

U.F.O. Mystifies Indian Valley Couple

by Wanda Combs

When Cicero and Bessie Cox ages 94 and 83, set out to milk early one Sunday morning, they certainly didn't expect to see an unidentified object in their meadow, and, when that object began to fly, they were more than a little concerned.

The Cox's first noticed the object at 7:30 a.m. on Father's Day, June 15. Mrs. Cox explained, "We went to the barn that morning to milk and saw the white thing laying down in the meadow in the grass. We thought at first it was a dog; then we decided it wasn't. The cattle acted like they were afraid of it."

"We turned around to do something about the milk, and, when we looked again, it was moving around in the grass. It had also changed colors. It was kind of a sky blue," she added. In the meantime her husband had gone to the house to get his gun but Mrs. Cox said he "changed his mind about going down there after it changed colors."

"After he got back, it began to go up easy, but it didn't go up fast. I thought it was gone, but, when I looked again it was coming back. It looked like it was coming to the house so I was getting ready to run into the barn. It went down in the upper end of the meadow, moved around, and stayed for about ten minutes. It then got up and kept getting higher and went back towards Roanoke," she stated.

Cox, who decided to drive his tractor in the meadow to investigate, discovered the object had left a flattened area of grass about the size of his tractor.

When asked to describe the object, Mrs. Cox stated, "It was round and had things sticking out from it, like a little rack. It also had orange, green, and blue lights on it. I don't know if they were blinking or not, but they were shining. It moved slow and it always turned around and around. One side looked dark, and then it would turn and the lights would shine."

The Cox's said they did not have time to call the neighbors because they were too interested in observing the object themselves.

"We never had seen anything like it. It didn't really scare me. I just wanted to know how it got up and moved around. The way it sailed along you would have thought it was light as a feather," Mrs. Cox commented.

The Cox's who have eleven children, seventeen grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren, did not know whether they could expect another visit from the strange object, but, just in case, they're staying prepared.

Asked to explain the object, Cox replied, "I just figured it was a U.F.O."

Mrs. Cox, looking a little less certain, stated, "I don't know if it was a flying saucer or not. I just don't know what they look like."



Press Photo Combs

Close Encounter

Cicero and Bessie Cox -- "We had never seen anything like it."

Waitresses report UFO's

By CATHY COLLINS
Staff writer

In an age when "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" have made such an impression, the public is much more aware and interested in the once-passe Unidentified Flying Object.

Even in Greenwood there have been UFO reports recently with no explanations to counteract the sightings.

The latest report comes from Jan Harrison and Phyllis Cook who are roommates living at Lake Greenwood and waitresses at Su Ann's Restaurant.

At 5:50 a.m. Thursday, the women were riding to work as usual when Jan noticed that Phyllis kept looking up. She looked in the same direction towards the Union Carbide plant and stopped the car.

Hovering above the trees was one bright red round light with another bright white light to its right. Further to

the right was a dome-shaped light with another dome shape above it.

The two took what they saw to be a helicopter but they rolled down their car windows just to investigate. There was no noise.

At work, they decided to laugh it off and not tell anyone, even though the sighting had been a bit scary. "I don't much believe in UFO's," said Jan.

However, a regular customer in the restaurant takes an interest in unidentified craft and the girls mentioned what they saw to him.

The man, who asked not to be identified, said that he is pretty sure what they saw was a UFO. "I like to wait several days to see if anyone else reports anything. Sometimes your eyes deceive you."

Yet this man said other people have reported UFO's on Lake Greenwood near the power plant and dam and a

couple of years ago the "Gaffney Ledger" printed a series of articles concerning UFO's spotted in its area.

Also, residents at the Clark Hill Reservoir and in Troy and McCormick have often reported strange sights.

This man, who researches and collects information on the subject, states the theory that the craft land in reservoirs or lakes and spend the days out of view.

There is usually one big UFO about 100 feet in diameter and two or three "scout ships" about 30 feet in diameter. At night or in the early morning when the craft come and go, people see their lights.

He said the "beings" aboard have equipment for metal detection and they are probably interested in the gold mines of this area and across the river into Georgia.

The UFO's, when spotted, come in quickly and "if you're close enough you can hear a hum like a turbine engine," he said. "Otherwise they are very quiet and move fast."

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OBSERVER, Cheboygan, MI - June 20, 1980

UFO's Reported Over Cheboygan

Several Cheboygan residents reported seeing three red UFO's in the sky last night.

It's not known how many people saw the UFO's, but the Cheboygan Sheriff Department had reports from four people who saw them.

Kathleen Balbaugh, of Loomis Street, reported seeing the objects in the sky and her daughter attempted to take pictures of them.

Steve Pawlowski of Riggsville Road, told the Sheriff Department that he and his friends, Jim and Jerry Kitchen all saw the three red objects moving across the sky near I-75.

Helicopters were reported in the Cheboygan area last

night also, but persons seeing the three copters said that they were identifiable.

The Cheboygan National Guard said that they did not have any helicopters in the air last night and did not know of any in the area.

Mrs. Balbaugh said that she could hear engine noise coming from the objects that she saw about 10:15 p.m.

A 34 year old ex-school-teacher from Cincinnati told the Emmet County Sheriff Department that the objects followed her car as she drove north on I-75 near Petoskey.

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

Mrs. Doan said five objects with flashing lights followed her car late Tuesday.

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."

UFO follows young Long Beach woman to Ilwaco

A young woman from Long Beach reported on Monday that an Unidentified Flying Object apparently followed her vehicle to Ilwaco during the early morning hours before sunrise.

The woman, who asked to be unidentified, said she was traveling down Washington Street South in Long Beach at 3:45 a.m. to reach her place of work at the Ilwaco port. She said she noticed some kind of bright light coming from above her, but could not see the exact source.

She turned left (east) on to 10th Street South and she suddenly saw a bright, round source of white light directly in front of her vehicle, following her at a height just above the tree tops along 10th Street South.

The woman said she stopped at the intersection of 10th Street South and Sandridge Road (Peninsula Road) and the object was also stopped in front of her above the intersection at treetop level. She said it appeared to be round, but the light was so bright it appeared to be of an intensity that one shouldn't gaze at. It also had a tint of blue in the light.

She said she could hear no sound at the intersection, but thought she heard a very low humming sound. The woman was not sure if the humming came from the light source.

An interesting feature to the light source, which she estimated to be 15 to 20 feet in diameter, was that beyond its bright light edge, there seemed to be an oval ring of blackness.

She could see the full moon of the west, in the opposite direction, and concluded the

bright light was not a reflection of it. The sky was clear and she could see stars.

The woman turned right (south) on Sandridge towards Ilwaco and said she was starting to get scared as she could tell the object was now following her just above her vehicle.

She stopped in the street across from the Long Beach Grange Hall and the object "caught up" to her and again hovered in front of her at treetop level. At that time she thought the object was attracted to her headlights.

As she approached the Highway 101-Sandridge intersection, the object seemed to travel higher and farther to the east, but kept even with her vehicle. At times she saw the object on her left as she traveled down Sandridge and it appeared to be oval through the clearings between trees.

She reached the intersection near the Brateng bogs and the object was still extremely bright, but now seemed to head around the east side of Black Lake. As the woman drove down 101 into Ilwaco, she looked for the object, but could not see it because of the buildings.

When she came to the stop light intersection in downtown Ilwaco, she looked up and the object was now above the buildings. She turned left down Spruce Street and the object again followed her vehicle in front of it at a height of just above the buildings.

As she turned right down Elizabeth Street, the object appeared to climb higher and go up to the top of the hill and Ilwaco and hover there.

"It wasn't an airplane, a helicopter or something," said the woman. "It wasn't anything I've seen before. There was no sound. It wasn't any meteorite either. And it wasn't the reflection of the moon, I checked that out. It wasn't like anything I've seen before. It stopped when I stopped and traveled with me when I traveled. It was scary."

She came to her place of work at the port and the object was higher up and appeared to be going over Baker Bay. Those working with her saw the object along with customers at the business. The object was much higher in the sky and seemed to hover and dance while staying in one general area.

It became a bright pinpoint of light, but every 15 minutes or so a red light would be seen on it and it would travel off to the left. It was observed by her and others at the business from about 4 to 6 a.m.

The woman called Ilwaco police and gave a statement about what had happened. Coast Guard officials were notified and they reported, at first, that they saw nothing over Baker Bay. Later, they indicated they did see a bright light hovering.

She said it was her understanding that Long Beach Police Department had also received a report of a bright light over the town that morning.

"Some said it was a comet, but I listened all day to the news and there was nothing about a comet," the woman said. "And it wasn't any satellite. They don't come down and hover over you."

UFO sighted in Kennebunkport

Early Tuesday morning, Jonathan Bennett and Bryce Young of Kennebunkport were sitting on the rocks on Parsons' Way (across from the Colony Hotel) when they saw a sight "which for the first time in my life made me truly frightened," said Bennett.

The two young men saw two bright orange lights over the Nubble Lighthouse in York, and they thought they were one object, such as a plane or helicopter.

The two lights then began moving over the water toward Kennebunkport at a constant speed. In approximately two to three minutes, the lights had stopped, hovering 300 yards off-shore and 500 feet high off the water.

"It was very eerie - these lights came right up to us and stopped," said Bennett. "They were a color I have never seen before, like an electric orange, and the lights were pulsating."

As they came over the water towards us they broke apart and began flying on different levels, with one reflecting a bright light off the ocean, like a moon reflection."

Bennett said that there was also no engine noise generated by the lights and that no outline of a flying craft could be seen - just a large, pulsating light.

As the lights hovered offshore, Bennett and Young were frozen with fear, and then simultaneously decided to flee the area. At this point a car came around the corner "and apparently startled these lights, because they slowly began to move over towards St. Ann's Church, and turned a bright red. The guy in the car stopped in the middle of the road and just stared in awe," said Bennett.

The two lights, still flying on different levels, then turned green and moved away

towards Walker's Point. At last glimpse, the lights had changed color again, this time to blue, and disappeared over the land.

"I never believed in these things before, and I never did not believe in them either, but what we saw was a UFO, there is no doubt about that," said Bennett.

Long Beach Police reported seeing lights in the sky about the same time as the woman's experiences, but police attributed the "UFO" to be signal flares used by National Guardsmen in training at Fort Rilea near Astoria, Ore.

In the past months, several other Long Beach Peninsula residents have indicated they have seen things in the sky or over the ocean they could not explain.

A Klipsan Beach resident said she watched a round, glowing ball of light hover over the surf for 15 minutes on Tuesday, April 1, 1980, from 10:45 to 11 p.m. It later traveled off.

Another resident of the Klipsan area reported he saw five objects shaped like up turned pie plates travel along the beach southward at different heights, but in a

straight line. The objects were glowing, made no sound, and had what appeared to be windows along the object's edge. The person spotting them said they were not helicopters.

A man driving along the beach in front of Long Beach and Seaview spotted a round, glowing globe of light late last year as it hovered above the surf. It was evening, and as the man drove, the object would follow the vehicle parallel over the surf.

When the man sped up, the object would speed up to keep even. When the man turned his lights to the surf and towards the object, it seemed to quickly sink into the ocean. When lights were turned off, it would slowly emerge from the ocean to its original hovering height.

Keokuk couple puzzled by mysterious circles in yard

By MARK HAGAN

KEOKUK, Iowa - They're not yet calling it the result of an unidentified flying object, but a Keokuk couple is hard-pressed to explain the appearance of two circular impressions in their backyard.

"This sounds crazy now," said Donald Printy, but last Wednesday morning, Printy and his wife Peggy found a large circular impression on their lawn. The circular impression was a perfect circle about 10 feet in diameter and was surrounded by a four-inch wide border which Printy claims overnight sprouted grass about two inches higher than the surrounding grass.

The next morning, the couple found a second circular impression with the same dimensions as the first one. This time, however, there was no border, but the grass within the impression had a bluish tint.

Both impressions were located about 20 feet from the rural Keokuk house.

Printy has no explanation for the incidents. But there were several odd occurrences the night before, he said.

Falling asleep in a chair last Tuesday, Printy said there were two loud knocks or "booms" at the door at about 2 a.m. Hearing them, "Buffy" a 20-week old puppy the Printys own charged up to the door. But when Printy let the puppy outside, it went out a few feet and then turned around, "like it was scared," he said. "They can be spooked by a lot of things. But she wouldn't go out that night."

Printy went out himself. "I thought it was a person then,"

he said, explaining the dog's behavior. "It was dark."

Once outside, however, Printy said he heard a sound "just like a whoosh" and saw a row of trees near his house bending in a wind. Later that morning, there was a storm in the area, but not at the time of the incident, he said.

"It was weird. Super weird. I had a strange feeling when I was out there," Printy said.

When the couple checked the lawn in daylight, they found the large circle with the ring of grass that apparently grew "two inches overnight," he said.

That was strange enough. But the next morning, the couple found another circular impression right beside the other one. It was different, however, because, although the grass was a little higher within the circle, "it looked like Kentucky Blue Grass."

The odd part of the incident is that the grass was "not scorched, it was fertilized," he said.

The incidents "upset me a little," Printy said, and at first he thought it was a "neighbor playing tricks on me." But after a check with his neighbors, the suspicion didn't pan out.

"I don't believe anything unless I've seen it," Printy said. But the impressions have left him impressed. He said he may take a soil test to see if there is a chemical explanation for the rapid growth surrounding the one circle and the blue tint in the second circle.

Printy has no plans to notify authorities, however, such as the U.S. Air Force or other authorities investigating unusual cases. "I want to go the scientific route, first," he said.

Glowing objects in sky keep police phones ringing

GUYMON, Okla. AP - Strange multi-colored lights observed in the sky in northwest Oklahoma and southwest Kansas early today kept area police department phones busy.

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol's Guymon district dispatcher said officers from at least nine enforcement agencies reported seeing a cigar-shaped object glowing white on the ends and with flashing red, blue and green lights in the middle.

"One said it looked like a football, another said it looked like a sock, but it was oblong and lit up all around" Shattuck police dispatcher Bill Goodwin said.

"I figured it might be a blimp going across, but it stayed stationary for a real long time and then started moving slowly northeast. I finally gave it up as a nightmare," he said.

Shattuck officer Mike Oliver wasn't sure what it was, but he

radioed back he was convinced it wasn't a weather balloon or an airplane, Goodwin said.

Sightings continued from Guymon to Liberal, Kan., and eastward all the way to Woodward from about 3:30 a.m. until shortly after daybreak.

Ron Outwater, an air traffic controller at the Gage Flight Service, said he observed the strange looking lights through high-powered binoculars for about 90 minutes.

CR: S. Hicks

Close Encounters Of Strange Kind Puzzle Viewers

OAKLAND PRESS, Pontiac, MI - July 21, 1980

A close encounter at the Silverdome?

By DIANA DILLABER
and TOM WALSH
Of The Oakland Press

"It was about the weirdest thing I ever seen," says Mark Saly.

"I don't know what it was. But I know it weren't no Goodyear blimp. And it weren't no helicopter, or no airplane."

Saly, of 820 Baldwin, thinks he saw a "flying saucer" about 12:45 a.m. Saturday.

And he's not the only one, say officials at Oakland-Pontiac Airport, who received at least 16 phone calls yesterday from people who said they saw an unidentified flying object over Pontiac about the same time.

"All of the callers gave pretty much the same description — pretty accurate," says Jerry Goit, operations manager at the airport.

"We had a lot of calls on it last night and today," says Goit, operations officer at Oakland County's Pontiac Airport. Goit, who came on duty at 7 a.m. Sunday estimates he had about eight calls and the man who was on duty from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. had even more.

Goit says people described the UFO as bright orange and white, with blue lights.

Callers to the airport said it flew over the Fisher Body plant on Baldwin and on to the

Silverdome where it hovered in the air in a holding pattern.

That's almost exactly how Mark Saly describes it too.

Saly says he saw the "saucer" flying over Fisher Body "headed south toward the stadium."

"Me and my buddy were watching 'Saturday Night Live' on TV when there was this big flash. We ran outside and saw it."

"It had orange lights all the way around, and a white top. It made a weird computer noise, I don't know how to describe it."

"We weren't the only ones who saw it. There musta been 15 or 20 people around me who saw it. Some friends of mine were over on Joslyn and they saw it too."

"Apparently these people saw something pretty low," he says, offering no explanation for what they might have seen.

The National Weather Service in Detroit, which has radar coverage of the small airport, reported nothing on its screen at that time Saturday. However, "we probably would not have been monitoring it," a spokesman there says, "because we had no precipitation echoes at that time."

Three security officers at the Silverdome say they saw nothing Saturday night. Pontiac Police got no calls on it and no reports were made by the people in the airport control tower.

By Paul Avery
Bee Staff Writer

It's been a week now, and she's had ample time to reconsider, but Joan Boughner still insists that the thing she and Phyllis Uyemura saw hovering over their heads last Wednesday was an honest-to-gosh Unidentified Flying Object.

Uyemura says she isn't sure what it was.

The fact Boughner says she saw a silver-hulled UFO on the way to lunch, rather than on the way back, lends a certain credibility to the report of the longtime Aerojet Strategic Propulsion Company employee.

And although nobody else in Sacramento County seems to have seen what Boughner claims they saw, there were two other reports of UFO sightings that occurred the previous day — one near Clear Lake, the other near Santa Cruz.

"It was about 11:40 a.m., maybe 11:45," Boughner recollected for The Bee. "We were on our way to Folsom in Phyllis' pickup when Phyllis pointed to our left and said, 'What's that over there?'"

"I put on my glasses. 'Is that an airplane?' Phyllis asked me. I looked at the thing and told her, 'No, I don't think so.'"

"Suddenly, Phyllis shouted, 'It's coming at us.' And it was. Right toward us. And then there it was. Right above us. No more than 10 or 15 feet above us."

"It was kind of saucer-like, but more oval, more oblong, than round. It was maybe 15 feet across. The color? It was silver. The exterior was silver. And it had these holes in the bottom, like bomb bays that were open, and looking up into them all you could see was blackness. It wasn't making any noise at all. It was just there, hovering over our heads."

"I thought to myself, 'This is it,'" said Boughner. "And then it was gone. Just like that."

The precise location of the sighting was on Folsom Boulevard near the point where it goes under Highway 50, Boughner said.

Immediately after that brief close encounter — the first Boughner has ever experienced — she and Uyemura pulled in at Joe and Dodie's Tavern on Folsom Boulevard. "That's where we ended up having lunch," Boughner said.

The first move Boughner made when she returned to her job at Aerojet was tell fellow employees about what she thought she'd seen.

"Nobody laughed at me," said Boughner. "I've worked at Aerojet for 20 years and the people here know me well enough to know I wouldn't make up any tale like that."

Boughner is a secretary in the company's Minute Man missile program; Uyemura is an executive secretary in the quality control office.

Uyemura adamantly told The Bee Tuesday she is not making any claim that the object in the sky was a UFO. "I've been told it might have been a C-5 (Air Force jet transport) coming in to land at Mather (Air Force Base)," Uyemura said.

But Boughner just as adamantly insists that what they saw was no C-5. "I don't know what it was, but it was not an airplane and it was not a helicopter," she said.

They did not make any official report of their sighting on July 29 at the time, Boughner said, and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and the Folsom Police Department both stated those offices had not received any reports of any UFO sightings that day or since.

But Thomas Heiman of UFO Education Center Inc. in San Diego County, which logs and assesses strange aerial sightings, told The Bee about two reports the center received of UFOs being seen over Northern California on July 28.

The first was reported by Dan Collett and Lynn Jones, both 17 and both of Clear Lake Highlands in Lake County. Collett's family owns two grocery stores in the Clear Lake area.

"We first saw it at about 3:20 in the morning," Collett told The Bee. "We had just been to the Short Stop and gotten some gasoline and were on our way back home when we saw this bright light off in the distance moving over a field."

"At first we thought it was an airplane, but then we realized it wasn't, that it was something else. It seemed to be egg shaped. It started moving toward the hills north of the lake and we decided to follow it."

"We went up this dirt road and suddenly the light stopped moving. It just hovered over this small valley, and it was giving off an even brighter light. It was so bright it lit up the whole valley."

"We parked and turned off our lights and watched it for awhile. It was maybe a mile away from us, but that's just a guess. I decided to blink my car lights at it, and I did, on and off, on and off."

"The thing suddenly got even brighter, and then it dimmed. It was basically white in color, but at times it seemed to glow reddish or orange for a moment."

"Then, it seemed to start moving toward us, and Lynn got scared and we took off. I drove home so I could get a camera. By then it had moved higher in the sky and we could see it clearly all the way back to my place. How big? It's hard to say, but it looked to be about eight or 10 times larger than what a star looks like."

"After I got a camera, I took several pictures of it. I don't know if I got any because the (color) film hasn't come back yet. The thing stayed in view for more than three hours from the time we first spotted it, until just about dawn."

"I called the Lake County Sheriff's Department, but apparently the guy I talked to didn't take me seriously. I asked for a phone number I could call to report seeing a UFO. When I called the number he gave me, it turned out to be Napa State (mental) Hospital," said Collett.

The other sighting, in Santa Cruz, occurred at about 11:40 p.m. on July 28, UFO assessor Heiman said.

"A young man named Mike McMahon, a student at California State University, San Jose, told us that he and a girlfriend were sitting around a bonfire they had built on the beach near Santa Cruz when they saw a UFO over the ocean, about 200 feet from the shore."

"McMahon said it was quite foggy, but that the two of them had clearly seen a large object — he guessed it was about 20 feet across — that gave off a red glow. He said it made very fast and erratic movements. After about three minutes, McMahon said, the object began moving north along the coastline until it was out of sight," Heiman told The Bee.

Heiman asked that anyone seeing something unexplainable up there contact the UFO Education Center at (714) 749-0877.

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincolnton, NC - Aug. 6, 1980 CR: G. Fawcett

City Cop Spots UFO

At 1:05 a.m. today an unidentified flying object (UFO) was reportedly sighted hovering low over Lincolnton, according to an official Lincolnton Police report.

Patrolman Danny Hallman and James Gilbert, an employee of Piedmont Natural Gas Co., reported seeing the object while in Hallman's patrol car while checking for gas leaks in the vicinity of Laurel Street and Donita Drive.

Hallman reported seeing the cone-shaped object to the Lincoln County Communications Center and operator Herb Bryant contacted UFO investigator George Fawcett.

At about the same time, Fawcett said, information received on the police information network (PIN) system, a police officer, Randy Jolly and a fireman, William Moore, reported seeing a UFO in Forest City at 1:07 a.m. today.

Moore and Jolly described the object as shaped like an ice cream cone and about 25 to 30 feet in size with a tail. The object was blue-white in color and had a tail that was red, orange and yellow and burned out within two to three minutes. It was about 200 to 300 feet high, according to Fawcett's report, but had no sound or smell.

Hallman described the UFO which seemed to be hovering over the Town and Country Shopping Center as "huge" and cone-shaped and was seen for just a few seconds before it disappeared, Fawcett said. His description was similar to that given by the Forest City UFO witnesses, he added.

As an investigator, Fawcett refuses to identify the UFO. It could be an "early bird" meteor, he explained. Next Monday will be the peak period for Perseid meteor showers, which will begin about 10 p.m.

and continue through Tuesday, he said. The meteors are usually about 70 to 80 miles up in the sky and might hit the ground. They travel across the sky in groups of 50 to 100 meteors per hour and can be seen in the northeast sky.

Fawcett said he is puzzled and hesitates to call the UFO a meteor because it had no sound and no smell.

"A meteor usually smells like sulphur and has a buzzing sound like bacon frying. All the people who saw this thing reported no sound or smell. I just don't know," Fawcett explained.

He said Douglas Airport, which sometimes reports UFOs on the screen, had no report of any unusual object last night or early today.

Fawcett is an official investigator of the Mutual UFO Network and asks that all local reports be made to him at telephone 735-5725.

8 spot balloon-shaped UFO at Norton air base

At least eight people reported seeing a UFO Sunday night at Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, an Air Force spokesman said today.

The object, described as a metallic balloon that had been flattened on two sides, was spotted at 9 p.m. by two airmen on duty in the base control tower. The object was later seen by six residents in the Highland area as it flew north toward, and then over, the San Bernardino Mountains.

Capt. Phillip Ratliff, Norton's information officer, who declined to identify any of the eight people, said the airmen first spotted the object 100 feet above and 60 feet west of the six-story tower.

According to Ratliff, the airmen said the object was about 3 feet in diameter. It had a highly reflective metallic color, and had no lights. One airman said it had small dots on one of its flat sides. They did not say whether the object made any sound.

They said it appeared to land or hover a few feet above a grassy area near a taxiway. It then rose and accelerated northeast toward Highland. The airmen said they used binoculars and watched for 10 minutes as the object moved away from them at 30 to 40 mph, faster than the wind speed at the time.

Sheriff's Deputy Jeff Singley said the six Highland residents telephoned after their sightings. They said the object was flying in a straight line 200 to 300 feet above the ground. A sheriff's helicopter flew to the area an hour later, but the two crewmen saw nothing.

Ratliff said the object did not appear on the base radar, and a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman

at Ontario International Airport said the object was not picked up on their radar screens. The Ontario spokesman added, "That does not mean it was not there."

Ratliff said the federal government no longer investigates UFO sightings, and the only agencies that do are either private or connected to universities. He said officials at Norton do not plan to investigate the incident. "It was just something two individuals saw and reported," he said.

The reports will be turned over to the Seattle UFO Center, Ratliff said.

Robert Gribble, a staff member at the Seattle UFO Center, said it is a private scientific organization established in October 1974 with a volunteer staff of 12. He said the center will use the telephone and questionnaires to gather information about the Norton sighting. Gribble added that additional investigations could take place.

He said the information will be fed into the center's data bank "and all information is used for additional study." Gribble said the center's computer contains information from 85,000 UFO sightings and that the Norton sighting is unusual in that "it was at fairly close range. The majority of sightings are from a distance."

He said the center "is attempting through our studies to determine exactly what the objects are and where they are coming from."

Ratliff said the two airmen asked that their names not be released. The six civilians who spotted the object called the aviation division of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. Their names also were forwarded to Norton and are not being released.

TIMES, Maiden, NC - Aug. 20, 1980 CR: G. Fawcett

Puzzling UFO's Pop Up

A series of puzzling UFO sightings cropped up over the week in both Lincoln and Gaston Counties, George D. Fawcett, state director for the Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON), who resides in Lincolnton said this morning.

The latest, a daylight encounter of a domed bowl-shaped object was reported directly to Fawcett by five adults at the Leewood Acres area off Country Club Road in Lincolnton Saturday afternoon, August 9 at 5:28 p.m.

The witnesses, Carl Sutton (48), his wife Cora (46), her sister Mary Dellinger (53) and Mr. and Mrs. Sutton's two daughters, Linda (27) and Gail (20) all reported they observed the object, which appeared to be about 10 to 15 feet in diameter and revolved, as it wobbled and moved in a straight line from northwest to southeast at

an estimated 700 foot altitude. The UFO was watched for 2 minutes. It was white on top and brown on the bottom.

The Charlotte weather bureau reported a cloud ceiling at 4,000 feet and good Visibility for 10 miles. Several of the witnesses tried to follow the UFO with their car towards the Salem Rd., but lost sight of it.

On Friday night, August 1 at 11:30 p.m. Mrs. Ira Surratt was driving her daughter Down South Academy Street in Lincolnton when she saw a large round orange UFO "like a Harvest Moon" dive straight down behind the Lincolnton Junior High gymnasium, located on East Rhodes Street. The huge object had a small tail on top of it with "a series of blue-green lights," and was seen for only several seconds. No other reports were recorded at the Lincoln County Communication

Center.

Earlier reports came on Wednesday morning at 1:05 a.m. from Stanley and Lincolnton with confirming reports from Claremont in Catawba County and Forest City in Rutherford County.

Gene Miller, a CPA in Lincolnton for Miller, Huggins and Fox, his wife Elizabeth and their friend Jim Byers from Gastonia watched a gigantic blue-white ball-shaped object drop down from the sky near their home off Highway 27 South in Stanley and head directly towards Lincolnton on August 6. Gene described the object as "looking 25 times bigger than a falling star."

Additional confirmation of the August 6 encounters came from police officer Randy Jolly and fireman William Moore in Forest City at 1:07 a.m. They described the object as being shaped like an ice cream cone, "about 25

to 30 feet in size" with a red, orange and yellow tail. It appeared to burn out after three minutes at a 300 foot altitude.

The long duration of the sighting, the absence of sound at low altitude ruled against a meteor, Fawcett stated. He did note that the Perceid meteor shower peak would occur between 10 p.m. Monday night, August 11 and 2 a.m. Tuesday morning, August 12.

Douglas Airport radar did not pick up any of the current wave of sightings, but such low altitude encounters, would come in under the radar coverage for these areas, Fawcett noted.

Investigator Fawcett asked that any old or new observations should be called into him at his house (704-735-5725) nights in Lincolnton. The reports would be kept confidential if so requested.



JOHN PINKNEY - NEW BOOK ON UFO FIND

'Alien wreck' found

PINKNEY PUTS IT ALL DOWN IN A STARTLING BOOK

Friday's People



John Pinkney is not an eccentric. In fact, he seems absurdly normal for a man who has just co-authored a book accusing Canberra and Washington of having covered up evidence of UFOs.

He seems anything but the sort of man who has spent a large part of his life investigating and documenting the supernatural.

"Paranormal is the word I prefer," says Pinkney. "Supernatural evokes an aura of something fictitious, and that is not what I am about."

In his writing, though, that is what John Pinkney is very much about. He is a journalist, and one of Australia's best screen writers.

Next, he is an investigator of the supernatural (or, if you like, the paranormal). Mirror readers will remember his regular columns on the supernatural.

But it is on screen where he has given reign to his imagination. His screenplay for the horror movie *Thirst* is probably the best known.

You get the feeling that Pinkney is chuckling under his breath when he talks about *Thirst*, which last year won the Asian Film Award for the best horror movie.

"A lot of people who went to see the film, especially women, were quite revolted," he says.

The film was about a blood "dairy" housing men and women. "Something quite different from the ordinary scare movie," Pinkney says.

Quite different. Another of his motion picture scripts, *Needles*, is in production. Pinkney refuses to tell what it is about.

Revelations

He has written numerous prize-winning plays and hundreds of hours of television drama. He worked on the serial *Bellbird* for about three years.

But this week he sees the release of what he considers the most exciting work he has completed to date - *Alien Honeycomb* (Pan, \$3.50).

John Pinkney together with his friend and mentor Leonard Ryzman have closely collaborated since 1973 in UFO studies to come up with the revelations in *Alien*.

Don't laugh. Pinkney is deadly serious when he claims, in *Alien Honeycomb*, to have the first solid evidence of UFOs.

Alien Honeycomb is definitely not fiction. Pinkney has made some pretty startling revelations, some he claims will present science with new, fundamental problems.

He believes that *Alien* is a starting point for raising some pretty disturbing questions for mankind.

The book centres around an event that occurred unnoticed over a vast, empty property in Queensland. A UFO is claimed to have exploded and scattered its components over an area more than 3 km in diameter.

Documentation

Pinkney and his co-writer Ryzman after intensive investigation were able to put their hands on pieces of the wreckage which he describes as "strange, intricate and eerily beautiful in the form of an enormous honeycomb."

In *Alien* he accuses the Australian and American governments of mass cover-ups about UFOs.

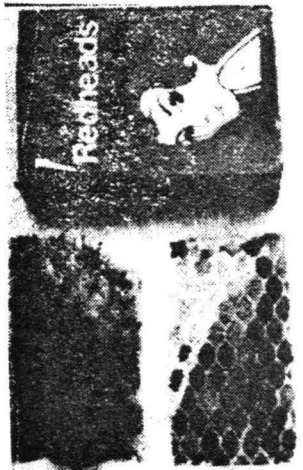
Alien is factual almost to the point of documentation, with Pinkney and Ryzman detailing every movement, time and place.

Those who don't believe in the existence of UFO phenomena will find *Alien* a well-spun yarn by a good journalist.

"The study of UFOs and, indeed, anything paranormal, is becoming quite a respectable topic," says Pinkney.

"By definition the word paranormal means beyond human conception and certainly UFOs, although I personally prefer to refer to them as simply UOs or unidentified objects, are as much beyond human conception as, say, clairvoyance or pre-cognitive dreaming."

"Just because we don't understand something does not mean to say that it doesn't exist," he says.



LEFT: SECTION OF HONEYCOMB SHEET RIGHT: PATTERNED OUTER LAYER

By JANE DARGAVILLE

Pinkney, founder of Australia's first and only UFO Research Society, and Ryzman have produced a fascinating case for further research into UFOs.

They believe such research should be conducted by an independent, non-government body.

In their postscript to *Alien* they offer to the United Nations for analysis all the information and the actual honeycomb pieces that came into their possession.

But most of the other pieces of the UFO said to have come down in Queensland were Pinkney says, taken by the RAAP and sent to the Pentagon's laboratories for testing.

Varied life

Pinkney's fascination with all things paranormal has brought him into contact with a vast number of rather incredible people.

"I receive more mail from people telling me about their experiences or asking me for information than anybody else in Australia," he says.

Pinkney feels he is doing people a service by his investigations.

"It is a matter of making people aware of themselves and their environment," he says.

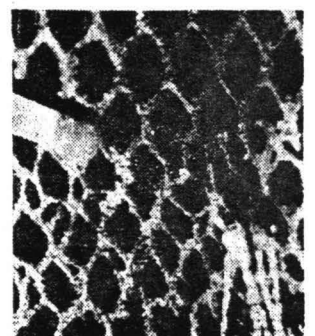
John Pinkney while not being exactly secretive about his past life, is reluctant to discuss anything other than his work.

"How can I prove that I am nothing more than a researcher?"

"I live in a large but quite conventional house in a Melbourne suburb and do the sort of things that most people do: I take my kids to McDonalds, I watch footie and I like nice cold beer."

"So you see, I'm quite the average person."

Pinkney will continue his research into the unknown. He is busily compiling another book about his years of investigation into psychic phenomena as well as UFOs.



ELONGATED HEXAGONAL PATTERN

DAILY NEWS, Perth, Australia - June 20, 1980
CR: J. Bell via L. Whitehurst

Did a UFO land on WA farm paddock?

By Alan McIntosh

A WA farmer believes mystery marks on his property were left by a UFO.

The four circular marks are on the edge of a paddock on Eric Parker's property at Ogilvie 80 km north-east of Geraldton.

The marks are 1.3m in diameter, 10 centimetres deep, and evenly spaced 8.7m apart.

Barley

They are in a soft barley paddock. But the mystery "marks" are rock hard.

"Whatever made them would have to weigh over 100 tons," said Mr Parker.

"We drive a 14-ton truck loaded with seed

and super and it doesn't make marks anything like these.

"Whatever it was couldn't be man-made."

"I don't know of anything the Russians or Yanks have got that could have done that."

"I never believed in UFOs before but I do now."

"My brother and I discussed whether we'd say anything about this and I decided I'd go cuckoo if I didn't try to find an explanation or find out if anybody else had seen anything."

Mrs Marlene Parker said: "It's very scary. We would just like to know what they are."

Light

Kevin Chick, a farmer on a nearby property, said he saw a light rising from the ground on the Parker property two weeks ago.

Mr Chick did not report the sighting because he thought his eyes might have been playing tricks.

Mr Chick who had been out ploughing at the time said: "I've got a big tractor with a cab and a lot of lights which can sometimes reflect off clouds."

"It was 1am and I was half asleep. But I definitely saw a light going up."

"You sometimes see lights coming down. But I definitely saw a light going up."

"I couldn't say it was a UFO."

"I mentioned it to the wife and she just laughed."

"I've been over to see the marks in the Parker property. The whole paddock is soft but they are very hard."

Ogilvie Schoolmaster Lindsay Bolton took his class of eight to see and measure the marks.

"They are circular, indented, and rock hard," said Mr Bolton.

"They have been compacted by a very heavy weight."

"We have no explanation."

Measure

"We could only look at them, measure them, and we came back and discussed them."

"There is no loose soil or anything to help provide an answer."

"It could not possibly have been a helicopter."

DOMINION, Wellington, New Zealand
May 20, 1980 CR:
R. Poole via W. Thompson

Eight report UFO

termine the object's size and course.
Mr de Back said the first witness was a Petone woman who awoke at 3.30am on Saturday and saw what appeared to be a large grey egg-shaped object zig-zagging across the sky.

Now the Wellington-based UFO Studies Centre is appealing for more time from different localities so that cross references can be used to determine the object's size and course.

Eight people have reported seeing a huge, grey UFO over Wellington early on Saturday morning.

The group wants two or more reports of sightings made at the same time from different localities so that cross references can be used to determine the object's size and course.

"I've never believed in this before," said Mrs. Christina Harris, of Balldon, "but I really did see it."

"It was round, in metallic silver and black, and it moved off smoothly towards Bradford city centre."

"I saw an Asian child watching it, too. When it moved I followed it, although I wanted to shout out to people in the street to look up."

"I eventually lost sight of it. I thought at first it was a kite, but it moved too smoothly and was the wrong shape."

EVENING ECHO,
Watford, England
June 20, 1980

UFO NEAR MISS

SANTIAGO: A UFO nearly collided with a Chilean airliner last Saturday, it has been disclosed. The pilot said the object, an incandescent yellow colour, nearly hit his Boeing at 45,000 feet shortly after he took off from Punta Arenas, Southern Chile.

BRADFORD TELEGRAPH & ARGUS, West Yorkshire, England - July 7, 1980

Woman tells of flying saucer

A woman was amazed when she saw what appeared to be a flying saucer hovering above Lister's Mill, Manningham, Bradford, at 8.45 on Saturday evening.

"I've never believed in this before," said Mrs. Christina Harris, of Balldon, "but I really did see it."

"It was round, in metallic silver and black, and it moved off smoothly towards Bradford city centre."

"I saw an Asian child watching it, too. When it moved I followed it, although I wanted to shout out to people in the street to look up."

"I eventually lost sight of it. I thought at first it was a kite, but it moved too smoothly and was the wrong shape."

Evidence indicates spacemen visited Earth

New Hampshire couple shown star map by little grey men with no ears and big yellow eyes

By TERENCE DICKINSON
Special to The Whig-Standard

Suppose you were given the opportunity to communicate with an intelligent creature from another world?

The chances are that you would likely ask: "Where are you from?"

During the past decade, evidence has accumulated that a New Hampshire woman experienced just such a circumstance 19 years ago.

In the early morning hours of September 20, 1961, Betty Hill and her husband Barney, both middle-aged, had one of the most bizarre encounters in the annals of the unexplained.

According to details that were only revealed later under hypnosis, the couple were abducted by alien beings and taken on board some type of spacecraft. During what seemed like a medical examination, Betty was able to communicate (apparently telepathically) with her abductors — creatures about five feet tall with gray skin, no ears, and huge yellow eyes.

In response to a question — the question we would all like to ask about the origin of other beings visiting Earth — Betty was shown a star map. After years of painstaking analysis, the map — which made no sense to Betty or anyone else at the time — appears to show 15 known stars, including our sun. At the hub of the map are two stars similar to the sun, some 220 trillion miles away.

Before delving into further detail on the map, here are the events of that night in 1961.

It's the early morning hours of Sept. 20, and Betty and Barney are driving home after a short vacation in Canada. The moon and stars illuminate the wooded landscape along U.S. Route 3 in central New Hampshire, when a moving object in the sky catches Betty's attention. She asks Barney to stop the car for a better view. The object moves closer, and its disc-like shape becomes evident.

Barney takes his binoculars from the car seat and walks into a field to get a closer look. Focusing the binoculars, he now sees the object plainly. It has windows — and behind the windows, looking directly at him, are humanoid creatures.

Terrified, Barney stumbles back to the car, throws it into first gear, and roars off. But for some reason he feels compelled to turn down a side road, where they encounter a saucer-shaped device. Five of the humanoids approach the car.

Apparently unable to control their actions, Betty and Barney are easily taken back to the ship by the humanoids. While inside they are physically examined, and one of the humanoids communicates to Betty by telepathy or some similar method. Feeling less threatened, she asks him where they are from. In response, he shows her a map with various-sized dots and lines on it.

After about two hours Betty and Barney are returned unharmed to their car. They are told they will forget the incident. The ship rises, then hurtles out of sight. The couple continue their journey home, oblivious of the abduction.

But the Hills are troubled by unexplained dreams and anxiety about two hours of their trip that they can't account for. Betty, a social worker, asks advice from a psychiatrist friend. He suggests that the memory of that time will be gradually restored over the next few months — but it never is.

Two years after the incident the couple are still bothered by dreams and the missing two hours — and Barney's ulcers are acting up. A Boston psychiatrist, Benjamin Simon, is recommended. After several months of weekly hypnosis sessions, the bizarre events of that night in 1961 are

revealed. A short time later a UFO group leaks a distorted version of the story to the press, and the Hills reluctantly are forced to disclose the entire story.

The complete account of the psychiatric examination from which the details of the event emerged is related in John G. Fuller's "The Interrupted Journey." Here we read that after the extensive psychiatric examination Simon concluded that the Hills were not making up the story.

According to Simon, the most likely possibilities seem to be: (a) the experience actually happened, or (b) some perceptive and illusory misinterpretations occurred in relationship to some real event.

There are other cases of alleged abductions by extra-terrestrial humanoids, but in only one other instance have two people, under hypnosis, separately told essentially the same details of an incident that they remembered virtually nothing about. (The other couple have been promised anonymity by the researchers involved.)

Intrigued by the Hills' experience, J. Allen Hynek, former chairman of the department of astronomy at Northwestern University, investigated the case. In his book, "The UFO Experience," Hynek described how the Hills recalled the details of their encounter.

"Under repeated hypnosis they independently revealed what had supposedly happened. The two stories agreed in considerable detail, although neither Betty nor Barney was privy to what the other had said under hypnosis until much later. Under hypnosis they stated that they had been taken separately aboard the craft, treated well by the occupants — rather as humans might treat experimental animals — and then released after having been given the hypnotic suggestion that they would remember nothing of that particular experience. The method of their release supposedly accounted for the amnesia, which was apparently broken only by counterhypnosis."

Before Barney's death in 1969, a number of scientists, including Hynek, questioned the Hills separately under hypnosis to glean additional details. They concur with Simon's conclusions.

Psychiatrist Simon kept tapes of the hypnosis sessions. These key excerpts from Betty's tapes relate to the star map.

"I asked him where he was from, because I said I knew that he wasn't from the Earth and I wanted to know where he did come from. And he asked if I knew anything about the universe. And I told him no. I knew practically nothing...He said that he wished I knew more about this, and I said I wish I did too."

"And he went across the room...and he did something...there was an opening and he pulled out a map and he asked me had I ever seen a map like this before...it was an oblong map. It wasn't square. It was a lot wider than it was long. And there were all these dots on it. And they were scattered all over it. Some were little, just pinpoints. And others were as big as a nickel... There were curved lines going from one dot to another. And there was one big circle, and it had a lot of lines coming out from it...going to another circle quite close but not as big..."

"And I asked him what they meant. And he said that the heavy lines were trade routes. And then the other lines — the solid lines — were places they went occasionally. And he said the broken lines were expeditions..."

"So I asked him where was his home port, and he said, 'Where are you on the map?' 'I looked and

laughed and said, 'I don't know.' So he said, 'If you don't know where you are, then there isn't any point in my telling where I am from.'...And he put the map back in the space in the wall and closed it."

Simon asked Betty to draw the map when she returned home after the session. But she was only to draw it if she recalled it correctly. The technique is called post-hypnotic suggestion. Police forces have successfully used a similar method to obtain details that witnesses otherwise have suppressed or just don't remember, such as the attire and physical features of a criminal or the license number of a getaway vehicle.

Accordingly, the map was reproduced to the best of Betty's memory.

Betty recalled later that the map she saw inside the extraterrestrial device was about three feet long by two feet high. A hologram is the closest thing we have that would fit her description of the map's appearance. It did not seem to be a projection, yet it gave a three-dimensional illusion. No grid lines were visible on the map, but some of the stars glowed and were tinted in different colors. Some of the more prominent stars were linked by the travel-route lines.

Any analysis of the map must account for all these features: The sun must be on it (since the alien was ready to show Betty where "we" are), and it would be linked by a line. And the travel routes should make sense in a three-dimensional framework.

The map was published in 1966 in John Fuller's book, where it was noticed by Marjorie Fish, at that time an elementary school teacher. (She is currently a lab technician at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.) Fascinated by the thought that the map might represent the first hard astronomical evidence linked to a UFO experience, Ms. Fish decided to fully research the case because, as she later explained: "Unlike most UFO reports, the possible solutions could be examined and the data rechecked."

After tracking down the most detailed catalogues of nearby stars (the most useful were those compiled by astronomers Van de Kamp, Hoffleit, Jenkins, and Gliese), she decided that a three-dimensional model, which could be examined from any direction, offered the best way to seek the Hill-map stars.

After constructing a few preliminary models, Ms. Fish built a larger version using strings supporting beads, which represented the positions of all known stars within 33 light-years of the sun and some out to 45 light-years — the corners of the cubical model. (One light-year is about six trillion miles.) Completed in December, 1968, this model was examined for hundreds of hours from all possible viewpoints. No suspicious groups of stars that included the sun attracted her attention.

Then she decided to ignore a large number of faint stars that peppered the model — so-called red dwarfs, considered very unlikely to have habitable planets. Nothing turned up. Finally, in July, 1969, after months of tedious searching and elimination of more stars that astronomers believe are unlikely to have planets anything like the Earth, a definite pattern resembling some of the stars in the Hill map did emerge — a pattern previously obscured by the plethora of fainter stars.

Within months of this discovery an updated edition of "The Catalogue of Nearby Stars," considered the most accurate compilation available, was published. This provided accurate positions, distances, and physical characteristics for about 1,000 nearby stars.

Once this storehouse of improved data was available, Marjorie Fish built new scale models showing sec-

tors of the sky around the suspected pattern. Using these, she was able to correlate all the stars in the Betty Hill star map to real stars in the sky — including several that hadn't fit before.

Thus the most straightforward appraisal of the Fish interpretation is that it represents the travel routes of spacefaring extraterrestrials who were exploring at least 12 stars in the local part of the galaxy.

Marjorie Fish's analysis was published in an obscure UFO journal and received little notice. I learned about it in 1973, during a lecture by nuclear physicist and UFO researcher Stanton T. Friedman. I was fascinated by the thought that here might be the first real evidence that extraterrestrials have actually visited the Earth.

With information provided by Friedman and interviews with Marjorie Fish and Betty Hill, I wrote a 7,000-word article that appeared in Astronomy magazine in December, 1974. The article caused a sensation among astronomers and others interested in space and extraterrestrial life and prompted immediate comments from such notables as Ben Bova (now editor of Omni magazine), science fiction author Isaac Asimov, and astronomer Carl Sagan. Subsequently, two scientific books devoted entire chapters to the subject of the article.

In the original article I clearly state that I think the map does not constitute proof of alien intelligence but does present fascinating evidence in support of this hypothesis. I feel the same way six years later, since the material presented in the article has withstood the test of intense scrutiny due to its sensational implications.

In general, the reaction from scientists has been mixed. I received strong support from David Saunders, a Princeton University mathematician; J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astronomer; Stanton Friedman, nuclear physicist and consultant; Frank Salisbury, a University of Utah biologist; and Peter Sturrock, a University of Pittsburgh astronomer. They all came out praising the article's accuracy and balanced conclusion.

Those in the opposing ranks, who have made their views known in print, are: Carl Sagan (astronomer, Cornell University), Stephen Soter (astronomer, Cornell University), the late Donald Menz (astronomer, Harvard University), Ian Ridpath (astronomy author), Jacques Vallee (astronomer and UFO researcher), and Robert Schaeffer (computer programmer and UFO skeptic).

With the battle lines formed, these scientists and authors have debated the question over the past six years, until the argument seems to have narrowed down to one critical point. Does the star-map interpretation by Marjorie Fish in fact match Betty Hill's original drawing?

In presenting their arguments on the negative side, Carl Sagan and others have shown statistically that if you compare the dot positions in one two-dimensional drawing to the dot positions in the other, there is little resemblance between the two maps.

Yet when you look at the two drawings, they appear quite similar. Sagan explains this apparent contradiction by saying that if you take away the lines linking the stars, then they relate no better than two selections from a series of random falls of 15 beans thrown onto a piece of paper. In this, he is correct; and all the other critics have taken up this specific objection.

I was prompted to write this article because as recently as a month

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7 -
THE WHIG-STANDARD, King-
ston, Ontario, Canada -
July 26, 1980)

ago a professor from Columbia Uni-
versity phoned to ask how I could
refute this criticism, which he had
read in Sagan's best-seller "Broca's
Brain."

I explained that this critique
hinges on a statistical comparison of
dots on a flat sheet of paper. The re-
markable thing about the Fish map
is that it survives a much more rig-
orous test: a three-dimensional con-
gruency.

The travel lines on the map all
make sense in that they are indeed
logical routes that anyone would
take from one star to another in ex-
ploring this region of space. You
can't fake the real sky.

If you would like the full story,
send a self-addressed stamped enve-
lope to me (Terence Dickinson, R.R.
#3, Odessa, Ont. K0H 2H0) and I'll
send along information on how to
obtain it.

Terence Dickinson is a freelance
writer specializing in astronomy and
space exploration. He has held
scientific positions at the Royal
Ontario Museum, the Ontario Science
Centre, the Rochester (N.Y.) Museum,
Astronomy magazine and Star & Sky
magazine.

● COLOR contouring is
used to identify the
object as disc-shaped and
emitting strong light.

Would
you
believe
it?

UFO clue in pilot puzzle

INVESTIGATORS believe these pictures taken in 1978 show a
UFO off Cape Otway — 20 minutes before missing pilot Frederick
Valentich flew overhead.

Mr Paul Norman, who
has mounted a six-month
inquiry into the Valen-
tich case, said yesterday
the photographs were not
fakes.

A computer analysis of
six negatives concluded it
was a 6-metre metallic
object "surfacing" a mile
offshore.

Melbourne plumber Mr
Roy took the photos at
Crayfish Bay on October
2, 1978, the night Valen-
tich disappeared.

He had been taking
automatic exposures of
the sunset in 20-second
sequences.

By STEPHEN FOLEY

Mr Norman said
frames one to four
showed the sunset.

In frame five, an image
appeared to be "surfacing"
from the water.

But in the sixth frame,
taken 20 seconds later, a
large cloud-like image,
with a disc structure was
visible.

Mr Manifold, of Park
Orchards, said he did not
see the image as he took
his shots.

Investigators said this
was possible because he

was looking into the set-
ting sun.

The Civilian Aerial
Phenomena Research
Organisation in Phoenix,
Arizona, examined the
film and said the object
was not a hoax.

Because they had been
taken in rapid order it
was impossible to super-
impose the cloud-like
structure on the last
frame, the Organisation
said.

Analysis also revealed
the image was not any
known type of cloud or
weather phenomena.

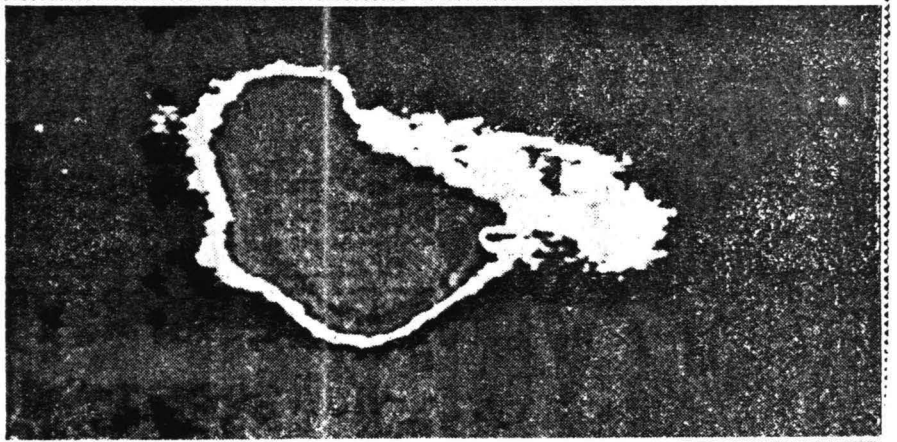
The top of the object
was back-lighted by the
setting sun and a reflec-
tion from the object's ap-
parent curved surface
was obvious.

"The image represents
a bona fide UFO, of
moderate dimensions, ap-
parently surrounded by a
cloud-like vapor-exhaust
residue," said the Ameri-
can analysis.

Mr Norman, 64, a re-
tired American engineer
and the only full-time
investigator of the Vic-
torian UFO Research So-
ciety, said Valentich flew
over the Cape Otway
area 20 minutes after Mr
Manifold took his pic-
tures.

Before he lost radio
contact, he reported
being buzzed by a "long
shape" which was "not
an aircraft."

The Valentich incident



● A PHOTOGRAPH of
the cloud-like image
identified by computer
analysis as a UFO.

DAILY MIRROR, Sydney, Australia
July 25, 1980 CR: D. Reneke

PILOT REPORTS SEEING A UFO

A pilot claims to have sighted an unidentified
flying object during a flight from Melbourne to
Sydney.

Mr Tom Ladkani, 32, said he watched a hover-
ing bright light in the air near Marulan, about
200kms south of Sydney, for three minutes.

Flight controllers in Sydney were unable to
identify any other aircraft in the vicinity and were
mystified by the sighting.

Mr Ladkani, a pilot with the Sydney-based
Scrusse-Air charter firm, was flying a freight run
from Melbourne to Sydney in a Piaggio light
aircraft.

The owner of Scrusse-Air, Mr Joe Scrusse, said:
"You often hear of other pilots having similar ex-
periences and it makes you wonder what is really
up there."

UFO sighting to be probed

The Victorian UFO Research Society yesterday
started investigations into an unidentified object
seen near Warrnambool on Thursday.

Society vice-
president, Mr Paul
Norman, last night
interviewed people
who reported seeing
the UFO.

He said the society
would send photographs
of the object to America
for expert analysis.

Despite more than 10
reported sightings,
aviation authorities and
defence spokesmen
were unable to explain
the UFO's presence.

The UFO, which has
been described as
saucer shaped, cigar
shaped, rocket like, red,
bright, flat and round,
was seen west of Warr-
nambool between 5.45
p.m. and 6.15 p.m.

Standard
photographer Steve
Hynes photographed the
UFO about 5.50 p.m.

Mr Norman said the
UFO was "interesting".

He said the society
would have to wait for
computer enhancement
of the photographs
before deciding on the
object's identity.

"We have to deter-
mine for sure it's not a
high performance air-
craft," Mr Norman
said.

"We also have to
decide whether the ob-
ject photographed was
the same one seen by all
the people who made
reports."

Mr Norman said com-
puter analysis of the
photographs would take
about a month.

A meteorology bureau
information officer said
yesterday the different
colors of the object
described in reports
could have been caused
by a red haze as the sun
set.

He said sunlight
reflecting through the
haze layer could have
shown red, orange or
yellow.

Planetarium lecturer
at the Victorian Science
Museum, Mr Dave Mar-
shall, said yesterday
Saturn would be the
most visible planet in
the area of the UFO
reports and would have
been yellow.

However, he said it
would not be visible un-
til after sunset and

would appear in the
north-west area of the
sky.

Mr Marshall said an
exhaust trail could
sometimes appear with
planets when viewed
through mist or clouds.

Eight sightings were
reported to The
Standard on Thursday
and another five yester-
day.

One report yesterday
was from a Cooramook
farmer, who watched
the object through
binoculars for about
four minutes from 5.45
p.m.

He said the UFO was
stationary in an area
where the sun had just
gone down, was round
and appeared to have a
ring around it similar to
some planets.

It was brown and ap-
peared to have a black
spot in one place.

The farmer said he
lost interest in the ob-
ject because it was not
moving.

THE KOREA HERALD, (City Unknown), Korea - June 4, 1980
Flying Saucers, Unmanned Helicopters

Iranian Sky Filled With U.S. Threats

By Paul Taylor

TEHRAN (Reuters) — If
some Iranian officials are to
be believed, the United States
is sending flying saucers,
remote — controlled un-
manned helicopters and wea-
ther balloons over Iran in a
psychological war against the
country holding 53 of its
diplomats hostage.

Ever since the abortive U.S.
commando raid on Iran, an
elaborate plan to rescue the
hostages from the hands of
their captors in the occupied
U.S. Embassy in Tehran, re-
ports of such sightings have
abounded.

The Oil Ministry announced
two weeks ago that U.S. heli-
copters had flown low over the
gulf off Iranian coastal
waters, spraying foam over
the sea and setting it alight.

The militant students oc-
cupying the embassy said they
had fired on a suspicious heli-
copter which flew over the
American compound last
week. Its identity was never
discovered.

Islamic Revolution, the
newspaper of President
Abolhassan Bani-Sadr's sup-

porters, quoted an army
"political-military expert" as
saying flying saucers were
being sent into Iranian air
space as an American pro-
vocative to frighten the
Iranian public.

"These are true facts and
are part of a psychological
warfare operation that the
United States has started,"
the expert told the paper.

He said the flying saucers
and pilot-less helicopters were
launched from U.S. naval
vessels cruising off the Strait
of Hormuz in the Sea of Oman
and were remotely controlled
from American ships.

"The nature of these objects
and rockets is top secret and
only a few people in the United
States know about it," the
expert was quoted as saying.

He said in several cases the
Iranian air force had chased
the flying objects and fired on
them.

"In this way, the power of
our air defenses is lessened,"
he added.

Similar reports of sightings
of unidentified flying objects
have been broadcast almost
every day since the U.S. raid,
which ended in disaster in the

Central Iranian Desert on
April 25.

Most of the reports sound
highly unlikely. But then who
would have believed the
witnesses who said they saw
American planes burning in
the desert last month if it had
not been confirmed by the
White House?

CR: J. Brill

UFO BUFFS SEEK

A CENTURY-OLD sighting of "an ark in the sky" over Parramatta Park could help solve the mystery of UFOs.

1868 ARK

Notes could solve puzzle



MR RENEKE

Surveyor Fred Birmingham saw the "ark" in July 1868, 40 years before the Wright brothers flew the first aeroplane.

Mr David Reneke of UFO Research (NSW) said he and his 12-member research team were seeking the full text of Mr Birmingham's description.

"His notes are quite likely in this area with one of his descendants," said Mr Reneke.

"But we face the age-old problem of people afraid to come forward with information for fear of ridicule.

"Overall, we're looking for some kind of pattern in UFO sightings," said Mr Reneke, who lives at Bidwill.

He concedes that only five per cent of UFO sightings are worth further investigation.

Size, markings, and color of a UFO are important, as well as the time of day and weather, he said.

Many UFOs have been sighted worldwide at early dawn or dusk.

Few sightings have been reported from any country for the last 18 months.

"This in itself is a trend," said Mr Reneke.

"In 1978 we received more than 90 calls of sightings in the Blacktown-Mt Druit areas."

Mr Reneke and his team

of scientific and technical experts research each UFO report thoroughly.

The witness is interviewed and the area searched for UFO debris.

The group has access to modern scientific equipment and can carry out tests for thermoluminescence.

These tests can determine if rock, ground or vegetation has been touched by radiation.

Many eye-witnesses have described UFOs flying in an anti-clockwise direction.

In many countries there are anti-clockwise scorch marks in the ground.

Such marks or potholes often with scarred vegetation, appeared in 1976-77 in Eden and Orange, NSW, and Kettering, Tasmania.

About the same period three men saw five UFOs on the dusk horizon on the NSW South Coast.

Their film and report was sent to an American UFO research organisation.

"It just can't be faked."

Ground Sancer Watch (USA) analysed the film and reported the objects were about 12 metres in diameter, but could not identify them.

"We'd be content if all these sightings had some perfectly mundane explanation," said Mr Reneke.

"But we'd love to know WHAT it is."

Mr Reneke is 32, an automotive engineer with a wife and two young children.

UFO research is his "full-time spare time" activity.

He is a former UFO sceptic who took six years to convert to an enthusiast.

"We've encountered too many witnesses to dismiss it all," he said.

"Their credibility has been thoroughly checked. Many have described their experiences crying tears of earnestness."

REUTERS

Mr Joseph M Brill

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Dear Mr Brill

Thank you for your letter of July 14. This was not a Reuter report but came from another news Agency.

I did some checking today and found out, by accident, that this story was a hoax inflicted by a person of my acquaintance on a gullible reporter that this particular person had found to be irksome. There was a fire but the UFO attack story was a definite hoax.

I suppose in time this story will appear in "Official UFO", which is one of the funniest magazines to be published anywhere.

Yours faithfully
REUTERS LIMITED

David Skinner

David Skinner
CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE FOR MALAYSIA

DS/jy

Registered office: 85 Fleet Street London EC4 England

NEW STRAITS TIMES, FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1980

Zap — and UFO laser sets all afire

PORT KLANG, Thurs. — Three people have told the police that they saw an unidentified flying object (UFO) shoot a laser beam onto a squatter house, starting a fire which destroyed two houses and a sundry shop just 20 feet from the Felda and Caltex oil installations terminal at the South Port last Sunday, 13 JUN 1980.

The fire broke out at Berembang at 2.30 a.m. just three days after the big fire and subsequent explosions that ripped Port Klang last week.

Thousands of people in the area fled in panic as word got around that the oil installations would explode.

The people who claimed they saw the UFO, all of whom requested not to be identified, told the *New Straits Times* they were driving from Port Klang town towards Kampung Berembang to a house situated about three houses away from the oil tanks when the sighting took place.

They said as their car was about 100 yards from the house, they saw a luminous object about the size of a

large beach ball hovering about 30 feet above the oil installations. It was bluish-red and spinning.

When they looked at their watches, it was 2.20 a.m.

They kept on driving and upon reaching their destination, they saw the object hovering above the house nearest the tanks.

When they stopped the car, they saw the object emit a laser beam that hit the house nearest the tanks.

"We saw the house catch fire but did not wait to see what happened to the object," one of them said. "We were thinking of the tanks exploding, so we fled."

Later, they told Selangor CPO Datuk P. Alagendra what they had seen.

One of the witnesses, whose husband works at the Subang International Airport, later told the others that the airport's radar control centre detected a UFO on its screen about the same time that morning.

However, the Subang radar control centre could not be reached for confirmation or deny this.

Datuk Alagendra was not available today for comment. On Monday, he said the fire could have been caused by a mosquito coil.

TRANSLATIONS

ARGENTINA -- Credit: Jane Thomas

City and country of incident: Argentina
Date of incident: June 14, 1980
Name of magazine and date: Gente, June 19, 1980
City and country of magazine: Buenos Aires, Argentina

WHAT WAS IT?

Aeroparque - Saturday, June 14, 1980 - 1900 hrs. (Dramatic dialogue between the pilot of an Austral plane and the control tower of the Buenos Aires airport)

Plane (P): I request taxiing instructions.
Tower (T): I recommend to wait a little. I see a flying saucer (sic) to the northeast. Stand by, Austral 408.
P: OK, I'll stand by.
T: Do you want to take off anyway?
P: No. I'll wait new instructions.
T: Can you see the phenomenon I'm mentioning?
P: Yes, I stay in position until the object disappears.
T: OK, Austral 408

What happened in Aeroparque

Operators Julio Cantero and Luis Recalt were on duty that day at the Jorge Newbery airport's control tower. Activities were normal and traffic was the usual for Saturdays at that time. Austral 408 flight was ready, bound for Córdoba city, whose pilot was requesting authorization from the tower to take off. At that moment Julio Cantero and Luis Recalt saw a light that amazed them. Cantero and Recalt tell it thus:

"We suddenly saw a light of great intensity which we took at first for a plane, it was approaching at great speed describing an elliptic curve from northwest to northeast. We at once communicated with the Ezeiza (EZE) tower to learn whether they had any plane in emergency. Reply was negative. At that time the image was clearer and it was possible to see a sort of sphere, dull inside and brighter or more luminous at the edges over the River football field, moving towards the University city. We again contacted EZE. In this case our conversation was about the phenomenon we were seeing, their reply now being positive. Because they also were seeing something. Of course, from that moment on, we had contacted all the airdromes: Don Torcuato, El Palomar (military-JT), Moreno, and in other places of the country. These bases were also detecting the phenomenon. At EZE comments were that it had apparently been registered in one of the radars -it was difficult to detect the phenomenon completely- which showed a faint spot. We at once received the call from one of the pilots of the Loma Negra company -owned by Mrs. Fortabat- who lives near San Isidro (a district in the province of Buenos Aires, near the capital-J) to comment on the fact that he was seeing it too. And we noticed he was very impressed.

During its stay, this object produced no strange noises nor interferences or trepidations, nor disturbances in the frequency. The total time it lasted after its arrival until its disappearance over the river's bank, was approximately ten minutes. When it disappeared it left a trail that remained in the air for several seconds.

Ignacio Fernández, Pilot

It was 1900 on Saturday. I am a pilot of flight 408 bound for Córdoba. Turbines were ready. I had been authorized to run to the headway, because we had been advised from the tower that they were seeing a flying saucer (sic) to the northeast. In fact, I could observe an object like a sphere, dull in the middle and brighter around the edges, that moved to the northeast. I was not impressed by what I saw. Neither was I frightened. It might be that we pilots who have been flying for such a long time are ready to face this type of situation. A few minutes later, the tower authorizes me to take off towards the NW. So, the object was moving in an opposite direction to the one that had been authorized. When we took off we were leaving behind that object that had appeared in the sky of Buenos Aires. When we contacted the Baires Control at EZE, after the routine communications I asked the operator if he had registered this phenomenon on the radar, to which he replied in the affirmative, but partially. Anyhow, to be sure that this phenomenon could be registered in the radar incorporated to this plane (a DC-9) I turned it on. I want to remark that this radar system has a range of 180 nautical miles, equivalent to somewhat less than 400km. But even so the system did not pick it up.

What happened in Pajas Blancas (Córdoba province)

About 1900, flight 539 of Aerolíneas Argentinas was on the runway ready for takeoff. Edward Barey, operator on duty at the airport, was about to give the pertinent instructions to the pilot, when suddenly to the right of his cabin he started to see an incandescent cloud that ascended from the Córdoba hills. Then, instead of authorizing takeoff, he tells the pilot to stand by for new instructions, "due to a particular meteorological phenomenon".

The operator on duty of the Meteorological Service places the luminous object at an altitude of approx. 7,500 meters, since it flies slightly higher than the cirrus clouds that are usually found at 7,000 meters. Their radar, which detects metallic objects at considerable distance, gave negative results.

On the other hand, Carlos Eschoy, chief of the Meteorological Service at the airport, thinks that "it is not a phenomenon of prismatic decomposition of light because the latter (decomposition of light) is motionless and what was seen had motion."

What happened in Rafaela (Santa Fe province)

Rubén Gerbaudo, of the News Division of LT28 Radio Rafaela, was preparing the news for the 1900 bulletin of Saturday, June 14th. At that moment -says Gerbaudo- a phonecall interrupted my work. It was someone asking whether we knew what was flying in the sky. I immediately ran out onto the street and saw a circular cloud with something dull in the middle and luminous edges that was moving over the western side of Rafaela towards the north, towards Corrientes. I saw it for one or two minutes and as I am not an expert in these things, the only thing I can say is that it was something abnormal in the sky. I believe, I have always believed in UFOs, but I can't say that this was one of them.

"I saw it and photographed it"

José Enrique Granato, photographer of "La Capital" (Rosario), was crossing the Independence Park. He was going to the paper when suddenly a luminosity made him look up. "As a first impact I thought -he says- of one of the lights of the Park, but I noticed at once that it was much higher than those lights. I immediately took my camera and photographed it, and ran to the paper's lab. It had made me nervous and I wanted to see what I had obtained. After a few minutes I was in for one of the biggest surprises of my life. Above the trees and surrounding the Moon were three luminous discs. One in the shape of a "dummy" and the other two rather circular. In the copies two black spots can be seen that resemble two hatchways in the bottom."

I can assure today that this produced a change in me in spite of it happening only a couple of days ago. I don't know, I feel different."

What happened in Corrientes

Omar Vallejos, chief of the photographic department of the paper "El Liberal", was in the laboratory at about 1900 processing material from the football matches that had been played in Corrientes that Saturday. "Suddenly -he says- an editor yells at me from the street that there's a UFO (sic) in the sky. I leave my work and go out immediately and quickly look at the sky. It was a cloud with a nucleus duller than its edges and was almost motionless over the Paraná river towards Resistencia. And as if this strange cloud had seen our presence, it started to move to the north, to the place I just mentioned. And it disappeared."

What happened in Resistencia (capital of Chaco province)

"Almost at 1900, when Austral flight 902 was on the runway getting ready for takeoff to Buenos Aires, a luminous object approached the landing strip." The pilot continued with the takeoff maneuvers, and once the main part was over, consulted with the tower that informed him they understood the object was "a meteorological phenomenon, and some members of the ground crew saw it approaching the runway, but at that moment it was moving on from south to north on the western side of Resistencia city."

Testimonies from pilots at Ezeiza

At the time of the multiple UFO appearances there was much international traffic at EZE, and the dialogues with the control tower, even among pilots who do not believe in flying objects, indicated that the appearance was not an everyday occurrence for people who spend most of their lives in the air.

At 1900, flight 958 of Lloyd Aéreo Boliviano bound for Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia) and Miami, was already in the air and climbing to the altitude authorized by the tower. Its pilot, Captain Raúl Lara, was still busy with takeoff details and not looking ahead, but at the panel.

The plane was climbing to the west and first officer Américo Cambel was the first one to sight the object right on the plane's course. His report to the tower was: "958 to EZE tower, we have a flying object at 12 (12 belongs to a code used by airman and the towers).

EZE tower already had reports of the object and the radar acknowledged having a circular object on its screen. Capt. Lara, when we interviewed him on the phone at the La Paz airport from where he was about to leave on another flight, told us: "At the time officer Cambel was reporting to the tower, other reports came over the radio from planes on the ground and also in flight. I was heading the plane towards the west, and the object, which was directly in front of its nose, started moving to the north."

This version coincides with the one Commander Ricardo Pizarro gave us, in charge of LAN Chile flight 148 to New York. Comm. Pizarro, when we phoned his home in Santiago, informed us that "at the time of the object's appearance his plane was taxiing on the runway".

The first to see the object in LAN 148 was the copilot, who in spite of seeing it in the air ahead of them, did not immediately inform Pizarro since, according to the pilot "that is the crucial time of the flight, all the pilot's attention is concentrated on the plane and he must not be disturbed. However, the moment the landing gear left the ground, my copilot informed me on the existence of a luminous object in front of the plane. We heard reports from other planes over the radio, in different circumstances, and the EZE radar informed us they were "seeing it too". The object moved from south to north and I estimated its speed in between 120 and 150 knots (miles per hour). We saw it for 2 minutes, including a supercargo who entered the cabin at that moment. The object resembled a full Moon, but fainter, and was surrounded by a sort of circular fog, although in fact its periphery was very diffuse."

The Lloyd Aéreo pilot, Raúl Lara, said he saw it for five minutes and that the object moved from south to north until it disappeared from sight. This is the first time I see an unidentified object, and up to now I had not believed in their existence, but the presence of this luminous object with an impressive brightness, more luminous in the middle than outwards, left me thinking about the possibility of their being real."

On the other hand, Pizarro, who does not believe in UFOs, said as an example, that although he had never seen one before, a few months ago, also while taking off from EZE towards Santiago de Chile, they saw that at 10,000 meters altitude a very "strange" light was moving ahead of him. "It was a luminous brightness ahead of us. We found out with the control tower, and verified that a plane from Aero Perú was in front of us. We concluded that the sun was strongly reflecting on its fuselage and was reaching us when reflecting on the clouds. Evidence materialized a little later when we saw the plane's tail. I have not believed nor do I now, in UFOs. There must be a more natural explanation of this phenomenon - although I must confess I found none."

City and country of incident: Jardín América, Misiones province, Argentina

Date of incident: June 20, 1980
Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, June 22, 1980
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

RESIDENT OF MISIONES SAW A UFO CLOSE-UP

Posadas, 21 (F.o.c.) - "I thought it was going to crash into the trees", said Carlos Alfredo Bousquet, a surprised resident of Jardín América, 110km from Posadas, who saw a UFO last night for several minutes.

A few minutes after 1900 several residents saw in the sky the flight of three round objects, of a silvery gray color, that irradiated an intense red-yellowish flame from its edges. José Pedro Andriah, a primary school teacher, stated that "I saw the objects from from NE to W, four times bigger than the Moon, leaving a large fiery trail of a vivid red color, which at times turned yellow. At first I thought it could be a jet, but it was three.

Armando Benítez and Gustavo Helin, both businessmen, also agree in that it would be UFOs because of the "extraordinary features that do not match any type of plane", they remarked.

City and country of incident: Argentina

Date: June 14, 1980
Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón, June 24, 1980
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A TESTIMONY

New elements prove the passage of a UFO over our country. Photographer Omar Vallejos of Corrientes visited La Razón with the negatives and the copies of two photos he could make in front of the paper "El Liberal". He recounted his experience and the phenomenon's characteristics in detail. Other two people took color photographs. "A translucid and moving object".

The city of Corrientes is one of the places where more testimonies were obtained about the passage of a UFO that impressed the whole country. One of the witnesses was the photographer of "El Liberal", Omar Vallejos, who visited La Razón with the negatives and two of the photos he could take of the strange phenomenon. This is his story: "It was on Saturday 14th, approx. at 19.15. I had finished processing the material I had obtained of football games when suddenly a colleague came into the lab very excited and said: "Come out into the street, there is something strange in the sky". I thought it was a joke and gave him no importance; however, he insisted again shaking my shoulders, and told me: "hurry up, bring the camera, it's a UFO, it's something very strange". Fortunately, my camera was still loaded and I could take the photos, otherwise I'd have had no time.

"How long did the passage last?"

"I had it in sight for a few seconds because the tall buildings kept me from taking more photos.

"How was it?"

"It was like a translucid object surrounded by a phosphorescence, that moved from south to north. Its position was vertical and it had a very smooth translation movement, and a much faster rotating motion. I managed to take it before and after "passing" by the moon, as is seen on both photos.

"Who else was with you?"

"The colleagues from the paper and some neighbors.

"Did you ever have any other experience like this?"

"Yes, approx. ten years ago. It was also at night. I was driving a motorcycle along the highway and suddenly saw what is called a flotilla. It was six engines slowly moving in a perfect V formation. They were illuminated by a sort of lights and colors I had never seen.

"Anybody else took photos?"

(continued on page 11)

(continued from page 10)

"Yes, two other people took color photographs and even asked me for advice as to how and where process them so as not to lose them. One of them is a boy who phoned me and the other is Dr. Leguissa, secretary of the Faculty of Law, whom I trust completely. Dr. Leguissa had traveled to the camp with his family and they saw and photographed the spectacle while returning to the capital of Corrientes.. "Where those photos already processed?" "Those from the doctor yes, but he took them with very slow speed in his camera and only a luminous streak is seen. I haven't seen those from the boy. Anyhow they are an important document and completely coincide with those Granata took, the reporter from "La Capital" of Rosario. It is the same object. We asked the airport, and although they have very modern elements there, they told us the radar screen showed nothing, but that they had seen something in the sky....

Ten days after the episode, comments are still raging and the big mystery continues: What happened over our country? The photographs are the indispensable elements with which it can be corroborated that, no doubt, something quite mysterious existed. Vellejos' negatives demonstrate this, and they are eloquent.

THE BIG SCARE OF A WORKER

A farm worker had a terrifying experience in the south of Santa Fe, resulting in "strange burns" and "uncertain causes", according to the doctors who treated him, when he tried to flee from a UFO that was practically landing on his head. Flight.

Rosario - A man who was working in a field in the early hours of last (6/21st) Saturday in the Arequito area, some 80 km to the west of Rosario, claims having seen a UFO that burned his back. The event occurred early in the morning, when Angel Morassi, 37, camp laborer, was getting ready to start plowing. At that moment, according to the man's testimony, he saw a blinding light with multi-colored flashes that was landing on his head. Desperate - as Morassi said - he started to run until he lost strength and fell flat on his face. Once home, Morassi's wife saw that his shirt was burned in the back and his skin was red, with edemas, so he was taken to the Belgrano hospital where he was treated by doctors Osvaldo Cafarella and Pedro Swirido, who verified the existence of the lesions. According to the medical report, it could be learned that Morassi showed an erythematous lesion, 10x10 cm, in the dorsal region of the right hemithorax, with edema, and that the patient was lucid. Later, and after several hours and in view of severe pains, he was again treated, when Dr. Swirido said the lesions had taken on an other coloring, and did not seem to have been caused by any usual substance, i.e., they are of a strange character and due to uncertain causes. On the other hand, one of the two dogs that accompanied Morassi had similar lesions. Meanwhile, the Arequito police station confirmed the report of the appearance of a UFO, no further clarifying details being provided.

City and country of incident: Arequito, Santa Fe, Argentina
Date of incident: June 21, 1980

Name of paper and date of clip: Crónica, June 28, 1980
City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A TERRIFYING MOMENT

Distressing story of the man that was burned by a UFO

Rosario, 28 (From our correspondent) - "I went through a terrifying moment, it was a misfortune I wish no one". With these words did Angel Germán Morassi resume his experience, the farmer from Rosario, father of three children who last Saturday reported to the authorities having been "attacked" by a UFO when he was plowing a place called "Widow's Spot" in Arequito, some 90 km from this city.

These, his first statements to the papers since he had his experience, since he remained in a local clinic, reaffirm the sense of the report made by Morassi, who has a series of burns on his back as well as his right forearm, which, according to his story, have been made during the "contact" with the UFO.

As to the version he gives of what happened, it does not differ very much with what Crónica already published, as soon as we knew of the event. According to Morassi, early on Saturday 21st when he was about to resume work around 04.30 am "he saw a big light" that emitted, he said, "a fiery color". This, he added, panicked him, for which reason he started to run and soon after fell face downwards. At that moment, said Morassi, he felt an intense heat on his back and on turning his head he could see how "the light was moving away", at the same time hearing an "intense humming noise".

Continuing with his story, Morassi said he went home and after telling his wife what had happened, she checked him over and saw "on his back" a reddish spot at the same time that he started to feel a "severe burning sensation". That same Saturday morning he went to Arequito where he was treated at the Clinic of the Belgrano Club and received first aid. He returned home the same day, but had to return to the clinic on Sunday, when it was verified he had four circular burns in the lower back and another in his right forearm. While being hospitalized, he said, he received all kinds of checkups and much attention. He was also seen by psychiatrists and psychologists, and blood and urine analyses were made, as also a thorax X-ray. The doctors, said Morassi, "found me well". It should be remarked that, in fact, the doctors assured, in agreement with their respective checkups and medical appreciations that Morassi presented a normal "picture", lucid and without mental disturbances, having suffered when first being treated, from anxiety and hypertension.

As to the biopsy performed on affected tissues, it should be stated that Dr. Francisco Compa, Director of the Clinic for Skin Diseases of this city, said it must be discarded that the burns should have been caused by radiating energy. It is, he said, burns caused "by low intensity caloric energy" which determines, he said, that "the lesions should manifest a long time afterwards". The statements Morassi must submit to the local juridical authorities are now awaited with much interest.

City and country of incident: Osorno, Chile

Date of incident: ?

Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón - June 28, 1980

City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO ATTACKED CAR IN CHILE WITH LASER RAYS

Osorno, Chile (EFE) - Laser rays from a UFO almost destroyed a car being driven in this city, 950 km to the south of Santiago, by two beautiful women. According to sources from the carabinieri, the UFO which gave off an intense, blinding light, seems to have attacked the car that Yolanda Torres de Behamondes, accompanied by a friend, was driving at sunrise along the Las Carreras street. Yolanda told the local police that it was completely dark and a light drizzle was falling, when "the strange light" approached the vehicle, license No. XTK-96, and shot off a kind of laser ray that perforated the windshield twice. "After the irresistible brightness from the UFO we heard a thunder", said Yolanda.

City and country of incident: Argentina

Date of incident: June 14, 1980

Name of magazine and date: Esquid - June 29, 1980

City and country of magazine: Buenos Aires, Argentina

HE'S BEEN FLYING FOR 22 YEARS. HE'S USED TO RECOGNIZE MIRAGES
"THAT'S WHAT I CALL A UFO"

His name is Ignacio Fernández, he is a pilot (has been with Austral for 22 years and piloting planes for 20 years). Fifteen days ago he saw a strange object on the runway at Aeroparque, when he was about to take off. He agreed to tell his experience to Esquid. He is a qualified witness. He only tells what he saw, and does not dare reach too many conclusions. Thousands of "porteños" (we call "porteños" those who are native of the capital of Buenos Aires-JT) and "provincians" saw a similar spectacle.

"Have you ever, during your course at the National School of Commercial Flying, studied the UFO phenomenon?"

"No, never.

"And on your own, did you ever analyze the subject?"

"No, I was never interested.

"With your almost 32 (22-JT) years as a pilot, are you qualified to know how to precisely distinguish between a meteorological phenomenon and a UFO?"

"I think so.

"What was it you saw on Saturday, June 14?"

"I was piloting the regular flight of 1900 to Córdoba when I requested authorization to start taxiing. Their reply was: 'I can't authorize you because there's a flying saucer (that's what the tower called it) in the headway'."

"How was the UFO?"

"What I saw was a sphere, like a full moon, placed in a vertical plane, with an intense periphery and a translucent interior. It had a faint luminosity and its motion was slow.

"Which was your reaction?"

"I wasn't frightened. When the tower informed us, all of us in the cabin turned around (the UFO was behind us), and saw it. The tower later authorized us and we started taxiing, when we again faced the runway we didn't see it any more. When we took off the tower informed us the UFO was going to the NE. After the prescribed communications we connected our radio to the EZE control and asked whether their radar had detected a UFO. They replied that it had not detected anything, but they had seen it visually.

"How many minutes passed between the tower informing you of the UFO and authorizing you to taxi?"

"Approximately two minutes.

"Did you inform the passengers?"

"No, because in these cases reactions differ, and I didn't want anything to happen.

"Was it only you who saw the phenomenon?"

"No, commander Marino who was in flight to Santa Fe also saw it. What happens is that I was the first in the runway, that's why I was the first in seeing it.

"At approximately what altitude was the flying object?"

"At a relative angle of between 10 and 15 degrees from our position towards the object.

"Did you read the versions that the object was only a displacement of clouds?"

"Yes, I read them and completely discard them. There were no clouds and the wind blew from the north at a speed of 10 to 20 knots.

"Is it the first time you see a UFO?"

"No. Some years ago I saw another, while taking off from the Mendoza airport. I only commented it with an airport dispatcher.

"What was it you saw that time?"

"It was daylight that first time, and I could see a big, flattened sphere that moved along our course. It was an incandescent green in front and the rear part left a V-shaped condensation trail. We were flying in a Back One Eleven at 900 kph.

"Do you believe in UFOs?"

"Why not? I only want to clarify this: I don't know what I saw, that's why I call it UFO, unidentified flying object."

City and country of incident: Rosario, Santa Fe province, Argentina

Date of incident: June 16 and 28, 1980

Name of paper and date of clip: La Razón - July 1, 1980

City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

ANOTHER STRANGE CASE WITH A UFO

A carpenter from Rosario, 29, claims having traveled in an extraterrestrial ship and that 12 days before he had been visited at home by four strange beings. They wore yellow clothes and a helmet. They did not exceed one meter in height. They remained three or four minutes and emitted an unintelligible hum. Twelve days later, near midnight, when he was walking along Boulevard Oroño 4000, he was "sucked up by a light", as he says. He recalls, as in a dream, that he was sitting in a big armchair and that the strange beings that had visited him before, observed him silently. Fifteen hours passed and he recovered consciousness when he was left in front of the thick wall of the Granadero Baigorria cemetery. The only thing he noticed after the strange trip, was a black spot in the index finger of his left hand, as if blood had been taken.

Rosario (From our agency) - A carpenter from Rosario, 29, claims that he travelled in an extraterrestrial ship and that twelve days before he was visited in his home by four strange beings. Juan Jorge Gómez, single, lives with his parents in the southern zone of this city, in Pasaje Becker 427 bis, near Abanderado Grandoli 4000 street. Some people said that two days after the light that was seen recently in the sky by many "rosarinos", a similar phenomenon was seen. That day Gómez was accompanying an aunt who lives a few meters from his parents' home. It was at night, he was in bed and listening to the radio. Suddenly the light and the radio went out. A bright light was seen and then, through a small window, entered four strange types dressed in yellow and wearing a helmet. They were short, no more than one meter tall. They didn't talk, gave off buzzing noises unintelligible to him. He estimates they were there three or four minutes. He related his experience to his family and that was all. He didn't believe in "those things", he said. Twelve days later Juan Jorge Gómez was returning from his brother's house. It was approx. 23.30. He walked along Blvd. Oroño 4000 when passing in front of an empty lot he again noticed an intense light. He looked, thinking a car was approaching, but was "sucked up by the light, as if lifted up." From there on he remembers nothing. He only remembers, as in a dream, that he was sitting in a big armchair and that the strange beings that had previously appeared to him at his aunt's house, observed him in silence. Fifteen hours passed and he came round when he was abandoned in front of the wall of the Granadero Baigorria cemetery. Almost without knowing what had really happened and somewhat tired, he walked to the highway and took a bus that left him in the Sarmiento park. From there, in another bus, he returned home. He told his relatives of his experience and then saw a doctor. He didn't want to give his name because he thinks he will be bothered incessantly. The only thing he notices after his strange trip, is a black spot in his index finger, as if a sample of blood had been taken or something like that. Gómez said that when he disappeared his family looked for him because he does not usually stay away. He has relatives in the local police who began searching for him until he finally returned home. Gómez is a tall, dark-haired man. He has three years of commercial studies. He lives with his parents, Anastasia Alarcón and Bernabé Gómez, and has two younger brothers, Bernabé and Rubén, and a married sister, María Rosa. It is the first time he has had an experience such as the one he related. From now on he says, he believes "there must be something to it" when referring to UFOs. He said he didn't know about the Arequito case since he had not been interested in the subject up to now. The experience -imaginary or real- Gómez went through, caused the logical comments and controversies in the neighborhood, renewing polemics on the mysterious UFOs. There are those who, ironically, say that "we now need a reporter making a trip with the aliens, so he can tell us of the interviews he could get during his flight in a UFO".

City and country of incident: Arequito, Santa Fe province, Argentina

Date of incident: June 21st, 1980

Name of paper and date of clip: La Nación, July 2, 1980 (this paper also published short articles on June 24, 25, 26 and 29, but in essence, these do not differ from what Crónica published, as translated above-J.T.)

City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE FARMER FROM AREQUITO IS NOT A MYTHOMANIAC

Rosario - "Apparently, the lad seems to be perfectly well and shows no disturbances that might lead us to think he is fabricating or lying", said yesterday Correctional Judge Dr. Ernesto Giacomini, referring to Angel Germán Morassi, whom he questioned about his experience near Arequito.

On June 21st, Morassi claimed having seen an intense light in the sky that burned him. Owing to such statements, Dr. Giacomini cited him to substantiate a summary titled "RN (alleged UFO), assault and battery".

The magistrate made statements yesterday about this unusual proceeding, saying that "we are gathering data, because we must study this case very well, to see where the myth ends and seriousness begins. We must assure ourselves -he emphasized- that in order to intervene, Morassi's statement is serious and, in that case, to undertake the corresponding juridical action".

He finally referred to Morassi's health, whom he questioned for twenty minutes.

"As I'm not an expert in psychiatry or psychology -he explained- I can't establish with certainty if he is perfectly healthy, but I understand that apparently the boy is perfectly sane. He is a humble person -he said- simple, a camp laborer, and shows no disturbances as to lead us to think he is fabricating or lying".

Biopsies

In spite of there being no official communication, it was learned that the result of the biopsy performed by an anatomopathologist from Casilda (Santa Fe province) on the tissue of Morassi's right forearm, shows that the burns might have been caused by electricity. Another biopsy -as was informed- determined first degree burns caused by some caustic element or a luminous source. The result of a third analysis, that will be made in Buenos Aires, is still pending.

Following hereunder are which appeared in the different papers with reference to the June 14, 1980, case. In essence all papers wrote the same, but some included data that I think might also be worth taking into consideration-JT.

La Nación of June 15, 1980: (all are Baires papers unless otherwise stated)

- 1) Mentions an outright collision course with two planes at Aeroparque.
- 2) Altitude at Aeroparque: 400 meters.
- 3) Speed: not exceeding 120 kph.
- 4) The other flight (see item 1) was Austral 022.
- 5) Julio Collazo, pilot of flight 092. Attendants were Carabio and Gloria Livraghi, leaving Resistencia. Control tower answered their questions saying it was the explosion of a high atmosphere rocket launched from Chimal, and that they would later see another explosion. However, stewardesses admitted to having seen only one object.
- 6) In Córdoba airport, Jorge Arlino, Aerolíneas Argentinas employee, said it was the shape of a saucer, had landed and then disappeared. He also said that the pilot of flight 576 of that company managed to take some photographs.
- 7) Tower operators said the middle of the phenomenon was light brown. It lasted eight minutes. Flew from south to north, exactly against the wind.
- 8) Fleet seen in Rosario. The first object had the shape of a cylinder and many noticed a sort of cabin on the bottom. Then other objects appeared that kept a sort of symmetry in their position. There was no noise or commotion, and the motion was smooth and completely controlled, so no kind of scientific apparatus like balloons could be suspect, since their stability depends on gusts of wind or the upper layers of the atmosphere with different temperatures.

La Prensa - June 16, 1980

- 1) At Aeroparque, Cantero said the object was disappearing "inside of its own cloud, a trail above the River Plate remaining for some four or five minutes more, which gradually disappeared.
- 2) Cantero said that in June of 1975 or 1976, I don't remember well, a body such as this, but at 3 or 4,000 meters altitude crossed in approx. the same course".
- 3) Commodore Juan José Górriz, while seeing the phenomenon in San Antonio de Arce, denied it being a UFO. He tends to accept a luminic effect as was explained. He said he's "quite up to date" on the UFO phenomenon, and even admitted to "a slight tendency to believe" in their existence, but emphatically rejected that Saturday's object was a UFO. He ratified his statement of being informed on the subject recalling he had heard it at several times when he directed the National Magazine of Aeronautics at the beginning of the 50's. They even published two books on the subject: "Flying Saucers from outer space" by J. Keyhole and "Flying Saucers have landed", by G. Adamski. "I remember that the translator had stuck to 'UFO' and I proposed to replace it by 'OVNI' (Objeto Voleador No Identificado), with which almost 30 years ago I was the creator of that denomination. He ratified that the name OVNI had not been used up to then in our language and that it's fast divulgation was due to the wide coverage of the National Magazine of Aeronautics in South America.

La Razón - June 17, 1980

This paper, aside from the already known information, also adds:

- 1) Roberto Bancha, an Argentine ufologist, Coordinator for CEFAL (Centro de Estudios Fenómenos Aéreos Inusuales) gives an area of one million square kilometers and 1,600 linear km where object(s) was seen. (Bancha is one of the most serious and thorough UFO investigators in Argentina-JT) He poses four questions: a) Can a phenomenon caused by a frozen cloud be seen at the same time in the wide range that separates the different cities -1,800 km-; b) the phenomenon could have an explanation in the meteoric shower that is seen at this time of the year (Scorpio showers) from June 2 to 7th, but the expert fliers who saw the UFOs could not distinguish one from the other?; c) Was it a space launching?; d) could it have been conventional objects such as planes, meteorological balloons, etc.? Item by item he analyzes these hypotheses: "a) this is unsatisfactory, not only from the behavior observed in many cases, but also because of the geographical extension in which it was detected visually, which I estimated in some 9,600 sq.km., and the simultaneity or almost, of the hour (within 15 minutes) whose most distant point lies 1,800 km apart, taking São Paulo (Brazil) as one of the vertices-point; b) these yearly meteoric showers are frequently taken for UFOs as in the continuous cases occurred in May 1978 that received much publicity and whose characteristics were their fugacity and the wide surface it covers. Precisely, he adds, the date of this event is within the period in which one of the important yearly showers occurs -The Scorpius showers- (June 2-7), which could explain some of the events of that day, but not most of them, where very highly qualified witnesses -pilots, control tower operators- described phenomena that do not at all fit the explanation; c) tests in the upper atmosphere with sodium clouds have at times given rise to false UFO sightings, somewhat similar to those of June 14th, but the Air Force claimed no such tests were made on that date at El Chimal or Córdoba -where they are usually made-. It remains to be seen whether this kind of tests was made elsewhere; d) it is completely ruled out -says architect Bancha- that it could have been conventional objects such as meteorological balloons, celestial bodies, artificial satellites, planes or

psychoid phenomena, if we abide by what was published as to the high qualification of the witnesses, largely exceeding the thousands. Assuming: I think that in spite of everything, it is still too early to definitely conclude as to the phenomenon's nature. What happened on June 14 in 16 cities of six provinces of the Argentine northeast and neighboring countries cannot be explained as a usual natural or artificial phenomenon."

Bancha has been collecting data on unusual aerial phenomena for 22 years, and his statements are based on 965 reports from Argentina, Uruguay and Chile. Studies compiled in his book "UFOs and their occupants", cover a region of 4,064,365 sq.km. Bancha shows us tables where while Argentina comes out as the country most visited by UFOs, interesting data on their hourly and monthly frequencies are also disclosed.

- 2) Officially, the Meteorological Service rules out the "frozen cloud theory", "due to the absence of clouds between 19 and 19.15. Wind blew at a speed of about 30 knots at 5,600 meters altitude, impossible to move clouds at great speed. "It is an abnormal phenomenon, but not meteorological", said an expert.

La Prensa, June 19, 1980

(Further to the article containing the usual info on the June 14 case and its being investigated in Uruguay, the paper brings another short one, titled "Flying Object was seen in Spain". Date of sighting: June 17, 1980. Place: Casas de Arriba, Spain.

Fuente Alamo, Spain, 18 (EFE) - Towards 10.30 last night, a UFO was seen in the Casas de Arriba location, near the Escuelas del Reillo.

Francisco Munera, from the paper "La Verdad", who saw the strange phenomenon, told EFE that the object was triangular with green and yellow flashes, that later turned red. Other people saw it near the same municipality.

Gente Magazine - July 3, 1980

This article refers to the June 21st case in Arequito, Santa Fe province. In essence, it is the same as those published by the papers, additional details as follows:

- 1) Time was 0400 am. He had just gotten up and was drinking some "mate" with his wife, as usual. When he goes to work she lies down again with the children. As it was very cold she gave him a second sweater which he put on. When he went out to work he had on a T-shirt and both sweaters. Went directly to the tractor and started it. From there he had to go towards Arequito for 3 or 4 km, where he had left the plow the day before. The sky was clear and full of stars at that moment, a nice night, but dark and cold. While he got off the tractor to pull the plow and hook it on to it, everything at his side was illuminated all of a sudden, as if the sun had risen. "A brightness that looked rather like it was 4 pm instead of 4 am".

(The interview goes on like this:)

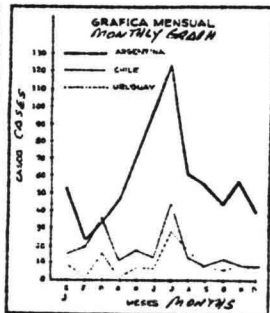
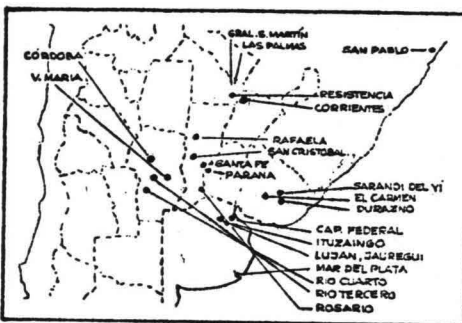
-Could you see where the light came from?
 "I'll tell you the truth. I was so frightened that I only could throw myself to the ground and cover my head. A few seconds had passed and the light continued and then I wanted to turn around and see what it was but couldn't, because it was like a very intense beam and didn't let me see it. I could get up and fear itself made me run. I don't know where to, but I started to run, tripped and fell. I again covered my head and the light started to lose intensity and so, very slowly, I turned around and saw a sort of moon in the sky advancing very slowly.

"Then what you saw was a UFO?
 "I don't believe in those things. I know there's a lot of people in Arequito that told me that I saw a flying saucer but I can't say that. What I saw is what I told you.

"What did you feel at that time?
 "Fear. Even though I'm used to the country, to darkness, at that time I felt nothing but fear. Besides, when I was on the ground I felt as if I were being given injections in different parts of my body, like pricks that caused heat, much heat. When I returned home I told my wife what had happened and asked her to look me over to see where I felt the burning sensation. She told me all my back was purple and that I needed to see a doctor. Half an hour later we went to Arequito. There I saw Dr. Pedro Suárez and told him what happened. He believed me from the beginning. He made a checkup and prescribed medication for burns and sent me home again. That was on Saturday.
 "That night I couldn't stand the burning sensation, so on Sunday we went to see the doctor again and he decided to confine me. He consulted with another doctor from Rosario, Dr. Farías, and they decided to perform two biopsies. One in the back and the other in the right forearm.

"What were the results?
 "The results from the first were ready by Friday and states it was burns caused by a caustic element or heat sources, and I was told about the results of the second on Monday 30th, and it's more or less the same but with a big difference (77-JT): this one says it's burns from electricity. The strange thing is that my clothes look as if they have not been affected, and Dr. Suárez has them to send to Buenos Aires. I was also checked through the eyes. Edema of the macula lutea; they said it is like an impact in the eyes produced by a strong light. And so it was, because now I don't see well with that eye (the left one-JT) and they say I'm losing vision. The only thing I want is that nothing should happen to me in the future, so I can continue working. I have three children and a wife and can't go on like this.

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Puntos más distantes del avistamiento múltiple del sábado 14 de junio de 1980. Área de 1.000.000 de km² y 1.200 kilómetros lineales de distancia. Las estadísticas se elevan en junio y julio, como meses más frecuentados por OVNI.

AEROPARQUE (JORGENSEN)	UFO : WHERE AND HOW						IT WAS SEEN	
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19:03 AUSTRALIAN AND TOWER SEE IT	AEROPARQUE TOWER COMMUNICATES W/ ELEIZA TOWER	STARTS TO ASSESS IN INDEPENDENCE PARK		RECOGNIZES IT AND TOWER SEE IT			MOVES TO GORRITI ISLAND	MOVES TO NORTH OF ABAZIL
19:04 TOWER ASKS AU- STRALIAN IF THEY SEE UFO	LOVEY SEE SIGHT AND REPORTS TO TOWER	IS PHOTOGRAPH- ED		TOWER INFORMS IT IS A METEOROLOG- ICAL PHENOMENON			DISAPPEARS	DISAPPEARS
19:05 AUSTRALIAN SAYS ORDERED NOT TO TAKE OFF	LOVEY SEES IT AT TAKE OFF AND FOLLOWS TOWER	TWO OTHER UFOS APPEAR. ARE PHOTOGRAPHED.	IS SEEN DIFFUSE	TOWER SUGGESTS AIRCRAFT NOT TAKE OFF	APPEARS DIFFUSELY OVER PARANA RIVER.			
19:06 MOVES IN THE TOWER. UFO MOVES TOWARDS IT.	TOWER ADVISES LOVEY AND LOVEY THAT THEY SEE IT.	MOVES TO THE NORTH.	IS SEEN MORE CLEARLY	RADAR DOES NOT PRINT IT	IMAGE BECOMES CLEARER	IS SEEN NEARLY		
19:07 AUSTRALIAN SAYS "WHEN IT DISAPPEARS I TAKE OFF"	STARTS TO MOVE TOWARDS THE NORTH.	BEGINS TO LOSE CLARITY.	REMAINS STATIC	DISAPPEARS	IS PHOTOGRAPHED AND SEEN STATIC	SHAPE BECOMES UP AND TOWER SEES IT.		
19:08 STARTS TO MOVE AND DISAPPEARS	LOVEY SAYS: IT GOES OUT. LOVEY HEARS	NEARLY GOES AWAY, REGULAR	MOVES TO THE NORTH.		STARTS TO MOVE TO THE NORTH	AUSTRALIAN TAKES OFF WITHOUT SEEING UFO OVER THE AIRPORT RUNWAY		
19:09	DISAPPEARS	DISAPPEARS	DISAPPEARS		STARTS LOOKING SHAPE AND TURNS NEARLY	STARTS TO MOVE TO THE NORTH, IMAGE BECOMES CLEARER		
19:10								
19:11							DISAPPEARS	

CORRECTION: Richard Heiden points out that the translations from CRONICA, April 26 and April 28 (UPONS, #131, p. 11) give an incorrect date for the incident being reported. The correct date should be April 22, 1980.

FORTEANA NEWS

DOMINION, Wellington, New Zealand - May 29, 1980 CR: R. Poole via W. Thompson

Taupo 'Plesy' hunt on

LAKE Taupo could have a monster to rival that of Loch Ness, and "monster hunter" Rex Gilroy is out to find it.

Mr Gilroy, who is director of the Australian Strange Animals Investigation Centre, will arrive in New Zealand on July 9 to follow up reported sightings of mysterious creatures in Lake Taupo and locations around the New Zealand coast.

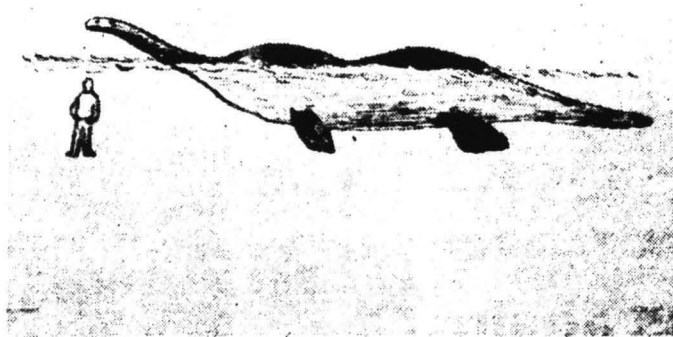
The creatures have been described as large reptilian animals with snake-like heads and necks, large bodies with two long sets of paddle-like flippers, and long tails.

Mr Gilroy said the description tallied exactly with that of the Loch Ness monster of Scotland.

The description was also identical with that of the Plesiosaurs—a race of aquatic dinosaurs thought to have become extinct 70 million years ago.

When Mr Gilroy reaches New Zealand he will visit Lake Taupo and other "Plesiosaur locations" in both islands. But he says it will be only a preliminary investigation.

"I plan to launch a much more extensive investigation



Mr Gilroy's sketch of a Plesiosaurus. The human figure is included to indicate the reptiles' size.

once I have mapped out what I consider to be the best areas for more concentrated searching," he said. "These will definitely include Christchurch, Taupo and the Bay of Plenty."

Anyone who ridiculed suggestions that such creatures as the Plesiosaurs could still survive should remember the

Coelacanth, a fish thought to have become extinct millions of years ago, but now known to be very much alive.

While he is in New Zealand Mr Gilroy hopes to hear from people who might be able to assist his investigation.

JOURNAL, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - June 2, 1980

Two farmers find cows mutilated

OYEN (CP) — Two farmers in the Oyen district said Saturday they each have had cows mutilated.

Frank Spath and Vincent Chrusciel said they found the dead cows, with their parts apparently surgically removed, on their grazing leases in the last two weeks.

RCMP officers in Oyen declined to discuss the incidents and issued a statement saying that 10 reports of mutilations have been received this year with none confirmed. Three cases displaying characteristics of mutilations identified last year are under investigation by RCMP Cpl. Lyn Lauber of Calgary.

SUN, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - June 3, 1980

Beasts strike again?

By MARY TORTOSA

The Beasts of the Ranchlands have struck again. Two Medicine Hat area farmers claim they've lost cattle to weird mutilators recently.

And they say the mutilations — characterized by surgeon-like precision — have area ranchers worried. "Everybody's wondering where they're going to strike next," farmer Vincent Chrusciel told The Sun last night.

He found one of his cows dead with its tongue, genitals and rear end sliced off.

"People around here are talking about little green men. Who else could do these clean killings where there's no blood left around?"

The dismayed farmer said the RCMP couldn't confirm his cow had been mutilated because the animal was found in a decayed state.

He believes his cow was mutilated by the same "people or thing" that terrorized Alberta ranchers last summer and fall.

Farmer Frank Spath — who discovered one of his cows dead with its tongue cut out last week — said RCMP have confirmed his animal was mutilated.

But Calgary RCMP Corp. Lyn Lauber — heading the investigation into last year's 38 mutilations — was keeping mum last night about the new outbreak of mystery killings.

Police believe the mutilations could be the work of a cult.

"It could be a cult, it could be anything. It's definitely not the work of other animals," Spath said.

Farmers report mutilations

Cults still main suspect as more cows mutilated

By CAROLYN HEIMAN

The cattle mutilators, responsible for 13 animal deaths in Alberta last year, are back.

Calgary RCMP confirmed Tuesday that two of three mysterious cattle deaths this year are similar to ones last year and are believed to be the work of a cult.

The surgical removal of organs, genitals and sometimes tongues and ears are trademarks of the mutilators who have struck mostly in the south-central part of the province.

RCMP Cpl. Lyn Lauber, head of the Alberta investigation into the mutilations, said an autopsy showed that the third animal reported mutilated this year died of natural causes.

He said while they are looking for cult involvement it is impossible to know how close they are to solving the mystery.

He said police have established a procedure for each investigation "but I can't be more explicit."

Police believe the mutilators inspired 10 copy-cat killings in 1978, bringing to

25 the number of beasts lost.

"In the lab it is very easy to identify a copy cat from an original," said Cpl. Lauber.

Police have refused to give the location of this year's mutilations or any other details of the incidents.

However, earlier reports said three farmers in the Oyen area, 240 kilometres east of Calgary, reported cattle mutilations and local farmers Frank Spath and Vincent Chrusciel say RCMP investigations on animals on their property revealed similarities to the original mutilations.

"It (the mutilation) is done so slick," Mr. Chrusciel said in a telephone interview. "Not a trace is left. It's obviously done very expertly."

He said he found his 12-year-old cow dead with the anus cut out about three weeks ago while checking his herd.

Then last week a nearby farmer, Mr. Spath, found one of his cows dead.

"Everyone around here is still talking about it," Mr. Chrusciel said.

He added that some farmers are checking their herds more often in the event the person or "thing" responsible strikes again.

"Nobody can say for sure who is behind it. Some say it is a cult and some say it is something from outer space. The cow hasn't a mark on it to show how it was killed."

He said it would be hard for someone to catch the cow which even he couldn't walk up to without it running away.

Last year Cpl. Lauber compared cases with U.S. authorities who are also plagued with mysterious cattle deaths.

Despite speculation that the cows were killed by UFOs, Cpl. Lauber said nothing about the mutilations can't be explained. "There's human involvement and that's what we're looking for."

He said those responsible aren't likely at the scene for more than 10 minutes.

He declined to name cults suspected, details about how large their membership may be or whether police consider them dangerous.

PRESS AND JOURNAL, Aberdeen, Scotland - June 14, 1980

Britain neglecting good old Nessie

SCOTLAND'S most famous underwater asset — next to oil — may slip into Japanese hands unless British backing is found for a new exploration venture.

Project organisers are bitterly critical of British industry for failing to leap at the chance to invest in the Loch Ness monster.

Feelers have been put out to potential backers but so far the Japanese have shown more interest than Scottish or London financial sources.

The enterprise has the backing of some eminent naturalists, including Sir Peter Scott. It has scientific data to work on, new techniques, plenty of enthusiasm — but very little hard cash.

Estimated costs total £60,000 — and in return for the cash the sponsor would get international publicity and the chance of writing his name in the history books.

"It is one of the great unsolved mysteries of the world. Mankind wants to know," said project spokesman and former Tory M.P. Mr David James.



I've no yen for this!

PRESS AND JOURNAL, Aberdeen, Scotland - June 19, 1980

Nessie is safe from pollution say experts

THE OWNERS of Loch Ness's cabin cruiser fleets yesterday assured monster-hunters that if Nessie is in danger of being poisoned by pollution it did not come from their boats.

Officials of the Highland Regional Council's Water and Sewerage Department and the Highland River Purification Board confirmed that they have given the loch a clean bill of health.

Opening Drumnadrochit Hotel's permanent Loch Ness Monster exhibition at the weekend, the American lawyer scientist, Dr Robert Rines, of New England's Academy of Applied Science, said that because of pollution and the growth of boating, he feared that by the time scientists were technically capable of solving the monster mystery, all that would be left in the loch would be skeletons.

Yesterday, however, the chairman of the Loch Ness Pleasure Craft Operators Association, Mr Jim Hogan, head of the loch's biggest fleet, said: "I'm disappointed that somebody from America should make an exaggerated statement about pollution in Loch Ness."

"We are aware of what could be a possible danger and are working very hard to ensure there is no pollution. During the last two years, we have had 16 meetings with the council

and the purification board about preventing pollution."

Mr Duncan Buchanan, of the Highland River Purification Board said: "We monitor Loch Ness fairly regularly and in general terms the loch is very clean. There are one or two localised areas of pollution but there is no justification for saying there is serious pollution there."

"It is alarming to say that the Loch Ness monster is in danger from pollution. There is no justification for that in terms of the studies we have made on the loch. Any pollution that does exist is more attributable to the public drainage system than to the boats."

"However, the Highland Regional Council has a programme to improve the sewerage schemes around the loch which should remove this aspect and ensure that the loch remains clean."

Dr David Watson, the region's director of water and sewerage, said that some visual pollution of the loch may be evident but studies showed that it was not significant.

"We have spent two years looking at the water in the loch and we could not agree with Dr Rines," he said.

"I don't think there is a big problem. Samples show that any pollution is not excessive at the moment. We are co-operating with other interested parties to ensure that it stays that way."

JOURNAL, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - June 13, 1980

Mutilation data protest

CALGARY (CP) — A protest against Calgary RCMP handling of information on animal mutilations in Alberta has been filed by Thompson MacDonald, vice-president of news and public affairs for CFCN Communications Ltd. of Calgary.

In a Telex to RCMP Superintendent Howard Secrecy and an unwillingness to comment creates speculation, inaccuracy and an even greater air of mystery and concern.

He added it should not be up to the RCMP to decide what information is in the best public interest.

There have been four confirmed cases of animal mutilations in southern Alberta so far this year but details have not been released.

"Surely a free flow of information on incidents of this magnitude can produce leads that the RCMP has so far not been able to turn up," Thompson said. "Secrecy and an unwillingness to comment creates speculation, inaccuracy and an even greater air of mystery and concern."

He added it should not be up to the RCMP to decide what information is in the best public interest.

There have been four confirmed cases of animal mutilations in southern Alberta so far this year but details have not been released.

PRESS AND JOURNAL, Aberdeen, Scotland - June 16, 1980

Pollution threat to Nessie

Days may be numbered says American scientist

By JIM LOVE

FEARS that Nessie's days may be numbered were expressed at the weekend by the leader of a team of American scientists who are searching for the monster.

After officially opening the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition at Drumnadrochit Hotel, Dr Robert Rines of the Academy of Applied Science, Boston, told guests: "Pollution is developing in Loch Ness — it is being used by a large number of boats."

"It would be a terrible tragedy — and I have nightmares about this — if we get our sonar equipment to the point where we can finally take pictures and all that is left to do is to take the monster out of the loch. He feels this sense of urgency," his 1980 expedition will be the most extensive yet.

But Dr Rines is not relying on technology alone. For the past year, he has been training dolphins, "fantastically intelligent creatures," to carry out the mission and about people but, last summer, our lead dolphin died from unknown causes," he said.

The Americans are now trying to find a replacement dolphin in this country and hope to carry out tests with summer. Lord Burton, a local landowner, is providing facilities and Dr Rines hopes that the dolphins mission will begin in earnest this autumn.

The team are concerned that no undue stress should be placed on the animals. Trials have shown that the dolphins are uneasy with "voluntary" harnesses and will at only agreed to the scientists have devised a harness which the dolphins can enter and leave at will.

"They are thrilled with the project," Dr Rines commented.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - July 27, 1980 CR: J. & C. Bord

OVERSEAS NEWS

ONE GURGLE AND THE WHOLE LAKE VANISHED

from JOHN KERR

MILAN: It was 5 p.m. and the waters of the lake at Comelico Superiore in the Italian Dolomites were peacefully lazy in the sun. A Couple of small boys were fishing, an old man was blissfully snoozing in his rowboat and tiny children were paddling.

Five minutes later there was the sound of rushing water followed by a fountain of water rising out of the centre of the lake, then a great gurgling and a gigantic gurgling as the waters of the lake completely vanished.

"It was the most amazing sight," said Lidio Teriguzzi who lives on the shore.

"There was this great gurgling sound and the water drained away, as if going down a sink, until there was none left . . . just fish and a couple of boats lying in the mud."

What happened? Nobody knows. So far the investigations of two water engineers and three geologists have been completely unable to account for the lake's disappearance.

Said town mayor Flavio Gogoloni: "We haven't even got a theory. The lake has been there for hundreds of years. Yet one minute it was there, the next minute it had gone. It was just like some huge conjuring trick."

'Bigfoot' hanging out near Snow King Inn?

JACKSON — Two men reported seeing a "Bigfoot-like creature" on Snow King Mountain near Jackson, Wyo., early Tuesday morning, a spokesman for the Jackson Police Department said.

Robert Goodrich and Glenn Towner, no hometown or ages listed, reported to police that they were chased off Snow King Mountain by a "Bigfoot-like creature" 12 feet tall with long, dark hair and arms which hung almost to the ground.

The two men said that they were going to visit a friend who had built a lean-to on the mountain when they encountered the creature, the spokesman said.

They said they had not seen their friend for 1½ weeks, and went to look for him at 3 a.m. Tuesday. When they got within a few yards of their friend's lean-to, they met "Bigfoot," the spokesman said.

The men told police the creature breathed heavily and made a moaning growl-type noise. They described the creature as having a semian-like face as big as a stop sign and that the creature was hunchbacked, the spokesman said.

Goodrich and Towner told police that they ran when they spotted the creature, and that it followed them. The last time they saw the creature, it was standing under a street light near the Ramada Snow King Inn in Jackson, the spokesman said.

The two men said they were going back Tuesday to take pictures of any possible tracks and to see if they could find their friend.

Police said the two men had not been drinking.

BANNER, Scotts Valley, CA - July 2, 1980

Believe it or not... ...they saw Bigfoot here, too

Although not a recent sighting, a Boulder Creek family says it, too, has seen Bigfoot in the Scotts Valley area.

Rhoda Wolters and her son Kerry, 16, said that in 1971 and 1972 a "Bigfoot" used to feed in the approximate 60-acre orchard adjacent to their home at 2911 Granite Creek Road in Scotts Valley.

The site is near the area where two men alleged they saw Sasquatch, or Bigfoot, several weeks ago while camping out.

At the time the Wolters lived in an old stagecoach house which has since been torn down. One night, in the summer, Mrs. Wolters recollected last week, Kerry and his sister saw the "thing" in the window. Kerry had gotten up to go to the bathroom, she said, and saw a shadow outside a window about seven feet above the ground.

"A minute later my sister screamed," Kerry said. At the time Kerry was 8-years-old. His sister, Renee, was about 12.

"My husband said it was a bear," Mrs. Wolters noted. "But it wasn't."

The next day, she said, she and the

children found footprints about nine inches long, wider than a hand and with three toes.

After that incident, the Wolters said they found that their neighbors had also sighted something in the orchard. "They told us that they watched it in the orchard quite a few times," she said.

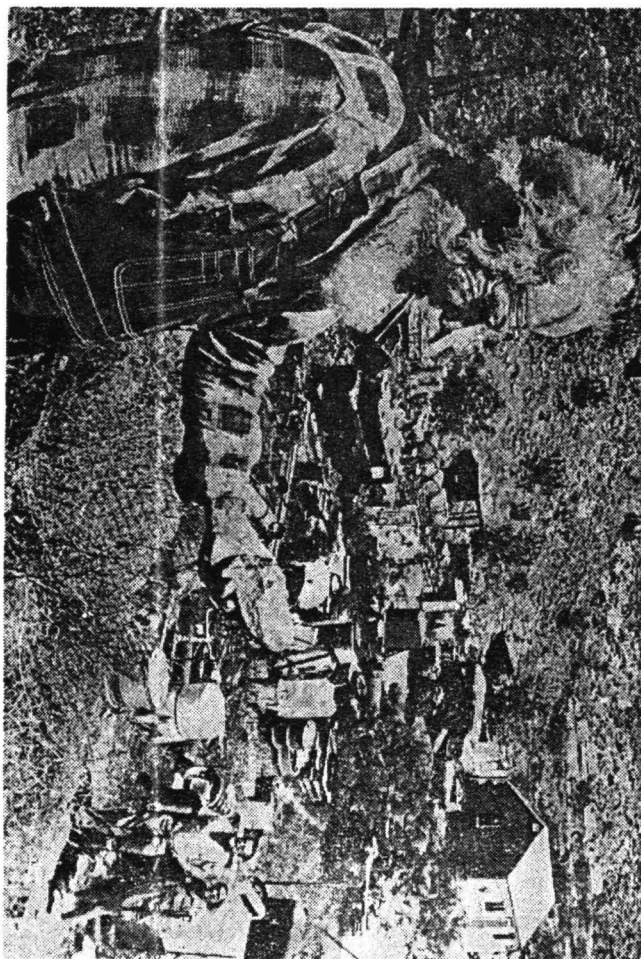
At times, the family would hear crashing around in the woods and at night the nearby horses would "raise havoc" for no reason. "We knew there was something up there," she said.

The horses, she said, would "every once in a while go over the fences from fright."

The neighbors also removed the back stairs of their house because "they didn't want it coming in the house," Mrs. Wolters said.

Although the campers' recent sighting of the alleged Bigfoot was accompanied by what they described as a painful, loud breathing sound, the Wolters said they heard what sounded like a high-pitched whistle. "It didn't grate on the nerves, but it scared the daylight out of us," Mrs. Wolters noted.

At Black Mountain, Walter Bickel Displays Stone Age Tools
Thousands Have Come to Hear Him Lecture on Different Topics



JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM - June 30, 1980 CR: P. Hudson

Knowledge Waits Atop Mountain

By CHARLES HILLINGER
Los Angeles Times
Washington Post Service
BLACK MOUNTAIN, Calif. — Walter Bickel, who admittedly has only a grade-school education, describes himself as a prospector, miner, mineralogist, geologist, archaeologist, anthropologist, astronomer, historian and chemist.

He says he is also prepared to discuss planets, stars, Indians, prehistoric men and unidentified flying objects.

The "prospector-professor," as he calls himself, also claims to be the guardian of this mile-high "sacred" mountain 125 miles north of Los Angeles.

For years "students" of Bickel have been beating a path to the 74-year-old man's ivory tower, which in reality is a tumble-down shack on a half-acre littered with broken-down mining equipment, hundreds of jugs of rainwater, battered old cars and trucks, rusting bedpans, tables piled high with rock samples and a collection of what he calls Stone Age tools.

For Boy Scouts, a visit to the bearded old man is a highlight of their hikes into Last Chance Canyon, where he has lived for 34 years.

"Over 7,000 students have signed my enrollment books," the 6-foot-deep rat proudly boasts as he shows off his guest registers.

"Scientists, philosophers, university professors, entire college classes have come out to hear my lectures," Bickel said. "It's amazing the knowledge this old Kansas farm boy has soaked up out here on the desert."

Bickel lectures on almost any subject that interests his students.

His formal class sessions are held on Saturdays and Sundays, when anywhere from a dozen to 50 visitors show up to listen to the "professor" for three to four hours without a break.

He leads them on hikes over his 160 acres of mining claims, explaining the basics of prospecting before lending them picks and shovels to try their luck — on his claim.

Bickel assures them, "Whatever you find, you keep."

So what's in it for the old man? "Friendship. Company. Good times. My students bring along, good cats, beer, wine and soft drinks," he said.

Outside the one-room shack he shares with 20 cats and two dogs, Bickel has spread a dozen threadbare rugs covered with weather-beaten, overstuffed couches, chairs, beds and rusted bedsprings for his guests.

Giving his version on why Black Mountain is "sacred," Bickel said, "There are 185 stone rings on the mountain, prehistoric campsites, littered with all kinds of Indian artifacts. The Indians have asked me to guard the mountain, to make sure no harm comes to it."

He identified the Indians as Paiutes, Shoshones and Mojaves.

Bickel displays mysterious "ancient ceremonial rocks" and huge stone

axes and tools "left behind by a race of giant Stone Age people."

"Scientists tell me humans who used these tools had to have huge hands, must have been at least nine feet tall," he said.

Hanging on a wall in his shack are the paws of a bobcat.

"The bobcat chased one of my cats into the shack at 3 a.m. one day. I was asleep in my underwear and got up fumbling around in the dark looking for my gun," Bickel recalled.

"My cat ran through my legs and the bobcat pounced on me. I hit the bobcat in the face with my fist and knocked him for a loop. I found my gun and killed him before he got me."

Bickel looks back to the Great Depression of the 1930s as the reason for his being here.

"In 1934 my machine shop in Los Angeles went bust, so I high-tailed it out here to make my fortune mining gold," Bickel said.

"But as you can see I never made it. But being rich never would have brought me the pleasures, the knowledge and the good friends this old canyon has."

THE CHRONICLE, St. Helens, OR - July 10, 1980

Bigfoot reported seen

RAINIER — A Rainier man was terrified Sunday night after he encountered a 400 to 600 pound creature prowling around near his barn. He said the creature could have been the infamous "Bigfoot."

Bill Leon Buol of Rt. 2, Rainier, told state police he heard something behind his barn at dusk Sunday and went to investigate.

He said he observed the creature, which he said was neither human nor animal, standing behind the barn. He told police the creature appeared to be dark, about 400-600 pounds and standing erect.

Later, he and a companion returned to the barn and he said they heard the creature walking towards them through the brush. He told authorities he fired a warning shot, but that the creature continued coming closer.

Buol said both men fled back to his home, where he called police. Buol said the creature did not resemble a bear and that he believed it to be Bigfoot, a huge, unidentified creature that has been reported seen throughout the mountainous regions of the Pacific Northwest from time to time.

Each time a sighting has been reported, authorities have been unable to find the creature, which is said to resemble neither a human nor an animal.

At times, authorities have found traces of the creature, such as footprints and other evidence of its existence. And on at least one occasion, an amateur photographer was able to capture a blurred object, which he said was Bigfoot, on film.

Authorities, who interviewed Buol, said the man was alert, but had been terrified by his experience.

We'll shoot mutilators

The cattle-mutilators of the ranchlands have struck again.

Ranchers have already vowed to shoot on sight anybody or anything they catch.

RCMP yesterday confirmed two more cases of mutilations, bringing this year's total to four.

Police are now investigating 20 cattle deaths. Acadia Valley farmer Leo Spath said last night: "I think the RCMP must have a good idea of what's going on, because they aren't saying much."

Spath's brother lost one of his herd last week. He discovered the animal in a field with its tongue cut out. "I wish I knew what's doing this. I saw the two cases reported here last week — one with its tongue cut out and the other had it's ass cut off," said Spath.

The Rural Crime Watch group is intensifying night patrols in areas where mutilations occurred. "We are keeping our eyes opened and stopping strangers and strange vehicles passing through," said Spath, a member of the patrol.

GAZETTE, Schenectady, NY - Aug. 5, 1980

Naturalists Map Loch Ness Dredge To Snare 'Nessie'

By NIKKI FINKE

LONDON (AP) — Midsummer monster-hunts have disturbed the placid waters of Loch Ness since the year 565. In the latest venture of this now-annual ritual, a team of naturalists left here Monday to dredge the Scottish lake with a motor-powered 40-foot raft and catch Nessie in a net.

"The dredging experiment is based on the idea that if there are live monsters in the loch there must also be dead ones," said Adrian Shine, a plastics industrialist and professional diver who is the leader of the self-styled Loch Ness Project.

"If we bring up any bones of ancient creatures, we shall have gone a long way to establishing the reality of Loch Ness monsters."

Endlessly photographed, analyzed, explored and just plain stared at in the years since St. Columba first recorded seeing Nessiteros rhomboides — affectionately known as Nessie — in the 6th century, the 23-mile-long Loch Ness will be subjected to scrutiny by some 30 or 40 sophisticated cameras laid out like mines in a minefield.

"Our idea is saturation coverage," Shine said. "It's no use missing about any more. We have got to start surveying very large areas of water in a systematic, methodical way."

All triggered simultaneously, the cameras would photograph the murky depths of Loch Ness by using a large, diffuse, screen of light against which any intruding object — including Nessie — can be captured on film full-face or in silhouette.

Shine's team is also looking for Nessie in the flesh.

"We shall mount a totally comprehensive search for skeletal remains," the expedition leader said. "If there has been a population of large animals in Loch Ness for the past 6,000 years, (when some scientists believe the lake first became closed to the open sea) there should be some large dead animals there now."

Shine's explorers will use a large inflatable raft powered by an outboard motor to move slowly across the lake with a special dredging device of a combined sledge and net.

Television-guided and surface-operated, the dredge will travel "up and down, up and down, ad nauseam," he said.

The British expedition, expected to cost 60,000 pounds (\$141,000), will last three weeks this summer and continue for three years. It claims the backing of a number of noted Britons, including Sir Peter Scott, head of the World Wildlife Fund.

Shine says he has no special qualifications for his Loch Ness search but claims to be the most "skeptical" of monster-hunters.

Last year he led an exploration of nearby Loch Morar in which sediment was dredged up from 1,000 feet. In it were worms and mollusks that had survived in total darkness at near-freezing temperatures and under crushing pressure — aiding one theory that Nessie could be living in the hidden layers of Loch Ness.

"The whole human race could be submerged in it without a trace," Shine said of the 700-foot-deep, mile-wide Loch Ness.

Thousands of people claim to have seen the beast — usually described as a long-necked, dinosaur-like creature — but so far, no genuinely scientific expedition has come up anything more concrete than shadowy pictures of what could be Nessie or simply murk.

"Even if we come back with no picture of the monster — and in my own view there may not be one there," Shine said, "I SHALL be able to tell you at the end of the years whether there is one or not."

CR: R. Girard

Local group quietly investigates sightings, reports of Bigfoot

By JOHN MOSELEY
News Staff Writer

It may seem hard to believe, but for the last 10 years or so an organization headquartered in both Paris and Dallas has been quietly investigating sightings and reports of near encounters with the enigma known as Bigfoot.

That organization is called the Bigfoot Investigation and Research Organization (BIRO).

The BIRO, according to field investigator Kenneth Shepherd, has kept a low profile and avoided publicity in order to respect the privacy and confidentiality of persons who have filed reports with the group.

Shepherd claims that the low profile also facilitates protection and preservation of whatever physical evidence that can be found by field investigators

following a report.

BIRO, Shepherd continued, does not enter into any investigation with preconceived conclusions.

More than 100 man-years have been spent by BIRO investigators in their continuing investigation of sightings of the creature known as Bigfoot here in the United States, Sasquatch in British Columbia, the Abominable Snowman in Tibet and Almas in the Soviet Union.

Shepherd said that the BIRO centers its research primarily in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Many of the organization's investigations — perhaps most — center around the discovery of large, human-type footprints along creek banks and riverbottoms.

According to Shepherd,

occurrences of such sightings or other unexplainable happenings is not uncommon in the four-state area in which the BIRO centers its work.

The most recent occurrence was in mid-June when a resident of rural Northeast Lamar County called the organization to report strange and unidentifiable sounds coming from nearby.

The next day, BIRO investigators found two large footprints in a creek bed. However, Shepherd said that both prints were about two weeks old and were of little use to the group.

Prior to that instance, the BIRO probably received its highest visibility during the first week of April.

Field investigators Charles Hignight and John R. Shepherd, Kenneth's father, accompanied him to Powderly where large footprints had been found near a stock pond.

With the cooperation of the landowner and of Game Warden Bill Milling, several plaster casts of the prints were taken and analyzed by the BIRO.

According to Shepherd, intensive study of the physical evidence showed that the tracks were faked. Shepherd said the prints were made by someone

weighing less than 200 pounds and that a close examination showed a faint shoe heel mark in each track.

Shepherd said that tests indicated that the prints were made by something pulled over a shoe. However, the print could not have been made by a plywood cutout, as had been earlier reported, Shepherd said.

"Whatever it was that someone used to make that print was made of a flexible material," Shepherd said. "It was especially flexible in the arch area and left a horizontal imprint in the bottom of the track."

Shepherd said that sounds heard in this area and an unusual behavior of dairy cattle and deer is currently under investigation by BIRO personnel.

Witnesses' names and exact places where sightings have been made will be withheld by BIRO personnel upon request, according to Shepherd. He explained that, as with those who sight unidentified flying objects, most people are afraid of public ridicule and decline to discuss encounters with such phenomenon.

"We're familiar with such problems," Shepherd said. "That many times causes us to get reports second hand."

Hignight added that preparations are currently being made to clarify the details of one sighting in Red River County which occurred about six years ago.

The witness, Hignight said, after several years and the resultant ridicule, has subconsciously induced a mild form of amnesia concerning the incident.

Shepherd said the witness will be placed under regressive hypnosis and undergo psychological stress evaluation testing, which is considered more reliable than polygraph (lie-detector) tests.

IDAHO STATE JOURNAL, Pocatello, ID - July 18, 1980 CR: J. Clark

POLICE HEAR IT, TOO

Screech Forces Woman to Flee Home

By TERRY A. SMITH
Journal Staff Writer

FORT HALL — Unusual screech-like noises and sounds of something thrashing around heard near Fort Hall early today caused a woman to evacuate her home and led police officers to search for more than two hours to determine the source.

Fort Hall officers told the Journal later today they've been unable to determine who or what caused the disturbance. Officers reported finding an area of grass and sagebrush trampled down, but discovered no tracks. They also reported a strong pungent odor in the area.

Idaho State Police and a Bingham County sheriff's deputy were called in to assist after Fort Hall police received a call concerning the noises about 2:30 a.m. The report came from a woman who lives near Ferry Butte Road five

miles north of the Fort Hall townsite.

When two Fort Hall officers arrived, whatever was causing the commotion was still in the area.

"It sounded like a woman, but it had a yelp like a coyote," one of the officers, who asked that his name not be used, told the Journal. "I know what a coyote sounds like — they don't go that high." The officer said the noise was intermittent, eerie and was somewhat similar to a sound made by an animal caught in a trap.

The officer said the experience left him with an eerie feeling, particularly when he came to the trampled-down area and smelled the odor. "It had a strong stench," he said.

ISP officers arrived later and, according to a report they left with a dispatcher, they too heard the screech-like sounds and smelled the odor.

"It was an unearthly scream like an

animal would make," the dispatcher quoted from the ISP report. The report described the odor as: "It smelled like unwashed armpits."

"A resident in a trailer fled because of the noises and a loud thumping noise like a large animal running," the report continued.

The second Fort Hall officer said several horses pastured nearby were extremely disturbed and excited while the strange noises were occurring. The noise subsided during the search, and the officer said the horses later settled down.

Fort Hall officers hadn't returned to the area by late morning, but said they plan to continue the investigation.

"We're planning to follow up on it. We can't say it was Bigfoot or anything. It was just a weird expression that was in the area," the first Fort Hall officer said.

The Fort Hall officers said it's the second report of an unusual screech-like noise in the area within the past two weeks. They said the first report was made shortly after stories were published about unusual tracks, which some believe were left by Bigfoot, in the Blackfoot Reservoir area.

Bigfoot, or Sasquatch, is a legendary ape-like creature believed by some to inhabit mountainous areas of the Pacific Northwest. A strong stench is often associated with reported Bigfoot sightings or the finding of fresh tracks believed made by the creature.

A Pocatello radio station had a field day with the report, with disc jockeys making frequent jokes about it this morning. The station even held a "Big Noise" contest, in which a screech was broadcast at unannounced times and the sixth, ninth or whatever caller was awarded a prize.

Were Chinese 1st To See America?

Los Angeles Times
Washington Post Service

PEKING — Look out, Columbus. Stand aside, Leif Ericson.

The Chinese, already acknowledged as the people who invented gunpowder, paper and spaghetti, are pressing their claim that they were also the first to discover America, many centuries before the Vikings or Christopher Columbus set sail for the New World.

China's claim is laid out in the August issue of *China Reconstructs*, an official English-language magazine distributed by the Chinese government to improve its image abroad. The article, written by Chinese historian Fang Zhongpu and illustrated by sketches of ancient Chinese-style anchors found off Southern California's Palos Verdes peninsula four years ago, suggests that the Europeans were pretty much Johnny-come-latelys. Fang nominates as the first explorer of the American continent an obscure Buddhist monk named Huishen who sailed off to spread the Buddhist gospel in the year 452 and returned in 499 with an astonishing tale of a 7,000-mile voyage to a land called Fusang. That was 500 years before the Vikings sailed to North America and a thousand years before the landing of Columbus.

The description of Huishen's voyage comes from a 56-volume history of the Liang Dynasty, written in the year 600, that has always tantalized historians. There are some doubts about Huishen's trustworthiness — his own contemporaries did not entirely believe him — but Fang says most modern Chinese scholars now are convinced that Fusang, the country discovered by Chinese Buddhists, was actually Mexico.

Fang rests his case on the detailed descriptions of marriage customs, crime and slavery that Huishen brought back from Fusang, which tally almost exactly with what has been learned about 5th century Mexican society. Furthermore, the fusang tree, the sacred tree for which Huishen said the local people of that era named the country, appears to be the cactus-like agave common throughout Mexico.

The fusang tree, Huishen told his fellow Chinese, "grows abundantly there... The buds are like bamboo shoots and the people eat them. The fruit is pear-shaped but red in color. From the bark, cloth and garments are made. Houses are built of this tree... Records are inscribed on material made from the bark of the fusang tree."

As for whether ancient Chinese ships

were capable of trans-Pacific voyages, Fang, a maritime historian, has no doubts.

"For long periods, China led the ancient world in navigation," he writes. "As early as the Fourth Century B.C. her ships sailed into neighboring seas... and entered the Pacific beyond... In the 1st Century A.D., the Chinese already knew how to use the stern-post rudder to keep ships on course. In the Third century, Chinese sailors were able to calculate sailing speeds and the length of voyages. In the Fifth century there were frequent seaborne exchanges of envoys between China and other countries. So it would have been quite possible for Chinese ships to cross the Pacific in the Fifth Century."

China was also prosperous enough to finance such explorations. One Third Century Chinese kingdom, the Wu, had a navy of 5,000 ships, the largest with several decks and enough berths for 3,000 passengers, Fang writes. Voyages to the Philippines and other South China Sea ports were commonplace even before the birth of Christ.

Not content with shaming Columbus and Leif Erickson, Fang also hypothesizes that 1,500 years before Huishen set off for Fusang, Chinese seafarers may have come up with another prize find: California.

Fang credits an American archeologist, James Robert Moriarty of the University of San Diego, for crucial information about the discovery of stone anchors off the California coast that are "about 3,000 years old and Asian in origin."

The anchors, one found in shallow waters off Palos Verdes, the other near Cape Mendocino in northern California, are the same type "known to have been used for thousands of years" in China, Fang asserts. Drawings that Moriarty and a colleague, Larry J. Pierson, sent to China last year also match the descriptions of anchors found in ancient Chinese texts.

The presumed anchors vary in shape — barrel-like, circular, triangular and tubular. "We cannot be certain what the rocks are," said William Clewlow of the University of California, Los Angeles' Institute of Archeology when they were found in 15 to 30 feet of water. "The holes in them are obviously man-made."

A UCLA anthropologist said at the time that they were "definitely not produced by Indians of this area."

By THOMAS DAY
Of the Journal's
Santa Fe Bureau

SANTA FE — A former FBI agent, after a year of investigation, has concluded that the mysterious cattle mutilations aren't so mysterious after all.

Kenneth M. Rommel Jr., in a report released Monday, writes that all the evidence points to animal scavengers as the cause of the so-called mutilations.

Rommel takes issue with the school of thought that see the hand — and the surgical instruments — of man in the mutilations.

Rommel's report, for District Attorney Eloy Martinez, concludes he didn't find any "classic mutilations" — but did find that some believers in the human-caused mutilation theory represent "a classic case of mild hysteria."

The report confirms previous accounts of Rommel's findings and adds details.

The 297-page report includes reports from veterinarians and others and photographs of damaged cattle.

Rommel tracked down some of the belief in mutilations to the media, concluding that "... The media has played a very important role in promoting both the livestock phenomenon and the lore surrounding it."

Rommel investigated New Mexico cases of mutilations and received in-

formation from other states, including Colorado, about similar occurrences.

Reports of cattle mutilations in recent years have indicated chemicals have been found in the bodies of some animals, blood apparently has been withdrawn from dead animals, and parts of animals have been removed with surgical precision.

Some reports have indicated strange markings near the bodies of dead cattle and unidentified aircraft sighted nearby.

Rommel investigated the phenomenon through a grant to the District Attorney's Office from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Rommel said in his report that "... mutilations have been variously linked with UFOs, environmental testing, biological experiments, and nuclear activities."

He notes that "a few individuals, however, including some very knowledgeable veterinarians, have continually maintained that the real mutilators are predators and scavengers."

Rommel remarks wryly, "This theory, I soon learned, was one of the least popular."

Some of Rommel's key conclusions — certain to be disputed — are these:

• The "surgical precision" of cuts found in mutilated cattle can be made by scavengers.

Rommel quotes Dr. L. D. Kintner of

the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri, as saying that "surprising as it may seem to the uninitiated, many of the scavengers make (as) clean (a) cut as might be done by a surgeon with a sharp knife."

Other, less sharply-made incisions by scavengers may look more precise than they are, Rommel says. Post-mortem changes in a body "can make the edges of a bite wound or the incision of teeth appear to be the result of sharp cuts," he quotes another veterinarian as writing.

• The absence of blood said to mark some mutilations can be explained by natural processes. "... As veterinarians have told me, when the heart stops beating, the blood, like any other liquid, settles by gravity to the lower portions of the carcass and into the body cavities."

• The parts of animals removed in mutilations are the same parts removed by predators and scavengers.

Rommel quotes Dr. Vaughn A. Seaton, head of the college of Veterinary Medicine, at the Iowa State University of Science and Technology, as saying:

"Predatory animals usually attack carcasses left laying any length of time and will almost always chew or incise with their teeth the most available portion of the body."

"These parts are the tail, anus because it is not covered by hair, vulva for the same reason, and penis, ears,

and lips because they are prominent and accessible."

Rommel reasoned that only after scavengers could be ruled out as the true mutilators should other possible causes be investigated.

By way of example, he wrote that "imagine yourself as a law officer who has just been summoned by a local citizen to investigate a theft that allegedly occurred at his house."

"When you arrive, the man explains he had prepared a steak for dinner and had just put it on the table when he had to leave the room to answer the telephone."

"When he returned, the steak was missing. The only other occupant of the house was the family dog, which was last seen sitting by the table licking its chops."

Rommel said State Police Officer Gabe Valdez, who is stationed in Dulce, told Rommel he would supply information about mutilations, but never did.

Valdez "is probably one of New Mexico's foremost proponents of the theory that many of these cattle deaths and subsequent mutilations are engineered by human" Rommel notes.

"His articulate reports have frequently captured the favor of the press, which places a premium on attention-getting news," Rommel writes.

The report concludes that drugs reported in dead cattle are from medicated feed, are found in plants eaten by cattle or have been administered previously by the animal's owner.

"The most popular theory" about cattle mutilations in New Mexico is "that these mutilations were being performed by a well-organized, highly sophisticated group who were dissecting livestock as part of a program of biological and environmental testing," Rommel says.

"The identification of this group has received less publicity, although government involvement has certainly been hinted at by a number of investigators, both amateur and professional."

Rommel said "I have not found one shred of hard evidence to substantiate this theory."

He said there haven't been leaks of information — as might be expected in a large-scale government operation — and adds that no one has claimed rewards offered by state agencies "for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons responsible for mutilating livestock."

"To date, I know of not one single case where this money has been claimed," Rommel writes.

"But then again, what use would eagles, crows and coyotes have for money, when their food is laying in the pasture — free for the taking?"

'Mutilation' Investigated

State police are investigating a suspected cattle mutilation found on the ranch of Pat and Pedro Herrera of El Rito. Pedro Herrera discovered the dead animal about 1 p.m. July 24.

"It looked like a mutilation," he said of the find, and so he called State Police. Herrera and his son, Pat, had seen the five-month-old female calf Sunday afternoon, the day before its body was discovered, and she was in good health.

Officer Michael Hawkes of the State Police arrived to investigate the report and in his police report Hawkes said that the animal's sex organs were missing and appeared to be cut, not eaten by predators. Hawkes said further that there was no blood on the hide of the animal and there were no tracks at the scene. The report stated that

CR: N. Bockman

Hawkes had no suspects in the matter and that the investigation into the calf's death had been turned over to Officer Gabe Valdez. Valdez Tuesday said that the incident resembled others he considered to be mutilations.

"The cow was cut," he explained, but the carcass "also had indications of predator damage."

"There were other marks on the cow that we can't attribute to anything," Valdez said, but he declined to describe those markings. He did say the markings in question were similar to those found on other animals he believed to be mutilation victims.

Valdez took samples from the cow which will be examined by a private laboratory, he said, explaining that at this time he cannot name the lab which will test those samples.

Herrera said no unexplained lights or other strange occurrences have been noted in the El Rito area to his knowledge, but that he thought the appearance of the calf herself to be "kind of strange."

The suspected mutilation is the first to be officially reported in the county since special agent Ken Rommel, a former FBI agent, stepped down from his year-long, federally funded investigation into the mysterious phenomenon.

Rommel claimed that mutilations are due to predator activity on animals which died natural deaths, a contention which many other mutilation investigators disagree with.

Rommel's critics claim that though under the \$20,000 Law Enforcement Assistance Association grant which funded his job he viewed 35 cow carcasses, not one of those carcasses was a genuine mutilation.

COULD IT BE BIGFOOT?

Strange Tracks Found in Reservoir Vicinity

By TERRY A. SMITH
Journal Staff Writer

If Bigfoot is roaming the hills in the vicinity of the Blackfoot Reservoir, he's evidently brought the whole family. Three distinctly different and unusual foot impressions have been found, the latest and largest within the last week.

A family who farms the area east of the reservoir has located the strange prints in several different areas; a track found July 7 is less than 20 feet from their home. The family firmly believes a Bigfoot and clan has taken up residence nearby.

Marcia Crane, who lives near Montpelier, is an investigator for Project Bigfoot headquartered in Seattle. A believer herself in the legendary creature known as Bigfoot or Sasquatch, she's not ready to say the Blackfoot Reservoir tracks are authentic, but she insists they're neither bear nor human prints.

Mrs. Crane said, however, that the Project Bigfoot people in Seattle are very enthusiastic about the find. And as more and more prints turn up, her own enthusiasm also increases.

The Idaho Fish and Game Department has become involved in the investigation. But those officers seem more skeptical and think the tracks may have been made by a bear.

The largest set of tracks, wedge-shaped with five toes and no claw, measures 16 inches. The smallest, similar in appearance, are eight inches long. The farm family says they were left by "Bigfoot junior."

The third set of prints has only

four toes, has less of a wedge shape and measures 12 inches. Mrs. Crane said the tracks indicate some type of deformity. The family thinks they belong to "mother Bigfoot."

Two sets of prints, "mother's and junior's," were the first located. Found in late June, they were traced for more than a mile across a grain field. The tracks were apparently several weeks old and made when the ground was wet.

Most of those prints are now gone, washed away by rain or grown over by grain. However plaster casts were made of several, and those still existing are being protected.

The stride of "junior" measures 64 inches. Apparently made by a creature walking upright, it would be difficult for even an emormoua map to step that far for more than a mile, and even more difficult for a large bear.

With the apparent deformity, the "mother" tracks were harder to trace and an accurate stride measurement hasn't been taken.

The 16-inch tracks, said by the farm family to be made by the "big one," were discovered only last week. The farm family set to work making plaster casts, and reported Friday that the stride hadn't yet been measured.

The *Journal*, along with Mrs. Crane, conducted a tour and assisted in the investigation of the prints Friday. The farm family wasn't at home early in the afternoon, but later was.

Names of the family are currently



Journal Photo

BIG FEET — Shown above are plaster casts made from unusual footprints found near the Blackfoot Reservoir. The one on the left was made by what some believe to be a young Sasquatch. Investigators have speculated the other print may have been made by its mother.

being withheld at their request. Members are a mother, her son, his wife and a couple of young children. The mother is an elderly but energetic and spry woman, while her son is a husky man in his 30's.

The farm mother requested anonymity, she said, for fear of the area being flooded with potential Bigfoot hunters, possibly equipped with rifles.

While visitors were inspecting and photographing the print near the farm home — made by "junior" — the son drove up.

"We've found the big ones," he exclaimed excitedly. Initially skeptical, the son says he's now a firm believer in Bigfoot.

"When you actually start seeing tracks and start following them, you start believing," the son said.

His mother is also convinced. "What else walks upright with toe prints and weighs a thousand pounds," she said. Many of the prints are three to four inches deep, indicating they were made by something heavy.

The tracks don't scare the family, in fact, they seem proud that what they believe is a Bigfoot clan has taken up residence nearby.

"Bigfoot isn't a scary animal, just don't shoot at him," the mother said. "He won't hurt anyone."

The son acknowledges that it could be all a hoax, but he really doesn't think so.

"If somebody's just having a good time, then they're going to a lot of effort to make three different size prints," he said. "We sure didn't do

it."

Is the family anxious to actually see the creatures?

"No," the son said, "but apparently it's anxious to see us — it comes around here all the time."

Mrs. Crane explained that Bigfoot is normally nomadic, but the farm son thinks whatever's making the tracks is there to stay for a while. "I would say if it's just passing through it would just keep on passing," he said.

Another strange occurrence, the farm family said, is that two of their neighbor's dogs, which they said never stray from home, recently disappeared. Also, when visitors pull into the farmyard, the dogs they bring along are often hesitant to leave the vehicles.

Mrs. Crane said it's common for dogs to fear Bigfoot.

"Dogs don't like much to do with Bigfoot, and they have been known to be carried off," she said.

The area where the tracks have been found is rolling hill country studded with dryland wheat farms, groves of quaking aspen and evergreens, sagebrush and lava rock formations. Higher up, thick timber is found.

The first set of tracks lead to rock crevices near the Blackfoot River. The crevices themselves lead to ice caverns and caves. Peering down, one can see snow and ice 20 feet below.

The caves and caverns, and in fact the whole area, look like prime Bigfoot country, Mrs. Crane said.

The \$50,000 Report

It still seems more reasonable to believe what a rancher who has lived around cows all his life has to say about cattle mutilations than to take the word of a dude from the east who specialized in militants and bank robberies before he learned in which end of the cow to put the hay.

Former FBI agent Kenneth Rommel Jr., has added expensive fuel to the fires of proponents of the Predator Theory of Cattle Mutilations with the \$50,000 appropriated for him by a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant.

Rommel, whose inklings certainly are of an earthly cast, has proven to his own satisfaction that nothing unearthly or even slightly questionable has occurred during long nights on the range in Cattle Country, USA.

So much for cowgirl campfire imaginings. So much for thoughts of life that extend beyond this lonesome world, or for horrified speculations of the dark side of human nature. So much for spine-tingling thoughts of vile government plots and Machiavellian experiments during the dark phases of the moon. So much for tales of witchcraft. The workings of the twilight zone have been gobbled up by the computers at Los Alamos. The Word, alas, is no more than rotting flesh after all.

The Desert Fox has determined Coyotes, Ravens, Eagles, Magpies, Maggots, Mountain Lions, Wolves, and Plain Old Wild Dogs are responsible for the furor over dead cows which in recent years spread like a prairie fire across the nation.

The only predator Rommel neglected in his 297 page gospel on mutilation causation is the wily fox itself.

The Press, that nasty critter, has perpetuated the alleged Myth of the Mutilated Cow, he contends. He goes so far as to hint that indeed The Press created it.

For proponents of other theories, the Desert Fox has nothing but disdain. How could someone who ignores persistent reports of unmarked helicopters sighted near mutilation sites be expected to sympathize with ranchers reporting UFO sightings during their night-time head counts of endangered cows? He didn't even talk to them.

Meticulously worded police reports by officers listening carefully to guarded tales of strange happenings in their isolated territories — tales told to trusted cops by redneck ranchers fearing ridicule — are shrugged off by Rommel as "mild mass hysteria", a phenomena that could provide "useful and revealing studies" for "anthropologists, psychologists, sociologists and other behavioral scientists," but certainly not to serious investigators of the mutilations.

Rommel supports this contention — and other contentions he has — with a study entitled "Collective Delusion: A Comparison of Believers and Skeptics" presented by James R. Stewart, Department of Social Behavior, University of South Dakota, at the Midwest Sociological Society, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on April 3, 1980.

Apparently, former agent Rommel never heard about the guy who moved from North Dakota to South Dakota

and raised the average IQ of both states.

The comparison is a pained scholarly study, complete with statements like, "most local law-enforcement officials who investigated the mutilations concurred with the judgment of farmers who believed that the mutilations represented the work of cult members or alien life-forms from UFOs. Even local veterinarians often confirmed the suspicions of farmers and that the mutilations had not been the work of predators."

It's hard not to wonder if a scholar who doesn't know that farmers grow crops and ranchers raise cattle even knows the difference between a hereford and a heifer.

Stewart contends that "believers" in mutilations are anxious, uneducated yokels. "Skeptics," on the other hand, are University-educated citizens, perhaps even graduates of the University of South Dakota.

In more sophisticated quarters than South Dakota, Stewart could well be labelled "sexist."

"Females, persons with lower educational levels and lower socio-economic groups seem to be more prone to subscribe to a bizarre explanation" of the mutilation phenomena, "while males, higher education level groups and high socio-economic groups seem to be more reluctant to adopt the unusual explanations and are more likely to attribute cause to a natural explanation, he said, in a remark Rommel found significant.

Stewart said his findings "support earlier investigations which compared the characteristics of believing and non-believing persons with respect to their susceptibility in an episode of delusory behavior."

An educated person with direct knowledge and experience about the episode is less likely to adopt "a bizarre explanation" for those flying saucers he saw right after discovering his prize bull had died an unexpected death.

He called education "a barrier which lessens the likelihood of participation in the delusion," adding that "direct knowledge or experience can play a similar role."

"Whether or not an individual falls prey to the bizarre explanation seems to be a function of education, per se, or his access to direct knowledge of the episode."

Stewart's views are not shared by everyone. There are those who believe "the believers" to be more intelligent than the "skeptics."

Believers encompass all stratum of society and all levels of education and men as well as women are among their ranks. Few suffer from tunnel vision. Believers ask a lot of questions — about the death of cows and about other facets of life. Believers don't walk through life with blinders on.

Skeptics decided early in the game that predators were responsible for the mutilations. Few of those skeptics not mentioned in Rommel's well-documented argument for the Predator Theory will read his report, because they already know the answers.

It is only the dedicated believers who will read the sometimes gross, sometimes boring report from cover to cover and studiously consider his concepts. They will question what they read and absorb it into their conception of what the problem is all about.

By GAIL OLSON

STAR, Shropshire, England - July 16, 1980 CR: J. & C. Bord

The big HUMMMM

AT FIRST you think there's a car ticking over in the street outside.

Or perhaps the plumbing has developed a hiccup. Maybe the washing machine is on the blink. Or it could be the phone...

Whatever it is, that low rhythmic throbbing sound will drive you mad if you can't find the cause.

And what scientists have nicknamed "The Big Hum" has, over the past five years, developed into a major international mystery.

Studies

New the World Health Organisation has been brought in to investigate. Its scientists are currently carrying out studies in over 20 countries where the hum has been heard.

In Britain, experts are concentrating their researches on the West Country where the hum is most insistent.

One scientist told me: "We have heard it on the beach in Cornwall — a low-pitch monotonous throbbing noise. At first, we thought it might be the engine of a ship, but acoustic tests discounted this."

"It seemed to come out of the air, but was not carried by the wind. It was most pro-

BRUCE SANDHAM on the mystery noise that is baffling scientists

nounced in still, calm weather."

In London, householders in south-west suburbs recently left their homes in alarm as a deep hum reverberated through the neighbourhood. It lasted for several hours and then faded.

Similar noises have been heard in the Australian desert, the Middle East, the Caribbean and the Arctic...

Reverberations have even been picked up by NASA spacecraft headquarters at Houston, Texas, and by radio telescopes in Australia.

Recently, it's also been heard in Washington, Moscow, Pekin and Rome. French President Giscard d'Estaing has shrugged it off as the "English malaise" but you can hear it in Paris, too!

Millions of people around the world now say that the mysterious humming disturbs their lives. Usually, it's a low throbbing sound that's only

just audible... but intensely irritating.

In some cases, the hum has been diagnosed by doctors as tinnitus, a medical condition that leads to noises within the head, and which can, in severe cases, cause extreme anguish to the sufferer.

But these instances are very rare. The vast majority of cases involve something that everyone can hear.

When reports of the hum first arrived at the WHO's Geneva headquarters, project leader Dr Gertrude Sachs says they were puzzled, even a little amused.

"But when you get reports from Alice Springs in Australia, and from the Arctic, as well as Chinese fishermen, there must be something," she says.

Sources

It has even caused some close international encounters — last year Russian scientists accused Western sources of beginning a "noise war."

Dr Geoffrey Leventhall, head of the Department of Acoustics at Chelsea College, found that out of 100 volunteers who claimed they were being driven mad by the hum, only a handful were found to be definite sufferers from forms of tinnitus.

Says Dr Leventhall: "The

people we have tested definitely hear an outside hum. We know it is there because our sound-measuring devices have picked it up. But where it comes from is something we would like to know."

So would the Environmental Health Department in Bristol, which has £30,000 worth of sophisticated equipment seeking the source of the hum that is currently plaguing the city.

Surface

At America's University of California, Dr Martin Knass, of the Noise Intensity Unit, has put forward a number of possible solutions.

It could be... generated by the surface of the oceans and seas creating large movements of masses of air.

It could be... the noise from the jet stream — the fast flowing mass of air that circles the earth 15,000 metres high.

It could be... gas turbine noise or the sound of natural gas as it flows up from the sea bed under pressure.

But whatever the explanation, the Big Hum DOES exist — detection machines assure us of this. One exciting possibility, suggested by Australian scientists Gavin McLeary and Jack Hoddinott, is that the noise comes from intelligent beings deep in space!

Wallowa Lake residents report on appearance of legendary monster

The Monster of Wallowa Lake has made another appearance!

Jan and John Bryant of Joseph, former owners of the Flying Arrow Corral at the lake who are now retired, were driving along the east side of the lake Saturday evening at 7:10 and noticed a wake down the middle of the lake where there were no boats to cause it. They stopped and watched and a black form about twenty feet long, they said, surfaced, glided down the lake, turned and came back closer, trailing the wake behind.

Mrs. Bryant said they could not see either a head or tail, but that it had the appearance of a serpent rather than a fish.

This is not the first time they had sighted evidence of the legendary monster of the lake, she commented. Last July they saw the wake and realized they had seen the same phenomenon when other persons reported seeing the "monster".

Reports of the monster have surfaced occasionally through the years, and the Indians had a legend that a young warrior and his bride were swallowed by a big sea cow.

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History says elusive Bigfoot could have lived in Northwest for years

By TERRY A. SMITH
Journal Staff Writer

Bigfoot's nothing new. Long a legendary creature of Indian tribes in the Pacific Northwest, reported sightings of the ape-like Sasquatch date back to the time when white fur trappers roamed the area.

There is an account of the capture by a railroad crew of a hairy creature in 1884 near Yale, British Columbia. The description of the creature, referred to as "Jacko," closely resembles that of a young Sasquatch.

According to newspaper accounts, Jacko was taken to England for exhibition. The story ends at this point, and whatever happened to Jacko is unknown.

Marcia Crane, a Project Bigfoot investigator who lives near Montpelier, has researched the Jacko story. She said the creature was captured when someone dropped a large rock on his head while he was apparently lying injured from a fall at the bottom of a cliff.

If his treatment was anything like his capture, he probably didn't live long in captivity, she said.

While most reported Bigfoot sightings or the finding of tracks or other evidence have occurred in the Pacific Northwest, particularly British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and northern California, there have been other reports from remote areas throughout the United States, Japan, and Russia. And of course there's the legendary Abominable Snowman, or Yeti, of the Himalaya Mountains.

The Bigfoot controversy reached the Pocatello area in June when unusual tracks were found by a farm family in the Blackfoot Reservoir vicinity north of Soda Springs.

Mrs. Crane is currently investigating the tracks, and a reported sighting of a strange hairy 7-foot tall creature near a retaining reservoir on the Blackfoot River only a few miles from the City of Blackfoot itself.

If Bigfoot exists, and a Sasquatch is responsible for the tracks and the sighting, the locations would fit with habits attributed to the creature. Conceivably, Bigfoot could have followed the Blackfoot River to the retaining reservoir.

There's also the reports of strange noises heard on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. Again, two separate accounts were both in the vicinity of the Blackfoot River.

Screeching noises, described by investigating police officers as "animal-like," "eerie," and "unearthly" were heard early the morning of July 18 near Ferry Butte Road. A strong odor, described by an Idaho State Police officer as "like unwashed armpits," was also detected.

A strong stench is often associated with reported Bigfoot sightings or the finding of fresh tracks.

However, Fort Hall police reported finding large cat tracks in the area, and have speculated the disturbance may have been caused by a mountain lion. The second account, with a similar screeching noise, was reported to the *Journal* July 22. Clayton McKinney, of Pocatello, said he heard it a few miles below Tilden Bridge near the east bank of the Snake River.

A few days later a woman contacted the *Journal* and said her sons heard similar noises the same night while camping near Tilden Bridge.

Short of the actual capture or killing of a Sasquatch, the Blackfoot Reservoir controversy will probably remain just that.

Lee Bridges, a professional hunter, outfitter and track expert from Pocatello, studied several dozen plaster casts made by the farm family and said he's positive the footprints were made by a bear.

Idaho Fish and Game Department officials tend to agree. However, they acknowledge their investigation hasn't been very thorough.

Marcia Crane doesn't agree, although she won't say Bigfoot made the tracks.

Jon Beckjord, Seattle, is the director of Project Bigfoot, an organization dedicated to proving that Sasquatch exists. From what he's been told about the Blackfoot Reservoir tracks, he doesn't think they were made by a bear either.

The most striking plaster cast made by the farm family is a double cast, where a creature apparently stood with feet side by side. The prints measure about 16 inches.

Bridges said they're merely an overlap of a bear's front and hind paws.

Beckjord said the odds of finding two perfect overlap tracks side by side are "astronomical."

There have been other strange occurrences in the Blackfoot Reservoir area supporting the Bigfoot theory.

Dogs have been reported to act strangely, even cowering at times. Beckjord said that's typical canine behavior when a Sasquatch has been around.

Even more interesting is the finding of squirrel hides, which look like they've been stripped from their bodies like a banana peel. The hides are also typical of Bigfoot behavior, Beckjord said.

He said the finding of the squirrel hides peeled in such a manner is even better evidence of Bigfoot's presence than the tracks.

During the past month since stories on the strange tracks were first published, Mrs. Crane said she's received a deluge of calls concerning the matter.

She said one woman reported seeing Sasquatch near Bear Lake. Mrs. Crane said she questions the credibility of the source, because the woman said the creature was beamed down from a flying saucer.

Crackpot or not, Mrs. Crane said she's interested in any call. By the way, her telephone number is 847-0630.

Admittedly an amateur at Bigfoot investigations, Mrs. Crane has devoted much of her free time to research. A believer in the creature herself, she nevertheless maintains a degree of skepticism.

She's also interested in a rash of sightings, and track and hair finds near Layton, Utah, but hasn't herself had time to check into the matter. Layton is located near mountainous country 25 miles north of Salt Lake City.

Ryan Layton, an independent Sasquatch investigator not directly affiliated with Project Bigfoot, told the *Journal* that some 30 credible persons have either seen, heard or smelled what he believes may be Sasquatch. Layton said a lot of the sightings and track finds have been near the Weber River.

He said pieces of hair have also been found and will be tested to see if they match unidentifiable hairs found in other areas believed belonging to Sasquatch.

"There's been a horde of people who have smelled it," he said. Layton said the smell has been described to him as "sweaty, like an uncleaned body."

A Bigfoot sighting was also reported recently near Jackson, Wyo.

Since Layton, Utah, the Blackfoot River, Jackson and other recent sighting areas are not typical Bigfoot country, some investigators have speculated that the Mount St. Helens volcano, which is located in more typical Sasquatch domain, has driven the creatures to search for more suitable habitat.

While positive proof of Bigfoot's existence is yet to be produced, there are of course footprints, handprints, unidentified hair samples, a few photographs and numerous sightings.

In general Bigfoot is described as a 7-9 feet tall bipedal primate with dark brownish hair. Weight estimates range from 500 to 1,000 pounds. Reports of smaller creatures have been made — if Bigfoot exists there would naturally have to be young-



FOOTPRINTS — A plaster cast of a pair of 16-inch tracks said to be those of the legendary Bigfoot were made in July near the Blackfoot Reservoir. Idaho Fish and Game biologists and a professional tracker are convinced the tracks were made by a bear, but a Project Bigfoot researcher disputes their claim.

sters.

Perhaps the most convincing piece of evidence is a short movie film taken by Roger Patterson in northern California in 1967. It shows a creature about 7 feet tall. No evidence has been produced to show the Patterson film a hoax.

A favorite question raised by "Bigfoot" skeptics is: "If the creature exists, why don't they ever find any bones or skeletal remains?"

Washington State University professor Grover S. Krantz answers the question in *The Scientist Looks at the Sasquatch*. While Krantz, a Bigfoot believer himself, says it's annoying bones haven't been found, proving the creature's existence beyond doubt, he doesn't find that fact disturbing.

"It is not normal to find the remains of large uncommon animals," Krantz writes. "I have yet to find a hunter or game guide who has found a bear that died a natural death. Hunters never come across the bones of wolves, coyotes, martens, badgers, etc. unless they were killed by humans."

Krantz explains that carnivorous animals, which Bigfoot may be, instinctively hide in well concealed places when sick. If they don't recover, they die there, and their

remains are rarely if ever discovered.

"It should now be obvious that the possibility of finding a naturally deceased Sasquatch is even less than that of finding a bear that died of natural causes. If a Sasquatch skeleton were to be discovered it would almost undoubtedly be of one that died as a result of human action," Krantz writes.

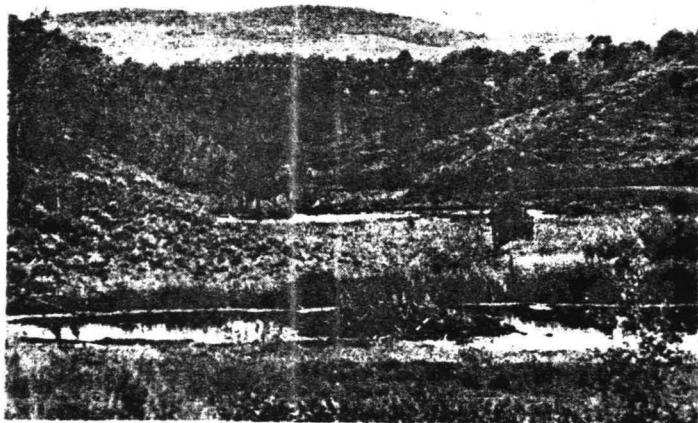
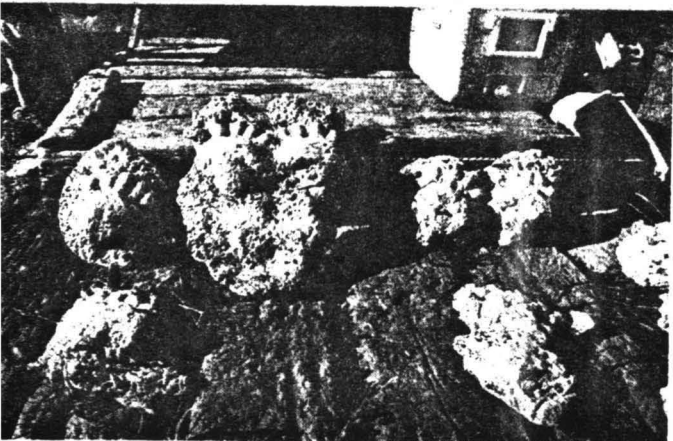
A second question raised is: "Why has one never been shot or captured?" Nocturnal by habit, shy, elusive, fast and usually seeking remote areas, the legendary creature would not be easy prey.

If one has been killed by a hunter, the incident has either gone unreported or proof of the kill hasn't been produced.

And so the controversy lingers, but Bigfoot believers seem to be growing in number, especially among persons who become connected with actual investigations.

A member of the Blackfoot Reservoir family that found numerous tracks on or near their land was highly skeptical at first. He's not now.

"When you start seeing tracks and start following them, you start believing," he said.



At the left is a grouping of casts made by a family that's discovered numerous unusual footprints on their farm near the reservoir. The two photographs at the bottom are examples of terrain in the vicinity where the tracks were found.