watched them become smaller and smaller until they were invisible.

"If she's accurate in her description, then I'm as much in the dark as when I began," Shaeffer said. "This throws an entirely different light on the situation."

Another woman told Maple Shade police she had seen a man launching six helium balloons with flares or candle-type attachments.

While anything is possible at this point, Shaeffer said some explanations have been ruled out.

For example, those who saw the lights Friday night could not have been watching the Aurora Borealis — the northern lights — because there was a thick cloud cover in the sky. The display of greenish or red lights would not be visible through the clouds, a spokesman for the Fels Planetarium told Shaeffer, and they would not appear as round amber lights.

In addition, Shaeffer said he initially thought some police officers may have seen lights from an airliner reflecting on the clouds Friday night. He said he discounted that theory when officers reported seeing the lights again — this time with no nearby aircraft to provide the reflecting lights.

Shaeffer, who is investigating the phenomenon with Gerald Miskar of Clementon, said he will continue interviewing eyewitnesses until his report is completed and forwarded to the organization's headquarters in Tucson, Ariz.

Chris Panter, also of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), said UFO investigations usually take quite a bit of time.

Panter said APRO, founded in 1952, has more than 500 volunteer field investigators living in all parts of the world. The investigators are dispatched to check into reports of unusual sightings in their localities and interview the witnesses, she said.

"That's about all you can do," she said. "The UFO doesn't hang around long enough for anyone to pin it down."

Lt. Harry Klatt of the Moorestown police said there is no ongoing investigation of the sightings.

"But we'll check on it if it occurs again," he said.

Klatt added he believes there must be a logical explanation for the sightings.

John Acuff of the Maryland-based National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena Inc. (NICAP) said his group would investigate the Moorestown-Maple Shade sightings if it had the funds.

Acuff said the 23-year-old organization has investigated 20,000 cases, 80 percent of which were found to have logical explanations.

BEE, Sacramento, CA - Feb. 9, 1980

## Spangled Sky 8 In Nevada County See UFOs Of Many Colors

Special to The Bee

NEVADA CITY — Mysterious multicolored flying objects in the sky have been reported seen by eight persons who live on two different ridges northeast of Nevada City near the South Yuba River.

All eight persons described the UFO's as red and white lights, along with blue lights at times, that hovered, then moved quickly across the sky. They said the lights were from 1,000 to 2,000 feet above the ground.

The first sighting, Jan. 22, was reported by Richard and Lori Hewitt of North Bloomfield Road who said they viewed a circle of lights, red, white and blue. "in a horizontal pattern and definitely the bottom side of the object."

A Vietnam veteran, Hewitt said he's seen all kinds of aircraft, but that this flying object resembled none he could recognize. "The lights were at least 20 times brighter than any of the stars," he said.

Hewitt, who said he and his wife watched the UFO for five to seven minutes, said he heard "a jet-like sound, but very quiet. It could have been from the air the thing was pushing."

Officials at Beale Air Force Base said no unusual flight activity had originated at the base and could offer no explanation of what may have been seen in the skies over Nevada County.

The second sightings, Sunday night, were reported by six persons: two couples who live about a half mile from the Hewitts and two other persons from another ridgetop.

Michael Giacomini, who lives on Cement Hill, said he saw a white light which was followed by a pulsing red light. "They were both above me," he said. "One seemed to be on each side of the road." Then, he said, the two lights were joined by a blue light and they formed a triangle. "They did a spin at one point, and then the blue light disappeared," he added.

The red and white lights also were seen by Patrick Czarnowski, who described them as "brighter than light. They seemed to revolve around each other," he said. "They didn't seem to be propelled by anything or affected by gravity."

Across the canyon, Dave and Pam Butler and Ed and Pam Vaughn witnessed the same display. Butler said the two lights were moving west together, the white light stopped and the red one continued out of his sight to the west. A few minutes later, he said, the red light returned, joined the white light and they disappeared to the east.

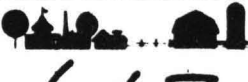
Vaughn gave the same description and said, "I guess it could have been an airplane or helicopter but I doubt it. They were doing some really weird stuff."

Those who saw the aerial display said they were sure the objects were not ordinary aircraft.

"I've grown up believing that we're not the only people around; I'm convinced now," said Hewitt. "I'm a believer now," put in Giacomini.

ADVOCATE, Cumberland, WI - Feb. 20, 1980 CR: R. Heiden

island city



Living

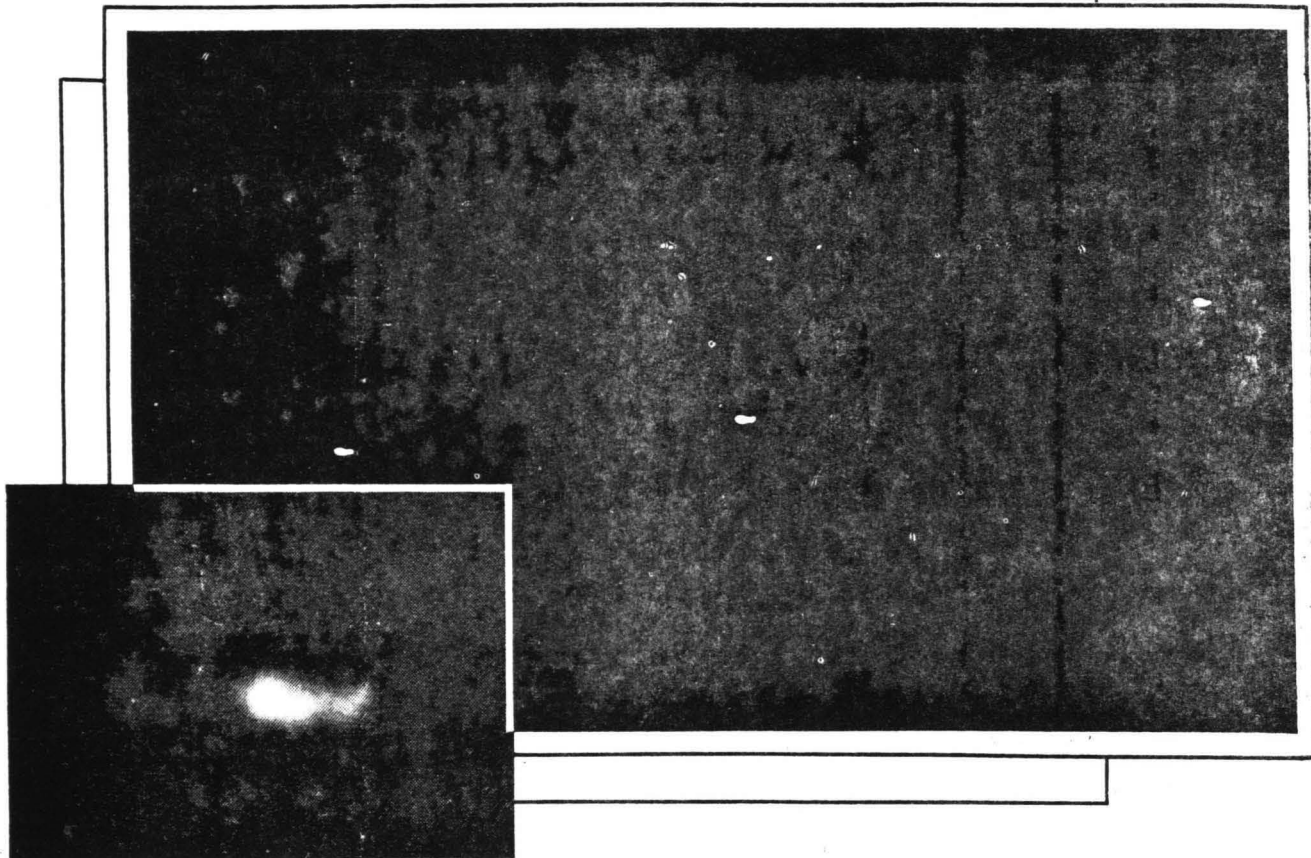
by Hoyt

Remember the story of TJ's unidentified flying object? I explained in a later column about the scientist who explained some of the unusual sightings as "fireballs" thrown from the tail of a comet which may have passed relatively near Earth. In addition to that explanation, I recently received a communication from the U.S. Air Force Tactical Airlift Group in Minneapolis. In the letter, Colonel Howard Mangin, Group Commander, explained that his command was conducting low-level training flights in this area with C-130A four-engine "Hercules" turboprop aircraft at altitudes of from 500 to 1000 feet. The flights involve up to eight aircraft flying in trail formation of about six seconds separation and end with a simulated airdrop of paratroops or dummy cargo. This seems to indicate that they may very well remain stationary in the 500 foot altitude range while conducting the "drop" . . . and, perhaps, could explain the red lights that seemed to "hang" in the air . . . and then disappear.

On the other hand . . . it may have been an authentic UFO too! Who knows?

(TJ - Tom Johnson)

# Look! A bird, a plane...



## A UFO?

Those lights seen in area nighttime skies this past December are shown here as they were captured on film by a West Milford resident from his township home. Three lights, source unidentified, are seen as they appear to travel evenly-spaced across the frame of the photograph. Four identical images in all were caught in the frame. Blow-up of

one of the lights shows central bright cortex of the image, as photographed by Anthony Miragliotta as he faced south from his home, towards the township high school. Visible for five to ten minutes, the lights of Dec. 9 were reportedly seen on several evenings by a number of area residents, including police officers, in surrounding communities as well. December's sightings were the latest in a long line of strange phenomena seen in the evening skies of North Jersey.

(Trends: Courtesy)

TIMES, Finger Lakes, NY - Feb. 22, 1980 CR: M. Hoffman

## A UFO — or something — flies over Ovid

By SONNI SAMPSON

OVID — Scott Knittle says if he ever sees a bright orange light in his bedroom again he's going to dive under his blankets.

The 11-year-old and his mother, Beverly Cowan, appear to be the only ones who had a close look at an Unidentified Flying Object seen here by many local residents Monday night.

Around 9:45 p.m., "I was just laying in my bed and then this light came through my window and made everything orange," said Knittle.

At first, he thought it was moonlight. But, when he took a closer look "there was this oval shaped thing with about 10 windows straight across it" hovering over the field in back of his home on Route 96, said Knittle.

It was then he called his mother. When she entered the bedroom, Mrs. Cowan said, "The room had an orange cast... and I went over to the window and this thing was up in the air" about 30 feet high and 150 feet away.

The object, she said, was "egg shaped" and about 5 feet wide.

"I've never seen anything like it," she added. "It was just a big bright orange blob."

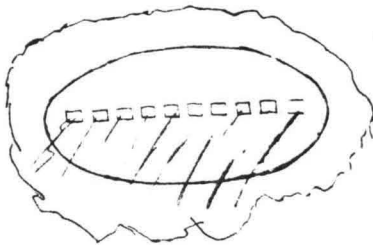
Seconds later, said Mrs. Cowan, the object shot straight up in the air, heading north toward Auburn, and exploded.

"I thought at first it was an airplane crash, but there wasn't any noise and there wasn't a fire or flames or anything," she said.

"It was just like someone turned a light switch off and it was dark again... except, there was like a little red blinking light that came from it after it blew up and I just watched that until it disappeared."

After calling several relatives for help, including her husband, Art, who had been called to fight a fire with the Ovid Fire Department, Mrs. Cowan said she discovered her son's eyes were bloodshot.

Others in the area, like Myrtie Bullivant, also saw the object. She said she and her husband, Fred, watched it for about four minutes from the



### Eyewitness drawing

At the request of the Times, Scott Knittle sketched what he saw from his bedroom window last night. The 11-year-old's mother, Beverly Cowan, said the object was about five feet wide, bright orange and glowed.

porch of their Orchard Street home.

"It looked like a round, reddish-gold ball almost orange color... and it must have been on fire whatever it was because we could see smoke swirling over the top of it," she said.

Although Mrs. Bullivant said she hasn't figured out what the object was, there's one possibility she's ruled out. "It wasn't anything like... a flying saucer by any means," she said.

Shirley Derleth was sitting in the living room of her home near Boyce's four corners when she said she spotted what looked like "this big orange ball hovering in the sky." She added that she watched it fade away, until a "little light appeared and then moved away and disappeared."

The experience, said Mrs. Derleth, "really scared me half to death because I didn't know what it was... and I still don't."

The reason David Kaiser of Route 96 said he noticed the object was because "the houses in the

area were all lit up in an orange color." The object, he added, "looked like a big flare" and was "really huge."

Most who spotted the object were reluctant to discuss the sighting because they said they feared public ridicule.

The area was searched by Seneca County Sheriff's Deputy Robert Favreau when Cowan reported the incident that night. Nothing was found, he said, but "I believe they (Scott and his mother) saw something... it's just one of those unexplained things."

U.S. Coast Guard personnel at the LORAN-C navigational tower didn't detect any electrical disturbance in the area that night, said Robert Zemanek, public affairs director at the Seneca Army Depot. There were no tests being conducted and "no one here saw anything," he added.

But, there's one man who has heard of several cases like this one. Bob Barrow, a field investigator with the Area Phenomenon Research Organization in Syracuse, said he's looked into hundreds of sightings in the central New York area.

An egg shaped object, he said, is "quite a predominant shape in UFO sighting history." A disc-shaped object is the most prevalent and the egg-shaped the next most common, he added.

Windows in the objects, explosions with or without noise and bright blinking lights appearing after the explosions, are reported frequently, said Barrow. Red or orange glows coming from the objects are also common, he added.

"In many cases where there seem to be bright lights involved you will find that someone will get bloodshot or a burning sensation in their eyes," said Barrow. "It's almost as if they'd been affected by ultra violet light."

It is also quite common that nothing is found at the scene of a sighting, he said. "Frequently there's not a trace of debris or anything," he added.

"It's just bizarre, the whole phenomenon is bizarre."



# Eerie, Orange Lights Spook Woman

By Michael Kelly  
World-Herald Staff Writer

There may be a good explanation for what happened in western Iowa recently.

But even if there is, it scared one woman like never before.

"I'm not crazy," she said. "I'll tell you about it, but you are not to use my name. I don't want people thinking I'm a lunatic."

It was almost 11:30 on a Monday night when the bridge game broke up at a house south of Council Bluffs. The eight women meet every two weeks.

Six were in Marilyn Anderson's car. Alone in another car was the other woman, who had a shorter drive to her home northeast of the Iowa School for the Deaf.

They were driving north on county road G66 when Mrs. Anderson and her passengers noticed the lights in the sky. "What do you see up there?" she asked her passengers.

Perhaps 200 to 300 feet in the air, over a bluff on their left, something appeared to be hovering.

"I heard no noise," said Mrs. Anderson of 2424 N. 45th Ave. in

Omaha. "It had several flashing lights."

## Standing Still

Rita Sobetski, 2332 Fontenelle Blvd., said it didn't look like an airplane. "The fact is that it was standing still in the sky, and then it took off."

Maybe a helicopter? "It could have been," she said. Except that it wasn't noisy like a helicopter.

"All I could see," Mrs. Sobetski said, "was three or four square white lights and a flashing red light."

Mrs. Anderson said she stopped the car and started to get out for a better look. The object sped away.

"It was almost like we were spotted, and, Zoom! Away it went."

Mrs. Anderson ran back to the following car and asked her friend if she had seen it.

"Seen what?" the woman asked.

## No Drinking

The area is near a landing pattern for Eppey Airfield, and the women might have seen a



Mrs. Anderson next to field where friend saw "orange light" . . . Power of suggestion?

plane passing above the bluff.

No one was drinking at the bridge party, they said. "Just coffee and pop," Mrs. Anderson said.

In any case, it was gone. Mrs. Anderson and the other women headed for home. The woman is in her 50s, and Mrs. Sobetski described her as "extremely level headed."

The woman remembers glancing at her watch as she drove up Longview Drive and passed the Beverly Manor subdivision. It was 11:40 p.m.

As she came to a stop sign, her car stalled. The lights and the radio were off.

It wouldn't start. The woman said she thought that either the car was out of gas or the car's battery cable was corroded. She got out, but saw headlights coming up the road and decided to try to move her car.

## Sky Unusual

The auto started right away and she turned toward her subdivision.

The woman said the sky was unusual, "sort of pinkish orange," but she thought only of getting home.

She drove a quarter of a mile and the car stalled again. It was a short length from where the road sloped downward, and she said she thought she could push it, hop in, and coast down the hill.

As she opened the car door, the woman saw it. She froze. "I was petrified, like a rock," she said.

In the cornfield to her left, about 300 yards from the road, a bright orange light was shining at her.

"I couldn't look into the light because it was too bright. It was brighter than a railroad flare, really bright."

She jumped into the car and locked the door. At this point, her recollection is fuzzy.

"I don't know what happened," she said. "I can't even make up a story. I just don't know what happened after that."

## Face Blotchy

She does recall turning the key, however. The car started and sped down the hill a few hundred yards. She turned right into her subdivision without slowing down, she said.

She ran into her house and went to the kitchen window. She said she could still see a glow, but not the light itself. Her husband was sleeping.

The woman went to the bathroom, turned on the light and looked in the mirror. She was horrified.

"My face and hands were pink — like the color of a healed scar. And my face was blotchy. Not raised, but pink, about the size of a thumbprint."

She called her sister in Council Bluffs who had been at the party. The sister urged the woman to call a doctor.

Her temperature was 102, she said, and her head was swimming. "My stomach was upset, I had diarrhea, I was sweating. If you have ever seen anyone in profound shock, it was me. I thought I was marred for life."

And another strange thing: the redness didn't cover her chin and neck. It was as if a line had been drawn from one ear lobe to the other, crossing under her nose, she said.

She had pulled her coat up around her neck when she got out of the car. Only the exposed parts of her hands and face were red.

The woman said she decided to lie down, and wait until morn-

ing to wake her husband and call the doctor. She couldn't sleep.

By 4 a.m., she said, the redness and blotches began to fade. They were gone by 4:20 a.m.

The woman, who told the story to a reporter in the presence of Mrs. Anderson and a photographer (but refused to be photographed herself), said she has never had such physical reaction.

"I've never had hallucinations," she said.

She said she believes the whole thing probably could be explained. "These guys just had me spooked with their UFO," she said of her friends. "It was the power of suggestion."

## 32 Minutes

The Pottawattamie County sheriff's dispatcher said there were no reports of UFOs that night. Mrs. Jerry Wilson, who lives in the house next to the cornfield, said her family saw no lights. A man who lives across the road said he saw no light.

The woman had no explanation for one thing — the time that elapsed.

It was 11:40 p.m. when she checked her watch just before her car stalled the first time. It is normally less than a five-minute drive from the point where she checked her watch to her house.

The car stalled twice, and both times the woman said she got back in and started it, driving on.

When she called her sister after arriving home, the woman checked the time again.

It was 12:12 a.m. thirty-two minutes had passed.

POST, West Palm Beach, FL  
March 13, 1980

## UFO Sight Convinces Policeman

GLADSTONE, Mich. (UPI) — Officer Mark Hager of the Gladstone Police Department used to scoff at UFO reports. He became a believer yesterday.

Hager and fellow officer David Mariin went to a lonely spot north of this Upper Peninsula city before dawn to investigate a report of an unidentified flying object.

The two were astounded at what they saw — a sight for which they could find no rational explanation. Hager said he's convinced beyond doubt it was a UFO.

"I didn't believe in them before, but I do now," Hager said.

"It had a bright white light, two red lights — one on each side — and a green light towards the rear," he said. "As far as making out a shape of the body, we really couldn't tell."

Hager and Mariin were joined a few minutes later by two deputies from the Delta County Sheriff's Department, David Huckstep and Max Streichert. Their office had received three calls from citizens about a UFO.

The four men tracked the mysterious object as it sped west but lost sight of it after about a half-hour, Hager said. Not far away, two officers from the Escanaba Police Department also saw the object and gave similar descriptions.

"I guarantee it wasn't a helicopter or an airplane," Hager said.

Hager said the object was moving very fast and making sharp turns and abrupt ascending and descending maneuvers.

ENTERPRISE, Owen, WI - Feb. 21, 1980



Several weeks ago, a newspaper which The Owen Enterprise office receives in the exchanges reported that several people in the Rice Lake, Bloomer and Chippewa Falls area had sighted a cigar-shaped UFO. The object was sighted several times and even by a police officer.

Now, five people have reported seeing what we can call a UFO in the Withee area. One eyewitness who lives west of Withee near Riverside Cemetery, reported seeing a bright pinkish disk like object, that she thought was going to come right into her front room window. Then when she wasn't looking, it disappeared. Others saw the same object, a UFO.

A UFO is not the description of a space ship or such, but means that what ever it is it can't be identified. UFO means unidentified flying object, and that could be anything. Let us hear from you if you see any UFO's.

CR: R. Heiden

DAILY DISPATCH, Moline, IL  
March 13, 1980 CR: J. Brill

## UFO reported near Reynolds

Michael D. O'Donnell, 19, of 639 W. 2nd St., Andalusia, reported to Rock Island County sheriff's deputies that he saw an unidentified flying object in the sky near Reynolds Tuesday night.

O'Donnell described the object as being the size of a 2-car garage or approximately 20 by 24 feet and about 20 feet in height.

He said the object hovered about 100 feet in the sky for 10 to 15 seconds before taking off in a northerly direction.

There were two extremely bright lights on either side of the object and a white light on the inside, O'Donnell said.

He gave deputies a sketch of the object. Police are investigating the incident.

Described as bright, moving lights

# UFO sightings made near Elbe, Ashford area

by Barbara DeVore

Several persons in the Elbe and North Lewis County area have said that they have seen Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) during the past six weeks. Describing the UFO's as bright, multi-colored lights which can move at rapid speeds, the persons involved have made public the accounts of what they saw.

The separate incidents seem to be tied in to half a dozen sightings of UFO's recently made near

Mrs. Mel Ceccanti.

Carney told *The Dispatch* that she saw the UFO while driving home from Eatonville one night last December.

At about 9:35 p.m., she had just crossed over the railroad tracks right by the Ceccanti residence when she noticed a strange light.

"My rearview mirror lit up like the furnace at Moore Family's glass blowing," she said. "The light stayed

car. The light was at least 18 inches tall because it was as high as the back window.

Cindy, who drives a Volkswagen stationwagon, said that when she realized the lights were not attached to any vehicle, she pulled back onto the road and the lights continued following her.

It was not until another car came into view that the lights suddenly disappeared.

"All three lights disappeared at the same time," she continued. "The lights were not projecting like headlights and the blue light seemed to be independent of the yellow and the red light."

"All the time I was trying to figure it out. I thought it was someone playing a trick on me."

Carney said that if it were a car or motorcycle that there were no side roads for it to turn down.

*'My rearview mirror lit up like a furnace.'*

After arriving at their home in Ashford, some 15 miles away, Carney said that she was pretty upset by the whole incident. Her husband, who went out to check the car the night of the incident noticed there was a strange smell on the back of the car. An odor which he could not describe. The odor

had disappeared by the next morning.

"A UFO is the only explanation I can come up with except for maybe someone horsing around with motorcycles, but there were no headlights."

Carney said that she never was for or against believing in UFO's but that she "can't find any other explanation."

Two nights before Carney's experience, Mrs. Ceccanti had also seen a strange light near her home. She described the light as being stationary and bright orange in color.

"It was like a star, but too large for a star, it was different," she said.

The light which Ceccanti saw was bright enough to give a good outline of the Mountains directly to the east of her house.

While both of these incidents

tell about the the experience.

On his way home that evening he said that he saw a bright light like a vapor light. Noticed that it was moving so he stopped his car to look at it.

The light, which also stopped,

*'I thought it was someone playing a trick on me.'*

was just above the trees. He could not estimate an exact size since the light seemed to be quite a distance from the car.

He noted that there was no noise and the light was larger than a planet or a star.

"I got back in my car and kept going," he said, "it was moving with me on the left hand side of the car. Even when I turned right it kept with me on the left."

"It was definitely aware of me, and I started freaking out. Whenever I stopped, it stopped."

When he arrived home he quickly called his family out side. They all came out and could see the light sitting off in the distance in the southern sky. The light was just above eye level on the horizon.

"Then it moved quickly and directly without noise into the western sky," he said.

The first, bright white light, was then joined by another light.

He described the second light as being red with three white lights below it. "It looked like a side view of a jellyfish," he commented.

"It moved about 30 degrees to the west of the first light then stopped. Then it moved directly

under the first light, and finally took off to the north."

Then, he continued, a third light appeared. It also stopped under the first light and took off.

While the first light was a "white brilliant light," the second two lights were more defined. The second and third lights both, had a single light on top with three white lights on the bottom.

These lights were seen by four adults. He also said that he had never met Carney or heard about her story until after his experience.

The UFO Center in Seattle said that they had received a half a dozen reports of UFO's in the Centralia and Chehalis areas recently.

Persons have reported the sightings of red, white, green and blue lights in triangular shapings. The spokesman said that it is definitely not conventional aircraft that they are seeing.

The low flying objects are unexplainable at this time he said.

## UFO sightings reported near Espanola

NEW MEXICAN, Santa Fe, NM - Feb. 19, 1980 CR: N. Boelman

ESPANOLA—The State Police District 7 office in Arroyo Seco received two telephone reports of unidentified flying objects southwest of the city Saturday between 6:18 and 7:44 p.m.

A patrolman who investigated the calls, however, said he did not see a UFO.

The police log stated an anonymous female telephoned the office at 6:10 p.m. and said she was watching through binoculars a bright yellow light with a red ball on it flying southwest of Espanola.

The woman told a police dispatcher the object rotated clockwise and then counterclockwise. A light also was visible on the object, the woman reported.

At 7:44 p.m., a person telephoned the police office and reported seeing a white glowing object moving in a circular motion.

Patrolman Thomas Vaccarello, who was assigned to investigate the reports, said he did not see anything matching the descriptions made by the callers.

He suggested the callers may have observed "northern lights."

*'It was definitely aware of me, and I started freaking out.'*

Centralia and Chehalis.

A man, and three other adults who live in Lewis County, said that they saw the UFO's last Monday, January 28. *The Dispatch* also learned that two South Pierce County women had seen similar lights, on different nights, six weeks earlier.

Several persons have reported the sighting of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) near Elbe and in North Lewis County.

The first sightings were made last December near the Mel Ceccanti home on Highway 706 just outside of Elbe.

Another sighting was made last week in North Lewis County.

The first sightings were made by Cindy Carney of Ashford and

right behind me and I could only see it in the left rearview mirror. It followed me for 10 to 15 seconds when a red light came on. The red light was steady, not bright like the yellow light."

"I would estimate that the lights were four to five feet behind me and between 12 and 18 inches tall, because they were as high as the drivers side window."

Carney reported that the red light had flashed a couple of times and quit, when a third light came on.

"Then in the center back window," she continued, "a blue light came on like a police light. The blue light started flashing like a police car light."

"Thinking it was a police car, I started to pull over when the blue light zoomed right up on my



# Free-time detective probes aerial phenomena — UFOs

BALTIMORE (AP) — On a cold, crisp night last December, the phone rang at a suburban police station. The caller told officers he had just seen something strange in the sky.

The man said the thing was a dullish red color when he first spotted it, then it changed to blue. About the time the object changed color, he said, his car started running funny.

Twenty minutes later, a second man called Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Traveling in the same area of Baltimore County as the first caller, he said he had seen something that looked like a rocket sitting in a field.

As he watched, the thing rose from the ground and took off, he said.

The callers were referred to John Lutz, Maryland director of Odyssey Research, a non-profit organization that also operates in Delaware, southern Pennsylvania, eastern West Virginia and northern Virginia.

The callers became sources of two of the many reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects Lutz receives each year. He describes his interest in UFOs as a "hobby that has mushroomed."

Lutz and the other 15 Maryland members interview people who claim to have seen UFOs or other unexplained phenomena. When warranted, they make field trips to check areas where the sightings occurred.

And Lutz is a believer.

"UFOs, I think, are one of the greatest mysteries of our time, and I think nobody really wants to pursue it," he says.

"I am not out to convince anyone UFOs exist, or anything exists," he says. "That is one thing I have learned over the years."

He also feels earthlings are not in any danger from extra-terrestrial creatures who may drop in for a visit now and then.

"I don't think we have anything really to fear from them," he says. "I think they are here for experimentation. They are seeing how we live."

Lutz contacts people who have reported any type of strange occurrence, preferably soon after the sighting.

"The faster you get back to people, the more accurate the story is going to be," he says, "because if they think about it for 24, 48 or 72 hours, they tend to exaggerate a little bit more."

Lutz says Odyssey Research has checked about 480 claims of sightings in Maryland since 1970. The December incident was one of about 90 reported sightings the group investigated in 1979.

Lutz went to the field where the second caller had reported seeing the rocket. He went over the area but found no evidence of a rocket takeoff. "We left that as an unknown," Lutz says.

It wasn't the first unexplained occurrence in the state.

In February 1976 a man reported seeing a small triangular cloud of dull white moving along the bottom of the cloud cover at about 5,100 feet. Lutz went to the scene near Baltimore and saw it himself, and at about the same time airport radar picked up an "unidentified blip."

Lutz also recalls a day when about 1,000 dead ducks dropped out of the sky in St. Marys City. He says he's unconvinced by theories that the ducks flew into an airplane or a high building before dropping to the ground.

He remembers an incident in February 1978 when a pilot contacted the airport control tower in Hagerstown, saying he had just seen an unidentified object and had been blinded. Before help could be summoned, Lutz says, the plane crashed into a mountain and the pilot was killed.

Of the reports of aerial phenomena referred to him by police, fire and other agencies, Lutz says, about 75 percent can be identified. The rest, he says, remain mysteries — true UFOs.

Since he became interested in the study of unexplained phenomena in 1970, Lutz has devoted a good deal of his spare time to investigating reports of the unexplained — not just aerial phenomena, but geological phenomena, strange animals and "Big Foot," the legendary apeman of the Pacific Northwest.

The rest of the time, he works as a dispatcher in Baltimore city's Transit and Traffic division and, since he works different shifts, is able to spend some daylight hours and his days off checking locations where different phenomena have been reported.

Lutz and his cohort often encounter difficulties when trying to investigate UFO reports. Lutz says he feels the government covers up a lot of information it has about aerial spottings. And movies and television shows dealing with subjects such as UFOs "hurt true investigators more than they help."

Lutz says the problem with such shows is that they take a number of reported cases and lump them together rather than deal with separate and specific occurrences.

But perhaps the biggest obstacle, according to Lutz, is the attitude of the people first reporting the sightings. They are embarrassed, he says, "afraid of being ridiculed."

WAYNE TODAY, Wayne, NJ - Jan. 27, 1980 CR: A. Roberts via J. Moseley

## UFO mystery is solved

WEST MILFORD—The mystery of the unidentified flying objects (UFOs) sighted over the area by at least a dozen residents last Dec. 9 may at last be cleared up, thanks to Ken Hirsch of Westbrook Road.

Four Lindy's Lake and three Bloomingdale residents, and persons from Apshawa, Newfoundland and other areas all reported seeing four or five circular red lights flying equidistant from each other in a diamond-shaped pattern on Sunday, Dec. 9 between 7:30 and 9 p.m. Most observers felt the lights were moving too slowly to be airplanes.

The lights probably were helicopters. According to Hirsch, a member of the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society and the Ringwood Manor Advisory Committee, he and a group of about six or seven other

people were leaving Ringwood Manor at about 8:30 on Dec. 9, after the last day of the Manor's annual Victorian Christmas celebration, when they looked up and saw half-a-dozen Army helicopters flying right over the Manor, fairly close to the ground and fully lit. The Lindy's Lake spotters had perceived the red lights to be hovering over the mountains between Ringwood and Mahwah, which would put them right over the Manor.

Because of their flying speed and pattern, and arrangement of lights, helicopters are often mistaken for UFOs. Hirsch recalled a past incident in West Milford wherein a UFO spotted by a local turned out to be a chopper. Having read the accounts of the UFO sightings in the Argus, Hirsch had been trying to contact us with his information since last month, but his busy schedule and the holidays prevented him from coming forward until last week, he said.

A check of the U.S. Army Reserve Training Center in Lodi, Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base revealed that although all military flights are logged, the helicopters observed on the night of the 9th could have been flying to and from any Army base on the east coast.



NEWS, Cambridge, England - Jan. 25, 1980

# Giant UFO seen over Marshall's airfield

A Cambridge bus conductress described yesterday how a giant, glowing UFO, shaped like a semi-circle, hovered low over Marshall's Airfield.

Miss Elaine Granger and her bus driver, Mr Ron Andrews, tried to follow the object, but it disappeared behind nearby houses.

Miss Granger said that, on Wednesday night at 11.45 pm, she was being given a lift to her Teversham home by Mr Andrews, after they both finished work for the evening.

She said: "Just as we turned into the road off to Teversham I saw a big orange shape, like a half-moon over the airfield."

She said Mr Andrews stopped the car, and they got out and watched it hover over the airfield for about three minutes.

"Then it shot away, very fast, until the light got so small you could hardly see it. Then it came back and appeared to tilt over towards the airfield," she said.

"It was then glowing red and started to move slowly, this time over towards Cherry Hinton. We got in the car and went to Coldham's Lane to see if we could see it better."

Miss Granger added that they stopped near the railway bridge in Coldham's Lane, but could see no trace of it.

"Then it appeared right in front of us," she said. "It was so low that you could only see half of it above the rooftops of the house it was passing behind."

"It could not have been an aircraft, it was bigger than a house. There was a very low whistling noise and no traffic about at that time. It was not a helicopter and I have never seen anything like it before."

Marshall's Airfield had closed down at 6 pm on Wednesday and a spokesman said no reports had been received of anything over the airfield.



Miss Granger: "It was bigger than a house."

GLOUCESTER ECHO, Cheltenham, England

Jan. 26, 1980

## CHELTENHAM FAMILY'S U.F.O. CLAIM

A CHARLTON KINGS family believe they have seen a series of unidentified flying objects over the area.

Mr. Duncan Howgate, of Acomb-crescent, said that on Tuesday night they spotted 15 such objects flying overhead and his sons Ian (16) and Adrian (13), had made detailed diagrams of them.

Mr. Howgate said they had logged their movements and had thought nothing of it until similar activity was reported in the Stroud area.

He added that the objects were like bright lights in the sky and of several different colours.

Pairs of the objects were spotted the following night, and Mr. Howgate said they travelled vertically — sometimes slowly, then speeding up and then slowing down again.

"On Tuesday we rang R.A.F. Kemble, and later we received a call from the duty flight-lieutenant at R.A.F. Lyneham."

"They were unable to give an explanation for the activity, and we had to make a detailed statement on all we could see."

"The boys were quite excited about it and were out in the garden for about an hour watching and sketching what they saw."

Mr. Howgate explained that, because the objects were high up, there was no possibility of confusing lights from the town or cars with flying saucers.

Sightings of a strange ball of white light had been made in the Stroud area on Tuesday night, but a local security consultant has claimed it was probably a powerful new searchlight which was being tested.

HERALD, Glasgow, Scotland - Dec. 11, 1979

## UFO sighting

A UFO SIGHTING was made by workers at a new oil platform production yard in Ayrshire yesterday. Six men confirmed they had a clear view of a shining, bright flying object which moved slowly over the marine constructors' yard at Hunterston. Electrician Mr Les McCracken, of Glenburn Crescent, Largs, said the UFO was visible for more than a minute.

## UFO sighting over village backed by couple

A Histon couple have claimed that they too saw the UFO which a bus crew reported hovering over Teversham last week.

Bus conductress Miss Elaine Granger and her driver Mr Ron Andrews said they saw the UFO while driving home from a late duty at about 11.45 pm.

But on Saturday, Mrs Lynda Howarth and her husband James, both aged 29, of Station Road, Histon, said they watched the strange shape in the sky for 10 minutes on Wednesday.

And still further reports of sightings have come from two 12-year-old girls who are adamant that they saw two similar objects the previous Sunday.

### Sceptical

Mrs Howarth said she and her husband watched "a very long, glowing, half-moon shaped object" for at least 10 minutes as they drove along the A45 from Newmarket towards the Histon turn-off.

"It seemed to be circling and then after quite a time it flew away. We thought we had lost it, but a few moments later it came back — much closer than before."

"It was very large, much bigger than any aeroplane I have ever seen. We saw it very clearly."

"I have always been very sceptical but all I want now is a logical explanation. I had also never heard about the other sightings around Cambridge," she said.

Samantha Benstead and

her friend Linda Pilsworth — both 12 — also spoke on Saturday of their close encounter. They claim it took place last Sunday at about 5.45 pm.

Two objects, one after the other and similar to those seen near Teversham, were seen above Hale Street, Cambridge.

### Glowing

The girls say the first object was already in the air when they spotted it. "It was like a half moon, glowing orange, and every now and then it flashed green," said Samantha.

"Then about five minutes later we saw another one rising from behind the houses in the direction of the airport," said Linda.

"Samantha was afraid and she ran away," she added.

Marshall have already said there were no flights on Wednesday night but the airport was still open on Sunday when the girls claim to have seen the objects.

NEWS, Cambridge, England and Jan. 28, 1980

WESTERN EVENING HERALD, Plymouth, England - Jan. 26, 1980

## Anybody seen this UFO...?

A FORTNIGHT ago a man with a camera sat in his white Cortina near Callington and — it is believed — photographed a UFO.

Plymouth UFO Research Group are desperate to trace the cameraman who may have film of a strange object seen in the sky at Kit Hill on Sunday, January 13, at 4.30 pm.

Mr Desmond Weeks, secretary of the group, reckons 10-20 people saw the object, although only one person reported the sighting. The UFO was cylindrical, spinning as it moved across the sky and stood on its tail.

Smoke and sparks were seen coming from inside the base of the object. It flew from Gunnislake towards Liskeard, going upwards gradually until it

disappeared from sight in the brightness of the setting sun. Mr Weeks said it was a pity more people had not reported the sighting to the authorities.

Other people who witnessed the event should contact the Plymouth group research officer as soon as possible, particularly the man with the camera who may have valuable pictures of the UFO.

Mr Weeks said he hoped the man would be willing to show any pictures captured to the group in order that the sighting may be fully evaluated.

Mr Weeks stressed that all reports were treated with the strictest confidence and would not be used or published without prior consent. Telephone numbers to contact the Plymouth group are 704223 or 366257.

JAPAN TIMES, Tokyo, Japan - March 4, 1980

CR: Y. Matsumura

## Soviet Press Criticizes Flying Saucer Cult

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet press renewed its attacks Sunday on Soviet flying-saucer enthusiasts, insisting that no scientific evidence has confirmed purported sightings of interplanetary visitors or their spacecrafts.

The national daily Pravda devoted nearly a half-page to debunking UFO rumors, including rumors that the Soviet Academy of Sciences publishes "special research volumes" — presumably in secret — about UFOs.

The paper, quoting a reader's letter, also cited underground "UFO reports" that circulate in typewritten form in the Soviet Union.

The reader said the report he saw — entitled "Are We Alone in the Universe?" — claimed to quote "reliable sources" in scientific and government organizations.

## UFOs glow in Greenland skies; 'blue cigar' sighted

GODTHAAB, GREENLAND (AP) — Since the first of the year, residents along Greenland's west coast have been reporting seeing bright objects in the sky.

The observations range from a twin flying object to an oval vehicle with lighted portholes. Teachers and students at a high school reported watching two objects scanning the sea, the fjords and the high school with strong searchlights.

More than 100 people, some of them with binoculars, watched a luminous object hovering over another area, moving up and down and changing into the shape of a blue cigar as it disappeared at high speed.

Lt. Col. H.V. Jensen, acting commander in chief of Denmark's military forces in Greenland, said not a single observation of the unidentified flying objects had been made from planes or ships.

Meteorologist Leo Thorsager said he thought the many strange observations had to do with a lengthy and unusually strong depression, and with large temperature differences between various atmospheric layers.

"Such conditions are known to

sometimes create strange light phenomena which may give the viewer an impression of an object in motion," he said.

Neither the failure of military authorities to confirm any of the sightings nor the theories of meteorologists have done much to convince Greenlanders that they are just witnessing some unusual atmospheric phenomena.

There is no count of the observations reported. But since the first of the year, the newspaper Groenlands-Posten has been carrying a regular flow of reports, often filed by many people observing the same thing at the same time.

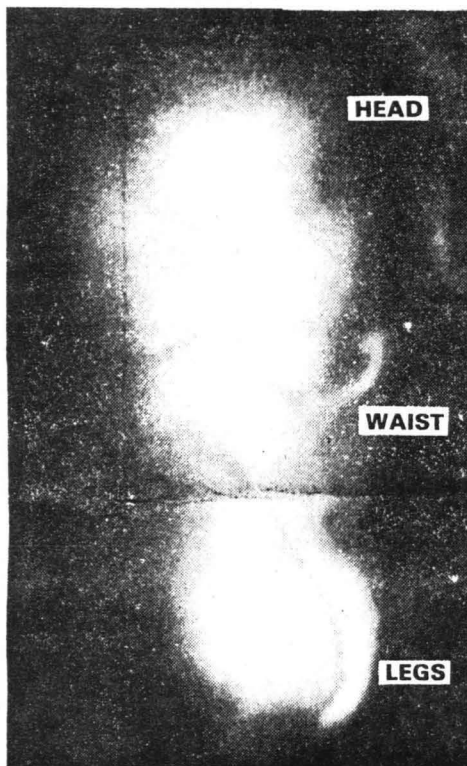
REGISTER, Des Moines, IA

Feb. 22, 1980 CR: J. Brill



# SPACE HUMANOID!

## AUSSIE'S PHOTO CLAIM



★ THIS photograph shows a humanoid alien, claims Australian photographer Jose Duran. He says his film has been verified as authentic.

## 'Galaxy creatures on giant spacecraft'

TRUTH exclusive by  
JOHN PINKNEY

AMAZING shots of outer space humanoids inside saucer-shaped intergalactic spacecraft have been discovered in a color movie film taken by an Adelaide detective.

Scientific investigators regard the photographs — released exclusively to Truth this week — as a major breakthrough in UFO research.

The Kodak company in London has confirmed that the film is genuine, and could not be a hoax.

Some frames show an immense, multi-levelled craft from which a saucer-shaped object is emerging.

In other shots, small beings can be seen through the "windows" and on the surface of the major ship.

The UFO footage, which runs for 210 seconds, was taken on January 22 last year by Jose Luis Duran, a private detective, of Sunnymeade Drive, Aberfoyle Park, South Australia.

Mr Duran has spent the past 12 months photographing 1000-magnification details through an Olympus electron microscope.

News of the eerie, foetus-like creatures revealed by the microscope's searching lens has sent bombshell reverberations through the scientific world.

Professor J. Allen Hymek, former astronomical adviser to the U.S. Air Force, has asked Mr Duran to rush him a copy of the film for evaluation at the Centre for UFO Studies in Illinois.

### CONFIRM

Meanwhile, Mr P M Sutherst, customer relations manager for Kodak, England, has ruled out any possibility of trickery.

In a letter to Oxford UFO scientist Mr Derek Mansell, Mr Sutherst says: "I have checked this movie film and I can confirm that it was correctly manufactured and processed."

"I can also say that the images on the film were formed optically, so they actually existed as you see them."

Mr Duran showed Truth more than 1000 negatives from the film this week.

Several shots have already been inspected by Britain's Contact International organisation, whose scientific advisers believe the film depicts alien spacecraft.

From London, the group's scientific research officer, Mr Derek Mansell, said: "The lights are definitely not those of aircraft."

Space agencies have confirmed that there was no debris entering earth's atmosphere at that place and time.

Mr Duran told Truth: "The first thing I saw, before I grabbed my camera, was a red and blue light, moving from the north-west over powerlines, toward the back of my house. The object was coming from the ocean."

"I was a paratrooper, and I was trained to identify planes by sight, sound and speed. This was no plane."

"I got my movie camera — an electronic Canon Auto-Zoom 10-14, using high-speed Ektachrome 160 film — and took pictures."

"Behaving very much as if it was trying to attract attention, the object, flashing bright lights, changed direction several times — then headed for a big, brilliant star, Venus."

"I'm delighted that Venus is also on the film, as experts cannot now claim that is what I saw."

Mr Duran's film, taken at 4.17 am, seemed to show little more than a brightly-moving light.

But, inspired by news that the Channel 10 Network's UFO film, taken over New Zealand, would be computer-tested, he decided to analyse his own footage.

From a friend, Mr Eddie Clark, who manages a scientific equipment store, he borrowed a \$7000 Olympus BH system electron microscope.

Painstakingly, at the heartbreakingly slow rate of one frame per hour, he took the 1075 micro pictures that are now startling the world's scientific observers.

Mr Duran said: "Photographic experts assure me that the major object, an immense, multi-layered ball, is at least 1200 feet in diameter."

"It's so big that, in one shot, it fills the frame from one end to another."

"But what staggers us most is what we can see, at 1000 magnifications, emerging from the craft."

"One picture shows an object in the perfect, classic flying saucer bell-shape, moving away from the immense ball."

### LIVING

"In other pictures, seemingly living occupants, with gold helmets and space-cords, can be seen through portholes and moving about on the craft's surface."

"And this is only the beginning."

"Soon my footage will be analysed overseas, with equipment far more powerful than mine."

Judging from the evidence so far, we could be making amazing discoveries.

Mr Duran, who emigrated from Spain 15 years ago, is a photographic specialist, who uses film daily for his work as a detective.

Working with other experts, he has used the same camera, under near-identical conditions, to photograph a jet flying over his house.

He said: "We have compared the jet's speed, on film, with the speed of the immense UFO."

"Our conclusion, based on this comparison, is that the UFO was travelling at slightly more than 11,200 kph."

Copies of Mr Duran's pictures are being prepared for computer study in the United States.

Several eminent experts have already told Truth that they believe the photos will make scientific history.



★ JOSE DURAN ... film not tampered with, say experts.



★ THE bell-shaped object arrowed is claimed to be a UFO silhouetted, in the brighter area, against the mother ship.



★ ANOTHER frame showed the phenomenon pictured above right, from a different angle.

DAILY DESPATCH, East London, South Africa  
Jan. 16, 1980 CR: J. Brill

## Two Komga men see UFO

KOMGA — A large bright object, emitting a brilliant orange light, was seen hovering here last night.

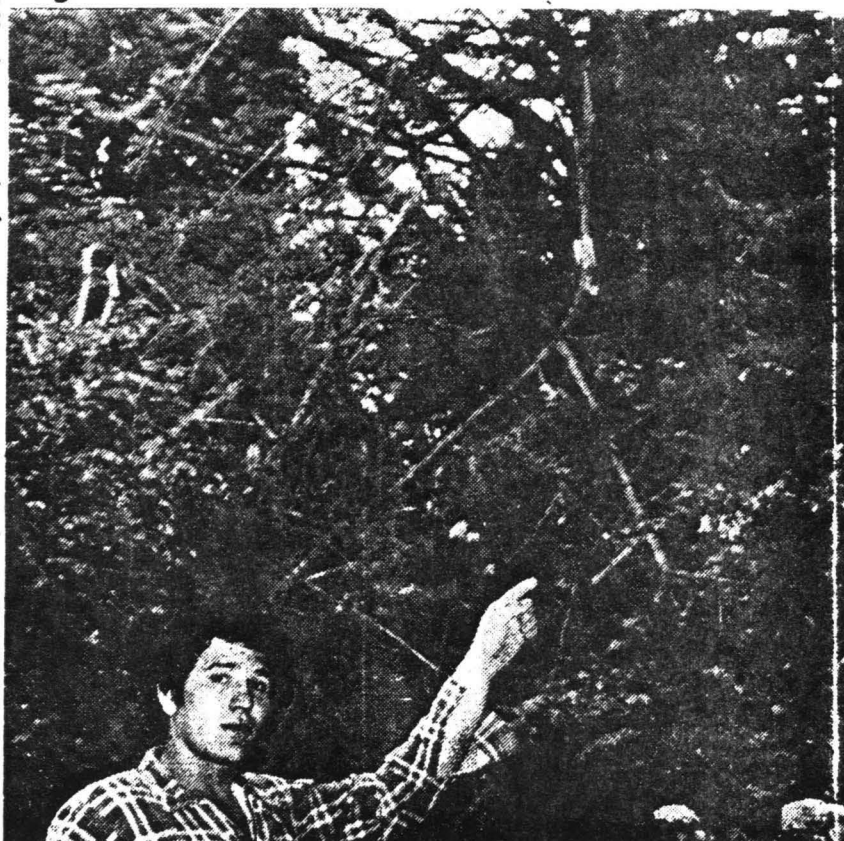
Detective Sergeant B Krog, of the Komga police, who was one of the people who saw the object, said he was sure that it was a UFO.

He said he and a friend, Mr Rodney Lloyd, were having a braai when they saw the strange object. "I have never believed in UFOs but this thing was unlike anything I have ever seen before," he said.

He said the object which was high up in the air, glowed faintly first and then became brighter and brighter. It hovered on one spot for about 20 minutes and then went up and down before moving in the direction of King William's Town.

Mr Lloyd and his wife followed the object in their car. Mrs Lloyd said last night that they followed it to about 15 kms out of Komga. "When we came to the top of a hill it just disappeared," she said. — DUN.

# Night-time terror in Adelaide Hills



Daryl Browne points to the shattered branches where he saw the "UFO"

A HALF moon shaped, eight-metre long "UFO" smashed into a giant tree in the Adelaide Hills last night. Mr Daryl Browne, a Stirling horse stud hand, today showed a News team the massive damage to the 70m pine tree where he said he saw the strange craft. It looks as if a large car had crashed into the tree — except that the damage is 30m above ground.

## Mystery 'craft' smashes tree

A whole big section of the side of the huge tree was demolished by the impact of the "craft" hitting it last night. Branches more than 30cm thick — the size of average pine tree

trunks — were bent like matchwood under its weight. There were no burn marks on the tree or the ground around it, but the trunk showed

several deep gouges from the impact. The tree is on the Glenalta stud in Old Carey Gully Rd. Mr Browne, 21, said he was sitting inside the homestead on the stud about 9.50 last night watching television when two big and normally fierce guard dogs — one a champion Great Dane — began baying and howling in fear.

"I've never heard them anything like that before," Mr Browne said today. "They sounded like coyotes howling at the moon. Then I heard this loud crash and all the timber from the tree splitting. I didn't know what it could have been. I ran outside to have a look but I couldn't see anything then. I walked down the driveway towards the stables, towards where the cracking and crashing was coming from, and when I got under the tree I looked up. Then I saw something yellow, but it was

not glowing or anything like that. I had to shine my torch on it to see what it was, like shining a torch at a car at night. It was like a big cylinder—it was sort of half-moon shaped on the bottom—and it was about eight or nine metres long. I didn't know what to do. I had two children with me and I got them back inside the house before they saw it. I didn't want them to get scared. Then I called the police, but by the time I got back to a window to look outside it had gone.

"It didn't make a sound. There was only the sound of the dogs scared out of their wits and the crashing timber." Today the Great Dane was still too terrified to go close to the tree. Last night he and the other dog stayed inside in terror and would not go outside when Mr Browne called them. "I can't explain what it was," Mr Browne said. "I've never seen anything like it before. It was a very still night. There was no wind up here and there was nothing else that could have caused the damage," he said.

## Space Travelers Fail To Show Up

DAILY NEWS, Matsumura, Japan - March 10, 1980 CR: Y. Matsumura

CASEMIRO DE ABREU, Brazil (UPI) — Maybe they were delayed by a cosmic storm, or perhaps they misplaced their star map. Whatever the reason, the four Earthmen that self-styled "Ufologist" Edilio Barbosa said would return from Jupiter Saturday didn't show up.

The only trouble with that was about 10,000 people believed Barbosa and bused or trekked on foot to a remote "landing site" 80 miles from Rio de Janeiro Airport.

If they were angry at him when the flying saucer failed to show up, Barbosa didn't hang around to find out. His whereabouts were not immediately known, though one report said he fled town by conventional transportation.

According to Barbosa's prediction, four Earthmen — a Canadian, a Dutchman, an Argentine and a Brazilian —

were to return to Earth aboard a flying saucer at 3.20 a.m. EST Saturday after visiting the planet Jupiter.

Or so the communication Barbosa claimed he received from Jupiter said.

Long-haired youths with backpacks joined farmers and other workers journeying through the night to be on hand for the pre-dawn landing near Casemiro de Abreu, a small farming community.

Radar operations at Rio Airport were on the look-out for unscheduled flights, but a spokesman said "nothing unusual" was reported during the night.

"People were singing and happy during the night. It was all very good-natured, even when the space ship didn't come," said Alcirio Solimoes, one of the watchers.

Perhaps the gathering was so peaceful because Police Chief Eralmir Ramirez had banned the sale of liquor at the site, fearing UFO-watchers might begin seeing things that weren't there.

## TRANSLATIONS

### ARGENTINA — Credit: Jane Thomas

City and country of incident: Sali River, Tucuman province, Argentina  
Date of incident: Around November 24, 1979  
Name of paper and date of clip: El Tribuno, November 24, 1979  
City and country of paper: Salta province, Argentina

#### YOUNGSTERS FROM SALTA SAW A UFO NEAR THE SALI RIVER (TUCUMAN)

Four young residents from Salta had a unique experience a few days ago on the banks of the Sali river (Tucuman). At a distance of fifteen minutes from that neighboring province's capital and after hitch-hiking from Salta. Witnesses were Daniel Crescini, Justino Moreno, Federico Higa and a friend (who did not want to give his name), who told El Tribuno of their sighting a UFO at a distance of 30 meters. The young men are around 18 and went to Tucuman province on holiday. At sunset, when they were playing cards, they heard an intense humming noise that shook the waters. Then they saw what is typically known as a flying saucer. "It looked as if it was about to land on or enter into the water". One of the youngsters (Crescini) ran and grabbed a camera with which he photographed the UFO. This flying object had moved at incredible speed and was at a considerable distance from where they were camping. The boys told El Tribuno that this unusual appearance deeply frightened them, so they abandoned their fishing and went immediately back to Tucuman where they had the photograph developed.

At the photographic laboratory they were asked for the photograph but they declined to hand it over wishing to take it back home to show their families. "In spite of the photo nobody believes us", they say. As to their fright, they agreed in that for the time being they "have no desire to go fishing again". El Tribuno was the first news media in the country visited by the four men. They wanted "others to know what happened to us". In this sense the reporter told them that shortly an international congress on "Extraterrestrial Sciences" would be held in Misiones during which — as was announced — worldwide UFO appearances would be dealt with. The spontaneity of these young men, who experienced — as stated — this event, which is unusual to many people, called the attention of the paper's Central Office where they told their experience, which was still fresh in their minds.

City and country of incident: Dammarie, France  
Date of incident: ?  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, December 31, 1979  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO

Paris — Policemen see it

Melun, France, 31 (ANSA) — A UFO was seen for 3/4 of an hour by several policemen from the Dammarie (France) station, it was learned here today.

The police was alerted by a resident about the present of a UFO vertically hovering over the city. The object resembled a big yellow-orange star with intensity variations.

—Towards the South

When the policemen arrived they verified that the object moved very slowly towards the south, to Chailly-en-Biere, and without losing it from sight they followed it up to the entrance to the city, where three quarters of an hour later the object — which slowly descended towards the horizon — suddenly disappeared.

At no time could its altitude be exactly determined, but the fact is that it remained motionless for three quarters of an hour or moving at limited speed, excludes three hypotheses: a plane, a satellite, a meteorite.

#### Balloon?

The hypothesis of a balloon sonde cannot be completely discarded, it being visible at night owing to a phenomenon of reverberation. The policemen, without being able to verify any hypothesis, contented themselves with the visual proof they made during almost one hour.

City and country of incident: Palma de Mallorca, Spain  
Date of incident: January 3, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, January 3, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### OLE! THE FIRST 1980 UFO IS SPANISH

Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 3 (EFE) — The first UFO of the year was sighted over the medieval castle of Bellver which dominates the island city of Palma de Mallorca. Three reporters from the paper 'Ultima Hora' were alerted by phone of the presence of the UFO and went to the castle, but it had already disappeared. They were later advised that the object was visible from a nearby spot to which they went and saw a "flying object which at first sight was slightly larger than the double size of a normal star. Its color, according to the reporters' description, was yellowish, and it gave off intense reddish flashes."

The reporters stress that they cannot draw any conclusions prior to the experts' opinion, and acknowledge that they lack scientific knowledge, but assure having clearly seen a "shooting star" which followed a descending course towards the SW.

Finally, they say, the UFO disappeared over the spot where the sea and the horizon are joined.

City and country of incident: Chaco province, Argentina  
Date of incident: January 2, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, January 4, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFOS REAPPEARED IN CHACO

Resistencia, 3 (From our correspondent) — The residents of a vast sector of this capital were witnesses last night of the appearance in the skies of Resistencia of a UFO, which at high speed flew from south to east.

According to testimonies obtained, the strange object had the shape of a "V" and gave off light blue luminous flashes.

The capital of Chaco province is again a witness, then, of such an appearance exactly one year and nine days after the last observation, of December 24, 1978, when a cigar-shaped object passed from west to east.

City and country of incident: Tetela del Volcán and Hueyapán, Mexico  
Date of incident: ?  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, January 7, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO

Cuernavaca, México, 6 (EFE) — A UFO offered in the neighborhood a long rural spectacle to tens of peasants at the limits of the states of Morelos and Puebla, a short distance from the capital.

The amazed workmen told authorities that the exhibitionist UFO "danced" vertically and horizontally for several minutes over the towns of Tetela del Volcán and Hueyapán, and finally disappeared after landing on a hill.

(continued on page 15)



(continued from page 14)

City and country of incident: Lima, Perú  
Date of incident: ?  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, January 14, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### MARTIANS BLEACH WHAT THEY TOUCH

Lima, 14 (EFE) The hands of alleged space travelers have bleaching properties and remain marked wherever they touch human skin.  
A car driver who was repairing his vehicle right in the Peruvian central highway was approached by an individual who talked to him with a "metallic and resounding voice in the middle of the night". The person touched the driver on the chest leaving the skin bleached and the shape of his hand marked where he was touched.  
This was recently disclosed by Engineer Ermanno Maniero, local representative of APRO, from Tucson, U.S. APRO studies the so-called UFO phenomenon on a worldwide scale and regularly publishes reports on testimonies and sightings made of alleged ships from other worlds and their crew.

According to Maniero, who owns a collection of flying saucer photographs taken in different places in Perú, UFOs move at speeds higher than that of light, by means of a dematerialization process.

Maniero stated that Brazil, Argentina, Chile, México and Perú are countries where the UFO presence is frequent. One of the photographs taken of a flying saucer in Perú, in 1977, was obtained by a priest in the mountainous area of Huazak, department of Ancash, north of Lima.

In 1974, in the Ryzl lake in Uzbekistan, the body of a strange being 1.34 meters tall was found.

City and country of incident: Caracas, Venezuela  
Date of incident: January 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: January 15, 1980 - Crónica  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### UFO OR A SDRY FROM HALLUCINATING CARACANS?

Caracas, 15 (DPA) - A UFO was spotted last night in Caracas, where it overflew the "El Paraiso" housing complex in the city's southwest, according to reports received by "Ultimas Noticias".

The appearance of the UFO was simultaneous with an interference in TV sets, which remained on but with blank screens and soundless. When people looked out the windows to see whether there was trouble with the antenna, they could see a bright object that emitted whitish lights.

The "star" remained motionless for several minutes and then flew swiftly towards the west, climbing at an angle, added residents. Already three cases of flying objects were reported in the last eight days, whose presence in the area has as yet no explanation.

City and country of incident: Italy  
Date of incident: -  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Opinión - January 16, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED A REPORT ON UFOS

Rome (AFP) - The Italian authorities have disclosed a series of testimonies on UFOs which are amazing on account of their apparent seriousness.

Since 1947, when an American got off his plane very excited claiming to have seen a formation of objects that resembled "a saucer ricocheting on the water", this phenomenon has been studied very seriously in the whole world, but especially in Europe and Latin America where organisms composed of military and civil members are on the alert.

The Italian Ministry of Defense published a report, which had been secret up to now, wherein a series of very interesting events are related.

An air controller of the Elmas military base near Cagliari (Sardinia), stated on October 27, 1977: "I saw a UFO that flew at the speed of a jet, at some 926 kph. It was behind a helicopter that was participating in military maneuvers."

This appearance in the middle of a simulated combat had originated a feverish exchange of messages between the Elmas bases and those of the NATO in Decimomannu, the American aircraft carrier "Saratoga", and several military planes in flight.

Some fighter-planes also saw the UFO at an altitude of 500m for four minutes.

Some months before, the night of August 3-4, 1977 -says the report- three employees of the control tower of the Naples airport located a circular (classical shape) UFO which gave off a quite intense white light.

In Pisa, another controller saw the night of November 23-24 of that same year, an object in the shape of a star that rapidly changed color. It was at some 1,500m altitude and was visible in space for two hours. All these testimonies are extremely important, since they come from highly qualified technicians, capable of distinguishing between the different phenomena that may be seen in the sky, from a simple reflection of a known star to a balloon and a meteorite.

However, experts cannot explain to themselves why the Italian Ministry of Defense has kept the secret for three years.

In France, where ufology is an official matter and is studied by the Gépau, a group of scientists depending from the National Center of Space Studies, UFO appearances, systematically investigated and controlled in the field, are fed into computers. Prime objective: to detect false testimonies or those which in spite of the good faith of those giving them, do not offer enough guarantees.

#### FRANCE - SPAIN -- Credit: Joe Brill

City and country of incident: Rouville, France  
Date of incident: January 2, 1980  
News source: Agence France Presse

#### UFO IN THE SOUTH OF OISE

Senlis (France) 3rd January (AFP) - A resident of Rouville, near Crepy-en-Valois (Oise) recounted having seen for some thirty seconds a luminous ball, red and yellow in color moving above him, it was learned from a police source at Senlis.

The only witness of this observation, Mr. Bronislav Pakidowski, saw this ball with a diameter of about fifty centimeters moving parallel to the road - C.D. 136 - where he was located.

Last Sunday and Monday a luminous ball of the same size had already been observed by several witnesses - two of them Gendarmes - in the northeast and the south in the department of Oise.

City and country of incident: Provins, France  
Date of incident: January 5-6, 1980  
News source: Agence France Presse

#### UFO IN THE SKY OF SEINE-ET-MARNE

Meun (France) 6th January (AFP) - Two UFOs were seen during the night of Saturday to Sunday in the department of Seine-et-Marne.

During Saturday evening at about 8:40 p.m., a resident of Provins, who demanded to remain anonymous, described to police authorities the presence in the sky of a sort of red and green ball which disappeared above the woods to the west of the town.

During the same night, about two o'clock in the morning, a young man, eighteen years old, living at Voisenon (Seine-et-Marne) described to police authorities at Meun that he had just seen in a field, close to the road on which he was travelling in the region of Meun, a ball, red in color, which seemed to be just above the level of the ground and from which could be heard a whistling sound. The policemen went to the location but the UFO was no longer there.

City and country of incident: Near Champsac, France  
Date of incident: December 25, 1979  
News source: Agence France Presse

#### UFO IN HAUTE-VIENNE

Limoges (France) 31 December (AFP) - An automobilist claimed to have had the road blocked by a UFO while he drove near Champsac (Haute-Vienne) on Christmas Day. The witness, 30 years old and living at Saint-Cyr (Haute-Vienne), recounted that he was returning to his home around 6:30 p.m. when he saw, at the place called "Grateloube," a dark mass on the road. It was, he stated, a cylinder, dark red in color with a diameter of about three meters and about one meter in height. Three black portholes were visible on the side of the machine.

The automobilist hurried to get out of his vehicle to see the strange object more closely when the object rose up from the ground, allowing four luminous discs to appear and disappeared toward the south. The gendarmes, who only learned of this appearance Sunday, have opened a full scale investigation.

The same day and at the same hour, another witness saw a luminous point in the sky near Chalus (Haute-Vienne).

City and country of incident: Near Guadalajara, Spain  
Date of incident: December 1-2, 1979  
News source: Agence France Presse

#### A UFO PURSUED A AUTOMOBILIST IN SPAIN

Guadalajara (Spain) 4 December (AFP) - A veterinarian claimed Monday to have been pursued by a Unidentified Flying Object while he was at the wheel of his car on the highway near Guadalajara about 50 kilometers east of Madrid, during the night of Saturday to Sunday.

According to his testimony, Mr. Alfredo Sanchez Cuesta observed a UFO which followed his car, then passed it to position itself about fifteen meters above the car. Blinded by the powerful yellow light of the machine, Mr. Sanchez lost control of his vehicle, which went off the road. The machine abandoned the pursuit when the car travelled through towns, stated the veterinarian.

City and country of incident: Between Murcia and Cehagin, Spain  
Date of incident: December 9-10, 1979  
News source: Agence France Presse  
SPAIN: A UFO AT MURCIE

Cehagin (Spain) 10 December (AFP) - A motorist in Spain claimed Monday to have been preceded by a Unidentified Flying Object for several kilometers on the road from Murcia to Cehagin (in the southeast of Spain), during the night of Sunday to Monday.

According to Mr. Jose Ponce, who was travelling with his wife and children, the UFO gave off blue and green lights, stopped when the car stopped, and responded to his headlight signals. The UFO, which flew at a very low altitude, disappeared in the sky at a rapid speed when the car arrived at Cehagin.

Several residents of this locality claimed to have observed the machine. According to numerous testimonies, the Spanish skies have been criss-crossed by UFOs during the months of November and December.

City and country of incident: Angles and Avignon, France  
Date of incident: December 11, 1979  
News source: Agence France Presse

#### UFOs IN THE SKY OF AVIGNON

Avignon (France) 13 December (AFP) - Three luminous machines, reddish orange in color, arranged in a triangle, were observed in the sky Tuesday between 6:00 and 6:10 p.m. by the residents of Angles (Gard), near Avignon.

One of the machines then left at a great speed towards the south while the other two went towards the east. This phenomenon was also observed by the residents of Avignon.

#### SPAIN -- Credit: F. Cerdá Guardia (Trans.: R. Haiden)

Location of incident: near Valencia, Spain  
Date of incident: November 11, 1979  
Name and date of paper: El Periódico, November 14, 1979  
City of paper: Barcelona, Spain

"We were about to hit UFOs"  
The captain of the airplane speaks

Mallorca.- "I detoured the craft because there was imminent danger of crashing with UFOs," stated to EL PERIÓDICO Capt. Lerdo de Tejada, pilot of the airplane that was chased by some unidentified flying objects when he was flying toward Tenerife. After the incident, which forced him to land at the Valencia airport of Manises, the captain of the craft--brother of the man implicated in the Atocha massacre, who is currently a fugitive from jail--wrote up a detailed report that has been sent to the Ministry of Defense.

Moreover, the director of Transportes Aéreos Españoles--company to which the airplane belongs--has indicated that he is in full agreement with the measure taken by the pilot.

"The safety of the passengers," he said, "comes first."  
Miguel Morlán, director of the Valencia airport, certified that he too had seen the red lights over the facilities. "They were," he explained, "some lights like you put on Christmas trees on Christmas."--T. Torres, correspondent.

City and country of incidents: area of Valencia, Spain  
Dates of incidents: November 10-11, 1979  
Name and date of paper: ABC, Nov. 15, 1979  
City of paper: Madrid, Spain

#### "UFO FEVER" IN THE VALENCIA REGION

Numerous people claim to have seen flying objects in different parts of the province

Valencia, 14 (Efe.) Statements from numerous people testify to the presence of "UFOs" over Valencia and vicinity during this past weekend, with the most diverse and curious versions. One news item published today in Levante indicates that there are opinions for all tastes, from the person who saw the "UFO" over Miguelete to those who saw them over the Manises runway [Manises is the Valencia airport--trans.].

According to this newspaper, the Phantoms from the Air Base of Los Llanos, in Albacete, with photographic cameras, had photographed the unidentified flying object.

A Valencia woman confirmed that last Saturday, at El Saler, she and her children saw a "UFO" in the shape of an oval disc, which was going toward the sea. It radiated a very intense light and in the center presented an orange glow. It made its trajectory in complete silence. A couple from Chirivella also testified to having seen the device.

The newspaper recalls on commenting on the presence of "UFOs" behind the TAE [Transportes Aéreos Españoles airline company--trans.] Caravelle, that airport personnel saw the lights pursuing the craft. It says, "They are valid opinions, and one must begin by recognizing that some object followed the airplane, and others like it were stationary at 9,000 feet over the airport, according to the director of the airport himself."

Editor's note. [The following is italicized in the original--trans.] According to our reports, unconfirmed because they concern secret matters, the Spanish military airplanes that took off from the Air Base of Los Llanos (Albacete) to intercept the "UFO" pursuing the TAE Company's Caravelle were not Phantom fighter-bombers. It seems it was only a single Mirage-F1 craft, of French manufacture, that took off on the reconnaissance mission.



## Tracks In Snow: Is It Bigfoot Or A Big Hoax

By WES SKILLINGS

NEW ALBANY—This community is still buzzing about a so-far unexplained sighting that took place east of the borough near Hatch Mountain.

It all began with a pair of hunters from Wilkes-Barre who prefer to remain anonymous. The two men claim they arrived at a hunting cabin last Wednesday evening. At the time of their arrival it reportedly wasn't snowing. Soon after, however, it began to snow and when the hunters went to a nearby spring at approximately 9:30 p.m., there they were—huge tracks freshly made in the snow.

"I guess one of the fellows had had several heart operations and it pretty near scared him to death," said Harlan (Bubb) Robinson, of New Albany, a logger who had been working in the area. Robinson saw the prints Thursday morning, as did a number of other people.

It was reported by more than one eyewitness that the prints measured approximately 17 inches from heel to toe and were estimated to be about six inches wide. According to one published report, the distance between the prints, or the stride length, was four feet, nine inches. However, Dale E. Vester, of E. Towanda, who witnessed the measurements, noted that this measurement was taken from left foot to left foot and estimated that the actual stride (left to right) was closer to about two feet.

"You try to make yourself believe it wasn't there," said Vester, a member of one of the logging crews. "But it was and I don't know how to explain it."

"The thing that really got me was that the prints were so perfect."

Vester said he could see the imprints of all five toes clearly. He noted the impression made by the ball of the foot could be seen, as could the ridge that is formed between the joint of the toes where they bend.

"There is just no way those prints could have been made by something made out of plastic or wood, or something that didn't bend when you put weight on it," Vester said.

Vester said he was working in the woods Thursday morning and when he returned to where his colleagues had been working, they were gone. He stated that they returned in a few minutes in a pickup truck and began telling him about the prints they had just seen.

"I thought they were feeding me a line of bull," Vester related.

Vester and Robinson agreed there were about 20 prints taking a course down a hill to the spring. They were reportedly near a township dirt road known as Deep Hollow Road.

"Where it (the tracks) ended below you could see where it stopped and like it started to make a half turn and go back up the hill," Vester reported.

He added that this was the point where the tracks disappeared, noting that the only explanation he could give was that the creature, or whatever made the tracks, had ascended a nearby bank where bare spots made it impossible to pick up prints.

person said that the distance between prints was only two feet.

It seems that most of the area residents have mixed feelings about the authenticity of tracks and are regarding the story with a grain of salt. One lady said jokingly, "If you see big foot be sure to scare him in the other direction." The two loggers reported that the tracks appeared quite realistic and they thought that it was a great deal of effort for someone who was just pulling a hoax. Dieffenbach, in an attempt to rationally explain the tracks, wondered if the prints could have been made by a man he remembers from about ten years ago as the "Hermit of Lopez."

Historically most of these reports about Big Foot have been restricted to western United States and Canada where the creature is sometimes referred to as "Sasquatch." It is a strange coincidence that the prints found near New Albany are the exact same dimensions as a plaster cast of footprints made in Bossburg, Washington.

ROCKET, Wyalusing, PA - Jan. 10, 1980



### Big Foot Scare in New Albany

Residents of New Albany and particularly those people living in the Hatch Mountain area have become very concerned over an unexplained sighting of exceptionally large footprints which were found on a county road last week.

The tracks were initially discovered at 9:30 p.m. last Wednesday when two hunters from Wilkes-Barre went to a spring near their cabin. A new layer of snow on the ground and a nearly full moon rendered the tracks quite visible to the hunters.

The following morning mem-

bers of a logging crew that was working in the area, as well as a number of other persons also saw the tracks. When the Rocket-Courier reporter arrived a new snow had covered up any trace of the tracks. However, two members of the logging crew, Dale Vester and John Dieffenbach who had seen the tracks, described the prints. According to Vester and Dieffenbach the tracks came down a bank and then continued along the mountain road for about 50 yards and then stopped near a spring. At that point there was no further in-

dication of tracks and it is believed that whatever made the prints had then jumped about four feet up a bank. On top of the bank there was no snow and only frozen ground which made further tracking impossible.

One eyewitness reported that the tracks measured 17 inches from toe to heel and about 6 inches in width. There are several reports about the distance of the stride. One witness said the stride measured four feet, nine inches and another

Vester also pointed out that because the ground was hard and the snow not very deep, there was no way to estimate the weight of whatever made the tracks.

Since the sighting was made, the story has been picked up by a national wire services (United Press and Associated Press). Vester admits this could probably be traced to him, but he insists he had no intention of attracting any attention.

"I came home that night and told my buddy," Vester explained. "My buddy told his wife. His wife told her sister and her sister told her boyfriend. Then I guess her boyfriend told his brother who works at the Canton radio station."

Vester said he later got a call from the United Press asking for information on the sighting. He said the newspaper wire service apparently was informed by the Canton radio station.

"I wasn't looking for any publicity. I didn't tell any newspapers or radio stations."

Robinson corroborated Vester's information—"It was a perfect human print."

Since the sighting, word has spread around the area like wildfire. Although another published report stated that the prints have since melted and can no longer be seen, it should be noted that the prints

are there but, because of a later light snowfall and footprints of curiosity seekers, they are no longer as visible as they once were.

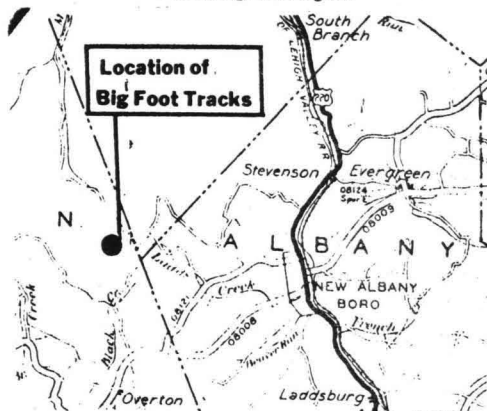
Those that saw the prints agree that if it was a practical joke, someone went to an awful lot of trouble to make it look authentic. In the eventuality that the prints were made by man or beast, what was it? Was it that legendary creature known as Bigfoot or Sasquatch, or was it a very, very large human being walking around in bare feet?

It should be noted that a normal sized human footprint measures roughly 10 to 11 inches from heel to toe and approximately three to four inches at the widest point.

Vester said that aside from the prints going down to the spring, he found a couple more further in the woods. He added, however, that pine trees in that area kept snow from accumulating, making it impossible to pick up any more tracks, providing they proceeded deeper into the woods.

"Oh, I'm not scared to go back there," said Robinson. "I'd like to see whatever did it. I don't know if I'd want to be alone when I saw it, though."

"I figure that if it is some creature like Bigfoot," Vester said, "it's been there for a while and it hasn't bothered us yet. I don't see why it would want to start now."





## Unrefuted 'Worlds in Collision'

To the Editor:

When "Worlds in Collision" by Immanuel Velikovsky was published by Macmillan in 1950, many scientists and astronomers believed that the book was based on erroneous ideas and would soon be disproven. Taking no chances, however, they organized a boycott of Macmillan textbooks, forcing the company to give away the best-selling "Worlds in Collision" to Doubleday.

But discoveries made during the last 30 years have been very favorable to Velikovsky, and Carl Sagan is still struggling to disprove the work of this remarkable scholar [letter Dec. 29]. So difficult has this task become that Sagan invents statistical arguments which he refuses to abandon even when his error is pointed out by Robert Jastrow.

Velikovsky never said that the close approaches of Earth, Venus and Mars

were statistically independent. His hypothesis holds that these events were interrelated over a period of some 750 years. To separate them, as Sagan does, is like claiming that the damage suffered by the fifth car in a chain collision is statistically unrelated to contact between the first two.

Sagan's ultimate objective seems to be a defense of Newton's masterpiece of wishful thinking, the concept of an unerring and eternal clockwork universe. Velikovsky's research has indicated that the literate peoples of antiquity knew better, that they were witness to natural catastrophes which they tried to rationalize through theistic myth and legend. His work has shed light on humanity's arduous and confused efforts to overcome chaos and self-destruction.

CLARK WHELTON  
New York, Jan. 1, 1980

## Joint study of Triangle begins

MOSCOW (AP) — Two Soviet oceanographic vessels left Leningrad Friday to conduct research with American scientists on big whirlpools and other phenomena in the Atlantic Ocean's so-called Bermuda Triangle, Tass said.

The Soviet news agency said the research ships would take part for four months in the next stage of the joint U.S.-Soviet "Polymode" project to investigate the Bermuda Triangle.

According to some reports, the Atlantic area to the west and south of Bermuda has had an unusually large

number of disappearances by ships and planes.

Tass said Soviet oceanographers view as their main objective continuing research on "gigantic underwater vortexes" which can reach a diameter of hundreds of miles and create swirling currents to great depths.

Soviet researchers believe the Bermuda Triangle's "ill-fame" is best explained by "a frequent combination of unfavorable meteorological and hydrological factors" that cannot be predicted, Tass said.

# 2 report Bigfoot sightings in South Weber

By Valerie Schulthies  
Deseret News staff writer

SOUTH WEBER, Davis County — Two South Weber residents have reported seeing someone or something that looked like Bigfoot near their homes last week.

Paulene Markham, 1789 E. 76th South, said she saw whatever it was walking along the ridge of a hill behind her house a week ago Sunday.

Ron J. Smith, 174 E. South Weber Drive, said he saw it in the pasture behind his house the next night when he went to feed his horse.

The two homes are about two miles apart, on opposite sides of town from each other.

Smith said he was about 150 feet from the creature when he saw it. Miss Markham said she was about a half mile from it. She was standing at her kitchen sink getting a drink of water about 4 p.m. when she looked up and saw it on the hill.

"I looked at it and I thought, 'Well, I'm going crazy,'" she said. "Then I walked

away from the window and came back, and it was still there."

Miss Markham said she was frightened and curious, but she didn't go outside to get a closer look. She said she was home alone, it would have taken a snowmobile to get up the hill, and she was late for church anyway.

So she left the house and went to church, telling only one friend about it between

*When he saw the creature in the moonlight, his first thought was that it was a husky high school kid, wearing a big coat.*

Sunday and Thursday, when she heard that Smith had seen something, too.

Miss Markham, a high school student, and Smith, an aircraft inspector at Hill Air Force Base, are cousins. But they said they haven't talked to each other about their respective sightings — they've only heard

about them through others. And Smith said he was not aware on Monday, when he saw whatever he saw, that Miss Markham had seen something the night before. He said he learned Wednesday about what she'd seen.

Neither Smith nor Miss Markham insisted that the thing was Bigfoot.

"I really don't know what it was. I just don't have the slightest idea, because I don't know if I believe in Bigfoot," Miss Markham said.

Smith said that when he first heard two feet crunching in the snow behind his house, he immediately assumed it was a high school student or a prowler. When he saw the creature in the moonlight, his first thought was that it was a husky high school kid, wearing a big coat.

He said it walked rapidly across the pasture into a clump of trees.

Only then, Smith said, did he become alarmed, because from the trees he heard four loud, inhuman screams in rapid succession. The sounds were something like the cries of a cougar, but louder, Smith said. He said the sounds then stopped for a moment, and by this time he was inside his house. From inside, he heard another three screams, then silence.

After awhile, he went back to the pasture to check on his horse, and the animal was standing close to the house, looking in the direction of the trees but without apparent alarm.

Smith said he told his wife what had happened, but she hadn't heard the sounds. He checked later with neighbors and they hadn't heard anything either. Smith said he decided against calling the police, because "we couldn't produce any evidence, so I just thought, 'Well, just let it go.'"

Smith said he checked the snow the next day for tracks and could find only three prints that were not horse tracks. These, he said, were not distinct, and they did not resemble the human-like prints that have been attributed to Bigfoot in the past. He said they were about a foot and a half long and 8 to 9 feet apart.

Miss Markham and Smith both said the creature walked like a human, but with a longer stride. Miss Markham said it appeared to be black or dark brown, and it was very tall — perhaps 8 to 10 feet. Smith estimated 7 to 8 feet, and said it had long arms.

Ken Rosenbaum, who takes care of the apes at Hogle Zoo in Salt Lake City, said the zoo has not lost any of its apes recently, and he doesn't know of any zoos or circuses in the South Weber area that might have lost an animal.

And Clint Groll, a forester for Wasatch National Forest, said it's the wrong season for bears to be out.

"They're holed up" in this cold weather, he said. But Groll said the fact that Smith's horse was not upset by the incident makes him question whether a strange creature was really in the pasture.

Smith said he didn't notice his horse acting strange at all that night, although for two or three days the week before it had refused to come into the trees to get its food and would only eat in a clearing.



## Alberta's blanket of snow stalls cattle mutilations

Reprint: Parkland News 1-30

By RICHARD BOUGHTON  
Of The Parkland News

The blanket of snow covering Alberta should mean relief for cattle producers from the wave of mutilations which have plagued the province since August.

The fact that tracks would be left in the snow, combined with the prospect of the cold and stormy weather making trips to the desolate rural areas more difficult should combine to prevent further mutilations for the time being, said Cpl. Lyn Lauber of Calgary RCMP in a telephone interview.

"Most animals at this time of year are also brought closer to the farm," he said.

Cpl. Lauber and his partner, Cpl. Randy McKenzie, were appointed to head investigations into the mutilations. They have combined with four civilian investigators in the provincial subdivisions to investigate 38 mutilations which took place between Aug. 1 and Nov. 11.

Thirteen of the 38 mutilations have been confirmed as "classic cases" said Cpl. Lauber. These are cases where the animal has been mutilated with near surgical precision. Another 12 cases have been classified by police as "possibly classic," meaning the incisions were not as precise. In these 25 cases, the

cause of death has not been determined. In the remaining 13 cases the animals died of other causes.

Despite the fact there has not been a mutilation discovered since Nov. 11, Cpl. Lauber says the team still has "three months work checking out evidence already accumulated, not to mention what is still coming in."

By "still coming in," Cpl. Lauber means bits of information which continue to be passed on to police as well as tips coming by telephone.

He said even if the team received no new information, they would still have enough data collected to continue their investigation for three months.

"We are still making progress at this point and I think now we understand more about what we are looking for," he said.

"We are investigating the possibility of cult involvement, and have been doing research into the field of the occult in order to better understand what is going on."

"We do not suspect UFO's," he added.

Several experts have speculated organs removed from mutilated livestock are being used in secret cult rites.

Dr. Robert Weyant, a University of Calgary psychologist, has said the sexual organs taken from the animals may have been eaten in an attempt to increase sexual potency.

Through a traditional practice called "sympathetic magic", it is believed certain powers can be obtained by ingesting the organs of animals, he said. Some tribes believe bravery can be acquired by eating the heart of a lion, or virility by eating the testicles of a bull, he said.

In all the classic mutilations, the sexual organs have been expertly removed and in some cases the anus, nipples, tongue, eyes, ears, or lips are also missing.

Cpl. Lauber would not speculate on how close he is to laying charges, but said the team has contacted detectives from all over Canada and parts of the United States.

"Classic mutilations seem to have been centred in Alberta with a couple of possible cases occurring in Saskatchewan," he said. "They have also had a large number of classic mutilations spread over the western U.S."

Cpl. Lauber who has been with the RCMP for 15 years said he has never had any experience with such a bizarre investigation before.

"It is like starting into a whole new field" he said.

# Bigfoot! Fabled creature may be alive and well in Iowa . . .

By JOHN BARBOUR  
State Editor

MANCHESTER—In the frozen reaches of the Himalayan mountains he's called the "Yeti."

High among the Andes mountains of South America they refer to him as "Mono Grande."

Throughout the Cascade Range of the Pacific Northwest in the United States, his name is either "Sasquatch" or "Bigfoot."

In Delaware County, they don't know what to call the creature that left enormous tracks in a stretch of snow-covered woodlands, tracks that to date have remained unidentified.

TO FURTHER complicate the puzzle, they don't know if the tracks were left by the strange-looking animal spotted by a railroad engineer or if they were made by some other mysterious "creature" that may be haunting the rural areas.

According to Sheriff Bert Elledge, who's totally serious about the matter, the chain of events began Sunday, Jan. 13, when Tim BuShaw and a friend, who wishes to remain anonymous, spotted a large, hairy, upright creature in a wooded area near Edgewood, in the northernmost part of the county.

They were driving along a country lane when they saw the creature climb over a seven-foot-high gate and come almost onto the road near the abandoned August Millenkamp farm.

ELLEDGE SAID the men told him the animal came within six feet of their car. The creature was described as dark in color, was approximately eight feet tall and weighed from 350 to 400 pounds.

Both men described the animal as having a topknot on its head with long hair descending from the knot, falling down to the shoulder area. It had a large chest with extra long arms. Both BuShaw and his friend emphasized the hugeness of the animal. "It was a giant," BuShaw told the sheriff.

The sheriff emphasized that both men are well-respected, serious-minded men—not the type who would imagine such a creature and definitely not the type to be pulling a hoax. They also don't want publicity and don't want to be interviewed.

THEIR EXPERIENCE alone would be enough to wonder about but another event takes one further into the unknown.

On Jan. 15—just two days after the BuShaw sighting—Illinois Central Gulf Railroad engineer Cyril O'Brien, 62, of Waterloo was on a regular run with his train. About four and a half miles east of Manchester, O'Brien spotted a large creature near the tracks. It appeared to be on all-fours and was apparently eating the carcass of an animal.

"I've traveled these tracks for 38 years and I've never seen anything like it," O'Brien said. "It was less than 100 feet away and at first I thought it might be a calf. It was mean-looking with long hair, had a flat face and no tail. It was much bigger than any dog could ever be."

He radioed the crew in the caboose and they, too, saw the animal and agreed it was a strange-looking "critter."

Muddying the waters even more, on Jan. 23, Sheriff Elledge was contacted by Dick Foust and Merlyn Havertape who had purchased some land about five and a half miles north of Manchester. They told the sheriff they had found some large tracks that were unexplainable. The sheriff drove to the scene and photographed the tracks which were about 9½ to 10 inches long and about 4½ inches wide. From the spores, he contends the animal that made them was walking in an upright position and since they were deeper than the sheriff's own tracks, he figured it weighed more than 300 pounds.

THE SHERIFF contacted Conservation Officer Jim Becker of Independence, a regional authority on tracks. Becker examined the tracks and said they had definitely been made by an animal—but not by any animal he had ever seen before.

On Feb. 9, Merlyn Boll of Garber contacted the sheriff and told him that his (Boll's) brother-in-law, Jerry Erwing of Colorado, had been in the area in September 1979 and had seen an animal about five and a half miles north of Manchester that appeared to be seven or eight feet tall and weighed approximately 400 pounds. It was walking in an upright position and had a large topknot on its head.

Erwing was squirrel hunting at the time and had driven into a field. As he came up over a knoll, he saw the large creature walking in front of him. It had coarse hair, an extremely large chest and walked in a slightly bent-over position.

Erwing said it walked to the edge of the timber, into the woods, then came back out and looked at Erwing. It appeared to show no fright but neither did it show any animosity. It then re-entered the timber.

IN A TELEPHONE conversation with Elledge, Erwing told him, "I couldn't believe my eyes. Since I only had a 22 caliber rifle with me, there was no way I was going into the timber after anything that big."

Elledge said that anyone talking with Erwing would be convinced there is no doubt as to his sincerity and the sheriff is a veteran lawman.

None of the people involved in the sightings knew others had reported one.

All of the sightings have occurred in two Delaware County Townships—Delaware and Honey Creek, indicating if there is such a creature, its range is pretty well confined to the same area.

Elledge said O'Brien told him that when he saw the animal, the chest portion of its body was covered with cackles which indicates it must sometimes walk on all fours. The sheriff theorizes that it lives along the railroad tracks as this would normally keep it away from populated areas. He said railroad rights-of-way also afford good brush coverage and the culverts under the railroad give it a place to sleep.

To dispel the suggestion that the tracks that were photographed could have been made by a man, Elledge scoffs, "Did you ever see a man with six toes? Those tracks had six toes."

DOES A BIGFOOT-TYPE creature live in Delaware? The sheriff thinks so. While he won't link the animal spotted by the engineer with the tracks, he believes there's a large animal roaming the county and he's hoping no one will get hurt.

He has at his disposal a tranquilizer gun and if the animal is spotted at an appropriate time, he hopes to capture it. What would he do with it? "Well, after it was thoroughly examined, I'd like to see it turned loose again," he said.

Woven through the folklore fabric of history, there have always been stories that concerned half-man, half beast creatures with the Yeti, known as the "Abominable Snowman," the most famous.

Reports from explorers or mountain climbers identified the creature as a large biped, anthropoid ape ranging in height from five to eight feet according to its age, sex or geographic race. It was usually reported as walking with the body leaning forward, its arms reaching down to the knees and with a flat face with the top of its skull shaped like the nose of a shell. (A topknot?)

WHILE THE reports of the Yeti were common in that area for centuries, it was only in the past 100 years that the Western World learned of its possible existence.

"Possible" is the only word to describe its existence. Many natives have reported seeing Yetis but confirmation from reliable sources is lacking and there are no photographs. Despite this, the legend lives on—and grows stronger.

The "Mono Grande" (big monkey) is not as well known as the Yeti. Again, while the Indians of the Andes had carried the legend of the creature through their folklore, it wasn't until 1920 that knowledge of it reached the outside world.

A prospector, returning from the Andes stopped in Panama and told a tale, how true no one knows, of his encounter with a Mono Grande.

He said he was walking high in the range one day when he came upon a creature that was about six feet tall, which walked erect and weighed as much as 300 pounds. It was covered with long black hair and while it didn't attack him, it stood in his trail, chattering excitedly.

The prospector pulled out his revolver and shot the animal. He said he examined it and noticed it had feet like a man rather than the widespread big toe of an ape.

FOR MORE THAN 100 years reports have been trickling out of the Pacific Northwest about giant, ape-like creatures. Since 1958, more than 750 sightings have been recorded of the "Sasquatch" (as it was called by the Indians) or "Bigfoot" as the white man called it.

It is the only one of the legendary giants that has ever been recorded on film. In 1967, two men were horseback riding in the area of Northern California when they saw someone or something about eight feet tall, weighing hundreds of pounds, covered with hair and walking upright. Their horses shyed, throwing them to the ground but the late Roger Patterson of California managed to get his movie camera on the retreating creature.

The resultant film received wide attention and Bigfoot devotees were ecstatic at having their beliefs confirmed. Later, however, scientists said the "creature" walked like a man, possibly in a fur suit, rather than an ape. They based their findings on the differences in the movement of the knees and feet.

Nevertheless, the legend persists.

NOT ALL Bigfoot stories originate from great distances.

On Aug. 22, 1976, near Sibley, 13-year-old Dan Radunz and his father of Ocheydan were driving to the family farm. As they crossed a narrow bridge across the Ocheydan River, Dan spotted a Bigfoot-type of animal on the riverbank.

According to Dan, it was more than six feet tall, covered with hair and standing with its arms raised to its mouth as if dipping water from the river with its hands.

Dan said later he was so surprised he could say nothing.

All day, however, the event worried him and that night his parents, noticing his concern, questioned him as to his silence and Dan finally told them.

The next morning, Dan, a friend and his mother, returned to the riverbank. They found a line of 14-inch footprints, each six feet apart, leading from the woods to the river and then back.

Since then, reports of other Bigfoot sightings continue in Osceola County.

DO SUCH creatures exist? There are many, particularly those who have reported seeing them, that insist they do. There are many doubters, including newsmen.

True, there have been hoaxes and many false reports of sightings. Some people, if told there is a Bigfoot in the area will rush to the newspaper office to swear they've seen one, too, in order to get their names in the paper.

On the other hand, some people report they've seen a Bigfoot and ask not to be identified. And there are undoubtedly people who won't ever report a sighting because they're afraid of ridicule.

Does Delaware County have a Bigfoot? Only Bigfoot knows.

This photo shows tracks of "Bigfoot" (left) compared to those of an investigator from the Delaware County Sheriff's office (right). Several persons have reported seeing a strange "Bigfoot-type" creature in Northeast Iowa.

Photo courtesy Delaware County Sheriff's office

## Cult may be tied to cattle mutilation

GENESEO, Kan. (AP) — A half-dozen instances of cattle mutilation have been reported in Ellsworth and Russell counties since August, and some believe a religious cult may be responsible for the acts.

The carcasses of a \$1,200 bull and \$750 cow owned by Gordon Rush, a GeneSEO rancher, were found three weeks ago in a field. The animals' throats had been slashed and their tongues pulled out through their chins. Both animals had been shot.

William Weber, who runs cattle near Holyrood, lost a 500-pound steer much the same way in November.

Raymond Thomas, Ellsworth County sheriff, attributed some of the mutilations last fall in the central Kansas area to predators. Further investigation, however, has led him to a woman who indicated that the mutilations might be the work of an unidentified religious group she was trying to break away from.

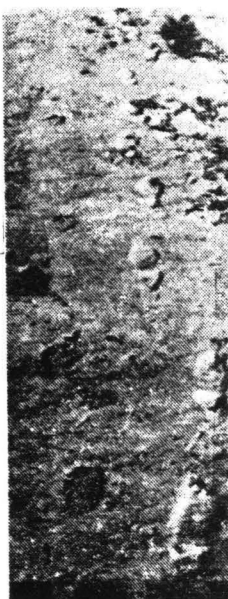
"In some conversations she told (a counselor) that they used cow tongues for a certain ritual and some other parts sometimes," Thomas said.

Ray Christiansen, an Ellsworth veterinarian, said Rush's bull and cow were killed and mutilated by people. The veterinarian says his findings were verified through tests at Kansas State University laboratories.

Although the half-dozen incidents of cattle mutilations reported in the area have been similar, autopsies were performed only on Rush's cattle, the latest victims.

"We're just putting things together at this point," Weber said. "I don't know of anybody who's got a real concrete lead to go on yet. Most of the time, it occurs during the night and very few times is there any evidence of value."

Christiansen discussed his findings, saying: "It's really kind of unlikely a predator would take just the tongue. Usually, too, a predator will start from the other end instead of the tongue. You just can't rule out the possibility that somebody was involved until there is an autopsy."





# DON'T SHOOT A YOWIE!



★ AT Kilcoy, 80km north of Brisbane, they're out searching for the yowie in earnest.

RIGHT: Yowie hunter Rex Gilroy with a cast of the mysterious footprint found near Kilcoy.



★ **Mr Bigfoot is on the prowl again north of Brisbane and although he's a friendly fellow some locals are locking their doors at night**

★ **YOWIE FEVER** has gripped a little Queensland town where two youths say they saw a hairy apparition lurking in the shadows of a creek bed.

One took a panic-stricken shot at the giant form before it disappeared — leaving footprints that have baffled experts and put the wind up everyone else.

Well, almost everyone else. Fearless yowie hunter Rex Gilroy rolled up his trousers and strode into the creek looking for further evidence of Australia's missing link.

Later he announced he would soon mount a major investigation of the area near Kilcoy, about 80 km north of Brisbane — an area Rex says has yielded more reports of yowie sightings than any other part of the country.

"This was no hoax or animal sighting," Rex insisted as he emerged from the creek. "These lads have seen the real thing — the thing I have been hunting for 22 years."

For Tony Solano, 17, and Warren Christensen, 16, the eerie adventure began during the school holidays when they were pig hunting and camping a few kilometres east of Kilcoy.



★ IF you want to join in the yowie hunt, here's how to get to Kilcoy (arrowed).

Warren tells the story: "We were camped in a gully beside the creek when we heard heavy thumping — like really heavy footsteps — about lunch time."

"We thought it must have been an animal of some kind and walked down the creek to have a look. I sensed something and looked up to see the outline of something very large protruding from behind a tree several metres up the gully," he said.

"I fired my .22 from the hip. It was a gut reaction — not something I would have done if I'd had time to think about it. By the time I'd ejected the cartridge and looked up again the thing had vanished."

The friends walked up and down the creek and found several startling footprints in the soft sand. Plaster casts taken by the youths and their biology teacher — who returned to the site with them the next day — show the prints to be more than 30cm long and apparently three-toed.

"We shifted our camp 100m out of the gully and on to flat land," said Warren. "Next day we walked about five km further up the creek and found more of the same prints in various places. The prints indicated that whatever made them had a stride of about a metre."

The creek extends about 20km from foothills to open country near a dense rainforest. Its entire length is covered by overhanging bush and would easily conceal even a herd of cattle moving along it. Rich farming land adjoins the creek.

Warren and Tony's biology teacher at Kedron High School in Brisbane, Mrs Jenny Bollman, told POST she was sceptical when Warren asked her to visit the site.

"I thought we might as well make a picnic of it so I took the family and lunch. When I saw the first prints I was able to eliminate the possibility that a big red kangaroo was responsible," she said.

"There was no sign of the usual tail mark roos leave and the prints were also different."

Mrs Bollman said she became less sceptical and increasingly perplexed as they moved up and down the creek bed checking further prints.

"I didn't really suspect that Warren was setting me up for a hoax — but just to eliminate the possibility I turned around and went in the opposite direction from where he had been leading us."

"After about 150m I found some very clear prints in the soft sand that must have been fresh. I had made a plaster cast of earlier prints and when I matched them they were exactly the same!"

"This was when I began to get really intrigued," said Mrs Bollman. "I have decided to keep an open mind on the matter — what else can I do?"

Warren Christensen seems a level-headed youth. He often ventures into the bush alone to do nature photography or hunt pigs. He says the outline he saw in the gully was definitely not a cow or a horse.

"It stood upright and was ridiculously tall. It was quite motionless. Yet when I looked up after ejecting the shell it was gone."

After talking with Warren and Tony and examining their photographs and plaster casts of the prints, Rex Gilroy could not conceal his excitement.

Rex operates the Yowie Research Institute at Katoomba, NSW, and has trekked all over Australia for 22 years in search of solid evidence that yowies — big-foot, yetis, call them what you like — DO exist.

Rex believes yowies are descended from six-metre giants which once roamed most of the world. He says yowies are harmless, shy creatures who live on nuts and vegetable matter and would run a

mile if confronted by Man — despite being about four metres high and weighing approximately 250 kg.

The yowie hunter reckons that a triangle formed by the Queensland towns of Kilcoy, Gympie and Murgon is Australia's richest source of yowie sightings.

"Even as far back as 1860 there were reports of huge hairy men from settlers in this area," he says.

"The Aborigines were quite familiar with yowies — they named them, and the name means big, hairy man. It's also likely that the name has something to do with the sound people made when they spotted a big, hairy man."

Now, says the tireless yowie sleuth, he is determined to silence the scoffers and jeerers by turning up actual bone evidence of the elusive monsters.

"I need bones, hair, teeth, a chunk of skull or a clear photograph of a yowie. And after checking over Warren and Tony's story I am hopeful that this will be the area where I get my evidence," said Rex, 36.

In the once-peaceful town of Kilcoy, yowies have captured the spotlight. As you enter town you are confronted by a big sign: "Beware, Yowies Crossing Here!"

A local baker has created a special, monster-sized "Yowie Loaf" and although the lads in the local pub hoot with laughter, not everyone is treating the monster scare as a king-sized joke.

Some residents have begun locking their doors and windows at night and local youngsters have been scaring each other silly with tall tales of what they saw lurking in the shadows when nobody else was around to witness it.

As Rex Gilroy wound up his preliminary yowie hunt at Kilcoy and headed for home he left a heartfelt plea to locals: "If you see a yowie — please, whatever you do don't shoot him. Remember, he is more frightened of you than you are of him."

(continued on page 20)



★ WARREN CHRISTENSEN, 16, (left) and Tony Solano, 17, point out a footprint.

## An account with a HAIRY YAHOO...

★ IN THE 1840s reports of an animal called a yowie were fairly widespread.

Mrs Eileen Cox of Noosa Heads has sent POST a copy of a newspaper story at the time. It was originally written in a private diary, not for publication, so there is no suggestion of leg pulling by an old bushman.

● ACCOUNT WITH A HAIRY YAHOO — From a Shepherd's Diary.

This is a true account from a diary of an encounter with a hairy yahoo on a trip from Tamworth to Quirindi in NSW in 1844.

"I made a camp on a high bank of the creek, lit a fire and made myself comfortable, my dog laying down at the fire alongside me. I sat smoking my pipe as the moon rose.

About an hour later, when you could discern objects 200 yards from the camp, I heard a curious noise coming up the creek opposite.

One hundred yards away I saw him. He seemed the same as a man, only larger. He was something like a gorilla, of a dark color and, making a roaring

noise, he went away towards Top Bingara, the noise getting fainter."

Extract from following day: "I started at daylight, getting to Bells Mountain about 9 o'clock.

"Mr Bridger lived there so I stopped and had breakfast. I was telling them about the night before when they said several people had seen the hairy man about there. He was often seen in the mountains towards the Gwydir and about Mt Lindsay.

"I thought, 'How easily this giant animal could elude pursuit, travelling by night and camping in rocks or caves in the daytime.'

"Some people think they are only a myth, but this does not explain the many sightings of them by people in the old time.

"We started from Tamworth about October 4, 1844. Our destination was a place called Quirindi.

"The road at this time was one dense forest from Tamworth to Currubula. A dry and waterless tract of country with plenty of grass but no water."



★ THIS is how Rex Gilroy sees the female yowie. "They're harmless shy creatures."

BELOW: The male yowie — 4 metres (13 ft) tall and weighing about 250 kg (40 stone).



★ REX GILROY has his camera ready, just in case.