

# UFO

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TIMES, Gadsden, AL - Aug. 4, 1980

### It's a strange world

# Computers say UFOs real

By GEORGE BUTLER  
Times Staff Writer

A computer declares that UFOs are real. A young French scientist, Claude Poher, decided to prove once and for all the actual existence of flying saucers.

Out of 35,000 UFO observation reports that he had been able to collect, he selected the thousand best ones, translated them onto IBM punch cards, and fed them to a computer.

Then he fed to the same computer the apparent characteristics of everything that could be seen in the sky and mistaken for a flying saucer — such as the planet Venus, weather balloons, marsh gas, meteorites. The computer was to compare these with the USO sightings and reach a final decision.

The verdict of the computer was that flying saucers do exist and cannot be confused with anything else in the sky. They have landed hundreds of times in deserted spots, far away from urban areas.

They appear during the day as bright metallic objects reflecting sunlight and casting shadows and during the night take on yellowish or greenish-orange color. They can appear in the form of discs, spheres or even cigars.

The computer found that 70 percent of the observations were made at night, one in 10 involved landings, and one in 20 were cases when extraterrestrial astronauts were seen by or had contacts with humans.

Very powerful magnetic forces were always present. These forces could cut the power of automobile or aircraft generators, disturb radio transmissions, and makes all kinds of electromagnetic instruments go completely crazy.

Maurice Chatelain, former aerospace electronics engineer, offers an interesting theory in his book "Our Ancestors Came from Outer Space" about how the space travelers use our planets to reach earth.

"Arriving from a faraway stellar system with a very high velocity, these spaceships could use the enormous gravitational attraction of the four big planets of our solar system to slow down and settle into an orbit around Jupiter or one of its four largest satellites.

"There, like an airport terminal, they could wait for their connecting flight, the planet Mars, to pass by and then settle into an orbit around that planet. There they could wait again for the earth to pass by and then settle into an orbit around the earth or moon."

According to polls, UFOs have been seen by more than 15 percent of the population of the United States, including President Carter. And more than 50 percent of all Americans believe that visitors from inner or outer space actually exist. Percentages in areas like the Caribbean, where UFOs are so frequently sighted, are much greater.

Charles Berlitz, author of "The Bermuda Triangle" and the subsequent book, "Without a Trace", believes that UFOs are definitely linked to the mysterious disappearance of planes and ships in the Bermuda Triangle area off the coast of Florida.

UFO sightings have occurred in all parts of the world, however. Jacques Vallee, the French astronomer and NASA scientist, mentions that in China foreigners are often asked if other countries besides China have UFOs.

Many persons believe that UFOs have

been with us a long time and cite the Biblical account of Ezekiel and the wheel as a possible UFO encounter.

What are the UFOs up to? No one seems to know. Some people regard them as friendly and others as hostile.

To some people, they have a religious significance, are a sign of the Last Days, and a reminder that the Bible speaks of warfare in the skies, as well as on earth, in the time of Armageddon.

General Douglas MacArthur thought they were hostile and that the nations of the world should unite to defeat them. But a computer said the spaceships had all the military advantages.

Following a just a few of the theories about UFOs and their aims:

— They are from a dry planet and seeking water, which they are taking from the seas of our planet.

— They are collecting specimens of animals and mobile devices, such as planes and ships, for comparison and study.

— They need other elements, perhaps gold, for their electronic systems and conductors. (There is approximately \$360 million worth of gold in every mile of seawater.)

— They are protecting us from innate tendencies to destroy ourselves and our portion of the universe.

— They are keeping air and space travel

under surveillance to make sure we do not leave the planet on missions of conquest.

— They are extraterrestrials using the electromagnetic and other natural forces of earth as an energy supply source for intergalactic travel and regard the inhabitants of earth and their welfare with cosmic indifference.

These are just a few of the many theories.

Many prophets believe that the answer may come within the near future and that it may have a Biblical significance. Some even predict the Rapture may take place by UFOs.

GLOBE, Ironwood, MI - Aug. 21, 1980

## UFOs Seen

Strange objects in the night sky over Ironwood were reported to police Tuesday night.

The four unidentified flying objects were headed towards Duluth, the man said, and reported seeing them at 9:28.

He said the four UFOs had windows and lights atop them and seemed to be blinking signals at each other.

The objects were flying past the half moon at a very slow speed, perhaps 20 mph, the man said.

Officers couldn't verify the sighting.

ENTERPRISE, Chico, CA

Aug. 20, 1980

## UFOs Are Sighted

PARADISE — Two Paradise residents reported seeing an unidentified flying object hovering over the ridge community Tuesday night, according to Paradise police.

Anne Whitson, 50, and Gregory Whitson, 31, said they observed a brilliant light hovering for 10 minutes approximately 30 miles away. Suddenly, they said, it took off at a high rate of speed, climbing in altitude.

The pair said they saw a triangle of lights on the bottom of the UFO. Both told the investigating officer they have backgrounds in the Air Force and were certain it wasn't a jet aircraft.

The Police Department checked with Beale Air Force Base in Marysville, which reported no other sightings in the area.

DAILY NEWS, Milford, MA - Aug. 18, 1980

## Hopper On History Strange Lights, Upton Turtle Story Recalled

By GORDON E. HOPPER  
Daily News Staff

UPTON — Sometime early in May, 1938, a group of young residents of Upton Center found they had hiked into the North Upton woods. Being tired, they rested on a stone wall for a half hour as darkness came.

Suddenly, one of the group noticed a strange light above the trees. A white luminous object seemed to drift skyward lazily. Then it broke into a blinding white light and disappeared.

The young men plunged into the heavy brush. After going about a mile, they saw the lights going upward and spaced about one minute apart. As they watched this spectacle, they saw about 25 lights go up with scarcely one second between each one, and then they stopped.

The men continued another half mile to what they believed to have been the site of the strange activity. They were in a smoky area, and it was heavy with a strange scent, which none of the hikers could identify.

When they arrived back home late that night, their faces and hands were scratched and their clothing was torn from the heavy underbrush.

Although the young men returned to the same area the following night accompanied by other people, no signs of the strange lights were seen then, or since.

Ch: B. Greenwood

NEW EKA, Lancaster, PA

Aug. 25, 1980

## Countian Says 'UFO' Looked 'Like Roll of Quarters'

A Pequea R1 man told state police that he saw an unidentified flying object about 10 miles east of Lancaster early today.

The man, Ed Resh, said that he stepped outside his house about 3:30 a.m. today, when he saw an "out-standing" object in the sky. "It looked like a roll of quarters," he said. It had a "whole bunch of brilliant white lights."

Resh said he watched the object hover about one or two miles off the ground, at a distance of some 10 miles, before he went to bed at 5:15 a.m.

NEWS SENTINEL, Knoxville,

TN - Aug. 14, 1980

## Come Again? 'UFO' Defies Description

From News-Sentinel Staff Reports

ATHENS — What's white and "blood red," egg-shaped and rectangular, and travels by air at night?

Don't know? Neither does Keith Castelle, 14, who lives on the old Etowah-Englewood Road in McMinn County, but he told law-enforcement officers that he and his family saw it hovering near their house last night.

Castelle told deputies with the McMinn County Sheriff's Department that he spotted a small light in the sky last night about 9:30. He said he thought the light was from an airplane until it turned very bright and then switched to become "blood red." He said the object was egg-shaped on the bottom and rectangular overall and had two motors on each of two wings and another one in the middle of the craft.

Castelle said his mother, grandparents and two other children in the family also saw the object and agreed on the description.

A dispatcher with the sheriff's department said no other UFO sightings were reported last night.

# EXTRATERRESTRIALITY:

By Sandy Burnett  
Staff writer

## A force to be reckoned with

"I'm glad you're sitting down," Richard Miller confided as he leaned across the table in an Oakland coffee shop. A balding, middle-aged man, he will be one of the main speakers at "UFO '80 — A Symposium on Extraterrestrials Contact" scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Oakland Auditorium. He has just been asked about the focus of the gathering, at which he's anticipating a turnout of 6,000.

"There's very strong evidence," he said, "that the planet Earth is being visited by extraterrestrials. This is supported by photographic evidence, case histories and investigations by trained investigators leading actually to an incredible conclusion — that the planet Earth has been under observation for centuries of time, that we have been a focus of attention for extraterrestrials — that there is strong evidence that they have influenced human affairs throughout history."

Miller, 50, who lives in Lake County, has been investigating UFOs since 1948 when, as an Air Force radio instructor, he just happened to be in the operations room at Scott Air Force Base near Belleville, Ill., when a UFO was reported over Fort Knox, Ky. An Air National Guard pilot was killed in pursuit of the UFO. Miller was debriefed as were other people who heard the pilot's radio communications.

"My appetite was whetted when I saw what lengths they (the military) went to to deliberately mislead the media and the public," he recalled. Later, as a civilian, he worked for the Air Force for four years as a UFO investigator. He worked "undercover" because it was found that regular military investigators were intimidating witnesses.

"No one wanted to be given what they called the 'idiot treatment,'" said Miller. "I talked to hundreds, hundreds and hundreds of people — housewives, businessmen, aircraft pilots, farmers — people who had seen something in the air. My conclusion was that since these people were not seeking publicity or notoriety of any kind, there had to be a lot of credence in what they were saying."

Whatever doubts he may have had were dispelled in October of 1954 when, he said, he met extraterrestrials himself. He was in Detroit, Mich., where he had his own electronics business and had joined with other HAM radio operators monitoring a series of verbal messages which appeared to be from extraterrestrials. He was alone when the message came to meet them. He left a note for his friends (the FCC and Civil Defense also had been called in) and went to meet the ship.

It was saucer-shaped, 150 feet in diameter and 50-feet high and it landed absolutely soundlessly, said Miller. The spacemen he met all appeared to be Caucasians, but perfect physical specimens. They spoke English perfectly but were also telepathic. He said each individual he was introduced to had a different name, job and planet of origin, indicating that there is an organization of interplanetary cultures. The encounter lasted 12 1/2 hours.

Although maintaining his interest and research in UFOs, Miller worked for many years as technical director for CBS in Phoenix and Campbell before retiring to devote full time to his studies in 1975. He is a registered broadcast and television engineer.

He believes there are a lot of "nuts" trying to make money by claiming to know about extraterrestrials but says they are usually identifiable by their publicity seeking.

He said the legitimate researchers he knows have held back until now to reveal their discoveries.

"We wanted to be sure of our facts," he said. "Finally we have enough of this data to present a credible account of what's been going on."

Miller also is founder of the Solar Cross Foundation, a non-profit California corporation which does research and provides information on the subject of UFOs. Miller's conclusion is that "there's an incredible scenario taking place and the public is completely in the dark due to bureaucratic meddling."

He contended that every government in the world, independently, has covered up the facts of outer space contacts.

"All governments are worried about economic stability, social unrest," he said. "There's never been a government yet who didn't do anything it could to ensure its own survival. He believes the U.S. government actually has UFOs in its possession, as do other governments, but the technology is so advanced they really don't know what to do with them."

Miller believes the extraterrestrials are supremely benevolent and are stepping up their efforts to contact earth people because our technology is pushing us farther and farther into space.

"What it appears the extraterrestrials are trying to get across to the people of this planet?" Miller repeated. "A lot of focus on humanity coming into new degrees of understanding, a lot of comments about a coming of age, of enlightenment."

"There are no indications of wanting to take us over or manipulate our affairs in any way, but apparently they feel, to use our earthly expression, that we are coming of age."

So why haven't they made their presence more obvious?

"They're aware of human nature," responded Miller, "the fact that human beings would almost instinctively resent such learned and accomplished people."

"Secondly, the impact from a sociological, economic and



Richard Miller maintains that evidence is strong of extraterrestrial visits to the planet Earth. (Staff photo)

particularly religious point of view. It is not their intention to rock our boat or create a trauma."

Miller thinks the public is becoming more aware of and receptive to information and he says the extraterrestrials foretold that this would start to happen around 1970.

"People today are much more aware, particularly younger people," he said. "They are interested in wanting to have a society where such old-fashioned things as integrity and honesty are apparent in human relationships and certainly in the business world."

"I think we're seeing the vibes on a planetary level changing to a search for a higher and better goal. If we are to get our act together and become responsible people, it would be far better if we could avoid taking along (into space) our irrationality, our weapons and so on. We don't need to export our violence, our insanity."

Miller said the extraterrestrials consider it a "cosmic no" to interfere with the human expression of free will or choice. He believes he is often in communication with them through telepathy.

"Please don't think I'm some kind of nut," he pleaded. "Apparently they are much better at telepathy than we are. It's like having a stream of new thinking going through your head."

He checks out the information by comparing it with what other people who also are in communication with the extraterrestrials are thinking.

Although Miller disapproves of "grandstanding" he thinks the recent spate of space movies like "Close Encounters," and even "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back" have done a lot to get people thinking about life in space. He's particularly enchanted by George Lucas' introduction of the positive "Force" in the "Star Wars" episodes.

He has found the extraterrestrials to be spiritually superior to us and feels that organized religion as we know it would be seriously threatened by them.

"Very few religions tell an individual that the individual can communicate at will with the Creator," he said. "Most religions provide some type of intermediary. The information from the extraterrestrials is that any creature is a part of the divinity and they can communicate at will with the divinity and that if telepathy were a reality (on Earth), there would be no need for organized religion. They speak of 'at-one-ment,' integration. That's the way they engage in communion with God. They do believe in a Supreme Being and also a highly evolved hierarchy of enlightened spiritual beings. But they also emphasize that there is a price of responsibility to pay for enlightenment."

The UFO Symposium will be held from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Sunday. It is sponsored by the Trantor Foundation, a non-profit educational research foundation. Tickets will be available at the door and cost \$12.50 per day.

## It came outa the sky

Charlie Finley, owner of the Oakland A's baseball team, has suggested using bright orange baseballs because they would be easier for batters to see.

Finley's idea may have gone wild on us.

A man told the Lane County Sheriff's office that a "red ball of fire" the size of a baseball cruised near his car Sunday as he was driving on the McKenzie Highway near Vida.

Police marked it down as a UFO.

## UFO siting

Joan Boughner of Orangevale claims she and a co-worker viewed an unidentified flying object (UFO) on July 30 while traveling to lunch from her job at Aerojet Strategic Propulsion Company.

She says she and her co-worker saw "this thing" hover briefly over the trees near a sewer plant on Folsom Boulevard between U.S. 50 and Folsom's historical district.

She described it as having a silver exterior, long bay doors, "all black inside", oblong, and about 15 to 20 feet long.

"I'm not saying it was a saucer," Boughner said. "But it was something."

She called the media and got limited response, although one area daily newspaper ran a story on her reported sighting and noted similar objects had been viewed the day before in Santa Cruz and near Clear Lake.

NEWS, Springfield, Ok - Sept. 2, 1980

NEWS, Orangevale, Ca - Aug. 27, 1980

# UFO? Residents Report Bright Object

"At first I thought it might be a meteor or a plane or some kind of balloon, but it didn't move like anything I'd ever seen before."

That was how Mrs. Ann Whitson of Paradise described an unidentified flying object she and two others saw Tuesday night. Mrs. Whitson said she happened to glance outside her window about 11:30 to see a bright light in the sky. She called her son-in-law and daughter out to see the bright light, too, and all were convinced they saw a UFO.

"It was very bright, dimming all the stars around it. At first it just drifted and floated, and then it shot off faster than any jet. It was moving about 10 to 15 times faster than a jet."

When they first saw it, the UFO appeared as a bright, yellowish light. At first they tried to explain it as a normal phenomenon, but soon they discovered it was unlike anything they had ever seen.

When it took off above them, they saw a perfect triangle of lights, with a dim flashing light in the center. At the same time they heard a low-pitched sound, unlike that of anything they've ever heard.

"The noise was still where we had seen it first," she said. "But it was wav

above us by then. I know it wasn't a plane or anything else."

Mrs. Whitson should know if what she saw was a plane, having been near planes all her life. Her husband has been in the military for many years, giving her contact with all sorts of flying objects. What they saw Tuesday night wasn't anything they'd seen before.

Mrs. Whitson called the Paradise Police Department, who sent out officer Chris Buzzard to investigate the report. Although he was there too late to see the UFO, he did take a report.

"We were completely sober and know it wasn't an optical illusion," she insists.

Although there were no other reports of the UFO with either the Sheriff's Office or Paradise Police, they believe someone else may have seen the strange object in the sky. Beale Air Force Base also reports no unusual activity that night.

This, however, is not the first time a UFO has been reported in the Paradise area. Numerous reports of UFOs have been made near the Lime Saddle Marina area, in some cases by very reliable sources.

If what the Whitsons and others have seen really are extraterrestrials, Paradise seems to be a favorite for more than just those of us who are earthbound.

DAILY PRESS, Victorville, CA - Aug. 27, 1980

## AV couple describes UFO sighting here

By DOUG JOHNSON  
Daily Press Staff Writer

APPLE VALLEY — A local man and woman claim to have seen a UFO earlier this week.

Brian DuPont and his girlfriend, Linda Lott, say they saw a shiny ball of whiteness with flashing red borders that moved close when left alone and shied away when pursued.

They said they saw the UFO while watching stars about three hours before sunrise Monday. The two said they first noticed the optic event in Desert Knolls, then followed it to the Apple Valley dump.

According to DuPont, the glow didn't have any distinctive shape, but he said he saw smaller red lights to each side, discernible only when it hovered closer.

"It was very, very bright," he said. The two Apple Valley residents claim they've seen other such displays. About a year ago, while vacationing in the San Bernardino Mountains, they said they saw two bright lights jumping and gyrating through the sky, stopping "as if to say hello" then scattering into the darkness.

"They just split," he said. "But this one (Monday's) hung around for about three hours. It moved north and I

headed for the dump roads. We ended up at Fairview Valley."

DuPont said the object Monday dimmed when he flashed his car lights.

"It would appear to come closer to us, then would move away," he said. Like the stubborn horse in Francis Ford Coppola's "The Black Stallion," the light backed off when approached and brightened when observed from a comfortable distance, he said.

DuPont said he put his car in four-wheel drive and started toward it. Then the light drifted away, became dimmer and dimmer, and finally retreated to the size of a star, he said.

DuPont said there was no way to tell how far away the light was. At first, he said, it was perhaps five or ten miles away. But then it came closer.

"I couldn't say it was a flying saucer," he continued. "I've always wanted to believe in them, but you never can until you see it. Then about a year ago, we were camping and we spotted a couple of very fast moving lights. Just lights, but they were making unbelievable patterns. Nothing on earth could move like that."

"Then they stopped, the two of them, like to say hello or something, and then disappeared into the stars."

"We never did tell anybody about that."

DuPont, a Montgomery Ward service technician, has filed a UFO

# UFOs — some people say they have had encounters

By DOUG JOHNSON  
Sun-Star Staff

OAKLAND—Have you ever had a close encounter of the fourth kind? Probably not and it's unlikely you ever will. That was one of the topics discussed by feature speaker Wendell Stevens at this weekend's Oakland Auditorium Symposium on Extraterrestrial Contact.

An "encounter of the 4th kind" is defined by Stevens as "when an earth contactee enters a spacecraft and interacts with the occupants."

Stevens, a former Lt. Col. in the U.S. Air Force's Air Technical Intelligence Center, gave a lecture accompanied by slides of on-going UFO contact cases. During his 30 years of investigating UFO's Stevens has amassed the largest private collection of UFO photographs known in the world.

"On-going cases imply a contactor and a contactee," Stevens told the

estimated 500 people who showed up for Saturday's program. "Roughly one third the contacts are made by aliens much like us who can breathe our atmosphere."

The photo evidence he presented was intriguing though tantalizingly vague. Many photos of UFO's exist but none have ever been taken of alien beings.

Stevens showed slides of drawings made by people who claim to have been inside alien vessels which almost without exception are of the "flying saucer" variety. Drawings of aliens by "contactees" are the only evidence of the existence of alien beings.

From the descriptions he has compiled during his investigations, Stevens has drawn up three categories of aliens. There are humans, humanoid types and hairy dwarfs.

In a vast majority of cases there is on-going contact over a period of time

between the contactee and the aliens, some going on as long as 20 years, Stevens said.

"Any contact that is meaningful and extended has been going on a long time," he said during his energetic presentation. He said it is impossible to type contactees and many are reluctant to step forward for fear of being labeled as crazy.

Stevens said that in a majority of the cases he investigates there is no doubt in his mind as to the contactees' sincerity. Most of those who do make their experiences public are threatened and harassed according to Stevens.

Much like the hero in the old T.V. show "The Invaders," contactees are alone in their quest for explanations about alien visits. None of the contactees that Stevens spoke of attended the two-day symposium sponsored by the Tranlor Foundation, a non-profit

research foundation.

Stevens is best known for his investigation of the recent case of Edward Meier, a Swiss who has reported numerous sightings and contacts with extra-terrestrials. Meier has been having on-going contacts since 1975 around his home town of Winterthur.

The case drew world wide attention and many investigators have worked with the reportedly soft-spoken Meier. Meier has taken by far the most detailed photographs and films known to investigators, Stevens said.

The extra-terrestrials, described as being much like us, reportedly told Meier they have been watching mankind for some time and that mankind is going through a critical stage of technological evolution.

These beings have told Meier they are cosmonauts from the Pleiades. The results of Stevens investigations are chronicled in the recently published

book "UFO...Contact From The Pleiades."

Astronomers have been very critical of the Pleiadean contact case because they believe the star formation to be too young to contain life-supporting solar systems.

On Sunday parapsychologist Lawrence Kennedy lectured on the connection between ancient civilizations and extra-terrestrial contacts. He believes pyramids are an energy source inspired by contacts with aliens. Kennedy, a teacher of psychokinetics, said Americans should be more concerned with studying the field of "mind over matter."

Russians have done extensive studies of the subject and are "way ahead of us," he said. They use psychokinetic powers to affect our weather patterns and to communicate diseases to us, Lawrence said.

The two-day symposium was slow paced. During the intermissions the lights were kept low and eerie music was played over the sound system, turning the vast auditorium into a vast space vessel.

A few people walked around wearing pyramid hats, claiming they need only hail the energy the rest of us need.

Admission for the two-day session was \$12.50 a head in the entrance lobby. UFO T-shirts were on sale for \$10.50 and books ranging in price from \$10.50 on up. The prices were definitely futuristic.

Noticeably missing from the schedule of speakers were representatives from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in San Jose or astronomers from U.C. Berkeley, reputed to be one of the best astronomy schools in the country.

report on the incident with a government agency based in Washington state.

Meanwhile, a dispatcher at the Victorville Sheriff's Substation said there had only been one report of a Sunday evening event, a report of a "very bright star" from a Lucerne Valley woman. The dispatcher said deputies have observed the star four to five nights in a row and have not seen any change in appearance, though they conceded it was in fact very bright.

"It looks like Venus except it looks almost out of position," she said.

At George AFB, Sgt. Gilbert Brisson said he hasn't received any reports of UFO sightings in recent

days, and the office of the Air Force secretary in Los Angeles also reported no rash of reports in this area.

"We get one once in a while, but that's normal," said Chet Justice, an Air Force spokesman.

"We seem to get a lot whenever there's a movie release like 'Close Encounters.' It seems like we get reports wherever it's playing, but there aren't any discernible trends in that area."

Justice added that Air Force policy on UFO sightings has changed, so that they now don't keep statistical records of reports. Rather, each case is referred to local law enforcement officers.

SUN-STAR, Merced, CA - Aug. 25, 1980

# UFO over Fallbrook?

**ENTERPRISE REPORT**  
Thirteen-year-old Michael Saunders was watching television Monday night at 9:30 p.m. when he heard what he later described as a whistling, whirring sound over his grandmother's house on E. Porter.

Racing outside he watched in fascination as a triangle of lights darted above the house and the Santa Margarita River for 10 minutes before disappearing out over the ocean.

It seems Fallbrook might have been visited by an unidentified flying object.

Michael described the object as sounding like a bomb dropping and louder than the TV turned up half way. He described it as being a triangle of two red lights and one blue light but smaller than an airplane.

**BACK AND FORTH**  
He said it travelled slow at first and then sped up, going in straight lines back and forth across the sky.

"I don't know what it was," said Michael. "It might have been an airplane but it didn't sound like one."

His dog Flame hid behind a chair when he heard the noise and his other dog Kelly started whining.

If Michael has a problem with his story it's getting someone to take it seriously. When he ran upstairs to tell his grandmother, Helen Smith, about what he saw, she thought he was exaggerating.

"Lock the doors," she said facetiously. "I don't want to tell your mother you were taken away in a space ship."

But before anyone concluded that there wasn't a UFO in Fallbrook Monday night, another person also reported the mysterious lights.

The Enterprise received a call Tuesday morning from a well-known professional man in Fallbrook, requesting anonymity, who confirmed the UFO sighting.

He was in bed at his Alvarado Street home at about 9:30 p.m. when he heard whirring and humming noises coming from outside.

Leaving the bedroom and looking outside, he saw a triangle of lights, which turned from white to green to blue, circling north and hovering over the Santa Margarita River for about 10 minutes.

The witness, an avid photographer, said he is kicking himself for not having film in his camera at the time.

And at the same time Michael was watching the UFO his grandmother heard a caller to KFMB radio say he was watching a UFO in North San Diego County.

The base is currently holding maneuvers but according to base spokesman R.F. Mescall, the maneuvers were being held near the ocean and not near Fallbrook.

**NO CALLS**  
At the UFO Education Center in Valley Center, Thomas Heiman said there

hadn't been any calls Monday or Tuesday of UFO sightings in Fallbrook. He said the described noise did not sound like a typical airplane and that the sighting was interesting but that he couldn't speculate on what the lights were.

Heiman said that there was an unusual UFO sighting by five men on Palomar Mountain July 31 at 3 a.m. They saw a row of intense red and white lights 20 to 30 feet in length hovering 100 yards above the ground. The five men watched the UFO for two hours.

The sheriff's department and the fire department reported no calls about UFOs Monday night.

DAILY PRESS, Victorville, CA  
Aug. 31, 1980 CR: L. Whitehurst

**UFO 'fever' hits following alleged Apple Valley sighting**  
By DOUG JOHNSON  
Daily Press Staff Writer

**HESPERIA** — An alleged UFO sighting reported in Wednesday's Daily Press has been followed by other reports of similar sightings.

Darla Henderson of Hesperia says she observed a UFO through her kitchen window Thursday at approximately 4:48 a.m. She said she woke up her husband, and they both watched it through binoculars for about 20 minutes.

Lake Brian DuPont, who reported seeing the UFO Sunday at about 3:30 a.m., she said the light was bordered at its base by a series of bright red lights. As in the earlier case, she said the object was moving toward the Apple Valley dump.

"We know it couldn't be a star. It moved

just a little bit and at one time disappeared and then came back," she said.

Henderson was up to give her baby daughter Laura a bottle when she saw the glow outside. She grabbed her camera and took a series of pictures, but the film hasn't been developed yet.

"I had read about the flying object over there in the paper," she said. "And it was exactly like the other guy described it. We've always believed in UFO's, and there has to be other beings out there. It was really fantastic watching that thing."

Henderson said she called the sheriff's office, and said a dispatcher confirmed that it was a "flying object." Contacted by the Daily Press, the dispatcher said only a low-flying airplane had been sighted.

Margaret Thorngate of Hesperia says she

saw something similar to the unidentified flying object described by Brian DuPont at about 11 p.m. Tuesday. She said this UFO was likewise very bright, hovered a while, then darted away. She said it didn't look at all like an airplane.

"I pulled open the blinds and it was hanging over the town, shining right toward me," she said.

But by the time her husband came outside to look at it, she said, it was gone.

Thorngate recalled a similar rash of UFO sightings was reported when she lived in Wrightwood. "I saw it too," she said. "It would sort of hang over the hills and then disappear."

"This startled me Sunday night because it was the same thing, and I hadn't seen anything like it since then."

"I wear glasses and I look into the sky and everything looks the same. But when I look my glasses off, this one light seemed to stand out. It was different, that's all."

Donna Richings, who lives on Quinault Road in Apple Valley, reports seeing a similar object in the early morning hours not quite a year ago.

Richings said she and her husband observed a UFO for several nights in a row. She described it as a saucer-shaped object with a silver dome on top, red flashing lights around the base and three white spotlights flashing into space and down onto the valley.

"I was up and happened to see something really strange. I didn't pay it any mind, and then I looked back at it and I didn't believe what I saw. I woke up my husband, and he doesn't believe in UFO's, and now, having

observed the thing, he does have doubts now, but still."

"The first two nights, we just thought, this is strange. We called the sheriff's office and the lady dispatcher thought I was on booze or something and said, 'Put the bottle down and go to bed, and the (air force) base said they had no reports of it.'"

The Richings said they then pulled out the binoculars and, like DuPont, watched the saucer hovering over the foothills above the Apple Valley dump, she said.

"We watched it and watched it, and it would change its formation in the sky and the lights would go outward into the sky and then it would come back. It wasn't a helicopter, and it wasn't any form of weather balloon."

"My husband is a fireman and he's familiar with these different things."

RECORD COURIER, Kent/Ravenna, OH - Sept. 11, 1980

## Vandals score hole-in-one

**Ch. J. Cook**  
Possibly needing a better chance to make a hole-in-one, vandals blew a hole in the number 2 green at the Oak Grove Golf Course, 14901 Germannchurh Road, Atwater, Wednesday night, Portage County Sheriff's deputies reported.

Deputies said golfers on the first green said they heard an explosion that sounded like a shotgun blast at about 7 p.m.

When they arrived at the second green, they heard the sound of giggling from behind an area of brush, deputies said.

Deputies said the site looked as if an explosive ordinance had been pressed into the ground and ignited. Deputies have no suspects.

Deputies said they also received a report of an unidentified flying object from Daniel L. Desko, 23, of 682 W. Lake St., Ravenna, and Andrew Cleveland, 29, of Stow.

Desko and Cleveland said they first spotted the UFO, described with red, flashing lights and surrounded by a green haze, at the Midway Drive-In on Ohio 59 at about 9 p.m. Wednesday.

They followed it east to Newton Falls Road and then to Garrett Road where the UFO headed north and hovered in the area for about 30 minutes, according to the report.

The two men said they stayed with the object until about 1 a.m. before going to the sheriff's department to make a report.

## Sight Flying Object Near Armstrong Creek

**By Les Starch**  
Armstrong Creek—Three persons reported seeing an unidentified flying object in the skies in northwestern Marinette county Wednesday night, Sept. 10.

Mrs. Irene Eder, who lives year around on the South Hilbert Loop road, a mile east of Highway 101, said: "I saw this round ball of light shining on the blacktop as I was going for a walk. The light came down through the trees and then went up and away."

Mrs. Eder made the sighting about 9:30 p.m. The Eders live five miles north of Armstrong Creek.

At the same time Mrs. Eder's husband, George, reported he saw the unidentified flying object while he was driving east on highway 8 between Cavour

and Armstrong Creek, about 10 miles west of his home. "I saw this bright light, like lightning," said Eder. "I know it wasn't an airplane or helicopter as I worked for Swissair."

Another person, Gary Honeybuss, traveling from Nome, Alaska, saw the object as he was also on highway 8 between Cavour and Armstrong Creek. Honeybuss, 33, stated "I was scared so I shimmied up a tree. The thing was about two feet around, like an oversize softball, with flame colored light flashing back and forth at tree top level. I've seen a lot of things but I never saw anything like that."

Eder reported the sighting of the object in the sky to authorities at Sawyer Air Force Base near Marquette, Mich., and to county officials

RECORD-SEARCHLIGHT, Redding, CA - Sept. 12, 1980

## Mystery lights over Lewiston

Although there are many reported sightings of objects in the sky over Northern California, some go unreported because of a combination of circumstances.

Such was the case last May with Bob Robison and Dan Rhoads.

The men and their families were on Trinity Lake for a weekend houseboat outing when the houseboat broke down.

It was between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. when Rhoads, a U.S. Postal Service employee in Redding, spotted something in the sky over Lewiston.

"It looked like a satellite," Rhoads said, but then it was joined by another object. The two began making what he described were "screwy movements."

"They'd move, stop, move, stop. They weren't moving straight."

Rhoads called to the others, including Robison, an electrician with the U.S. Department of Power and Water Resources.

"They looked like they were flying in formation," Robison said. "They were three to four times the size of a star and yellow instead of white."

The two objects were moving

toward the northwest over Trinity Lake, Rhoads said, when they suddenly accelerated to a terrific speed and disappeared.

Robison, who flew in the Navy for four years, said, "I've never seen anything move that fast."

They both said there was no sound.

The men didn't seem overly impressed with their sighting, continuing their houseboat trip after repairs were made. They didn't notify authorities.

"We saw something," Rhoads said, "I don't know what it was."

## L. Macungie man sees UFO for 2 hours; he's hoping for second close encounter

By RANDY KRAFT  
Of the Call-Chronicle

Albert Trumbauer Jr. has been blessed — and cursed — to see something most of us may never see.

Trumbauer believes he's seen a UFO.

He says he recently spent more than two hours watching a large flying saucer hover not far from Route 100 west of Macungie. Now he's just hoping it will come back.

What he observed is considered an unusual blessing by UFO buffs, because Trumbauer got much more than a fleeting glimpse at the object.

And the people who investigate such things report the same UFO may have been seen on two occasions in northwestern Ohio within a week of Trumbauer's encounter.

But his experience is also a curse, because he can't find anyone else around here who saw it. And he can't even prove he saw it.

On Aug. 15, the 36-year-old Lower Macungie Township resident was working the graveyard shift at the Dallas and Mavis Forwarding Company, where he's employed as a part-time security guard.

The facility is located on Shoeneck Road in the township, just off Route 100 near Mack's Macungie plant.

At 3:50 a.m., as he was making his rounds among the new Mack Trucks awaiting shipment outside the building, Trumbauer saw what he thought was a plane. He could make out its lights moving slowly toward him from the east, at a low altitude.

But when it got about a quarter mile away from where he was standing, it stopped in mid-air — and stayed stopped.

A red light blinked irregularly on the top of the object. A strip of square green lights rotated on the lower part of the body. "They looked like plane windows," said Trumbauer.

He said the UFO glowed softly. But occasionally the amount of light would intensify, getting very bright, and he could make out the shape of the object.

It looked like a hamburger in a bun, or like an upside down coffee cup setting on a right-side-up saucer. The band of turning green lights was along the lip of the saucer.

Trumbauer said the glow was like a halo — like on a picture of Jesus in church. "The varying intensity made him think the object was generating power."

He said it made absolutely no sound. He guesses the UFO was at least 50 or 70 feet long. It hovered high above a tree line between the Mack plant and the company he was guarding.

Only fields separate the properties. The area is fairly isolated, with only four or five homes nearby.

Trumbauer said he was more curious than scared, though later he admitted, "It gives you a strange feeling when you're by yourself with no one else around."

He kept watching the object to see what happened. But nothing happened. It just remained silently hanging in the sky.

"As long as it stayed up in the sky I felt okay," said Trumbauer. "I was far enough away that it didn't bother me. I felt safe. But if it would have touched down, I would have backed into the building, and just peeked."

After watching for 30 minutes, he called the state police station near Fogelsville to see if anyone else reported the UFO.

He said police told him they did get another report, from someone in New Smithville. He said the police told him they saw it too, but added, "There's nothing we can do about it." He said police didn't send anyone out to where he was for another look.

Trumbauer said he also called the newspaper and A-B-E Airport, but got no answers.

He considered calling his wife, but didn't want to wake her in the middle of the night.

Since he was on duty alone, Trumbauer made no attempt to leave the property for a closer look at the floating saucer.

Finally, after more than two hours, the object moved. Trumbauer said the ascent began at 6 a.m., as the sky was getting light. About every 10 minutes it would climb higher, going soundlessly straight up while remaining in a horizontal position.

"It was just like it didn't want anyone to see it," said Trumbauer.

He said the object was silver in the daylight. It shrank to the size of a chrome golf ball, then a pencil dot. By 6:30 a.m., it was gone.

Trumbauer told his replacement what he had witnessed when his shift was over at 8 a.m. "He just laughed, and said watch too much TV," he said. "Another guy winked at me and smiled. Maybe he figures I'm touched."

Trumbauer does not seem touched. He does seem certain that he saw something strange, but he's not defensive or pushy about it.

He said most people believe him when he tells them what he saw, and nobody's actually accused him of making it up. "Anybody can give me a lie detector test," said Trumbauer. "I'll swear to it. I never saw anything like it before. But if anybody ever tells me they saw something like this I'll believe them. Because I saw it too."

The morning of Trumbauer's sighting, reporter Al Raber of radio station

WKAP made a routine call to state police for news. They provided him with no names, but said they had three calls about a UFO during the night. Someone called from New Smithville, and someone called from Macungie. One of the people called twice.

Trumbauer said he only called police once. He'd love to know the name of the New Smithville caller.

Repeated checks with state police last week turned up no names, no one who talked to people who saw UFOs on Aug. 15, and no reports filed about such sightings.

"This is the first I heard of it," said a sergeant in charge of the Fogelsville office.

John Johnson, the Federal Aviation Administration's control tower chief at A-B-E Airport, said he also hadn't heard about any sightings. He said if his staff had spotted a UFO, it would have been recorded in the control tower's log. "And if someone would have called us, I would have gotten a note about it," said Johnson.

Macungie police have no reports of any sightings.

A spokesman for Mack Trucks said no one noticed anything unusual around the Macungie plant that night. The Mack helicopter didn't land there. And, for that matter, there were no power cutoffs or reductions at the plant.

The UFO was near a power line and substation serving the plant. There are reports that UFOs drain electricity from such facilities. But Trumbauer doesn't think the object he saw was that close to the Mack plant.

Local state police do have several phone numbers for the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research, a private organization based in Westmoreland County which investigates sightings statewide. Police usually report such incidents to the center, or at least give the phone numbers to those who saw the objects.

A spokesman for the research center said it has received no recent reports of sightings in this part of the state.

Diane Enion, a volunteer investigator for the center, said it usually can explain at least 90 percent of the things people think are UFOs.

(An unrelated and unreported local example of mistaken identity occurred later this month, when at least three people in Vera Cruz saw a bright zigzagging light heading northeast about 9 p.m. Aug. 21. It turned out to be someone flying a "Jolly Green Giant" kite with an experimental mercury light attached to it.)

After hearing a description of Trumbauer's sighting, Mrs. Enion eliminated kites, balloons, aircraft, planets, stars or constellations.

"This fits the category of unknown," she said. "I'm not saying it can't be identified. I'm just saying it doesn't fit anything I can think of right now."

She said the description is similar to those of other UFOs which have been reported. "We've had reports of objects described as flying hamburgers with lights in the middle."

She said the silence and size of the object Trumbauer saw also are not unusual. "We've had them described as being the size of a football stadium."

She said what is unusual is that the object stayed in one spot for so long. "UFOs normally don't stay in one place for a long period, if they hover at all," said Mrs. Enion. "But we can't figure anything out about them. We can't establish a pattern on them. They're all so different."

In cases like this, she said, her organization "can't prove that someone's not telling the truth."

Sightings which are incredibly similar to Trumbauer's UFO were reported in Ohio to the Center for UFO Studies, which is based in Evanston, Ill.

Mrs. Enion indicated that private organization, one of several in the nation investigating UFOs, is the largest, best-financed and best-staffed.

John P. Timmerman, chairman of that organization's board of directors, said he personally investigated the Ohio sightings.

One was at 1:15 a.m. Aug. 17 — less than two days after Trumbauer saw the UFO. Timmerman said two security guards and a nightworker at a Lima, Ohio, plant saw a large luminous object in the sky.

He said they couldn't provide him with dimensions or a shape because it was so bright that one guy thought his eyes were burned. "They all swear something happened," said Timmerman.

On Aug. 22 — one week after Trumbauer's sighting — a woman and her son were driving at night on Interstate 75, about 35 miles from Lima in northwestern Ohio.

Timmerman said they saw an object hanging in the air about 50 feet from the side of the highway. "They told me the bottom of it was a mass of white lights," he said. "And it had a red light on top, and a band of green lights moving on the side."

Timmerman said "there's a great possibility" Trumbauer and the Ohio residents all saw the same "vehicle."

He noted: "Sometimes when you interrogate two people separately about the same object, you'd swear they were in different parts of the world."

Timmerman also said it is unusual for a UFO to hover long, but that the shape and light pattern of what Trumbauer saw is not unusual.

He said it is unusual for police to not respond to a call about a UFO. He said he's never seen one, "but if I had a chance to see one I'd sure get out of bed to do it."



Illustration by KEN RANIERE

Albert Trumbauer's hoping someone will see a UFO like this

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - Sept. 29, 1980

Ch. T. Archer via E. Schaffner

## Strange Lights Chased By Pickaway Deputies

Dispatch State Service

CIRCLEVILLE, Ohio — Pickaway County Sheriff's deputies chased a reported UFO across the county for an hour Monday morning to the Pickaway-Fairfield County line, a spokesman for the department said.

The spokesman said he received a call around 4 a.m. from a man who asked if the sheriff's department could identify something in the sky near his property, about six miles south of Harrisburg.

A PATROL CAR was sent to the area where patrolmen said they spotted a "bright white light, with smaller red and blue lights."

The deputies followed it southeast to the county line.

A spokesman for the Fairfield

County Sheriff's Department said they were unable to locate the object.

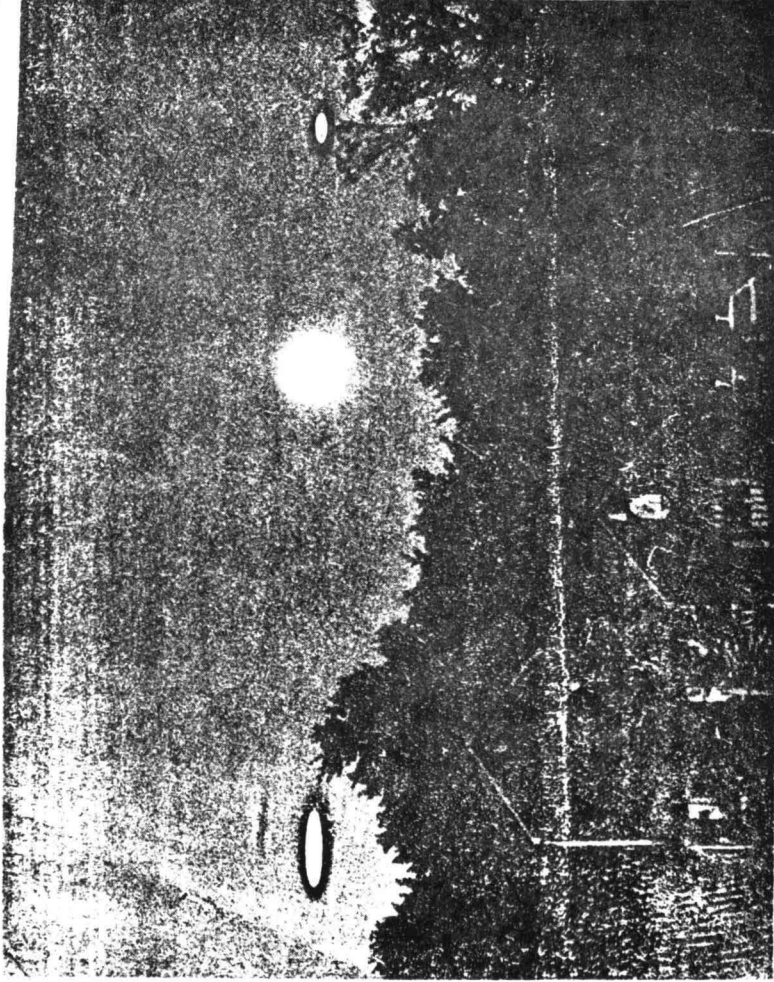
Rickenbacher Air National Guard Base reportedly had the object on radar and thought it was a helicopter or a small airplane.

The sheriff's department spokesman said the object was moving too slow to be either a plane or a helicopter, saying "it took an hour just to get out of the county."

MT. STERLING Assistant Police Chief Bob Roy also saw the object and said he thinks it was a weather balloon.

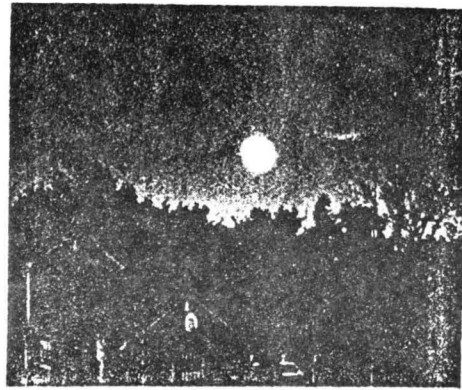
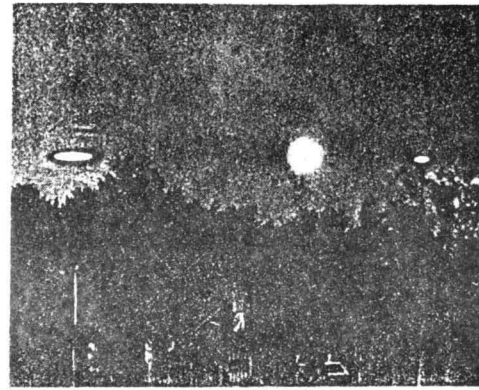
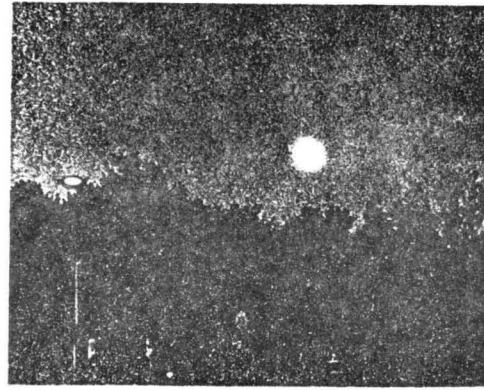
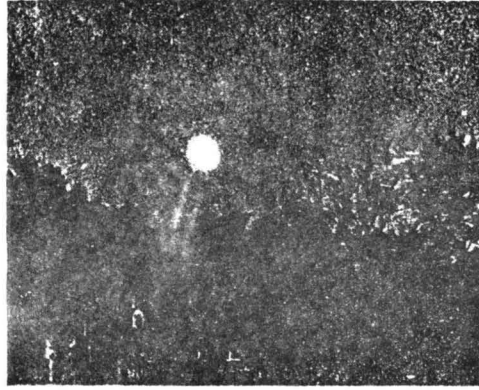
Roy said there were no moving lights on the object. According to Roy, weather balloons are equipped with navigation lights so they can be spotted by other aircraft.

# Look up in the sky, it's...



## A close encounter?

This photograph was taken by South Brunswick photographer Robert Vena July 27 on Sunshine Court. What is in the photograph? Mr. Vena is not sure.



A CLOSE encounter, a flaw on the film or ...? South Brunswick photographer Robert Vena was taking photographs of a full moon July 27 on Sunshine Court. In the first and last photographs, only the moon is apparent, but in the second photograph, a small object is noted (left, center), while in the third photograph, two objects are apparent. As to what the objects are, "I can't really give an honest answer," said Mr. Vena. "I didn't see anything with my eye." Mr. Vena had focused his camera and it was motor-driven. So, he was not looking through the lens when the photographs were taken. He first noticed the objects after developing the film.

Was it similar to a close encounter of the second kind, seeing an unidentified object (UFO) but not making contact with it?

Robert Vena, 6 Markus Drive, is not sure.

"I can't really give you an honest answer," said Mr. Vena. "I didn't see anything with my eye."

**BUT THE** camera never blinks.

A professional photographer whose photographs have appeared in the Central Post, Mr. Vena planned to take photographs of the full moon "only if the weather permitted," he said.

July 27 was a clear night.

Around sunset, according to Mr. Vena he set up his camera equipment on Sunshine Court, between Henderson Road and Finnegan Lane.

Using Kodak Tri-X ASA 400 film, he placed his 35mm Nikon camera with 135 telephoto lens attached on a tripod.

With the setting sun behind him and the full moon in front, Mr. Vena prepared to take his photographs.

Mr. Vena was bracketing, a photography technique where the photographer shoots the same scene at different exposures.

Since the camera was focused and the film being advanced automatically on motor-drive, he was not looking through the lens. All he was doing was changing the camera's F-stop to create the different exposures.

Very little time elapsed between shots, said Mr. Vena. He said the film advanced, he bracketed and took a picture.

"The amount (of time) to change the aperture is the only time I wasted," said Mr. Vena.

He did not notice anything unusual and left after taking six or seven shots.

**IT WAS NOT** until he developed the film that his discovery was made.

On one frame of the negatives, not only did the full moon appear but also another object. On the next photograph, there are two objects besides the full moon. The photographs immediately before and after only show the full moon.

"I was astounded," said Mr. Vena. "They weren't on the rest of the roll."

Mr. Vena said he talked to another photographer and described to him over the telephone what he found on his film. The photographer who has never seen the negatives or prints said it may have been caused by a flaw in the film.

He also contacted Jim Fillow, Middlesex County resident who has been affiliated with the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization. He showed the negatives to Mr. Fillow, said Mr. Vena.

The UFO investigator, according to Mr. Vena, said the objects resemble what others have reported seeing.

"It's a very common type of UFO sighting," said Mr. Vena.

But he also said Mr. Fillow's "conclusion was inconclusive."

The Central Post tried unsuccessfully to reach Mr. Fillow.

**IF THE INCIDENT** was a close encounter, it may not have been Mr. Vena's first.

On Feb. 10, 1979, Mr. Vena and his family reported seeing a UFO near the Flagpost Inn on Route 1. They said the object, with a dome and red, green and blue lights, moved slowly at treetop level and seemed to land behind the Flagpost.

"We really saw something unusual," Mr. Vena was quoted at the time, "but no one takes us seriously. We're ordinary people, not publicity seekers. It wasn't a plane or conventional aircraft. I know what those look like."

"If someone is playing around, people should know about it," said Mr. Vena's wife after the 1979 incident. "I know I saw something, and I'd like to know what it was."

But both reports remain a mystery.

"IF I COULD add a comment," said Mr. Vena. "I think we're living in a hot area down here. Lot of space for (objects) to fly around here."

## Lie Detector Fails To Shake UFO Witnesses

From Associated Press Reports

ANDERSON, S.C. — People who believe they saw a flying saucer over Anderson Sept. 11 have passed lie detector tests given by volunteer investigators.

The UFO was first sighted by Jerry McAlister of Anderson County. He telephoned the sheriff's department, and the object was also seen at a great distance by deputies.

Jim Fillow and Fete Mazzola of the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, a New York City-based nonprofit group, flew to Anderson to investigate.

Their report said: "Those who say they saw the disc-shaped object were given lie detector tests and were found to be telling the truth."

McAlister and his wife, who saw the UFO up close, have suffered conjunctivitis, an eye inflammation, since viewing the brightly lit object.

Geiger counter readings showed "an increase in radiation" over the area where the UFO was observed.

The report said the sighting cannot be dismissed as a hoax, aircraft, weather balloon or mirage.

"The only possibilities that remain are one, the object was some sort of military or experimental research aircraft; two, the object was indeed a UFO," it added.

McAlister described the UFO as about 70 feet long, two stories high and covered with windows and lights.



LELAND FREY MILLER (right) and son-in-law, Bryce Updike, examine the patch of corn on the Freymiller farm that was mysteriously destroyed. Leaves on corn surrounding the patch turned red.

## Did UFO land in Leland's cornfield?

Leland Freymiller of rural Woodman doesn't want to believe that a UFO landed in his cornfield. "People would think I'm crazy," he says. But he wishes someone would explain what had happened to a small section of his field, where the corn was mutilated as though by some outside force and the plants around it turned bright crimson.

Freymiller and his son-in-law, Ryan Reynolds, first noticed the weird phenomenon at the end of July, when the corn was tasseling out. They came upon an elliptical patch about 18 feet long and five feet wide extending across a tractor lane. The corn within that patch was twisted and broken.

Leland said he also noticed two

round impressions in the earth, each about a foot in diameter.

"I didn't want to make a big thing of it then," he says, "but I've read about UFOs (unidentified flying objects) for 15 or 20 years and this intrigued me. It just didn't look natural."

Freymiller said he ruled out lightning. There were no storms at that time. And it couldn't have been vandals. The patch is in a remote area of the farm that can be easily reached only with a tractor.

When other strange things began to happen to the stricken corn, Freymiller began calling others in to have a look. The stalks that were mutilated appeared to be deteriorating within

a few weeks in a manner that would normally take months. Stranger yet, leaves of the standing corn around the patch began to turn red.

"I've never seen red leaves on corn before," says Leland. "They always turn brown." All of the rest of the corn in the big field is bright green.

"People who've seen it tell me I'd better have experts who know about such things look at it," Freymiller says. "Something happened to that corn, all right, but I don't know what it was."

Although Freymiller owns the farm, it is operated by another son-in-law, Bryce Updike.

CHRONOTYPE, Rice Lake, WI - Sept. 17, 1980 CR: R. Heiden

## UFO Takes Look at City, Then Leaves

Evidently, the occupants of an unidentified flying object spotted last Wednesday hovering over Rice Lake did not appreciate what they saw and continued on their way.

No further sightings have been reported since last Wednesday evening, when a group of kids turned in a UFO report to city police around 9 p.m. Wednesday.

Others who reported seeing the strange lights in the night sky were Mark and Michelle Gonske. According to Mark, he and his wife had just returned home, when Michelle saw two bright lights hovering over the city.

As the Gonskes watched, the brilliant white lights, which were blinking rapidly, moved over their home and continued to the northwest.

Mark said at first he was sure the lights were on an airplane or helicopter, but as the object came overhead, all that could be heard was a low hum such as that of a small electric motor.

THE CHRONICLE, Fairfield, NJ - Sept. 24, 1980

## Teens Spot U.F.O. In West Drive Area

Fairfield — A group of young township residents experienced a "close encounter of the first kind" when they spotted and reported several unidentified flying objects on the evening of Friday, September 12.

The group, ranging in age from 10 to 14 (most are 13 years old) included Robert Fitzpatrick, Charles Acocella, Jeanine Perillo, Dena De Fazio, Robert Safer, Victor Torsiello and Peter Salvato. The sightings took place at the Salvatos' home on West Drive sometime between 9:30 and 10 p.m. and were reported at about 10:15 p.m. to Fairfield police.

The sightings began as the group, seated on a back porch, noticed an "orange star" in the western skies. The "star" was then joined by five similar objects, approaching from two directions, until all six formed a straight-line formation.

The formation approached the West Drive area at a speed "a little faster than an airplane," according to Robert Fitzpatrick. While most of the objects appeared no larger than before, the

original U.F.O. descended to an estimated altitude of 100-200 feet nearly directly above the Salvatos' home.

At this distance the object appeared to be of a size similar to a dish held at arm's length. Dull orange in color, the object spun on its axis "like a globe," Charles Acocella said. It did not light up the area beneath it but emitted "a low, rumbling sound" clearly audible to the witnesses.

At a point just east of the house the objects executed a half-turn maneuver, the larger U.F.O. rising back into formation, then the objects disappeared beyond the treetops of a Hollywood Avenue field.

The entire sighting lasted only 4 or 5 minutes, the group said. They were alone at the time of the sighting; a number of friends who had just left the group were no longer within hailing distance when the "orange stars" were spotted.

Anyone else who may have witnessed aerial phenomena on the evening of Friday, September 12 is asked to call Garry Herzog at The Chronicle, 227-1428. Names will be withheld upon request.

DAILY MAIL, Anderson, SC - Sept. 16, 1980

## 'Whirling lights high in the sky'

By Louise Ervin  
Staff writer

On the heels of Thursday's UFO sighting in the Broadway Lake community, two more unidentified objects were seen by area residents last night.

This time Jerry McAlister of Parnell Road, who says he witnessed a flying saucer hover over his back yard last week, wasn't the first to see the two objects. But he was the first person everyone called after they saw them between the hours of 10 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. Each caller told McAlister: "We figured you'd be watching."

"By midnight our back yard was full of people, including two cars of deputies. Everybody was straining their eye toward two whirling objects high up over the field back of our house," he said.

McAlister said Mrs. Ruby McGee of the Due West Highway was the first to call the McAlisters around 11 p.m.

She asked if they were looking at the UFOs whirling.

"We were just sitting around talking when she called and immediately we ran out in the back yard. And sure enough there were these two bright whirling lights high up in the sky — it was unreal. Then other people called, some of them we knew and others we didn't," McAlister said.

Some of those who called were Kelly Malone of Belton, Joanne Dobbins of White Street and Wayne Mauldin of Belton.

Mauldin described the objects as bright lights that whirled in the same spot while shooting off red, green and blue colors.

"It wasn't an aircraft because they hung up there in the same spot — if they moved at all it was up — very slowly."

Mauldin went to the McAlister home and was there when four second-shift deputies drove up in two patrol cars.

According to McAlister, Deputy Bobby Gambrell called the Greer Weather Station and was told that the only thing in the air at that time was seven planes flying in formation.

"But they told him that they had probably moved out of our view at that time," he said.

McAlister quoted one deputy as saying: "Well, if what we're seeing are planes, two of them have decided to stop, cause they're standing still right now."

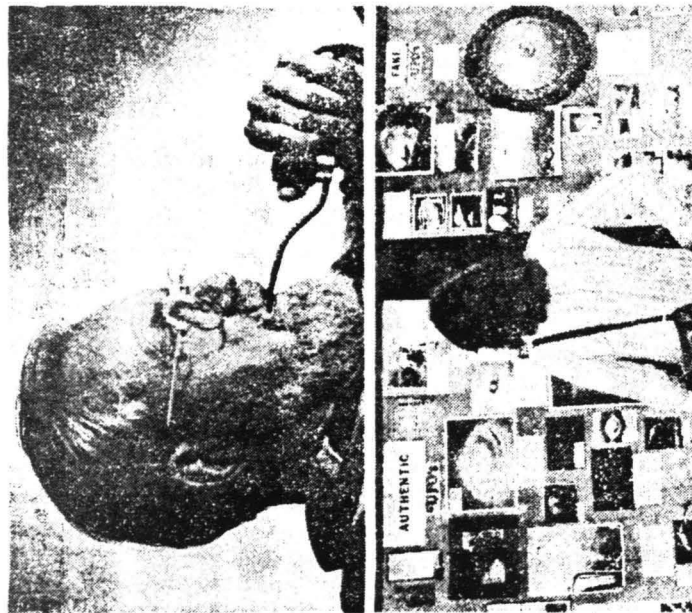
McAlister said a third deputy car arrived at his house after 1 a.m. and all they could say was: "Well, I'll be..."

Faye McAlister said a young boy who gave his name as Barry called from Sam's Curb Market on U.S. 29 to ask if he had seen the objects.

"When I told him we were looking at them, he got real excited and said he was gonna hurry home and try to get a better view from the pasture. He called back and asked me if I'd please tell his daddy that I'd seen the objects in the sky. I told him, but I don't think he believed me."

Ch: J. Brill & L. G.

By Margaret Coffroth  
Bee Staff Writer



Dr. J. Allen Hynek, above, says, "The phenomenon is real. We just can't explain it." He was talking about UFO's like those pictured at symposium.

SONORA — Athleen and Dick Nelson, their three children asleep in the back seat of their car, were driving a lonely stretch of highway near here when the bright light appeared in the late-night sky above their vehicle.

"It was really scary," Athleen said Saturday as she recalled the July 1978 incident. "There was not another car on the highway. It just kept hovering around the car, bouncing to the front, the back, the sides. It woke up the children. The strange light floating in the sky followed their car for some 45 minutes, they said. 'I just don't know what it was,' said Dick. 'It was just some object following us in the car.'"

When they reached their destination of Sonora they looked again and the light was gone.

Like the Cheshire Cat of Alice in Wonderland, UFOs — unidentified flying objects — seem to disappear as quickly as they appear. And just as inexplicably, a sighting of 10 minutes is considered lengthy.

Once treated as the hallucinations of drunken or mentally tilted minds, scientists are now being forced to seriously examine the enigmas because of persistent reports of UFO sightings by credible sources.

The Nelsons related their experience during an inter-view while attending a day-long symposium here dedicated to the UFO phenomenon. Their story was similar to others interviewed who said they too had seen something in the skies, but did not know what it was.

The conference, which featured noted speakers in the field, films and displays, attracted a curious, yet serious crowd. It was sponsored by the Mutual UFO Network, an organization interested in unraveling the mystery of the phenomenon. Conference promoters said they expected about 2,000 people to attend the evening session, which featured Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

Hynek, now director of the Center for UFO Studies in Illinois, served for 20 years as scientific consultant to the Air Force Project Blue Book, which investigated UFO sightings in the 1950s and 1960s. An astronomer, he has served on the faculties of Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University and currently is professor emeritus at Northwestern University in Illinois, having been chairman of the Department of Astronomy there.

"I don't want to be known as a UFO buff," Hynek said emphatically. "In 1949 (when he became affiliated with Project Blue Book), I thought it was a fad — a

way to relieve the tensions after the war. I was a skeptic. I thought it would pass."

But 30 years later, symposiums on the UFO enigma are becoming more commonplace, occurring in out-of-the-way places like Sonora and at the more venerable Smithsonian Institution, which recently hosted a similar affair.

"The phenomenon is real," Hynek said. "We just can't explain it."

The study of UFOs has attracted little scientific study until recently "because the subject was so ridiculed that no self-respecting scientist wanted to touch it," Hynek said. "It was considered the realm of kooks and crackpots."

But three things came into focus which convinced him and others to treat UFOs seriously:

- Persistent reports from around the world of unexplained objects in the skies. Today, 140 countries have such sightings on record.
- The witnesses themselves are more credible.
- In two-thirds of the reported sightings, there are at least two witnesses.

"People think UFOs are synonymous with visitors from outer space," Hynek said. "But there are so many holes in that," including the fantastic time it would take an extraterrestrial visitor to travel from the nearest star to Earth.

"Carl Jung (a Swiss psychologist and psychiatrist) wanted to characterize UFOs as projections from our collective unconscious," Hynek said. But, he added, the physical evidence — photographs, grass that was crushed or burned where a UFO had landed — suggested otherwise.

The fledgling research has not yet produced a scientific theory to explain UFOs, but Hynek has his conjectures.

"Maybe these are metaterrestrial vs. extraterrestrial," he said, meaning UFOs are very close, rather than from outer space. "Like a parallel reality, another dimension, and it's a breaking

through from one reality to another, (ours)."

It would be like a blind person suddenly achieving sight for a few seconds and being able to eliminate the world around him — a different reality from his normal state of life, Hynek explained.

"One could think this was all a mental experience, except for the physical evidence," such as one reported incident when a UFO observer fired a shotgun at the object and then saw and heard the bullet ricochet off the UFO's side.

But as light is both a wave and a particle, so the UFO phenomenon has both its physical and psychic aspects, Hynek said.

In reported cases of encounters of the third kind — people meeting aliens — "these people really believe it," he said. "They are not lying. It was very real to them. Yet there are no physical tracks."

Hynek said there have been several hundred cases of reported encounters with aliens. The alien most often described by witnesses is 3 to 5 feet tall, grayish skin, slightly longer arms and fingers, slight of build, no hair or external ears, large head and eyes, and wearing a tight-fitting, silvery suit.

"And in a great majority of these cases," the scientist said, "there is a period of amnesia during which the witnesses cannot account for the time."

Through regressive hypnosis, witnesses reveal similar tales: The alien apparently is conducting a medical examination on them. The manner is clinical, neither friendly nor mean. What's not known, Hynek said, is whether the commonality comes from prior suggestion from other reported experiences, or if it actually happened.

"I wish (the encounters) did not exist," he said. "It would make it easier to understand. But in science, you don't throw away data because you don't like it."

# U.F.O.'s — For Real Or Not?

They're at it again — those strange beings from who knows where.

News reports have been full of testimony by Anderson County residents during the past week who are seeing strange objects hovering in the sky. And evidently the course of the UFO(s) has been over this section of the county.

Jerry McAlister who lives near Broadway Lake was stunned early Thursday morning to see blinking lights from an extremely large saucer-shaped object above his backyard. And since that time he, and a number of people in Anderson County, have seen the brightly flashing UFO. Anderson County deputies witnessed the first sighting on Thursday, and after having read about McAlister's experience, many, many others including deputies, again spotted a whirling object in the skies late Monday evening.

It was discovered this week that these sightings may not have been just another one for the books. For one thing McAlister and his wife have shown indications of radiation burns since the sighting. At least that's what one investigator has determined. Jim Filkow, co-founder of the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, said a geiger counter

JOURNAL, Williamston, SC Sept. 18, 1980

made a small jump when placed near the McAlisters and that there was slight evidence of conjunctivitis in the McAlisters' eyes. Filkow said that is not unusual when witnessing a very bright light. Also, McAlister said his neck glands were swollen, although neither he nor his wife have been to a doctor.

What makes this particular UFO sighting so unusual is that many people in the area have seen the object, and descriptions of it are similar. Monday evening, Anderson's initial UFO spotter said his phone was ringing off the hook with calls from people who were seeing whirling objects with bright lights. Several persons in Belton claimed to have seen the UFO Monday, and McAlister said his yard was full of neighbors watching the spectacle in the midnight sky.

The sighters seem to be sure the object was not an airplane because it hovered in one place for a long period of time and when it did move, it went straight up.

In describing Thursday's UFO, McAlister said it was about 70 feet around, two stories high, with bright lights along the edges and shining from square windows in the center. The saucer also

made a shrieking, then purring noise, McAlister said. After hovering close to the ground for a short period of time it traveled upward where it could be seen at some distance for approximately two hours.

Weird happenings were occurring at about the same time period above Martha Lollis' home in the Cheddar community between Williamston and Belton. Mrs. Lollis spotted a "big bright light" at about 4:20 a.m. Thursday. Through her window the object could be seen moving slowly across the sky. Mrs. Lollis said she could tell nothing about the features except that the thing was shaped like a big round saucer with a whitish bright light. Denise Lollis, her 20 year-old daughter, also saw the UFO. Mrs. Lollis said it was too big to be a star and that she heard no noise.

"It was probably something someone sent up," she said. "I'm sure there's an explanation for it."

That may well be, but as is often the case in UFO sightings no reasonable explanation has been made. Nothing unusual was detected on radar at the Greenville-Spartanburg Jetport at the time of either of the sightings, and the mystery of the object remains.

At least two other persons, Claude Anderson, Jr. of Williamston, and Larry Garrett of Easley, also witnessed Thursday's UFO show.

The phenomenon is not a new one to this area of the state. In March of 1979 four teenage boys from Williamston, Todd Burris, Andy Norris, Eddie Durham and Freddie Jacks, reported spotting a saucer-shaped object about 300 feet in diameter with a red center light surrounded by a brilliant white light on River Drive. Two months prior to that Mrs. Ada Gilstrap said she saw a large churn shaped UFO flashing a variety of lights outside her mobile home on Route 3, Belton. Also, in January 1975, Janice Mullinax of Williamston reported seeing a bright, fast moving object zoom past her mobile home near Midway.

One thing is for sure with the latest of these reports. If any space travelers are trying to make an inconspicuous approach in Anderson County, they've blown their cover. Believers or not, it's safe to say the eyes of many local residents will be glancing either curiously, apprehensively, or expectantly upward this week for the first sign, however small, of those alien creatures in their flying machines.

GAZETTE, Texarkana, AR - Oct. 17, 1980 CR: B. Leet

## Sighting of UFO is reported

By JIM POWELL  
Of the Gazette Staff

"It looked like a clear rainbow and left two large trails behind it," Mrs. Deborah Parks, Texarkana, Ark., said Thursday morning shortly after she reported seeing a UFO near the Texarkana Airport.

Mrs. Parks said she was driving on U.S. Highway 67 near the Pantry, a convenience food store, when she first saw the UFO. "It was going straight up and kept getting bigger and bigger and was leaving large white lines behind it like the lines behind an airplane, only larger."

"I watched it as I turned off the highway and onto the old U.S. Highway 67 and kept watching it until I had driven several miles down the old highway. I've never seen anything like it."

Mrs. Davis said she first saw the UFO about 8:30 a.m.

"It looked like the clouds were going around it and then it finally went into the clouds. It was real clear but you could not see the clouds through it. My sister-in-law saw something like it about four months ago in the same area," she said.

Federal Aviation Agency officials at the Texarkana Airport said they did not monitor anything on their radar and didn't see anything from the control tower.

Mrs. Davis said two women, employees of General Telephone Company also saw the UFO. The women could not be reached for comment.



SUN MAIL, (City Unknown), Australia - June 22, 1980

# Murray ferry 'buzzed'

Flying saucers seem abnormally attracted to the meandering, sky-mirroring Murray River.

Since 1970, I have received dozens of reports of glowing disc-shaped objects emerging from or hovering above Australia's most important waterway.

Perhaps the most spectacular series of encounters occurred in 1974 near Morgan.

While 14 ferry passengers watched, amazed, a spacecraft the

size of a double-decker bus beamed a brilliant light on to the river's surface.

One woman aboard the ferry became hysterical and spent 48 hours in hospital.

The ferry buzzing occurred at the height of an unprecedented UFO flap in the area.

Many sightings, one of which occurred over Penfold's vineyard, were reported to the town's policeman, senior constable Brian Brealey.

In one particularly uncanny incident, a cigar-shaped craft appeared above a local

ambulance going to an accident.

The ambulance's engine and lights died.

Mr Kevin McNeill, one of Australia's foremost UFO investigators, told me: "The Morgan-Cadell ferry was buzzed several days later."

"Witnesses included the ferry's captain, Mr 'Aussie' Atkinson, said the first thing they saw was a light in the sky. It descended rapidly until it was visible as a bus-sized object about 60m upstream.

A brilliant blue light speared down from the craft.

Morgan, which is surrounded by lonely, uninhabited terrain, is only one of scores of Murray towns which have reported UFO activity.

Physicist Jacques Vallee wrote: "These mysterious objects are traditionally attracted, worldwide, to seas and rivers."

"Could it be that the chemical constituents of water provide UFOs with a source of power?"

CR: M. Price via L. Whitehurst

# UFOs prove too much for guard dog

By MERVYN DYKES

ALSATIANS can make good guard dogs — but not when they are buzzed by UFOs.

An Upper Hutt dog, which with its master watched a stream of lights moving overhead on Sunday night, bolted under a house and couldn't be coaxed out till 2pm yesterday.

Now, the Wellington-based New Zealand UFO Studies Centre is appealing for more information.

"There must be more witnesses," said director Dr Jan de Bock last night. "People should not feel shy about coming forward."

About 10.35pm a boy, 16, heard a noise which sounded like "someone getting into the chook house".

He looked out the window

and saw a peculiar green light in the sky. At first it looked like a star, but then it started to move, with a swarm of smaller, less distinct lights swirling around it.

Neighbours who came out with their dog all watched as three large lights moved swiftly from a south-easterly direction.

The first light was accompanied by 12 smaller ones, the second by five and the last by two.

Then, with a crackling noise like a welding torch, a final greenish-blue light flashed across the sky at tremendous speed.

The chickens thereupon set up an uproar and the dog raced under the house and refused to come out.

DOMINION, Auckland, New Zealand - July 29, 1980  
CR: R. Poole via W. Thompson

# The terror of a giant hand shake

A South Australian bookshop owner came close to nervous collapse when what seemed to be a "gigantic hand" clutched and shook her car.

Mrs Pat Hartley, of Murray Ave. Renmark, told me: "We live four miles out of town, among fruit blocks."

"While driving home from the shop at about 10 pm, I glimpsed a bright light moving toward me at great speed."

"Imagining it was a car, I pulled over to let it pass."

"But then, what seemed to be a gigantic hand grasped my car and shook it up and down."

"When the shaking stopped at last, and I got over my severe fit of trembling, I discovered that my car engine had stopped and the lights had gone out."

"I desperately looked around for some explanation for this extraordinary experience. "But the road was dark and unlit, and the incident, to this day, remains a complete mystery."

"The shaking and blacking out of lights and engine are symptoms of a classic UFO encounter. And as hundreds of overseas experiments are now proving, you may have experienced far more than you remember."

Under regression hypnosis, motorists who have consciously recalled nothing but blinding light and violence are remembering apparent contacts.

Some hypnotic subjects (among them the Pascagoula, Mississippi fishermen) have even described being levitated aboard the craft. You seem anxious to learn more about what happened. Hypnosis is well worth considering.

WILTSHIRE TIMES, Trowbridge, England  
Aug. 22, 1980

# Are Mystery Circles Made By UFOs?

Dear Sir: I should like to add a few extra comments to your intriguing story, "Mystery in the Cornfield." Similar "mysteries" have occurred in the Warminster-Westbury district before and in other parts of the world.

In every case, reeds and grass have been curiously flattened in what invariably seems to be clockwise fashion, blades swept smoothly into shallow depressions, no sign of any legs or wheels having gouged the soil beneath; simply these circles.

In the past those of us with inquiring enough minds to look further into this phenomenon have labelled these circles "nexis."

These nexis can only have been made from something landing and taking off from the sky. Helicopters, hovercraft, jump jets have been ruled out as so have mini whirlwinds.

The areas where this nest phenomenon has occurred are also areas of UFO activity. People have reported seeing strange aerial craft both in the sky, hovering and at ground level.

What other conclusions can be drawn other than that the two are related and that the mysterious depressions are nothing less than the remains of a UFO landing site?

KEN ROGERS, British UFO Society, 47 Belsize Square, London, N.W.3.

Dear Sir: The mystery circles in cornfields near Westbury White Horse (featured in a non-sensational fashion by your paper on Friday last), and possible association with the Warminster 'Thing' phenomenon, immediately evokes memories of an incident outlined in a past book of mine, 'The Flying Saucers' (Sphere paperback).

Full details appear therein of an outbreak of such mysterious circles at Star Hill (Middle Hill on O.S. maps), Norton Bavant, and at Mr Frank Brake's farm near Dilton Marsh, Westbury. A well-known American broadcaster, Bryce Bond, was among the excited witnesses of the former incident prior to the high-pitched humming sound that followed the sighting of several undoubted UFO lights carving a colourful pattern in the sky.

Also, your unbiased article gave the erroneous impression that UFOs made excursions in skies over Warminster area only until the late 1960s. On a fairly regular basis, such reports have reached me up to the present time—one from Clew Hill region at Corsley, only a fortnight ago, where a young couple saw what seemed to be a flying train carriage in the air over Whitebourne, windows brilliantly lit and huge to the gaze.

But these 'intruders' are not hostile, so if encountering them, be not afraid! That's my advice. ARTHUR SHUTTLEWOOD, 17 Portway, Warminster.

CR: B. Taylor via L. Whitehurst

# Theories on Alien Visits Examined

While scientists today use guinea pigs for their experiments, a documentary tonight explores the possibility that it is us who are the real guinea pigs.

"Look Out ... And Did These Feet" on TV-1 at 9 pm was made when the Ancient Astronauts Society held its world conference in Auckland last month, and features people who believe the Earth was visited by extraterrestrial beings in the distant past.

The programme will include extracts from the conference, plus a studio interview with Erik von Daniken, who has sold 45 million books on the subject. British electrical engineer George Sassoon, and the president of the society, Gene Phillips, who is an American corporate lawyer.

The director of the documentary, Mr Stephen La Hood, said some of the theories put forward in the programme sounded very far-fetched at first, but the depth of research made

them very persuasive afterwards.

He said the programme challenged many accepted religious and evolutionary beliefs, but came to no conclusions.

Mystical

Sassoon became interested in space visitors when he read the Jewish mystical book the Kabbalah, which traced the journey by Moses and the Israelites through the desert.

His interpretation of the writings is that extraterrestrial visitors gave Moses a nuclear-powered machine to make food in return for being able to genetically manipulate a generation of the Israelites as they wandered through the desert.

He says such visits account for the huge leap between apes and humans, which even Darwin could not explain in his theory of evolution.

Sassoon has reconstructed a model of what the food machine looked like, based on descriptions given in the Zohar, a section of the Kabbalah, and the Russians have already started developing such a nuclear-powered food machine.

Biblical

Von Daniken also reveals further evidence of genetic manipulation. He says huge buildings in Malta were either made by extraterrestrial giants or by genetically manipulated humans.

The programme will also include a discussion of former National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientist Josef Blumrich's theories about the biblical visit of "the gods" to Ezekiel.

Blumrich worked on America's space programme and by using Ezekiel's descriptions, reconstructed what the space craft looked like, and even came up with a revolutionary new type of wheel which can travel in any direction.

Blumrich ties this in with legends from the Hopi Indians of North America, who say they were visited by "Kachinas" who travelled above the ground in craft that ran off magnetic fields.

Blumrich believes the Hopis were transported from a sinking continent, north of New Zealand, to South America where they

built a city which is totally unrelated to the styles of any surrounding cultures.

Mr La Hood said one of the most interesting things to emerge from the conference was a small stone, found at a beach near the Waitakeres, which has a processed iron disc embedded in it.

The stone has been dated at more than 6 million years old, which is before homo sapiens developed.

The Ancient Astronauts Society believes Earth will be revisited when man has worked out why the visitors came in the first place.

HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand - Aug. 8, 1980 CR: R. Collins

EVENING NEWS, Bolton, England  
Aug. 5, 1980

# Man spots UFO over the fields

A STRANGE flying object moving over fields near Edgworth has been spotted by a local businessman out walking his dogs.

Mr Joe Wray, of Crowthorne Farm, Edgworth, says his elsatian dogs were startled by the object and he ran for cover. He spotted three large lights about 200 feet up in the air as he walked through fields off Crowthorne Road just before midnight on Sunday.

Mr Wray, who owns a Bolton furniture warehouse, said "The lights were very bright and there appeared to be smoke drifting upwards from them."

"I also got the impression that there was a large object of some type behind the lights. It was moving quite slowly and without a sound."

Mr Wray at first thought the three lights

were some type of firework, but when he saw them moving towards him he became very shaken and ducked down into the grass.

"It passed overhead then went out of my sight as it turned towards Quarleton Vale and went behind a hill. I got the idea it may have landed in that area."

However police at Darwen, who cover the Edgworth area, say no other reports of mystery objects have been received.

# Pilot blasts scientists over UFOs

NEW ZEALAND scientists were not interested in examining the television film of the now-famous "Kaikoura UFOs", before dismissing the film as sightings of squid boats, Venus or other natural phenomena.

This was revealed today by Captain Bill Startup, the pilot of the Safe Air Argosy which carried a television crew hired by Melbourne's Channel 10 on December 31, and filmed unidentified moving lights off the Kaikoura coast.

The film crew had been taken on because of a spate of UFO sightings in the area over the previous 10 days. Their film created a world impact, and prompted many theories.

An extensive investigation was made by the American National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena. In New Zealand, a Department of Scientific and Industrial Research scientist (Mr R Unwin) was quoted as saying last September that the film was "not inconsistent with the object being a squid boat".

The DSIR had said in February, 1979, that it analysed the Argosy's windows — but not the film — and concluded the window glass would have caused distortion on the film.

None of these explanations has convinced Captain Startup, who has now written a book "The Kaikoura UFOs" (Hodder and Stoughton) to detail the facts about the sightings.

So keen is he to get to the bottom of the affair that he says he has obtained an assurance from the Minister of Civil Aviation (Mr McLachlan) that all traffic control tapes will be retained until investigations are complete.

"In New Zealand the scientific investigation has not been very intensive, probably because the scientists have not studied the original material, as far as I know," said Captain Startup.

"If there was nothing worthwhile these Americans would not waste their time.

They would get to the nitty gritty quickly. But, in fact, they are giving it a lot of their time."

Individual frames of the film shot over Kaikoura have revealed bell-shaped objects, others which appear to have a fin attached, and a strange loop like a distorted figure of eight.

But Captain Startup was not able to see those shapes with the naked eye. "It was like a full moon, very well defined. It was brilliant white with a touch of orange. I have never seen anything like it."

He says it could not have been Venus, which he would have recognised and which would not have changed position with well-defined movements. Neither could it have been squid boat lights, or any other lights refracted through the air.

Meteorological conditions did not suit such refraction, he says.

Neither does any of the supposed explanations fully explain why there were definite returns on radar.

"At this stage, it is still unexplained," Captain Startup said.

## NEWPOST, Blythe Valley, England Aug. 21, 1980 Ch: B. Taylor via L. Whitehurst UFO sighted over Blyth

AN unidentified flying object has been sighted hovering over Blyth.

The UFO was spotted at about 9 p.m. on Monday above an old pit heap near Solingen Estate and according to eye-witnesses it hung there for five minutes before disappearing into the night.

Alan Cavaner, 18, of Shotton Avenue, Solingen Estate, thought he was seeing stars when he first spotted bright lights in the sky. But something about the light made him take a second look.

And he was so convinced he was witnessing a visit from another planet that he got eight other people to take a look.

As they were watching the "craft" it started to move towards the houses, and Alan said he saw a dome shape with two bright white lights on it as it passed overhead.

Alan says no one watching the object could work out what it was, but as it had hovered silently for so long they were convinced it couldn't be a conventional aircraft.

Alan never used to believe in UFOs but now he is a firm convert and will be keeping a closer lookout for fly-by-night happenings in future.

A spokesman for Newcastle Airport said that nothing out of the ordinary registered on their radar screens on Monday night, and no aircraft were in the area.

And RAF Boulmer said that although a helicopter would be capable of hovering overhead for sustained periods, none of their aircraft was out at that time.

## Strange sight in sky at night

IT TAKES a certain amount of courage for people who claim they have seen a Unidentified Flying Object to publicise their experience because they will surely be subjected to gentle ribbing at best and even outright ridicule by militant sceptics.

Often there is a logical explanation for what they saw even though they might not have realised it at the time. There again, on occasions these so-called UFO sightings defy explanation — and one day we may find that the story we scoffed was the biggest

happening of all time, a genuine Close Encounter of the Third Kind.

This week I have been talking to Mr. Leslie Frost, a 46-year-old engineer, his wife, Margaret, and their ten-year-old son, Anthony, who all witnessed a strange sight on Wednesday night last week as they went to the bottom of their long garden in Sidgate Road, Hopton, to fetch in the washing from the linen line.

Whatever it was, it left Mr. Frost badly shaken for three days by which time he decided he must talk about it other than to the police contacted by him that night.

### BRILLIANT

"It was like walking into the garden and seeing Yarmouth Pleasure Beach," he told me.

That was the impression he gained from the mass of brilliant lights — but this was out in the country, above a big stubble field.

It was a clear, moonlit night at 9.45 p.m. He said he saw above the field two huge "absolutely square" structures showing a pattern of red and white lights themselves as big as cars. There was hardly any noise, which he found unnerving.

According to Mrs Frost, "I saw them come across, like formation flying but too slow for planes and they couldn't have been helicopters." And Anthony added, "There was one big square one and a smaller one, with all these red and white lights."

### SOLID SHAPE

Mr. Frost went on, "They were solid shape and you could almost feel the solid-ness. I don't believe in UFOs — I'm an engineer, and you can't put structures as big as that in the air. It was absolutely fantastic and there's no possible explanation."

They never landed, he said, but as one flew over his head "it was just like a big manta ray casting its shadow."

Then it stopped and "a terrific flash" was followed by a small triangular craft emerging from it and that circled for about ten minutes and finally hovered above his head, flew off in the path of the other two and "they suddenly vanished as though they went into a curtain."

Mr. Frost admitted it sounded "far fetched," but swears he saw it all for about half an-hour, his son saw most of it, and his wife saw some before hurrying indoors because their small daughter was alone there.

### QUESTIONS

UFO enthusiasts who log and investigate every sighting were getting in touch with him to question him closely. Unfortunately his efforts to check with the Ministry of Defence and places like air traffic control centres to see if there were, for example, airborne military manoeuvres or unidentified radar "blips" at that time were thwarted because of Bank Holiday weekend.

So, what was it? Unless the Frost family are leg-pulling, which seems highly unlikely, they must have seen something very strange and apparently inexplicable. And whatever it was, it frightened Mr. Frost.

Peggotty

### TWO MORE SAW LIGHTS

Two more people have reported seeing bright lights moving through the sky to the west of Colac early on Sunday morning.

The first report of the lights came from Cororooke dairyfarmer, Mr Bill Boylan, who said he had seen the lights about 5.30 on Sunday morning in the western sky, heading north.

He said there were about six lights.

Mr Mike Shanahan of Coortemungle has reported seeing lights in the sky on Sunday morning, between 5.15 and 5.35, also heading in a northerly direction.

He said the lights appeared to take off in formation on the Warrnambool side of Port Campbell, and seemed to accelerate very quickly.

Mr Randall Cole, a night watchman returning home from work at about 5.20, Sunday morning said he was at the Larperi cross roads when he saw a group of lights heading towards Cororooke.

HERALD, Colac, Victoria, Australia - Aug. 27, 1980 Ch: P. Norman

EVENING ECHO, Watford, England Aug. 28, 1980

## Mystery object seen over city

A MYSTERIOUS oval object streaking across the evening sky left watchers spellbound yesterday.

The object, described to police as about six feet long and silver coloured, was seen to fly over St Albans at about 100 feet and travel towards Hemel Hempstead.

"I'm mystified. I just don't know what it could have been," said pensioner Miss Avril Newell.

Together with her brother Terence and her sister Joan, Miss Newell was mowing the lawn at her home in Mount Pleasant, St Albans, late yesterday evening.

"It was shining brightly and moving very silently. All three of us saw it, so it wasn't

our imagination," said 60-year-old Miss Newell.

Police said the object had been seen by about 20 other people and they had officially recorded it as a sighting of an unidentified flying object.

Said Miss Newell: "I don't believe in little green men from outer space or flying saucers — but I can't imagine what it was. The evening was clear and there wasn't a cloud in the sky. If it has been an aeroplane or helicopter we would have heard a noise and it was far too big to be a balloon."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said: "No UFOs have been reported in the St Albans area for several years."



## 'Rainbow ball' in the sky baffler

A MYSTERY object over the skies of Pinhoe, Exeter, is baffling one of the residents there.

Mr. Ian Kelway, of Cotmead, Langaton Lane, Pinhoe, was sunbathing with his wife, Barbara, in the garden of their home on Monday when they saw the UFO.

"It was a long way up and about the size of a football. It had every colour of the spectrum, and looked like a rainbow ball," he says.

"It had a white tail stretching out to the north west. I have never seen anything like it."

He lost sight of the object when he went indoors to fetch a pair of binoculars.

"It was there for a couple of minutes, and I am wondering if anyone else saw it."

## Mystery object in the sky

A Clevedon man, a keen plane-spotter was scanning the night sky last week when he saw what at first he took to be a very bright star but on focussing a powerful pair of glasses on it was astonished to see that it was in reality a "dirty white" disc with strange zig-zag white lines moving about and below it.

His daughter also saw the object and later the zig-zag lines appeared to be caused by a much smaller disc moving quickly and erratically in relation to the larger one, this one varied in colour, green, red and white.

This sighting of what is now called a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) was made over the Bristol Channel at a height the observer was unable to estimate.

This is one more to be added to the growing list of UFO's to be reported from this part of Woodspring over the past year or two.

# Why would spacemen visit the Knap?

THE WAY things are going you shouldn't be at all surprised if they stick a sign up at Cardiff Airport announcing: No More Flying! No More Room!

The skies over South Wales, you see, are a sort of spaghetti junction for spacemen. Not a day goes by without its squadron of saucers zipping merrily above the mountains. Our heavens are a clutter with celestial cackery (they look like soup plates as well as saucers, not forgetting the odd cigar shape) and it's surprising you've never seen any. But don't worry. Every one has. From what I

can gather, not seeing a saucer over Wales in the 'Seventies is as much a social misdemeanour as not seeing That Game in 1905.

This, anyway, is what I gather from a new book — yet another new book — up-to-the-minute survey of UFO evidence from the British Isles. It's by Peter Paget.

He is the man who last year announced that "possibly the first UFO base on earth was..." well you'll

never believe this, but Mr Paget had found this base in the Stack Rocks off St David's Head.

Mr Patrick Moore, well known stargazer, was in Cardiff on the day of Mr Paget's revelation. He was unimpressed.

Mr Moore explained that he demanded absolute proof of anything extra-terrestrial. In this, it seems, he differed from Mr Paget who is quite content to accept that a fair chunk of Dyfed and adjacent water form — listen carefully — the Welsh Triangle.

That was the title of Mr Paget's last book which, by the way, was one of

three dealing with events down at Dyfed.

One by a Mr Clive Harold suggested that space visitors were descendants of the locals doing a spot of time travelling.

While Mr Randall Pugh revealed that they came from another dimension and were sniffing — assuming they had noses — around military installations and oil refineries in the area.

Well, as any student of the genre will tell you, Paget who is quite content to accept that a fair chunk of Dyfed and adjacent water form — listen carefully — the Welsh Triangle. That was the title of Mr Paget's last book which, by the way, was one of

tacts from all around the country.

But there are so many of these that anyone who hasn't yet been approached by a little green man might conclude that he's suffering from a case of cosmic BO.

Mr Paget, inevitably un-critical, blithely accepts every report. The coast along the Bristol Channel, he suggests, "has been the scene of UFO activity for some years." And in support of this somewhat startling claim he offers evidence from a number of locals.

Mrs G D Withey, of Blackwood, saw her UFO on February 1, 1977. It was cigar-shaped, orange in colour, and moved slowly over the Mynyddislwyn mountain to the east of her house. She and her husband saw it again as they drove to work.

"I told my parents about it," she explained when asked how she came to be

in a book on UFO's, "and they saw a magazine on the subject with someone asking for reports."

Mrs Withey has always been interested in saucers. But she insists there was no element of wishful thinking involved when she spotted the object.

Saucers, too, over Ystradgynlais. And the Knap, Barry in 1954. This one, incidentally, was seen by a number of "keen and experienced observers" at RAF St Athan and the civilian airport.

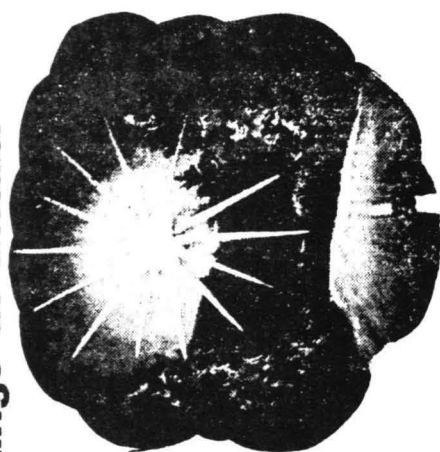
After all, even as egotistical species as man cannot deny the probability of intelligent life in our universe. There are more than 100,000 million stars with

attendant planets in our own pinwheel galaxy — and there are 10,000 million other galaxies. Out There.

The closest star to our own sun is Proxima Centauri which is 4.28 light years away — or 25,200 million miles. The most distant star is about 75,000 light years away. Figures like this can only make us doubt the wisdom of accepting the idea of UFO's as enthusiastically as Mr Paget. Let's face it, 25,200 million miles is a heck of a long way to travel just to have a look around the Knap!

*UFO-UK by Peter Paget. New English Library. £1.00*

SOUTH WALES ECHO, Cardiff, Wales - Aug. 28, 1980



BARNSLEY CHRONICLE, South Yorkshire, England  
Aug. 29, 1980

## Man tells of encounter with a UFO

A Barnsley man spoke this week of his close encounter with a U.F.O.

The drama took place when Michael Evans (27), Gerald Road, Kendray, with his 15-months-old alsatian, Ben, went to get a packet of cigarettes at around 3 a.m. on Tuesday.

The duo were on their way home across an area of land known as Swanee Fields between Sheffield Road and Kendray when they were confronted by a large, dusty-red, saucer-shaped object hovering 50 feet above ground.

"It was about 100 yards away," said Mr. Evans. "It just hung there for a while and then went straight up in the air."

"Ben bolted towards Sheffield Road and I just went numb on the spot. I don't know if it was through fear or what."

### 'Cowering'

Mr. Evans told the Chronicle that he then ran back to Sheffield Road where his shouts awakened two female residents.

"I asked them if they could see it or if I was going daft," he said. "Thankfully they said they could see it."

"I could still see it when I found Ben cowering under a hedge and set off back to Kendray, but, by this time, it was much higher up and appeared more like a bright light."

"I got another chap and his wife out of their house in Redhill Avenue, and, when they said they saw it, I went to phone the police."

"They said it was the sixth similar report they had received that night."

"I don't really know if they saw it or not but they were looking at the sky and then jumped in their cars as if to follow it."

### 'Something'

"I gave them my name and address but have heard nothing further from them."

"I still don't really know what I saw but I know I saw something. There wasn't a star visible because the sky was so cloudy, yet it was really bright."

"I know people will think I'm mad but I was wide awake and I haven't had a drink for six months."

"I hope anyone who saw anything unusual that night will contact me at my home."

"That way, we may have something positive to offer those who investigate such sightings."

A spokesman for Barnsley Police yesterday (Thursday) confirmed that Mr. Evans had reported a UFO sighting at 4.14 a.m. on Tuesday, but said the sighting had not been confirmed by them. "I understand it was the only sighting reported to us that night."

EVENING ARGUS, West Sussex, England - Sept. 4, 1980

## Close encounters of the most eerie kind

A CRAWLEY family has the uncomfortable feeling that somebody up there is watching them.

Stephen Cunliffe, 13, of Ifield Drive, claims he was woken up at one in the morning by an intense white light that flooded into his bedroom "as if someone was shining a massive torch through my window." It was accompanied with a loud whining noise. Looking out the frightened boy saw a dark oval object from which came beams of very bright light.

### Cone shaped

His parents were woken by the noise and felt the house vibrate. His father Henry, a factory worker, also saw the light through the bathroom window.

The family are convinced that it was a UFO, and say that there was a similar occurrence at breakfast time a few months ago over their home.

"We all heard this weird noise right over the house and all the breakfast things rattled

though we didn't actually see anything on that occasion," said Stephen's mother, Irene. "We all just stopped in our tracks."

Whatever this mysterious thing is, it seems to be following the Cunliffe family. A few years ago, while they were living in Australia, Stephen was out playing with friends when the children were frightened by an unusual low flying object.

"Stephen ran into us crying, and we asked him to draw what he had seen." The picture showed a cone shaped object with protruberances at the side.

On another occasion Mrs Cunliffe said she clearly saw two UFOs coming in from the direction of the sea, flying very fast, with one following the other closely.

On the recent sighting Mrs Cunliffe said: "Something woke me just before I heard Stephen call out. I got up and went into his room and he said: 'Mum there's a UFO,' and dived under the covers."

HERALD, Glasgow, Scotland - Sept. 1, 1980

## Police evidence adds weight to UFO

By IAIN WILSON

NO positive explanation has emerged for a UFO over Dumfries which was witnessed by, among many others, five baffled police officers.

Eye-witness accounts, made even more credible by those of the trained observers, proved so remarkable that the police called a special news conference within hours of Saturday's sighting.

The Ministry of Defence is saying little about its course of action, although emphasising that most unidentified flying objects

turn out to be aircraft, space junk, or caused by freak weather conditions.

Professor Peter Sweet, head of Glasgow University's department of astronomy, said yesterday: "I hope the investigators treat this seriously. The report has to be treated with more respect than others because the witnesses include policemen trained to be objective and very careful about their observations."

The RAF's West Drayton, Station in London which collates UFO information for the Ministry of Defence, has already re-

ceived a report from the Scottish air traffic control centre at Prestwick Airport which sent out an aircraft to investigate — with negative results.

The report says witnesses include "seven people at Dumfries Royal Infirmary, five policemen and a cast of thousands."

The object is described as oblong in shape, white in colour, with three equally-spaced lights at the front and two at the rear.

Many witnesses, including residents from Lochside council estate, said the large, brilliantly-lit, object was about 500ft. up, visible

for almost an hour, and hovered or moved slowly.

UFO sightings, at different times, were also reported at the weekend in Motherwell in Lanarkshire and the village of Strathine, in Ayrshire.

Air traffic control, who receive about two UFO reports a month believe the sighting was a meteorological phenomenon. It is possible that an aircraft, perhaps military, was in the area at the time.

Three of the police officers, Sergeant Bill McDavid, Constable Jim Smith and Policewoman Pamela Brown, all re-

turned to the area for a second look yesterday.

They were adamant about what they had seen after checking both in darkness and daylight the now blank sky. Sergeant McDavid said: "I've never seen a UFO before. I'm still sceptical, but I know what my eyes saw and I just cannot explain it."

One possible explanation is that the UFO may simply have been the lights of a building at a GPO transmitter mast. The object was roughly in the same direction as the mast on top of Riddings Hill.

A spokesman at police headquarters in Dumfries admitted last night: "This may be the simple explanation."

It has been established that GPO engineers were working at the transmitter station from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. — and the UFO was sighted for almost an hour shortly after 1 a.m.

The police also say that the cloud level at times was below the oblong-shaped building, and the lighting in the station would have been shining out of the windows.

# MAKING LOVE WITH A CREATURE FROM SPACE

AN East Lancashire spinster claims she has made love by telepathy with an alien being from a UFO.

And the woman, from Green Haworth, Accrington, told a UFO investigation group she had been cut open by telepathy by the beings to make her well when she had been ill.

Now the group plan to hypnotise her to take her back in time to when she first saw the alien to try to record details about her strange experiences.

They are keeping her name a secret in line with the policy of the group, who do not wish publicity for individual members, and to allow the matter to be fully investigated.

The group, known as BIGAP - the Rosendale Investigation Group of Aerial Phenomena - called a meeting to recruit new members and to draw on the experience of other in

the area who have seen anything unusual.

Co-ordinator Mrs Hilda Rogers told the gathering of 11 adults, three children and herself: "We are here to talk about UFOs."

"There have been a lot of sightings in this area and a flurry of activity recently. Some people's cars have been stopped by 'people' in space suits."

## TRUE

"There have been four sightings this month - two Blackburn policemen saw lights at night; two weeks ago people from Bolton saw a grey, cone-like object; and boys fishing at the Grange Reservoir saw a circle of light under the water that could not be explained, while a woman actually had contact with people from a craft."

The chairman of the meeting, a Haslingden man called David, said he approached every subject and sighting with disbelief and then tried to work out what was true. He thought

By John Hargreaves

this was the best way of examining UFO sightings.

"I have heard of many sightings in the area and believe perhaps 30 per cent can be explained away by other things. But there seems to be something unexplained in the skies."

Another man also called David, said he had seen 12 lights in two nights in the Shawforth area between 10 pm and 1 am.

## MADE LOVE

Then the "star" witness of the night told of her unusual experiences in Blackburn Road near her home, that started 12 years ago.

She said a UFO with a red glow and blue light came near her and her car would not start. It disappeared into what she believed was a mother ship.

She explained: "That

was the end of the matter until two years later, in 1970, when people from UFOs started talking to me."

"They said they had been watching me. I had been ill but they had made me well by operating on my brain."

"Later they cut me open - using telepathy - to practice techniques on me. They gave me a boyfriend in space and we made love by telepathy - I seemed to leave my body and then come back."

"Often they would make me forget what I had seen. They told me they were looking for telepathic people like me."

"They had watched me from birth. It took them six years to sort out our language - they whistle to communicate to each other and hoot in case of danger."

"I have seen them through my telepathic eye. They have large heads with high foreheads and large brains. Beauty to them is a large brain."

When I questioned her at the meeting the woman

said there were no visible signs of surgery on her body.

The skin graft they had done on her arm and the various cuts had now healed completely. In fact she had no evidence at all to convince others of her experiences but has found out many facts about the aliens.

She discovered it took three months for the UFO crew travelling at the speed of light to get to earth. They had experimented and found a cure for cancer.

She had left a Bible, cross St Christopher medal, seeds, plants and flowers for them, and they had taken them away.

They studied her and other humans like, we would study animals.

She then agreed to try time regression to see if her experiences could be brought out from her subconscious mind.

But a friend warned that "they" would block out of her mind anything "they" did not want her to tell.

## Arresting sight in the sky puzzles bobbies

Something strange was seen in the night sky over Merseyside and Cheshire yesterday.

In one incident, a Huyton resident called the police for help after spotting something strange in the sky, two bobbies slipped out to see what was up.

But before they left the station road, they realised what was happening - above the station in Latham Road was a flying saucer.

It was cigar-shaped, travelling south to south-east.

The first sighting was in Coppice Crescent, Huyton, just minutes away from the station. But the men at Liverpool Airport cannot give any clue as to what the white silvery object was.

Meanwhile, green, red and yellow flashing lights came from an object seen hovering over the Cheshire village of Ashton last night.

Chester Councillor Mrs. Marion Johnson was sitting in the lounge of her home, Quince Tree, West End, looking out of the window.

Today she explained: "We are surrounded by high roofs and over the top of them I saw this object highly illuminated and it appeared to be going round with colours flashing from it. I could look right through it."

"I called to my husband but he had been looking in the other direction and saw nothing. We dashed outside but could not hear a sound. It had disappeared," she said.

GAZETTE, East Essex, England - Sept. 5, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

## Let's go UFO - ing it . . .

BUTLIN'S holidaymakers Hannah Barnes and Violet Davis may never have seen the flying saucer speeding silently across the Clacton sky if they had not been late for bingo.

The sisters were on their way to the bingo hall when after half past eight on Monday when 60-year-old Mrs Barnes glanced into the clear evening sky and saw something which made her tremble.

"It was a circle of light blue flashing lights moving quickly westwards from over the sea," she said, "shaped like my eternity ring. It was a beautiful sight."

Mrs Davis, 67, stood spellbound as the UFO disappeared over the top of the chalets. "I couldn't concentrate at the bingo - I was so excited," she added. Both agreed the saucer was far more realistic than the ones shown on TV.

Now the Londoners, who leave Butlin's tomorrow, are two further people who definitely believe that other life exists. "We are not a

couple of cranks," insisted Mrs Davis. "We know what we are talking about."

Her sister recorded a clear account in her diary immediately after the sighting.

Disbelievers are now in the minority, according to Mr Philip Odgers, of the Flying Saucer Information Service. He explained flying saucers could not reveal themselves because it was against Universal law to force the evolution of another humanity. Earth governments were aware of their existence, but they did not pass on the information to the people.

"Flying saucers preach brotherhood and peace," he said, "which is something the super powers do not want to see. They are also against nuclear power."

A spokeswoman for Butlin's denied it was the reappearance of their own lovable little green men, Toot, Ploot and baby Fitt. "But if anybody does land, we can promise them a real Butlin's welcome," she said.



UFO spotters Mrs Violet Davis, LEFT, and Mrs Hannah Barnes

## UFO Tapes May Be Given To US Experts

Press Assn Wellington American UFO experts may get the chance to investigate further the 1978 Kaikoura sightings through the use of official tapes of the incident.

A spokesman for the Minister of Transport, Mr McLachlan, yesterday confirmed that Wellington air traffic control tapes which monitored the flight of Captain Bill Startup when the Kaikoura objects were filmed by a television crew were still intact.

But the release of the tapes to Captain Startup would be a matter for discussion between Mr McLachlan and the director of civil aviation, Captain E. T. Kippenberger, the spokesman said.

Captain Startup, who is at a UFO symposium in Washington, intends to formally request the tapes from the Ministry of Transport when he returns to New Zealand in about a week.

United States experts are trying to raise money for detailed investigations into the Kaikoura sightings.

## Humming UFO

FIVE Dovercourt people, including one of the town's firemen, saw what they believe was a UFO over the town yesterday.

"It was bright silver on top, black underneath and looked like a motor car hubcap in shape," said fireman Derek Cook, of Deans Close, Dovercourt.

Mr Cook said he was in the garden when the object appeared to be spinning in the sky just after 1 p.m.

"It had no windows and it may have been my imagination, but it seemed to make a humming noise," said Mr Cook.

It slowly glided off north eastwards in the direction of the hospital and Mr Cook's 18-year-old son Kevin was so convinced it had landed behind the hospital that he drove off to look for it. But there was no sign of it.

Mrs Jean Cook and sister in law, Mrs. Viv Cook, saw the UFO, and so did Viv's 12-year-old son Alan and daughter, Alison, nine.

Mr Cook informed Harwich police, and today the Ministry of Defence in London said they expected reports would come in on the sighting. It would be investigated, especially if it appeared to have defence implications.

## Meteorites

The M.O.D. spokesman said there was apparently a great deal of meteorite activity coming from what was known as the Percid Shower and this was likely to increase next year.

Mr. William Martindale of Needham Market, who has documented a number of UFO sightings in the past few years, said Mr. Cook's experience was typical of many along the East Anglian coast.

"One came so close to a Leiston man on the beach that he could smell it," Mr. Martindale said.

CR: B. Taylor

## UFO sighting in Ormskirk

IT WAS a typical blustery September evening when Janet Sullivan and her friend Diane Hickey decided to go for a stroll.

Wrapped up warmly, the two set off with Diane's dog, Pepper, along Asmell Lane in Ormskirk.

They had only been walking a few minutes when they noticed two red and green lights flashing high above Christ Church, Aughton. Presuming it was a plane, the girls were not unduly disturbed until the two lights became three and the object began to move with great speed through the dark sky.

"We were absolutely terrified," recalls Janet, a 17-year-old clerk at the Progress garage in County Road, Ormskirk.

"It started moving towards the field opposite us and I saw two red beams going round, illuminating the whole area. It moved over us and beamed down a green light. There were lots of lights flashing and we heard a very high pitch beeping noise."

Janet went on: "Although we couldn't actually see it we could tell what shape it was from the positions of the lights and it looked like a space craft."

"It was absolutely massive."

We were terrified, my friend couldn't speak and her dog was shivering and shaking and trying to bite her hand. We just ran to a nearby farm and phoned the police."

Janet explains that she was told the police had received five other reports of a UFO being sighted in the same area on Thursday last.

"I know definitely that it was not something from this place," she insists. "A lot of people are behind us in this. It was a terrifying experience."

Janet, who lives in Asmell Close, Ormskirk, adds that although she has spotted UFO's before, it has never been on the same scale as the mysterious object she sighted on Thursday evening.

HEALD, Auckland, New Zealand - Sept. 9, 1980 CR: K. Collins

EVENING STAR, (City Unknown), England - Sept. 16, 1980

ADVERTISER, Ormskirk, England - Sept. 18, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

# We are not alone . . .

ANDY RUSSELL looks into the latest spate of UFO sightings

It is late. The night is dark and still. Kim Sergeant is driving his girl friend, Carole Grundy, home after a happy evening spent with friends. Suddenly, they are not as alone as they would wish.

Low in the sky a glowing red ball is hovering above the skyline as it tracks their fast-moving car. Silently, it follows the vehicle's every turn.

It has come from out of the blue — but 21-year-old Kim soon realises it is not about to leave.

## LIKE HOURS

After minutes that seem like hours, Kim reaches a village and swings wildly left into a side road. The couple are by now frantic about their uninvited observer. Panic-stricken, they cannot switch their gaze as it reaches the end of the road just in front of them.

Smoothly, agonisingly slowly, it descends to roof level. It is going to land.

Instinctively, Kim stops the car — and to his horror, the ball stops too. It hovers, motionless, and then — as if an intelligent being has come to a decision — it begins to float silently towards them.

Galvanised with fear, Kim starts the car and drives like a man possessed to Carole's house. To his inexpressible relief the apparition vanishes behind a clump of trees as mysteriously as it arrived.

A scene from a science fiction film? A children's comic? Perhaps the script of a late night TV series?

No: the incident above happened at Blofield, just over a week ago.

Whether you are a believer or a sceptic there is no doubt — something very eerie happened to terrify the young couple.

## SEASON

Later, a very subdued Kim recalled: "My first reaction was to ignore it — it was just something silly. But it was a glowing red object which you could not help but notice."

Suggest to Kim that "a drop of the hard stuff" might have influenced his imagination and he becomes very prickly.

"Certainly not — I had nothing to drink."

There is nothing unique about Kim's close encounter with something from beyond the outer limits. September to March is what UFO buffs call the "sightings

season." UFOs — Unidentified Flying Objects — are seen more regularly as the skies darken clear and early.

Just a few days before Kim's nightmare meeting, a Hopton family actually tried to make contact with two immense structures they saw while getting in the washing.

Mr. Leslie Frost and son Anthony flashed a torch at the craft — two huge, square structures as big as football pitches and covered with lights as big as cars. While wife Margaret went back into the house to watch over the family's youngest child, father and son watched the lights in the sky come across the field beside their house.

For 15 minutes they flashed the torch until — contact made — one of the craft glided towards Mr. Frost and floated above him. Suddenly there was a brilliant white flash. A triangular light broke away and along with the other two craft disappeared in the direction of Lound waterworks.

## CRANKS?

To the witnesses, it is all very real. They know what they saw — or at least, what they think they saw. But did Kim and Carole, or the Frost family, really see spaceships packed with little green men from Mars? Or were their sightings, and the thousands more reported every year, just a trick of the eye and an over-active imagination?

Not everybody scoffs at the existence of visitors from another planet. A local group is so interested to find out what these UFOs are all about they organise sky watches and, armed only with a Thermos flask and a telescope, members boldly go to take on beings from another world.

What kind of people sit out all night at places known for their UFO activity? Are they cranks; or is their any foundation to their beliefs?

Mrs. Dot Street, a member of the group, Borderline Science Investigation Work, became enthralled with UFOs after a sighting of her own — for her seeing was believing. But of the 200 members only a handful can say they have actually seen a UFO — but the others are still hopeful that one day their turn will come.

Rather than enthusiasm for the unknown, it would take several stiff drinks before anyone found this reporter sitting in a deserted field

waiting to see what no man has seen before.

When it comes to the subject of UFOs the authorities are completely uninterested. They become very reticent. Try to find out more about UFOs and the Ministry of Defence will send you from pillar to post. The Ministry's main office transferred one call to the "UFO office," then public relations, Press and RAF offices.

According to the RAF a UFO is the "reported sighting of an object which has no immediate explanation." An RAF spokesman said: "We are not too excited about UFOs for we get several reports of them. We only investigate if it was one of our aircraft, or if it has any defence implications. If it is an aircraft we quickly lose interest in it."

And in 95 per cent of cases it is an aircraft.

But the RAF still advise anyone who sees a UFO to report it to the police or their local RAF station. Yet, calls on the subject to local bases or stations are not well received.

## MOCKED

Yarmouth Police and RAF Coltishall would have nothing to do with them and stressed it was not their job to deal with sightings. But Mrs. Street, of 15, Blackberry Way, Oulton Broad, and her group would be delighted to hear from anyone who wants to report their sighting. Mrs. Street stressed anyone contacting her will not be mocked, and their reports will be treated in confidence.

But why have there been so many sightings near Army bases and waterworks yet no one has seen an actual landing? Mr. David Ford, a member of the British UFO Society, said: "They seem to be finding out about our resources, whether they be natural or defensive. There are many sightings around the Army base at Warmminster."

Mr. Ford considers the reason there have been so many sightings without a landing is due to the hostility we are showing towards them. "They don't want to come down when we are all in a state of panic because it would cause chaos." He thinks these foreign bodies are just trying to make us used to their presence until they feel it is physically possible to land.

If the theory is correct that we are investigating our national resources, is it significant that Blofield sighting was a mile and half from Strumpshaw Sewer Works?

# What do they see out there in the dark?

IN the small dark hours of December 21, 1978, two pilots of Safe Air Ltd. flying their Argosy freight aircraft from Blenheim to Christchurch, were puzzled by the sudden appearance of strange lights round their machine.

They were flying off the Kaikoura coast at 10,500 feet when, at about 30 miles north of the Clarence River, they saw a display of unusual lights that seemed to relate to definite radar targets reported by flying control officers at Wellington airport.

"THE KAIKOURA UFOs," by Captain Bill Startup and Neil Illingworth (Hodder and Stoughton, \$12.95). Reviewed by James Sanders.

Mysterious lights had also been seen by two officers at Woodbourne airfield and these, on a bearing of about 0030 degrees, seemed to have some connection with the radar contacts and the pilots' sightings.

So began a series of observations and events that made news headlines and captured the interest of fliers, physicists and UFO buffs round the world.

Captain Bill Startup, a senior Safe Air pilot who is long in the tooth and wise in the ways of the sky — by both day and by night — has seen those mysterious lights at uncomfortably close range from his left-hand seat. And he and journalist Neil Illingworth have got together to write "The Kaikoura UFOs."

## Down to earth

Bill Startup has been earning his living as a pilot for 23 years. He is (paradoxically speaking) a down-to-earth man more concerned with flights of safety and economy than with flights of fancy. So his reports on his sightings are those of a practical, commercial airman.

Following the experiences of earlier Argosy crews with UFOs on December 20-21, Captain Bill Startup was in command of a routine flight, delivering Sunday newspapers from Wellington to Christchurch, on December 30, 1978. And with him was a television camera crew, flying as guests of the company.

Bill Startup's aircraft got among some strange aerial company that night.

"I did not know then what it was we encountered," he wrote, "and I do not know today. What I do know is that during that eventful night I became involved in a series of UFO sightings which I

am told were perhaps unique in the whole puzzling history of these objects."

The television crew captured some dramatic images on film. The sequences have been widely shown and extensively analysed. But the verdicts have so far proved inconclusive.

"The Kaikoura UFOs" is an excellent documentation of the sightings of the strange lights off the Kaikoura coast. It is a book of 209 pages and Neil Illingworth has put it together well, albeit the fact that some of his detail could well provide the basics of a flying manual for the Argosy.

No matter. Flying men will appreciate it and UFO enthusiasts — whose numbers are legion — will treasure it. The book, incidentally, carries a foreword by Dr Bruce Macabee, an American physicist and consultant to the National Investigations Committee of Aerial Phenomena.

Dr Macabee had the opportunity of seeing and analysing the film that the New Zealand television crew shot. It reached him eight days after the filming of the strange aerial lights. Obviously, he was very impressed — opposed to the views of the Royal New Zealand Air Force, who gave Venus the star billing in the performance.

## Nothing new

As a matter of interest, the frequent sightings of mysterious airborne lights are not new phenomena. They had been reported in European and Mediterranean skies from the early 1940s onwards, and I am sure many ex-war-time fliers can vouch for the spate of Royal Air Force aircrew accounts of strange amber lights seen close to their aircraft.

The assumption was that they were something to do with electronic interceptor devices carried by Luftwaffe night fighters. In fact, the sightings became so frequent — and the fliers' requests for explanations so persistent — that RAF Coastal Command sent some high rank-

ing Intelligence officers to persuade us that what so many had seen with our own eyes were but tricks of the imagination.

But, curiously, these "tricks" were not just our own hallucinations, either. Captured German fliers, the intelligence officers told us, had also inquired of them: "What are those strange amber lights that your British aircraft show?"

The sages summarised: "So, our considered opinion is that there is no substance for the existence of those amber lights."

They told us, in effect, that we were either the victims of self-hypnosis or, perhaps, flying fatigue — that, like some who had heard of haunted houses, we were conveniently seeing ghosts to subconsciously perpetuate the belief.

## Derisive bellow

Were the RAF aircrews appeased by the pronouncement? Not likely. A loud bellow of derision rattled the rafters of the briefing room. The wise men departed; but the phantom lights continued to ride the night skies over the Skaggerak and Kattegat waters.

On one of my missions across the North Sea I met one head on, and I flung my Halifax bomber into a magnificent but uncharacteristic peel-off to starboard. The light — white and bright — appeared suddenly; and, by the time I had gathered together the aircraft and my composure, the night was again black.

So that is why I will ride along with Bill Startup's story of "The Kaikoura UFOs." He and his companions and associates saw something strange and, so far, inexplicable.

Did the lights emanate from things of substance? Are we being watched? Or do we, ourselves, try too hard in our determination to see something beyond the darkness? And have the television cameras and radar screens also been invested with our human fervour?

Somehow, it all seems clear and overt when the sun appears. The hills, the sea and the clouds are innocent of intrigue and, for the flier, there is much of beauty and little of mystery in the dawn sky.

But the night has a thousand eyes — and the day but one.

WEEKLY NEWS, Shields & Wallsend, England  
Sept. 25, 1980 CK: B. Taylor

# Candelabra in the sky?

RE, a letter in the Weekly News on September 18, A gentleman, I presume,

thought he had come up with a logical explanation for the recent sightings of UFOs.

Recently, I was staying in Leeds, and at 3.00 a.m. on August 24, I looked out of the window and saw what looked at first glance to be a plane.

But on looking again, I saw what looked like a brilliant silver candelabra which kept perfectly still and made no noise.

About an hour later I looked again and it was still there so I called my daughter to have a look at it in case she thought it was my imagination.

Your previous letter suggested the UFOs were drilling ships, but there are none in that direction, so what was it?

Mrs M. E. Gill

Rosebery Court,  
Whitley Bay.

## Many reports of UFO sighting

People from South Perth, Karrinyup, and even 60km north of Perth reported sighting a UFO about 6pm on Friday night. The Perth Airport and the Weather Bureau received numerous calls reporting that a bright arc-shaped light with a yellow tail had been seen in the sky travelling at tremendous speed and had disappeared shortly afterwards.

WEEKEND NEWS, Perth, W.A.,  
Australia - Sept. 13, 1980  
CE: P. Norman

## Star, plane or UFO?

By CARL DEGURSE

Lukian's light has sky-watchers wondering.

The eerie object spotted by Randy Lukian, 22, was successfully recorded on film, as the amateur photography buff discovered yesterday when he got his prints back.

"It was so big and bright," he told The Sun. "I've never seen anything like it before in my life."

Experts can't explain the sighting. They've ruled out stars, meteorites and plane lights.

Lukian was driving when he first spotted the light at about 3 a.m., Aug. 16.

"It was high in the eastern sky," he said. "There was no mistaking it for a star."

The excited photographer raced to his backyard at 11033 131 St. and snapped two pictures with a powerful 675 mm lens before the light vanished mysteriously.

"It moved a few inches and disappeared before I could take a third shot," he said.

Sky-watchers at first thought the sighting was the planet Venus but the description doesn't fit — Lukian's light was too bright and too high in the sky.

What was it?

"You got me," said Bob Taylor, of the Royal Canadian Astronomical Society.

"There were no bright stars at that time of the morning," he told The Sun. "I don't know what it was."

Taylor said Venus



Is it a plane? A star? Or a genuine UFO like Randy Lukian says? The eerie object (inset) was spotted and photographed by Lukian last month. He found the photos yesterday when his prints came back from being developed.

— Photo by Nick Didlick.

would have been lower in the sky at the time of Lukian's light.

Witnesses to the sighting are wanted by John Musgrave, president of the Edmonton UFO Society.

"What we have is an unusual light in the sky," he told The Sun. "More witnesses can help us get more information."

Musgrave said more sightings of the same

light would help establish facts such as distance and location.

"There's not much we can do with it unless there are more sightings. Then, it would be a whole new ballgame."

## Saucer-shaped UFO spotted by undertaker

An undertaker has seen a saucer-shaped unidentified flying object south of Royston.

Mr Ian Thrussell, one of his employees, Mr David Dodkin, were sitting in a van on the outskirts of Barkway on Monday afternoon when they saw the object cruise silently past at a height of about 60 ft.

"We were eating our lunch and this brilliant silver object went past us," said Mr Thrussell, who runs an undertaking and building business at nearby Reed.

### Power

"I would say it was travelling at about 20 to 30 mph, quite slowly, so we had time to see it. It was a bit startling."

"It looked like two dustbin lids stuck together only bigger — saucer-shaped. It was travelling from south to north and seemed to be under power. It was moving in a dead straight line, not going up or down."

Mr Thrussell, who lives at 23 Priory Lane, Royston, said he saw the UFO at 1.30 pm. Their van was parked near the crossroads between Barkway and Nuthampstead. Six hours later he called at Royston police station to report the incident.

"The reason I went to the

police was in case anyone else had seen it," he said. "In fact, my wife said I should report it."

"The thing that struck me was it was travelling so straight and not with the wind, which was blowing from west to east."

### Troops

"It was there David saw it as well and two pairs of eyes don't make a mistake."

A Royston police spokesman said checks were made with the Army which had troops on manoeuvres in the area.

"They said it was nothing to do with them and Luton and Stansted airports were asked and they couldn't shed any light on it."

"This has been logged as an unidentified flying object. We have recorded it and a report will be passed to the Ministry of Defence."

## Senegalese Village Skipped by UFO

DAKAR — Two people were injured, huts and trees uprooted and the roofs from nine other buildings scattered over several kilometers when an unidentified flying object flew over a village in central Senegal, the Senegalese News Agency said here.

The UFO, 30 meters long and 15 meters wide, had been capped with a blue crown emitting white smoke and radiating intense heat, the agency added citing witness reports.

It blew down some 50 huts in the village of Baridiane and lifted a 200-liter water barrel off the ground, boiling the water inside, the agency said. The incident reportedly lasted two minutes.

CR: J. Brill

KOREA HERALD, Seoul, Korea - Sept. 20, 1980

## TRANSLATIONS

ITALY — Credit: M. Greco

City and Country of incident: Brescia, Italy  
Date of Incident: May 31, 1980  
Name of Paper and date of clip: IL GIORNALE DI BRESCIA, June 1, 1980  
City and Country of newspaper: Brescia, Italy

### STRANGE FLYING OBJECTS SIGHTED ON LAKE OF GARDA

Six mysterious flying objects were sighted yesterday evening at Gardone Riviera (20 miles from Brescia) by some persons. All the objects flew at great altitude, from the coast of Verona to the coast of Brescia (from east to west), disappearing after a moment.

A witness, who hasn't revealed his name, said that at first he saw only one object: "it had a strange luminescence and a uniform speed, so it could seem a sounding-balloon or a satellite. Me and other friends could observe the phenomenon with all calm. After a short time, we saw other objects, always with the same trajectory. These objects (four or five), on contrary, had a strange flight. They made some evolutions in the sky, slowing down or zigzagging."

"After some seconds we saw two airplanes cross the strange objects: we thought, for a moment, that the airplanes tried to intercept the objects, but they continued their flight towards the south-west."

City and country of incident: Foligno, Italy  
Date of incident: June 29, 1980  
Name of paper & date of clip: IL GIORNALE DI BRESCIA, July 3, 1980  
City and country of newspaper: Brescia, Italy

### UFO PHOTOGRAPHED NEAR FOLIGNO

Foligno - "The sun was setting and I wanted to make a photo of the scenery below the mount Subasio (Assisi); I framed the scenery (the valley below the mount) and I shot a photo. Only after printing the photo in colour, I realized I have photographed a UFO."

This incident occurred to Marcello Ricciolini, an amateur photographer; while he was shooting the photo, he didn't perceive anything unusual. The surprise occurred after the development of the photo.

Also, the opinions of the experts in ufology is unanimous; it's an unidentified object, cigar-shaped, probably passing so rapidly that the human eye wasn't able to perceive it, but it was captured by the camera with a colour photographic film (more sensitive) and with a speed of 1/125.

The photo, shown to some reporters, has been enlarged and gave "surprising revelations."



# Prober Thinks He's Put End To Mutilation 'Wild Stories'

By SYLVIA GALLEGOS

Courier News Editor

Cattle mutilations: The efforts of space aliens, satan worshippers or coyotes with kinky tastes?

An investigator assigned to do a \$50,000 study of cattle mutilations suggests the latter, blaming the phenomenal deaths of cattle across the southwest on "natural causes," adding the mutilations were probably after-the-fact work of predators.

Ken Rommel, a retired FBI agent and director of the year-long study, is ready to put a number of mutilation theories to bed and dismiss the matter as an act of nature.

But if Mother Nature is the mutilator, she has taken a new twist, as historians report no record of mutilations prior to the first such appearance 20 years ago.

The Rommel study was prompted by reports of cattle being found dead with such organs as ears, tongues, genitals and anuses missing.

In addition, there were reports of finding chemicals in the bodies of the animals, broken bones, loss of blood, absence of tracks near carcasses, mysterious indentations in the ground nearby and higher than normal levels of radiation in some of the dead animals.

Mysterious night-flying helicopters and other strange aircraft were reported in the areas of many mutilations.

In the San Luis Valley, several mutilations occurred around San Luis, leading Sheriff Ernest Sandoval to begin watching the sky for helicopters.

Sandoval suggested at the time that the wounds, which took the sexual organs, an ear and the anus from each animal, could not have been done by predators.

New Mexico State Historian Myra Ellen Jenkins tends to agree. She was quoted recently by the Santa Fe New Mexican that there is no record in historic documents or folklore of "selective mutilation."

Jenkins said predators generally "rip into carcasses," eating what they can.

U.S. Sen. Harrison Schmitt, R-N.M., whose requests

prompted the probe, is reportedly unhappy with preliminary reports of Rommel's findings, though the full report may not be available until May or June of next year.

He said it was his understanding that the use of tranquilizers in the mutilations was "fairly well established," adding "I don't see how you can come to the conclusion that it's predators if there's human activity of that nature."

Rommel, however, claimed to have personally examined 14 carcasses and reviewed 90 New Mexico cases, along with

cases reported in three neighboring states.

He claimed the carcasses he had examined did not show precise surgical incisions as claimed by Sandoval and investigators in other mutilations, but showed jagged tears and evidence of teeth marks.

Rommel claimed jagged cuts would appear straight after time passed and the animal's skin dried and tightened.

Gabe Valdez, a New Mexico State Police officer who has investigated mutilations said the animals he examined did

not die of natural causes. He claimed the cattle he saw were killed by someone and cut up, not torn up by predators as Rommel contends.

He believes Rommel did not examine a "classic mutilation" among the carcasses he saw during his year-long probe.

Rommel sees a "point to be made" in the fact that his 14 carcasses were all natural deaths.

He said many people have expressed hopes that he would find "bizarre and unusual" causes for the deaths, but all he found in the vicinity were bird and coyote droppings and evidence that organs had been removed by predators, including eagles, vultures and ravens.

Rommel said no evidence had been presented to make him change his mind that the deaths reported to him as mutilations were the result of normal predator and scavenger activity and decomposition.

He discounted the contents of an 87-page Albuquerque FBI file on mutilations by saying it was "simply a compilation of information and news clippings" sent to the FBI by various sources.

Despite knowledge that congress has requested the FBI to investigate, Rommel insists the bureau has done nothing.

FBI activity on the file was abandoned Jan. 15 because no new mutilations had been reported.

Sen. Schmitt said he will not accept Rommel's findings and charged that he is dissatisfied with the apparent inactivity of the FBI, especially since there have been congressional requests to investigate.

He said he will ask a further probe be conducted by the Justice Department. The FBI, he said, has an "obligation to become involved — it's a national problem."

The absence of new mutilations since Rommel's probe began has raised concern that whoever or whatever is responsible has been laying off to avoid detection, but the prober said he doesn't believe "such an organized and sophisticated group" would be deterred.

Schmitt said it is not impossible that humans are involved in the mutilations and suggested it could be a "disciplined group involving a number of people."

Rommel, paid \$25,000 to conduct the study, said he believed his efforts were "essential" to put an end to "some of the wild stories."

He suggested there may be a connection between reported mutilations and the superstition level of people in the area involved.

Rommel suggested the phenomenon would provide a "field day" for psychologists investigating "people who believe in mutilations," but not one cent of government money should ever again be poured into probing mutilations.

One famous mutilation not touched upon by Rommel is the death, 12 years ago, of the San Luis Valley's "Snappy the Horse."

The Apalooosa, owned by the late Nellie Lewis of Alamosa, was found with all of the meat, hide and contents stripped from its head. Strange indentations were found in the ground near the carcass, a chemical odor was in the air and radioactivity was measured near the body.

Ben Phillips, Alamosa County sheriff at the time, dismissed the death as "lightning," while all sorts of other theories emerged, including Lewis' own belief that an unidentified flying object (UFO) and its pilots were responsible.

The Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization (APRO) and many other scientists have studied both Snappy's death and the mutilations and have been unable to develop a certain explanation.

Rommel, like Phillips, believed he has the answer.

## Mild-mannered reporter unsuccessfully stalks White River Monster

It was a scene from the Daily Planet. The news raced through the newsroom like an electric shock. The Arkansas Democrat had just been tipped off that a strange creature had been taken from the White River near Newport.

Could this be the White River Monster at last?

It wasn't the famous monster, but was a monster of a different kind — a shark. The state Game and Fish Commission identified the fish as a bull shark, which, they said, can be found in fresh water sometimes — in the Mississippi River, for example.

Harmless, the G&FC said.

Too bad. A summer full of nothing but heat news could have used a few sightings of the White River Monster to supply some life. Nothing like a monster for a mild-mannered reporter to sink his teeth into.

Actually, two sharks were found in the river, both weighing about six pounds and slightly less than a yard in length.

### Assignment Arkansas

by Frank Pollano



Back in June 1971, when Earnest Denks of Newport sighted the monster, it was slightly bigger, maybe about 1,000 pounds.

"This thing I saw," Denks said at the time, "looked like it came from the ocean. It was gray, real long and had a long pointed bone protruding from its forehead."

Denks tossed off the idea he might have been sipping something stronger than river water.

"I don't want anyone to think I'm a drinker. No sir. I'm a God-fearing man and haven't touched liquor for 30 years."

Denks named the creature "the eater" because it looked as if "it could eat anything, anywhere, anytime."

In September 1971, a man named Heydon Hewes, director of

something at Oklahoma City called the International Bureau for Unidentified Flying Objects, got into the act.

Hewes said the monster may have been a "type-three alien."

"The third type is where we feel that the White River creature may fit," he said at the time. "It is what we call an experimental animal sent to earth as a test, much as man would send a monkey to another planet or deep space."

The sharks were big news up at Newport, where the Daily Independent ran a large photograph of one of the sharks, jaws open wide to expose sharp teeth.

Both sharks were found at Jack-sonport, and one resident, Tom Lewis, was quoted by the Independent as saying he couldn't rule out the possibility sharks have inhabited the river for many years.

"Early in the morning on the river," Lewis told the Independent, "you see all kinds of species of fish jumping up out of the water. I'm not saying they're all sharks. They could be gar, catfish

or spoonbill."

Orville Richolson, editor and general manager of the Independent, said it was the first time sharks had been seen around Newport, "except for a couple of lawyers."

Otherwise, he said, the finding of the sharks hasn't sparked any great upsurge in monster talk around town. He pointed out the monster hasn't been sighted in several years, and "we need somebody at the Chamber of Commerce with a good imagination."

The only monsters around the river lately, he said, were alligators released by the G&FC to control the beaver population, "and people would rather have the beavers."

State Rep. Tom Collier of Newport agreed with Richolson that monster talk is at a low pitch, with people joking the sharks "are offspring of the monster."

"But there are certain people in town who still think there is a monster down there," he said.

Actually, Collier said, he

caught a monster (pronounced "monaster" around Newport) from the river last year.

"I caught him and threw him up on the bank," Collier said. "He dug a hole and covered himself up with sand. So I got a shovel and dug him up and he climbed in a tree. I got an ax and chopped the tree down and he flew away and I haven't seen him since."

Mike Masterson never saw the monster, but he's become an expert on it. Masterson, now editor at the Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, was editor at Newport in 1971 when the monster was sighted seven times and one man even took a picture of it.

Masterson said the monster comes around in cycles of about 30 years, with numerous sightings in the late 1930s and early 1940s preceeding the 1971 sightings.

The Independent used the photograph and paid the man \$50 for it, Masterson said, but "we never could figure out what it was."

All those who sighted the monster that year told basically the same story of a long, smooth creature, he said, and some were credible people.

"It makes me think," he said. "If sharks could live in the White River than maybe something else could, too. Just the fact a sea creature was found in the exact same area makes me think."

Masterson, a respected and experienced Arkansas journalist, told about a trip he took to New Haven, Conn., to Yale University's Peabody Museum of Natural History.

Hanging on the wall in the dinosaur room of the museum is the fossilized skeleton of "a long, slender thing about 30 feet long." According to the museum, the creature was a prehistoric fresh water animal from Kansas.

"It looked exactly like what I think it (the White River Monster) would look like," Masterson said.

# 'Triangle'

The result — he has added to his ever-growing list of publications with a book — *Myster-ies of the Bass Strait Triangle*.

Only minutes before he had radioed that an object was flying toward him at a speed he could not estimate. His last words before radio contact was lost were: "It is not an aircraft. It is a missile." A widespread air and sea search failed to locate any trace of the craft.

Ranger this month, the Melbourne Sun published allegations by UFO investigators that the aircraft was near Camp Creek about 20 minutes before a violent glow overhead showed an object emitting from the

[illegible]

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a man in a suit and tie, looking down at a newspaper. The newspaper has headlines that are partially legible, including "Mystery's missing in", "Kills", and "GEO clue in pilot's plane". The image has a grainy, high-contrast quality, typical of older newspaper prints.

[illegible]

When the helmsman knotted the rope around the ship's command of the helm and swung the ship toward shore.

Mr. Loney says a senior police official on board led and carried Bob over his shoulder and down the stairs to the cabin, as if in a daze.

Mr. Loney says the unbalanced sailor was unable to explain his actions, or claiming a vague memory of being ordered that he steer toward land.

By GARRY COTTON

her daughter, a recent overboarded and drowned maid, was crushed by the weight of water.

Perhaps more in line with events in the Bermuda Triangle was the discovery in 1967 of the cutter Elsie May, waterlogged and drifting within her sails set.

There was no crew on board, and no trace of them was ever found.

It is highly improbable, he said, that the giant vortexes or holes which are supposed to swallow up ships in the Bermuda Triangle or the sea off the coast of Good Hope, strait cut in Bass Strait.

The mysterious disappearance, he says, is as inexplicable as the flight for ice with the giant force of nature, undebated machinery failures, human error and, occasionally, the "unexplainable".

CR: D. Perez

# Is Bigfoot strolling in the ash?

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) — A U.S. Forest Service backcountry guard reported she found, and photographed, an 18-by-18-inch ape-like track near Packwood Lake, about 35 miles northeast of Mount St. Helens.

The guard, Barb Taubman, stationed at Packwood, said she told her immediate superiors but otherwise kept quiet about the find in July except to report it to Project Bigfoot, a Sasquatch-investigative group with headquarters in Seattle.

Ms. Taubman said she saw only one track, in a low wet spot next to a log across a trail into Goat Rocks Wilderness. Dry ground around the track would explain the presence of only one footprint, she said. She added there is no way to prove the track was not a hoax.

She said the trail she was on had been opened to visitors only four days before she hiked it on July 31.

The lack of traffic on the trail and the lack of a destination makes it an unlikely site for someone to pick for a hoax, she said.

"I worked up by Mount St. Helens last year and didn't pay any attention to the stories," she said of the Sasquatch legend. "Now, I guess anything is possible."

## *Wildcatter explores international mysteries*

**By TIMOTHY HARPER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**NEW YORK** - Some people use their spare time to clean closets or hook rugs. Jack Grimm tries to get photos of the Loch Ness monster or find the Titanic.

"Some people enjoy tennis or golf or fishing," he said Friday. "I get a lot of personal satisfaction from exploring the unknown."

Grimm, 55, a Texas oilman, is the consummate wildcatter.

After serving as a Marine in the South Pacific during World War II, he picked up a geology degree from the University of Oklahoma. When he married Jackie Crain, they spent their honeymoon prospecting for gold in an area of old Spanish diggings in California.

After he founded the Grimm Oil Co. in 1951, the first 25 exploratory wells turned up dry. The 26th was a gusher - and so were 27 of the next 33 as Grimm rode the oil flow to his first several million.

"It takes luck and skill, in that order," he once said.

lost \$10,000 in the World Series of Poker in 1977. Last year he went back and won \$40,000.

Besides high-stakes poker and oil wells, his gambles in the past decade have included financing and participating in expeditions to find Noah's Ark in Turkey and get photos of the Loch Ness monster in Scotland.

He has offered \$500,000 for the first conclusive photos of Bigfoot, and he personally went to Israel to investigate reports of miracle healing.

Those past adventures were inconclusive at best. But now, Grimm believes he may have made the biggest find of them all: the wreck of the "unsinkable" Titanic, a luxury liner that carried 1,500 of its 2,200 maiden-voyage passengers to a North Atlantic grave 68 years ago.

"I can't say for sure, but I think we've found it," he said.

Damage to equipment in rough seas earlier this month kept the 39 sailors and scientists aboard the expedition vessel H J W Favron

**getting proof positive that they have found the vessel 380 miles off Newfoundland in a canyon 12,000 feet under water.**

But Grimm, unable to join the expedition as a result of those same rough seas, is confident enough to vow funding for a second mission next spring or summer — not only to find the Titanic, but also to salvage valuables ranging from passengers' diamonds to nautical antiques.

Grimm said, however, that he will not raise the Titanic.

"It's too big," he said. "What would you do with it if you got it up? You'd have to tow it 1,000 miles to get it to New York. Besides, it is the tomb for 1,500 souls. It shouldn't be disturbed."

Grimm, looking and talking like a well-tailored Abilene business man instead of a rakish adventurer, said he regards the Titanic, Bigfoot, Loch Ness and Noah's Ark expeditions much like wildcat oil drilling.

"Same gamble," he said. "It's a treasure hunt."

He said he expects a book and

movie about the expedition to earn back the more than \$1 million he has spent so far to locate the Titanic.

But under prodding, Grimm conceded that he gets a special kick in being able to use his money to chase the few great remaining mysteries of modern life.

"It gives me a great deal of pleasure to do these projects and share them with the world," he said. "A lot of people live vicariously through my adventures. I enjoy that. To me, life is a series of adventures."

After finding the Titanic, Grimm said, his major project will be a park and western wildlife preserve in Buffalo Gap, Texas, where he plans to commission a stone carving of the history of the buffalo in a 40-foot limestone ledge atop a mesa.

"It will be the largest stone carving in the world," he said. "Three time larger than Mt. Rushmore."

**For Titanic Jack Grimm** could  
it be any other?



### Jack Grimm eyes submarine for his Titanic operation

# KU librarian charts strange phenomena

LAWRENCE — Salamanders rain down on Boring, Ore., June 1911. A farm sinks in Buhl, Idaho, August 1937. A plague of butterflies appears in San Francisco, September 1945.

Did those events really happen?

Can dogs and cats communicate with humans? Can garden hoses bury themselves in the ground? Can frogs, lizards and worms, long entombed in rock, assume temporary life after their release?

"I have a healthy skepticism for it all," says George Eberhart, a University of Kansas serials/readers services librarian.

Nonetheless, he has compiled a list of 22,100 such events from 10,500 localities in the United States, Canada and Greenland in a bibliography he has been working on in his spare time since 1970.

It supplies brief titles for the events; date, location and who observed each, if that information can be determined; and the book, journal or newspaper account where they first were documented.

Titled *A Geo-Bibliography of Anomalies: Primary Access to Observations of UFOs, Ghosts, and Other Mysterious Phenomena*, the 1,160-page volume is to be released in September by Greenwood Press, a scholarly publisher of bibliographies, library science studies and legal books, Eberhart said.

Believe it or not, one even finds grist for the imagination in the glossary and subject index of the bibliography.

"Burrowing hoses" are "self-burying garden hoses" — and the index gives page references for three such reports. "Cromniomancy" is "divination by onion sprouts." "Musical sands" are "sands with peculiar acoustic properties." "Survival" is the "continuation of consciousness after death."

The subject index begins with "Abduction of child by eagle" and ends with "With trial." In between one finds page references for 33 different types of "erratic" animal reports (those found beyond their normal geographic habitat), including platypuses and baboons, peccaries and squid; and 171 different kinds of objects that have plummeted from the skies.

Reports of birds, brooms, fishbowls, graves and refrigerators that have exploded are indexed, as are a glowing tombstone, an ivory-billed woodpecker, a pink squirrel, a self-replenishing barrel, web-footed horses and weeping

icons

His fellow librarians josh him a bit about his research, he said, but he figures that the questions his book answers will halt that.

"It indexes things for people coming into libraries who ask, 'Have there been any UFO or Bigfoot sightings reported in this area?'" he said.

The bibliography also should help the serious researcher of anomalies, which he defines as "events, behavior, conditions or discoveries that do not conform to prevailing world views."

"From a research angle," he said, "if I wanted to do background research on 'erratic' crocodiles, everything will be listed for North America up to April 1979."

The needs of one group of anomaly researchers — ufologists, those interested in unidentified flying objects — became apparent when he did a survey of about 400 of them in 1976.

"They had a number of complaints about a lack of information in libraries, both public and academic," he said. "There just weren't any reference books, or they were unavailable. One of the things they suggested libraries do is to build up a file of local sightings."

But aren't these anomalous events bogus, for the most part? Aren't they simply fantasies minted to restore wonder to a world grown dull?

"I don't do it (catalog anomalies) to escape reality," Eberhart answered. "I like to look at it from a purely scientific standpoint. These phenomena are reported. Do they exist, or don't they?"

And, he reminds, 18th-century science laughed at the idea of an outer-space origin for meteorites, saying they came from volcanoes. But in 1810 scientists confirmed the previously ridiculed notion.

Collecting the entries that fill the book took him about nine years. His personal interest in anomalies began at age 9.

He said the first book he read about anomalies centered on the Yeti. That's what the native Nepalese people of the Himalayas — one of the creature's habitats — have named it. We know it by the name "Bigfoot."

From biological anomalies his interest turned to UFOs, he said. And because there are "psychic aspects to UFOs" — such as the telepathic communication between the spaceship occupants and earthlings in the movie "Close Encounters of The Third Kind" — his in-

terests broadened to include psychic phenomena.

"All these things are interrelated in some off-beat way," he said.

UFO sightings are the most frequent entry in the book, he said. "It's still a rare phenomenon, but commoner than others. Almost every place has UFO reports. But falls of fish from the sky don't happen everywhere. Or erratic crocodilians."

So in his garden of anomalies, some varieties are more anomalous than others.

For example, falls of fish, frogs, loads and metallic objects of various descriptions are more frequently reported than other falls: of a radium vial, pink snow, alligator, coin or fossil bone.

Reported only once has been a fall of frozen hamburger. That allegedly occurred in Syracuse, N.Y., in 1957, and the *Los Angeles Times* carried the story.

Again, "erratic" animal sightings are fairly common, he said, with crocodiles most often the displaced creature. Rarer are erratic armadillos, jellyfish, ostriches, sharks, monkeys and sargassum fish.

In Kansas, as elsewhere, "UFOs are the most common" reported event, he said. But the Kansas section of the bibliography also lists 16 reports of cattle mutilations from separate locales, a spate of them from western Kansas in 1973-74.

In those cases, Eberhart notes in his glossary, the animals are mutilated "in a peculiar manner: eyes, ears, lips, genitals and tails are often removed, and internal organs are sometimes extracted with surgical, laser-like cuts. The carcasses are often completely bloodless."

He also notes that "mutilations often occur simultaneously with outbreaks of phantom helicopters, UFOs and/or humanoid."

Eberhart himself has investigated one cattle mutilation, as well as reports of humanoids and UFOs.

An investigator must ask the usual string of journalists' question — the who, what, when, where, why and how of an event. But, Eberhart said, he also uses two yardsticks to measure whether an anomaly deserves probing and how reliable the observer is.

"The two things any investigator of anomalies has to look at are strangeness and probability," he said.

"Strangeness" is the degree to which a reported observation does not conform to known phenomena, he said. Thus, if a UFO landed and little men emerged from the ship, "that would be a very strange report," and probably worthy of more investigation.

Seeing a bright light in the sky, though, "would have a much lower strangeness rating."

Some 90 to 95 percent of all UFO reports can be accounted for in terms of normal phenomena — such as weather balloons — and if a report has "low strangeness," he said, "there's really no reason for an investigator to get into it."

Probability, the second yardstick, he defines as "the degree you can be certain that the witness you are interviewing is reporting accurately what he has seen."

When Eberhart investigated a Bigfoot case in 1977, he used those yardsticks to test the story told by two Ohio boys, ages 9 and 12.

"The strangeness of their report was relatively high," he said. "That is, they were fairly close to the creature, smelled it and could draw a fairly detailed picture of it that couldn't be mistaken for a bear 'or a guy dressed up in a monkey suit."

"But the probability was not too high," he said. "They were young and not good observers."

For example, when they were away from the site, their estimates of the distance between themselves and the creature was much less than when they actually visited the site with Eberhart.

More bibliographies could be forthcoming, he said, depending on the success of this one.

He projects a second that would deal with European and African anomalies; a third focusing on South America; and a fourth on Asia, Australia and the Pacific Ocean area.

Through it all, Eberhart hangs between nay-saying disbelief and feverish certainty.

"In these reports," he said, "people are either absolutely crazy...or else there is something out there that we don't know anything about."

TIMES, Los Angeles, CA - Aug. 28, 1980 CR: D. Perez

## Scientific Team Hunting for Smiling, Gentle 'Big Foot' in China Forests

By LINDA MATHEWS  
Times Staff Writer

BEIJING — The Abominable Snowman and "Big Foot," the hairy giant of California's Sierra, apparently have distant relatives in the forests of Central China — and the Chinese government is prepared to prove it.

To investigate persistent reports that a tribe of amiable, apelike savages inhabits the Shennongjia Forest in Hubei Province, the Chinese Academy of Sciences has sent a team of scientists to the area, the Shanghai newspaper Wen Hui Bao reported. The team's mission is to survey the forest, question local peasants and capture some of the creatures alive.

The scientists, who started work in early June, already have accumulated "substantial evidence" pointing to the existence of the creature, the newspaper said. They have found hair, feces, footprints and at least one hideout used by "the wild men of Hubei," but so far have not glimpsed the elusive creatures.

One member of the team, Fan

Jinquan, is so convinced that the savages exist that he plans to don a homemade, hairy disguise and camp out in the forest until he spots one, the newspaper said. Fan, who said that as a child he sighted a female member of the tribe foraging for food with her son, hopes to befriend the savages by giving them red dates, a delicacy here.

In the past 30 years, more than 240 sightings of the creatures have been reported, mostly by local peasants and mountaineers. These sightings were treated with some skepticism until May, 1976, when six officials of the Shennongjia Forestry Bureau reported that "a strange, tailless creature with reddish hair" had crossed the road in front of their headlights.

They left their car to investigate and got within several feet of the creature, close enough to tell that "it was neither a bear nor any other animal they had ever seen before," as they later reported in a telegram to the Academy of Sciences.

Based on the descriptions provided by local peasants, the scientists believe that "these strange animals are a kind of tall primate, more than

7 feet tall, walking erect on two legs, with no tails and their entire bodies covered by short hair," the newspaper said.

The creature's footprints, which have been photographed, measured 15 inches long on the average. The savages are said to have mild temperaments.

"Their faces resemble man's, they smile easily and they have gentle dispositions," Wen Hui Bao was told by investigating scientists. "They have not actively tried to harm men but flee from all encounters."

Wen Hui Bao and an English-language magazine, China Reconstructs, which has also carried a progress report on the inquiry, said scientists have developed two different working hypotheses to explain the origin of the creatures.

One theory is that the wild men are "genetic throwbacks" — individuals "born with a lot of hair who have been discriminated against and rejected by society, and thus forced to seek an existence in the wilds," China Reconstructs said.

Documented cases of hair-covered babies, born to normal families,

have been pictured in the official press and tend to support this theory.

The other explanation, perhaps more daring, is that the savages are descendants of Gigantopithecus, a manlike ape that inhabited the earth in prehistoric times.

Bones of Gigantopithecus have been discovered in the same mountain range as Shennongjia, and the massive creature, who was said to have a huge and powerful torso, bore some resemblance to the descriptions of the Hubei wild men. If descended from Gigantopithecus, the wild men might be a new kind of ape, perhaps more advanced than the four apes now known to exist but still subhuman, China Reconstructs said.

The scientists are "very confident they will solve this riddle," Wen Hui Bao reported. "In our country, with our superior socialist system, with the support of the Communist Party and with our legions of scientific workers devoted to the task, the secret of the wild men of Shennongjia will certainly be revealed soon."

## Hoax or visit from legendary giant?

# Footprint stirs fear, speculation

By James W. Siehl  
The Tribune-Democrat

A footprint 17½ inches long, 7¼ inches across and making a 3¼-inch indentation in the ground is being looked upon as possible evidence that legendary Bigfoot visited Conemaugh Township, Cambria County, over the weekend.

According to one authority, there have been more than 200 sightings of the shy, foul-smelling, mysterious, two-legged humanoid in Penns Woods since the 1950s. The ape-like creature is supposed to be 7 to 7½ feet tall and weigh well over 300 pounds.

### Hoax or real thing?

The circumstances surrounding the location of the finely detailed footprint, down to what appears to be a callus behind the great toe, have Kenneth Williamson, township police chief, smack on the fence — between a hoax and the real thing.

"Now, if someone did this to play a practical joke on the Youngs, they did one fine job," he said. "That's right where I am. I'm not saying I'm skeptical. It's beyond my understanding. I'm just looking for someone with more knowledge and expertise to tell me what it is."

According to Chief Williamson, the footprint was noticed Sunday by a member of the James Young family, which resides at 1597 Franks-town Road, about a mile off that route in a wooded area that is not easily accessible. The family's trailer home is in the vicinity of SS. Peter & Paul's Cemetery.

The discovery was the climax of some unusual happenings that had worried Mr. Young, according to Chief Williamson, to the extent that

Mr. Young went to his brother, Vince Young, a lieutenant with the township police force, with the details.

"I know my brother," Chief Williamson quoted Lt. Young in his account of their conversation. "He's scared."

### Previous happenings

The events that preceded the finding of the print in the woods about 50 to 75 feet behind the Youngs' trailer took place at about the same time — between 1 and 2 — Friday and Saturday mornings.

In both instances, according to the police chief, some thing or person was in the woods uttering strange sounds, giving off a strong odor and causing three hunting hounds and a young dog named "Joe" that runs loose to bark hysterically.

Joe, a six-month-old German shepherd with an aggressive attitude, has had a personality change since the experience, Chief Williamson said.

"Whatever that thing was, the boys told me, he (Joe) took off into the woods and was gone for five or six hours," the chief said. "He didn't come back until later that morning."

"I was really surprised at it, because he was just like a whipped pup," he continued. "I know for a fact that when one of my officers got out of his cruiser (some time ago), that dog put him right back in the cruiser with his barking and challenging."

"When we went out there yesterday (Sunday), that dog had its tail between its legs. Later, he started to get some of his spunk back, but

he would not come back anywhere near where that footprint is."

According to Chief Williamson, the impression is directly behind a rabbit cage in a low, soft spot where water had run off the hill. He described the rest of the terrain as rocky, which possibly explains why only two prints were seen.

The second print is a partial one, he said.

"The supposition has it," he went on, "that the animal or whatever must have been traveling through the woods at that angle, and that's when the dogs' barking scared it. And it may have leaped over that cage and came down and put in the deep impression in the ground — almost 3¼ inches deep at the heel. Then, I would say about eight feet away there is another print that appears to be the other footprint."

The opinion is that the "animal" was moving uphill and landed on its right foot when it possibly jumped the rabbit cage, and the next stride took it on more solid ground.

### Search fruitless

Chief Williamson said he and others had gone on a wide inspection of the vicinity searching for other telltale evidence of Bigfoot, but found nothing.

Expressing concern that the more legible print might be marred or obliterated by the curious, the chief said a plaster-of-paris mold of the print had been poured and left overnight to dry.

In an attempt to preserve the footprint for as long a period as possible, Chief Williamson said Lt. Young had gotten a shovel and dug a trench around it. It was at that time, the chief said, that they real-

ized how rocky the ground is around it.

According to Chief Williamson, Mr. Young had been awakened by his sons, Frank and Jimmy, early Sunday when the dogs repeated the commotion of the previous morning. All three immediately noticed the penetrating odor, the chief said.

"Whatever it was," he went on, "they (Frank and Jimmy) could hear it breathing and snorting. They then went and got their daddy, and he turned the lights on. They didn't see anything, but they could hear something going through the woods."

### Odor unfamiliar

The chief said Mr. Young had difficulty describing the stench, but said it reminded him of the acid odor in a mine, yet it was an odor he had not experienced before.

The footprint was noticed at about 9:30 a.m. about 25 feet beyond the dogs' houses.

Chief Williamson said he had asked Lt. Ronald Pavic of the East Conemaugh police to look at the footprint because he had assisted in an investigation of a reported sighting of a figure of Bigfoot's proportion about three years ago at the Hinckston Run Dam in East Taylor Township.

"He said it was similar," the chief related.

"He looked at this one, and what got us, was that right behind the toe on the ball of the foot appears to be a callus. There's an indentation in the ground right behind the big toe."

Chief Williamson said that a report of the incident at the dam apparently had not been released to the media.

### Incident related

He said he had heard that a woman and her boyfriend or husband had been fishing when a hairy, man-like creature with a strong odor came out of the woods and carried off the fish they had placed on a stringer.

If Bigfoot does exist, Chief Williamson said he doesn't expect any reappearances in the vicinity of the Youngs' trailer, mainly because of the creature's reputation for being shy.

If someone is playing games with the Youngs — if Bigfoot should turn out to be a prowler or a practical joker — the chief said such a person should be aware that the Youngs are all hunters and that they are concerned and very upset.

In the meantime, Chief Williamson is striding the fence on the legitimacy of the footprint's belonging to the mystical giant who has roamed the Pacific Northwest and Canada and reportedly has been seen in central Pennsylvania and Maryland.

"I am not going to say this is a hoax. And, I'm not going to say it's real. I have to be convinced."

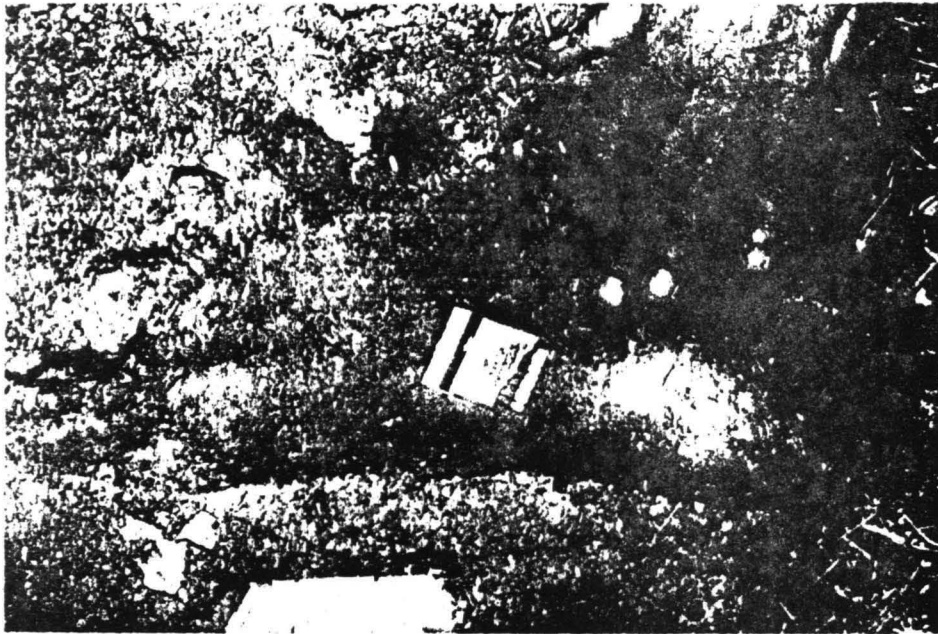


Karen Sweeney/The Tribune-Democrat

... 17½-inch-long footprint dwarfs man's hand and matchbook



... plaster-of-paris is poured into print to make mold



AP Laserphoto

A footprint measuring 17½ inches long and 7½ inches wide was discovered Sunday at a residence in the Johnstown area and is believed to be that of the legendary Bigfoot. In the past month or so, there have been two reports from Columbia County area residents of a large Bigfoot-like creature in the area. The

latest sighting was on Jonestown Mountain Tuesday, Aug. 18, by a Berwick resident. Although no footprints have been found in this area, the print found in Johnstown was accompanied by a story from residents which is very similar to the stories the Press-Enterprise has received.

## Columbia to Cambria counties

# Bigfoot has folks watching the woods

By BILL JOHNSON  
Press-Enterprise Staff

It sounds funny and amusing, but if you saw Bigfoot would you laugh? Two regional residents and some folks in Johnstown, Cambria County, aren't laughing, because what they've seen has raised a lot of questions within themselves.

Bigfoot, said to be a shy, hairy humanoid, towering between 7 and 7½ feet tall and weighing some 300 pounds, was allegedly sighted by Shamokin resident Rick Knovich and Bill Talanca, Berwick.

Both men classified what they saw as Bigfoot for lack of anything else to call it. Both descriptions are similar. Neither one of the men knew of the other's sighting.

Talanca's sighting was made on the north side of Jonestown Mountain, north of Berwick, and Knovich's was about 20 miles away in Scotch Run Valley, not far from Mainville.

The latest sighting, made by Talanca, was Tuesday morning, Aug. 18, at about 8:45.

Talanca said that he and his brother Tom, of Nescopeck, were driving down the north side of the mountain when, about a quarter of the way down, "We came around a curve and I saw this big thing standing right in the middle of the road."

"I knew it wasn't a bear," he explained. "A bear will walk on two legs, but not like this."

With two steps, Talanca said, the creature was off the road and in the bushes. "That's the first thing I noticed," he said, "the long legs."

From the glimpse he got of it, Talanca said, besides the legs, it was really husky, hairy and black.

When the vehicle the Talancas were driving reached the point where the creature was sighted, they both got out of the truck and started into the woods.

"We only went about 10 feet into the woods," Talanca admitted. "We didn't want to go in too far." Although they didn't spot the creature again, he said that he and his brother both heard a dog barking, and then in between the barks a loud crying-like howl. "It's a hard sound to explain."

Talanca said the woods were silent, "like when you shoot a gun off. Everything is quiet for a few seconds. That's how this was."

Talanca also said he thought the creature might have been eating because there was some type of nut

along side the road. "I'd be glad to go back with someone and show them where it happened," he said, although he realized it wasn't likely the creature would still be in the area.

While he reported the sighting to county Game Protector Charles Arcovitch, Talanca didn't feel there would be any action taken. When contacted for comment, Arcovitch said there's "no way I could prove it or disprove it." He added, "I don't believe in it myself," referring to Bigfoot.

When asked what else he would call it, Talanca said "I don't know what else it would be. If it was a bear, it was the biggest, deformed bear I've ever seen."

On July 18, at about 3 p.m., 20 miles south of Talanca's sighting, Knovich was driving in Scotch Valley when he noticed something in the railroad bed next to the road.

Knovich, who was traveling to his cabin in the valley, stopped his car and tried to get a good look at the "thing." It obliged.

"It started walking right towards the car," he recalled. "It was all black, with long black hair. It was walking up the railroad bed toward me."

He said the creature had a big head, with pushed-in nose.

When the creature was approximately 50 feet away from Knovich's auto, the driver grabbed a gun he had in his car and started to get out.

"I had my camera right in the seat next to me, but I just didn't think to use the darn thing. I just went for my gun because the thing was coming right at me."

When he got out of the car, the creature turned off of the railroad bed and went into the bush, he said. Knovich, who was by himself, decided not to pursue the creature. Instead he went onto his cabin and it's beyond my understanding," said Kenneth Williamson, chief of police in Conemaugh Township.

One full footprint and a partial print left, perhaps, by the creature were discovered Sunday after daybreak, following overnight incidents Saturday and Sunday that caused a stir at the James Young family home, the chief said.

Williamson said the full print measured 17½ inches long by 7½ inches wide and left a 3¼-inch depression in moist soil about 20 yards behind the Youngs' mobile home, located in woods a mile from Frankstown Road.

The fact that surrounding terrain is rocky may account for there being only one full footprint, Williamson said. A small course of water created the soft spot where the print was found, he said.

The excitement began between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. Saturday, when the family's three hunting dogs and German Shepherd pup "Joe" went into barking fits, Williamson said. The same thing occurred before dawn Sunday, he said.

Both times, family members said they heard strange animal-like sounds and smelled a foul odor they'd never experienced before, the chief said.

Family members were unavailable to be interviewed by phone.

On one of the occasions, "Joe," known even to police for its aggressive behavior, bolted for the woods.

"He . . . was gone for five or six hours," Williamson said. When the dog returned, "he was a whipped pup. That dog had his tail between his legs."

The second night, Young's adult sons, Frank and Jimmy, were again alerted by the dogs.

"(The sons) could hear it breathing and snorting. They then went and got their daddy, and he turned the lights on. They didn't see anything, but they could hear something going through the woods," Williamson said.

Young described the odor as similar to, but not identical to, mine acid.

Police made a plaster cast of the full print and dug a trench around it to protect it from being altered. Williamson also called in Ronald Pavic, a police officer from the East Conemaugh department who investigated another purported Bigfoot visit three years ago.

"He looked at this one. He said it was similar," Williamson said. "What got us was that right behind the big toe on the ball of the foot appears to be a callous. There's an indentation in the ground right behind the big toe."

A search for other evidence was not productive, the chief said.

"I'm not going to say this is a hoax, and I'm not going to say it's real. I have to be convinced," Williamson said.

awaited the arrival of some relatives.

Later that night, when he and his relatives were asleep, Knovich said the heard a loud, high-pitched,

crying sound which was rough and sounded like no animal they'd ever heard. "It was one heck of a weird yell."

When both went out to investigate the sound, he said, they observed their dogs, a beagle and a Labrador, cowering in their pens.

"I know there are bears in the area, but bears don't walk upright all the time. And they don't make sounds like that," Knovich said. "A bear is a midget compared to that thing."

The next night he and relatives stayed in the cabin, he said, "we left the torches burning outside all night."

Knovich is currently writing his experience to submit to Pennsylvania Angler magazine at the request of the Northumberland Game Protector.

Neither of the men who observed the creature in this area have evidence, the most logical of which would be a footprint. Such a print, however, was found in the western Pennsylvania community of Johnstown, where a report was made of Bigfoot only four days after the creature was spotted here.

"If someone did this to play a practical joke, they did one fine job."

## Mystery Creature Reappears in Bay

STEVENSVILLE, Md. (AP)—Move over Nessie, here comes Chessie. Maybe.

The summer of 1980 has been a productive one in terms of sightings of Chesapeake Bay monsters, creatures, unidentified swimming objects, or whatever these things might be.

The latest occurred Saturday when Coleman and Trudy Guthrie were sailing between Tilghman and Bennett points and saw something strange swimming near their sloop.

She said they saw six to eight feet of a swimming object with skin described as "thin rubber, slick, shiny, perhaps even slimy."

It was about 25 feet away, a deep tan with olive drab shading. At first, Mrs. Guthrie thought it was a crab-pot marker, but it lifted its head or upper jaw as it slid by.

"This creature had no visible scales, fins, gills, flukes, and no end," Mrs. Guthrie said. "It was about 2½ feet thick at the widest spot, and what we could see of what appeared to be the beginning of its tail section was at least 18 inches in diameter."

"It made an almost rippleless dive before disappearing. It traveled on a straight line, no slithering, no tail-wagging, no vertical movement, just seemingly unconcerned."

The Guthries do not think it was a giant sea turtle, shark, seal, huge ray, or any bay fish. It resembled a manatee, but these are confined to fresh water in Florida.

Recently, a father and son reported seeing a snakelike creature at Love Point, about 12 miles from the Guthrie sighting.

Three months ago, a Coles Point, Va., farmer said he saw a 14-foot snake undulating in the Potomac. Two weeks later and 15 miles downriver, people reported seeing a serpent about 6 inches in diameter and 25 feet long.

More recently, there were sightings reported of snakelike creatures from 30 to 40 feet long in the Patuxent River.

In 1978, there were similar reports, and the creature or creatures quickly was nicknamed Chessie after the famed but elusive Loch Ness monster in Scotland.

VIRGINIAN-PILOT, Norfolk, VA - Sept. 18, 1980 CR: F. Whiting

# Public arousal over big footprint has this family roaring mad

By James W. Siehl  
The Tribune-Democrat

It didn't take long to realize in a telephone conversation with Mrs. James Young that she was upset — more like "mad," as in extremely angry — over the public attention generated by an unbelievable footprint found Sunday in the woods behind her home.

"Who gave you permission to use our names?" the feisty mother of three sons wanted to know. "Who drew that map?" was her next question, referring to a Tribune-Democrat artist's drawing that pinpointed the spot in Conemaugh Township, Cambria County, where something left an impressive impression — one measuring nearly 17 inches long, 7½ inches wide and 3¾ inches deep at the heel.

## Mark of a monster?

Was the imprint left by the legendary Bigfoot, the shy, hairy, rotten-smelling, ponderous, more-ape-than-human, 7-foot tall, two-

legged creature that reportedly clings to an existence in the most remote parts of the country?

The footprint stirred the imagination of readers, prompted a lot of humorous one-liners from the skeptically gifted and intrigued others who toyed with the thought that one of the humanoids actually was among us in Greater Johnstown.

But, getting back to Mrs. Young, she and the other members of her family are most unhappy over the hundreds of curiosity seekers who have come hoping for a glimpse of the object of all the speculation.

According to Mrs. Young, a couple of hundred cars came back the day the map appeared, traveling a narrow, one-lane road leading off the Frankstown Road and bounded by Holy Cross Polish National Catholic Church Cemetery.

"I wish you would put in the paper that there is no more evidence of Bigfoot," she said, "be-

cause this (the car disruptions) happens often and my husband's nerves are about shot, and so are mine. I've gone completely gray the last three days."

Conveying her mood of the moment, she went on:

"While I've got a permit to carry a gun, I'd hate like heck to have to stand outside my house with a rifle and threaten people, if they don't get off my property, I'm going to blow their tires out. And, then they're not going to be able to."

In her next breath, Mrs. Young said she wished it had poured down rain Sunday and washed away the big footprint left in a soft spot in the rocky ground directly behind a rabbit cage at the edge of the woods.

"Then, they never would have found it," she said.

According to Mrs. Young, the print was ruined when the Conemaugh Township police de-

veloped a plaster-of-paris mold.

Mrs. Young spoke of harassment that the family has been subjected to from scoffers.

She said one of her sons reached the breaking point. As a result, he received a three-day suspension from school for fighting.

"He doesn't appreciate it a bit," she said. "He said when he goes back, if somebody opens their mouth, he's going to nail him again. He's 18. A kid called him a liar. He said there was no such thing back there. Our son's nerves are about the same as everybody else's."

According to Mrs. Young, the family never would have agreed to have the photograph taken had they known it was to be published.

## Coverage went national

A copy of the photograph and story was moved by The Associated Press nationally. A reporter from a Florida newspaper telephoned The Tribune-Democrat for more details. He

said he has seen other footprints of the giant, but this latest photo is the best he has seen for detail. According to the reporter, Bigfoot roams the Florida swamps, where the species is known as Skunk Ape.

The township police, meanwhile, are counting on the expertise of several volunteers from the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research, Pittsburgh, to determine whether the footprint is the real thing or a hoax.

They are expected today to take a look at the impression preserved by the plaster-of-paris mold.

The researchers would have been here earlier, but job responsibilities conflicted, according to Diane Enion, one of the center's members.

Mrs. Enion explained that people interested in recording reported incidents of unidentified flying objects began tracking Bigfoot when it was noticed his appearance often followed a UFO sighting.

TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT, Johnstown, PA  
Aug. 30, 1980

## BIG FOOT LEAVES PRINTS ON THE STILLY ABOVE VERLOT

JOURNAL, Lake Stevens, WA - Sept. 10, 1980 CH: D. Perez

Did Big Foot pay us a visit? Doug Trapp thinks so.

Trapp was fishing in the Stilly, a short distance above Verlot, when he found three big tracks in a sandy place along the river bank.

One track could have been made as Big Foot stepped from rocks to the sand area, the other two tracks were close to the water where Big Foot apparently stood for awhile before stepping into the river. He could have stopped for a drink, or he may have been after a nearby beaver.

Trapp went home and got some casting material. Returned and made these castings. The feet are 14 inches long, the stride was 5 feet. Trapp's guess is that the track maker was about seven feet tall, weighed over 500 pounds.

Have you had an experience with Big Foot up Verlot way? Trapp would like to talk to you. Call the JOURNAL at 334-1500, leave your name and phone number; Trapp will call you.



Several years ago, Trapp saw prints from a similar find in Southern California. "I don't think it's a fake," he said. "If it is, the fellow who made the imprints sure knew something about human anatomy; about foot structure, and weight distribution too."

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, Ark - Oct. 7, 1980

## Mysterious creature reported at lake

PEKING (AP) — A strange creature like a giant cow with a duck's bill has been sighted five times recently in a volcanic lake on the China-North Korean border, the Peking Evening News reported Monday.

There were no reports of any scientific confirmation that the creature exists.

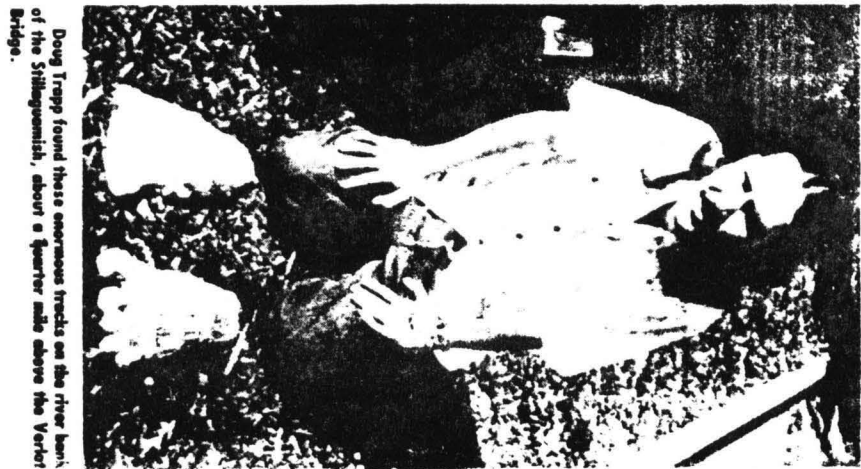
Agriculture worker Lai Jui-hua wrote that he was told of the creature on a visit to the weather station on Chang Pai Tien lake Aug. 25.

Workers there and travelers told him the sightings were from as

close as 30 to 40 yards of the creature, providing a clear view of its head above the water, he wrote.

He said no one knows whether the animal is an aquatic creature or an amphibian, how it lives or why such a big animal had not been spotted previously. The creature has attracted some scientific workers to the lake, he said.

"Its mouth is like a duck's bill, its head is like a cow's head but bigger and its body also is bigger than a cow's," Lai wrote. "Moving through the water, it raises a wave like that of a boat being rowed across the water in a park."



Doug Trapp found these enormous tracks on the river bank of the Stillygannish, about a quarter mile above the Verlot Bridge.

## Searchers Scour Ohio Woods Seeking a Glimpse of Bigfoot

GAZETTE, Schenectady, NY - Oct. 4, 1980 CH: F. Girard

McARTHUR, Ohio (UPI) — For a group of trackers, Bigfoot is no laughing matter. But Vinson County Sheriff's deputies just laugh — or groan — when reporters call the department these days.

To find the creature, also called Sasquatch, which is about as elusive as the Abominable Snowman, Canadian dog trainer and tracker Rene DeBros and members of the North American Sasquatch Research team took

to the woods of southern Ohio early Saturday with cameras, movie cameras, elephant guns and illegal sawed-off shotguns. There were no sightings of the beast by early Sunday, a sheriff's spokesman said.

"Oh no, Bigfoot again?" moaned one dispatcher. "That's all we hear about. We've hung up a big picture of him here now." The department was getting calls this weekend asking for details of the search in the Wayne National Forest for any trace of

Bigfoot, the giant legendary creature supposedly from the Pacific Northwest. Throughout the summer, Sasquatch-like creatures have been sighted and reported in southern Ohio.

Sheriff Ronald Davis, asked about any word from the explorers said, "This has been going on for a month. A lot of people from out West, Sasquatch experts and all, have been coming in and calling this weekend asking for details of the search. We haven't heard a word about anything these people have found."

Bigfoot reportedly was first sighted in Ohio near McArthur Aug. 24. Larry E. Cottrill said he found three Sasquatch like animals near his home, shot at them and may have wounded one in the shoulder.