

UFO

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Couple claims UFO followed them

By SUSAN HALENA
Staff Writer

Lori Dorn always claimed she didn't believe in UFOs; she "thought it was all a bunch of baloney."

Until Thursday night.

Dorn and her husband, Darrel, say they watched and were followed by a triangular flying object lit in white and red that evening.

The UFO followed Darrel home from work at about 8:15 p.m. and then hovered near their Lida Township home until they left for Fergus Falls, said Lori.

The object was white, and Dorn thought it was a falling star when it first caught his eye, his wife explained. During the three-mile drive from the farm where he works to the Dorns' home, the object slowed down whenever Dorn slowed his vehicle and sped up when the vehicle went faster, she said.

Lori Dorn estimated the noiseless object was

probably as far away as a small plane normally would be, but it was closest and brightest when it hovered at the back of their home near Lake Lida.

The couple watched the object follow their car as they drove west to Pelican Rapids and then south toward Fergus Falls Thursday evening. As they drove through Pelican Rapids, buildings blocked their view of the object, Dorn said, but it later reappeared and continued to lose or gain speed whenever the velocity of their vehicle changed.

Near Erhard, Dorn stopped the vehicle, Lori said. The object then flew closer, and as it flew over the car, the base appeared to be red, she said. The object continued moving south to the east of Highway 59, and the couple lost sight of it by the time they reached Elizabeth, Dorn reported.

Sometimes when seen at a distance, the object ap-

peared to have both red and white lights, said Dorn. It was shaped like a triangle with concave sides and rounded corners, she said.

An unusual white light has appeared at various times throughout the winter near the farm where Dorn works, according to Marietta Drayton, whose husband owns the farm.

But the object has never moved in the times when Drayton and her family watched it, she said.

The Dorns reported the incident to the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Department after reaching Fergus Falls at about 9:20 p.m. Thursday. Sheriff Glen Melby said the Dorns' report of the sighting is the only one the department has received.

Dorn added that she hopes she doesn't see the object again, but at the same time would like someone else to see it. "People think I'm crazy," she added.

UFO's Come Calling Again

Just as a rash of unidentified flying object (UFO) reports were fading from recent memory, Sussex Countians got wind of another sighting last Saturday night that drew the attention of state police, who combed an area near

Georgetown by both car and helicopter to no avail.

Dale E. Hare, a 20-year-old security guard at the Sussex Vocational-Technical Center on Route 9, just west of Georgetown, called police at 8:30 p.m. to report that an object he could not identify apparently broke apart and landed in a wooded area behind the school.

Hare told state police Saturday evening that he watched the object for about 20 minutes before it fell out of sight—describing it as a fixed, white object that emitted a white and red light.

Hare's description was confirmed by the Rev. David Stricker, pastor of Millsboro's St. Mark's Church, who was enroute to a friends home in Georgetown about the same time Hare spotted the object.

"It was pretty far away when my wife and I saw it," Rev. Stricker related Monday morning. "It didn't ap-

pear to be moving and the light changed from a white to red to blue hue as we watched it."

Though Rev. Stricker could offer no physical description of the object, he did recall kidding his wife that it might be a UFO.

"I've never seen anything like it before," said Rev. Stricker, who later tuned in on a police scanner to listen to the search.

"It was funny," Rev. Stricker recalled. "The police were calling in to headquarters and asking what they should do with it if they found anything, and headquarters was asking the helicopter if they had found any green men yet."

Though many area residents chuckle at the mention of UFO sightings, Millsboro holds the distinction of having sighted the first unidentified flying object—a daylight sighting over property formerly occupied by the

Houston White Company last September 11. Five Millsboro residents, including a service station owner, town councilwoman and policeman, were awed by a bluish-gray oblong object that hovered close to the ground for about ten minutes before slowly drifting away.

That sighting was followed by numerous other reports of UFO's in Smyrna, Milford, Slaughter Beach and Felton, just to name a few areas.

The hubbub in Sussex County also drew the attention of a National Enquirer reporter, Bob Pratt, who also works with an organization that investigates UFO reports. Pratt caused quite a stir when he passed through Millsboro to interview the residents who reported the first sighting.

Officials said Saturday's sighting was probably caused by unusual atmospheric conditions.

Is this REALLY a UFO?

By Pam Pallis

HOPATCONG—It's a bird, it's a plane...tain't neither...it's...?

That's what William Bell, 17, Innis Ave., wants to know.

At first glance, the saucer shaped object in the center of the picture looks like a flying spaceship, an unidentified flying object—UFO.

But, Bell isn't so sure and after two months of eyeing the picture, he's decided to try to find out whether it's a hoax or the real McCoy.

Bell, 28, admits the picture came to be in his possession by a circuitous route.

"The wife of a long-time friend who had moved to Texas showed it to me at Christmas when she was up visiting her in-laws," says Bell, a free lance concert audio engineer for various bands and singing groups.

He says she got it from friends in Michigan where the photograph was taken sometime during the last couple of years.

"It's kind of mind boggling. It's starting to bother me now. What if it's real and not a hoax?"

Bell says the Air Force told him

it isn't in to UFOs anymore and referred him to an address in Iowa.

He went to the physics department at the County College of Morris in Randolph.

Staff members told him, "If it

isn't real, somebody went to a lot of trouble," he says.

Someone there gave him the address of Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an expert on UFOs at Northwestern University in Illinois.

"I'm not saying it is real, but I would like to know for sure," says Bell as he studies the photograph.

"If someone can tell me there is a reasonable chance the object really is a UFO, then I intend to try to track it down," he declares.



Were UFOs hovering over us last night?

By GENE WARNER

Just what was that blob of orange and yellow lights that hovered over the Binghamton Plaza about 8:15 last night before flying off in space?

That's what about 10 people frantically wondered today, as they tried to convince their friends and relatives that they weren't out on a week-night bender when they reported . . . well . . . you'd have to consider it a flying object that has yet to be identified.

"It was really kooky," said Daniel Polhamus of Port Crane. "I wish I was drunk, so I could explain it that way."

Gary Slocum, of Sunrise Terrace, said, "I'm a believer now in strange objects. I don't necessarily say there are little green men up there, but I think I know what I saw. These things appeared saucer-like, oval-shaped."

In a scene that had to happen sometime in Rod Serling's hometown, observers said they saw anywhere from two to about 10 orange-yellow lights flying in formation, then converging and almost bumping into each other.

The whatever-it-was then floated noiselessly above the plaza, some said. "There was four lights just sitting there in the sky for about five minutes," Polhamus said. Then they headed north, he said.

Slocum had a different version. "There were about 10 saucer-like, orangish-colored objects moving across the sky, sometimes in unison and sometimes not." They seemed about as far away and about the same size as stars, Slocum said.

What could it have been?

A bird?

Only if the bird came equipped with lights and batteries.

A plane (or planes)?

Sounds like a good theory. "I thought I saw two planes," said Vivian Arquette of Hillcrest. "It's funny that they would come side-by-side together. Then the plane on the left stopped, perfectly still in the air. I thought, 'How could a plane stop?'"

Arquette then dashed the plane theory: "It couldn't be a plane and stand still. It couldn't be a helicopter and not make noise."

She and others said they saw a real plane that apparently passed near the lights, just missing them.

Arquette mentioned another theory: "One person thought they could be balloons filled with helium, but how could they come and line up like that?"

No authorities could clear up the mystery this morning. A spokesman at the Broome County air traffic control tower said the night crew reported getting a few calls, but saw nothing unusual on radar.

How about the unthinkable? Was it a UFO?

"Some lady said, 'Hey, it must be from outer space,'" Arquette said. "I kind of hesitated even calling you because some people think it's your imagination. No, this wasn't my imagination."

Polhamus said, "My feeling about UFOs is that they're a phenomenon of nature, a quirk, like a reflection off a jet or off a river. But last night's thing . . . there were just four lights, dull yellowish-orange. There was no shape."

Polhamus said if the lights just had disappeared, he would have thought them just a reflection. But seeing them fly off killed that theory.

For every person who dares breathe a suggestion about UFOs, there is a scientist looking for a rational explanation.

From the somewhat contradictory description he was given over the phone, Robert Aguglia, curator of the Kopernik Observatory, mentioned the possibility of a satellite whose large, flat surface reflected light. Such a satellite's motion would appear erratic to the untrained eye, he said.

Aguglia also said that if the light were more diffused, it could have been an aurora, a display of the northern lights.

The Rev. Barry Downing, an Endwell author of a book on UFOs and religion, said of such long-distance lights, "These might be genuine UFOs. But the chances of identifying them are so remote, it's the least useful type of sighting."

Arquette had another observation, culled from reading about UFOs: "I had in my mind that they'd be faster than that. And I never imagined they would be over the city like that. I thought they would be out in the country."

Sounds like some people thought they saw a UFO last night.

STAR, Wilmington, NC - March 10, 1980

UFO scares city resident

John Johnson of Wilmington still doesn't know what it was that flew over his car Saturday night.

It sounded like a jet, but hovered over his car, shining a brilliant white light. It could have been a helicopter, but Johnson said it didn't sound like one.

Whatever it was, it was startling. "It sure scared me," Johnson said Sunday.

The air traffic controllers at the New Hanover County airport did not have any reports of anything unusual in the area around 9:30 p.m., the time Johnson said the object swooped down over his car as he was returning from Figure Eight Island on Porters Neck Road.

"It was something that sounded like an airplane. I had my little dog in the car with me and he started howling like it was hurting his ears."

"I thought the thing was going to crash on me and I got out of the car."

"It just lit up everything around me. The light was so bright I couldn't see what it looked like," he said.

It remained overhead for about five to 10 seconds, he said, before it suddenly took off and disappeared from view.

"I don't know if it was a helicopter or what it was. I really thought it was an airplane. It didn't sound like a helicopter," he said.

Johnson called the New Hanover

County Sheriff's Department and reported the close encounter. Deputy W.R. Ruefle reported the incident as a sighting of an unidentified flying object.

A spokesman at the New Hanover airport control tower did not know what Johnson might have seen. The controller said the area is often used for military flights, including helicopters, but is not usually used for military traffic on weekends.

Some helicopters in the area are equipped with bright white lights, the spokesman said, and other flashing lights on a helicopter could have reflected off an overcast sky and made the lights appear brighter.

REVIEW, Fowlerville, MI
March 12, 1980

Fowlerville gets visits from 'UFO's'

Fowlerville

When it rains it pours.

Close on the heels of last week's high flying UFO has come an even closer reported encounter of a similar kind.

Joseph and Laurie White were returning from Howell Monday night to their Fowlerville apartment when they noticed a bright white light following them eastward.

According to Mrs. White, a plane was going up from the Livingston County Airport at the same time. There was no doubt in her mind that the white aerial object was something altogether different.

But no casual loiterer this. According to the Whites, the object did not simply float in the sky but followed them toward Fowlerville. It stopped when they stopped. It changed direction when they changed direction.

By now thoroughly alarmed, the Whites returned home and called relatives.

Mrs. White's brother and his girl friend, her father—a pilot in his own right—and her mother, her boss in the Bell Oak area and a co-worker at Mr. White's company, reported seeing the UFO.

And here's where the story really begins.

The object disappeared when the Whites went up to their third-floor apartment. Mrs. White started to call law enforcement agencies to see if they had heard of the sighting, when suddenly her husband let out a shout.

"He's not very excitable," Mrs. White said. "I was scared. I knocked a chair over."

From a field across I-96, the object was drifting directly toward the apartment.

"It was so huge I couldn't understand how it could stay in the air," Mrs. White said. "It had banks of red and green lights. It glided over us without a noise."

Mrs. White says she ran downstairs to go outside. Just as she was passing a chandelier in the apartment hall, the fixture shattered on its mounting.

"It didn't fall. It just shattered," Mrs. White said.

She and her husband stayed up all night after that, watching the sky. In the morning the chandelier was still broken in the hall.

"We didn't believe in UFOs at all, not before this," Mrs. White said.

POST & TIMES STAR, Covington, KY - March 12, 1980

UFO goes out 'like a match'

By Steve Key

Kentucky Post Staff Writer

Walton may have experienced a close encounter of the first kind

A bright, glowing object has been seen for two consecutive nights over the Walton National Guard Armory.

John Still, 81 Needmore St., Walton, first saw the object Monday night from the back patio of his house.

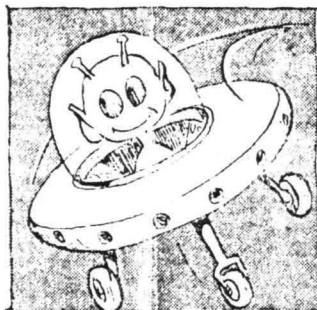
"Around 7:30 p.m., the dog started barking in the back of the house," Still said Tuesday. "There was a light so bright that I think the dog was barking at it because he had his nose pointed straight up at it."

"There were aircraft approaching the airport in a northwesterly direction in relation to my back porch but they were too far off for this light to be a plane," the 57-year-old Still said. "It remained over the armory which is also northwest from my patio until 9:30 p.m."

"Tonight (Tuesday) by coincidence I looked out the back at about the same time and the object was there again in approximately the same location so I called it in (to police)."

Walton Ptl. John Hines was dispatched to investigate the call.

"I did see an object at about 8-9000 feet over the armory," Hines said. "It was a round, yellow, glowing light. I advised the county (Boone County dispatch) and the airport so they could try to scope it on their radar." He spotted the object at approximately 9:38 p.m. as he approached the area from the north.



"A plane was flying towards it at one time and then made a U-turn and came back," Hines said.

"At times the object got big and bright and then it would dim down and then get bright again," the 36-year-old policeman said. "It's unreal. At one time it flashed like it was coming toward the building."

"After a half hour, it just barely moved away and disappeared. It's crazy; it's not something you see every day."

"The airport couldn't spot anything," Hines added. "They even sent a plane to try and pick it up and observe it. I can't understand why they couldn't pick it up."

"It was like a big diamond. It left heading southwest. It went out like someone blowing out a match."

"I wouldn't say anything if others hadn't seen it. But I've got scores of witnesses. Several people in the city came up to the armory to watch it,"

said Hines, who lives at 7760 Arrowwood, Florence.

Controller Greg Carram, who was in the Greater Cincinnati Airport Tower starting at 7:30 p.m., said no object was seen.

"We got a call from Walton, but we had three planes in the area and they didn't see any object," Carram said.

Still couldn't understand why it couldn't be spotted from the air or by radar.

"The skies were clear which means unlimited visibility," Still said. "It was about 8-9000 feet up in the air and I'm pretty good at judging distances since I jump-tested parachutes for the Navy."

"It was like a big, bright diamond—a real bright white, I saw no amber color at all from my angle."

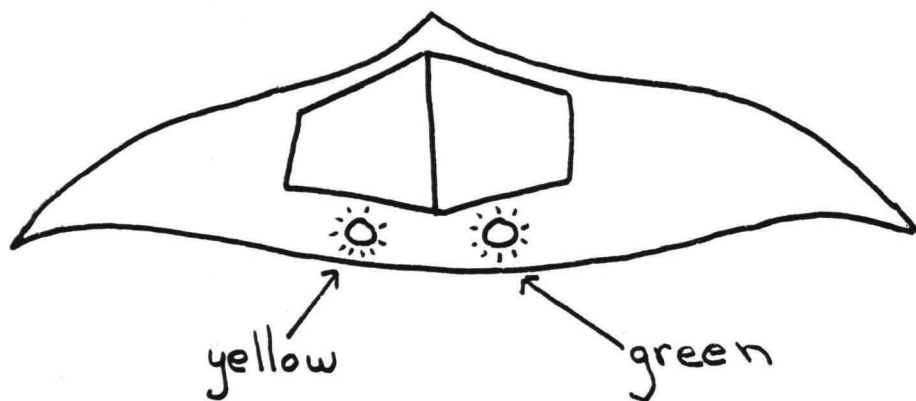
"It could have been a weather balloon reflecting the lights from Cincinnati, but I don't think that's possible because the city's too far away," Still said.

"Who knows, it could have been an act of God getting even with the hypocrites on earth," Still said with a laugh. "I've never seen anything like it."

Hines plans on being in the vicinity of the Walton armory tonight.

"I'm hoping it will come back," Hines said. "I'd like to get a better look at it, maybe from a different angle."

"I can just see my son now; he's into all this Star Wars stuff, right now."



PAUL OKONIEWSKI drew this rendition of the UFO he says he saw while camping at Camp Ground Rotary in Ray Township. Okoniewski is a boy scout leader for Troop 256 at Indian Hills Elementary School.

Scout leader claims to have seen a UFO

By ELIZABETH DEZIO
Advisor Staff Writer

"There was a loud humming noise as it approached us. It was about 50 feet in diameter and there were yellow and green lights on the front. The ground vibrated slightly as it flew about 100 yards above us," Paul Okoniewski said.

He was describing the "exciting experience" he and two friends had recently when they were camping and saw a UFO.

"DID YOU ever see Star Wars?" he asked. "It was just like the beginning of the movie when the space station flies slowly overhead and there's that loud vibrating noise," he said.

Myra Kukuk, 23, Okoniewski 21, and a 15-year-old boy scout were camping on Camp Ground Rotary, near 29 Mile Road in Ray Township, on Feb. 9.

"We camped out in the winter and it's actually a lot of fun. That night only one scout came," he said.

OKONIEWSKI is a boy scout leader for Troop 256 at Indian Hills Elementary School. He also works the afternoon shift at General Motors Tech Center.

He takes boys from his troop and camps out with them on weekends.

While the other two were warming themselves by the camp fire Okoniewski was getting things out of his truck when he heard a loud humming noise.

"IT WAS about 10:30 when I heard the noise. At first I thought it was a car approaching with snow tires. Because the noise sounded like snow tires riding on pavement," he said.

But then he realized they were in a deserted part of the camp and there wasn't a paved road in the area. That's when he looked up.

About this time the other two campers noticed the lights and sound and looked at the usually dark sky.

WHEN OKONIEWSKI looked at the front of the craft he saw two front windows. He said he couldn't see inside the craft because there was a bright florescent glow coming from the windows.

Thinking quickly, Okoniewski grabbed his camera and began shooting pictures.

"I saw the front of the craft with my eyes, the back through the view finder of the camera. I exposed the pictures at F 3.5 for 1/10 of a second. I got the film back the other day, and there were no pictures of the UFO," Okoniewski said.

HE HAS NO explanation for the blank pictures. He has used the camera many times at night and has always gotten pictures.

Okoniewski explained the exposure setting he used would have let enough light in the camera to photograph candle light in a dark room. The lights from the aircraft should have at least been visible in photos.

Could the three have seen an aircraft from Selfridge Air National Guard Base?

THE STATE Police called Selfridge when Okoniewski reported the UFO. Selfridge official said a transport plane flies through that route late at night.



PAUL OKONIEWSKI

"No way was that a transport plane, he says emphatically. "My dad is a pilot and I've been around jets all my life. We even have a plane parked in the garage, and I know a jet when I see one."

He gave three valid reasons why it couldn't have been a jet. One, it was flying too low, jets must fly at an altitude of at least 500 feet. The second reason was the craft was too wide.

THE THIRD reason, he said, was standard aircraft have red and blue lights on the front and a strobe on the tail. This had distinct green and yellow lights on the front and no strobe on the back. There were red and white lights staggered around the back.

The object was traveling in a southwest to northeast course.

"A man I work with lives on 28 Mile near Van Dyke, told me that night he heard a loud noise. At first he thought it was a train, and then he thought about it and realized there are no trains that come near the area," Okoniewski said.

"YOU KNOW it's funny," he added, "some people believe me when I tell them what we saw, others just laugh."

What does Okoniewski think he and two friends saw? He paused a minute and then said, "Oh, I don't know, anything is possible. I tell you one thing it sure wasn't an ordinary aircraft, no way."

'Too Low, Too Bright' For a Star

A "bright light in the sky," believed to be an unidentified flying object, followed a Sonora brother and sister Sunday night as they drove from the Merced area to Highway 108 at LaGrange Rd.

The brother and sister reported that when they stopped at Highway 108 and La Grange Rd. to observe the light it was joined by three other objects for about 30 minutes before all four disappeared.

A Sonora woman has also reported that she saw a triangular shaped object in the sky sometime between 8 and 9 p.m. Sunday as she was heading toward her Rancho Sonora Estates home.

Marv Taylor, local Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) director, speculated the object spotted by the Sonora woman may have been one of the craft on its way to join the others at the La Grange Rd. intersection.

Taylor said MUFON today is investigating the report and information so far points to numerous UFO sighting in Northern California over the weekend.

A spokesman for Castle Air Force base near Merced told Taylor the base was "aware of UFO activity but did nothing to generate" the reports.

A Bay area television station also received numerous sighting reports over the weekend.

"There's no question there was UFO activity over the weekend," Taylor said. "The question is whether the sighting was part of it and I think it was."

Taylor said that according to reports the objects were flying lower than airplanes normally do and that they moved quickly and stopped several times.

"It is a very unusual sighting because of all the activity they say happened and the duration of the sighting," Taylor said.

The brother, 25, and sister, 19, provided Taylor with written descriptions of what they saw. The truck they were riding in was driven by the brother.

The unusual light was first spotted by the sister as they drove northbound on Highway 99 approaching Merced. At first she thought it was a star though it appeared to be "too low and too bright."

She mentioned the "star" to her brother and continued to watch it until they approached the Snelling-La Grange area.

"We drove through Snelling and as we turned onto La Grange we noticed that this bright star which had been behind us was across from us and was keeping up with us," the sister reported.

"All of a sudden it was directly to our left," the brother said. "Then all of a sudden it was in front of us but still slightly on our left side."

The object was reportedly a bright white light with red and green visible at times.

It could move sideways very quickly and at times appeared to be "sitting still" in the sky.

The brother and sister stopped twice along La Grange Rd. to observe the object.

"When I would stop it would just hold its position until we started driving again," the brother said. "Then it would move again."

They watched the object for about 15 minutes.

"We drove on and so did the UFO," the sister reported. "It was keeping up with us and then it would slow down and get behind us out of our sight," she said. "We would be hidden by a hill for a second and when we came out the UFO would be right across from us."

The UFO followed the truck to near the intersection with Highway 108 when the pair pulled aside to again watch the craft.

"At this time it was right in front of us and looked stationary," the brother said. "We had been stopped for only a minute or two when the one we had seen all this time met with another one."

Two more were then spotted.

They watched the four objects for about 30 minutes until they disappeared.

The entire sighting lasted about two-and-a-half hours.

Taylor said Sunday night was clear, with no moon. The pair spotted less than a half dozen other vehicles on LaGrange Rd.

Taylor said he is uncertain whether the four objects were separate craft or if the larger object was a "mother ship" and the objects that joined it vehicles from the larger craft.

Another UFO Sighting Reported Here

Unidentified objects in the night sky, similar to those seen Sunday by three Sonora residents, were spotted Thursday night in the Second Garrotte area near Groveland.

Marv Taylor, local director of the Mutual Unidentified Flying Objects Network (MUFON), said the sighting

was reported to him last night by a Pine Mountain Lake family.

They reportedly tried to contact Taylor at his home Thursday but were unsuccessful. They tried again yesterday after reading reports of the Sunday sightings.

A Moccasin powerhouse operator has suggested that

local sightings may have been military aircraft refueling operations that have been seen in the evenings from the powerhouse.

Several surrounding military air bases have been contacted and are trying to determine if their aircraft were flying in the area at the time of the sightings.

A spokesman for McClellan Air Force base said refueling operations are common but did not know if any were going on Thursday or Sunday nights.

The possibility that Sunday's object may have been a highway patrol helicopter has been eliminated. Division headquarters in Fresno reported their helicopter was not flying in the LaGrange Rd. area where the object was spotted.

Taylor said Thursday's ob-

jects were spotted sometime between 6:45 and 7:10 p.m. while the couple and their 8-year-old son were driving in the Second Garrotte area.

The first object, the biggest of the three, appeared to be at tree-top level, the family members told Taylor. Its length was estimated at 300 to 400 feet.

Porthole type windows were seen along the sides of the oblong object.

"He said it looked like the Good Year blimp," Taylor said.

The man reportedly has a military background and is familiar with aircraft.

At the front of the object was a white light which turned green and a reddish-orange tint surrounded the windows. The rest of the object was reported to be a pale glow.

Taylor said the family tried to find a place to pull aside to watch the object but by that time it had gained altitude and was joined by two other objects.

Two separate UFO sightings were reported Sunday night by a Sonora woman and a Sonora brother and sister.

The woman reported seeing a triangular shaped object at a low level as she drove to her Rancho Sonora Estates home.

The brother and sister reported they were followed by an object Sunday night as they drove along LaGrange Rd. They told Taylor they stopped several times to watch the object and it hovered in the area when they did.

Taylor said numerous UFO reports have been made in California and the midwest during the past week.

"I think we're looking at UFO activity that is not only peculiar to our area but to other areas of the state as well," Taylor said.

MUFON investigators will visit the Second Garrotte site where Thursday's object was spotted.

Taylor asked that persons who may have spotted objects call MUFON at 532-6711.

DAILY JOURNAL, Waseca, MN - Feb. 18, 1980

UFOs sighted in area

Two sightings of unidentified lights were reported to the Waseca County Sheriff's Office Friday night.

Bruce Howard said he saw a "real bright light" about 500 feet off the ground around 8 p.m. Friday. Howard said he and his brother and two children saw the light about 1½ miles west of Otisco.

Howard said the light changed from yellow to red to green and kept moving west. He said he followed the light beyond Silver Lake.

Howard said he saw a light of the same colors Saturday night that was

even father west. He was unable to explain what it might have been.

Lowell Kohnert also reported that his family saw a strange light Friday night.

Mrs. Lowell Kohnert said that Debbie Cooper was on her way to the Kohnert house 3½ miles northwest of Waseca Friday night when a light followed her along a gravel road. Mrs. Kohnert said her family saw a red light close to the ground in the west. She said it turned yellow as it rose in the sky.

Cooper is in Minneapolis and could not be contacted today.

ADVERTISER, Walton, KY - March 19, 1980

UFOs spotted in Walton—fact or fantasy?

By Rick Gill

Several people spotted something in the skies over Walton on a couple of occasions last week.

John Still, 81 Needmore St., Walton, said he was alerted when his dog started barking Monday, March 10, around 7:30 p.m.

"Usually the dog reacts to a train whistle, and starts barking," Mr. Still, 57, an ex-Navy man said. "But I checked just the same."

The Walton resident said it was no train that set his dog to barking on this occasion.

"I looked up in the sky in a northwest direction over my house," Mr. Still said. "That's the direction the dog was looking. He had his nose pointed straight at this bright brilliant object."

Describing the sighting, the Walton resident said whatever it was, it could not have been any higher in altitude than 8,000 to 9,000 feet. From the

direction of his house, Mr. Still said the object appeared to be directly over the Walton National Guard Armory.

Reporting the object as being stationary, and not changing in altitude or distance, the ex-Navy man said the UFO did not disappear until 9:30 p.m. Monday, two hours from when Mr. Still said he first saw it.

The UFO was seen by Mr. Still again Tuesday evening, March 11, at about the same time. "This time the bright object stayed visible for about two and a half hours," Mr. Still said. "I got out my binoculars to look at it, and it was so bright I couldn't see any other details - no other lights coming from it."

Tuesday night Mr. Still reported the UFO to police.

"Officer Hines from the Walton Police called the Airport, but they said they couldn't pick anything up on

radar," Mr. Still said. "It's my opinion that a stationary object should be picked up on radar as a blip on the screen."

The Walton man also said the airport sent some planes over in the general direction of the armory, but no sighting were reported by the pilots.

"I tried to call the airport, but I couldn't get anyone over there," Mr. Still said.

Officials at the National Guard Armory said they knew of no conditions at that time that would produce such sightings.

Mr. Still said he did not think the U.S. Air Force would release any pertinent data.

"But if it's something they don't know about, they try very hard to get the information," the Walton man said.

Mr. Still said he is a firm believer of life in other parts of the universe.

REGISTER-MAIL, Galesburg, IL - March 21, 1980

Keithsburg woman believes 'bright light' was UFO

KEITHSBURG - Are creatures from outer space descending upon Iowa?

Terese Birch, Keithsburg, is probably asking herself that question after observing a "bright light much larger than a star" in the western sky Thursday night for one hour.

Mrs. Birch said she first noticed the light at 9:05 p.m. over Mates Island in the Mississippi River. When the light was still visible at 9:30 p.m., she asked her son Robert to look.

Birch, using a pair of binoculars, said the light was moving slightly, up and down and to the right and left.

Mrs. Birch then called a neighbor, Veronica Stewart, and asked her to look in the western sky, 90 degrees below and to the north of the moon. Ms Stewart also saw the light and agreed that it was not a star or an airplane.

A second neighbor also saw the light. However, a friend of Mrs. Birch's in New Boston, nine miles

northwest of Keithsburg, could not see it.

Mrs. Birch described the light as "three or four times the size of a large star" with a yellow glow. Some "wispy" clouds were in the sky but the moon and stars were visible, she said.

At 10:05 p.m. Mrs. Birch said the light began to descend below the tree line and disappeared from view.

Birch and a neighbor had driven to the Keithsburg Levee for a

clearer view. They went into the M and M Pool Hall on Main Street to tell more people about the light, but when they came out of the hall at 10:15 p.m., it had disappeared. The light seemed to be some distance from the island and appeared to be descending in Iowa.

Birch said several small airplanes where in the area at the time.

"I'm normally UFO, ho-ho!" Mrs. Birch said but she described Thursday's sighting as "eerie. It was just plain eerie."

HENRY CO. LOCAL, New Castle, KY - March 20, 1980

U.F.O.'s Sighted In New Castle

Mrs. Anna Ricketts, New Castle, reported to the Local Monday that on Sunday, March 9, at about 9 p.m., she was disturbed by barking dogs and when she looked out the back of her house she saw in her yard, about fifty feet from the house, a strange, very bright object hovering motionless about twenty feet from the ground.

Because of the brightness of the object, the best she could tell of the shape was that it looked like a piper cub without wings. Protruding from the bottom of the craft were at least three antenna-looking sticks, slightly at an angle, pointing toward the ground.

At one time, Mrs. Ricketts went into the backyard to get a closer look. She awakened her husband, Wilson, who accompanied her to the back porch, but by then the object had moved in a northwesterly direction toward Sulphur Road, shooting straight up, then down, and at irregular angles, before disappearing from sight. At no time did they see this object touch the ground.

While still on the porch, waiting to see what would happen next, another object, which could have been sitting on the ground or close to it toward Sulphur Road, was sighted. This object appeared to be much smaller and had various colored lights showing.

Mrs. Ricketts called the State Police but the objects were gone by the time an officer arrived. She has been reluctant to mention this phenomenon before now. If anyone has also seen strange crafts in the county, please call the Local.

UFO Seen In Sky at Townville

A Townville area resident witnessed a strange occurrence last Saturday morning which could be classified as a UFO.

Willis Arnold of Townville said last Saturday at about 10 a.m. he noticed something in the sky just below the cloud cover. Arnold said at first he thought it was a hawk, but as it got closer he could tell it was not a bird.

He said the object made no sound, although he waited until it was out of sight to be sure the sound was not delayed.

He described the object as a wing with no fuselage or nose piece. It was silver in color on the underside and has a corrugated finish in the rear. The rear also was soiled or stained as if by fuel exhaust fumes.

Arnold said there was no one in the vicinity at the time and he has not heard of anyone else who witnessed the event.



Is a new UFO 'flap' developing in Valley area?

by Dave Michaels

member of which is Dr. J. Allen Hynek a scientist who studied flying saucers under the U.S. Air Force's "Project Blue Book" investigation which lasted from 1957 to 1969.

While Hynek is skeptical about claims that UFOs are extraterrestrial, he notes that many sightings confound the best efforts of experts to explain them. He regards flying saucers as a scientific phenomenon which deserves intense study.

While UFOs may or may not be "The Greatest Mystery of the 20th Century" (as one author claims), they do merit a closer look by the scientific community. And the people who spot them should not be subjected to ridicule and abuse.

"what a bunch of nonsense" school, and the "gee whiz, they're from outer space" school.

Most scientists and astronomers belong to the first category. They maintain that all UFO sightings are simply misinterpretations of common objects such as stars, airplanes, or birds, hoaxes and hallucinations, or figments of the imagination.

The "gee whiz" school is made up of renegade scientists, authors, a few crackpots, and a large number of ordinary folks. They hold that the UFO sightings that can't be explained away are probably spaceships from another planet. Why? Because they simply can't be explained by any earthly means.

There is a third group of UFO watchers, the most prominent

see it," she remembered, "but right after that, the object just shot up into the sky and disappeared."

After the incident, the woman said she suddenly became "very ill," and didn't feel well for the rest of the evening.

Although she seemed excited by the sighting, the woman's account was reasonably clear, lucid, and detailed.

Whether her sighting is an isolated one or the beginning of a new UFO "flap" in the Coachella Valley is unknown at this time, but time will tell.

What are unidentified flying objects? Your guess is as good as mine.

There are two official schools of thought regarding UFOs — the

"I looked up into the sky," she recalled. "I saw it over to the south. It looked like a pinwheel with seven points, like stars."

"It was moving very erratically — it seemed to jump up and down, scoot sideways, then shoot forward. It was a very strange motion."

The woman said the object was "absolutely silent" and seemed to be "way up in the sky," although she couldn't estimate its altitude.

"It was definitely not a star or a shooting star," she asserted, "and it was not an airplane or a helicopter. I'm certain of that."

At first, the woman was "mesmerized" by the object. After a few moments, however, she called out to a friend.

"I shouted for her to come out and

vision," including one sighting by a sheriff's deputy.

Although a number of theories were put forward to explain the sightings (a hot-dogging airplane pilot, helicopters from Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base), none could quite account for all the facts. The sightings remain a mystery to this day.

Locally, things have been pretty quiet on the UFO front since the summer of '78. That is, until now. An Indian woman who works at the Indian Palms Country Club pro shop phoned the Daily News yesterday to recount her sighting of a UFO the previous evening.

According to the woman, she was standing in front of her home at 7 p.m. when the sighting occurred.

Flying saucers just refuse to go away, no matter how much we try to ignore them. Just when we think we've seen the last of those pesky little blobs of light, up pops another rash of sightings, followed by frenzied speculations, denouncements, and general puzzlement.

Interestingly enough, sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (or UFOs) seem to follow a pattern. Mass sightings seem to crop up a two-year intervals, called "flaps."

Oddly enough, this same pattern seems to hold true at the local level. Two years ago, several Coachella and Mecca residents reported spotting bizarre patterns of lights in the night sky. The Daily News carried an article the following day relating several accounts of the UFO "in-

Closely encountered

UFOs return yet again to busy Fowlerville sky

Fowlerville

A UFO has again invaded the quiet skies over Livingston County. The latest reported sighting was at Marsh and Sober Roads, about 8 miles north of Fowlerville, shortly after 10 p.m. on the night of March 19.

Linda Hough was watching TV when she heard a loud sound outside, "like a noisy car," she says. "I looked out and there was a huge light in the sky above Marsh Road."

"I didn't have my contact lenses on so I took the binoculars outside to look at it better," she explained. "It was skimming along just above the trees and the light was so bright it lit up the sky."

Linda wanted to try to see the shape of the UFO so she went back indoors and put on her contact lenses. The object was still in the sky when she went back out.

"I watched it cruise along," she said. "I thought at first it was a plane, but there were three planes in the sky and one of them passed right over it, and the plane was so small" (in comparison). She described it as having a "whole bunch of lights, maybe some red ones, but the white lights were brighter." It reminded her of search lights and lit up the sky "like a glow." "I've never seen

anything like it in my life," she says. She described the noise as "really loud, louder than a jet, and it vibrated the air."

Linda watched the object for about fifteen minutes, until it was almost out of sight, headed west toward Lansing. Then she realized how frightened she was and went inside and locked the doors. She was home alone with her young son. "I called my aunt next door to see if she had seen anything, but she had been asleep and my cousins weren't home. The neighbors on the other side weren't home either." Linda watched the sky until her husband came home from work a short time later. He hadn't seen anything in the sky and neither had Linda's parents when they returned home from a movie.

Does Linda Hough believe in UFOs? "Yes, I believe in UFOs. I think there is something in outer space. I don't think they're threatening; they're just curious like we are. I think they're just curious about what is here on Earth as we are curious about all the other planets. They aren't here to hurt us," she says.

Anyone seeing a UFO should call the Livingston County Sheriff Department at (517) 546-2440.

JOURNAL, Muscatine, IA - March 21, 1980

Weird light is sighted

By DAVE DEWITTE

Staff writer

"It made the hairs stand up on back of my neck. I know somebody's up, there looking down, and I'd like to know who it is."

Mrs. Fred Birch, who has a "gorgeous, panoramic" view of the Mississippi River from her home south of Keithsburg, may be more wary about looking outside from now on.

When she first glanced out the kitchen window at around 9 o'clock Thursday evening Mrs. Birch thought she saw a "funny bright light" and didn't think too much of it. But after her husband had left for his night-shift job, she noticed it was still there, and took a harder look.

"I said to my son, 'that isn't a star; it's got a goldish cast to it,'" Mrs. Birch recalls. Later she awakened her daughter to take a look at it, and telephoned neighbors.

What she saw hovering over Mapes Island in the Mississippi River was something gold, possibly with a red spot on it, about 3-4 times as bright as the brightest star visible. It hovered above the island for nearly an hour. "It would move a little to the right and a little to the left, but basically stay in the same spot," she said.

About an hour, the light began lowering through trees on the island. "I

realized it was something quite different," she recalls. "If it had stayed there hovering I would have kept my mouth shut. I hope I never see it again."

Mrs. Birch was so captivated by what she thought she was seeing that she called neighbors. "I said, you know I don't drink, but I want you to look at what I'm seeing across the island and tell me what I see is there."

She called Mrs. Walter Wolfe, who saw it also. Their sons went down to the levee, where they watched the light move west across the Mississippi into Iowa. The boys used binoculars. They said many smaller lights resembling small aircraft could be seen in the sky also.

A part-time Keithsburg deputy reportedly saw the light, as did others, although their accounts were not as complete.

Rock Island sheriff's authorities said a report March 11 came in at approximately the same time of night. Two teenagers, Julie Smith, rural Reynolds, and Michael O'Donnell, Andalusia, reported a very different looking object in the night sky.

The two were driving on a gravel road east of Reynolds when they saw something about as big as a two-car garage. The object, which was sketched by O'Donnell, was rounded on the bottom and squared off at the top.

A Rock Island County deputy who was on patrol the same night reported seeing a bright light in the sky "at about the same time."

OCONTO CO. TIMES-HERALD,
Oconto Falls, WI - April 9, 1980
UFO

Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., everyone at Kelly Lake received a scare. A terrific roar out of the northwest, blasting our eardrums and feeling like it was right on top of us. The Turners 2 1/2 year old grandson, Peter said "That noise scared my body", he must have meant he was scared all over, like we were! The people on the west shore got a good side view of it and said it was cigar shape with large bright windows and apparently no wings. Those on the east shore saw it climb fast to the southwest. Everyone who was home at this time heard or saw it and some reported it to the UFO data reporting center, phone number 1-206-722-3000. Maybe we'll hear more about it!

CR: R. Heiden

TILLER AND TOILER, Larned, KS
April 9, 1980 CR: S. Hicks

UFO Passes Over Larned

A large brightly lighted object flew west to east across the Larned sky Tuesday night about 7:30.

No sound emanated from the object which appeared to be at an altitude of less than 5,000 feet. The object had many lights, but no blinking lights which aircraft normally operate. FAA stations in Dodge City and Hutchinson reported no sightings. Movement appeared too constant and too fast for a large balloon.

DAILY HERALD, Wausau-Merrill, WI
April 16, 1980 CR: R. Heiden

UFO sighting Tuesday night

Cora Stockman, Route 2, Gleason, reported the sighting of a unidentified flying object to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department about 9:30 p.m. Tuesday. A sheriff's deputy also viewed the object for about 10 minutes. It was described as a bright orange light on a circular object, moving near the ground at a high rate of speed in a northerly direction.

Dallas couple caught in UFO spotlight

ELLEN ANN QUINN
Herald Staff Writer
A Dallas, Texas, couple was caught in the spotlight of what they said was a UFO early Wednesday on U.S. 49 in Simpson County.

Howard and Julia Pickrel's car lights flashed on and off when their car went through a beam of light radiating from a glowing disc several miles high in the

air, they said. The couple were en route to visit their daughter, Julia McAfee of Long Beach, when the encounter took place about 3:30 a.m.

"I don't know what it was. I've never believed in UFOs before, but I know what I saw," Mrs. Pickrel said. "It was too high, too big and too bright to be a regular light."

The couple had eyed the light glowing in the sky for miles before they rode below it. Mrs. Pickrel said from the ground it looked about the same size as a wash-bat, but it was several miles high in the air.

"There was a beam of light making a spot of light about as long as a fourth of a city block and as wide as our car," she said.

"When the beam of light was on the car, the lights went on and off about seven or eight times. It was just like someone was turning them on and off. Then we drove out into the darkness, and the lights never flickered again," she said.

She said they saw no other vehicles on the highway for several

miles.

Neither the Simpson County nor the Covington County sheriff's department had reports on the beam of light, department spokesmen said. A state highway patrol spokesman said the patrol did not receive reports on the light either.

CR: R. Barrow

UFOs? Mysterious lights baffle residents

by Cathy Stone
If you've seen some unusual object hovering over Puget Sound lately, but were afraid to mention it for fear someone would think you were a looneybird, you can quit worrying.

At least eight persons have seen those funny little lights in the sky in five separate sightings over the last six weeks in the Federal Way and Des Moines areas.

And according to Major Wayne Aho, founder and president of the New Life Foundation, these sightings are undoubtedly connected to the rash of sightings reported in the area recently.

There has been an almost continual barrage of reported sightings over the last month and a half in the area around Mt. Rainier, which includes Federal Way south to Chehalis, Aho said.

Aho attributes the sightings to the current crises in Afghanistan and Iran.

"Whenever there is a world crisis of some kind, there is a wave of sightings," he said. "I

But the object was much larger than the stars that were out and the object would fade, as if it were moving away from them, then brighten, as if it were returning," she said.

It also moved to the left and the right, Mrs. Thibodeaux said, a phenomena her mother, Golda Brinson, also reported.

"That's something that stars don't do," Mrs. Brinson said. The object, which appeared to be about the size of a 50 cent piece at a distance of a mile or two, was ringed with an array of tiny lights — pinkish-red, green and blue, Mrs. Thibodeaux said.

Mrs. Thibodeaux, who observed the object from the yard of a residence on South 258th Street, estimated the object was about 45 degrees above the horizon.

Students of astronomy might try to explain the unusual phenomenon, particularly its tendency to fade and brighten, as an exploding star — a nova.

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bright light outside the window. Evelyn Holm, who was visiting her mother at the home, said she saw a bright red object with a bluish cast to it. The object, which appeared to be about the size of the moon, came from the north — she estimated it was at least five miles away.

It came down to tree top level, Mrs. Holm said, then appeared to "break right in half" before disappearing from their view.

When asked about the phenomenon Mrs. Holm described, Maj. Aho said such an occurrence was possible because "in some cases, these objects are attached together by gravity fields and can separate."

The women who viewed the phenomenon were stunned.

"We just sat and looked at one another," Mrs. Holm said.

"It's a big mystery, I guess," she said. "I expected to hear about it on the news."

All the sightings may remain mysteries.

A spokesman for the Sea-Tac

Why would a bunch of people who work the dayshift around town gather at a spot on the West Side at midnight, stand outside in 35 degree weather and gawk at the sky until the birds chirp to greet dawn?

Because each successive unidentified flying object they see dart across the night sky bewilders them more.

At the risk of being called crazier, I must admit I've been among the various witnesses who collectively have spotted at least 82 objects in 24 sightings during the past five nights from the driveway of a friend's house at the corner of State Fair Boulevard and Waite Avenue.

Some of the descriptions by witnesses vary, but 90 percent of the objects spotted generally come from the northern horizon and take three to 10 seconds to pass a field of vision of about 100 degrees before fading at a constant speed to the north. A few of the sightings of the apparently self-luminous objects involved only one object, but at least 21 of the sightings have involved from two to 20 objects. They make not a sound, and the better sightings appear to be 10,000 to 30,000 feet high, although most witnesses agree have agreed the height is very difficult to judge.

While all of them simply give off a white glow, their apparent shape, to me, depends on the relative height: the closer objects I have seen appear to be four to five times the size of a close star and are shaped like an arrow with its stem cut short. Others have said they look like manta rays or pointed hearts.

By my count, during the last five nights there have been four, seven, three, eight and two sightings, respectively. The best time to spot them, according to a log of sightings maintained during the nightly vigil, is from 1 a.m. to 4 a.m.

There have been at least two witnesses to each of the reported sightings, and nine people saw a row of six objects yesterday morning.

Those who see them express excitement, fear of the unknown and a general concern they will be ridiculed by friends, co-workers and relatives who weren't there.

"We might be nuts for reporting them, but I know we saw them," said Gary O'Brien, who, with Scott Harris, has hosted the UFO gazing parties that began with only a couple of witnesses late Friday and have since mushroomed to a gathering of about 30 people who craned their necks toward the southern horizon for several hours early today.

O'Brien and Harris are drafting technicians at Niagara Mohawk. About 15 of their co-workers came out last night.

During the last three days, I've interviewed about a dozen UFO researchers, government officials and skeptics.

Officials at Hancock Airport and Griffis Air Force Base in Rome said there have been no military exercises at the relevant times, and no official reported any unusual blips on radar.

Allen Hendry, one of the more respected UFO "investigators" in the country, could not explain what we have seen. "The most striking thing is the frequency. Night after night," he said from his Atlanta home.

What has now become a nightly vigil and a daily prayer for clear night skies started at 1:14 a.m. Saturday when Harris, standing in the driveway near the back door of the house he shares with O'Brien, started to lean back a bit to take a sip of beer.

West Siders dazzled by UFO sightings

By MIKE FISH

"I just started to tip it, and I caught 'em," Harris said. "They were quite close. I'd say 5,000 to 10,000 feet. I mean they seemed close." What he saw that first time stunned him. There were six to eight objects in the sky, formed in a pattern of a semi-circle, he said. They moved from one horizon to the other in about four seconds.

Harris and a friend, struck by the sighting, stayed outside for at least another two hours. They were rewarded. From 1:56 to 3:19 a.m. they had three sightings. The last was perhaps the most spectacular of any so far this week. According to Harris' notes, "15 to 20 objects did a full barrel roll in order." His diagram shows they were in a straight line across the sky, and the objects were relatively close together.

An FAA official I interviewed the other day said we could be seeing the reflection of a huge ground search light off clouds overhead. When it comes to that theory, Bob Raphael, a disc jockey for WAQX, doesn't see the light.

"When parallel, then they did rolls, and three split up and went that way and three went the other way," he said, explaining a spectacular sighting yesterday morning. "It seemed like an organized light pattern. It didn't look like any reflection."

Raphael's radio station, informed of the sightings by O'Brien a couple of nights ago, has helped the cause by playing songs like "Waiting for the UFOs" since then.

Raphael said he was curious, not skeptical, when he got the first phone call from O'Brien.

I asked him how he felt after his first sighting.

"Shock might be the word, but it's a common word," he said. "I saw something I'd never, ever seen before. It's like seeing the second coming a third time. I don't know if shock is the right word. Awe might be better."

An Air Force official said the sightings actually might be of jets, whose lights often play visual games in the night sky.

O'Brien and all others who have seen the objects dismissed the notion immediately. The apparent speed and lack of noise convinced them. "There's no way that's a plane," O'Brien said after one sighting. "cause those four were bookin'."

Some have suggested meteors. On that theory, Raphael said, "I can't imagine meteors traveling in unison, in a flight formation. I can't imagine six meteors getting together and saying, 'Hey, let's do this' and then do barrel rolls together. These are flying in definite flight patterns."

That these sightings have occurred on Waite Avenue is appropriate. There is a lot of time, probably 99.9 percent of the time, spent staring at nothing but stars. Many of the witnesses there wonder why hundreds, if not thousands, of others don't see and report the same sightings. But most of them conclude the reason must be the long wait outdoors, combined with the unusually high speed of their flight.

For example, there were about 30 witnesses at 1:18 a.m. today, all standing or sitting outside, waiting for the first show. A set of four passed over, but from a slightly different direction than usual. Only four or five people saw them, and the best view for those few was about four seconds.

Craig Fox, general manager of 95X, said they looked like stars moving across the sky, which has been quite clear the last two nights. Three were in front, and one was slightly behind them, he said.

Some skeptics suggest geese. O'Brien's response: "Yeah, they flew over Three Mile Island and got radiated so we could see them."

One of the standing jokes among the witnesses is that citizens of the United States are in mighty fine hands if the objects are some kind of a government project kept under wraps.

Tanneberg's scary experience

UFO sightings west of Mansfield

It was just another Sunday night for Doug Tanneberg, of Mansfield, as he headed toward his home just west of Mansfield. It was 10:30 P.M., and all was quiet.

But just then, a blur of light appeared -- a light that traveled faster than anything Tanneberg had ever seen before. The light was bright, very bright.

The beam of light was about the size of

an airplane. And it moved across the sky, just a little more than 100 feet off the ground.

At first, Tanneberg thought that it was just a meteor. But then, all of a sudden, the light stopped, and it became stationary and hovered overhead. Again it moved, faster than any plane that Tanneberg had ever seen. And then, once again, it became stationary and hovered overhead.

Tanneberg became scared. He also began to wonder if he was seeing things, or if he was losing his senses. So he hustled over to the home of Linda and Larry Glessner, and called them out of their house. The Glessners came out, and they too saw this incredible sight of the bright, bright light hovering overhead.

About this time, Doug's parents heading back to Mansfield from Wenatchee. Jens, Jr. and Shirley Tanneberg saw two distinct lights out in the wheat field. At first they wondered if they were parked cars. But when the lights moved quickly into the air, the Tannebergs knew that these weren't cars.

Doug called the Sheriff's Deputy, Jerry Poole. But by the time Poole got to the scene of the apparent sighting, the bright lights were gone.

The whole episode was over in just a few minutes, but the memory of the traumatic event lingers on. "I was

scared to death," says Tanneberg, who admits that he looks out his window every night to see if the bright light has returned.

The same is true for Linda Glessner, who called Tanneberg just the other night to tell him that there are "three strange lights in the Northeast." Linda Glessner too cannot forget, and she, too, wonders if the lights will return.

Neither Tanneberg nor the Glessners had ever seen such a sight before. They don't know what it was, other than an incredibly bright light that moved faster than anything they had ever seen before -- faster than any jet plane around.

Did they see a craft? "I'm not sure," says Tanneberg, who admits that he could see no outline of an object, no metal, and no frame.

Could it have been Tanneberg's imagination? "Absolutely not," says Tanneberg, who notes that he was completely sober, and that his story has been corroborated by at least four other people.

But the most incredible question of all is, "What did Doug Tanneberg see on that farm road West of Mansfield on Sunday night, March 23?" An advanced army weapon? Tanneberg says that he understands there is a new army weapon, The Cobra, which is a very advanced hovering craft.

Was it a meteor? This is what

Tanneberg originally thought it might be. "But," Tanneberg asks, "how could it have been a meteor if it stopped and hovered directly above him in the air?"

That leaves one other possibility--the most incredible one of all -- **an unidentified flying object.** Recently, there have been sightings of unidentified flying objects around Mount Rainier and in Idaho.

Tanneberg says that a hired man for Mansfield rancher Howard Asmussen once saw some incredible speeding lights while traveling out in the fields. According to Tanneberg, the man was "really shook up" by the experience.

Most likely, it will never be known what Doug Tanneberg, Linda and Larry Glessner, and Jens and Shirley Tanneberg saw in the wheat fields that Sunday night. But whatever it was, the people of Mansfield will be a little more leery, and a little more frightened, when they drive out into the countryside late at night.

Ed. Note: On Monday night, March 31, shortly after talking on the telephone with Doug Tanneberg, I got into my car and headed back toward Waterville. It was about 11:00 P.M. I was scared, and looked this way and that way throughout the trip. But, alas, all that I saw was the full moon in the sky, and the wheat fields all around me.

"Not any kind of aircraft"

Editor's Note: "Quite obviously, what they saw was not any kind of aircraft," according to Robert Gribble, of the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle.

Gribble says that what Tanneberg and the Glessners saw "fits similar descriptions from other witnesses in the State of Washington." Over the last few years, according to Gribble, many people have seen lights and formations similar to those seen by the Mansfield residents.

Gribble offers no explanation as to what Tannebergs and the Glessners saw. He says that the information supplied by Tanneberg and the Glessners is not sufficient to warrant an identification of any kind.

FOCUS, Hickory, NC - May 1, 1980 CR: G. Fawcett

UFO's Fill North Carolina Skies

Those Funny Lights In The Sky

By Tim Bost
FOCUS Managing Editor

There's been a marked increase in UFO sightings in recent months, with a number of the mysterious objects being spotted in western North Carolina. At least that's the report of Lincolnton's George D. Fawcett, the North Carolina state director for MUFON, the worldwide Mutual UFO Network, Inc.

"There's been an average of about 150 sightings per night on a worldwide basis," Fawcett says. "They reached a peak in February, tapered off a little bit in March, and then went up again in April. There's been a lot of UFO activity, especially in England, Scotland, Africa, Australia and Argentina.

"Here in the United States, both Virginia and South Carolina have had quite a bit of activity. We've gotten our share in North Carolina, too."

Fawcett says that UFO activity tends to run in a 26-month cycle. "A cycle of increased activity began on February 27 of this year, when there was a Mars opposition," he notes.

In North Carolina, this year's sightings began on January 19 in Chapel Hill, followed by sightings on January 23 in Lincolnton and Mount Airy, and on January 24 in Monroe. "There was also a sighting sometime around the middle of January near Gastonia," Fawcett says. "The person who spotted the UFO's sent me some pictures he took of them,

Wrecks And Mutilations

By Tim Bost
FOCUS Managing Editor

Although there have been a lot of strange objects spotted in the skies lately, George Fawcett has been spending his time with more than just aerial sightings. "The hottest things right now are the Retrievals of the Third Kind," he told FOCUS earlier this week.

"I'm talking about cases in which UFO wreckage or the bodies of the pilots have been recovered from crash sites," Fawcett said. "I know this sounds like an outer space ghost story, but there's mounting evidence that our government has records of UFO crash victims dating back at least to 1952, maybe even as far back as 1948. Right now I know of documented abstracts of about 50 cases involving UFO wreckage or crash victims."

Fawcett said he is also becoming increasingly interested in the wave of cattle mutilations that has occurred in 36 states over the past few years. "We're now pretty sure that such mutilations, which often involve the removal of the animals' sex organs and the draining of their blood, are not associated with

including one shot of five objects in the sky. But he didn't sign his name to the note he sent me, saying that he was afraid people would think he was crazy. I'd sure like him to come forward so I could get some more background on where and when those photographs were taken. I promise him absolute confidentiality."

On February 17, a housewife in Vale was distracted from her TV watching by what she termed a "burning bright reddish-orange light" outside her home at about 12:30 a.m. When Lincoln County Sheriff's Sergeant Arnold Craig pulled

his car into a nearby driveway on Rural Road 1138, he also saw the bright, teardrop-shaped object, which lit up the chrome and revolving light on top of his patrol car. Craig watched the UFO for about two minutes before it suddenly disappeared.

At 9:00 p.m. on February 24, a student chased a "bright object" in the sky towards Hickory from her home on the Startown Road near Lincolnton, but was unable to catch up with it.

A Maiden woman spotted "a bright yellowish disc-shaped object" maneuvering overhead at about 11:00 p.m.

witchcraft or any kind of cult activity. In fact, tripod landing marks and radiation circles have been found near the sites of many mutilations. Cows have also been found in trees and a lot of 'mystery helicopters' have been reported--they have lights like helicopters, but they don't make any sound."

According to Fawcett, authorities in some states have required all police and military helicopters to fly at a minimum of 500 feet for their own protection, since so many farmers have gotten into the habit of shooting at the mysterious craft associated with animal mutilations.

"There have been a lot of mutilations in Canada and Puerto Rico, too," Fawcett noted. "And there's been a bunch down in Lancaster, South Carolina. The most recent one in North Carolina was in Belmont, where a horse had his penis removed while he was still inside the barn. That was just a couple of weeks ago--I talked to the officer that investigated the case. It was real strange."

On February 27, an Iron Station furniture company employee had seen a UFO at 6:30 a.m. that same day, reporting seeing a bat-shaped object with a red light in its center while driving towards Lincolnton on Highway 27.

On April 10 there were at least three independent sightings which Fawcett believes may have all been of the same object. A Lincolnton restaurateur and her son watched a brilliant white object surrounded by an extremely yellow color for 10 to 15 minutes before seeing it move away in the direction of Hickory. Two

Lincoln County Communications Center employees, looking south from a second floor window of the County Administration Building, spotted a large red ball-shaped UFO moving horizontally at treetop level above Highway 321.

Another April 10 witness, a businessman, was shocked and badly shaken by his encounter with a red ball-shaped object on the Philadelphia Church Road just outside of Lincolnton. The object approached his car, hovered above him and then directed what the man called a "beam of light" onto the ground, as if it were

searching for something. When the motorist stopped his car and rolled down his window, he heard an intense humming sound coming from the object. He watched the mysterious object for about five minutes, until it suddenly took off at a 30-degree angle and headed south towards Gastonia, leaving a thin, white exhaust trail in its wake.

All of the April 10 sightings by Lincolnton residents occurred between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m.

Later the same night, between 12:30 and 1:00 a.m. on the morning of April 11, LeAnn Sain, a 22-year-old Vale cosmetologist, spotted a UFO. She reported that a "golden lighted object" began making wide circles around her car at the Probst Crossroads near Wayne's, following her all the way home to Vale. When Sain got home she woke her mother, who also saw the object, which Sain described as having a bright gold center and being surrounded by a mist.

Fawcett describes the individuals involved in this year's UFO sightings as "all very credible" witnesses. "I've been chasing UFO's for the past 37 years," Fawcett says. "So I should know."

If you think you've seen a UFO, give George Fawcett a call to file an official report. He can be reached after 6:00 p.m. at (704) 735-5725 or by writing to 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092. All reports will be kept confidential if so requested.

Local couple has close encounter with UFO

By Bettye DeKeyser

A Pineville couple have joined an elite but growing world-wide group who have had close encounters with a U.F.O.

Hamilton and Louanna Cunningham, a conservative and intelligent couple, not particularly interested in science fiction, were confronted with the unbelievable recently.

"We had been visiting my mother in Shreveport and were returning home to Pineville on Highway 71 about 9:25 p.m. The day had been windy and cold, and the night was clear," Mrs. Cunningham said.

"About 10 miles out of Shreveport I noticed four extremely bright lights. Regardless of how far we travelled, they seemed to stay in the same position. I decided we were in a flight path, but as I watched the lights began to get closer and closer and lower and lower."

Finally she asked her husband if he had noticed the lights and he replied that he had been watching them for the past few minutes and thought they were beacons on oil derricks. But as the lights approached the car, head-on and lower, Cunningham pulled the car off the highway and on the shoulder of the road.

"We thought perhaps it could be a helicopter, but as we stopped we rolled down the windows and there was no sound of a motor. The lights continued to streak toward us and as the craft reached our car, it halted and hovered over us at a height of 50 or 60 feet.

"It seemed like an eternity, but was probably just a matter of a minute or two," Mrs. Cunningham stated.

"My husband and I stuck our heads out the windows and looked directly overhead and saw what looked like a child's jack. There was a central core with four arms sticking out with blindingly bright lights at the end of the arms. From the arms to the central core was a red bar. The sound from the craft was that of a powerful humming roar. It was the size of a passenger jet, about 150 feet, from end to end. The most extraordinary thing about the lights was that in spite of their intensity, they did not illuminate the ground below. In addition, we felt no vibration and the sound of the craft did not awaken our baby asleep on the back seat," she continued.

"After some moments the craft moved slowly away from our car to the side of us and suddenly in a burst of speed streaked up and away at a 90 degree angle and disappeared in the sky.

"We talked about it all the way home and for several days before we mentioned it to anyone. I understand now how other people feel when they have an experience like this," she said.

But the Cunninghams were not the only witnesses to the streaking object in North Louisiana skies.

The Caddo Sheriff's Department is classifying the object seen over the past weeks around Shreveport as an unidentified flying object.

An object, with bright lights, was spotted travelling in a straight line at a high rate of speed. It was observed just after 8 p.m. by a deputy, who was

patrolling about a half-mile west of the General Motors plant on 70th Street.

The deputy, not identified by the Sheriff's Department, said he talked with about 20 other persons who also confirmed the sighting.

The object was also observed by employees at the Shreveport Regional Airport and the National Weather Service at the airport, according to the Sheriff's Department.

Bossier City police received a report about the same time from a Haughton woman who observed an object streaking over her rural home.

More reports of UFO sightings were confirmed by a controller at the Monroe airport. He said he saw a flame streak across the sky recently. The sighting was confirmed by a private pilot, who was landing his plane when the object was observed.

A woman in the Calhoun area near Monroe also reported sighting an object flying over

her house earlier this month. That sighting was observed by the control tower at the Monroe airport.

Dr. Irving Ward-Steinman, who has done exhaustive research into the U.F.O. controversy, stated that there are far too many sightings by reliable and responsible persons for the matter to be ignored.

"There are two governments conducting intensive investigations into the U.F.O. question, Israel and Russia, and whatever their findings are, they are not telling anyone," he said.

"From border to border all across the country, there are sightings by people who report what they see, and there are many abductions of people aboard these objects, who return and are able under hypnosis to relate things completely unknown to us. For instance, the Betty and Barney Hill abduction case some years ago was received with disbelief. The star map Betty Hill drew showing

where they were in the galaxy aboard the U.F.O. was discounted by astronomers because they were not familiar with any such star system. Recently an astronomer after working on the riddle for five years has published a star atlas containing the star map Betty Hill drew many years ago. The stars could not be seen by earth astronomers at the time Betty Hill drew the map," he concluded.

Mrs. Cunningham summed up their experience with the statement that what they had seen was something neither of them had seen ever before.

"The mind works furiously to catalog the thing being seen, but there is no frame of reference to call on. So I would imagine everyone who comes as close as we did to something like this is just struck dumbfounded and can only see and marvel at what they are seeing," she said.

Shakespeare said it best in the lines, "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

CITIZEN AND CHRONICLE, Cranford, NJ - April 3, 1980

Cop spots 'diamond in sky' UFO's here

The sky lit up over Cranford for 10 seconds that Ron Coles will never forget. The veteran police officer looked up from his patrol rounds on a quiet Sunday to see four brightly lit spheres falling in a diamond shape pattern toward the township and then disappear.

"You're not going to believe this," he radioed to headquarters, "but..."

And he related from Thomas Street that unidentified flying objects has just popped out of the local atmosphere just over South Avenue beyond the railroad tracks. Sgt. Jim McFall at the desk suggested he come in and call the UFO "hotline." Just as Coles drove up to the station a half mile away three people in a car on Springfield Avenue roared by yelling, "We just saw UFO's!" They sped off before he could get their identities.

Through the hotline, Coles soon found himself describing his "amazement" to Dr. J. Allen Hynek at the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill.

Hynek thought it sounded like magnesium flares on parachutes, a device used to illuminate battlefields. A UFO investigator in Atlanta checked U. S. Defense officials and determined there were no military operations around here Sunday. "I can't think of any other phenomena that would be natural," said Hynek, a scientist at Northwestern University.

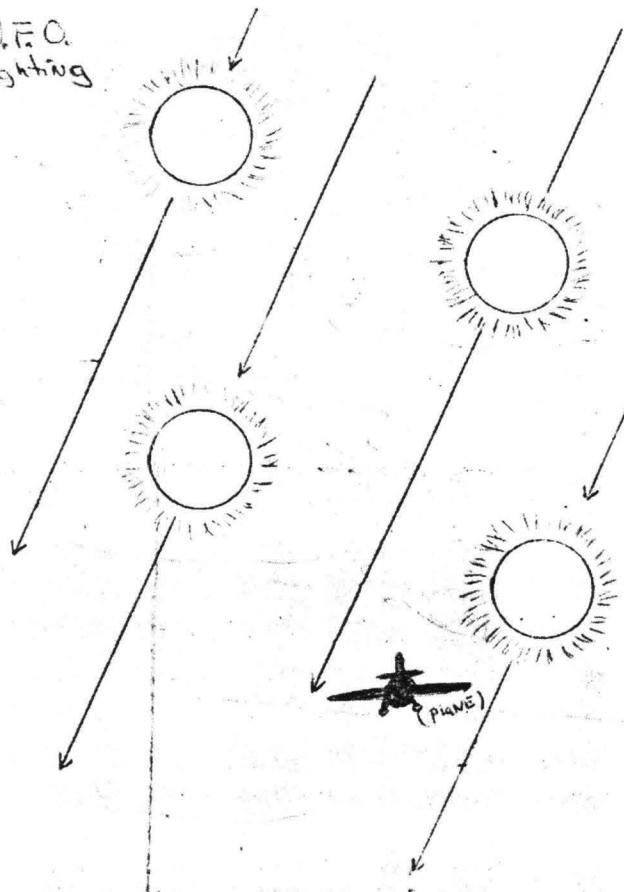
The presence of a small aircraft in the sky just below the spheres heightened the mystery. Coles had seen the aircraft, believed to be a Cessna, in the area earlier. The Federal Aviation Agency didn't have a line on the single engine plane.

Naturally, Coles was in for some kidding. One officer suggested he might want to take the rest of the day off. "I've been observing and reporting events for 17 years," countered Coles, who joined the local force recently after serving in Westfield. "I can't believe I'm a complete nut."

Robert Guertin, police chief, defended the report. If Coles saw the UFOs, he said, he believed him. Hynek, whose private network of scientists and engineers has 100,000 sighting reports stored in a computer in Princeton, and receives numerous reports every day, told The Chronicle that Coles' report presented "a very interesting case, mainly because of the witness."

Undaunted, Coles went home and

U.F.O. Sighting



Here's what Ron Coles saw: four UFO's above a small aircraft. Coles said the four brightly lit spheres descended in formation at the 60 degree angle shown in the arrows. He saw them over South Avenue for about 10 seconds before they disappeared. "I couldn't believe it," he said.

rendered a detailed illustration of what he had seen at 12:55 p.m. Sunday looking north from Thomas Street: four round spheres, "white and real bright," up against a cloudy gray sky. They seemed to come out of the clouds and became brighter as they descended. They flew in diamond shape pattern, spread apart,

angling down.

Hynek, the scientist, invites other potential witnesses to turn in reports that might help clarify the sighting. The hotline is (800) 323-6556.

Coles is still shaking his head. "I couldn't believe it," he says. "I've never seen anything like this in my life."

UFO, Devil Cult Stories Frightening S.C. County

By JOHN MONK
Observer Lancaster Bureau

CHESTERFIELD, S.C. — Tales of devil-worshipping cults and UFOs have been making the rounds in Chesterfield County recently.

For six weeks, people have been calling Sheriff Ralph Freeman to ask if devil worshipers are prowling the countryside making animal sacrifices.

Anson County residents also have been swapping tales recently of members of a religious cult killing children and animals and drinking their blood. Last weekend, residents, including a county sheriff's deputy, reported see-

ing three robed persons. Two hooded figures were seen in Cheraw weeks earlier.

And last week in Pageland, 17 miles west of Chesterfield, four persons said a UFO followed them for 20 minutes about 1 a.m.

"People are calling me asking if it's OK to stay in their home at night," said one Chesterfield County law officer, who asked not to be identified.

None of the estimated 100 calls has actually reported any devil cult activity, and authorities are sure no cult is operating in the rural countryside of Chesterfield County.

"We check everything out. We've found nothing," Freeman said Thursday.

"It's just rumors. One person tells others. And it's got in the schools, too," said Cheraw Police Chief Olin Campbell.

But authorities aren't sure what to make of the reported UFO sighting on the morning of April 18.

"I know the people (who reported the sighting), and they're not people who would just go and make something up," said Pageland Police Chief William Gibson.

One person who claims to have seen

the UFO is Ray McManus, 44, a supervisor who's worked at Grace Bleachery in Lancaster for 25 years.

"I believe what we saw," he said. "It followed us into town."

McManus and Sue Lowery, 40, who also works at the bleachery, said they were in a car traveling to Pageland from Lancaster. Two others from the bleachery were with them.

When they were about 2 miles west of Pageland they noticed two points of white light in the northern sky, they said.

"They looked like bright evening stars," Mrs. Lowery said.

The lights appeared to grow as if they were coming quickly closer, McManus said.

"In just a matter of seconds it was right on us. That was how fast it traveled," he said.

Then the object, which McManus said was diamond-shaped and about 30 feet wide, silently followed them into town. The four watched as the white lights changed to reddish-orange and began to blink, McManus said. The object finally vanished, he said.

Unlike the UFO, the devil worshipers haven't actually been reported seen by anyone.

Jesse Sellers, owner of Sellers Community Grocery in the rural Brooks Mill section northwest of Cheraw, said some customers have been frightened by the rumors, which include tales of a cult operating in the Brooks Mill section.

Did U.F.O. Cause Crater In Ground At Valley View?

By CURT HODGES

Was it a spacecraft, the wind, or some sort of experimental aircraft?

No one really knows what caused the shallow depression in a soybean field behind the Gaylon Wimpy residence at Valley View, but Wimpy is certain he did not do it.

This may be what is known in the vernacular of UFO's as "a close encounter of a first kind."

Six to nine inches deep, the depression is in the middle of the field and in the highest part of this particular field at that. It's in a place that, compared to surrounding terrain, would be an ideal place to land a flying saucer. There are no trees, ditches ... nothing but the stubble of a soybean crop.

Wimpy discovered the depression in January while he was riding around on a small tractor plowing drain furrows in his fields. At that time it was filled with water. He didn't know how it got there, and he couldn't see the bottom. He was apprehensive about plowing through it. He gathered his nerve and plowed right through, in the process discovering it was shallow.

Wimpy didn't say much about the depression until Friday when he met at the site with Dr. George Berger, dean of agriculture at Arkansas State University, and Glen Bradley, director of the Craighead County Office of Emergency Services. They all three looked, scratched their heads, looked

some more and scratched their heads repeatedly.

They couldn't figure out how the depression was there. They all agreed that it was not just an ordinary depression, especially since the earth had, from all appearances, been blown out of the shallow crater by force.

Bradley took a geiger counter to the site late Friday morning, but found nothing unusual.

None of the Wimpy family recalls hearing any kind of loud or unusual noises between last November and January. It's probably a good thing, too.

Marks left in the subsoil by a chisel plow can be seen on the bottom of the depression. The soil around the rim appears to have been flattened.

Robert Gribble of the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash., said it would be highly unlikely that any radiation would exist after this length of time, even if there had been radiation present when the depression was formed. He also noted that UFO landing sites that would fit this description are highly unusual.

Any kind of UFO landing site is probably unusual.

Gribble said UFO landing sites are usually marked by burned vegetation and scorched soil. Some have depressions that may indicate that a heavy object rested on the ground.

Soil in some landing sites is sometimes sterilized and vegetation

will not grow. This is not true on the Wimpy farm, small shoots of grass are beginning to sprout around and inside the crater. This would lead to the supposition that sterilization of the soil did not occur.

UFO reports are not coming into the center at a very fast pace, according to Gribble and he had none in this area of the country that would coincide with the time frame in which the depression is supposed to have occurred on the Wimpy farm.

Gribble said UFO reports come in at two or three per day, which he categorized as "slow."

The U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book, which investigated UFO sightings, ended in 1969. When the project was ended some 701 reported sightings were unverified.

Putting everything else aside there is one thing clear — neither Wimpy nor any members of his family could have made the crater in their soybean field. It's unlikely a bunch of ducks or geese wallowed it out, and improbable that a small tornado or whirlwind touched down in that particular spot, dug up the earth and went its merry way. It's also unlikely that some sort of experimental vertical takeoff and landing aircraft put down in the field for an emergency reason and later took off. It probably would have been heard by someone.

An alien craft of some kind? Now, there's a real theory ...

DAILY COURIER, Grants Pass, OR
April 10, 1980

Pilot Spots UFO Near Border

CAVE JUNCTION—The pilot of a light aircraft, crossing the Siskiyou south of Cave Junction near the California border, claims to have sighted an unidentified flying object Wednesday evening.

The pilot, who contacted Seattle Air Control, did not identify himself except by aircraft number. While flying above Preston Peak, the pilot was overheard telling Seattle Control at about 7:15 p.m. that a "black object, moving at an extremely high rate of speed had come right at my aircraft."

He subsequently told air traffic controllers that the object, "veered off" and "disappeared through a hole in the clouds" below him.

Joe Brubaker, assistant chief air traffic controller at Seattle, said one of his controllers did receive the report from a private pilot, who said both he and his passengers saw the object.

Brubaker said the object was not sighted on Seattle's radar scope. Brubaker said he thought the "UFO" was probably the aircraft's own shadow.

"It was about sunset and you get some funny looking shadows that time of the night that can look like an object coming toward you," he said. "There were a lot of layered clouds at that time and that's the kind that creates this 'image,' so to speak."

Brubaker said Seattle Control will "do nothing" to follow up the report. "We don't unless it's a lone object in difficulty." He said there is no government agency that is interested any more in UFO reports.

"There are just so many of those. It's almost impossible to track them all down."

More UFOs Reported In Carolina Skies

By WAYNE NICHOLAS
Observer Gastonia Bureau

LINCOLNTON — George Fawcett, Lincolnton's 59-year-old unidentified flying object (UFO) expert, had planned to spend last Wednesday night resting.

Instead his phone rang off the hook. An x-ray technician, who didn't want her name used because she feared people would think she was crazy, had spent five minutes on her way home that afternoon, watching what she thought was a UFO maneuver around the Burke County skies near Valdese.

"I was playing the radio and singing to the top of my lungs," the woman said, "when suddenly the radio got full of static."

The woman told Fawcett (and later a reporter) that she leaned over to hit the car radio to see if she could make it work. When she did, something red in the sky caught her eye. It was about 5:20 p.m. Wednesday.

She said she pulled her car off to the side of the road, looked again and saw a large, soup-bowl-shaped UFO hovering less than a mile away.

"It was about the size of a four-room house," she said.

The technician said the object didn't have any windows, but on the bottom was a large red rectangle, which looked larger than a door. "It was the color of a shining candy apple," she said.

She said she watched it slowly maneuver for about five minutes until it started to disappear in the distance.

"People are going to think I am crazy," she said over and over. "But I know what I saw."

Fawcett, who teaches a course in UFOs at the Lincolnton campus of Gaston College, says he's been swamped with new reports of flying saucers ever since April 29, when The Observer printed a story

asking people to notify him of unusual sightings.

Most reports have come from Gaston, Lincoln and Catawba counties, he said.

Pete Link and Jeff Schlatter, two Rutherford County carpenters, called Fawcett to report they were working on the roof of a house near Lake Norman at 9 p.m. April 24 when a bright object rose vertically in the sky, made a loop and disappeared.

Fawcett said UFO skeptics have said flying saucer reports increase dramatically whenever they receive publicity, but Fawcett, who has studied flying saucer reports for 30 years, says that's not always true.

Studies have shown that people see UFOs regularly with or without publicity, he contends.

"All the articles do is to get people who would normally be hesitant to talk about their experiences to come forward," Fawcett said.

Fawcett, who is doing a paper on the reactions of people to UFO reports, said people who see flying saucers may run into difficulty from their friends when they tell what they've seen.

"Some people actually get mad when you tell them you've seen a flying saucer," Fawcett said.

And that's one of the reasons he wants people to call or write him about their experiences.

He promises a sympathetic ear.

Seen A UFO?

If you spot what you think is a UFO, George Fawcett would like to know about it. Contact him after 6 p.m. at (704) 735-5725, or write him at 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.

Doctor Has Strange Message He Wants World To Hear

By CYNTHIA SKOVE
Staff Reporter

He was an ordinary-looking fellow with earnest eyes and eager voice and courteous smile, and he was in town giving a rather extraordinary message to five women.

They were meeting Thursday in a room within the Circle Lanes bowling alley, unable to meet in their homes for fear of their husbands' skepticism. And there, amid the crash and clatter of bowling balls and bowling pins, Dr. Leopoldo Diaz told them what had been revealed to him.

He had been visited, he said, by a man from another planet.

Not once, but twice.

Now, Dr. Diaz is not a man to go off on wild extremes, believing just anything anybody tells him. He was careful to make that clear.

"Before 1976, I was not skeptical, but indifferent about these subjects. I did not believe about these people from outer space and other planets."

Not until one walked into his medical office in Guadalajara, Mexico one day, asking for a physical examination.

"It was a man," he said of the creature he found waiting in his office. "I was with my attention upon him, because he was a little strange — a foreign man. He was quite different from the other people in Mexico and I had never seen someone like him."

The man, Diaz continued, insisted on a physical examination, and when the doctor found his heart, lungs, tonsils, eyes and so forth were quite normal and healthy — perhaps a bit healthier than most, in fact — the man confessed he was not, after all, a man. Not a man from earth. A man from the far reaches of the universe, from a planet beyond the sun, beyond the reach of human detection.

Well, Diaz was rather astonished, to say the least, but believed him nonetheless. The key, he said, was the wisdom the man dispensed. Diaz had never heard anything like it.

"He showed me a great wisdom, a great knowledge, a great understanding about the conflict that is oppressing us very much in this time."

The knowledge, in short, was the whole point of the visit, Diaz explained. According to the Man from Outer Space, we humans are about to destroy ourselves because of our manifold divisions and separations, which lead to selfishness and envy and deceit, which of course lead to war and death. Total destruction is imminent, and the aliens are among us, Diaz said the man said, to show us a better way.

The women, most of them Christian Scientists, were eager to hear Diaz. Some of them said they had seen flying saucers, others had friends who had, still others had friends who said they had met Martians. And then others, like Mary Stieffen and Mildred House, had neither visions nor friends with visions, and thus were rather desirous of such "sightings," as Diaz called the moments he had seen the spaceships hovering above earth.



(Staff Photo By Michael D. Asher)

Diaz delivers his message to small group at bowling alley.

"I've always loved mysteries," Mildred House said. "Anything unusual. I'm a very adventurous person."

Indeed, one woman is hoping for a ride on a spaceship sometime soon.

So the women gathered in the bowling alley, anxious for tidings from beyond the earth, for yet another Word that had become flesh, dwelling among us. For Diaz, with his most sincere voice and earnest eye, said they do dwell among us.

They are 10,000 strong, he said, and they are living and working, just like the natives, in every walk of life.

"These people are here," he said. "They are living here. They are not intervening in any way. They want to help us."

And to reveal themselves in mass numbers, he said, would be too terrifying for most, so they do it individually — a chance encounter here, a quick visit there.

"These people are going to speak more and more. It is important to understand this — this experience is something that is facing us in these last few years."

Diaz said he was instructed, by his second unearthly visitor, to proclaim the truth far and wide. His message, not particularly new despite its novel origins, is this: "God is everywhere, we must live in God ... all the religions you profess on earth, they are only roads to the same purpose — to know God. Instead of following so many roads, follow only one religion ... the truth cannot be divided ... the only way for you to defeat all the conflicts you have is to show love, which is the weapon that you have to defeat selfishness ... there is nothing imperfect in the cosmos. Everything is perfect, but in your mind you have the idea of imperfection ... God is in our fellow human beings."



DAILY MIRROR, Sydney, Australia - Feb. 15, 1980

ORDINARY PEOPLE'S STORIES

"UFO witnesses," wrote U.S. Air Force astronomer Dr J. Allen Hynek, "constantly confront us with the disturbing spectacle of ordinary people describing extraordinary events."

Two such witnesses have sent me their stories this week. Stephen Davies, of Sadler Street, Ashcroft, writes: "My fiancée

Kim and I were travelling home from Rockdale at about 8.30 pm when Kim noticed a bright light in the sky.

"When I slowed the car to examine it, I saw it was actually three big round lights, with a smaller colored light on one side.

"As frightened as she was, I turned left into King Georges Road. Seconds later, something made me stop the car.

"I saw and never will forget, a huge, hovering craft hanging motionless above us."

"I knew it could not be any kind of aircraft. As I was still wondering about the enormous object, it flashed away over the horizon in the time it would take to blink three times."

Another dramatic testimony comes from Karen Parker, of 2 Jenolan Close, Hornsby

Heights.

"At 10.30 pm, a friend and I were walking along Somerville Road beside a paddock," she writes. "Suddenly, we heard a strange whirling sound."

"We looked up and saw, not a plane, but a saucer-shaped object about 100 feet in diameter, with a vast number of windows at its base."

"The object was white with dark sides and yellow lights - and at its centre there seemed to be a sliding door."

"It hovered, spinning, above the paddock. The spinning gave the lights the appearance of a yellow band."

"We ran, afraid, with the object following us. Suddenly, it gave up the chase and sped off across the valley."

• These two cases add fuel to a theory that is becoming increasingly popular among UFO researchers.

UFOs, opine the observers, are seldom seen by accident.

In most cases they draw attention to themselves... singling out individuals who have been chosen for contact.

CR: D. Reneke via L. Whitehurst

ECHO, Liverpool, England - March 11, 1980

UFO's about to crash land in the Lords...

A well attended, exclusive film show is due soon in a private room at the House of Lords.

Don't get me wrong - it's not like that at all. It will be a film of a UFO in flight, a super-eight millimetre film in colour as seen at night by a Senor Grifol at Montserrat Mountain, near Barcelona, Spain.

"In it," writes Ufologist Antonio Ribero in a letter to Lord Clancarty, leader of the House of Lords UFO Study Group, "you can see the round, white, bright shape coming rapidly towards the camera and zooming away at great speed, to come back seconds later overhead, making a sharp turn to the left. Then you can see that it is saucer-shaped. I should like very much that this fantastic film, which, incidentally, I repute genuine, was analysed by the RAF technicians..."

Weird experience...

The Earl of Clancarty has studied UFOs for 30 years and is a pioneer UFO writer who set a trend since followed by armies of science fiction writers. His many books on the subject include *The Sky People*, *Men Among Mankind*, *Forgotten Heritage*, *The Flying Saucer Story* and *Secret of the Ages*, and he is founder of the UFO Society, Contact International which collects, investigates and co-ordinates UFO accounts from all over the world.

Certainly it was a moment of triumph for him when, just over a year ago, he introduced a UFO debate in the House of Lords, in so many minds considered the very epitome of orthodoxy and tradition. For the first time in 700 years, the subject was being debated in a cool, factual way, with no jokes about nutcases and little green men.

Many distinguished people took part in that historic debate, among them the Earl of Kimberley, the Liberal Party spokesman on aerospace; Lord Gainford, who stated in his speech that he had himself seen a UFO; Lord Davies of Leek and Lord Gladwyn, the ex-diplomat. These have since joined Lord Clancarty's UFO Study Group, which now number over 20 Lords, including Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Hill-Norton.

Lord Clancarty has long believed that unidentified flying objects exist and come from outer space. Once he saw a UFO himself—a strange object zig-zagging over the rooftops of South Kensington.

Dennis Bardens

Railmen believe they saw a UFO

Railwaymen at March locomotive depot, Hundred Road, thought their eyes were deceiving them in the early hours of Monday morning, when they saw what they believe to be a UFO.

Through the window of the mess room they saw a bright circular object in the night sky.

According to one of the witnesses, Mr Albert Haynes, of 38 Asplin Avenue, March, it was difficult to judge how far away it was, the speed it was travelling, or how big it was.

"There was well over a dozen of us all looking through the window at what we first thought was a plane. I saw a bright orange circular light which hovered a bit and then disappeared," said Mr Haynes.

As it was in the Stonea region they thought at first it might have been a plane coming down on its way to Millenhall.

But this suggestion was soon discounted after watching its erratic movements and

the intense glow of the spherical object.

Pc Sid Ayres and Pc Alan Jarman were on duty when they received news of the possible UFO sighting and went to the depot to investigate.

But by the time they had arrived there was nothing to be seen and no evidence to collect.

"I know the area is a very busy corridor as far as aircraft are concerned but I believe whatever the men saw it was indeed something," said Pc Ayres.

"I keep an open mind about what the men saw," he continued.

Railwayman Mr Stan Bolton was probably the first witness as he noticed the UFO in the sky when he was outside.

CR: B. Taylor via L. Whitehurst

Strange light in suburb

A PULSATING light, described as brilliant orange in color, and making a whirring, droning sound "scanned" some residents of Caravonica, an outer Cairns suburb, on Saturday night.

The light, residents said seemed to come from the north east, was first noticed by Mrs Judy Cipriani of Yurongi St, at about 10.30pm.

"I was sitting in the lounge room, when I saw the caravan outside reflect a bright orange light. It was very intense, and was pulsating. It was coming from the direction of the road, and I thought it must be from a vehicle of some description," she said.

Mrs Cipriani called her husband, Frank, and he went outside to investigate the source of the light.

"The light immediately left that position, crossed over the top of the caravan and took up a position between two houses opposite," said Mr Cipriani.

"It hovered there, flooding us with orange light."

"Then it changed position. We didn't see it move, it just appeared in a different position, about 10m to the right, but this time it must have been below roof level, because we could see the orange glow behind the house directly opposite."

"Then it quickly disappeared from sight. I suppose the whole incident would only have lasted between 10 and 15 seconds," he said.

Mr and Mrs Cipriani said the light was so intense, it was hard to see a shape behind it.

Mystery lights spotted

A UFO was spotted over Baildon Moor and Ilkley Moor last night.

The object, described as a cluster of red flashing lights, was initially reported as a distress signal from the air traffic controller at Leeds/Bradford Airport at 5.51 p.m.

Police confirmed that the object was as described but still do not know what it was.

At 7.15 p.m. policemen on the moors saw the cluster of lights travelling slowly about 600ft to 700ft in the air for three to four minutes in the area north of Ilkley.

UFOs CROP UP HIGH AND LOW

Wollongong had sightings of mysterious lights in the sky reported early today — and Darwin got into the swim with an Unidentified Floating Object.

The thing in Darwin Harbor was first spotted by two insurance company employees, Mr Terry Annesley and Mr John Hamilton.

DAILY MIRROR, Sydney, Australia Feb. 21, 1980

CR: D. Reneke via L. Whitehurst

Two newsmen and a photographer who joined them in viewing from the roof of the Hooker building could not help explain the UFO in the water about a kilometre away.

It was alive, it was moving, it was dark, it was about 15m long and several humps protruded.

It was far too big to be a dolphin and the wrong shape for a manta ray.

In Wollongong, police found no explanation for a series of sightings of what one resident described as "five glowing lights hovering in a straight line" over Mt Kembla.

UFO gives chase to Spaniard

LA CORUNA (North-west Spain), March 21: A terrified man claimed that an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) had chased his motorbike for over an hour on Wednesday night.

The 29-year-old man, who has not been identified, told police that when he left work, outside La Coruna, he noticed a "low-flying luminous object" trailing him.

He described the UFO as about half a metre across oval shaped, with "sparks shooting out in all directions."

Alarmed, the man dropped into a bar for a drink. When he came out the UFO was waiting for him, perched on a nearby roof, and followed him into town.

Several customers in the bar have confirmed seeing a mysterious light.—AFP.

PAKISTAN TIMES, Rawalpindi, Pakistan - March 22, 1980

MORE REPORT UFO SIGHTING

More people have reported seeing the mystery object which was seen over Baildon Moor on Sunday night.

Police say they are no nearer to finding out what the cluster of red flashing lights could be.

Mrs. P. Horne, of Crossley View, Gilstead, had a clear sighting of the lights as they moved silently across the sky, and they were also spotted by a woman who lives at Hawksworth.

The object was first reported to Shipley Police on Sunday evening by the air traffic controller at Leeds-Bradford Airport who thought it might be a distress signal.

Members of the public also spotted the lights and so did police officers who went on to the moor to investigate.

Insp. Ivan Rolston, at the community affairs department of Keighley Police, said the airport had no knowledge of any plane in distress and they were equally mystified as to what the object could be.

The police were unlikely to investigate the matter further. "At the moment we have not got very good communications with Mars," he said.

BRADFORD TELEGRAPH & TIMES, West Yorkshire, England - March 12, 1980

POST, Cairns, Australia - Feb. 27, 1980 CR: D. Reneke via L. Whitehurst

Mystery lights in Lavenham

Landlord's son Dick Cheshire thought he had walked into a science fiction movie when he stepped outside his back door last week.

Cruising low over Lavenham was something he described as "just like the spaceship in 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind'."

"It was big and triangular-shaped with lights all round the outside. It was like nothing I had ever seen before," he said.

He went on: "It made a kind of low whirring noise nowhere near as loud as you would expect from an aircraft at that height."

An answer

"And I'm sure the only thing that could have gone so slowly would be some kind of helicopter. But I saw no sign of any rotor blades and it certainly didn't look like a helicopter."

Dick, who lives at The Angel, Lavenham, saw the strange craft at around 5.30 pm last Tuesday.

Since then he has been trying to find someone to shed some light on the mystery.

"I was sure someone would come up with an

answer as to what it could have been," he said. "But no-one has."

Air traffic control at nearby RAF Wattisham were not able to help.

"They thought it must have been some kind of aircraft but said they had nothing which could have answered the description in the area at the time," said Dick.

Wattisham said they had no other corres-

ponding UFO reports.

Dick said: "When I saw it I called my mother and a couple of customers out of the bar. But by the time they got outside it had just about disappeared behind the trees."

"I'm sure someone else in Lavenham must have seen it! I'm not claiming it was something from outer space — I'd just like to know what it was," he said.

CHRONICLE, Chester, Cheshire, England - March 28, 1980

Weird light— was it a UFO?

U.F.O. experts are to investigate the startling claims of two Milton Green housewives who saw a strange saucer-shaped light in a field near their homes.

Neighbours Mrs. Linda Allman and Mrs. Joyce Stockton, of Western Avenue, spotted the weird light one evening last week and immediately called the police.

"It was an orange-red light, sort of saucer-shaped, with the corners cut off, and a grey mist around the bottom. It looked to be in a nearby field at about treetop height. The whole thing only lasted about thirty seconds, but we seemed to be drawn to it," said Mrs. Stockton. She called her husband, Ron, to have a look, but by the time he joined them the light had vanished.

UFO Society

Since the incident, Mrs. Stockton has been in touch with the British U.F.O. Society in London, and is sending them a diagram and full description of the incident to see if they can come up with a possible explanation.

"It's the first time I've ever seen anything like this, and it's not a subject I've really thought about before," said Mrs. Stockton.

"But after this I'm convinced and I definitely believe there was something there, although I can't explain it. People joke about it, but I'm sure there are more people around who saw something strange," she added.

Mystery light in sky similar to scare UFO

THE unidentified flying object which terrified a young mother at Ottershaw in January seems to have made another appearance in the area.

A bright light similar to the one seen above St. Peter's Way last month, was spotted travelling in the same direction as the first UFO by an early shift airport worker last week.

Mr Ken Lawley, of 2 Crosslands, Bittams Lane, Chertsey, noticed the strange light in the sky at about 6.15 a.m.

He said that he was leaving his home when he spotted a ball of orange-yellow light rising into the sky south of Ottershaw.

"It was a rather indistinct light,

but I estimated it was travelling about 60 mph," he said.

"There was absolutely no noise coming from it and I thought this was rather odd. Suddenly it turned off on to a course parallel with St. Peter's Way."

"I think it was less than a mile away at that point. I continued watching it and suddenly it shot off towards Weybridge and disappeared behind some trees."

Confirmed

Mr Lawley, an engineer at Heathrow Airport, said he was certain it was not an aircraft.

The UFO seen by Mr Lawley was similar to the one which scared Mrs Linda Dillon, of Guildford Road, Ottershaw, as she cycled along St. Peter's Way,

one evening last month.

Her sighting was confirmed by physicist and amateur astronomer Mr Richard Pywell and his family, who saw the UFO from their garden at 158 Brox Road, Ottershaw.

In both sightings, the mysterious light moved over Ottershaw and disappeared in the Weybridge direction.

Mr Lawley has reported his sighting to the British UFO Research Organisation, but was unable to give a detailed description of the object.

He said: "It was just an indistinct ball of light and I couldn't identify the shape."

The weather was fine and he was able to follow the UFO for nearly a minute.

"I just can't explain it at all," he said. "I'm doubtful about whether objects from outer space exist, but there are so many reports you just can't ignore them."

"But this was definitely not an aircraft. There was no noise from it, and I even checked with Fair Oaks Airport nearby just to be sure, but they had not had any take-offs."

Mr Lawley's sighting is now being considered by the regional officials of the British UFO Research Organisation.

HERALD, Surrey, England - Feb. 21, 1980

CR: B. Taylor via L. Whitehurst

JOURNAL, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - March 14, 1980



Is it...?

This is what CJOH newscaster Max Keeping and others in the West End saw last night in the sky over Aylmer and the Ottawa River. Photographer Buston managed this shot with a telephoto lens. Keeping is convinced the oval object with its flashing lights couldn't have been a jet or a balloon or a satellite as air traffic controllers have suggested.

JAPAN TIMES, (City Unknown), Japan - May 1, 1980 CR: Y. Matsumura

Iranian Jet Pursues UFO

LONDON (UPI) — An Iranian Air Force jet was dispatched early Wednesday to pursue an unidentified flying object near Tehran, the state-run Tehran Radio reported.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in London, said the phantom jet "alarmed the people of Tehran when it flew across Tehran's airspace at about 1 a.m."

To allay fears that the aircraft may have been an American or Iraqi fighter plane, the radio reported that the Iranian jet was "in pursuit of a reported unidentified flying object."

The report quoted the operational commander of air force fighter base No. 1, as saying "one of the base's aircraft had taken to the air as soon as information had been received that a UFO had been sighted near Lavian to the east of Tehran."

The plane found nothing and returned to base, the radio said.

SES CHIEF CALLS FOR 'WARHEAD' ENQUIRY

"Operation UFO" launched last weekend by the State Emergency Service in Esperance has failed to find any traces of the rocket seen over this district more than six months ago.

But the SES now thinks the rocket could have been fitted with a warhead or self-destruct mechanism and exploded before it hit the ground.

This would have scattered shrapnel over a wide area and possibly explain why the intensive search with 20 men and five vehicles failed.

SES Esperance head Mr Phil Arlidge said a late report came in after the search started from a man who had seen the rocket explode in mid-air.

He stressed the SES had yet to check the report but had no reason to doubt it. The witness had been unable to estimate height or speed but had been quite definite he had seen the "air-burst."

LEND SUPPORT

"This would lend support to the rocket being fitted with an explosive device and could have been triggered either remotely or by some automatic mechanism as the rocket lost height," Mr Arlidge said.

"We are also now more inclined to think the rocket came in from over the sea and not the land as we believe it was further north than reports suggested.

"This would put the rocket coming in on almost a straight line from the Southern Ocean. Mr Arlidge called on the Federal Government to launch an enquiry into the rocket sighting and wants it to find out:

- * Whether any warships of any nationality were in the area at the time;

- * If so was there any rocket firing or exercises which could explain the sightings.

Mr Arlidge said if the Defence Department was "serious" in its denials of any knowledge of the incident then the only logical explanation was the rocket was fired by another nation—possibly a

hostile one.

"I don't want to start a panic or anything and doubt very much if the rocket was deliberately fired at the place but the Defence Department should know and be able to explain," he said.

CAPABILITIES

"There's not that many nations operating in this part of the world with the capability of firing these things. Australia is one—the Americans and Russians the others."

So far efforts to get the Federal Government to take the rocket reports seriously have failed but that does not mean the SES will give up.

"One thing the search did establish—that was where the rocket wasn't," Mr Arlidge said.

"Everyone is keen to keep looking and I would think we will be going out again in about two to three months."

It now seemed the most like-

ly crash sight was east of last weekend's search area.

"There is definitely something out there, although if the rocket did explode in mid-air it will be more difficult trying to find shrapnel instead of the crater we were hoping for."

Part of the problem was eyewitness reports from the early morning of October 4 had nothing to gauge the size and therefore distance of the rocket.

"There were no clouds to give the observer some perspective and no way of telling how big or far away the rocket was," Mr Arlidge said.

"Some people said it looked about five miles away when it could have been 25 miles away. If they thought it was five miles away and said it was about eight to fifteen feet long it could really have been 60 feet long."

partment but failed to throw any more light on the mystery.

The report listed 11 eyewitness sightings giving details of estimated height, speed, direction, appearance and timing of the rocket sighting.

Mr Arlidge said he had a number of other reports which supported these and thought if an appeal was made another 30 would probably come forward.

The report pointed out the explosion was heard over 60km away and said, "You (the departments mentioned) will realise from this some object entered Esperance air space about 7.45am on October 4 from somewhere in the Cape Arid area and proceeded at reasonably modest speed gradually losing height until it finally exploded violently in the East Samon Gums-Kumarl area between 7.50am and 8am."

CHECK REPORTS

Mr Arlidge thought the least the Defence Department could do was send an official to Esperance to check how serious the reports were.

Mr Arlidge admitted he at first did not take the rocket report seriously but as they continued to pour in changed his mind.

Reports supported each other and the evidence gradually pointed first to a UFO—not of the flying saucer variety—and then to a rocket, which he remains firmly con-

vinced it was.

"The search last weekend now puts the probably crash area further to the east—towards Skylab country in fact—and we could be able to combine the two searches into the next exercise."

START SEARCHING

The weekend search kicked off on Friday evening when an advance party set out ready to start searching early Saturday. They were followed by the main party on Saturday afternoon.

The searchers scoured the main area on an "east west basis" before dark and recovered it the following morning from north to south. The searchers then moved back to Esperance through the Mt Ridley area but failed to find any traces.

"As a navigation, communications and 'in-line' search exercise it was very successful," Mr Arlidge said.

"Both short and long range communications worked well and all benefitted from the practical navigation exercise."

Mr Arlidge co-ordinated the search overall from the Norseman rd headquarters with SES volunteer Bob Haymes as the "field search controller".

The rest of the searchers were split into six crews to search the area—northeast of Salmon Gums about 12km east of Kumarl siding—and went through on foot. The search finished on Sunday afternoon.

ARGENTINA — Credit: Jane Thomas

City and country of incident: Ing. Huergo, Río Negro prov., Argentina
 Date of incident: February 11, 1980
 Name of paper and date of clip: Río Negro, February 16, 1980
 City and country of paper: Gral. Roca, Río Negro, Argentina

YOUNG MAN FROM HUERGO SUFFERED STRANGE EXPERIENCE
 HE RELATES HIS "ENCOUNTER" WITH A "UFO" LAST MONDAY

Ing. Huergo (Special correspondent) — A recent and local story, that may seem fantastic to some and exciting to others, but undoubtedly strange to all, was told to "Río Negro" by a young man living in the rural zone of this municipal jurisdiction.

The story — which each one will process in accordance with his opinion, convictions or knowledge of the matter — is coherent with statements made by the protagonist to a police officer from Cervantes last Monday night, and agrees with the time in which "the UFO definitely leaves towards the North", according to Cervantes mailman Mario Menelit Rumont's story, published in our yesterday's edition.

At Home

Carlos Vómmaro, Argentine, 22, completed his primary studies. He is a tall strong boy, with an intelligent face and attitudes and conversation normal for his age and instruction.

He lives in farm No. 410 with his father Luis Vómmaro, Italian, his mother, and some of the other six sons of the couple. The farm denoted order, it is carefully planted; the house corresponds to that of a working and organized family, without luxury but at the level of a well-to-do middle class. Finally, an affectionate relationship can be observed between parents, sons and brothers. In that atmosphere, yesterday at 16.30 Carlos Vómmaro told "his" experience to "Río Negro". "It will seem incredible to many, I know, but it meant the first big scare in my life, and which I would rather not experience again".

"A big light"

It was Monday, 2200 hrs. Carlos Vómmaro was leaving farm 410 in his family's 1973 Ford Falcon. "I had been visiting my fiancée and was returning home for dinner. In the track of my fiancée's farm exit, going towards the west, I saw in front of me, behind the poplar grove of the other farm that looks out onto the road, a big light, a kind of intense brightness. It was stronger and whiter than that of a mercury lamp and was some 30 meters high. Since in that zone there is Salvador Vicens' meat packing plant I thought of nothing too strange, I thought the brightness came from there. I got out onto the local road and turned to the north, covering some 600m until reaching a secondary channel where I had to turn to the right to go home. There, after changing to second gear getting ready to turn, I remained half unconscious. One hour later I appeared with the car in the Cervantes turn, 18 kilometers from there."

"What exactly happened in that stretch from your fiancée's farm to the secondary road?"

"When I turned to the north upon leaving the farm, the light remained on my left. I was observing the brightness with more interest, until suddenly, when the barrier of the poplar grove ended at a square where pear trees grow, I realized there was something, that that "apparatus" was there, I realized it was not a reflection. The strong light came from some 200 meters, at some 30 meters altitude. I can assure you I was never afraid; anyone who knows me can tell you I am not a fearful guy, I did not know what fear was; I was reaching the channel where I had to turn; I changed to second, and from that moment (22.00) until one hour later (23.00) I remember nothing else, I don't know what happened. I only know that at 23.00 I appeared with the car in the curve to the west of Cervantes, parked on the dirt road that begins there, some ten meters from the pavement of route 22, with the car looking towards General Roca. The lights and engine were off, and the second gear was in. The same gear I had just changed to when I fell unconscious one hour before."

"Very frightened"

"What happened then? Had the light disappeared?"

"No! The light was there, there, in front and above me, the same light, the same "craft", the same shape. Then I was frightened. Very much so. I tried to find my bearings. Due to the traffic and the place's looks, I began to realize I was in the Cervantes curve, 18km from where I had fallen unconscious. I looked at my watch: 11 pm. I tried to stop a car. I was very frightened and wanted someone to see the UFO together with me. To be sure I was not the only one seeing it. A Fiat 128 passed. He paid no heed to my signs, of course, it was very late, I think I wouldn't have stopped either. Some 300m further on it stopped, however. It seemed to have changed its mind. But it started again and left. Or was it that when he looked back he saw the immense light in front, above me, and escaped? Or when I thought it had decided to stop, something happened to his car's ignition? I don't know; this is what I think now; at that time I had a tremendous fright. I walked again to the Falcon, started it, turned as fast I could, and went to Cervantes along the pavement. I wanted to find someone, I thought about the police. I drove looking back, looking at the light. The light remained above the curve a little more and then began to move to the north, towards the town. When I arrived at the center of Cervantes the brightness could still be seen, somewhat farther away, between the poplars. I was attended at the police station by an officer, I think. They treated me well, tried to calm me, took my personal data, asked me several questions, I told them and answered everything, but 15 or 20 minutes had passed. And when the officer decided to accompany me to "see the light" it was no longer there. It had disappeared. Then, I said to them: "I know you won't believe me; maybe you think I lie or am crazy, but I would have liked other people to have seen it to be believed". Then I took my car and went home. When I left the police station and returned to the route and the darkness, I again felt much fear; I noticed I had calmed down at the police station. I am not fearful, although now I realize that fear is borne inside us, air, we all have fear. I had never felt fear. Even once, when a circus came to the town with a 180kg bear; no one wanted to fight it and I faced it just like that. I have had to come by night, on foot, knowing there are some "rowdies" waiting among the farms; I never was afraid of them and never had problems. But this time I felt distress, my lungs were about to burst, I wanted to be with my father, I got home, crying, at twelve. Mother came to open the door and when she saw me she was scared. I was trembling and cried, and wanted to be with my father. A strange need to tell my father, desperation to be near him. I ran to tell him everything and cried, I had the lungs "full of tears". I was as if intoxicated, it was difficult for me to talk.

The UFO's shape

The father, don Luis, is still regretting: "How come I did not think of taking him to the doctor that same night? What was I thinking of? I must have had to take him to the doctor at once; in the state Carlos was in... Why didn't it occur to me?"

That night Carlos had difficulty in falling asleep. "He only woke up at ten", which is unusual in him, said his mother. Carlos adds: "I had a pain, and still have a little, in the spine, more or less on the same level as the kidneys are, and I felt pain and weariness in the legs. The following day, Tuesday, the car would not start and then I noticed failures in the lights; they had no power, the change of light failed and it seemed reddish. What happened to me is known by the police, a friend of mine who is like a brother and my family. No one else. I told no one else, because I realize it is very difficult to believe something like this. But, why should I lie?"

"Carlos, can you describe what you saw, what shape it was?"

"It was a kind of big 'L'. Where the two 'legs' of the L join, was a kind of star. Inside the L, a square and within the square, a smaller one, a kind of

TV screen. The L and the bigger square were as if illuminated by a brightness, they were like illuminated clouds. But the inside square was the reflector from which the tremendous beam of light issued that illuminated and blinded. I will draw it...

He drew it and we reproduce it. #1 indicates the inside square "like a TV screen" from which the more intense light issued.

City and country of incident: Mendoza, Argentina
 Date of incident: February 11, 1980
 Name of magazine and date: Gente, Feb. 28, 1980
 City and country of magazine: Buenos Aires, Argentina

TESTIMONIES ABOUT NEW APPEARANCES

PLACE: MENDOZA, SOUTH OF PARALLEL 35
 PHENOMENON: UFO

What is a zone of semi-permanent presence of extrahuman artifacts? In this article, together with the testimonies from those who saw the evolutions of a UFO a few days ago, an expert on the subject tries to reply to that question.

UFO students assure that the Argentine west, approximately south of parallel 35, is a "zone of geographical impregnation". Thus they try to say that there "the presence of extrahuman beings and their artifacts is semi-permanent". Minas Gerais, in Brazil, was also similarly defined. And, of course, many other points in the planet.

But Mendoza is quite near for us. And, to say the truth, the amount of information regarding the presence of UFOs in that province was capable of undermining the kind of resistance the subject originates.

Is there anything special in the Argentine west, south of parallel 35?

Nothing we don't know about: low mountains and the first traces of a naturally rich Patagonia. Some will say there is much uranium and that is why... And others will want to demonstrate that the lack of population in such a wide extension is a temptation for all kinds of expansionist powers, including those that may have their capital cities in other galaxies — both will and will not be right.

Meanwhile, let us put our feet on the surest of earths known and try to be cautious. Because, in these cases, there is nothing better than to listen to the experiences of those who say they confronted beings, or entities, or energy balls, in different places of "Ufomaniac" Mendoza.

A No. 5 Football Full of Light

There have already been some warnings last spring. Adrián and Ulises Sepúlveda, Ricardo Morón, Héctor Lara and Omar Baralta (children between 8 and 12), are in Victorio Corradi's (43) files, an Italian professor of literature who graduated in that National University of Cuyo (Mendoza-Jth), and who now has turned into a student of the so-called UFO phenomenon. Those kids told Corradi (and he told us) that one night in the spring of 1979, around 2100, while they were playing in a lot in the "Los Mambillares" district, they saw a scarce 100m from them a very intense red light, the size of a No. 5 football. The light went on and off. Then, slowly, it landed and went out for a longer time. (It was said the children said that something like a whip lashing through the air was heard). Omar's father (Carlos Baralta) who passed by, also heard the noise. Then, again the light, but this time light blue. And then the light definitely disappears, without climbing. A circle of earth (as if blown) had remained there, some 50cm in diameter, with 5 holes inside, a discovery that apparently was photographed by the police.

A few days later Corradi received a letter in which a non-commissioned officer in the Army — who requested complete anonymity — was saying that, almost at the same time, a few kilometers to the north, in the same department of Luján, he had seen the "ball full of light" that the children had seen in the lot where they were playing...

Maipo Volcano, a Place of Residence?

The most talked-about case of the last days was known by cables dated in Santiago de Chile and timid statements from personnel of the Atomic Energy Commission in Malargüe, some 340km to the south of the capital city of Mendoza. A strange luminous object was seen wobbling over the Andes, on a level with the Maipo volcano.

However, the names of the Argentine witnesses that were near there did not transcend because they told no one what had happened on Monday, Feb. 11th, practically at the foot of the volcano. An incidence led us to Roberto Pierandrei's home, where fortunately there was also Jorge Rosso.

Something more than a rest and trout.

Almost 300 km to the SW of Mendoza, at the foot of the Maipo volcano, is the "Lake of the Diamond". Rain water and thawings feed it during the summer season. It is some 7km long and 3km wide. It is a small paradise inhabited almost exclusively by trout.

On Feb. 8th Pierandrei, Jorge Rosso, Hugo Inzirillo, José Ejarque and Armando García — trappers and fishing fans — reached the lake with their station wagons and equipment. Everything went well. A weekend of absolute rest was what they were looking for.

However, the next day (Saturday) it was snowing. The road back was covered white and the fishermen had to join other colleagues in a refuge that the Gendarmerie has built on the southern bank of the lake. With the Gendarmes, the group was composed of 15 people. They had to stay until the Highways machines could clear a track. Sunday passed, and almost all of Monday. And the night of that Monday, Feb. 11th, at 23.15 while they were all trying to kill time playing cards, telling jokes and smoking cigarettes, two of the men who had left the refuge for a few minutes, started calling the others, almost desperately.

One gendarme took his rifle and I the flashlight — says Pierandrei —. Look, look, they cried, and pointed towards the chain of mountains. We then saw a light coming from south to north over the mountain, towards the Maipo volcano. It was a white luminous circle, like a small moon from which a beam of light issued, so powerful that it illuminated all the southern slope of the volcano. This was a very definite light, as if it came from a powerful reflector which does not allow the beam to have fuzzy edges.

The circle with the light in front turned to the east, as if it were to approach the refuge. Then it turned back, placed itself well above the crater's mouth, turned off the light and slowly sank, as when the sun sets behind the mountains.

"A plane does not descend vertically, but a helicopter..."

"There was a First Lt. in the group from the 4th Aerial Brigade. He discarded the helicopter for several reasons: first, at no time was the engine heard. The lake is in a valley encased by mountains. Each time a plane passes near (we had seen one on Friday), the valley resounded on all sides. Besides, no helicopter nor plane has such a powerful light capable of illuminating the whole top of a hill that is more than 5,000m high.

"If so many people saw that luminous circle, how come no one said anything to the press nor had commented anything until now?"

"You know this may be food for ridicule and that kind of thing.

Nobody was interested in commenting it except with relatives and friends. But the papers published that Monday night, from Santiago (Chile) the same thing had been seen, and more or less at the same time. Besides, I can tell you something that will show you we are not so wrong. On Tuesday, when we could return, we passed a refuge that is 4 km from ours, called El Cilindro. There was a cardboard sign that said: "The undersigned, on January 8 at 2300, saw a UFO over the Maipo volcano." And below, on the refuge's wall, written with coal, it said: "We too", and two other people signed.

Photos: Jorge Marziani — Jorge Yáñez.

City and country of incident: Colonias Unidas; Presidencia Roque Sáenz Peña, Chaco province, Argentina
Date of incident: March 16, 1980
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, March 18, 1980
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina
CHACO: UFO SEEN AND "CLAWS ON A FLICKERING PANEL"
Fcia.R.S.Peña, 17 (From our correspondent) - A UFO giving off a clear bluish and reddish luminosity, was seen last night over this city located in the center of the province, by a large number of people.
The UFO was detected at considerable altitude, to the south. After flying for three minutes, it stood motionless for another three minutes and finally, after a zigzagging motion, went on its way at impressive speed.
Enquiries at the local airport indicated that they had observed the phenomenon and that it was no plane.
Also in Colonias Unidas
Colonias Unidas, Chaco, 17 (From our correspondent) - An experienced local hunter, owner of a bakery, Gabriel Fernández, a very prestigious person, assured that while taking part in a hunt with Rubén Kriegel, businessman, residing in Resistencia, he could observe the "taking off" of a UFO that was sitting over a corpulent red quebracho tree.
Rubén Kriegel also ratified Fernández's statements, expressing he will hardly ever forget the "mushroom" sitting on top of the tree, inside which he thought he saw a kind of hands or claws on a panel whose light flickered like stars...

ITALY — Credit: Massimo Greco

- 1) City and Country of incident: Rome, Italy
- 2) Date of incident: January 18, 1980
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: IL TEMPO, January 20, 1980
- 4) City and Country of newspaper: Rome, Italy

NO SECRET DOSSIER ABOUT UFOs IN ITALY

As regards that published, some days ago, by the newspapers concerning some UFO sightings by military personnel and regarding a secret "dossier" that the Department of Defense had made known recently, the same Department specifies that the documentation wasn't secret or reserved because it was made known in 1978 when it was sent to some organizations and researchers who study the UFO phenomenon.
The dossier, emphasizes the Department, is composed of reports compiled in past years on the special form that the Air Force distributes (for 15 years) for civilian or military bodies to report their sightings.
These reports are filed by the Department of Defense because they are considered devoid of military interest.
The Department states that some cases had already been published in the press and were known to the public.

- 1) City and Country of incident: Milano, Italy
- 2) Date of incident: January 27, 1980
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: LA NOTTE, January 30, 1980
- 4) City and Country of newspaper: Milano, Italy

FLYING SAUCER AT THE GATES OF MILANO

"Dear, do you also see that which I see?" "Yes, but what is this?" "Let's go out and approach it."
The two witnesses go out from their car and advance toward a mysterious object that, at 50 meters from the ground, emanates strange intermittent lights.
This could be the beginning of a science-fiction book....it could, but it isn't.
The incident actually occurred last Sunday to a husband and wife who were going to dine. Where did it occur? Only two steps from Milano, in a side-street of Marcallo.
It was 18:05; Mr. Di Salvo remembers the exact hour perfectly. He will never forget that evening.
"Yes, we were going to Legnano when suddenly I saw a strange object; it was at 200 meters from us and it was high in the sky. At first it was seen by me, then also by my wife, Daniela."
"What shape was this object?," we ask, interested.

"It's difficult to tell," continued the witness, "first I noted the lights; five, one blue, two were red and two were white....then, I saw clearly the shape. Well, not exactly very clear, but I'm sure that the shape was that of a saucer." He tells it as though he is afraid he will seem a merry fellow who seeks publicity.

But this isn't the case and the colleagues of the firm where he works as an employee confirm that Mauro Di Salvo would never invent such a story.

His good faith verified (and confirmed by his wife), we continue to listen to a story which could occur to anyone.

"The thing, I don't know how to call it"—it's always Di Salvo who speaks—"remained motionless for about 10 seconds. My wife and I went out of the car and approached the object, but suddenly, as it appeared, the UFO started to go away with a loud noise, like a jet engine. We remained astonished and frightened at the same time."

Mr. and Mrs. Di Salvo passed the night without sleep because they were unable to explain the phenomenon.

Monday morning, the witnesses telephoned the police to learn if some helicopter had flown over Marcallo on Sunday night. At the negative reply of the police—"no helicopter or airplanes in flight this night"—Mr. Di Salvo hadn't any doubt; he saw a UFO (to speak of Martians is excessive).

"I don't say it was a flying saucer, but it's sure that when people who don't believe in these objects see them, they change their opinion."

FORTEANA NEWS

Bigfoot?

Shadowy Creature Keeps to Dark Places in Lewiston

By MIKE BILLINGTON

LEWISTON — THE STORIES SAY it keeps to the dark places, a stocky shadow that blends into the deep woods defying those who come in search of it.

The stories say that it lopes along at speeds up to 40 miles-an-hour. People claim they've seen it snatch rabbits on the run without breaking stride.

Peter Filicetti believes the stories.

AND HE HAS pictures of one two-legged beast that people have claimed they've seen in the Town of Lewiston for the past 20 years.

"I don't know what it is," Filicetti told the Courier-Express.

"It's supposed to be between 5 feet 6 inches and 6 feet tall and weighs between 300 and 350 pounds. I hesitate to call it a Bigfoot or a Sasquatch, I just don't really know what to call it."

FILICETTI, 30, is a part-time police officer for the Village of Lewiston. He has been investigating the sightings for the past four years ever since what he claims was his first encounter with the beast.

It was in September, 1976 that he first came in contact with the creature, he said. He and his mother were walking behind his parents' house through a cornfield.

"We were going to get some corn for dinner and were getting close to a big woods at the end of their property," Filicetti said.

"IT WAS VERY quiet. We could see the tops of the corn, which was about 8 feet high at the time, parting as if something was walking through it. At first, I thought it was a cow or a deer then we

heard a grunting kind of noise."

He walked over to investigate the sound, "but by the time I got there whatever had made the noise had gone. It had mashed down the stalks as it ran but it left tracks — three-toed tracks. Ever since then I've been in over my head on this thing."

HE ROUNDED UP nine friends and together with some dogs they went hunting the beast that Filicetti said left the mysterious footprints in his parents' cornfield.

"We came up empty-handed though, even with the dogs we couldn't find a trace of it," he said.

In his four years of tracking the beast's legend, he has yet to see it. But he has heard it.

"IT MAKES A screaming sound," he said as he lit a cigarette.

"I swear it'll make all the hair on your body stand up on end. It sounds just like a woman being murdered. It's terrible."

And some nights, as he worked late rebuilding his car in his parents' garage, he's had the feeling that he was being observed.

"IT GOT SO bad," he laughed, "that I finally boarded up the windows."

Boarding up the windows didn't stop him from hearing the soft thudding sounds around the garage as he worked late into the night.

"You can almost sense it," he said, "and if you listen on some nights you can hear it. It makes a thudding sound when it walks, especially when it runs."

"NEITHER HE NOR anyone else who has ever claimed to have encountered the beast, however, has ever noticed any peculiar odor associated with it.

"That does seem kind of strange," he admitted, "but no one's ever remarked about any smell."

He took the pictures after two hunters brought him what they said was a head



Niagara County Bigfoot? ... puzzling find

and two feet they had found in a field in September, 1978.

THEY TOLD Filicetti they'd heard about his interest in the Lewiston creature and told him that he could take some pictures if he wanted to.

There may be as many as four creatures in the woods around the town, Filicetti commented. Sightings have mostly been of single creatures but at least one person has reported seeing four — two adults and two smaller creatures.

The photos, both black-and-white and color, show a head shaped roughly like a cross between a bear's and a gorilla's depending upon the angle it's seen from.

THE HEAD HAS two large tusks extending perhaps 4 inches below the lower lip.

"I could kick myself for not impounding it right then and there," Filicetti said.

INSTEAD, HE let the hunters keep it. One told him he was going to let the flesh rot off in order to keep the skull

for his mantle piece. While the head was allegedly being kept outside for this purpose, a neighborhood dog is supposed to have taken it and ran off with it.

Conveniently so?

"ALL I CAN say," Filicetti replied, "is that I saw it and I took pictures of it. I believe what I saw to be the head of some sort of creature that matches up with the descriptions I had been receiving from independent sources. If it was a hoax, it was the greatest one since 'The Sting.'"

At first glance, he said, he was also skeptical of the head's authenticity.

"I yanked on the tusks to see if they had been planted there. They didn't budge. I checked inside the mouth to see if there were any incisions to show that they had been sewn in. There weren't. And whatever it was, it was obviously decaying," he claimed.

"IT STUNK. It smelled really rotten," he noted.

In his attempts to track the creature down he has interviewed a lot of people, some of them on tape.

Those interviews have led him to rule out the possibility of a hoax and the possibility of mass hysteria accounting for the sighting claims.

"I CHECKED their backgrounds after I interviewed them," he said.

"Most of these people don't know one another. They aren't related in any way and yet their stories are remarkably similar in detail."

Because of that, he said, the possibility of a hoax is very small.

"AND THEY AREN'T joking, a lot of them didn't want to talk about their experience with the creature, whatever it is. You can sense it in their voices, they're tense, a little afraid of what they've seen or heard," he said.

Their reluctance to talk about their experiences, he added, also reduces the chances of mass hysterics.

(continued on page 16)

"People aren't making these things up based on what they've heard because they haven't been talking to one another about it. Some people told me that they've never told anyone else about what they've seen."

DESPITE THE fact that the beast is evidently a carnivore, judging from its tusks, it has never reportedly attacked a human being although it may have killed a horse once, Filicetti said.

"I know of a case where a farmer went into his barn one morning and found his horse had been killed. Its neck was broken, its nose was broken, and there was a long gash in its side — a gash made by a three-toed claw," he said.

Other people have uncovered what they consider to be evidence of the creature's feeding habits — carcasses of raccoons and possums literally ripped in half.

"ONLY THE hindquarters are missing. It seems to like to eat the fatter thighs," Filicetti said.

Although reported sightings have dropped off in the last year, there have been six since the hunters brought him the head which he photographed.

One of them was last month.

HE AND HIS wife Betty, went to the site where a man reported seeing a creature squatting on its haunches with its elbows on its knees as if it were eating. By the time they got to the location, however, the creature had vanished.

Again, however, it left tracks in the snow and evidence that it had broken through some ice in a ditch.

There were also tracks of a cat walking along the ditch, tracks which abruptly vanished when they got near the tracks of the creature.

COULD IT HAVE been eating the cat? "I don't know. We didn't see any bones," the officer said.

Dogs are reported to be "deathly afraid of it," Filicetti said. He said he has heard reports from people who own dogs that are unexplainable.

"ONE GUY TOLD me he and his dog were outside when they heard a grunting sound and his dog took off. It tried to get away, he said it tried to run through the wall of his house it was that scared," Filicetti recalled.

Up until now Filicetti said he has tried to keep his findings to himself, partly because he's afraid that if the news got out the woods would be full of shotgun-toting hunters out to bag the creature.

"That's why I'm real hesitant about giving out people's names who've seen it or giving any specific locations. Hunters would flock to those spots. Someone could get hurt," he said.

"YOU SEE, a lot of people laugh about this kind of thing but in the back of their minds they believe its possible for something to be out there, something wild that we don't know anything about," Filicetti said. "Those are the ones who'd be out there with their guns."

In addition, publicity would ultimately mean "a lot of crank calls and prank letters," he sighed.

"I don't mind the ridicule and the jesters. I've heard it all before and it hasn't stopped me yet but I just felt like I didn't need all the hassle."

"ALL I KNOW is that there have been a lot of new spotlights added to the backyards of homes in the town over the past three or four years. People in Lewiston know there's something out there. A lot of them have seen it or heard it," he added.

Over the past few months, he claimed, word of his work has somehow gotten out and he's received calls from "Operation Bigfoot" in Seattle, Washington.

The secrecy in which he has thus far wrapped his investigations is, therefore, breaking down "so there's no real reason not to talk about it anymore," he said.

"IN A WAY I'm kind of sorry that the news is out. You see, I didn't want to hunt it down or shoot it," Filicetti said.

"I don't even want to catch it. It's been real interesting those last four years, even exciting. To see it all come to an end with the creature's death or its capture, that'd be a real letdown. I'd feel as if I lost something."

SUNDAY REGISTER, Des Moines, IA - March 9, 1980

Bigfoot rears his hairy head in Iowa again

Many sightings reported in Delaware County

By T. J. RYDER

Of The Register's Dubuque Bureau

MANCHESTER, IA. — Delaware County Sheriff Bert Elledge never strays far these days without the tranquilizer gun he keeps in his office. That's because Elledge has become the latest in a growing list of Iowa sheriffs who believe there just might be something to all that talk about Bigfoot.

Elledge isn't the kind of man who courts publicity. Quiet and practical, he prefers to keep a low profile and even shuns the efforts of those who want to photograph him. But developments in Delaware County during the past two months have brought the press to his door.

Since Jan. 15 other Delaware County residents — solid, practical men like the sheriff himself — have come to Elledge with tales of a strange-looking creature roaming the countryside. On his desk, the sheriff has a file that has grown thick with the testimony of what they've seen.

"There's been too many sightings," Elledge said last week. "These people have got to be seeing something."

From the descriptions provided by witnesses Elledge's nephew, Tommy Elledge, 15, of Edgewood, a budding young artist, drew a sketch of the creature. The sheriff said two witnesses, who said they got a close look at the creature, say the drawing, which resembles the legendary Bigfoot, is a true likeness.

Rural residents who live near here are curious and puzzled about the sighting. One farmer, who asked that his name not be used in the newspaper, said farm folks are asking themselves, "Could there really be a creature like that in these parts?"

Deputy Dick Snyder said that though puzzled by the sightings, country people are taking the situation in stride, and he knows of no one who is arming for protection.

If there is a strange creature in these parts, there's evidence it's been here for some time. Elledge turned up a witness who says he saw a frightening sight in 1973 just north of Manchester.

That sighting, in September of 1973, was reported by Jerry Ewing, who at the time was service manager for a Manchester auto dealer. Ewing, who now makes his home in Colorado, said in a phone interview last week that on the day of the sighting he had driven his pickup truck into the country.

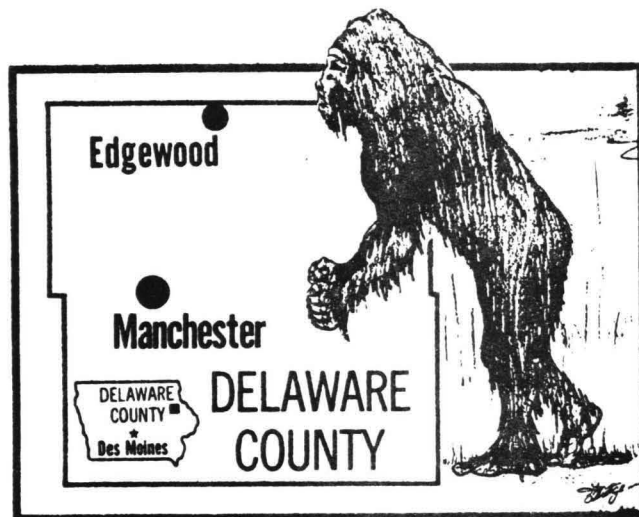
"I intended to spend my noon lunch period hunting squirrels," said Ewing. "I drove about five miles north of town and pulled into a clearing. I got out of the pickup and in a field about a hundred yards away I saw a strange man-like animal walking along. It was about a foot taller than a normal man and was covered with hair and it was big, real big, going at about 400 pounds. I'm a hunter and I've seen lots of wild animals but I've never seen anything like that before. I couldn't believe my eyes."

Getting/Giving the Eye

"It went into some woods, then came out and looked at me. We looked at each other for maybe five minutes. I wanted to get a better look but all I had with me was a .22 [22-caliber rifle] and I didn't want to get too close."

That sighting was not followed by a rash of others but in January of this year other such reports surfaced.

On Jan. 13, two Edgewood men came to Elledge and, after receiving assurances their names would be kept secret, told the sheriff they were driving south out of Edgewood, which



Bigfoot drawing by Tommy Elledge, 15, of Edgewood.

is 11 miles north of Manchester, when they saw a large form come onto the road from an abandoned farm. They said it was some sort of animal and that it came toward the car for several steps, then veered away.

They said they got a good look at it in the headlights of the car and that it was about seven feet tall and weighed about 350 to 400 pounds. They said it had a large chest and very long arms and moved in an upright position.

They also said it had a topknot on its head (a sort of pointed crown of hair or bone) and that long hair extended from the topknot to its shoulders.

The two said they returned in the daylight but were not able to track the animal because there was little snow.

Another Sighting

On Jan. 15, Cyril O'Brien, a railway engineer, said he spotted a strange animal near the railroad tracks near Manchester as he chugged by in his engine. He said it was bent over what he believed was the carcass of a cow, had long thick hair, and was "the meanest looking animal I've ever seen."

On Jan. 23, two men looking for sites to plant trees on their land north of Manchester came across strange tracks in the snow. The tracks were

9½ inches long and 4½ inches wide. They showed six toe prints. A state conservation officer said the tracks were made by an animal, but he couldn't identify the animal.

The reports are reminiscent of other Bigfoot sightings that have been reported in Iowa over the years. Among the more spectacular were the 1978 sightings in and around the small Humboldt County town of Ottosen, where a dozen residents reported encounters with a tall creature that resembled the legendary Bigfoot — a hairy creature of the Pacific Northwest that walks upright like a man.

Other sightings were reported last fall in central Iowa.

Missing Link?

Some believe the beast exists and that it can provide the missing link between man and animal. Various areas have their own Bigfoot. For instance, he's known as the yeti or the abominable snowman in the mountains of Asia, and as *mono grande*, big monkey, in the Andes Mountains of South America.

Deputy Snyder said hunters have asked for permission to search for the animal in Delaware County.

"We refused," said Snyder. "After all, he hasn't hurt any of us, and we don't want to hurt him."



Dr ROBERT RHINES

Anger at new plans to hunt Nessie by dolphin

THE Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is gearing itself to oppose further plans to use dolphins to hunt the Loch Ness monster.

At their annual meeting later this week members will be told that officials understand Dr Robert Rhines, the veteran monster hunter, may use dolphins from an English dolphinarium.

There was an outcry from animal lovers last year when Dr Rhines, of the Academy of Applied Sciences in Boston, USA, announced that he was hoping to use dolphins in his quest.

But the plan fell through when one of the dolphins he was shipping from America died.

Dr Rhines intended "luring the dolphins with cameras and releasing them into the water in the hope that they would find Nessie and transmit pictures."

His previous searches in the loch have been marked by the use of advanced technology.

The SSPCA were in the forefront of those who opposed the scheme. Critics felt it was cruel and unnatural to harness dolphins in this way.

Today Mr G. F. S. Brian, secretary of the SSPCA said: "As far as we know Dr Rhines intends to try again this year with British-based dolphins and this is what we are still intending to resist."

He thought the experiment could not be justified on scientific grounds.

Mr Brian added the society hoped to show Dr Rhines the project was unacceptable to Scots.

Asked the difference between using dolphins in Loch Ness and keeping them captive in dolphinariums, Mr Brian said: "We are not in favour of dolphinariums either."

EVENING EXPRESS, Aberdeen, Scotland - April 15, 1980

Naturally

Experts Say 'Bigfoot' Is, Is Not a Bear



By ROBERT WAGNER

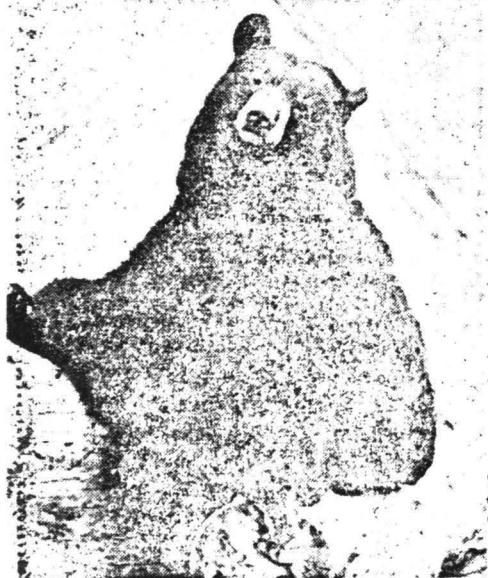
That "Bigfoot" they're talking about in the Lewiston area is looking more like a black bear everyday.

Focal point for the "Bigfoot" story is the carcass that Kevin Mooradian and David Holt reported they found in the Lotts Road area in the town of Porter while pheasant hunting in September 1973.

Head and feet of the critter were cut off and taken to the fire hall in Lewiston for display. Photographs were made of them.

The prevailing opinion was that the animal was probably a bear. But not everybody agreed. "Awful funny looking bear," recalls Peter Filicetti, a part-time policeman for the village of Lewiston.

Mr. Filicetti says there have been repeated sightings in the Lewiston area over the past 20 years of a strange, upright, two-legged beast with black fur.



BLACK BEAR

"I'm not saying it's a Bigfoot or Sasquatch," he says. "I'm just staying with what they say they saw."

UNFORTUNATELY, the head and feet from the carcass were discarded and can't be found. The skull would provide conclusive identification if it belonged to a bear. The rest of the carcass, at Ransomville, apparently can't be found, either.

But photographs of the head and feet, along with samples of hair and skin, were turned over to the Buffalo Museum of Science by Richard Lang, wildlife conservation officer.

"We have no problem in saying that it is a bear," says Arthur Clark, a biologist at the museum. James Dorr, the museum preparator, who has skinned hundreds of bears, concurs in that judgment.

Jon Erik Beckjord, a representative of Project Bigfoot, in Seattle, disagrees. He has come to Lewiston to investigate the "Porter Monster."

"I think we have an undescribed creature here," says Mr. Beckjord.

The carcass more nearly resembled an ape than a bear, he says. The upper canine teeth were too long for a bear, the feet were "humanoid" and there were no signs of ears in the photographs, he stresses. What others interpret as mutilations and decay, he, and those who share his view, see as apelike characteristics.

BESIDES, HE says, bear do not occur in Niagara County. He reluctantly acknowledges that there's no proof that Bigfoot, or any kindred creatures, occur there, either.

But black bear do occur regularly in Western New York, especially along the Southern Tier, and have been observed even in Erie County in recent years.

Klimpton Vosburgh, conservation officer, says Niagara County's last known black bear was shot about 1945. But there are many in the county who hunt bear elsewhere, especially in Canada, he says. He believes the carcass may have been dumped by a hunter who was too lazy or ignorant to make use of his kill.

Ben East, in his book "Bears," says, "No quadruped in North America displays as close a superficial resemblance to man as the black bear."

"When he rears upon his hind legs, he is like a shaggy, burly man both in appearance and behavior. If he screams in pain, the sound is so like that of a human that hunters who have heard it call it hollering. The hind footprint resembles that of a human."

"The skinned carcass of a bear is downright startling in its similarity to a stout, short-legged human body."

The Indians believed that bear understood human language and went to the same Happy Hunting Grounds that they did.

NEWS, Paris, TX - April 10, 1980 CR: T. Adams

Big footprints seen on Powderly farm

By CELIA LASKA
News Staff Writer

The legendary Big Foot may have strolled through Lamar County sometime last week.

Or so it seems.

Four-toed footprints found on a Powderly farm last weekend have Powderly residents, Game Warden Bill Milling and Lamar County Sheriff's officers a little puzzled.

"I think it's a hoax, but then there's that doubt in the back of my mind," Milling said. "If it is a hoax, someone went to a lot of work to make them look real."

The footprints were found by a Powderly man as he was checking trot lines in a pond on his farm. The tracks, about 13 inches long and six inches wide, extend around the pond and at one point enter the water.

"I can't really say what I think it is," the man, who asked that his farm's location not be disclosed, said. "You want to say it's a joke, but you just can't explain how it was done."

"I do know they've caused a lot of problems for me. Since the prints showed up, people have come trampling through to see them and leaving trash around. I'm almost tempted to make a set of footprints

somewhere else to get people's attention off my place."

Although Milling and law enforcement officers would not admit they believe the prints belong to the hairy creature, they are at a loss to explain the tracks.

"The stride is constant and is about 43 inches long," Milling said. "It looks like it wasn't in any hurry. It would have taken someone very tall and heavy to make the tracks."

"I think it was some kids playing a joke, but I have to admit, it's a pretty good one," Sheriff Roger Peterson said.

Residents in the area reported their cattle had been acting strangely a few days before the footprints were found. Joe Howard, who owns property near where the prints were found, said the tracks have him baffled.

"The cows apparently caught scent of something in the east," Howard said. "We thought it might have been a panther until the prints were found. Now I'm not really sure."

Twelve-year-old Tammy Sparks said he had seen the creature last August, and he's convinced it's the same one that made the track. "When I told my parents about seeing it then, they just laughed, but I did see it," he said.

The footprints have already gotten the attention of members of the Big Foot Investigation and Research Organization in Dallas, who came to Powderly to study the tracks. Charles Hignight, a Paris resident involved in the research, said there had been rumors of sightings of such creatures in Lamar County in the past, but this was the first time examples of physical evidence had been obtained.

"We also found the tracks in the woods nearby," he said. "Someone had to go to a lot of trouble to do this if it is a hoax."

The footprints, however, are still not convincing enough for some Lamar County residents.

"We've had several reports of odd creatures in the 21 years I've been here," Game Warden Hill Lawrence said. "I'd say about 25 percent of those were legitimate. The circus in Hugo has had animals escape and some of them have ended up down here."

Lawrence said, however, that he had not seen the prints. "I couldn't really comment on those," he said. "When things like this happen, though, it gets people talking and gets their thoughts off problems. I suppose its newsworthy, but I think it's a hoax."

Lawrence said several years ago a man reported a strange creature in his tomato patch. "But that turned out to be a bear," he said. "One had escaped from the circus. He ended up being shot in Hughes Springs."

The tracks, however, have almost disappeared and Big Foot investigator Kenneth Shepherd of Dallas said he will try to find more evidence in the area in the next few days.

"If someone happens to catch him," Hignight said, "I'm just liable to be out of a hobby."

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR
April 21, 1980

Experts Studying Remains Of Monkey-like Chinese

PEKING (UPI) — The skeletal remains of a man who looked and lived like a monkey are being examined eagerly by Shanghai scientists, a leading Shanghai newspaper says.

Xu Yunbao, who died at 23 of burns he suffered during a fire in 1962, was recorded as being born with a skull only 3.2 inches in diameter. His body was covered entirely with hair and bent at the waist, the newspaper *Wenhui Bao* said.

Xu, born in 1939 in central Sichuan province, grew to a height of only 3 feet, 5 inches and preferred raw corn to cooked food.

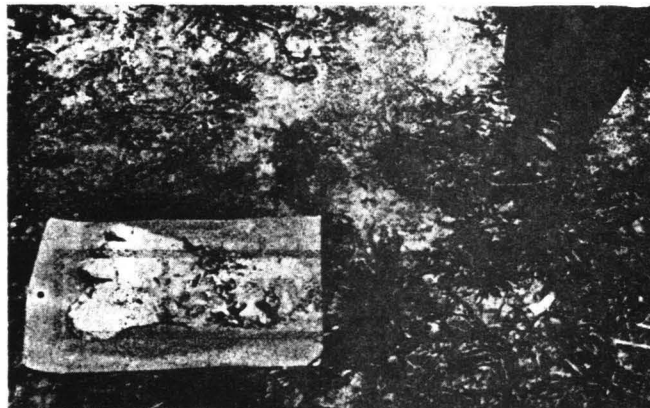
He used all four limbs when walking and refused clothing even during the winter, the newspaper said.

Xu's spinal column and limbs were even more backward than those of Peking man, who lived more than 400,000 years ago.

The newspaper said the youth was neither monkey nor ape but had "a strong wild nature and liked to catch people."

His mother, two brothers and two sisters are still alive. A bi-

ology professor received permission from Xu's mother, 72, to dig up his remains, the newspaper said.



FOOTPRINT CAST — A cast of one of the footprints found by a pond in Powderly shows the four toes and the weight of the "creature," which is said to have made the tracks. Game Warden Bill Milling said the prints indicate they were made by a 600-pound animal. "I can't explain them, but I really think it might be a hoax," he said. (Staff photo by Celia Laska)

Historian says research reveals no history of cattle mutilations

By REBECCA CASARES
The New Mexican Staff

State Historian Myra Ellen Jenkins said today her research has revealed no record of reported cattle mutilations in New Mexico prior to those reported in recent years.

Cattle mutilations reported in New Mexico and other Western states since 1975 prompted a one-year investigation into the mystery. The study was funded by a \$50,000 Law Enforcement Administration grant, the results of which will be officially released in May or June, according to investigators.

Highlights of the report were released early this week by Ken Rom-

mel, a former FBI agent who conducted the investigation.

Though Rommel attributed the cattle deaths to natural causes and the mutilations to predators and decomposition, Dr. Jenkins said today she has found no record in historic documents or folklore of the type of selective mutilation reported in many of the cases.

"The only thing I've ever heard is that they just rip into them," Dr. Jenkins said. "There's no record of this type of selective mutilation."

A spokesman for Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory confirmed today that years of research compiled by the lab on the mutilation mystery was made

available to Rommel, and that lab scientists performed analytical work for Rommel throughout the year-long investigation. Rommel released information regarding his conclusions Tuesday.

LASL researcher Don Peterson today said the laboratory has compiled "a substantial amount of information before and since Rommel began the probe."

Peterson declined comment on Rommel's conclusions, saying he has not seen the report. He said the lab agreed Rommel would be the official spokesman regarding the investigation.

Meanwhile, continued investigation

of cattle mutilations will be requested, U.S. Sen. Harrison Schmitt said Wednesday.

Schmitt will request continued investigation of cattle mutilations in New Mexico and other Western states by the Justice Department.

Conclusions reached by Rommel do not satisfy some persons who have been awaiting results of the probe, including himself, Schmitt said.

Rommel said deaths of the animals in cases he investigated were from natural causes and so-called mutilation occurred as a result of scavengers and decomposition. He recommended "not one more penny of taxpayers' money" be spent on investigating mutilations.

KENTUCKY POST, Covington, KY - April 2, 1980

CR: R. Schaffner

'Beast' at Big Bone haunts trailer again

By Connie Remlinger
Kentucky Post Staff Writer

Jackie Jones doesn't know what's been lurking around her home, but whatever it is, she's convinced it's smart and it's fast.

The "beast" that shook her mobile home at 233A Ryle Rd. in Boone County early Monday morning, returned early Tuesday morning, was back again about 11:45 p.m. Tuesday.

"I could see this shadow moving through the curtains. I went to look what it was," said Miss Jones.

"There it was. It's head is bigger than a bear. It's face is flat. It's broad shouldered and about four feet tall when it's standing up straight," said Miss Jones, who quickly dropped the curtains and called for her fiancé David Stulz. He was on the telephone talking with an investigator with the Ohio UFO Investigators League.

"David grabbed his gun and ran after it," said Jackie.

"It runs on four legs. Last night it turned around to look at David as if to say 'shoot me,' and when David raised his gun, it took off again for the river."

Stulz called Boone County police who searched the area but couldn't find any tracks.

"Although there are no tracks, I'm positive there's an animal of some kind. Maybe a bear or something that's not normal to this area," said Lt. Ray Wilson, who would like to set up some kind stake out in the area.

Wilson said police records show that Miss Jones's aunt

complained about something shaking the trailer on June 27, 1979.

"It shook so hard that time the dishes came off the shelves. I'd like to know what the attraction is to the animal. It doesn't seem to get any food," said Wilson.

"David says it weighs about 500 pounds," Jackie said. "It makes a roaring noise and sounds like a lion and elephant at the same time. David shot at it five times and knows he hit it everytime," said Jackie.

The UFO organization sent two investigators to the scene Monday after learning "something" had shaken the mobile home early Monday. The investigators will return Saturday.

"We'll bring our underwater research director and infrared man and we'll do an inch-by-inch scan of the area," said Earl D. Jones, director of the Cincinnati UFO chapter.

Jones said the organization investigates any strange phenomena. Jones said the "beast" could be related to a bright unidentified object spotted over Walton several weeks ago.

Jones said he found lots of dog prints and one humanoid print behind a small shed during his initial search.

"This print is four to six inches across at the widest point and up to 12 or 13 inches long," said Jones, 38, Cincinnati, a machine tool assembler.

"It outlines a human type footprint. It sorta indicates an extremely large dog. I understand there are lots of wild dogs in the area."

LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT, Conway, AR

May 9, 1980

Legend of the Lake Conway Monster

Just when you thought it was safe to return to the water...! No, it's not a promo for yet another "Jaws" movie, it's the Lake Conway Monster!

There were many tales in 1933 and even earlier about a creature which was once dragged to the surface on a trawler, only to push away from the boat and its big-eyed occupant, and slither back into the dark water. One man shot at it and the story ran all over the state, growing larger with each telling.

Then nothing.

Was it just a hoax? Most would say yes, and some cynics even viewed the stories as a means to promote interest in the new lake. Maybe that was it.

Anyway, here's a review of sorts for those who were too young or too far away to follow the breathless accounts of what a front page article in the April 11, 1933, Log Cabin Democrat described as a "mysterious creature in Lake Conway."

Reports had circulated for some time before the 1933 story. In fact, according to the story, "reports of persons seeing a strange marine creature stirring the waters of Lake Conway have been circulated about south-eastern Faulkner County since before the area was inundated."

One man, a carpenter living east of the lake about six miles south of Saltillo, fired two shots at an animal (which he couldn't describe) while he was fishing in the lake.

He was reluctant to be interviewed about it, saying he feared he would be ridiculed. He saw the "back of its head," he said, and the head was bigger than a man's. He went on to say, he had "never seen anything like it before."

The fisherman waited for a moment, then moved his boat to the spot where he had last seen the creature. He dipped his paddle to the bottom, stirred it about and momentarily felt a vigorous motion.

The water swirled about as the creature moved away, the man noted.

He said, and then the surface was calm again. There was no trace of blood in the water, he added.

Later that day, the fisherman returned to the lake with a friend and they searched in hopes the creature had been wounded or killed and they might find it. No luck.

The fisherman told the newspaper reporter that he had fished and hunted in the area for many years, and insisted he was making no outlandish claims.

Articles published a year before had told of another fisherman who found what he described as a freakish animal of about 90 pounds on his trawler. He pulled it to his boat, the man said, looked at it, and then the creature pushed away from the boat and disappeared.

On June 5, 1933, there was another account of the "monster."

A 13-year-old Conway boy was fishing out of Brannon's Landing when he hooked something which yanked his rod, reel, line and all out of his hands and disappeared "in large waves."

It was, the youngster said, "the thing."

Was it? (Hollywood please note).

Big footprints are called hoax

By CELIA LASKA
News Staff Writer

Members of the Bigfoot Research Society said Friday that the Powderly Bigfoot has wooden feet.

Members of the society, who said they have researched reports of Bigfoot sightings around the continent were in Powderly Friday to see whether the four-toed tracks found around a pond in Powderly were a hoax. Bob Throneberry, an anthropologist and head of the society, said that the tracks were made by a wooden foot shaped with a bandsaw.

"Most of the Bigfoot-type footprints that we see in Texas are hoaxes, but

we want to check every report just to make sure," Throneberry said.

"Whenever a report like this comes out, amateur Bigfoot hunters come out and disturb the people living there. We think it's our duty to call a hoax when we see it. Those of us who do serious research on Bigfoot get a bad name from things like that."

"We were skeptical when we heard about it," he said. "There's no such thing as a four-toed primate, or even a three-toed one." Bigfoot, if he exists is probably a primate, Throneberry said.

Throneberry said that the wooden forms were probably pounded into the

ground to make the tracks appear as though they were made by a heavy animal.

Game Warden Bill Milling said that he is somewhat relieved that the society considers the tracks a hoax.

"I wasn't concerned about the calls I was getting. I was concerned about people coming out here to hunt Bigfoot," he said. Milling said Throneberry brought casts of other Bigfoot prints that had been made in California and the Ozarks in Arkansas.

"They had five toes and looked

NEWS, Paris, TX - April 13, 1980

more like a human foot except that they were much longer," he said. "They had a little more detail to them."

However, Milling would not say whether he believed that Bigfoot exists.

"I really don't know much about all this," he said, "but I do wonder."

CR: T. Adams

Mother Nature, Press Culprits In Area's Cattle Mutilations

By GAIL OLSON
Of the SUN's
Santa Fe Bureau

"Mother Nature" is the primary culprit in cattle mutilations, special investigator Ken Rommel, a former FBI agent, said after nearly a year of investigation into the phenomena that has been mystifying county residents since 1975.

"Predation, scavenger activity, and normal decomposition" are the perpetrators of what many believe is criminal activity, Rommel said at a Tuesday press conference, officially taking his stand among those skeptics who favor the predator theory of mutilations.

Of his findings that natural causes are to blame, Rommel said, "not one credible source differs from this" stand, and "not one piece of hard evidence exists" to indicate that the mutilations are caused by other than natural causes.

His conclusions indicate that \$50,000 of taxpayer money has been spent to discover what Los Alamos Scientific Laboratories said two years ago — that predators are responsible for the deaths and mutilations of cows.

"My mutilations, like all the rest, can be attributed to the greatest phenomena of all, Mother Nature acting as the great ecologist," Rommel explained.

"Rommel's mutilations" were not mutilations at all, those who have studied the phenomena in this area since 1975 insist, as New Mexico has had few, if any, mutilations since he took over his Law Enforcement Assistance Association funded job with Eloy Martinez' district attorney's office.

Rommel investigated approximately 25 cow carcasses reported as suspected mutilations in New Mexico since he took that job last May. He personally visited the site of about 15 of these dead cows. All these animals' deaths can be explained by natural causes, he said Tuesday. Rio Arriba County mutilation investigators don't dispute that point.

"He hasn't seen a classic mutilation," State Police officer Gabe Valdez of Dulce said recently of Rommel.

Rommel concludes from his study that most of the up to 10,000 suspected mutilations reported throughout the nation since 1975 can be explained the same way as he explains his mutilations.

Natural phenomena, combined with a press more concerned with "creative writing" than true facts and law enforcement officials and other investigators who have "misled" that press have created a mystery that doesn't exist, Rommel explained at his press conference.

For nearly two and one-half hours, in tones that ranged from caustic to scoffing when discussing theories that don't agree with his point of view, Rommel joked about those who believe that anything but natural causes are behind the mutilations, showed slides of decaying cow carcasses, and introduced through his slide show a pet "little green man."

He admitted that in "less than 25 cases" of suspected mutilations, human hands might have been involved, as knives might have been used. These he explained by "copy cat" responses to media coverage of mutilations and such

activities as fraternity initiations.

He believes his job, which included a salary of \$27,000 and \$23,000 for expenses, was necessary, because if his investigation had not been done, mutilation reports would continue indefinitely in New Mexico. His findings should put an end to such nonsense, he believes.

"I am going to recommend that not one more penny be spent" on investigating mutilated cows, Rommel told those gathered in the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capitol Building.

His investigation was "essential," he said, because, "if nothing else," it has "stopped some of the wild statements" about the mutilation phenomena.

He said that in the future, the misguided press could "supply a service" by interviewing those with mutilation news "with polygraph equipment."

Through his slide show, he showed pictures he had taken of dead cows, and pointed out that the "surgical precision" often cited in mutilation reports was really not so surgical after all, pointing out in his "mutilations" what he considered evidence of teeth marks.

He also attacked the press coverage of mutilations through the show, scoffing at a number of unidentified Rio Grande SUN headlines, and accusing the paper of sensationalizing its reports, most of which came from eyewitnesses to the scene of suspected mutilations or persons who reported unidentified flying object sightings.

The slide show started and ended with a picture

of Rommel's "little green man."

Some pictures showed his little poodle-like dog near the carcasses of the dead cow, an illustration he made of the inanity of reports that coyotes and other canine predators tend to avoid carcasses of mutilated cows.

He said he doesn't believe a "professional" approach to an investigation to be conducting it in the media, and added that he didn't want to "jeopardize prosecution" by giving incident-by-incident reports.

"The term mutilation could strike terror in the hearts of strong men," Rommel said, so throughout his investigation he referred to mutilations as incidents, not mutilations.

The mutilation phenomena, which Rommel said does not exist, has been propelled by "a great deal of very creative writing, statements and opinions not supported by fact," Rommel said.

"In a few cases there were knife cuts found, but these were all inflicted after the death of the animals," he said.

Dogs consistently behave strangely in mutilation lore, Rommel said, explaining that in some instances, a family dog reputedly won't bark while a mutilation is in progress.

There is a reason for this, Rommel said.

In such cases, "the dog's mouth was so filled with fresh steak it couldn't bark."

He said he finally had an answer for the person from Dulce who last year on television said, "If coyotes are doing the mutilating, the coyotes are carrying knives."

"If surgeons are doing it," Rommel said, "the surgeons have teeth."

He attacked a number of widely publicized incidents involving mutilations and other phenomena, most of which originated in Rio Arriba County.

An incident in which two Jicarilla Apache police officers cited a UFO which flew off when they made radio contact with Gabe Valdez was challenged. That April, 1979, incident occurred near Lumberton, he said, and the object was "spotlighting a herd of cattle."

An immediate investigation showed that the Federal Aviation Administration picked up a plane in the area travelling at 800 miles an hour, but the "blip" was lost near Albuquerque. The plane was tracked down and was flying from Durango to Albuquerque.

He said he tracked down the pilot and the pilot, who was flying a company owned plane which was owned, in part, by a well-known balloonist.

This incident, he said, was used by investigators to establish a far-fetched link between the CIA and the mutilations, as that balloonist had designed other balloons for the CIA, but "no mutilations occurred in the area that night."

He said the plane in question was flying at 11,500 feet and was 35 miles from Dulce that night.

Rommel named no names, but it was obvious where the report came from.

"The plane Longmont picked up was not the aircraft in question," mutilation sleuth Valdez said simply of that incident.

Rommel also criticized the infamous "UFO connection" in which a substance found at the site of a reported Rancho de Taos sighting and a substance found both in the "mushy, white liver"

of a reported mutilated cow and in markings on some cows belonging to Manuel Gomez of Dulce which many believed to be "marked for slaughter", had similar trace elements and chemical compositions.

The FBI laboratory obtained some of the substance found at the Taos sighting, Rommel said, and determined through testing that it was white enamel paint. "If UFO's are dropping anything, they are dropping white paint," Rommel said.

Through his slide show he demonstrated how animals which die naturally swell so their anus protrudes, making that area a natural target for predators.

He also showed that the tongues of animals that die of poisoning swell and protrude from the mouth, also making them a target.

As for reports of "clamps" on the legs of animals, he said, "many unusual marks can be seen on a dead carcass."

Burn markings reported on cows, marks where the hide has been reported seared, he said, are nothing but "dried blood."

The government can't be mutilating cows in secret experiments because it's "inconceivable that the government could keep secret any project involving killing and mutilating" as it can't even keep secret the fact that "the president was attacked by a rabbit."

If the occult were involved, someone would have reported a case to collect the sizable reward monies offered, Rommel believes.

Mutilations, according to Rommel, make a "good story," but their causes are purely natural, except in a very few cases where human hands are involved.

Dulce Challenges Report, Rommel Qualifications

By GAIL OLSON
Of the SUN's
Santa Fe Bureau

Rio Arriba County residents, mystified by cattle mutilations are not comforted by findings by special agent Ken Rommel, a former FBI agent, who after nearly a year of investigations determined that Mother Nature herself is the principal mutilator.

Critics complain he did not bother to talk to the ranchers and the investigators who know the most about what mutilations involve.

"The only way that we'll convince the people of what's going on is to shoot the aircraft down,"

Gabe Valdez, a long-time investigator of mutilations himself through his job as State Police Officer for the Dulce area, said.

"He doesn't know what we are dealing with," Valdez said further of Rommel.

Another Dulce area resident expressed the same sentiment differently. "He doesn't know which end of a cow to put the hay in," Jim Byrd, livestock inspector said.

"There is something going on, and for the past 10 years it has been going on," Valdez said further.

Officer Valdez is one of a number of Dulce area

residents who are quite unhappy with both Rommel's investigation and his conclusions. The small town, the surrounding forest land and the surrounding Jicarilla Apache land, they believe in 1976 and 1978 were targeted by mutilators.

It's going to take more than the word of Rommel to convince area residents that something frightening hasn't been happening to their own and their neighbor's cows.

QUIET AREA
For one thing, they believe that aircraft is involved in the mutilations. It's a quiet

area where sky activity is noticed, and many reports of helicopters and UFO activity, which Valdez once explained as "aircraft unavailable to us," abound.

For another, people in the area claim they know cows, and in cattle country people believe they know when something strange happens to a piece of property that is worth an average of \$500.

"That's just another cover-up like everything else in Rio Arriba County," Game warden Bob Johnston, who claims he has seen "maybe 45" real mutilations, said

Tuesday.

He would welcome a serious investigation into the phenomena, he said, and he would be glad to talk to Rommel about his observations. A number of Dulce residents believe Rommel negligent because despite the large number of reported mutilations there, he spent little time with those affected.

"Its not depredation, its not mother nature and its not lightning," Johnston said of the causes of the mutilations he's viewed.

MUTILATIONS

He reiterated what many mutilation reports have stated, and as both

an eye witness to mutilations and as a game warden who knows the animals that are his business, he believes his observations deserve to be granted a certain validity.

"Some animals won't touch them," Johnston said of canine predators. "Some animals have been picked up by their hind legs and dropped. The bones were broken. There was a sign of a vehicle — they looked as though they were dropped from air."

He said when a cow dies, "birds go to a feeding in a natural death. They go first for the eyes."

(continued on page 20)

Coyotes, he said, go for the "udder" and the "rectum."

But the mutilations, he said, are "precise", a word Rommel criticized strongly, more "precise" than wounds made by a coyote on a carcass.

"It's as though they used a three pound coffee can with a sharp edge and poked it in the side of a watermelon," the game warden said. "You can't do that with a knife."

Johnston said he won't believe in flying saucers until he sees a flying saucer, but that Rommel's report won't make him believe there is no mystery behind the mutilation reports — at least not in the mutilations he sees.

PECULIAR

He found one case "really peculiar," he said, involving a 700 pound full grown cow. Some things were standard about the case — a portion of the lip and a portion of the tongue were missing, as were the rectum and the vagina.

But the animal, he said, was "picked up by a vise" and the "only blood" visible had dropped down and hit the hoof, leaving a one-inch blood trail.

For the blood to fall on the hoof that way, he said, that cow would have to be standing "straight up."

He said he would be glad to talk to Rommel about his findings and his encounters with mutilated cows, but voiced the complaint many Dulce residents have voiced. Rommel never talked to him.

Manuel Gomez, the rancher hardest-hit by what he termed "cattle-gate" also complained about Rommel's lack of interest in his case. His son, Edmond, shares Valdez' sentiment about how to open people's eyes to the fact there is a problem.

"The only way we'll get any evidence is to shoot one of those machines down," Edmond said three weeks ago at the family ranch in Dulce.

GOMEZ RANCH

In both 1976 and 1978, the Gomez ranch was hit first by what its residents consider mutilation activity, and on each occasion, mutilated animals not only

disquieted ranch life, but heralded the beginning of what Dulce area ranchers and investigators consider "waves" of mutilation activity in the county. It was Gomez who coined the term "cattle-gate" to describe the mutilations.

The first suspected mutilation on the Gomez ranch was located on June 12, 1976 "on the side of the road in the middle of the pasture," Gomez said. That was the only one on the Gomez ranch that year, and the first of a number of mutilations found in the Dulce area. Another mutilation was found by the Gomez' two years to the day of the first.

"It's a different type of death," Gomez said of a mutilation.

Since the discovery of the first cow the family believes was mutilated, ranch life has changed. Gomez since has lost four cows and two bulls to mutilators, he said.

It was Gomez, who with the help of scientist Howard Burgess and Officer Valdez, conducted an experiment on his cows and found a number of them were "marked" for slaughter with a substance visible under ultraviolet light, in a widely publicized "secret" experiment.

SLAUGHTER

At any rate Gomez believes the cows were marked for slaughter. Rommel disputes his contention, claiming "none of the marked cows were mutilated."

A doberman pinscher that was a family pet disappeared the night one of the Gomez bulls was believed to be mutilated.

Between January, 1979, and June, 1979, Gomez lost twenty head of cattle, which would "just die" with their legs straddled behind them in a position Gomez claims he's never seen in a dead cow.

He doesn't quite believe that the animals died of natural causes, though Officer Valdez sent blood samples to a lab technician who reported that the cause of death was "loco weed."

"That's fine, except there was no loco weed," Valdez said. "It was winter."

Another mystery at the Gomez ranch since the arrival of mutilators is that of the glowing headstone in the family cemetery. After the 1978 mutilations began, Gomez said, the head-

stone started glowing. Its visible to everyone, they said, but no one knows why.

NEEDED HELP

In 1978, Gomez contacted Senator Harrison Schmitt about his problems because "I felt we needed help."

His son, Edmond, agrees with Valdez as to what should be done. He believes that unless low-flying aircraft is downed "we won't have the evidence we need to show something's going on."

Byrd, a livestock inspector in the Dulce area, said of Rommel "I don't think he knows what he's talking about. Has he actually seen a mutilation?"

"How can he stand back and discredit anyone else, when he doesn't know what he's doing?" a perplexed Byrd reiterated.

"I know they occur," Byrd said of mutilations. "I have seen them. I don't know what's causing them. If I knew we'd break this thing open," Byrd said. "Predators are not the problem."

Byrd said he was "born and raised" in the area and has been around livestock "all my life", and he has "seen predators operate" and knows "what a carcass should look like."

DIFFERENT

A mutilated carcass, he contends, does not look like a dead cow should.

"I've been to ones that were predators," he said of suspected mutilations, and he has been "to mutilations that were mutilations", and one thing he knows about mutilations is that it "was not predators that did it."

He questions Rommel's credentials.

"They could have hired someone who knew something about a cow," he said, explaining that such a person could have been found who would work for the \$27,000 salary Rommel drew for his investigation.

Rommel spent 28 years in the Federal Bureau of Investigations with assignments that varied from tracking down militants to cracking bank robberies, his specialty before he became head of the Santa Fe District of the Bureau.

Upon retirement last year, he took the job as mutilation investigator, he said, because he found the problem "intriguing."

world that a coyote or cat could perform the type of "operation" these cows have had. There has been no — and I repeat NO — torn flesh. The parts removed were the same in every case and were cut out cleanly and precisely. When we butcher a beef we throw away the particular parts that, in every case of "mutilation" that we've seen, have been taken.

I don't buy the theory that this is the work of creatures from outer space — it is the work of creatures from within our own society. What it's all about remains the big question.

ANTONIO A. (TONY)
SANCHEZ
Las Vegas

JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM - April 23, 1980 CR: F. Hudson Still a Mystery

THIS IS ABOUT Kenneth Rommel and his findings (?) on so-called cattle mutilations (Journal, April 16).

What a waste of money! It is clearly obvious that Mr. Rommel has no idea on how a four-legged predator operates as opposed to a two-legged (human) predator. I've been on the ranch for over 50 years and have seen many times how a cow — or horse — dead of natural causes, is "operated" on by a coyote or mountain cat.

We have had five of the so-called mutilations on my place in the last five or six years and there is no way in the

CR: N. Beckman

Schmitt Urges Federal Mutilation Probe

By GAIL OLSON

of the SUN's

Santa Fe Bureau

U.S. Senator Harrison

Schmitt (R-NM) said

Tuesday he intends to

"encourage" the U.S.

Department of Justice to

look into evidence of

cattle mutilations and

"hopelessly" to "ap-

prehend people's

responsibility for the

crimes.

Special Investigator

Ken Rommel, now

winding down his year-

long investigation into

the phenomena, has

concluded that mutilated

cattle have died of

natural deaths and been

mutilated by natural

causes, Schmitt,

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however, believes a crime is being perpetrated against ranchers and hopes to see it stopped. Rommel said at a Tuesday press conference that if a crime is involved at all it is only a "misdeed" and that "not one more penny" of taxpayer money should be spent on the question. Schmitt sees it differently. "I think there is other evidence collected by reputable law enforcement officers that is not explained by Rommel's conclusion," he told the SUN Tuesday. "This is not to say that animals are not one

cause," he explained, adding that though the predator theory may explain some deaths, there is evidence to suggest that other forces are at work. "Evidence suggests the use of tranquilizers, helicopters dragging animals, geographical patterns that move from one area to another, and observations by some mutilations by some officers that suggest precise surgery," Schmitt said.

"Rommel is not charged under federal law with investigating cattle mutilations," Schmitt explained. "Rommel, funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Association to do a one-year study of the problem, worked with the District Attorney's office to look into the mutilations. He had a total of \$50,000 to conduct his investigation. Schmitt said evidence suggests there is "no way to avoid in some of these cases the fact that human beings are involved."

Schmitt last year focused national attention on the mutilation problems when he organized a conference in Albuquerque in which law enforcement officers and others involved in investigating the mutilations met in Albuquerque to exchange experiences and theories. When told that people from the Dulce area were less than satisfied with the results of Rommel's investigation, he said, "I wouldn't blame them."

What is needed, Schmitt believes, is a "good, waves of mutilations systematic investigation" applying the "forensic" abilities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which he believes "deterred" Rommel when he took over the job in Elroy Martinez' District Attorney's office. "Maybe now they will go to work," he said of the conclusion of Rommel's project.

Such an investigation, Schmitt said, "ought not be limited to New Mexico," but instead should focus on mutilations where they are occurring. During the past year, waves of mutilations were reported in possible, as Rommel said, "ought not be limited to New Mexico," but instead should focus on mutilations where they are occurring.

Rommel's report, he explained, "may explain the specific things investigated," but it doesn't encompass the entire mutilation problem. Asked if he believed it possible, as Rommel said, "ought not be limited to New Mexico," but instead should focus on mutilations where they are occurring.

Asked why anyone would "falsify" a law enforcement report, Rommel said some law enforcement people might be seeking public office and the publicity would help toward that end. Schmitt said that what is needed is a "good, waves of mutilations systematic investigation" applying the "forensic" abilities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which he believes "deterred" Rommel when he took over the job in Elroy Martinez' District Attorney's office. "Maybe now they will go to work," he said of the conclusion of Rommel's project.

among Chinese scientists. A government radio broadcast said the scientific investigators will be dispatched in late May to the mountain areas in Shennongjia and Fang counties where the sighting of yeren had been reported. A translation of the broadcast, made available in Hong Kong today, did not describe the creatures

STAR, Kansas City, MO - May 12, 1980 CR: V. White Chinese will study tales of 'wild men'

By the Associated Press

Hong Kong—A "crack team of scientific investigators" will look into reports of wild human beings roaming the mountains in northwestern Hubei Province in central China, it was reported today. The reports of yeren—as the wild human beings or savages are called—have aroused considerable interest