

# UFO

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# Close encounters...

By JEAN GRABOWSKI  
(Of the Local News Staff)

Alfred Groer Jr. doubts he'll ever forget the night of Feb. 12, 1980.

"I was sitting in my dad's pickup truck, playing electronic baseball," the 12-year-old Concord Christian Academy student said the next day. He was still startled by what had happened to him at 8:05 the night before as he waited for his father on Rt. 842 just west of Unionville.

"I heard this man's dog barking," he said. "I looked up and around to see what was the matter."

"I looked up in the sky and here's this thing — very, very high up, about the size of a pea."

"It shot down right over me so I could see it," he continued. "I could see it very clearly. I could see inside."

According to Al, the "thing" was shaped like a Frisbee. It was illuminated inside and gave off a white light. And around its periphery it radiated multi-colored lights — blue, orange, red, white and yellow.

As it drew closer, Al said, he estimated it was "about the size of a Trailways bus."

"I could see it very clearly," he said. "I could see inside it."

Al said he didn't think there was anyone inside the vehicle, but he couldn't be sure.

"I'm not going to say if there was or if there wasn't," he said. "I don't want to lead anybody astray."

"It hovered over me about 20 seconds, then it shot off right over the cornfield."

"Then — just like you turned the light off — it was gone."

Al Groer had seen a UFO

Although he didn't know it, Al had had a "close encounter of the first kind" — a phenomena described by UFO-ologists as a sighting in which there is no interaction between the witness and the object he has seen.

Further, the object Al described fit a classic UFO description.

"I was very astonished," he said. "It was just amazing. I thought, 'Man, what is this thing?' I've heard stories about these things and here I saw one."

According to his father, Alfred Groer Sr. of Painters Crossroads, young Al isn't the sort of boy to make up tales. And although Groer Sr. didn't see the object himself, he does not doubt his son saw something.

Just what that something was is a question that has fascinated man for centuries.

"A strong belief in UFOs has existed hundreds, if not thousands, of years," said Joseph Gasslein of West Chester, who has made the study of UFOs an avocation since his own sighting of one in 1962.

"In Biblical times, there were an appreciable number of strange objects reported in the sky," he said. "There were reports of strange stars at the time of Nativity. And the Wheel of Ezekiel was studied by a NASA scientist, who concluded it was a UFO."

Dozens of books have been written about UFOs through the ages, and, in one text on the subject, British author Hilary Evans traces UFO sightings back as early as 332 B.C., when Alexander the Great was besieging Greece.

"Flying Shields" appeared over the Gree camp — round discs, flying in triangular formation, one larger than the other," Evans writes in *UFOs — The Greatest Mystery*.

"For a while, both armies watched amazed; then from the leader (of the UFOs) came flashes directed at the city's defenses, causing walls and towers to crumble as if built of mud."

"Then the besieging army poured in," he writes. "The discs hovered overhead till the city had been successfully taken, then swiftly climbed into the sky and vanished."

Sightings continued through the centuries, Evans reports. His narrative continues during 66 B.C., with an incident reported by the Roman historian, Pliny.

"At Rome, during the consulship of Gnaeus Octavius and Gnaeus Scribonius, a spark was seen to fall from a star," Evans writes. "It increased in size as it approached the earth till it was as large as the moon."

"For a while it stood in the sky, diffusing a sort of cloudy daylight," Evans writes. "Then it returned into the sky, taking the shape of a torch as it did so."

And in 1661, Evans writes, a Jesuit missionary in Tibet, Albert d'Orville, reported seeing a flying object shaped like a double Chinese conical hat.

"Silently it circled the city twice," Evans writes. "Then, surrounded by mist, it vanished."

A lama told d'Orville that it was the vehicle of beings who sail the seas of Space and have brought enlightened teachings to mankind in the past, and that these beings continued to visit the monasteries of Tibet, teaching and revealing lost knowledge."

As interesting as such incidents may be, sightings that took place over 2,000 years ago are naturally difficult to prove. But for those who believe, hard evidence is not always necessary.

Over the last 30 years, though, greater and greater efforts have been put forth by scientists and hobbyists alike to obtain some factual evidence about UFOs. The

big push began with a sighting in June 1947, an incident now considered to mark the the beginning of the "modern era" of UFOs.

As Joseph Gasslein explained it, Kenneth Arnold, an Idaho businessman, was flying his plane near Mount Ranier, Calif., when he reportedly spotted nine disc-shaped objects flying towards him at speeds of about 1,000 miles per hour.

Reports of the "flying saucers" lit imaginations across the nation.

"Throughout the late 1940s and early 1950s there was a great rash of sightings reported," Gasslein said. "The press was loaded with them."

"The attitude of the general public was quite mixed," he said. "Some people felt they were illusions and others turned out to be secret aircraft flights. There were a lot of hoaxes perpetrated."

A lot of people took the attitude "I'll believe it when I see it," Gasslein said.

But many sightings just couldn't be explained away as natural phenomena.

Gasslein, a retired Boeing Vertol employee and former lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army Reserve, said he has always been inclined to believe such things as UFOs exist. But never so much so as on the evening of April 24, 1962.

"We were living in Springfield, Delaware County," Gasslein said. "Our house was on a curved street and in back of the row of houses there was kind of a little park, with a lot of trees."

"My wife was just coming back from an errand and she parked the car in the drive," he said. "About the same time, a young neighbor girl was coming over to visit us and was walking up the street towards our house."

"She (the neighbor) saw it first," Gasslein said. "She called my wife's attention to it and then they both called me out of the house."

"It" was a circular object flying in from over the park.

"It was about 30 feet in diameter. I could judge it by the side of the house," Gasslein said. "It had a pulsing greenish dome light on top and it appeared to be made of a dark gray metallic material that looked like pitted aluminum."

"There was a band rotating around the dome," he said. "On the sides there were square openings like windows, out of which came a brilliant bright light. It gave off no heat at all."

"It just cleared the 12-foot maple tree by our house," Gasslein said. "It was so low I couldn't see underneath it."

Gasslein said the object flew along the back of the properties. Then — as suddenly as it appeared — the object turned sharply and darted away.

According to Gasslein, 13 other people in the area reported seeing a similar object the same night.

"It seems incredible," Gasslein said. "You wonder, 'Boy, is this really happening?'"

"It was as plain as looking at an automobile," he said. "It was within our view a matter of a couple minutes. But it seemed longer because it was so dramatic."

Groer's and Gasslein's sightings are just two of dozens reported in this area over the last dozen years or so. On Jan. 13, 1972, reports came in of an object with three white lights on it with a red light on top, hovering low over a big field across from the Schuylkill Township municipal building at the corner of Creek and Whitehorse roads.

And on Oct. 17, 1973, there was the one that looked like "a big old mass of light, floating in the sky — and it had little revolving lights on the bottom," according to witnesses who saw it flying over West Whiteland Township.

There are the mis-sightings, too. Around one Christmas time in the early 70s, reports came into the Local News of a UFO that sang Christmas carols and flashed lights over the Malvern area. That turned out to be a commercial plane advertising a Frazer restaurant with a 30-foot lighted message board.

And on Jan. 15, 1975, hundreds of people phoned the county police radio board to report a bowl-shaped cloud with a blue glow floating through the sky. That turned out to be the result of a weather rocket launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at Wallops Island, Va.

And still the reports go on.

For several years, Air Force bases around the nation took reports of UFO sightings. But no longer, according to Frank Nowicki, public information officer at Willow Grover Air Force Base in Bucks County.

"The Air Force got out of the UFO business about two years ago," he said. Further, Nowicki said, he had no information to offer that was gathered when the Air Force was in the UFO business.

But if the armed services are no longer interested, there are other organizations that are. One is the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill.

"We get anywhere from three to 15 reports daily," center manager Estelle Postol said. "We average over 1,000 a year. We receive reports from over 130 countries, but we only investigate reports from within the United States."

According to Postol, only five to 10 percent of all reports are unexplainable.

"The rest are generally misidentifications," she said. "As soon as we get a report, it is turned over to one of our investigators," Postol said. "Quite often, the investigator is able to identify the object. It then becomes an IFO — identified flying object."

"It might be a plane, or we'll check if there are any particular astronomical occurrences happening at the time of the sighting," she said. "We check if there is any space junk coming through the atmosphere. Sometimes the objects turn out to be weather stations."

The center was begun by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who recently retired as head of the astronomy department at Northwestern University in Illinois. It serves now as a clearinghouse of reports from around the world and maintains a computer bank for researchers.

"Once we've gone as far as we can into the investigation, we put it on file in the computer banks so that similar characteristics can be checked by researchers," Postol said.

According to Postol, the center has researchers around the country. Although much of the work is done by phone, reports of physical contact or physical tracings usually warrant a personal investigation.

"Often in the case of close encounters the investigators will go out and do hypnosis (on the witness)," Postol said. "We don't get that many calls of close encounters. But they're the ones we're most interested in."

Postol explained sightings are broken down into several categories.

"There are nocturnal lights — a light seen at night-time that acts irrationally," she said. "And there are daylight discs, incidents in the daylight. Then there are radar visuals — unidentified blips on radar that coincide with other sightings."

"The ones we're mostly intrigued with are close encounters," she said. "There are close encounters of the first, second and third kind."

Close encounters of the first kind occur when the witness has observed a UFO within 200 yards, but there is no interaction between it and the witness or environment. The second kind does involve an interaction, in which there may be interference with the witness, imprints or burn marks left on the ground or physical effects on plants, animals or humans.

Close encounters of the third kind, Postol said, involve interaction with UFO occupants.

But she declined to make any comments on any cases the center has investigated or the type of work its researchers are doing or results they're getting.

For some, the work of scientists will never be enough to prove the existence of UFOs. For others, such work isn't even necessary. In between are many, who decline to commit themselves one way or the other.

"The dismaying fact is that there is not a scrap of hard evidence for the UFO — only tens of thousands of reports, describing what people claim to have seen," Evans writes. "It may be objected that the same is true of the planet Venus, which everyone has seen but nobody has actually touched."

"But at least all observations of Venus tend to corroborate one another," he continues. "By contrast the UFO appears in a different shape, size and form almost every time it's seen; behaves differently on almost every occasion; is madly elusive and totally unpredictable."

Gasslein put it another way.

"It's easy to say, 'Ah, that's a little too dramatic,'" he said. "There have been some very dramatic reports of UFOs that have been found to be complete hoaxes. It's hard to know whether to believe some of these reports or not."

"But we accept radio, television, telephones as perfunctory things," he pointed out. "Why not UFOs?"

# Is There Something Out There Watching?

## A Close Encounter of the Second Kind Is 'Awesome, Unexplainable Experience'



Dale Schexnaider describes his encounter with a UFO.

By Richard Sharkey  
Town Talk Staff Writer

"Movement had become difficult as in a dream ... slow, heavy. After what seemed to be 10 seconds, all the lights vanished instantly along with the force field," Schexnaider reported.

Then the craft glided away with only its "parking lights" on. "The humming sound faded with the sight of it," he said.

The children became somewhat frantic, although not frightened. Schexnaider tried to calm them down and tell them it could have been anything. "But they were convinced of what they'd experienced and were handling it very well."

Schexnaider said he too was outwardly calm — while it was happening. "I was never frightened until after it was over. Underneath, I was terrified. I thought we were going to die. It was the most frightening and most interesting thing I've ever seen."

"It's an incredible feeling to see something like that. You can sense the intelligence. The cultural shock right at first is the most evident thing," Schexnaider said.

"Your values change. You realize there's someone out there with incredible technology. It's got to change you."

At the time, Schexnaider was a musician but soon after the sighting he became a freelance writer. "I don't know if it caused it or what but it happened about the same time," he said. He also works as an insurance agent.

Schexnaider said he has become less materialistic since the incident. "It just really changes your outlook."

The UFO encounter, while stimulating his awareness, has also left a feeling of void because Schexnaider admits he cannot fully understand why it happened.

He said he doesn't know if the UFO occupants were trying to contact him or the girls on purpose or if they just stumbled upon the craft.

"I know there's something very unfinished about it." He said he would like to meet extraterrestrial beings.

That close-up sighting of the UFO was not the only frightening experience Schexnaider had the night of June 17, 1977. Later that night, he was driving his pick-up truck and the girls were passengers.

A man in another car ran through two stop signs and slammed into his pick-up truck, breaking Schexnaider's finger and breaking a leg of one of the girls. The truck was totaled.

The UFO sighting was his second such occurrence although the one he saw in 1970 was not at as close-range or as fantastic as the one in 1977. In 1970, he and some high school friends witnessed a small craft with a cylindrical shaft hovering about 40 feet in the air. The object — apparently a remote-control craft — moved away instantly when they drove near it, he said. His friends got scared and drove off, Schexnaider said.

He reported his 1977 sighting to the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill. He wants to be hypnotized into reliving the experience in order to better comprehend it.

"I'd just like to know why..." Schexnaider said.

DAILY TOWN TALK, Alexandria, VA - April 20, 1980

## UFO spotted Tuesday morning

An "oval shaped", white object emitting a wavy white light was reported over the Crescent Grade, between Crescent Mills and Greenville early Tuesday morning.

First report came at 5:05 a.m. from Sheriff's Deputy Richard Griffith. Deputy Griffith said he could not determine in which direction the bright object was headed, but it cast a bright light on the ground.

Two minutes later, Ruth Spear, who gave her address as being one mile south of Crescent Grade on Hwy 89, called the Sheriff's office with a similar report of a white, oval shaped object which cast a white wavy light on her entire back yard.

Both observers reported their sightings to the UFO Center in Illinois, a spokesperson from which told this newspaper that there were no other reported sightings in the area.

FEATHER RIVER BULLETIN,

Quincy, CA - April 30, 1980

CR: L. Whitehurst

GAZETTE, McCook, NE - April 22, 1980

## Mysterious Lights Reported Again

Those mysterious lights in the sky continue.

Vicki Drake reports the latest sighting on her folk's farm three miles East of McCook.

Ms. Drake reports seeing the object Sunday evening while checking on an unusual sound emanating from the chicken coop.

She said at first she thought the sound was a racoon, but upon further investigation the sound became clearer and sounded like "the squeaking of that pedal powered airplane that crossed the English Channel."

Observing from inside a farm shed, she said the object suddenly turned and moved to a spot over a 100 foot elm tree,

she added that it had a darker shape than the evening sky.

"It looked like a boomerang, with the 'v' part pointing downward," she said, and estimated the size as about three to four feet across.

She discounts the object as being a bat because of the mechanical sound, or that it might be a boomerang because of the absence of the "wind sound" usually associated with such a object.

Ms. Drake said she had a previous encounter about four years ago when she saw a large glowing blue light near the highway west of her neighbors land that hovered about 10 minutes before disappearing.



# UFO Sighting Aren't That Unusual; Several in Area Have Seen Them

By Richard Sharkey  
Town Talk Staff Writer

It used to be if someone told a group of people he saw an unidentified flying object, all he'd get is some strange looks and a few snickers.

Nowadays, if someone tells a group about his UFO sighting, he may discover one or two others in the group have had their own sightings.

In other words, they are not alone.

While UFO sightings are unusual enough that some persons are still afraid to talk openly about them, they are common enough that sightings are being reported to police and UFO sighting centers every day.

Kent Courtney, 1413 Texas Ave., said he saw a UFO in 1944. Since that time, he's discovered that about one of every 20 persons he's told has in turn told him of their own UFO encounter.

More than 75,000 UFO sightings from 133 countries have been reported to the Center for UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill., according to center director Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

Hynek directed the Air Force Project Blue Book investigation of UFO sightings from 1948 to 1969. He can't understand the apathy and disbelief towards UFOs by many people because many of the sightings come from "highly responsible people" such as pilots and radar operators. Even President Carter admits he saw a UFO.

Still, many people scoff at those who say they've seen UFOs. They say the sightings are nothing more than weather balloons, spotlights, meteors or the result of unusual atmospheric conditions.

But those who claim to have seen them are convinced.

Velva Fountain, 72 Westbrook St., Wardville, said she saw a UFO about 8:30 p.m. March 17.

"It was a bright, bright light and had little lines running out. It sparkled," Mrs. Fountain said. "It was five or six times bigger than any star I've ever seen."

She said the UFO lights slowly started dropping "and then it turned right and started moving slowly." She watched it for about 30 or 40 minutes and then went back in the house.

"I looked again in the same place the next night but there was nothing there," Mrs. Fountain explained.

"I never even believed in UFOs. But I do believe now," Mrs. Fountain said.

Courtney spotted a UFO while he was piloting a transatlantic flight from Brazil to Africa during World War II.

"I had no interest in UFOs until a couple of them came and flew alongside of us," Courtney explained.

All of that changed after the sighting. Courtney, now an art gallery owner, became an avid researcher of information related to UFOs and extraterrestrial happenings.

During the 1960s, Courtney compiled a UFO scrapbook and subscribed to a newspaper clipping service to get his hands on everything reported about UFOs. At the time

he was a syndicated radio announcer and included UFO reports as a regular part of his broadcasts.

He said many World War II pilots reported seeing "bogies" or UFOs during flights.

"Pilots were amazed these little fellows were only four, five and six feet across and they'd fly on the wingtip," Courtney said.

Some of them traveled as fast as 1,000 miles per hour, an unheard of speed at the time, he said. "Whatever they are ... whoever they are, they have discovered space travel that we don't know yet."

Courtney's sighting occurred in 1944 while he was a flying a transport plane over the South Atlantic at about 10,000 feet altitude.

"It was a night flight. We were scheduled to arrive in Africa at dawn," Courtney recalled. It was dark but the four cockpit pilots could see the horizon in the distance.

"Then this bright pair of lights showed up in front of us. These lights were too far apart to be the lights of an airplane," he said.

The lights sped rapidly toward the plane's nose but separated and went around just before it reached his plane, he said.

"We were just aghast and all of a sudden they were coming up from behind," Courtney said. "They came up and flew alongside of us for four or five minutes. They were within a city block of us."

He said he didn't see a detailed craft but saw bright yellowish lights from some type of craft.

When the plane touched down in Africa, Courtney and the other pilots reported the sighting.

"We were advised by the Army and Air Force to keep it to ourselves," Courtney noted.

"The official view of the Air Force was to quell the investigation, to ston it cold." He said he talked with numerous other World War II pilots who had seen UFOs.

Courtney isn't naive enough to believe every reported UFO sighting is authentic. "For every authentic report, there would be some guys trying to get in on the publicity bandwagon."

Asked his theory on why UFOs have never made contact with government officials, Courtney said the extraterrestrial beings are probably superior and would have nothing to gain from such an encounter.

"They are observing a lesser breed," Courtney said. "Why should they bother?"

Many people who have never seen a UFO say they'd give their eye teeth to see one.

Henry LaCour of Boyce does not fall in that category. LaCour may be one of the few persons in the world who says he's seen not one or two but hundreds of UFOs.

"I've lost track of exactly how many. I now just mark them down on a calendar. The last one I saw was a couple of weeks ago. I've seen hundreds," LaCour said.

LaCour gives two reasons for his frequent sightings — an innate ability to "sense" UFOs and his constant skygazing.

"Every night at 9 o'clock, I go and search

the sky for UFOs. If people will look for them in the sky, they're likely to find them. Also, I have a sense for it that goes back to my childhood."

LaCour keeps his special files on UFOs in a safety deposit box at a bank to keep them from being lost or stolen. The files include sworn deposition by pilots of detailed UFO sightings and pictures of UFOs taken while he was in the Air Force.

LaCour said Central Louisiana apparently has a landing base for UFOs in the Red Dirt area. He said sightings are prevalent around Longleaf Vista recreation area of Kisatchie National Forest near Red Dirt. Other areas in Rapides Parish where UFO sightings are not rare, he said, are Ball and Lecompte.

Several UFO sightings have been reported to local police officials in recent years. Some of those have later been proved to have been meteors, weather balloons, fireworks and helicopters but some are unexplainable.

In September 1976 Gerald Rideau, then of Alexandria, reported seeing a crab-shaped object with bright lights moving at a slow speed in the sky.

In March 1979, two Alexandria youths saw a "box, square-shaped object" over the tree tops near Pleasant Drive. In April 1979 Danny Treadwell of McKeithen Drive told police he saw an object with glaring lights which changed colors into a reddish orange.

Occasional suspect reports have cast aspersions on other UFO sighting claims. For example, in February 1974 a Hineston man claimed his car was run off the road by a UFO flying four feet off the ground. The man was later charged with driving while intoxicated.

According to a spokesman for the National UFO Reporting Center near Seattle, Wash., about 20 percent of its UFO sighting reports are unexplainable. The other 80 percent are identifiable, usually weather balloons or rare celestial occurrences such as comets, meteor showers or planets being in view of the naked eye.

The Washington UFO sighting center gets between two and 25 UFO reports each day from around the nation. The center in Evanston receives hundreds each week.

"Louisiana is not a highly reported area," the spokesman told The Town Talk. "The most reported areas are Southern California and Pennsylvania."

About 5 percent of all sightings are from pilots, he said.

However, those pilots apparently are not from around here, according to Esler Regional Airport and England Air Force Base officials.

The Air Force reportedly no longer actively researches UFOs because they have been determined to be not a threat to national security.

Hynek said he doesn't think anything "really significant" about UFOs will be discovered until the public demands an answer. And the "believing" public gets a little larger every day with each new sighting.

EAGLE-STAR, Marinette, WI - June 18, 1980 CR: R. Heiden

## Changes Mind About UFOs

PETOSKEY, Mich. (AP) — "I used to think that people who saw UFOs were crazy," Melanie Doan said today as she described her own "close encounter" with an unidentified flying object.

The 34-year-old ex-schoolteacher from Cincinnati said five objects with flashing lights followed her car late Tuesday night as she drove north on Interstate 75 toward a vacation spot in Petoskey.

"It's the most incredible thing I've ever seen in my life," said Mrs. Doan, who reported the sighting to Emmet County Sheriff's deputies and the U.S. Air Force.

The sighting left Mrs. Doan, her four children — ranging in age from one to 11 — and their 19-year-old babysitter Barbara Potter badly shaken.

"Everyone was scared," Mrs. Doan said. "We were terrified."

Mrs. Doan, wife of a Cincinnati lawyer, said she first spotted two flying objects around 11 p.m. about 70 miles south of Petoskey, where she has vacationed each summer "since I was a baby."

The objects stayed "above the tree line" until they were joined by a third,

then all three moved "in a zig-zag pattern" toward the Doan car, she said.

"They came toward us and then we lost sight of them," Mrs. Doan said. "I told Barbara to roll down the window and look out, and she said 'they're right over us.'"

The objects, "egg-shaped with red and blue-green lights flashing periodically" were absolutely silent, she said.

Mrs. Doan said she thought about stopping the car but her children and Miss Potter urged her to drive faster.

She said she accelerated from 45 mph to 85 mph but the objects kept pace with no apparent difficulty. Two similar objects then appeared to the left of the car but remained distant, she said.

After about 15 minutes, a second car approached and the objects left, she said.

"I've seen the northern lights up here. This was not them," Mrs. Doan said, adding that she was also certain no aircraft could travel as silently as the objects while less than 100 feet above the car.

"We're pretty rational people," Mrs. Doan said. "I have no idea what they were."

## Friday 13th And UFOs Too!

Look! Up in the sky. It's a bird. It's a plane. It's... You got it. Another Unidentified Flying Object sighted.

Several people reported seeing a UFO around 10 p.m. Friday night. However, the police did not receive any reports. It was Friday the 13th. So anything is possible. It also might have been a promotion for the summer release of "The Empire Strikes Back," the "Star Wars" sequence.

However, Matthew Hauck, 644 Fountain Ave., Manheim Township, spotted it. So did Billy Singleton, 608 Fountain Ave., and Dave Drybred, of the 800 block of Ann St.

They reported seeing red, green, blue and white, "sparkling lights" in a triangle shape. According to one report, the UFO "shot up into the sky and then came around again." It then disappeared.

Whatever it was, it certainly livened up the lives of some Manheim Township residents Friday night.

INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL, Lancaster, PA - June 14, 1980

# UFO travel described in research

By DOUG DOMEIER

In new research into the phenomenon of UFOs, scientists are speculating extraterrestrial spacecraft might cover enormous distances to Earth by "jumping over" into another dimension, using electromagnetic and gravitational forces.

One of the most well-received reports at a recent UFO symposium near Houston came from Henry C. Montieth, an Albuquerque, N.M., research engineer.

Montieth, who holds a doctorate in science, reviewed the theories of a now-blind German physicist named Burkhard Heim. Montieth later told *The Dallas Morning News* he believes "the probability is extremely high that Earth has been visited for a very long time" by extraterrestrial (originating outside the earth or its atmosphere) spacecraft.

Such public statements from scientists — Montieth works in nuclear weapons technology at Sandia Laboratories — have been rare since UFOs became newsworthy, and controversial, in the late 1940s.

"No space travel worthy of the name can ever be achieved by the crude, brute force methods of rocket propulsion," Montieth said in his paper.

UFOs use techniques "which enable them to work with the natural forces (of the universe) rather than against them."

Even the most enthusiastic believers in UFOs have had no real answers to the mind-bending

**"No space travel worthy of the name can ever be achieved by the crude, brute force methods of rocket propulsion."**

problem of how advanced technologies could span the enormous distances in space.

Alpha Centauri, the nearest known star to earth, is more than four light years away, meaning to reach Earth a spacecraft would have to travel four years at the speed of light — 186,282 miles per second.

But Montieth told the 1980 symposium of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON): "Our theories and

our fundamental ideas of space and time will have to be drastically modified before we will be able to comprehend the scientific and spacecraft engineering techniques so commonly used by the visitors to our planet."

He said Heim suggests dimensions beyond the world of space and time mathematically formalized as confined by the coordinates of length, width, height and time. Heim has calculated the speed of gravitational waves is greater than the speed of light, Montieth said in his highly-technical paper.

Surrounding a spacecraft with a strong gravitational field might cause it to jump to another dimension where it could travel much faster than the speed of light, Montieth speculates.

"True space travel, faster than light, will come into being when man learns how to produce gravitational fields from electromagnetic radiation," Montieth summarizes. By jumping into another dimension "it will be possible to travel even to other galactic systems in a relatively short time."

Far from an exchange of bizarre UFO encounters, the symposium was titled *UFO Technology: A Detailed Examination*, and drew 400 persons to listen to technical papers presented by engineers and scientists. They included L. David Kissinger, systems engineer in environmental and thermal systems at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, and nuclear engineer Thomas E. Bearden.

The sessions were held at Clear Lake (City) High School — within hiking distance of the Johnson Space Center — because "we're appealing to people at the center to resolve the UFO phenomenon," explained Walter H. Andrus, Jr., MUFON international director.

MUFON is an international, non-profit organization whose members are "seriously interested in resolving the mysteries" of UFOs. There are consultants in 43 subject areas and representatives in all 50 states and 34 foreign countries.

UFO investigator-physicist Stanton Friedman, who also raised the possibility of using electromagnetic forces to travel in space, speculated that huge, cigar-shaped "mother ships" are interstellar vehicles housing smaller, disc-shaped craft, or "earth excursion modules."

Friedman deplored "noisy naysayers anxious to prove every far-out technological advance is impossible." Technological progress, he maintained, "almost invariably comes from doing things differently, in an unpredictable way."

He said most technological development programs "possibly related to an understanding of flying saucer technology have been done in secret in industry," not in academic institutions. "The results are usually published in classified, limited-distribution, technical documents, and not in the open, popular scientific journals."

CR: G. Fawcett

# Family Spots Glowing UFO

By JOE DePRIEST  
Star Staff Writer

A bird's flight led his eyes to the UFO.

Twelve-year-old Ricky Blanton of Route 4, Shelby was sitting in his backyard last Saturday around 8 p.m. watching martins dart in the evening sky.

"That's when he spotted it," said David Blanton, Ricky's father.

A cigar-shaped object moved in a northwesterly direction at tree-top level about three-tenths of a mile away, according to Ricky, his mother, and 9-year-old sister Sherry. All three said the object had an intense white glow "like someone shining a flashlight," Blanton said. "My wife said it definitely wasn't an airplane."

The UFO didn't make the slightest noise and was only visible for a few seconds. "I was laying in bed," Blanton said. "They called me and I went outside but it was already gone."

Blanton suggested that his wife and children draw pictures of the object they saw. "They all drew the cigar shape," he said. However, Ricky had recalled seeing "one tail fin sticking up in the back," Blanton said. Ricky also said a line divided the top and bottom halves of the object. "He said the glow was like someone shining a flashlight in your face," said Blanton.

The UFO didn't frighten his family, Blanton continued. "They were just curious about it."

The Blantons plan to report the sighting to George Fawcett, state director of the International Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

Fawcett, who lives in Lincolnton, said this morning that of all UFO sightings, objects described as cigar-shaped are very rare. "Of course when a disc turns at an angle it looks like a cigar," said Fawcett.

Today is the 33rd anniversary of UFOs in modern times, Fawcett noted. On June 24, 1947 Kenneth Arnold, a commercial airline pilot, spotted nine UFOs near Mount Rainier in Washington state. "He told a newspaperman they skipped across the sky like saucers," said Fawcett. "You know what ridiculous name they got from that description."

In North Carolina "if we get 10 percent of the UFO reports, we're doing good," said Fawcett. Most people don't know where to report UFO sightings and many "fear ridicule," he added. However, public acceptance has changed since the days when the "flying saucer" description was born.

"Nowadays, if you are skeptical of UFOs you're in the minority group," said Fawcett.

Fawcett said he wants to get a detailed description of what members of the Blanton family spotted. Then "we'll check with the nearest Air Force bases" to see if any military aircraft were in the area at the time, he said. Another person Fawcett often calls when investigating a UFO report is the Charlotte-based pilot whose plane flashes various commercial messages with a network of lights on its underside.

"One thing in favor of this (the Blanton report) is that it's a multiple sighting," Fawcett added.

# Was the flaming, fat cigar really a UFO?

By ANNE BURKE  
Post-Register staff writer

An Idaho Nuclear Engineering Laboratory employee had a strange encounter Friday night and he's still scratching his head trying to figure out just what it was.

The 52-year-old Westinghouse worker in the Navy's nuclear training program was leaving work about midnight a sudden flash in the sky caught his eye.

"It looked like a fat cigar," he said. "It had a tail behind it like a meteor, to a degree, except it had a solid tail."

The 18-year Westinghouse employee was confident the UFO wasn't a meteor. And being a former pilot in the armed services, he figures he should know.

"It wasn't a meteor, I can definitely rule that out because it had too much shape, it was traveling too low and and much too slow — much too slow," he said.

He says the object contained a hue of colors, dominated by medium red, and appeared to disintegrate as it came toward the earth at about a 45 degree angle toward Teton Mountain peaks.

"It just all of a sudden quit because it looked like it burned up and disintegrated or it could have gone behind a cloud," he says.

The thing that bothers the employee is that none of his co-workers caught a glimpse of the midnight flasher to back up his claim.

Officials at INEL's National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and Federal Aviation Administration's tower at Fanning Field are

equally baffled.

They say there were no flying object citations Friday night, although neither maintain 24-hour surveillance.

"It's really deceptive to see things from the ground without photographing it and getting height," said Deputy Chief Gene Start of NOAA.

Start says there's usually a rational answer to UFO citations.

"Yes, I guess they probably saw something but we see things we can't necessarily explain at the time, but it doesn't mean they're not explainable. I guess I'd say I was curious all right, but from a scientific background there's not much I could say" without factual data, Start said.

Start was reluctant to offer a possible explanation for the citing.

"There's unusual atmospheric phenomena," he said. "There's a lot of what you would call peculiar things that could happen that are really quite ordinary."

A tower employee at Fanning Field said he hadn't received reports of unusual citations Friday night, but UFO reports come in sporadically.

The INEL employee, however, was confident his mind wasn't playing tricks on him. He toyed with the possibility that the fireball was a foreign country's spaceship which had trouble and returned to earth.

"I used to scoff at those UFOs and stuff like that," he said. "But I wasn't drinking and I've never seen anything like it before."

# Local man spots UFO

By Dan Griswold

For 23 years Duane "Skeeter" Weiner has been pulling himself out of bed at the quiet hour of 2:30 a.m. to supervise delivery of the Minneapolis Tribune.

But last Thursday, as he stepped out of his mother's house next to the downtown tennis courts, he said the night was anything but still.

"The sound was all around me," Weiner said. It was an "energetic sound," like that from an electrical wire lying on the ground, or an arc welder at a distance. Weiner inspected his thermos, thinking it could be gas escaping, then he checked his car. The he looked above the tennis courts.

"I stood here in bewilderment," Skeeter said. The object he described as the source of the sound was a glowing orange sphere about a hundred feet off the ground, in the

area of the Northwestern Bell Telephone office.

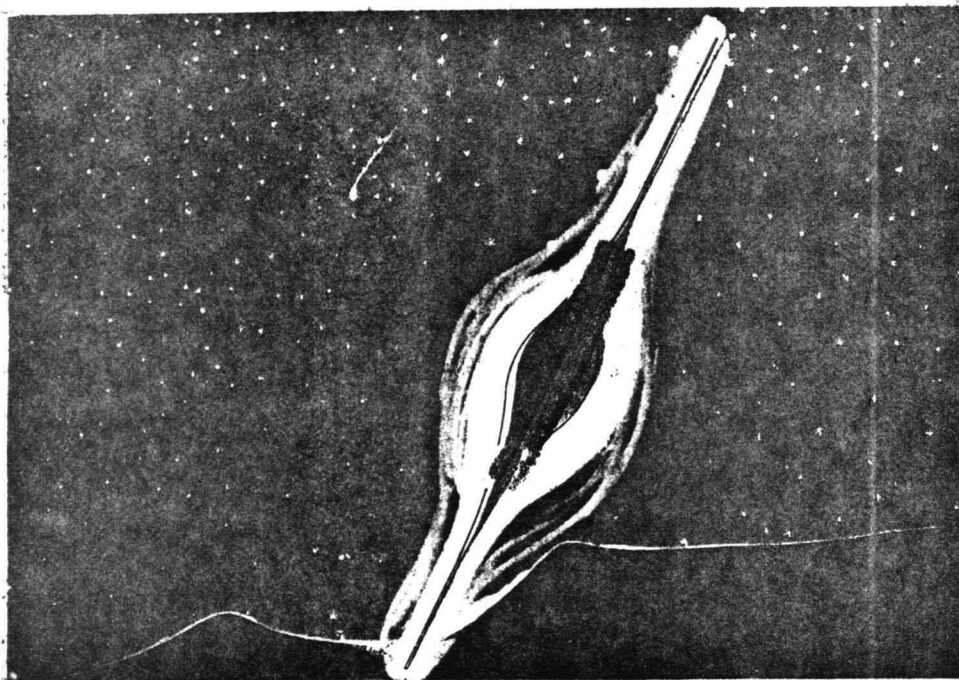
The sphere moved back and forth, southwest to northeast. It rotated as it moved, spewing tiny bits of matter as it spun.

A few minutes later, Weiner said the UFO shifted west, continued its diagonal motion, then moved erratically off into space until it was only a dim point of light.

By the time the object left, he was already 15 minutes late for his distribution duties.

"I know Skeeter, and he's not one to tell stories," Sauk Centre Police Chief George Trierweiler said Thursday. At 12:35 a.m. that morning the police department received a report that an electrical pole on Second and Elm streets was smoldering. According to Trierweiler, a helium balloon and a kite had been spotted over the downtown area that night.





Star-Tribune drawing/MARNIA WORMUS

# 'Puzzles' from space

## A mystery well and UFOs on the high plain

By GREG BEAN

Of the Star-Tribune Staff

There are some strange things in the air over Pat McGuire's farm.

Located 30 miles north of Laramie on the high plains, the McGuire farm is five miles from the nearest neighbor.

The perfect place to go if you want to be alone.

And since 1973 something has been making the most of it.

Almost every night for the last seven years, Pat believes his farm has been visited by humanoid beings traveling in multi-colored UFOs.

His sightings are confirmed by his wife and eight children, as well as Dan and Ruth Grover, who also live on the farm.

"The UFOs are about 300 feet wide and about 60 feet tall," said McGuire, "and they are capable of amazing speed. One minute they can be hovering on the horizon and will look like a star. The next minute, in the blink of an eye, they can be right above you. There seems to be no limit as to how fast they can go."

McGUIRE'S STORY sounds a lot like a plot from the "Twilight Zone", and if it weren't for his obvious conviction, and the fact that there are many collaborating witnesses, the sightings could perhaps be easily credited to an extremely vivid imagination.

"I didn't believe him when Dan and I first moved out here," said Ruth Grover, "but when one of the things lands in the field in front of the house, or hovers directly overhead, it's hard to ignore. This summer has made a believer out of me."

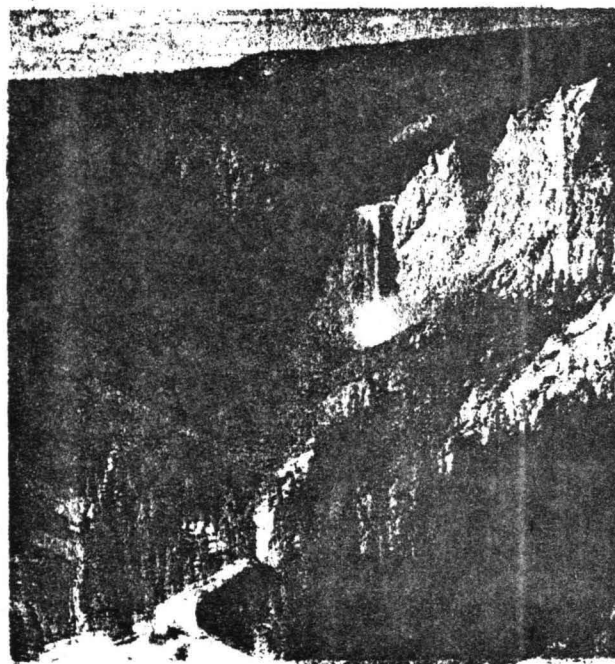
McGuire said his children were frightened by the visits at first, but have become accustomed to them over the years.

"They don't scare me any more," said 6-year-old Julie McGuire, "but I don't like them because they scare the dogs."

Pat McGuire said the only time he has been frightened by a UFO was after he and his brother-in-law saw a hovering craft pick up a young calf one evening in 1976. In the weeks before the incident, two of McGuire's cattle had been mutilated within a few miles of his home.

"We could hear that calf bawling for quite a while," he said, "and when the UFO flew away the calf was gone. We never did find out where they took it."

There have been no mutilations and



Star-Tribune/FRED SCHNELL

VISITORS? A University of Wyoming parapsychologist says UFO sightings are common in Wyoming, with its spectacular

other aggressive actions since 1976, and the McGuire family feels safe again.

McGUIRE'S RELATIONSHIP with the UFO beings began in 1971, he believes, with a compulsion to dig a well in the prairie basin country that is now his home. The land is 7,200 feet above sea level, and McGuire was told by geologists and drilling companies that there wasn't enough water in the basin for an irrigation well.

Several drilling companies refused to drill the well for him, saying that it was a waste of time.

McGuire, who lived in Wheatland at that time, bought the land outside of Laramie and started making plans to drill the well on his own.

"Somehow I knew there was water there," said McGuire, "so I got a friend to help me build a rig, bought an Army

scenery, and Colorado. A rancher near Laramie is convinced he has had contact with travelers from 'another dimension.'

tank engine to pump the water, and started drilling."

The neighbors called McGuire crazy for drilling a well in the sagebrush country, and for expecting to find enough water for massive irrigation. So they were surprised when he tapped into an underground river at 350 feet.

HIS WELL WAS A gusher, and can now pump 8,000 gallons of pure, soft water per minute. He has turned his sagebrush desert into a 5,100-acre oasis of irrigated grassland.

McGuire's land is the only land in the area with enough water for cash farming, and drillers who have since tried to tap the underground river in other locations have all failed.

It wasn't until 1978 that McGuire began to understand what was happening.

In that year he made contact with Dr. Leo Sprinkle, a noted parapsychologist and UFO authority at the University of Wyoming.

Sprinkle had been conducting an investigation of UFO phenomena, and was involved in psychological studies of UFO contactees. He was using hypnosis to draw an accurate picture of the experience from each contactee's subconscious.

Sprinkle agreed to work with McGuire and the tests were begun.

According to a psychiatrist working with Sprinkle, information about the UFO beings that had been lost in McGuire's subconscious was retrieved.

UNDER HYPNOSIS, McGuire reported that he had been taken aboard one of the spacecraft into an oval room, and that the aliens had telepathically instructed him to begin plans for the well.

The aliens were human in appearance, he said: 6 feet tall, about 200 pounds, large eyes, thin lips, bald and having no bridge on the nose.

They were dressed in black. The only ornamentation on their bodies were silver belt buckles with raised stars, similar to the Star of David.

McGuire related that the beings were not necessarily from outer space, but instead were from "another dimension," perhaps our descendants who had somehow conquered time travel and were influencing their race's past.

He was told by the beings, he recalled, that the vehicle they travel in is propelled by a sophisticated magnetic system. If the destination of the vehicle is a distant planet, the magnetic system is simply locked onto the planet, and the planet's magnetic pull draws the craft to it at unimaginable speeds.

McGuire was informed, he said, that no speed is too great for the craft to achieve. It can also hover motionless indefinitely — or perform seemingly impossible maneuvers.

"I was told that they were monitoring my well for some reason," said McGuire. "I figure if they want to do it, there is nothing I can do to stop them."

"I decided to take a shot at them one time and they paralyzed me from the neck down until they left. I don't believe I'll try that again."

LEO SPRINKLE believes McGuire's experiences have been real.

"The only question in my mind is whether it was a face-to-face encounter, mental programming, or an out-of-body experience," said Sprinkle.

"McGuire's account is very similar to the accounts of the other 200 or more contactees I have worked with. His descriptions of the craft and the beings are similar."

Sprinkle, who claims to have sighted UFOs himself on two occasions, said that skepticism over the existence of alien beings is normal.

"It is always more impressive if we observe them ourselves," he said, "because we tend to believe our own observations."

"There are more than 100 sightings in the world each day, many of them in southern Wyoming and northern Colorado."

"I believe that the contactees are chosen as peace setters to spread the word and get people used to the idea that we are not alone. If the beings revealed themselves too soon without preparation, people would be frightened."

"If they give us a puzzle though, we have to think about it."

"THE WAY I SEE IT there are two possibilities. Either they can reveal themselves in a few years, or they can never reveal themselves and continue to coach us in the things we do."

"If they continue to coach us, we could be the race in the spaceships in the next generations."

Sprinkle believes the cattle mutilations are part of a study being conducted by the aliens rather than an overt act of aggression.

"The theory or hypothesis I like best is that the beings are testing some sort of poisoning on our planet and use animals to monitor the effects of the poison."

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5 -  
STAR TRIBUNE, Casper,  
WY - June 29, 1980)

"The mutilations seem to occur downwind from nuclear sites, so the aliens could be checking the effects of radiation on mammals.

"I don't know if that is the best or the correct hypothesis, but it makes sense to me.

"It almost seems like they are tapping our heads to get our attention."

McGUIRE BELIEVES that the beings will make contact with the human race in the very near future, perhaps this summer.

"They are getting more and more casual about letting us observe them," he said. "In fact, they want to be observed.

"Why would they do that if they weren't planning something?"

When that happens, McGuire says he will be among the first to say hello.

"They haven't hurt me, and they certainly could have. There is no sense in being afraid of something you can't control."

Until then the entire McGuire clan is content to sit back and watch the nightly show, but they don't pay the UFOs as much attention as they used to.

Patrick McGuire Jr., 10 years old, and the only boy in a family with seven girls, summarized the attitude of the family.

"The UFOs used to be pretty exciting, especially the first time you see one up close.

"After that it's kind of like going to school ... not such a big deal after the first day."

## 'Watching the show'

At Pat McGuire's invitation, Dr. Richard F. Fleck from the University of Wyoming, *Star-Tribune* photographer Richard Foertsch and this reporter visited the McGuire Farm to "watch the show," as Pat called it.

Camped on a hillside overlooking the vast basin in which the farm sits, our cameras at the ready, we settled back to get a look at our first UFO.

Nothing happened until 3:00 a.m., when a strange light appeared on the horizon.

The object flashed blue, red, yellow and bright white lights in sequence.

The landscape was too dark to allow a photograph with perspective, and the object was too far away to recognize any exact detail.

Slowly, the object began to move straight up and down in the air, perhaps several hundred feet at a time.

Soon it stopped its up and down motion and began to rock back and forth across the sky, performing a sort of cosmic dance.

For perhaps 10 or 15 minutes the object continued its undulations and then flashed across the sky.

McGuire claims we witnessed the performance of a UFO.

While we cannot be certain of what we saw, none of us left the McGuire Farm with as much skepticism as we arrived with.

Perhaps we can return.

— GREG BEAN

TRIBUNE, Mesa, AZ - June 10, 1980

# Space invaders

## Mesan reports strange objects in the sky

By MICHAEL MURPHY  
Tribune staff writer

Four luminous white lights, "definitely not military," traversed the night sky Sunday in two different directions and then disappeared, according to a 38-year-old Mesa construction worker, his family and neighbors.

"It was really amazing," said Robert Navarra of 1137 W. Drummer St., near Eighth Avenue and Alma School Road in Mesa. "I'm an amateur astronomer and I go out every night.

"Between 9 and 9:10 p.m., there were eight (two groups of four) nocturnal lights. Four were heading from south to north over the city."

Bill Spaulding, director of the Valley-based Ground Saucer Watch, is investigating the sighting and believes the UFOs to be part of a military exercise.

"It looks pretty positive that the sightings are related to the military," Spaulding said. "We have suspicions that it was a military operation out of New Mexico."

Spaulding, an engineer at AiResearch, said the organization, which seeks to change *Unidentified* Flying Objects into *Identified* Flying Objects, began in 1957 in Cleveland, Ohio.

"We get about 500 calls a month and about 99 percent of the sightings are misinterpretations," he said.

Navarra was skeptical of the "military" explanation for what he saw.

"All the lights were heading in same direction, the same course. About 9:10 p.m. the same four, at least I think it was the same four, came back from north to south.

"They were a little bit smaller in brightness than the planet Jupiter, which can be seen now," he said, adding, "Satellites don't reflect that much light.

"I called the observatory in Tucson because four or five of the objects headed south, he said. "They said there

were about 2,000 or 3,000 satellites up there, but satellites travel by themselves — not in groups."

Navarra added there was an additional sighting after the first two.

"At 10:05 p.m., one appeared going north to south 45 degrees to the east," he said. "It stopped directly over us and began zigzagging."

"Then it headed east and disappeared," he added.

"My neighbors saw each one of the lights except the one after 10 p.m."

Navarra uses an 800-power telescope with different lenses and has been an amateur astronomer about 10 years.

No one was frightened at the sightings, but the neighbors were excited, he said.

"It was definitely not military and not satellites," he said.

Navarra said he has believed in UFOs for a long time and "Henry Ford and the secretary of the Navy and many others also believe in them — you can't call them stupid."

Navarra contacted the Federal Aviation Administration and Williams Air Force Base but received no confirmation of the sighting.

"The Air Force wouldn't tell me anything," he said. "Neither would the FAA."

Navarra added that he also has made daylight sightings, one of which is being investigated by GSW.

The saucer watch, which employs computers to evaluate evidence, contends that UFOs exist but are manipulations of intelligence agencies rather than extraterrestrial.

The organization is involved in a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the Central Intelligence Agency seeking evidence of a UFO cover-up.

Spaulding said his organization has good rapport with law enforcement agencies and the Air Force, "which has been accused unduly of withholding information."

"Our whole approach is scientific," he added.





BOURNEMOUTH EVENING ECHO,  
Dorset, England - June 6, 1980

## Mystery night light report

ANOTHER report of a sighting of the bright light in the sky late on Tuesday night was passed to the Echo today - this time from Wallisdown, several miles east of Canford Heath.

The mystery flash was spotted by Mrs. Stella Styan who was at her daughter's home in Templer Close at around 10 pm when a rotating light appeared in the distance.

"We first thought it was a reflection from a motor-bike. It was very vivid with a red glare and seemed to be coming from the ground. My daughter, son-in-law and I decided to investigate and walked towards Turbury Common where it seemed to be coming from.

"We walked towards it and it was beginning to look like a searchlight, but by the time we arrived at the point we thought it originated from it had disappeared," added Mrs. Styan, of Ritchie Road, West Howe.

The mystery light was also seen by Mrs. Stevie Webber and husband Philip at their home in Verity Crescent, Canford Heath, who first reported it to the Echo, but inquiries about its origin have so far been fruitless.

THE SUN, Melbourne, Australia  
June 14, 1980 CR: P. Norman

## REAL space invaders ...

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — A flying saucer attacked an oil terminal with laser beams at Port Klang, in Malaysia, witnesses say.

Three people have told police they saw the UFO blast a house with a laser beam and start a fire which destroyed two houses and a shop only six metres from the Felda and Caltex oil terminal, the New Straits Times reported.

The "attack" took place at 230 a.m. three days after a big fire and explosions ripped Port Klang last week.

The witnesses told the New Straits Times they were driving from Port Klang toward Kampung Berembang when they

saw a bright, luminous, ball-like object about 10 metres above the oil terminal.

The bluish-red object, about 60 cm in diameter, was spinning, they said. The witnesses said they drove on and saw the object hovering above the house nearest the oil tanks.

When they stopped their car about 30 metres away, they saw the object emitting a laser beam like a bolt of lightning which hit the house nearest to the tanks.

## UFOs may be Nasa tryout

Cordoba

THE UFOs that were seen over the country last Saturday may have been the result of an experiment being carried out by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) of the US, called "Firewheel."

Local television channel 12 revealed yesterday that in a tape sent to his mother, Mario Hector Acuña, an Argentine engineer working for Nasa, gave the following information: "On May 23 we will launch a satellite, look up at the sky from the June 8 to 15, about midnight. You will probably only see a flying saucer," says Acuña in the tape, "but it will have been created by us. The project is called 'Firewheel', and it consists of injecting an artificial cloud which will create something like a comet, and that is what you are going to see." (NA)

HERALD, Buenos Aires, Argentina - June 19, 1980 CR: J. Thomas

HERALD, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
June 18, 1980 CR: J. Thomas

## UFOs still unexplained

THE strange phenomenon which appeared over the skies of a large part of Argentina on Saturday night continues to be discussed by the man in the street and scientific quarters but up to now no satisfactory explanation has been forthcoming.

Some people described it as a flying saucer, others like a cloud which emitted multi-coloured flashes of light, while a sector in Rosario likened it to an entire flotilla of unidentified flying objects.

Whatever it was, it caused a great amount of interest in several provinces and the federal capital. In this case the phenomenon was seen by pilots and crew of aircraft, and personnel in charge of the Aeroparque control towers.

The official version is that it was some kind of atmospheric or meteorological phenomenon in the upper atmosphere and its luminosity was reflected to lower levels. Another version is that it consisted of layers of ice high up in the sky which reflected the light from the sun or moon.

Captain Augusto Lima, head of the central division of the Argentine Space Research Centre, said yesterday that the centre is gathering all the information available concerning the affair, but until this is examined and analysed he could not give an opinion on the subject.

He added that in other parts of the world, specially in the United States, reported appearance of UFOs were later proved to have been meteorological disturbances. (NA)

HERALD, Buenos Aires, Argentina - June 16, 1980 CR: J. Thomas

## UFOs maybe only a frozen cloud front

THE UNIDENTIFIED flying objects that were seen over a number of Argentine airports yesterday, and detected by the radar at Ezeiza International airport, may not have been a UFO flotilla at all.

Meteorological and aeronautical experts said yesterday that the UFOs could in fact have been a frozen cloud front which was moving over the continent, and acted like a prism for the sun's light, thus creating the different colour effects seen all over the country.

Nevertheless, the luminous flying objects created a series of problems at Aeroparque, where air traffic was stopped for a few minutes, during which the pilot of an Austral plane which was about to take off saw one and the control-tower operators watched it come from the River Plate stadium area. "It actually looked as if it was about to crash against the tower," said one of the operators according to Cronica.

In Ezeiza, the control tower told the Austral pilot that they could see the UFO on the radar. Apparently in Mar del Plata one even landed, at the same time as an Aerolineas Argentinas flight was about to land. The UFOs were also reported in Rosario, Santa Fe, Paraná, Rio Cuarto, Córdoba, Rafaela, Corrientes and Resistencia, all of them having been seen between 7 and 7.15pm.

In their north-bound flight, the UFOs were also reported in Uruguay and Brazil, although only a Rosario photographer managed to take a photograph of the objects. (NA)

LA OPINION, Buenos Aires, Argentina - June 16, 1980 CR: J. Thomas



## ¿OVNI sobre Rosario?

Fotografía tomada por el reportero gráfico José Granata en Rosario. En la misma aparecen puntos luminosos que serían Objetos Voladores No Identificados (OVNI). Según Granata, que captó la foto en el Parque Independencia, esos puntos luminosos se desplazaban lentamente hacia el noroeste, dejando tras sí una estela rojiza. (Radiofoto de NAI No 152, 12)

UFO OVER ROSARIO? - Photo taken by graphic reporter Jose Granata in Rosario. It shows luminous points that would be UFOs. According to Granata, who took the photo in Independence Park, these luminous points moved slowly to the northwest, leaving a reddish trail.

## UFOs: Cold front theory denied

THE question of Saturday's UFOs came back to life yesterday, when the unofficial report that it had only been the sun reflected on a cloud bank was denied by air force and weather bureau officials.

The theory could not explain the movement of the objects, as any meteorologic phenomenon with light is static and does not move. Julio Cantero, who was in charge of the control tower when the UFO appeared over the Jorge Newbery airport, said yesterday that it "couldn't" have been a cloud, because of the exceptionally clear conditions.

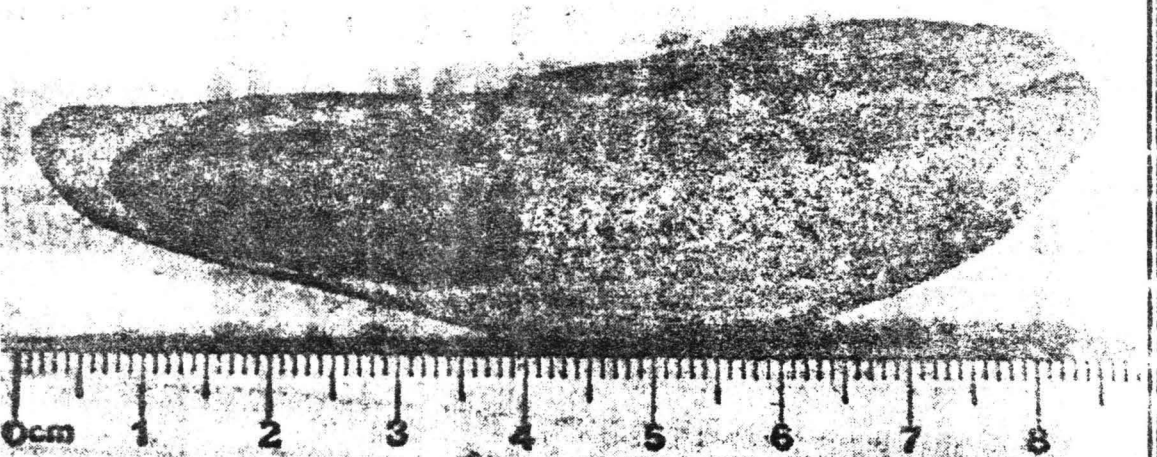
"That was some kind of airship, or at least a strange flying object," said Cantero, "everything was working normally when it appeared from the west, as if it were to land on runway 13, which was the one being used at that moment. The object, which was a disc that couldn't be seen clearly

due to the very luminous cloud that surrounded it, came in from the River Plate stadium, at an estimated height of 600 metres, and hovered over the start of the runway for four minutes."

After saying that it had a considerable size, Cantero added that during the time it hovered over the runway, he ordered all traffic stopped, in order to avoid any possible collision.

Officially, the Ezeiza international airport's radar "saw" an object that had no nucleus, and so did a number of planes that were leaving on international flights. The UFOs were seen over a strip that goes north of Buenos Aires, starting from Mar del Plata, and reaching Resistencia, as well as in Uruguay and Brazil. They were all seen between 7 and 7.15pm, and all the reports coincide in saying that they were flying from south to north. (NA)

# VISITED FROM SPACE 6 MILLION YEARS AGO...



and here's the proof, he says

ASTRONAUTS visited New Zealand six million years ago — and the sandstone rock pictured above is proof. So claims space visionary Robin Collins, New Zealand's Erich von Daniken.

By ROBERT JONES

The sandstone, he says is six million years old and embedded in it is disc-like artificial metallic relic. A well-known writer who lives in St Heliers, Collins will show it at the seventh world conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society in Auckland next week. The public will be allowed to inspect it, but photographs of it will be banned. Collins won't say where the sandstone was found. "The disc is definitely artificial, is 85mm long, has three raised grooves and is buckled," he says. "It's encrusted in grey sandstone which a geologist has dated as being at least six million years old." This is the first time to his knowledge anything like it has been found in New Zealand. Similar relics which scientists can't explain have been unearthed also from deep coal seams in the United States and the Soviet Union, some as old as 10 million years, Collins says.

## Nuclear wars?

Collins, now working on his fifth book on ancient astronauts and fulfilled prophecies, says he plans to publish full details of the New Zealand relic. An advocate of the theory that extraterrestrials helped colonize Earth, he says his research into ancient Indian writings has uncovered references to wars involving explosions "brighter than 10,000 suns" and to people apparently afflicted with radiation sickness. In a book due to be released in New Zealand next month or early September he suggests major infectious diseases today might be revived vestiges of ancient germ warfare. His book is called *Prehistoric Germ Warfare*. Collins, whose provocative material is making him one of New Zealand's best-selling writers abroad and whose work has been translated into five different languages, says: "I've done a lot of work on this. Four years of research has gone into the theory of prehistoric germ warfare." The fact that diseases like poliomyelitis and the dreaded anthrax can now be manufactured in a laboratory indicates a prehistoric origin, he says.

HEPARD, Buenos Aires, Argentina

July 1, 1980 CR: J. Thomas

## 'UFOs caused by

## French neutron

## device explosion'

Córdoba AN alleged French test of the neutron bomb in Antarctica on June 14 was reported as the cause for the numerous UFO sightings in Argentina on that date.

Priest Rogelio Pizzi, director of the Cristo Rey school in Rosario, who has been involved in astronomical research for the past 25 years and has made a detailed study of the recent UFO sightings, announced his findings here yesterday in a local newspaper.

Pizzi claims that "France tested a neutron nuclear device at 6pm on June 14 which was difficult to detect by normal methods as it did not produce a natural expanding wave." He went on to explain that "as a secondary effect, a bubble emerged that moved over Argentine territory, entering from the southeast and leaving from the northeast."

Pizzi says the bubble travelled "at a speed of 9,000 kilometres per hour and passed Rosario around 7pm and arrived at Córdoba a minute and a half later, passing over 500 kilometres every three minutes and 18 seconds."

The bubble, according to the priest, was made up of "particles ionized or diluted by the air pressure, when it passed Córdoba it was around five kilometres in diameter, but it gradually grew in size until it disappeared over the northern border."

Pizzi is in Córdoba now collecting testimony on observations made here on June 14. (NA)

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London, England

June 3, 1980

## UFO SEEN OVER FAIRGROUND

The annual agricultural show at Zambia's northern copper-belt drew unexpected observers at the weekend according to fairgoers who claimed that a UFO hovered over the fairground for 15 minutes.

The TIMES OF ZAMBIA quoted nine policemen saying that they watched a "round brown object" in the sky for about 15 minutes

8 O'CLOCK, (City Unknown), New Zealand

July 5, 1980 CR: R. Collins

# COLONIES IN SPACE IN 15 YEARS?

PERMANENT Soviet colonies in space are certain within 15 years, American space travel expert James Oberg predicts.

Oberg is no "crazy visionary", author Erich von Daniken says in his latest book *Signs Of The Gods*. An expert at the US Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics on Russian space travel, Oberg claims: "Spaceships with men and women on board will orbit the earth for so long they will look on themselves as permanent inhabitants and no longer have any intention of returning to Earth."

## Russians will do it, says expert

Best-seller author of von Daniken tells us world-famous Russian astronomer Yosef Shklovsky goes even further in claiming artificial biospheres will be hoisted in space in the next 250 years, and that up to 10 million people will live in them.

Von Daniken is among experts from six countries who will be in Auckland next week for the seventh world Ancient Astronaut conference.

He will give public lectures on *Were The Gods*

By ROBERT JONES

## Astronauts Of The Past?

Von Daniken highlights the boldest current space exploration predictions to add emphasis to his theories in his new book on man's origins.

Space technologists have named their satellites Midos, Samos, Pegasus, Helios and so on, on the basis of mythology, he writes.

"They gave their heaven-storming rockets names like Thor, Atlas, Titan, Centaur, Zeus, Jupiter, Saturn and Apollo."

"Almost the whole great mythological family is assembled in the sheds of the

space railway stations.

"Nostalgia for the past or a prospect of the future?" asks von Daniken.

Other questions he poses — and tries to answer in soon-to-be-released *Signs of the Gods* include:

Did powers from outer space create the first men?

Did extraterrestrial giants build the megaliths of Malta and the menhirs of Brittany?

Was there a nuclear catastrophe in ancient times?

In 45 million copies of *Chariots of the Gods*, and other books like *In Search of Ancient Gods and Return to The Stars*, von Daniken advances research to validate his theories.

In *Signs of the Gods* he sees ancient pictures as a universal communicative device.

"Are these signs from our ancestors indicators of an ancient nuclear holocaust on Earth?" he asks.

"Can the phenomenon of the millions of rock drawings all over the world be explained by a world-wide catastrophe?"

"Would history repeat itself after a catastrophe in the present?"

The writer points out the uncanny way history tends to repeat itself in observing:

"If the technology of space travel manages to achieve flights close to the speed of light in 50 years —

and it will, provided the Black Order of Pessimists does not succeed in wrecking our future — will space travel be a first time event for mankind, or shall we only be repeating what our forefathers have already done?"

Von Daniken firmly adheres to his theory that extraterrestrials visited early mankind on Earth, while acknowledging that 25 books written by others since 1968 oppose his ancient astronaut ideas.

"I know no other theory which fits so perfectly and logically into our prehistoric past and so provides an explanation of the unsolved phenomena," he states.

## UFO probe over lost airman

A Victorian UFO Research Society official will spend six months in the Warrnambool district investigating the mystery disappearance of a Melbourne pilot in 1978.

Society vice-president Paul Norman arrived in Warrnambool yesterday to continue a study of reported sightings, strange noises and a photograph of a mystery object taken in the district. His investigations will centre on the disappearance of Melbourne-based private pilot Frederick Valentich, between Cape Otway and King Island on October 21, 1978.

## Photograph

He said the latest evidence in the mystery had been produced by an amateur Melbourne photographer who was taking photographs of a sunset at Cape Otway 20 minutes before Valentich was scheduled to pass the area.

His camera was set automatically and was taking one frame every 20 seconds.

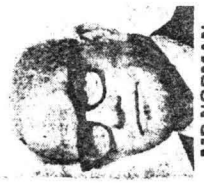
One of the photographs shows a slight uprising in the sea and another shows a strange, blurred object much closer to the camera's position.

Computer analysis of the negatives by American scientists revealed a highly reflective area at the top of the image, indicative of a metallic structure.

Mr Norman said the Warrnambool sightings and the photographs were residents in late October, 1978, after Valentich's disappearance.

He said his studies during the next six months would include interviews and electro-magnetic studies in areas where UFOs were sighted.

Mr Norman appealed to anyone with information of a "close encounter" on the day Valentich disappeared to contact the society.



MR NORMAN

His disappearance stunned aviation and Air Force officials and has become one of the biggest mysteries of Australian aviation history.

A society investigator interviewed seven Warrnambool residents in late October, 1978, after Valentich's disappearance.

He said in a recording of the conversation between Valentich and Melbourne Flight Service there was evidence of the plane engine



# TRANSLATIONS

## ARGENTINA — Credit: Jane Thomas

City and country of incident: San Antonio de los Cobres, Salta prov., Argentina  
 Date of incident: April 30, 1980  
 Name of paper and date of clip: El Tribuna (Salta) - May 3, 1980  
 City and country of paper: Salta province, Argentina

### UFO IN SAN ANTONIO DE LOS COBRES

San Antonio de los Cobres (C) - At 20.45 last Wednesday, approximately near the El Terciopelo hill, a UFO was seen for 5 minutes, then disappeared towards the southwest. The UFO was sighted by neighbors and members of the Squadron 21 "La Quiaca" of the National Gendarmerie who were on duty and reported it to their superiors, who also witnessed the event. These and other witnesses coincide in their claims that it was "an object of similar size to that of a drum (percussive instrument), from which came a green-yellowish light".

City and country of paper: La Rioja province, Argentina  
 Name of paper and date of clip: El Independiente, May 14, 1980  
 City and country of incident: Km 29 at the junction of the Corral de Isaac and Las Toscas roads, La Rioja province  
 Date of incident: "Last week"

### Chepes: Illusion or Reality? A Fantastic collective sighting

Chepes (From our agency) - The result of collective imagination or a "CEIII"? However, all of the bus passengers claim they saw that "illuminated city suspended in space".

This happened last week when the bus from the Chepes al Sur company reached Km 29 before entering the city. It was about 08.30 pm and they were all astounded, and some were frightened of the unknown.

In order to obtain the story from one of the witnesses, El Independiente interviewed the owner of the bus, Dionisio Peré, who said that "in fact, when we stopped at that place, i.e., Km 29, where the road that goes to Corral de Isaac intersects with the one to Las Toscas, above the earth's surface could be clearly seen a kind of houses, and from different small windows multicolored lights were coming. But it did not seem to be an "airship", rather a city".

"This phenomenon surprised many of us -he recalled- we all thought of craft from other worlds, extraterrestrial beings. The phenomenon remained motionless in the air. Some passengers wanted to turn back to have a closer look but others opposed the idea, I think they were frightened".

Peré also commented that on another night previous to this, the people living at the junction of the road had already seen the strange phenomenon.

This story, just like the best argument from Steven Spielberg or the Flash Gordon strips, leads one to think of beings from other galaxies that travel in cities, overcoming all known scientific laws.

The place itself is a practically semi-desertical spot, with almost no population, which makes it similar to other cases occurred in this planet that fill the occasional witnesses with wonder and put the scientists on the track of these apparent UFOs.

It should be pointed out that most of the people traveling in the bus were country people who seldom have the opportunity of seeing a film or watching TV, even less that kind of films. There were also teachers going to work, who confirmed what the other passengers saw.

All imaginable theories may be present in this case. Can it be a reflection, an optical illusion representing a city in space as in a film? All the passengers are in agreement: "it was a city in the air".

It must also be remembered that, as was previously reported by this paper, a ship in the shape of a coffee pot was seen ascending from the salt works and disappeared at fantastic speed behind the Pie de Palo hills in San Juan (Pie de Palo is a very seismic zone in San Juan province, in the area where the unfortunate earthquake occurred, destroying the town of Caucete a couple of years ago-JT).

A teacher who requested not to be named said that "he had also observed that phenomenon on several occasions, commenting it only with relatives to avoid being laughed at by the people".

City and country of incident: San José, Uruguay  
 Date of incident: May 5, 1980 (data taken from Crónica of May 17th, info is the same)  
 Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, May 16, 1980  
 City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

### NEW UFO APPEARANCES IN URUGUAY

Montevideo (AFP) - A UFO was seen by two workers of a meat packing plant under construction in the city of San José, 92km to the north of Montevideo, reported the afternoon paper "El Diario". Witnesses were Elio Chiruchi, watchman at the construction site and a laborer, Luis Piriz, who said it was an enormous luminous ball that seemed to hover, red with green flashes like blinding lightning, and which emitted a dull noise. The object has allegedly caused several inconveniences during the four minutes it was in sight. Among them, the interruption of the electric fluid at the plant, leaving more than 20 high intensity bulbs that were illuminating the area completely in the dark in a stormy night. Witnesses also said their battery-operated radios went dead. On the other hand, the paper adds that at a bridge located at a distance of 1 1/2km, three truck drivers stopped their trucks, surprised at the strange luminosity in the sighting area. But next morning, after an inspection of the area where the UFO was seen, no signals were found that could have disclosed its presence, such as traces or burned grass. Elio Chiruchi and Luis Piriz's bosses, who were consulted by the paper, claimed both witnesses are responsible people, not at all given to fantasies and incapable of any hoax, and that they believe in their employees' statements.

City and country of incident: Culiacán, Mexico  
 Date of incident: May 23, 1980  
 Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, May 26, 1980  
 City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

### UFO

Culiacán, Mexico, 25 (EFE) - The alleged landing of a UFO on a nearby hill is being investigated by local authorities today, Sunday.

The landing has apparently occurred on Friday evening in a hill placed some 25km to the north, according to several people who claimed having seen it.

A group of soldiers watches the hill while the investigations are being made. Culiacán is located 1,300km to the northwest of the country's capital.

City and country of incident: Olmos, Buenos Aires prov., Argentina  
 Date: June 4, 1980  
 Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, June 5, 1980  
 City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

### TWO BROTHERS SAW A STRANGE VERY LUMINOUS UFO NEAR LA PLATA

La Plata - A UFO of strange characteristics and luminosity was sighted here yesterday by two brothers of Olmos, who in spite of their panic, were satisfied by "their fantastic experience". Protagonists of this event were Raúl and Ernesto Enríquez, 23 and 29 respectively, residents of that town located 14km to the west of this city. Both brothers left as they usually do, in their Ford Taunus, bound for La Plata, at 05.30 am. While they crossed a clearing off the town of Abasto, along Avenue 44, they noticed a strange luminosity in the sky that came from an object placed some 300m over the car. On stopping the car and getting off in the belief it was some plane or helicopter in an emergency, -though they heard no noise-, surprised but in a panic at the same time, they saw a strangely shaped object of approx. 12m diameter that emitted luminous flashes from white to reddish. The craft first overflew the place at incalculable speed-according to the Enríquez brothers-, and after stopping

again for a few seconds over both observers, took off towards the north, almost at once getting lost in the horizon. Still held by panic and surprise, both witnesses remained "se paralyzed standing at both sides of their car for several minutes" and then set out again for La Plata. "We are still surprised -they confessed- but it has really been a fantastic experience. We always read in magazines, papers or listened on radio or TV about things like these, but never imagined we would experience it." The Enríquezes said that "in the next days we will report to experts we already got in touch with, on details we now forget."

City and country of incident: Córdoba, Santa Fe, Entre Ríos, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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

Commotion and stupefaction in almost the whole country

### UFO FLEET SIGHTED!

Four provinces in the nation's center and litoral were startled last night by the presence of UFOs in their clear skies, which, as in previous years, seem to have returned again to Argentine territory. Córdoba, Santa Fe, Entre Ríos and Buenos Aires were this time the UFOs' area of "circulation", which according to many residents, remained for several minutes flying over different zones, and then disappeared in different directions, according to the place of observation. A photographer from "La Capital" of Rosario (Santa Fe province) was able to photograph the strange objects, while testimonies from occasional observers coincide as to the UFO's shape and direction. Hereunder the publish the information received from the different provinces where the fleet was seen.

### \* CORDOBA: THE EPICENTER

Córdoba, 14 (From our correspondent) Moments of amazement and even some restlessness were experienced this afternoon by the residents of a wide area in this city while observing the flight of a UFO; this was even confirmed by the control tower of the International Airport of Pajas Blancas. Coincidentally, in Santa Fe the meteorological office of Sauce Viejo also confirmed the path of another similar object which was also seen by many residents.

The UFO that overflew Córdoba moved at regular altitude from south to north over the eastern part of the city, and was also seen by an Aerolíneas Argentinas pilot who was in a plane on the airport's runway.

The object seen in Córdoba was spherical, apparently transparent, and remained in the sky between 19.01 and 19.06 (pm).

It appeared in Santa Fe at 18.50 over the western part of the city (towards Córdoba, while the one from Córdoba flew towards the east -to Santa Fe- thus it probably was the same UFO and it also moved from south to north.

The one seen in Santa Fe was circular, whitish, with luminous flashes, and was sighted by many local residents.

In that sense, evidence indicated that many were "qualified" witnesses, and some were even associated with the security forces.

### \* A FLEET IN SANTA FE

Santa Fe, 14 (From our correspondent) A fleet of UFOs was seen in Rafael 100 km to the west of this capital.

The chief of news bulletins of LT28 Radio Rafaela, Rubén Gerbaudoux, said he saw the flying saucers from the radio station's patio and also said they left a trail of light in the sky.

Gerbaudoux also said that at once the radio's phones started to ring, because of the many residents who claimed having seen the phenomenon.

The sky was completely clear when the craft passed.

The flying saucer fleet was also seen in several areas in the center and western part of the province, according to reports from residents and authorities from several towns.

In San Cristóbal, 170 km to the northwest, a group of railroad workers saw the objects flying from west to east over the switching yard of the General Belgrano railway.

In Ceres, municipal authorities claimed that many residents saw the passing of a luminous trail shining over the town.

It caused restlessness in the local residents, this being a city located 270 km to the northwest of this capital, over National Route #34, a very populated town.

### \* ALSO OVER ROSARIO

Rosario, 14 (F.o.c.) - At least 3 UFOs were seen this night by local reporters.

José Granata, photographer of "La Capital" and Fernando Varela, a reporter from the same paper, said the objects were "a fleet of flying saucers".

Granata said the objects were seen shortly after 19.00 near the Independencia Park, and "seemed to fly off from the moon".

One of them was round "in the shape of a teething ring", assured Granata another one, smaller, whitish, and the third one was like a dot with a halo.

The morning paper "La Capital" reported they will publish the UFO photos tomorrow, which "show details which we had not noticed during the sighting in the park".

### \* IN ENTRE RIOS, UNDER THE MOON

Paraná, 14 (F.o.c.) - Residents of this capital saw a UFO fleet flying from west to east under the Moon, between 19.00 and 19.10, for 6 to 10 minutes. The sighting was transparent.

### \* CONFIRMATION IN LUJAN (Buenos Aires province)

Luján, 14 (F.o.c.) - The strange UFO - probably the same that was seen in Córdoba and Santa Fe - was sighted last night in the Luján zone, as was confirmed by the local police.

### \* NEIGHBOR FROM JAUREGUI (Buenos Aires province)

A Neighbor of Villa Flandria in the Jauregui zone, (Buenos Aires), claimed having seen a huge object flying under the Moon, with luminous flashes, moving from west to East.

Upon consulting officer Domingo Luna, of the Luján police, he confirmed the object was seen by the city's residents and was also confirmed to be flying in the same direction.

In Jauregui the appearance of the UFO caused commotion among the residents who turned onto the streets to see the flying saucer, which disappeared in a few minutes.

### \* A "PASSAGE" OVER CASTELAR (Buenos Aires province)

Our offices received many phonecalls last night from people who assured having seen a UFO. From the district of Villa León, in Castelar, it was seen by different residents, who approximately at 1900 yesterday, sighted in the clear sky a luminous oval-spherical object, which gave off a trail of brilliant colors. Witnesses informed Crónica that in the center of the strange object a figure in the shape of a spinning-top could be noticed, which was spinning at great speed.

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9)

## THEY LANDED!

Resistencia, 14 (F.o.c.) - A phenomenon of special characteristics was reported in the late hours of this afternoon, causing excitement among the occasional witnesses.

Reports from the interior of the province such as Presidencia Roque Sáenz Peña, General San Martín, Las Palmas and Quitilipi, state that around 1900 a UFO was seen over the western quadrant, moving from south to north at considerable speed.

The phenomenon was also seen here, at the international airport Gral. San Martín, when a plane from Austral was on the runway. Personnel from that company claimed that the alleged UFO landed on the runway for 20 minutes.

When the plane started taxiing, the object went towards the Moon, and it looked as if an eclipse was occurring. The plane then stopped, and the commander allegedly consulted the control tower, which informed him it was a meteorological phenomenon.

However, when the plane took off, the luminous beam seemed to resume the same route as the plane's, according to the reporters.

## THEY ALSO "PARADED" OVER URUGUAY

Numerous testimonies from the neighboring country

Montevideo, 14 (EFE) - A UFO was sighted by some 20 people in the early hours of Saturday, in three different places of Uruguay, reported responsible sources from EFE agency.

The UFO that appeared from the northern part of the country, overflew the towns of Sarandí del Yí, El Carmen, Durazno, and moved towards Punta del Este, more than 400 km to the south of the first sighting.

### \* Towards Buenos Aires

According to witnesses, the UFO, which appeared at approx. 1900 (2200 GMT), disappeared 15 minutes later towards Buenos Aires in the western part of the River Plate.

The UFO, spherical, white, gave off an intense luminous ray that illuminated the surface of the river, said witness Carlos Verdi, 25, in Punta del Este.

The appearance in the East occurred exactly 5 minutes after Mrs. María Isabel Berrondo, 52, saw the object at 300 km to the north of Montevideo.

Brígido Giménez, 62, sighted a very white and luminous UFO at 19.02 over the town of El Carmen, 80 km to the SW of the first report.

A similar flying object was detected in Punta del Este by a group of seven people from the port of this seaside resort.

The luminous sphere, appeared in the Atlantic Ocean over the Locho Island and went to the west after flying over Gorriti Island right in front of the beach.

### \* "The same as if it were daylight"

There, according to the witnesses, the object remained hovering and an intense ray of yellowish light issued from it illuminating the area as if by daylight.

After remaining 13 minutes over the island, the UFO moved towards Montevideo where it was sighted by some fishermen over the River Plate.

The object continued towards the west, "as if bound for the mouths of the Uruguay and Paraná rivers", said another witness, "which are located in front of Buenos Aires".

For the time being no more reports of the sighting could be obtained, but those that were made allow for a reconstruction of the trajectory.

### \* From Brazil

From the border with Brazil in the northern part of the country, the UFO made a parabola and was seen in the center of Uruguay.

The last witnesses stated that it then changed course and went to the west over the River Plate and towards Buenos Aires. There was also agreement as to the motion, at great speed, and that the changes of sense occurred thru maneuvers that completely leave out the concept of conventional evasion.

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City and country of incident: Rosario, Chaco, Buenos Aires, Córdoba

Date of incident: June 14, 1980

Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica- June 16, 1980

## UFO - IMPACT DUE TO STRANGE APPEARANCE

### New Testimonies in Chaco Province

Resistencia, 15 (F.o.c.) - In this capital as well as the interior of Chaco province, new testimonies were obtained in the last hours with regard to last night's alleged UFO sighting.

A 20 year old young woman (who preferred to remain anonymous) said that while she drove along National Route 11 from Formosa province to Resistencia, she observed the motion -from south to north- of a luminous ring-shaped object. The sighting lasted for several seconds since the light moved at considerable speed. At the International Airport of Resistencia the sighting occurred at the time a commercial plane was about to take off.

However, auxiliary personnel from that company claimed having seen the UFO motionless in the main runway.

\* Strange account of the only professional who took a photograph of the phenomenon.

Rosario, 15 (F.o.c.) - The event lasted no more than four minutes. When I left the Historical Museum located in the Independence Park, I was surprised at seeing two luminous dots in the sky. At first I hesitated, but when they started to move, I realized I was seeing something unusual and pointed my camera at it.

Thus recounted his experience today José Enrique Granata, 31, married, two children, who works as a graphical reporter for the paper "La Capital" of Rosario, and who was the only professional that recorded the passage of the objects seen in different parts of the country.

Granata, whose photographic material was widely circulated in today's edition of the paper for which he works, and in which two luminous points suspended over the trees of the sector of Independence Park called "French Park" can clearly be seen, says:

"This part of the park separates the museum from Pellegrini avenue and I was crossing it while trying to find a taxi, then, looking at the sky after being bothered by an intense light, I was astonished. I was standing under a street lamp that was blinding me. Then I looked for another place to have a better look at the two luminous points that had nothing to do with the illumination of the place."

He added that "those luminous dots moved slowly towards the NW, disappearing behind the trees while leaving a short luminous reddish trail. This trail issued from the object, yellowish white, changing until turning a light red."

In his story, Granata, with many gestures, was explaining the shape of those luminous points. "They looked more like a dummy or a spinning wheel, which spun around itself while moving. In the copy can be seen two black dots resembling hatchways, in the lower part".

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Córdoba in the dark: "Top Secret"

Córdoba, 15 (F.o.c.) - The causes of the blackout with for 20 minutes affected a large part of the province could not be explained today by the company in charge of the electric supply.

The Empresa Provincial de Energía de Córdoba (EPEC) gave no official explanation so far about the blackout that occurred between 01.14 and 01.35 am.

On consulting with technicians from Operations at the Dean Funes power house, which feeds this city, they just replied that "We have orders from above not to give any kind of information".

The blackout produced serious inconveniences in the center of this city, causing traffic congestions.

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No official information was issued

While public opinion was still excited by appearances of the strange UFOs in different parts of the country, just as Crónica had detailedly advanced, up to the closing of this edition no official explanation had been given. As can be foreseen, flights were recorded particularly over Córdoba, Entre Ríos, Santa Fe, Resistencia (Chaco), Buenos Aires provinces and in this capital, as well as in neighboring countries, caused logical uneasiness, and were described by eye witnesses with different shades but in agreement as to the time of appearance: 19.00 and a fraction of minutes, when visibility was optimal in spite of it being late in the afternoon.

### \* Aeroparque at a standstill

Meanwhile it was learned that a UFO had stopped operations at Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport for some minutes.

The strange phenomenon occurred yesterday -advanced by Crónica- and was confirmed by personnel from the control towers of the local airport and the International Airport at Ezeiza, was not yet officially explained.

The first versions according to which the luminous cloud that was seen in different places in this capital and the interior of the country such as Córdoba, Rosario, Santa Fe and Resistencia, was caused by some rocket test launchings was denied by the authorities of the north western area of the Air Force.

According to statements from the staff of the Jorge Newbery airport, pilots, crew and passengers of some planes that were about to take off or to land at approx. 19.00 yesterday, affirmed having seen the UFO flying towards runway #13, following the same course of the planes about to land.

Technicians from the tower said the UFO flew at some 120 Km/h and from its course it seemed to be about to crash into the building and suddenly, maintaining the same speed, it started to gain altitude until it was lost from sight.

Operators expressed their surprise because their radars had not registered the objects, although it was learned that the ones at Ezeiza had detected a spot.

At the same time, in the International Airport of Pajas Blancas, in Córdoba, the operator on duty confirmed the presence of a luminosity in the sky.

Operator Edward Barey stated that at first he discarded the possibility of it being a UFO, and believed it was a meteorological phenomenon, since he saw a cloud, that showed up from behind the hills with an incandescence that could have been produced by the sun.

Héctor Paradiso, operator on duty at the local meteorological station, claimed that "at 19.05 and due to the numerous phonecalls I received, I started to investigate what was happening".

"I looked with a theodolite -he said- and later went to the radar which can paint metallic objects within a considerable area, with negative results in both cases".

He said he saw "nothing special, but according to what the people described, I can hint at it being a UFO and not a meteorological phenomenon, since the latter would have been easier to detect in this station".

Meanwhile, in Santa Fe the presence of a bright sphere could also be observed at the control station of the Meteorological Service of the Sauce Viejo airport belonging to the Air Force.

The phenomenon was detected at about 19.05 when many people saw the luminous flash.

It was reported at that airport that the passengers of an Austral plane that was just landing, and which came from Buenos Aires, saw the objects which they took for "flying saucers".

In Santa Fe and along the Salado River, several neighbors assured having seen a UFO flying to the northwest towards Santo Tomé, which they could see for five minutes.

At 19.05, in different parts of Rosario, several residents claimed having seen a UFO fleet, which was even photographed by a photographer from the local paper "La Capital".

They described it as a bright and transparent halo that could clearly be seen in a completely unclouded sky.

In San Cristóbal (Santa Fe province) railway workers in the Ferrocarril Belgrano yard, saw UFOs flying from east to west.

The phenomenon was also sighted in Rafaela, and the II Aerial Brigade at Paraná, Entre Ríos Province, confirmed the appearance between 19.00 and 19.10, of a strange luminosity in the sky.

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In Mar del Plata the UFO almost collided with a commercial plane

Mar del Plata, 15 (F.o.c.) - UFOs were seen last night in different sectors of this city, mainly in the coastal area.

The testimonies were disclosed in the communications media by residents and tourists that were near Camet, in the maritime part.

At the Camet airport a pilot from an Aerolíneas Argentinas plane (LV-JTCD) stated on arrival that "he had sighted an object that almost collided with the plane".

The airport did not disclose the witnesses' identity, but instead it was reported "the object had the features of a ring or ring of smoke".

Several watchmen from the Camet airport told reporters that "they had seen the motion of the luminous object, at great speed". Explanations were given, among others, by soldires on duty Edgardo Spano, Carlos Gauna, Daniel Rodríguez and Martín Churio, as well as by Delia Rodríguez and Ivelina Felipeili.

On the other hand a resident of the Municipal Sports Park, América Torres de Capdevila, claimed that "there were three ships that seemed to be hovering in the air, over the Mundial '78 Stadium. Red, green and yellow lights could be seen increasing speed and then disappearing".

A resident of the Constitución district, Juan Carlos Mateaga, told reporters that "it was an enormous light, with a dark area in the middle". He said he saw the phenomenon from his home, in Cataluña and Martínez Zubiría. "It was impressive -he said- because of its size and the low altitude at which it moved".

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### A version that discounts flying objects

The object that was sighted in different places of our territory and neighboring countries might be a meteorological phenomenon produced by the displacement of one or several frozen clouds that acted as a prism, reflecting sunlight.

Aeronautical and National Meteorological Service experts estimated that the UFO sighted in this capital and other cities in the interior, as also in Uruguay and Brazil, would be a frozen cloud that reflected the sun's rays, splitting them into two different colors.

The UFO(s) were sighted almost simultaneously between 19.00 and 19.15 in Buenos Aires, Rosario, Santa Fe, Paraná, Río Cuarto, Córdoba, Rafaela, Corrientes and Resistencia, and several photographers could photograph it while it moved slowly from south to north.



City and country of incident: Buenos Aires, Rosario, Santa Fe, Paraná, Río IV, Córdoba, Rafaela, Corrientes, Resistencia, Mar del Plata, Montevideo, Punta del Este, Durazno (in Uruguay)

Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Clarín, June 16, 1980  
(Buenos Aires, Argentina)

COMMOTION IN DIFFERENT CITIES DUE TO THE APPEARANCE OF ALLEGED UFO FLEET  
Several cities in this country and abroad were startled by the appearance of alleged UFO fleets. Meanwhile, the Air Force explained it was a meteorological phenomenon caused by the decomposition of sunlight while reflecting on frozen clouds.  
Testimonies from eyewitnesses were added yesterday

The UFOs which were seen day before yesterday in several places of Argentina and neighboring countries, would in fact, be a meteorological phenomenon caused by the movement of one or several frozen clouds which acted as a prism reflecting sunlight.

The scientific explanation was issued by aeronautical experts and the National Meteorological Service, who in reply to different consultations, estimated that the UFOs sighted in this capital and other cities in the interior, as well as in Uruguay and Brazil, would be a frozen cloud that reflected sunlight, splitting it into several colors, the same as a prism does.

The UFO(s) were seen almost simultaneously on Saturday between 19.00 and 19.15 in places as distant from each other as Buenos Aires (the Jorge Newbery airport itself), Rosario, Santa Fe, Paraná, Río Cuarto, Córdoba, Rafaela, Corrientes, Resistencia and Mar del Plata. They were also reported in Montevideo and several places in the interior of Uruguay.

#### A Testimony

It is possible that this is the first time the same phenomenon was seen by hundreds of people. Consequently, testimonies abounded. However, the one from José Granata, a photographer from the Rosario paper "La Capital", should be pointed out, who took the photograph shown in this paper.

Granata said he could photograph the phenomenon around 19.15, when he saw some objects in the sky "in the shape of a spindle, which gave off a blinding green light and moved vertiginously towards the airport in the outskirts of Rosario".

Continuing his account, the photographer said "I managed to point the camera at it, and take several photographs", and added that after processing the negative three or four halos appeared, and a smaller circle." He said that after making enlargements three of the objects showed the shape of a luminous triangle.

On the other hand, authorities from the northwestern region of the Air Force affirmed that neither in Córdoba province nor in the Chemical base in La Rioja (the most important rocket launching base in Argentina) had there been activity that could have given rise to confusions such as the one caused by the phenomenon. Even the radio service on duty at the Condor Building of the Air Force (in Buenos Aires-JTH) denied rumors about possible atmospheric tests in a communiqué issued on Friday, stating "there were no tests with sodium clouds from the Chemical base in La Rioja province, nor were unidentified objects sighted in the region".

The phenomenon was seen massively. To the testimony from the two pilots of commercial airlines who saw the object in Jorge Newbery airport, was added that of anonymous witnesses in several places in the country.

In Paraná, for instance, a "fleet" of UFOs was seen moving from west to east, by residents and members of the II Aerial Brigade.

At the Mar del Plata airport, personnel from the control tower reported seeing several luminous spots similar to "smoke rings" at the time a commercial plane was landing. It was stated that the pilot saw the UFOs, which gave the impression of being about to collide with the plane, and which flew at tremendous speed. These and other visual experiences with the alleged UFOs were registered in different parts of the country. Meanwhile, it was reported in Montevideo that fleets of these craft overflew that capital in several of its districts, and were sighted in the interior of Uruguay.

Contacts, which were only visual, were made at Punta del Este, at Durazno, 190 km from Montevideo, and in several small towns. The same as in Argentina, the objects appeared between 19.00 and 19.15.

Witnesses agreed in their statements that they gave off an intense white-yellowish luminosity.

An Uruguayan group of experts affirmed that May and June seem to be the months when these objects appear most often.

City and country of incident: Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil  
Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, June 16, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE UFO SHOW WE HAD THIS WEEKEND REVIVES THE CONTROVERSY ABOUT THE REAL EXISTENCE OF FLYING SAUCERS

Comments and conjectures about the UFO fleets seen in different parts of our country, as well as Brazil and Uruguay, as reported yesterday by La Razón, still subsist. Besides, the explanation given by aeronautical and meteorological experts attributing this simultaneous observation to a meteorological phenomenon caused by the movement of frozen clouds acting as prisms while reflecting sunlight in different colors, has caused no major impression. What happens is that this phenomenon does not agree with hundreds of accounts about the amazing appearance, neither does it explain the incredible speed with which the alleged "clouds" moved in full sight of so many witnesses and in distant places, with successive "shows".

The fleets, far from resembling "frozen clouds" were formed by objects shaped like spindles, which, according to the precise testimony -from several people such as photographer José Granata, from "La Capital"-Rosario-, personnel from the control tower of the metropolitan airport, and other expert and weathered navigators, flew at great speed and at times stopped abruptly, remaining as if hanging in the air, emitting flashes or following a direct course of collision with planes that were about to operate on the runway. On the other hand, thousands of people saw these flying objects and none accepts the possibility of it being clouds, frozen as they may be. "This is not a state of collective commotion or hysteria, as was suggested by many other episodes of this kind, told La Razón an experienced commercial pilot who is also a student of these phenomena. "According to what I have read, people have seen the same craft -he added- here at Aeroperque, in Ezeiza, in Rosario, at the Las Higuera airport, Córdoba, and in several cities of that province; in Rafaela, Corrientes, Chaco and Mar del Plata, aside from many other places in Buenos Aires province". There is unequivocal coincidence as to their being "luminous objects that moved at incredible speed, at times stopping instantaneously, either to change course or to remain hovering in the air before disappearing inexplicably, as if swallowed up in the air", he said.

Another experienced pilot reported at the Camet airport after having seen the UFOs in the coastal area of Mar del Plata, that one of these object "almost collided with my plane while I was about to land". On being queried as to whether it could have been a frozen cloud in suspension moving thru the air acting as a prism for sunlight, he smiled and explained that "it would be the first time a cloud would spin at such a speed and would be capable of operating with the precision that UFO did". "I have many hours of flying and have seen many strange things in space -added the veteran pilot- "but I know how to distinguish between a cloud, be it frozen or not, and a flying craft, be it the product of the most advanced aeronautical technology, or, as in this case, an up to now unexplained origin".

Anyhow, the explanation from the Ezeiza control tower depending from the Air Force, remains in force: "Scientifically the phenomenon detected in different parts of the country would be due to a frozen cloud which, when being irradiated by sunlight, by lunar reflections, would produce the changing colors indicated by the witnesses". There has been, as far as is known, no confirmatory evidence of this version, and other stations such as the Municipal Astronomical Observatory of Paraná (Entre Ríos) and the aerial brigade of that city, have limited themselves to detect the phenomenon without providing any explanation or conjectures. Witnesses reaffirm it was UFO fleets and there is complete agreement as to the hour -between 19.00 and 19.15 of Saturday-, their being seen in places as distant as Resistencia, Mar del Plata, towns in Uruguay and zones in Brazil.

Will this old and inscrutable UFO mystery ever be solved?

City and country of incident: June 14, 1980  
Date of incident: San José, Uruguay  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, June 17, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO OCCUPANTS MISHANDLE A MARRIED COUPLE  
Uruguay: Report to Police

Montevideo, 16 (Saporiti and AFP) - A married couple claimed having been visited by a couple of extraterrestrial beings who burned the man's hands when trying to get in contact with him.

The strange case occurred in the Department San José (another case occurred May 5th, same place, at a construction site, also included in this batch of translations), 100 km from Montevideo, where iron worker Juan Froche stated that in the early hours of Saturday he heard strange noises outside.

#### Burns

When he turned the lights on, around 0100 am, he was very surprised seeing a couple of strange visitors that tried to get into his house, thus, with the help of his wife he tried to close the door. Both struggled, but were thrown off by one of the extraterrestrials, which caused Froche's hand to feel a burning sensation and suffer several burns.

#### Strange Beauty

Froche described the extraterrestrials as having an extremely white skin and being strangely beautiful, also having the peculiarity of being dressed in a lead-gray color, with clothes that seemed to be painted on their bodies. According to the witness, both had also an identical scar or wound on their foreheads that disappeared in their hair.

The strange visitors left burns in a circle behind the house and a part of the earth seemed dug up, aside from very visible tracks.

The event was reported to the police and the witness was seen by several doctors who were unable to clearly explain the origin of the burns.

This event is added to the sighting of luminous flying objects, registered in the whole of the Uruguayan territory on Saturday, between 19.00 and 20.00.

#### Investigations

The Uruguayan Air Force is investigating all these cases which also threw into confusion the Argentine Republic, for which reason it is believed that whatever it was, overflew both sides of the River Plate.

(Note: On June 16th I saw an interview by Channel 12 from Montevideo, transmitted thru Channel 13 in Buenos Aires -program was "Mónica", a news program-, when this couple commented on their experience. He mentioned smelling a strange perfume, also seeing tracks like those left by an engine. He had slight pointed burns, according to the doctors, caused by high temperature. I don't have a color TV set, so I only saw black dots all over his hand, I think it was the left hand -I'm writing this July 6th-. He also said that 60 kilowatts were missing from his meter, he never consumes that in a month, and strangely all was in order, no fuses were burnt. Referring to the being's scars, he said they went from the nose up to their foreheads, was about 1/2 cm deep, and both beings had it. A doctor was also interviewed, he only said he couldn't exactly define the origin of the burns, other than that they were caused by heat).

City and country of incident: Argentina;Uruguay  
Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica - June 17, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### ACCORDING TO ASTRONOMER: "EARTHLIGHT"

Rosario, 16 (F.O.C.) - The phenomenon that was seen was something that happens once a month and in astronomy is known as "earthlight" (or earthshine-JT). This can only be observed under very good atmospheric conditions. These were exceptionally good on Saturday night".

Thus explains Father Rogelio Pizzi, director of the primary section of Cristo Rey school of Rosario, and also a professor of Physics and Astronomy, who has been at the school for more than ten years, in an article published today in "La Capital", referring to last Saturday's event, which was seen in different provinces in our country.

The father says that "this is produced when the Moon starts its first phase. Under those conditions, the satellite is placed between the Sun and the Earth and so, for the terrestrial observer, most of the lunar disc will have to be invisible."

What happens, he said, is that the Earth acts as a mirror that reflects sunlight over the dark part of the Moon, illuminating it. Just as we know the "Full Moon" nights, this would be the case of a "Full Earth" night, that would allow residents on the Moon to read perfectly without the need of another luminous source, since the reflecting surface of the Earth is ten times that of the Moon."

Father Pizzi said he saw the phenomenon with binoculars and that "it was a very bright arc in the upper part of the Moon and all the rest of the disc that remained was illuminated with a faint light that permitted seeing details of the lunar surface".

#### UFOs: Operator in charge of control tower at Aeroperque insists IT WAS AN AERIAL CRAFT OR STRANGE BODY

Julio Cantero, in charge of flight control at the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport, insisted today that the UFO that appeared Saturday afternoon over the airport was an "aerial craft, or at least a strange body", and claimed that the very clear sky at that moment eliminated the possibility of confusion with a cloud or another meteorological phenomenon.

He recounted that "at a moment when we had a normal plane traffic", the UFO "appeared from the western sector of the airport and approached runway 13 which was the one being used at that time".

Cantero defined the object as "an airship at least a strange body that approached the zone of the River Stadium (football stadium) at an estimated altitude of 600 meters, which stopped four minutes over the head of the runway in operation".

He added that "apparently (the object) was enveloped in a cloud brighter than the disc itself and which did not permit a perfectly defined observation".

Cantero said the volume of the object, "considering the distance, could not be correctly appreciated, but was considerable if we take the full moon as a reference, which at that moment was also visible in the horizon. It was quite big, of a considerable size", he added.

He then discarded the possibility of a reflection of a crystals cloud, because "at that moment the sky was exceptionally clear, without any clouds, without cloudy interferences, and the object's trajectory from the western part of Buenos Aires city, in El Palomar (where I live, although I saw nothing since I was in the capital finishing the details of the forthcoming UFO Congress to be held in December in Mendoza, with other members of the Federación, so the object practically "flew over our heads without our knowing it"-JT)up to the headway (of the airport) in use. That means it could not lend itself to any kind of confusion with atmospheric phenomena."(Palomar to Bs.As.: ± 30 km)

He added that the object "was motionless for approximately some four minutes, for which reason some planes on land were delayed to avoid a possible collision, and it kept going away at the same speed with which it approached the airport, until disappearing with an approximate course of 360 degrees". Cantero told that the object "was disappearing inside its own cloud, leaving only the trail for some 4 or 5 minutes more".

He said that "there were planes about to take off in their regular flights at that moment, but as a precaution we informed the pilot of one of the planes who was near takeoff, and he remained on land watching the object's movements, which apparently had the intention of approaching more towards Earth".

(continued on page 12)

(continued from page 11)

"Upon contacting the Ezeiza radar -he added- it was reported that no definite nucleus was seen on the body, but what was seen on the screen was a brighter trail."

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Meteorological Service: "It was not clouds"

The technicians of the National Meteorological Service, upon being consulted by Crónica, rejected the possibility that the phenomenon produced last Saturday with the appearance of the UFOs in different parts of the country, should be due, as was said, to a "meteorological phenomenon caused by the movements of one or several frozen clouds which acted as a prism reflecting sunlight".

The technicians remarked that it is difficult to attribute the phenomenon to one or several clouds, since according to the time sequence of last Saturday, in a period that comprises 19.00 hrs -the time according to which witnesses assure having seen the UFOs- there were no clouds in all the region where the events were reported.

Their statement, discarding any possibility of the cause being a cloud, was supported by the study of the wind's velocity at that time. "According to our data, at that time there was a 30 knot wind at 5,600 meters altitude, this discarding any possibility that the wind should have displaced clouds at great speed".

Finally the technicians, within the frame of seriousness and reserve with which they treat the subject, said "it is an abnormal phenomenon, but not meteorological, neither is it metallic or electric. It is true that the radar at Ezeiza registered something, but it may at times give impressions that are not real (poor passengers in the planes!!-JT). Anyhow, it is very difficult that technicians and pilots -they remarked- should be wrong, that is, should be misled by a cloud" (they better meti-JT).

City and country of incident: Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires province, Argentina  
Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, June 18, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Shocking episode experienced by a married couple, their daughter and a school friend

MAR DEL PLATA: PERSECUTED BY A UFO!

Mar del Plata, 17 (F.O.C.) - A shocking episode was experienced by a married couple, their little daughter and a school companion, when in an isolated rural spot of the province, a UFO came upon them obliging them to get off the car in what they thought were their last minutes.

It is cultivated people, completely trustworthy and far from being given to exaggerated fantasies, however, they were still under the impression while telling their experience to this correspondent.

Doctor Josefina Villareal, her husband Esteban Roberto Fraile and little María del Milagro, 9, still very nervous, recounted the event.

"We were driving on Route 7 from Córdoba, says the lawyer, to get to Junín (Buenos Aires province-JT) when suddenly I hear María del Milagro's cries of panic, who was in the back seat with her student companion, Alejandra Minuzzi. I look at them, who make desperate signs towards the rear window, through which I see coming at the car, a circular flying mass, very dark in the middle and with luminous white points at the edges. I shout at my husband to stop, he throws the car towards the shoulder, we all get off very quickly."

"I didn't know very well what it was all about", continues the husband. But I was going at 100 kph and stopped as best I could. It was 19.00, a quiet night and a transparent sky. The giant circle, inexplicable, descended with vertical and circular movements leaving a kind of bright trail of whitish smoke. It was something dreadful, we were overcome by panic, desperation. We were as if hypnotized. I thought that was the end for us, but couldn't move..."

"We were standing there, in an oppressive silence, alone in the middle of the country, practically covered with water and rushes, and that bright object that irradiated concentric circles was descending more and more towards us. I swear I thought it was coming for us, but when it was at an altitude of 1 1/2 meters, it suddenly disappeared."

María de los Milagros confirms the critical moment they all went through, without really knowing which was the nature of that menacing vision.

"We were looking through the rear window when I suddenly was scared stiff when I saw a badge that passed under the Moon coming towards us at great speed. It had a dark center and very bright edges that left a mark as of smoke in its path. I felt as if hypnotized and then we both started to shout."

To make matters worse, a second sighting occurred a few minutes later. "We saw an object very high up, says the lawyer, that emitted luminous white flashes."

"After a long time -continues Mr. Fraile- hardly recovered from such an extraordinary episode, we continued our trip towards Junín."

"When we arrived at the nearest service station, we met two truck drivers to whom we recounted our frightening experience. We were very surprised on learning they had also seen the phenomenon. We could see they were saying the truth, because they were as nervous as we."

-In these cases -we (Crónica) said people uses to say that this is an optical illusion.

-Look, says the lawyer, every possible collective hallucination is excluded, as it must be induced by something. We four independently perceived the luminous object. It was, of course, no illusion.

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"Official" investigation underway

The head of the central division of the National Commission for Space Research (CNIE), Capt. C. Augusto Lima, disclosed that the entity is gathering information with regard to the appearance of luminous effects in different parts of the country last Saturday, which were attributed to alleged UFOs, in order to give a scientific explanation of the event. (As at July 6th, nothing was published in the papers-JT)

However, Lima considered the possibility of it having been a kind of "meteorological phenomenon, or a physical phenomenon in the upper atmosphere", which may not have been detected by the National Meteorological Service "due to its not being in their scope".

Capt. Lima, who made statements to the media, said that until all the data is collected from eyewitnesses and radar operators who claimed having seen the phenomenon on Saturday in different parts of the country, "no kind of detail can be ventured".

"We still understand or think -he said- that it can be an atmospheric phenomenon, be it reflective or in the upper atmosphere that under certain conditions produces luminous effects that may be attributed to a UFO".

However, he said that "as was observed in the U. S. and in many parts of the world, in many experiences", it was verified that those events which were at first attributed to a UFO, "in no case turned out to be such and instead were "physical or atmospheric phenomena".

On being reminded that the National Meteorological Service affirmed in a communiqué that the lights seen during last weekend were not caused by "any known meteorological phenomenon, Capt. Lima said that "may be a kind of physical, meteorological or another phenomenon, in the upper atmosphere".

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Also in Paraguay

Asunción, 17 (Saporiti) - The afternoon of Sunday 15th, residents of Asunción were alerted by the presence of UFOs at about 1900 hrs.

Several neighbors of the Loma Pyta district, where the First Cavalry Division is located, as well as the railway that leads to Encarnación, claimed having seen UFOs.

The news coincides with those from Uruguay and Argentina at the same time the same night, without any major differences.

Neighbors of Loma Pyta added nothing to what was reported in Rosario's paper "La Capital", claiming to have seen at about 20.00 on Sunday, fluorescent shapes "of a coloring unusual in stars", which moved towards the north.

Authorized spokesman said that on the one hand, it must have been a psychological effect upon learning of the presence of the UFOs in nearby places such as Rosario, and on the other hand, "wait and see".

Radio amateurs said that strange interferences were noticed in their usual QSO's (communications) but they soon disappeared.

Authorities from the Air Force gave no official explanation although it is known they are on the alert.

Last night, neighbors of Villarrica also reported the presence in their skies of objects shaped like cigars which gave off green lights and moved at great speed to the north.

City and country of incident: Mar del Plata and Rosario - Buenos Aires and Santa Fe provinces, respectively  
Date of incident: June 14th and 17th, resp.  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, June 18, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO SHOW CONTINUES

Amazing account from a family in Mar del Plata

Mar del Plata (from our agency) - Members of a family from Mar del Plata made an amazing account of an experience they had while returning last Saturday in their car from Córdoba province. The fantastic episode occurred on Route 7, a scarce 20km before reaching Junín (Buenos Aires province), and the witnesses were lawyer Josefina Villareal de Fraile, her husband Esteban Roberto Fraile, their daughter María del Milagro, 9, and her student companion. "It was 19.00 and suddenly the girls started to cry as if terrified -said Mrs. Fraile-. We then saw a giant circle, with an almost dark center surrounded by luminous white circles that descended towards us with circular vertical movements, leaving behind a kind of whitish smoke. We stopped the car, got off, and stood there as if hypnotized. We were in the middle of an oppressive silence, in front of a lake, perplexed. The object kept advancing and flashing until it placed itself at our side, almost 1 1/2 meters from us... We thought they wanted to take us until the craft disappeared at great speed towards the infinite. We don't know what could be the relationship of this event with all that was said and read these days -she concluded- but I will never forget the odyssey we went through."

Another case in Rosario

Rosario (From our agency) - Shortly after 23.00 a group of neighbors from Av. Francia 4500 in the southern part of the city, witnessed last night the presence of a flashing object that was strangely suspended in the air. The presence of the Radioelectric Command (police) was required at once, and one of its mobile units went to the place -their crew, one officer and one policeman- seeing that the UFO was motionless, floating at an approximate altitude of 200 meters, and emitting a very intense turquoise-blue light. The phenomenon could also be verified by personnel from Police Station 18th, in addition to the general euphoria in the local residents, since this case is to be added to the one that occurred last Saturday, although circumstances in this case are quite different.

City and country of incident: Montevideo, Uruguay  
Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, June 20, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFOS: INVESTIGATION IN MONTEVIDEO; DOUBTS

Montevideo, 18 (DPA) - Doubts subsist and investigations continue around the alleged UFO phenomenon that was seen last weekend in an extensive area of the Uruguayan territory as well as in Argentina.

Studies made, by means of detailed statistics that collect data from Uruguay, Argentina and Chile, could demonstrate that in the months of June and July sightings are seen most frequently.

However, no valid explanation has been found as yet for this reality.

The committee that the Uruguayan Air Force set up last year in order to collect and investigate UFO reports, has started their analysis of the data referred to the latest phenomena.

On the other hand, the Center for UFO Research (a private entity), has also started to analyze these episodes that cause ever increasing interest in Uruguayan and Argentine cities.

City and country of incident: Punta Arenas/Santiago de Chile, Chile  
Date of incident: June 14, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, June 20, 1980  
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A CHILEAN PLANE IN FLIGHT WAS APPROACHED BY A UFO ON A COLLISION COURSE, CAUSING PANIC IN THE PILOTS

Santiago (AFP) - A UFO approached a Chilean passenger plane on a collision course, terrifying the pilots, it was disclosed here.

The experience befell a plane from the national Chilean airline (LAN Chile) that was on a routine flight last Saturday between Punta Arenas, in the country's extreme south, and Santiago. The pilot radioed the Punta Arenas station that the UFO was sighted at 50,000 feet altitude, at 21.40 GMT (17.40 local time), a few minutes after his Boeing had taken off from that city. According to the version, the UFO flew faster than the plane, giving off an incandescent yellow light. At one time it placed itself at the plane's altitude and approached it on a collision course, finally climbing abruptly and disappearing within seconds. The Punta Arenas control tower reported later that it could not define the UFO's nature because at that time no other plane was flying in the area. During the weekend, according to cables received, numerous UFO sightings were made in Argentina, including a massive one at the Buenos Aires airport itself.

SPAIN -- Translator: R. Heiden

Location of incident: between Seixeda and La Coruña (La Coruña), Spain  
Date of incident: March 18, 1980  
Name of paper and date of clip: ABC, March 21, 1980  
City and country of paper: Seville, Spain credit: APRO

A LA CORUÑA MOTORCYCLIST, INSISTENTLY FOLLOWED BY A UFO  
It stopped to wait for him when he was in a bar

A La Coruña motorcyclist, Manuel García Eiroa, age 29, claims, in statements obtained by "El Ideal Gallego" and carried by Efe, that he was chased by a "UFO" last Tuesday night. Some eyewitnesses confirmed his words. According to his statements, Manuel García left work in Sada at about 9:00 p.m., got his motorcycle, and, at the locality of Seixeda, perceived a "rather low" light chasing him, a light that followed along behind him all over.

Señor García Eiroa told several people on his path what was happening, and, after a stretch on National Highway VI (Madrid-La Coruña), he stopped at a bar in El Burgo and showed the customers "a light that was giving off yellow and red flashes over a house."

This light, according to the witness, was "long and emitted powerful flashes of different dimensions," and was about 50 cm. (20 inches) in diameter, though the size was variable, since--he says--"it would grow and shrink," according to the place where it was seen.

One of the witnesses claimed by Señor García Eiroa at the "Parada" bar in El Burgo was María Josefa Barreiro, age 16, who states in the same newspaper that she saw "a yellow-colored light that was emitting rays that from the door of the bar seemed to us to be about 20 cm. (8 inches). It was above the roof, still, but when Manuel García was heading toward La Coruña, the light moved in the same direction. And the same thing happened in a test when he headed toward San Pedro. It is somewhat inexplicable." The light followed Manuel García Eiroa, according to his testimony, right to the city of La Coruña, where it passed him.





DESERT NEWS, Salt Lake City, UT - May 1, 1980 CR: L. Whitehurst

## Footprints big — but are they Bigfoot's?

By Margaret Baur

Deseret News correspondent

OGDEN —One thing is for sure — either there really is a Bigfoot, or there really isn't.

The here-again, gone-again creature that only leaves its calling card, but never lingers to allow humans more than a fleeting glimpse, has been here again. Or he hasn't, depending on how one views the problem in general.

Two footprints found in a residential area of North Ogden have been cast by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources for further investigation.

They were left by Bigfoot (or something else) near the residence of a family that was

awakened one morning by what family members reported to be screams. They did not investigate.

The following morning, as the father of the family was doing chores, he spotted some huge footprints near a ditch on his property.

A division enforcement specialist, Ralph L. Blotter, investigated. He found that the prints, indeed, were there — about 13 inches long and more than 4 inches broad.

The left print is 4 inches from big toe to little toe and the right the same width at the toes, with a heel measurement of 2 3/4 inches.

The prints were pressed 1 1/4 inches into the wet soil.

"I took my own foot and stamped hard into the mud by the ditch and the indentation only measured a half inch," Blotter said. He is a man of medium build. A larger man who was at the site also tried leaving a print, and didn't go down much farther.

"We just can't estimate how much weight the animal carried to make such a print," Blotter said.

The conditions of the bankside may have made a difference, he said. If water from the ditch had spilled on the ground the night of Bigfoot-or-whatever's passing, the prints might have been deeper than on the day of the investigation, when the soil was relatively dry.

"If you want my opinion," Blotter said, "I

don't think it was an animal because I don't know too many animals that walk around carrying toenail clippers."

He referred to indications that the toenails of the whatever-it-was had been clipped. The prints are also unlike those of known animals in other ways.

The pad scars usually found on a dog or monkey are not present, he said. Lines running through the casts are more like those on a human foot.

No signs of hair were discovered.

Crime lab specialists will continue a study of the footprints.

Blotter lined up on the side of the unbelievers when he expressed doubt that Bigfoot is for real.

"No one has ever seen him, no droppings have been found, and with all the people who go into the mountains, and all our people on the job, I just don't see how it would be possible for him to exist," he said.

"I guess if you believe in flying saucers, little green men on Mars and ghosts, then you can believe in Bigfoot," he scoffed.

Nonetheless, calls pour in from the curious each time a new bit of evidence appears.

Perhaps the puzzle is best left unsolved, Blotter said. "You don't want everything explained," he said. "We still need to believe in Mickey Mouse."



Deseret News photo by Margaret Baur

Cast was made from 13-inch footprint left near North Ogden home.

### CULT LINKED TO ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

CALGARY, Alberta (UPI) — Police believe a cult is responsible for a mysterious series of animal mutilations in the prairie province of Alberta, similar to several cases last fall in which cattle were found with genitals and other organs removed.

In a short statement yesterday, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said its investigation into the mutilations is continuing "with the view of identifying the cult involved," but declined to give further details for fear of provoking "copy-cat" killings.

The police confirmed that in two of three cases of animal mutilations currently under investigation the carcasses exhibited "characteristics of those observed last fall."

EVENING TRIBUNE, San Diego, CA - June 7, 1980

CR: D. Clements



NEWS-VISITOR, Kountze, TX - May 19, 1980 CR: T. Adams

#### BIG FOOT???

What would you do if you ran across tracks this size while wandering thru the Big Thicket? You'd probably do the same thing the two people who found this track shown above did....head for the road and try to find someone to join you in a closer look. Nancy Williams and Doris Wilburn of Honey Island found a set of big tracks while hunting for mayhaws near Slop Jar Slough near Honey Island. As you can see in the top portion of the photo, whatever made the



## Champlain's lake monster beckons ex-Endicott man

By MARY KAY ROTH

Joe Zarzynski is courting a lake monster.

The 29-year-old Endicott native has never met her. But as sure as there are fish in the sea, he knows his Lake Champlain beast exists and hopes to give her the fame splashed upon Scotland's Loch Ness serpent.

"This is one of the last frontiers besides outer space," Zarzynski said during a recent visit to his parents' home in Endicott. "It has a magnetic effect on me, it beckons me."

For the last six years, the lake monster investigator has been wooing his Lake Champlain creature, a sea serpent called Champ.

Marian Zarzynski of Endicott, Joe's father, calls it an obsession with the call of the wild: "He breathes it, eats it and lives with it."

His son admits it. Joe Zarzynski has spent thousands of dollars shore watching and searching the depths of Lake Champlain. Unfazed by skeptics, the Saratoga Springs social studies teacher is convinced that Lake Champlain, which is nestled between the borders of New York and Vermont, holds some of the greatest natural wonders of the world, including Champ.

"A lot is instinct, a feeling that something is there," Zarzynski said. But he claims he also has found tangible evidence.

He has collected more than 100 disturbingly similar sightings of the beasts dating back to the early 1600s, describing nocturnal, docile, snake-like creatures which measure about 20 feet long and 1 to 2 feet wide. They have rough green skin, horse-shaped heads and manes.

"There are just too many sightings made by credible people — architects and physicians — to dismiss it," Zarzynski said. "It saddens me that many people feel threatened to make reports

of such sightings — afraid they will be made fun of."

Zarzynski, who is in the midst of writing a book on his research, is certainly not afraid of being called crazy. He describes himself as a Walter Mitty character on a detective hunt, piecing together the mystery of Champ.

His fascination with lake monsters was kindled when he was growing up in the Triple Cities, but his real "baptism of fire into the world of the unexplained" came after he received his master's degree in education at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

He snagged a teaching job in Saratoga Springs, south of Lake George, and heard the natives talking about the Lake Champlain monster. What began as hours of shore watching soon transformed into intensive research and a sophisticated search with sonar equipment.

Indians who first inhabited the Lake Champlain region told of a sea monster. Zarzynski said. An old Indian legend spoke of a ghost near "Big Snake Bay" which created waves and toppled boats if not appeased.

The first written record of Champ was made in 1609 by the famous explorer, Samuel de Champlain, who reported a serpent-like creature 20 feet long and as thick as a barrel. A series of sightings followed in the 1800s and 1900s, with P.T. Barnum offering \$50,000 for the carcass of the Champlain Sea Serpent. No one delivered.

The world is filled with other lakes which purportedly provide home waters for sea monsters. The lakes are usually deep, cold bodies of water in similar climates, Zarzynski claimed, citing Russia, Africa, Canada and, of course, Loch Ness in Scotland.

He speculates that Champ's ancestors were prehistoric beasts from the dinosaur age — 80 million years ago —

which somehow survived and found refuge in the seas.

Now Zarzynski is worried that the lake is no longer a refuge.

"I hear people at Lake Champlain talk about shooting Champ and I can't believe it," he said. "These creatures could be links to man's past."

He has asked that Champ be placed on the endangered species list — as they have done for the Loch Ness monster — and is planning local ordinances. A Washington state law protects Bigfoot and a proposed Florida regulation would shield Skunk Ape, the monster of the Everglades.

"I want to prove that Champ exists — and then I want to have her protected," Zarzynski said. Proving her existence could be difficult.

"These creatures have developed what I call the elusivity factor — a special ability to know when man is near," Zarzynski said. "That's one reason they are so hard to spot. They show enough of themselves to tantalize you — and then disappear."

Another problem in sea monster sightings are the stunned viewers who forget about looking for a camera. Zarzynski himself experienced such awe in one of his four trips to Loch Ness.

"It was two years ago at twilight and we were on the east side of Loch Ness," he said. "My friend and I simultaneously saw a dark hump disappear into the water — and my training went right out the window. I just stood there, googoo-eyed. It's the closest I've ever come."

"Actually the chances of my seeing Champ are minute," Zarzynski admitted. "Sightings are based more on luck than anything. She surfaces mostly at night and is afraid of humans."

But, he added, quoting a friend: "There has to be at least one dumb one that surfaces at the wrong time."

Joe Zarzynski shows where he has searched

FRANK WOODRUFF

### PRINTS HUMAN-LIKE

## Big Foot? Hard to Tell

A state wildlife biologist studying footprints thought to possibly be those of "big foot," said today it is extremely difficult to make a determination.

Officer Ralph Blotter, northern region, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, said perfect plaster casts made of two footprints last week in the backyard of a North Ogden residence have human characteristics.

The footprints are 13 inches long and 4 1/4 inches wide at the toes. Officer Blotter said it appears as if whatever made the prints "slid a bit in the mud" which could account for their size.

A 13-inch foot, however, is not uncommon among humans, said Blotter.

The prints are very clear, showing toenail marks, the "pads" and heel marks, and even the lines and grooves found on hands and feet.

He said the prints did not appear to be those of feet with calloused, worn areas, scars or cuts. There is also no scar tissue such as that usually found on the bottoms of bare feet constantly used in walking.

Blotter said he is at a loss to explain the depths of the prints that some said indicate the owner was extremely heavy, maybe 400 to 500 pounds.

Average-sized persons who made their own footprints in the same spot said their weight hardly made an imprint.

## Ohio 'Bigfoot' sightings are said to be increasing

Associated Press

Sightings of a creature known in the western United States as Bigfoot have been reported from various parts of Ohio.

"I don't know for sure what it was I saw, but I didn't want to see it again," said Donna Riegler of Marysville, the wife of a Union County game protector.

Mrs. Riegler said she was driving home from work Tuesday when she spotted a creature that looked like a bear lying in a fetal position, apparently eating something from the pavement. She said the creature was covered with hair and walked stiffly, like

a robot, with its flesh-colored palms out.

Law enforcement officials in Union and Logan counties reported other recent sightings.

Patrick Poling of Union County resident, said he saw a hairy creature about seven feet tall and about 400 pounds on June 15 as it walked out of a woods.

"It was a big, hairy ape that walked like a man," Poling said. "He had long black hair. It wasn't fur."

Donald Mathys, a neighbor, made a plaster mold of the footprint. It measures 17 inches long and 7 inches wide.



# The 'Bigfoot' Legend

## Oklahoma Has Its Share of Tall Tales

**THE SQUIRREL HUNTER** had paused for a few moments, watching the tall timber along a boggy, remote southeastern Oklahoma stream.

Suddenly, out of the gloom, a "thing" appeared, walking upright like a man, but leaning forward as it walked. Long arms almost drag the ground, and it appeared to easily be eight feet tall. Its shuffling gate resembled that of the great apes.

It spied the hunter, broke into a swift run, and crashed across the shallow stream, disappearing into the depths of the woods....

**Bigfoot? Sasquatch? The Foukes Monster?**

Right here in Oklahoma? Come on, get serious.

Well, it makes for an interesting story, and that little episode was widely reported in the press of southeastern Oklahoma a few summers ago.

Rumors and stories continue to persist both nationwide, and yes, right here in our area of some type of a "man-beast" which roams the few remaining uninhabited, wilderness areas of this country.

But the experts, almost universally, discount such stories.

"I personally don't believe any such creature could exist in the United States today," commented Sydney (Pete) Wilkerson, head of Tulsa-area U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices.

"There's been just too much research, without turning up any real evidence, to give any indication of the existence of these creatures," he said.



**The Outdoor World** By Sam Powell

You'll never convince some people though, that *something* is not out there.

In some of those recent stories drifting out of southeast Oklahoma, a resident of the area, who refused to be identified in news reports, said he could offer proof of something locally called "Hattak Lusa Chito" (the big black man).

He claimed that twice in his lifetime he had seen such a creature in the beautiful, remote area comprised of a triangle of Yashaua Creek, the Mountain Fork River, and the Little Rivers.

This area is due east of Broken Bow. And many oldtimers we personally know, who have also lived in that country all their lives, say there's nothing at all to the stories but just that, tall tales.

One of the most interesting things about Oklahoma's "man-beast" though, is that each and every one of the reports of such sightings have occurred in that same swampy, bayou-type country.

Researchers have found that such sightings have been reported as far back as 1849. And they've occurred, very sporadically, ever since.

There were several sightings reported in the early 1900s, and several different incidents reported in the spring of 1926. Over the decades, the stories were embellished to include reports that the creature gave off a horrible stench, and some locals began calling it the "Noxie monster."

As a national folk tale, the legend of "Bigfoot" is even more intriguing.

Also known as the Sasquatch, it's reported to roam the forests and wilderness areas of the Pacific Northwest. Since the days of the first explorers to see those mountains, stories of an 8-foot, 900-pound humanoid have been part of America's wildlife legends.

Films have even allegedly been made of the creatures, and countless books, movies and articles have resulted over the years.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, one "eyewitness" described an obviously female Bigfoot as a "tall, long-legged, gorilla-like animal covered with dark black hair."

The only piece of film which is supposedly an authentic look at a creature has been shown many times, both in movies and on television specials, and was even reproduced on a national magazine cover in a special issue devoted to the legend.

Hunting for Bigfoot has even become a popular summer pastime in the Northwest.

So many people have been stalking the creatures in recent years with both highpower rifles and cameras that Skamania County, Wash., announced they'll impose a \$10,000 fine and five-year-jail sentence if anyone kills a Bigfoot.

No less than the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers apparently believes in the legend too. They listed Bigfoot as one of the "native species" in the environmental atlas for the state of Washington.

Many areas of the U.S. have been the site of similar strange reports.

One of the more recent stories came from South Dakota, where a Bureau of Indian Affairs policeman took plaster casts showing footprints measuring almost 18-inches! That one is still being cursed and discussed.

But is it really possible, in today's world, for such a creature to still exist?

Despite all their individual skepticism, the U.S. agency which handles such matters, officially says yes.

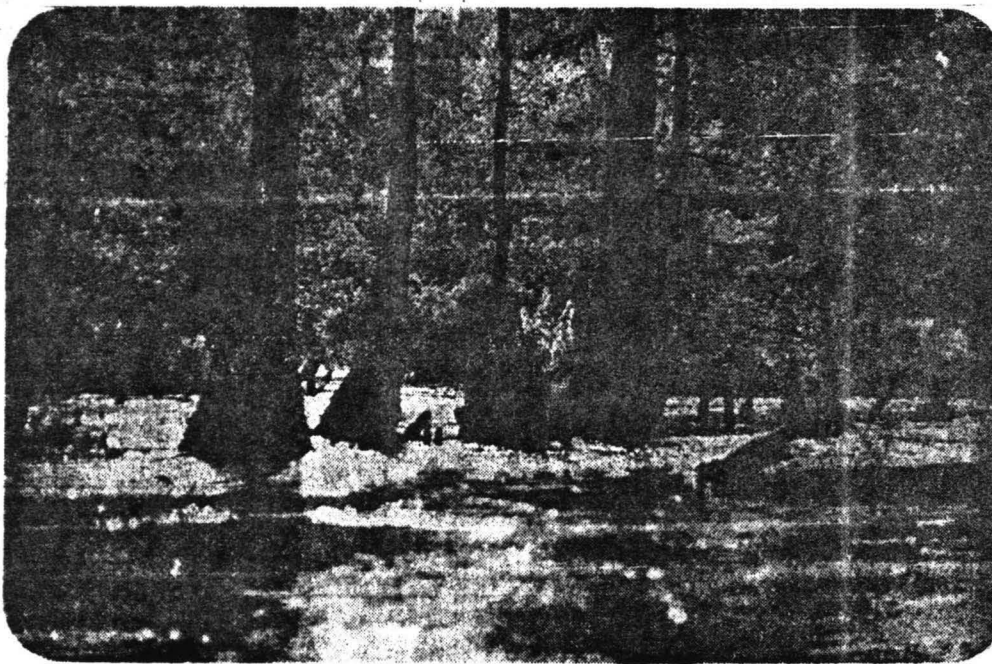
"Finding a Loch Ness monster, or Bigfoot, is still a possibility, and the discovery would be one of the most important in modern history," a recent report from the Fish-Wildlife Service stated.

How would the government handle the case? Would the creatures receive total protection to roam free...would attempts be made to capture some? Would they become the most important "endangered species" of all?

"I doubt we'd ever have to do anything, because I don't believe there are any of the things around to be discovered in the first place," said Keith Schreiner, associate director of the agency. "But, we have the laws and regulations on the books already to deal with newly discovered species."

Some of the reasons that Fish-Wildlife gives for its official position on the possibility of a discovery are quite interesting.

Scientists believe there are still many species of birds and mammals that have not been discovered—just because they live in remote areas, and their population is small. The gorilla and giant panda, for example, were only legends until the late 19th century. The Komodo dragon, a 10-foot long lizard, was not known to science until 1912.



World Staff Photo by Sam Powell

This photograph was taken on a float trip along the extreme southern reaches of the Mountain Fork River, an area where all reported sightings of the creatures in Oklahoma

have originated. World staff artist Dave Carman, in the accompanying illustration, depicts what many believe still might roam such mysterious areas of the United States.

JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM - June 5, 1980 CR: F. Hudson

### Mysterious Gas Closes Schools

**HONG KONG (AP)** — Authorities ordered 4,500 students evacuated from classes and sent home after eight schools were affected by a mysterious gas.

It was the fourth time in a month that the pungent gas had struck schools in various districts on Kowloon Peninsula, across the harbor

from Hong Kong island. It has affected 10,000 students.

The gas, which for some reason appears only in schools, was first experienced May 6. After that incident, it was thought the gas came from the firing of tear gas at a nearby police range.

The firing practices were banned, but the mysterious gas shows no sign of abating. Investigators so far have determined no source of the gas.

The coelacanth, a deep-water prehistoric fish, was known only by 65 million-year old fossils, until 1938. That year, a living specimen was caught off the Madagascar coast.

Even more recently, a Navy torpedo recovery vessel hauled a 15-foot shark from 500-foot depths. It was an entirely new species, named "megamouth" because of a bathtub-shaped lower jaw, an enormous, short-snouted head, and huge vestigial teeth.

As for Bigfoot, there have never been any remains found, nothing to actually substantiate the continuing tales. The Fish-Wildlife Service believes most are "exaggerated or misinterpreted reports, and many are downright hoaxes."

Oklahoma's addition to the legend has even reached the attention of Washington, D.C. offices though.

In its lengthy report on Bigfoot, the Service notes that among the many stories they have checked out over the years, the "infamous Mothman of West Virginia, the skunk ape of the Everglades, and even the reputed foul-smelling Noxie monster, a 7-foot denizen of Oklahoma," have been part of the research.

So for a different summer vacation this year, right here in good ol' Oklahoma, how about an extended camping trip along the canebrakes and backwaters of the Little River country?

# Nude wild man

By BUDDY MOORE  
We don't know if it's nude.....  
We don't know if it's man or beast.....  
But we do know it has a footprint that measures 15 inches long.  
We reported it last Monday after a couple of women called ENVEE NEWS and said they found some "big tracks" in the Slop Jar Slough area. Nancy Williams and Doris Wilburn were hunting mayhaws when they found the tracks.  
Our article has prompted telephone calls from readers who remind us of the 1952 incident when a nude wild man was spotted on at least three occasions...twice in the Honey Island area, strangely enough near the location of the present prints, and one time near Sour Lake.  
On August 14, 1952, the KOUNTZE NEWS reported that a gun-toting "wild man" of the woods was still the object of a search in the Honey Island area. On the previous Sunday the late Sheriff Red Lindsey headed a ten man posse the report states, that searched unsuccessfully for a deeply tanned bare footed man who was first seen on August 2nd by Uncle Will Kelly who lived on Lindsey's farm.  
The man was next reported on August 9th by the late Dan Sutton.  
Sutton said that a naked man joined him on a road about four miles northwest of Honey Island and after

walking together for about one hundred yards, the man turned off. Sutton reportedly told the man he was going to call the sheriff and was told by the "wild" man that he had been in the area for three years and "the law will have to shoot it out with me."  
Sutton said the man had a heavy beard and a hairy body and carried a gun in each hand.  
In the August 14, 1952, report, Lindsey said that the "wild man" had a foot that measured 15 inches in length.  
On October 2, 1952, the NEWS reported that another sighting would not let the "wild man" interest die down. This time the man was seen standing near a creek on the Sour Lake road.  
One of the readers who called ENVEE NEWS is Sharon Gossett, who, with some friends reported sighting some "monsters."  
"Several books have been written about these unexplained incidents," Sharon said. "In everything I have read, they migrate every so many years, about seven I think."  
She, along with Hula Wheeler Moss, Paula Lingrom, Bobby Henderson, and others reported seeing "something in 1965. That was twelve years after the Honey Island Wild Man spotting and their sighting was in the Old Hardin area.  
"It's been another fifteen years since a big foot sighting," Sharon said. "That backs up the 'every seven years' theory."  
According to Sharon, "creatures" like these are "very shy."  
"It might have been hiding somewhere in the woods while you and Nancy and Doris were looking at the tracks," Sharon said.  
"It didn't watch us long," I replied.

# More mutilations

By LARRY KUSCH  
The Calgary detachment of the RCMP has reported that there have been two more confirmed cases of cattle mutilations in Alberta.  
The detachment, which has been co-ordinating the investigation into cattle mutilations in the province since last year, said that three of the 10 reports it has received so far this year have been similar to the cases reported last fall.  
However, only two of the cases have been verified.  
The RCMP officers in charge of the case, Corporals Lyn Lauber and Randy Mackenzie, have not revealed where the mutilations took place or what type of cattle were killed.  
In fact, the officers have stopped talking to the press because they find that it is taking up too much time. An RCMP spokesman in Calgary said that the detachment has been getting about 20 calls a day from the media.  
The RCMP detachment at Oyen, Alta., has also been receiving a number of phone calls because of a report that six or seven head of cattle might have been mutilated in that district. However, these cases have not been confirmed and police are reluctant to answer any more questions on the incidents.  
There have been no reported cases of mutilations this spring in Manitoba and in Saskatchewan, although there were a few confirmed cases in Saskatchewan last year.  
The main problem has been in Alberta, where there were 38 confirmed mutilations last year. Prior to the incidents this spring, the last confirmed case was reported last Nov. 12.  
The pattern with such crime in the United States has been that it stops during the winter, and that is what happened in Western Canada.  
The RCMP officers working on the case spent much of the winter catching up on the numerous reports made last fall while the mutilations were occurring. Police looked into 150 reported cases, but in the vast majority of them predators were the cause.  
The RCMP is currently studying the possibility that the crimes have been the work of cult groups.  
The first incident was reported Aug. 12 of last year when a purebred Simmental bull was killed and mutilated in the Blackie area southeast of Calgary. Shortly thereafter there were reports of two killings in the Brooks area and another in the Didsbury area just north of Calgary.  
In these and other incidents, sex organs have been removed from the cattle, often with surgical precision, notches have been cut from ears, and tongues have been removed.  
Police have been hampered by a lack of solid evidence because they often arrive on the scene several days after the animal dies. What is more, they say, it is almost necessary to catch the criminal in the act in order to obtain sufficient evidence for conviction.

sary to catch the criminal in the act in order to obtain sufficient evidence for conviction.

# Big Foot Research Society may visit here in search of Big Foot

By BUDDY MOORE  
Representatives from the Big Foot Research Society may visit the area in search of more information on the latest reported finding of large and unexplained prints in the area near Honey Island, ENVEE NEWS was told last week.  
That group, who according to one member, is nearing the stage of producing another film on the subject, was made aware of the big foot sighting after Dennis Baggett, a journalist, called ENVEE NEWS and reported a conversation on the front page of the Dallas Morning News.  
Baggett, after talking to me, called Kountze Sharon Kay Gossett but was unsuccessful in his efforts to reach Nancy Williams and Doris Wilburn, the two women who located the tracks while hunting mayhaws near the Slop Jar Slough.  
Andy McQuiddy, who lives in Irving, Texas, told ENVEE NEWS that in all probability, representatives of the Big Foot Research Society will contact us, either by phone or in person so that they can add this latest sighting to their growing collection of material on Big Foot.  
"I support the theory that Big Foot is one of the lost descendants of man," McQuiddy said. He pointed out that he believes such "things" do exist and said that their records support claims of "big foot" sightings.  
Baggett said that while reading the NEWS-VISITOR, he was especially amused at the name of Slop Jar Slough. "As you know," he said, "The Dallas Morning News format does not allow datelines (the name of the city or area from which a story originates) but I have asked for special permission to date-line this story 'Slop Jar Slough'."  
Slop Jar Slough is the name given to the small stream back before the civil war. Later it became Welch's Branch and that name today is the most common one used. Still, find out.  
In the meantime there have been no further sightings of large tracks. "It's probably nowhere around," said Sharon Kay. "In all of the material I have read on the subject, once one of the 'things' is spotted, it leaves. But, if everything holds true to past accounts, either big foot or tracks of big foot will reappear in about another seven years."

# 'Killer' fog really a 'dry wind'

VICTORIA (UPC) — The mysterious "killer fog" from the sea that killed foliage along a 10-kilometer stretch of Vancouver Island, was "just a dry southeast wind," says a British Columbia environment ministry official.  
He said tests of dead foliage had shown the damage was due to natural causes.  
"It was apparently caused by a dry, southeast wind followed by warm, sunny weather," the official said. "Susceptible plants were damaged by the drying action of the wind and salt spray from the sea contributed to this."  
He had no explanation why the destruction had been confined to the strip along the shore, however.  
CR: G. Duplantier

# Whisper from Atlantis ?

ALMOST incidentally to its main purpose of exploring the bed of the Red Sea, the recently returned Institute of Oceanology expedition has brought back with it another whisper of the legendary lost civilisation of Atlantis.  
The expedition, which was made up of the research ships Academician Kurchatov, Professor Shokman and Aquanaut, broke its journey to and from the Red Sea to take a look at the submerged mountain Amper, some 400 miles from the Strait of Gibraltar.

Pictures taken four years ago by one of the Institute's staff, chief engineer V. Markuyev, had shown on the slopes of this mountain large rectangular areas divided into smaller squares and looking like stonework — possibly a relic of Atlantis?  
On its outward journey the expedition sent down the manned submarine Pisces-2 to have a closer look at the north-west slopes, but the crew were unable to find any stonework.  
On the way back weather conditions were too bad for a

second dive, but the unmanned Zerk-AM was towed over the north-eastern slopes.  
From a depth of about 250 feet it provided pictures of rectangular plates divided by smaller blocks and placed either parallel or perpendicular to each other.  
The Pisces crew thought that these were natural formations, similar to a square block structure they had seen on the earlier dive, but worsening weather forced the expedition to continue its homeward journey without solving the mystery.

The deputy leader of the expedition, Professor V. Yastrebov, thought the Atlantis theory might be worth following up later, but was much more pleased with the results of the main work in the Red Sea.  
This had given very clear confirmation that Africa and Arabia are still moving apart. In one place a quite large fissure had ruptured a recent tube of solidified lava, showing both the size and direction of the movement of the Red Sea bed.



# Tibet Hunts Its 'Loch Ness Monster'

Chinese scientists are investigating reports that Scotland's Loch Ness monster has a cousin in Tibet that has already devoured one person and a cow.

The newspaper Beijing Wanchao said witnesses who had seen the creature included farmers and Communist Party officials living near the 480-square-mile Wunbu Lake high on the Tibetan plateau. An eyewitness reported, "One morning three of us came down to the lake and saw on the surface a strange animal. Its body was as big as a house, its neck very long, and its head was comparatively big," the newspaper said yesterday.

The witness said he saw a farmer rowing on the lake encountering rough waves.

"The Tibetan and his raft were dragged down and disappeared," the newspaper said, quoting the witness in an article headlined: "Britain has the Loch Ness monster mystery. Is this conceivably the second?"

A cow left tied up at the lakeside disappeared hours later.

"When we came back in the afternoon we discovered that the cow was not to be found and on the beach were traces of the cow having been dragged into the water," a resident said.

A Chinese specialist on prehistoric life said the northern Tibetan plateau had been under water more than 300 million years ago.

"But it is very possible that at that time, prehistoric long-necked animals and dinosaurs were left in the salty water, and with each period continued to breed," he said.

The scientist also said that both the lake's depth — more than 100 feet at its center — and the large quantities of fish make it "very suitable for the life of such a strange animal."

# Florence Youth Convinced Bigfoot Alive!

by Jeff Stegman

"I didn't believe there was a monster at Big Bone, but now I'm convinced," said eight year

old Timmy Jones, almost shuddering at the thought of a Bigfoot-type creature roaming Northern Kentucky. Timmy was talking as we drove to the Big Bone Lick

State Park boat ramp Thursday in search of two unusual footprints the Florence youth had seen the day before.

"I was walking along the edge of the water and there they were, about this big," continued Timmy, holding his hands about nine inches apart.

"There were two toe holes on each foot, both the same size. I knew they had to be from the monster that shook the house trailer a few months ago."

Timmy had read a news account several months ago about a large, black creature which reportedly shook a house trailer in the Big Bone area. His grandmother had kept a copy to show him, but the story alone wasn't enough to make him a believer.

"I still didn't believe there was a monster here until I saw the footprints," added Timmy while giving me his best skeptical look.

When we reached the boat ramp we walked only a few feet before finding two unusual footprints in the muddy bank. The prints, sunk five to six inches into the mud, showed two identical holes pushing into the mud as if whatever made them had tip-toed into place. About ten inches long, the back portion of the prints tapered to an extremely narrow finish.

When I stepped next to the prints, my 188 pound frame sank only two inches into the bank. Whoever or whatever made the prints had to be

heavy. "The thing I don't understand is why people want to kill it just to prove it's alive," said Timmy. "I don't think that's right. People should leave it alone, and maybe it will leave them alone."

Timmy had a tough time convincing his friends their is, indeed, a monster. "Only one of my friends believes me," said the Ockerman Elementary student.

After walking to the Florence Police Department from his home near the station and reporting the prints, Timmy called the Dixie News "so people would know."

Timmy would like to see whatever made the prints. "I wouldn't stay around long," he said with another shudder. "I don't know what it is, but it sure scared me."

STAR, Indianapolis, IN - June 23, 1980

# 'Chessie' Sea Monster Shakes Up Residents

N.Y. TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Richmond, Va. — A sea serpent dubbed "Chessie," after the so-called Loch Ness monster "Nessie," and said to have been seen by more than 30 people along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries in the summer of 1978, has reportedly been seen again, this time in the Potomac River about 60 miles northeast of here.

Goodwin Muse, a 59-year-old farmer, said he and five friends happened upon a creature 10 to 14 feet long as they were making their way to the beach June 14.

"I had spyglasses and was up on a bank 18 feet high," Muse said, "and out 30 yards in the river you could see this long, dark streak in the water."

The creature's body was "about as big around as a quart jar," and its head was "as large as my hand or more," Muse said, declaring that "absolutely none of us drink." The group watched the serpent swim for about 15

minutes before it disappeared. "I've been here all my life around this river, and this is something I've never seen before," said Muse, whose land adjoins the George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Westmoreland County.

The descriptions given in 1978 in rural Westmoreland and Northumberland counties were similar, according to John V. Merriner, of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

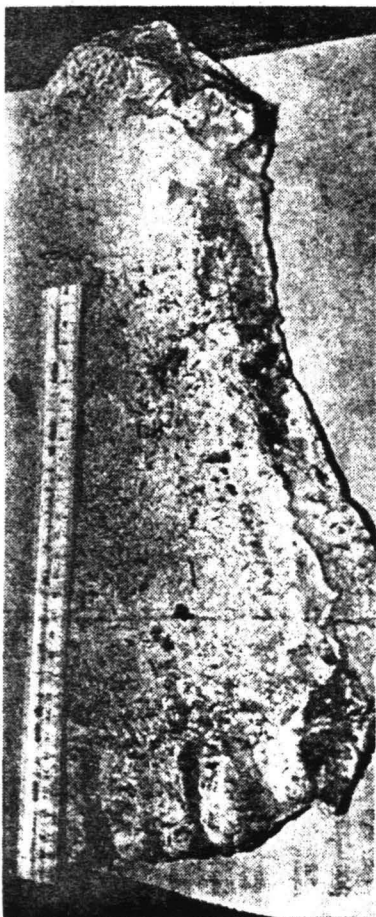
"We don't know what it is," said Merriner, although some scientists have held out "the anaconda syndrome" as a possible explanation, thinking that giant snakes of that type were accidentally introduced to the Potomac by commercial sailing vessels more than 50 years ago.

Whatever it is, Merriner urged that anyone who sees it get a photograph "that might give us a lasting impression of it."

CR: C. Jones

# New hunt by raft may solve Nessie riddle

NEWS, Charlotte, NC - July 2, 1980 CR: G. Fawcett



Ruler marks off 17-inch-long footprint found in national forest. (UPI)

# Florida Bigfoot or wise guy?

Ocala, a federal job training site for several hundred people. The U.S. Forestry Service was alerted, which dispatched the bigfoot investigators on Monday.

"We took some photographs and made a plaster cast of one print," said Rick Morgan, assistant district ranger for the Forestry Service. "But I don't foresee us doing much more than that."

Investigator Sewell is convinced they were fashioned out of pure baloney.

"The prints were only in the area of the bulldozer, and there was no indication that something big enough to make those prints went back in the woods," he said.

ALTOONA, Fla. (AP) — Florida Bigfoot or abominable wise guy? Forestry Service and Lake County sheriff's officials are puzzling over several giant footprints discovered in a remote area of the Ocala National Forest.

The 17-inch long, 6 1/2-inch wide prints with five distinct toes could have been made by a manlike creature weighing about half a ton, said sheriff's department technician Dee Kirby.

But the wise-guy theory has a lot of support. "I think it's a hoax," said Doug Sewell, chief investigator for the Lake County Sheriff's Department. The prints were found last weekend near Camp

IN A FEW weeks' time a large inflatable raft powered by an outboard motor will move slowly across Loch Ness in a new search for the elusive monster.

But even if "Nessie" fails to show up the search could still be a success.

For the 40ft. raft will be towing a special dredging device made up of a combined sledge and net. And what may be caught in the net could determine whether there is — or ever has been — a Loch Ness monster.

## Experiment

Naturalist Mr. Adrian Shine, leader of the Loch Ness Morar Project, said: "The dredging experiment is based on the idea that if there are live monsters in the loch there must also be dead ones."

"If we bring to the surface any bones of ancient creature we shall have gone a long way to establishing the reality of Loch Ness to monsters."

"The loch certainly has the capacity to support large elusive creatures. And one cannot dismiss all the reports of people who claim to have seen one."

Sediment dredged up 1,000 feet from the bed of Loch Morar last year included worms and molluscs which survive in total darkness at

by ROBERT CHAPMAN

near-freezing temperatures and under crushing pressure. Mr. Shine added: "A party of us are going up to Loch Ness to start dredging on August 2. But this will only be a pilot experiment lasting about three weeks."

"What we plan is to study the loch scientifically for at least three years at different times of the year and different times of the day. But a lot depends on our

getting sufficient financial support."

As well as dredging the loch the team plan to use new highly-sensitive underwater cameras that can be dropped from the raft like depth charges and strung out whenever listening devices pick up any movement in the black depths.

Mr. Shine said: "Few people realise how big Loch Ness is, or that until about 6,000 years ago it was probably open to the sea. The whole human race could be submerged in it without trace."

# Officials Probe Huge Footprints

ALTOONA, Fla. (UPI) — Most investigators figure it's a hoax, but there was enough doubt in their minds to order casts made of the size 18 footlike prints found in a remote area of Ocala National Forest.

"I think it's a hoax," Doug Sewell, chief investigator for the Lake County Sheriff's Department, said. "There was no indication that something big enough to make those prints went back through the woods."

Less sure, however, is Lake County Sgt. Dee Kirby, called out to make casts of the half dozen 17-inch-by-6 1/2-inch footprints found near a bulldozer in the vicinity of Camp Ocala, a federal job training site.

He said the prints showed a definite arching of the instep, five distinct toes and even some wrinkling along the instep.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England June 22, 1980 CR: J. & C. Board

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - July 3, 1980

# The Gurdon Light Phenomenon: You Must See It to Understand It

By NANCY COONS SPARKS  
Of the Gazette Staff

— GURDON.

Every fall since the mid-'50s, a new wave of Arkadelphia college students treks through the deep night woods, tottering over trestles, toting gingerly over rotting ties, squinting ahead to where a triangle of sky points to the apex of the narrowing railroad tracks — until someone gasps "There it is!"

"It" is the Gurdon Light, one of those deliciously unexplainable phenomena that has caught the imagination of generations of students — and recently has merited a scientific investigation by faculty and students of Henderson State University at nearby Arkadelphia.

Dr. Charles Leming, a professor of physics there, supervised the study, which was part of a one-hour credit course called "Physics: Theories — Fact and Fiction." Allowing the students to look into reports on pyramid power, the Bermuda Triangle, UFO's, biorhythms and the like, Dr. Leming was happy to offer the course to the students "on demand," he said, since "in the end, with analytical-type scrutiny, these things usually don't stand up."

Each term, students would tackle the theories that interested them, research the facts and incidents and make a presentation to the class. "Carl Sagan says it's a failure in religion, the need to believe in these things," Dr. Leming said. "We almost always end up debunking them."

One group built a bed of nails to prove how harmless the distribution of pressure points could be. Another traced the disappearances in the Bermuda Triangle and found that nearly all the supposed freak disappearances had been solved in a mundane manner. One student even said he read auras, but insisted the students would have to take off their clothes and stand in front of a sheet. (That theory was never tested.)

But then a student suggested a subject dear to the hearts of Arkadelphia students — and the debunking didn't come so easy.

The Gurdon Light has a story, a ghostly story, one that ties into families that still live in the area. It seems a railroad foreman was bludgeoned to death with a spike maul by one of his employees right along the Missouri-Pacific tracks where the light appears (north of Gurdon between state Highway 57 and Interstate 30.) The employee had been accused of sabotaging the tracks, trying to wreck the Sunshine Special, but actually causing the wreck of a freight the day before. (No one was killed, according to the December 10, 1931 *Southern Standard*, but a group of hoboes was treated for injury at Gurdon.) Alone on the tracks that night with his foreman and angered by the accusation, the story goes, the workman struck him with a shovel. The victim rose and tried to run away, but addled by the blow, he tripped in the sink hole of a rotted stump and fell. The workman finished him off with the spike maul, then walked into Gurdon — where he was arrested for "acting suspicious." After a confession was solicited, a search party found the body, before collapsing for the final time, the victim had crawled in a trail of blood for nearly a quarter of a mile.

The workman was electrocuted for the crime in February 1932.

The Gurdon Light, legend has it, is the victim's lantern, swinging eternally down the Mo-Pac rails.

Skeptics prefer the theory of highway headlights.

But highway headlights don't necessarily explain the phenomenon — and Dr. Leming admits he's stumped. Viewed through filters, the light never polarized, which any mirage would do. No electromagnetic current could be traced on a galvanometer. And the light appears consistently, regardless of atmospheric conditions. "I've never heard of anyone going out there who didn't see it," he said.

On a hot evening, a party of 12 professors, students and curious visitors parked their cars at the railroad corral, smeared their bodies with insect repellent and headed down the rarely used

track that connects Gurdon to Okolona. Dr. Leming, a yard-long aluminum torch slung over his shoulder, led the way, along with the student who headed the investigation, Mike Clingan.

Clingan wore a baseball cap and a Texas T-shirt. An English major and the state chess champion in his third year of school, he already has more than 140 credits under his belt. (He began attending Henderson while still in high school, he explained.) The Gurdon Light project has gotten under his skin, it seems: Clingan comes out to the track almost every night, usually alone. Sometimes he walks a way in, then sleeps on the tracks until real darkness has settled in order to observe the light. "You have to come out here alone to really experience it," he said.

The daylight was fading from gray to charcoal as the company picked their way along between the ties. Along either side of the track, creatures shrieked and burbled in the swamp water. Chuck-wills-widows whooped in the trees where branches no longer could be distinguished in the darkness.

Clingan walked beside the visitors. "Have you heard the story of the murder?" he asked. He told it — in carefully measured tones, watching his feet as he walked, pausing after the description of the victim's bloody crawl across the forest floor.

The visitors listened to the crunch of their feet on the gravel. "I finally got ahold of an old timer today to ask him about the Light," he said. "I didn't tell him anything about it, but I asked him when he'd first seen it."

"You know what he said? 1931."

They walked on, watching their feet.

"Better look ahead a little," he said. "Snakes like to crawl up on the rails after they've absorbed the sun all day." They slowed a little and squinted into the darkness ahead.

"You know, there's an old blacks' cemetery out here along the tracks, too," he said. "It hasn't been kept up for years. Some guys came out here once to hide in the tombstones to scare people — but they got scared away." Clingan didn't say by what.

They listened to their feet for a while.

"There's a tree out here somewhere that's supposed to be where they hanged people when Arkansas was still a territory," he said. "They buried them under the tree, too. People say if you park your car under it, it starts to shake."

The frogs chorled from the swamp.

Suddenly the gravel dropped away beneath their feet and they were crossing bare ties on a trestle, a pool of thick water glistening underneath. "Sometimes guys come out here and hide under the trestles," he said. "They wait and reach up through the ties — and grab girls' ankles."

They walked a little faster, waiting for the crunch of gravel under their feet again. No one spoke for a while; the chuck-wills-widows were silent. Only the steady hum of night creatures and the crunch of feet could be heard.

Fireflies were blinking and fading around them; stars were gathering into thick clusters overhead. There was no moon yet.

Then, a firefly blinked on the horizon at the point where the tracks dwindle to nothing. It blinked, glowed orange, swung to the right and disappeared.

"That was it!" someone croaked. The group slogged on, watching the horizon.

The orange glow crossed again — much larger than a firefly's blink, sweeping a downward arc across the track, then swinging back and fading away.

It shook a little as it crossed.

Like someone swinging a lantern.

One of the visitors tried to swallow but for some reason found her mouth curiously dry.

The group had stopped, silent. They began to move again, faster, crossing trestle and creek, stepping over rotten ties, glancing from path to horizon and back. It was almost totally dark and the chuck-wills-widows had been replaced by hoarsely hooting owls.

The light passed again, a redder flash this time. It seemed closer.

The group stopped, about a mile and a half from their cars. Several sat down on the ties; two set up tripods and cameras.

"It looks like car lights to me," said Bob McClanahan, a student in a cowboy hat and a military shirt. He lit a cigarette.

Clingan explained: The interstate was about four miles away. A couple of logging roads "for four-wheel drive" and Stickey Road "which hasn't been kept up for years" stretched between the party and the interstate. There was a large hill in between. That meant if the light was caused by passing headlights, it would have to be refracted up and over the hill to be visible on the other side.

"Look, the rails absorb heat all day," McClanahan said. "That's why snakes lay up against the rails at night." If the rails radiate heat, he explained, they could form a cushion of warm air that would bump into a cushion of cooler air above; that could create the conditions necessary for reflections. "It's called an inversion layer," he said.

"Yeah, but that takes special conditions," Clingan argued. "I just don't think they could occur all the time."

He scratched a mosquito bite. "Me, I don't make theories. All I know is, I've seen it in all kinds of weather, when it's windy and when it's rainy. I've seen it behind me and in front of me. It was here long before the interstate was built. It didn't polarize, which means it's not a reflection. It doesn't show on the galvanometer, which means there's no electromagnetic current."

He stared up the track. "I just hate to think of something out here that I can't explain."

The light flashed, bluish this time, bounced up and disappeared.

McClanahan said, "I still think it's car lights."

"I hope so," Clingan said. "Golly."

"Have you ever felt like you were going to drown and you got really scared?" Clingan continued. "I came out here one night and started to feel that same way."

Dr. Leming moved closer to join the conversation. "I've heard tales of some awfully spectacular sightings," he said. "people being chased by the light and all — but I think it depends on how hysterical the group is."

"It performs better for singles — or should I say doubles?" another professor said with a laugh.

The light was blinking, glimmering for a second, maybe two. "When I first came out here I said, oh, it's just the interstate," Dr. Leming said. "But then I talked to people who said it was here long before the interstate. If it's the interstate, it's not every car that goes by, because it doesn't appear that often."

Clingan has attempted to gauge the length of time it would take a car to cross the horizon point at a 45 degree angle (the angle of the interstate to the tracks) at 55 miles an hour.

Moving at about 80 feet per second, he explained, the lights would be visible much longer than the second it takes for the Gurdon Light to appear and disappear.

He also has walked close enough to the highway to hear the sounds of specific trucks — and insists the sound never coordinated with the appearance of the light.

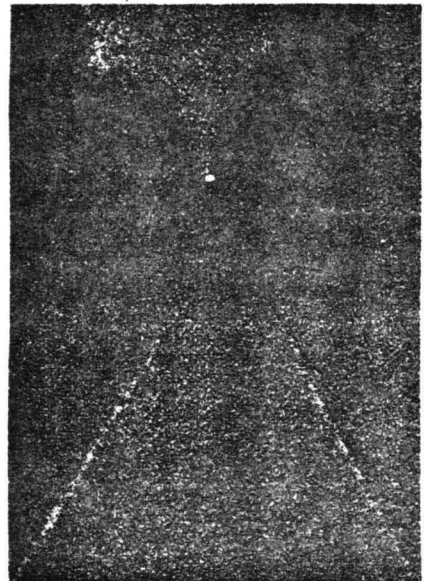
Yet, somehow, the researchers never appear to have made a concentrated, once-and-for-all effort to solve the mystery. For instance, no one has tried to string people along the length of track between interstate and crossing, attempting to isolate the light. No one has placed a man on the interstate bridge and one on the track to compare, via walkie-talkie, the passing of a truck with the appearance of a light. No one has tried to compare the spectra of the

light with the spectra of a headlight.

But no one really wants to. Debunking the Bermuda Triangle was one thing. Stripping the Gurdon Light of its chilling romance is another. Where would the freshman girls from Ouachita Baptist University go in the fall to be terrified? Where would couples take their coolers of beer, waiting for the flash of unexplainable light to squeeze them closer together for safety? Where would young chess champions go to lie on their backs alone and watch the stars come out, listening to owls and frogs and mysterious cracklings in the deep swamp brush?

They certainly wouldn't go to the Gurdon Light if some ambitious physics student proved it were merely headlights.

It's better to watch the bobbing light and wonder.



Dr. Leming (below, right), others sit along railroad tracks at Gurdon, wondering, 'What's that light in the distance, on the horizon?'

— Staff Photos by Hank Wilson





# Bigfoot?

## Hairy 7-footer seen hanging around central Ohio farmland

By Bill O'Connor

Beacon Journal staff writer

MARYSVILLE — Union County sheriff's deputy William Griffith looked over some paperwork Friday while a white-hot sun beat against the window.

Griffith often buys drugs from men with watery eyes. Some of those men now are growing old in Ohio prisons.

On the other side of the room, Detective Mike Powers was reading a report that told

about a tall, hairy fellow with 17-inch feet. "Hey Griff," Powers said. "What do you think of bigfoot?"

"Don't bother me with that unless he wants to sell some drugs," Griffith snapped.

But residents of Union and Logan counties have been both bothered and amused by accounts that the legendary monster has taken up residence here.

Those who live in the small towns and villages of these two mostly rural counties

joke about bigfoot's appearances. But those who live on the farms in the area of the sightings are a bit more cautious.

They are cautious mainly because of the reputation of those who claim to have seen bigfoot.

"Hey, I laughed at this whole thing at first," Powers admitted. "But now I'm not so sure. I think it should be looked into. You talk to Pat Poling and you won't be so sure, either."

Poling farms on the border between Logan and Union counties. He was the first to sight the creature in the area.

There are 434 square miles in Union County. There are only 28,100 people, and 12,000 of them live in incorporated areas.

The rest of the population in each county lives on farms. There are 2,598 farms, about evenly split between the counties.

When television commentators talk about "the heartland," they are talking about such counties as Union and Logan. Come summer, a farmer there spends long, solitary hours driving a tractor across one field or another. He is alone. He is miles away from other humans.

ON JUNE 17, Poling had been to a baseball game. Poling is in his 30s and has two adolescent sons. He returned from the game, where he had watched one of his sons play, and decided to do some cultivating in one of his cornfields before the light faded.

It was about 8:30 p.m. Poling had worked for a short time when he glanced along his fence line at the edge of the woods. "Something caught my eye," he said.

"At first I thought it was a bear. But it wasn't no bear. It came out of the woods and had to duck under a branch hanging out over the fence. Then it stood up. It was about seven feet tall. But maybe more. I mean, it walked with its knees bent a little. It walked along the fence line. It wasn't like anything I seen before. It wasn't a monkey or a gorilla or anything. I watched it. I was really scared at first.

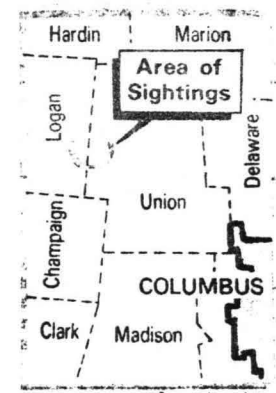
"BUT THEN I figured it couldn't hurt me as long as I was on the tractor," he said. "So I moved toward it. It was walking along the fence, perpendicular to me. I wanted to see if I could turn it around so I could see its face. So I gassed the tractor to head it off.

"That's when it stopped and turned and looked at me. It turned around like this." Poling crouched, held his hands at his side and turned his whole body. When facing front, his palms were out in a curious gesture, almost as though in appeal for understanding.

When asked about the gesture, Poling glanced in surprise at his hands. "Yeah," he said. "Like this. This is how he stood."

Poling said he is most upset because he could see no facial features, even though he estimated the creature was only about 30 yards away. "I just couldn't see any face. There was just nothing there," he said.

POLING is reluctant to talk about his experiences. He has been plagued with phone calls, he



said, and goaded by radio and television people to make some controversial statement or other. One television crew came to his home while he was in the fields and took his two sons and talked the boys into taking them to where the creature was sighted.

"I'm tired of it," Poling said, and shook his head. "I refused to go on television. The radio called and I said I wouldn't go on the radio and they said OK and then they taped the telephone call.

"One television station told me everybody wants to be on television. I told them I didn't."

Tired of the whole business, too, is Donna Riegler. A legal secretary, she is the wife of a Union County game protector.

She was on her way home Tuesday. It was about 5:30 p.m. It had been a hot, muggy day. The sky darkened, electricity crackled and when the rain came it fell in large drops.

"I was in a good mood. I just wanted to get home," Mrs. Riegler said. "I went over the railroad tracks slow. I always do because I don't want to knock my wheels out of line. Then I saw this thing laying on the road, hunched over. I thought it was a big dog at first. Then it stood up and I thought it was a man. I thought he was crazy, laying on the road. I couldn't figure why he was out there. He had no golf clubs. No luggage. Then he turned around and looked at me."

She said the creature was about 60 yards away.

MRS. RIEGLER was asked what it looked like. She stood up, bent her knees a bit, and then held her hands, palms out, in the same gesture of appeal that Poling had taken.

When that was pointed out to her, she glanced down at her hands, surprised. "Well, yes, that's how he stood," she said.

Mrs. Riegler said she could see no facial features.

"I was scared," she said. "I was afraid he was coming after me. Maybe he didn't really come toward me. I was just scared."

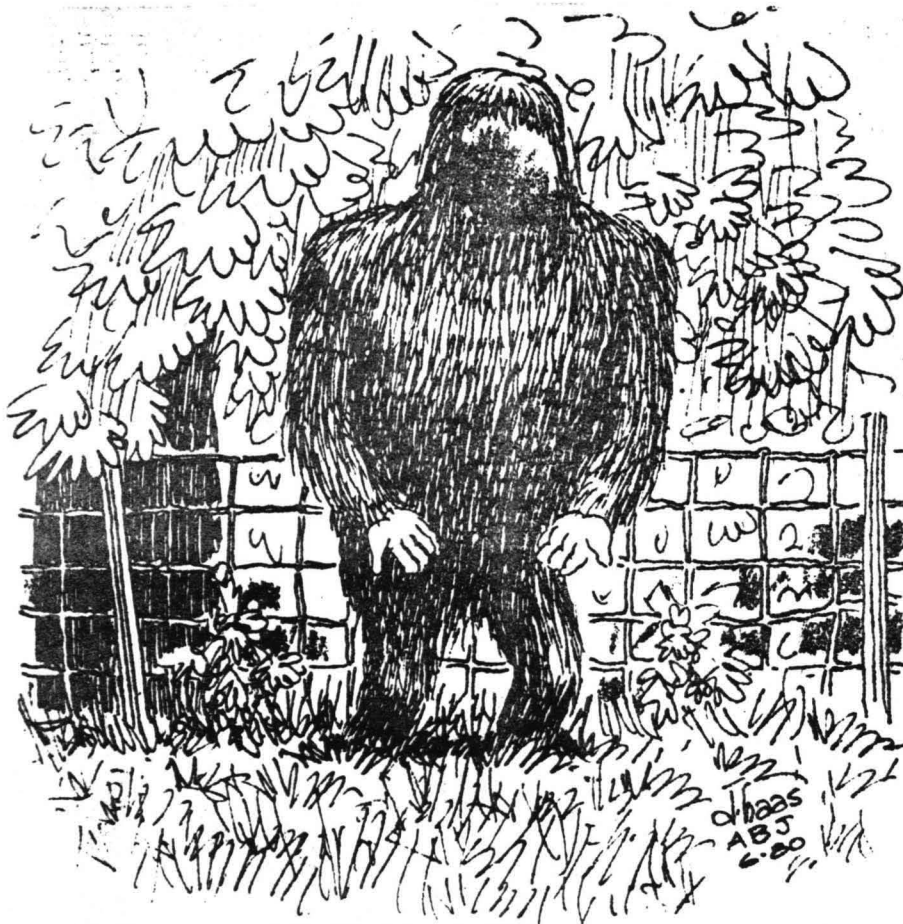
Mrs. Riegler said she backed the car over railroad tracks and onto another road. She said she stopped at a stranger's house, was admitted and broke down sobbing. When she collected herself, she said, she called her husband.

Both Poling and Mrs. Riegler are believable witnesses. Each reacts with suspicion when asked about the creature.

BELIEVABLE, too, is Larry Ramey, 27. Ramey sighted the creature Thursday night. He was on a tractor in Logan County, just across the border from Union County. He said the creature came out of a woods, saw the 13-foot, 270-horsepower tractor and came toward it.

"At first I took it was Al or Billy," Ramey said, meaning two other men working with him. "But then I saw it wasn't them. It was big."

He said the creature went back into the woods when another tractor approached.



Beacon Journal drawing by Dennis Haas

The creature caught Poling's eye as it walked along the fence

## Five have sighted big, hairy creature

Within the last two weeks, five people claimed to have seen bigfoot. The sightings were within a five-mile radius.

Each witness gave basically the same description, although Donna Riegler said that a driving rain prevented her from seeing some details.

The sightings:

• June 17: Patrick Poling, a farmer, while cultivating a cornfield, saw the creature come out of the woods.

• June 19: Ray Quay said he came around his barn and saw the creature, yelled and it walked off into some heavy undergrowth. Quay's son, Thomas, 17, said he saw the same creature a little later.

• June 24: Mrs. Riegler, a legal secretary, saw the creature lying on a road while she was on her way home from work.

• June 26: Larry Ramey saw the creature at the edge of a woods while Ramey was driving a farm tractor.

EACH WITNESS told of a man-like creature more than seven-feet tall, with long hair, broad shoulders, and a well-proportioned body. The creature, they said, was not excep-

tionally long-legged or long-armed, but built like a very large man. Each said the creature moved stiffly and turned its whole body, rather than just the upper portion.

Donald Mathys, a neighbor of Poling, made a plaster cast of a footprint found near where Poling sighted the creature. The footprint is about 17 inches long, seven inches wide and has four toes.

Union County sheriff's deputy Mike Powers took a team into the area Friday night. The group spent the night there. Powers told the Beacon Journal Saturday that "We found definite signs that indicate something is there. We have to look into it."

POWERS said hundreds of people already have driven around looking for the creature. The county detective said he is concerned that gawkers could pose a threat. Some of them, he said, are armed, and he is afraid an overeager sightseer might shoot someone.

Powers said there is no indication the creature is dangerous. But, he added, he wants no one taking chances and he wants no one shot.

# Minerva's 'monster' is 'almost like a pet'

By Barbara Mudrak  
Beacon Journal staff writer

He's become, residents of the area say, a fixture in the neighborhood. Everyone knows he's there, but no one pays much attention anymore.

He has a few eccentricities, such as regularly pelting nearby houses with small stones, but mostly he keeps to himself and is generally considered a good neighbor, they say.

The so-called "Minerva monster," who two years ago created an uproar the likes of which Paris Township had never seen, still is hanging around the densely wooded area behind the home of Herbert and Evelyn Cayton in southeastern Stark County, nearby residents report.

"He's almost like a pet," said Mary Ackerman, one of the Caytons' daughters, who lives nearby.

**THE CREATURE'S** first reported public appearance came in August 1978 when Mrs. Cayton, her son, Howe, and another daughter, Vicki Keck, were walking up the banks of the abandoned strip pit behind the house. There, they said, they saw a creature — described as over six feet tall and covered with dark, matted hair — standing less than 50 feet away.

Mrs. Cayton and Mrs. Keck, along with their friends, Becky Manley and Linda Jones, both of Canton, and Scott Patterson, of Minerva, said they got a better look at the creature a few nights later when he appeared outside a window, less than 10 feet from the kitchen table where the group was sitting.

A powerful outdoor light overhead showed the creature clearly, but the witnesses said they could not distinguish arms or facial features because of the thick hair. They said the creature weighed at least 300 pounds.

**THE FIVE** said they noticed that when the creature appeared, the usual "night noises" from crickets and tree toads stopped and a strong, peculiar odor like that of stagnant water was evident.

*"It was moving pretty good on two legs, pumping its arms like a track star. I got back in the car, rolled up the windows and locked the door."*

— Herbert Burke Jr.

They called the Stark County sheriff's department and deputy James Shannon was dispatched to the scene. Shannon said he smelled a terrible odor when he arrived.

He said later the sheriff's department did not consider the sightings a hoax.

Reports of the creature brought a horde of reporters, photographers, curiosity seekers and "big-foot" hunters to the area. Some of the hunters came armed with shotguns, high-powered rifles, Dobermans and cases of beer.

**TWO YEARS** later, it appears no one is any closer to finding out what the Minerva monster is.

Sheriff's deputies who investigated in 1978 say they were never able to identify some pieces of hair and something that looked like a jawbone, found near the strip pits.

Herbert Burke Jr., 24, lived in the trailer park next to the Caytons and said he got a good look at the creature as it crossed Route 30 last summer. Burke, who now lives in North Canton, said he'd heard stories about the creature but decided he would "believe it when I see it."

He said that one night as he was pulling into the driveway of the trailer park, he spotted something tall standing across the road. He said he shined his headlights on the creature — which was less than 40 yards away — then got out of the car for a better look. He said the creature was seven or eight feet tall, weighed more than 400 pounds, and was covered with dark, matted hair.

**AS THE** lights illuminated the creature, it began running toward the woods, he said.

"It was moving pretty good on

two legs, pumping its arms like a track star," he said. "I got back in the car, rolled up the windows and locked the door."

He said he and other residents of the trailer park often heard rocks hitting their mobile homes at night and a variety of strange noises coming from the woods. He said the noises ranged from a kind of laughter, to a loud scream, to something that sounded like a baby's cry.

The Caytons say they often find large footprints in the soft ground near their garden, and Mrs. Cayton has several snapshots of them. She said the footprints resemble those of a human and range from 14 to 21 inches long.

**IN THE MONTHS** following the commotion two years ago, she said, she put out fruits and vegetables behind the house every night on Deputy Shannon's advice. She said every morning the food would be gone and footprints occasionally would be nearby.

"This year I've got a garden out and if any of my vegetables are touched . . ." Mrs. Cayton said in a mock-threatening voice.

The Caytons and their neighbors say that, on occasion, they still experience the eerie silence and smell the odor, which Mrs. Ackerman says smells like the "seaweed" her son Andy brought up from the lake in the abandoned strip mine last year.

**WITH THE** silence and the smell, they say, they know the creature probably is near.

But they say they have grown accustomed to it and no longer make a fuss.

"Whatever it is, it's not dangerous," Mrs. Cayton said. "If it was going to hurt someone, it would have done it by now."

rumors, most of it lies. You still hear quite a bit of stuff."

**BIGFOOT** is the name given an elusive man-like creature about 7 feet tall that is covered with hair and has a long stride and huge feet. Bigfoot or similar creatures have been reported sighted in northwestern United States and other mountainous and remote parts of the world.

Bigfoot was first reported spotted in Union County June 15 by farmer Patrick Poling.

Ray Quay, a Logan County farmer, reported seeing the creature June 19, and Quay's son Tom said he saw it June 25.

Bigfoot's trademark was a se-

ries of footprints measuring up to 20 inches in diameter, which were found on the farms.

"The sightings we had were that one week," said Peggy Hostetter, a Logan County sheriff's dispatcher. She said nothing has been reported since.

But the creature's supposed visit has left its mark. Residents say Bigfoot T-shirts are being sold in a beauty shop.

Raymond Justice said he has good reason to believe the Bigfoot saga was a hoax. But when pressed further, he refused to talk, saying it was "a good story" that he hated to spoil.

"I don't know what it was," he said.

# 'Chessie,' Potomac Monster, Back Again

POST-BULLETIN, Rochester, N.Y. - June 26, 1980 CR: M. Hall

**COLES POINT, Va. (AP)** — Humpers or no humpers? Fast or slow? Snake or serpent? Such questions along the shores of the Potomac River in these parts mean only one thing: Chessie's back.

Chessie is the name given Virginia's smaller version of Nessie, the fabled Loch Ness sea monster. Came summer along the Potomac, she — or he, or it — pops up with regularity.

This year's first sighting was June 14, when Westmoreland County farmer Goodwin Muse and some friends saw what they described as a 14-foot snake undulating in the river.

"It looked like a snake to me," said Muse, "but I've never seen a snake this size."

Sighting No. 2 was Sunday, about 15 miles downstream from the Muse sighting, by Richmond finance company manager G.F. Green III, 38, his wife, his son, two daughters and a friend.

It was a bigger Chessie this time, about 25 feet long, 5 to 6 inches in diameter, and swimming smoothly and rapidly, said Green. And with humpers.

"I wouldn't call it a sea monster — just a strange animal, a creature . . . or some kind of serpent," Green said.

"There were three or four humpers, and every now and then you'd see the head pop up. But when we'd get close to it, it would suddenly sink down and disappear."

The Greens were water-skiing when they first saw Chessie about 400 to 500 yards away.

"We never could determine exactly how it was moving. It was going up and down, but I couldn't tell if it was slithering motion through the humpers or whether the humpers were just moving straight through."

Green's serpent looked a lot like the Chessie that was sighted by at least 30 people on several occasions in 1979 in the Potomac off Westmoreland and Northumberland counties.

Marine scientists generally think that what people are seeing is some sort of snake. The theory is that Chessie may be an anacardus, a descendant of anacardus that lived in the hills of South American since heading cargo up the river in the early 1800s and escaped into the Potomac.

"I would have to say that's a valid possibility," said John Martner, head of the ichthyology department at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Institute scientists would look into it thoroughly if they had enough money, said Martner.

Green said his wife probably "won't go sailing any more this year," but this week he will go looking for the creature because "I'm real curious as to what's out there."

This time, he said, he'll carry a camera.

RANCHLAND FARM NEWS, Simla, CO - July 3, 1980

# Cattle deaths in area casts eerie shroud

As law enforcement officials continue to "down, play" the mysterious cattle deaths in the region as natural causes, the rate of mutilations are increasing. This newspaper, following leads provided by its readers, has found out about 4 more cattle deaths, all in El Paso County.

John Ehrlich reported he lost a cow on Thursday. At the scene, the cow appeared to have been dead for 2 or 3 days, also confirmed by a veterinarian.

This cow had its rectum region removed only. With the hind legs underneath, the body and front legs outstretched in front, the position seemed to be unusual to both this reporter and the owner, Leo Engert also had a cow mutilated on his land on Tuesday night, June 24.

The cow, belonging to Jerry Monke, had its rectum, one eye, one ear, and its tongue removed.

Mrs. Engert was alone on Tuesday and told this reporter that she observed a bright light at low altitude on Tuesday night. The incident which happened at 11:00 p.m. was dismissed as a low flying airplane until the cow was found with signs of mutilation.

The Engerts also found a cow which had been dead for 2 or 3 weeks on their land. Decomposition made it impossible to determine the cause of death. However, they had found yet another dead cow that had died from weed poisoning and coyotes had consumed much of that cow.

Jack Blasigame also had a cow with its rectum and ear

removed about 2 or 3 weeks ago.

The Ehrlich and Engert mutilations last week could have happened the same night Mrs. Engert observed the light in the sky.

A veterinarian who observed the Ehrlich cow told this reporter that the rectum was torn, not cut. He also said that magpies will eat out the eyes of cows that have died. His opinion is also that natural causes are the culprit of these animal deaths.

The Elbert County Sheriff's Department has told this newspaper that 4 possible mutilations have been reported to that office.

Since May, the total of possible mutilations known to this newspaper now total 12.

CR: D. Perkins

BEACON JOURNAL, Akron, Ohio - July 16, 1980 CR: M. Candusso

# Ohio's Bigfoot disappears, but lives on in conversation

**WEST MANSFIELD (AP)** — Residents of rural west central Ohio seem convinced that Bigfoot has decided to leave the area and head elsewhere.

No sightings of the legendary creature have been reported since mid-June, and the area of Union and Logan counties around West Mansfield appears to be almost back to normal calm.

"There haven't been any more sightings for some reason. He's probably left or something," said Keith Warrick, 15. "I haven't heard nobody talk about him at all."

Gene Mathys, owner of several Main Street shops, said, "We still get stories in the pizza shop . . .

rumors, most of it lies. You still hear quite a bit of stuff."

**BIGFOOT** is the name given an elusive man-like creature about 7 feet tall that is covered with hair and has a long stride and huge feet. Bigfoot or similar creatures have been reported sighted in northwestern United States and other mountainous and remote parts of the world.

Bigfoot was first reported spotted in Union County June 15 by farmer Patrick Poling.

Ray Quay, a Logan County farmer, reported seeing the creature June 19, and Quay's son Tom said he saw it June 25.

Bigfoot's trademark was a se-

ries of footprints measuring up to 20 inches in diameter, which were found on the farms.

"The sightings we had were that one week," said Peggy Hostetter, a Logan County sheriff's dispatcher. She said nothing has been reported since.

But the creature's supposed visit has left its mark. Residents say Bigfoot T-shirts are being sold in a beauty shop.

Raymond Justice said he has good reason to believe the Bigfoot saga was a hoax. But when pressed further, he refused to talk, saying it was "a good story" that he hated to spoil.

"I don't know what it was," he said.