

UFO

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CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

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Geminations

The UFO Needed A Paint Job

Barry Casebolt



POCAHONTAS TIMES,
Marlington, WV
Dec. 4, 1980

"Our revels now are ended. These our actors.
As I foretold, you were all spirits and
Are melted into air, into thin air;
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous
palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve;
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are such
stuff
As dreams are made on, and our little
life
Is rounded with a sleep." — The Tempest

Like a painting that moves, the beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
And, as in the verse from The Tempest, interpretation may be left up to the one doing the interpreting — taken out of context as it may be.

But the verse reminded me of something very pragmatic, very real, and very much on the minds of many Americans.

The Stealth story.

But to tell it, the real can be blended with the mystery — the stuff on which dreams are made. Sometimes it's tough to figure out which is which.

To wit: Ever seen a "flying saucer," or UFO (unidentified flying object?)

I have seen a couple. My mother has seen more than a couple. One was in Japan and we saw it hovering over the sea about 300 meters from the shore. It was a circular-shaped object, something like 100 meters across and it appeared to be 20 to 30 feet in diameter.

This object was spinning slowly, clockwise, and it just hovered about 25 to 30 meters above the sea. There was no noise and it was daylight. We could see small openings (portholes?), a silvery color with some brown.

After two or three minutes, the UFO went straight up several hundred meters, and then put the pedal to the metal.

It turned at a right angle and

took off so fast that it disappeared within three or four seconds.

We were bewildered, afraid, anxious, nervous, excited and very, very curious.

It was like nothing we had ever seen, heard or read about. That was 30 years ago, and nothing in mankind's technology could equal that feat.

We know what we saw.

My father was attached to the Central Intelligence Agency at the time and had top connections within the intelligence community and with the U.S.A.F.

He checked it out. Years later I was to learn that the event was one of those "unexplainables."

It was a thing for dream people.

But the point is, we saw it.

Now, enter Stealth.

At Lockheed's secret works in Burbank, Calif., sources quoted by syndicated columnist Jack Anderson report that C-130s were covered with radar-repellent paint and other coatings that scientists theorized should make the big planes "invisible" to enemy detection. Other devices were also installed to fool the radars.

The aircraft were sent on secret test flights that convinced U.S.

technicians that they had developed the magic trick of the decade — making an aircraft "disappear."

Anderson says it is suspected that the Stealth story was leaked to offset Republican candidate Ronald Reagan's charges that Carter had neglected national security.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, shares those suspicions. Glenn is a former astronaut.

Furthermore, intelligence experts are concerned that the Soviets may now be able to develop inexpensive countermeasures to combat the publicized characteristics of the Stealth bomber.

Dreaming on, I would submit that the next "leak" to come out of the Pentagon, or the White House, or the CIA or from some other "deep throat" will be the one about the new UFO that has been under development since 1950 at a nearly secret site in Japan.

Whose to say invisible UFOs haven't been whizzing around planet Earth for an eternity?

Maybe the one we saw in Japan just came back for a cheap paint job.

An unidentified flying object was reported over June Galford's home on Saturday, November 22, by Jim Foster, of Bobwhite, between 11 and 11:30 p. m. He had just gone to bed when he heard a sound; it got louder; the oozing sound got so loud that he had to cover his ears. He noticed the room would get bright and then dim.

The object seemed about 50 feet over the house, had lights all the way around, was oval shaped, 18 to 20 feet long and 12 to 14 feet wide. As he looked out the window it left and went over the hill toward Green Bank.

Two weeks ago another object was seen at Edray and at Marlinton, a light that hovered and then moved away at incredible speed with no sound.

UFO's in Barton County

Thorco workers see strange object

By DAVE FARNHAM
Editor

Marcene Balster and Betty Percy had just stepped out of the door at Thorco No. 3 and were on their way home in the early-morning hours after completing the late shift.

They were walking towards Betty's car in the parking lot, when Marcene glanced up in the sky — towards the west — and saw something she had never seen before. "It looked like a great, big orange moon," she says.

"It didn't look like no moon to me," Betty said Thursday as she and Marcene recounted the experience they had Wednesday morning.

The two had been reluctant to say anything to family or friends about what they had seen until they heard other people in various parts of the state were reporting sightings of UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects) on the same night.

"We didn't want anyone to think we were off our rocker," Betty said.

The object, "huge and orange," hovered in front of the ladies, somewhere above 10th Street they estimate.

By the time the two working pals had found their car and departed (Betty was giving Marcene a ride to Oakton Corner), the strangely-shaped "it," as the two called it, had shifted to the left side of Highway 160.

"It moved kind of slow while we were looking at it," says Betty. "and it always stayed in front of us."

Unlike the descriptions reported in other parts of this area — Joplin for instance — the two Barton County women said the shape they saw didn't flash on and off. They did say it looked spherical except for the top, which was almost square.

The light stayed in front of them as they proceeded down Highway 160 towards Mrs. Balster's home.

"It'd get up pretty close and then move far away," Betty says. "It didn't go fast at all while we were looking at it."

As the two ladies approached the Highway 71 viaduct, the object appeared to drop straight down, they say, and they lost sight of it temporarily.

By the time they had passed under the viaduct and were continuing up the bridge

just the other side of Highway 71, they caught sight of it again. This time, however, it was moving at a high rate of speed and it was much farther away, although continuing its western movement towards Pittsburg.

The women say their sighting took place over a stretch of about five minutes at about 3:30 a.m.

"It's the first time I've ever seen anything like that," Marcene says.

Marcene and Betty say they saw Lamar Patrol Officers Carl Henderson and Dale Baker out by the airport at the same time as

the object started to move away.

Officer Henderson reported today that Sgt. Baker did see "a flash" one morning earlier this week, but he says he wasn't able to see anything and the two thought nothing more about it.

"I believe in those things (UFO's) though," Henderson said today. "Back when I was a kid in Webb City, my folks and I were driving down the road and all the power in the car went out. We had a CB and it went out. We heard this real strange noise, too. When the noise went away, the power came back on."

NEWS, Shelbyville, IN - Dec. 20, 1980

UFO BEAT:

A Shelby County woman told sheriff's deputies Thursday morning that her car was "followed" Wednesday evening by a glowing disk on London Road south of Interstate 74.

The UFO "paralleled" the car, soon sped upward and quickly vanished, the woman said.

Sheriff's officers and others generally take such reports with a grain of salt, but the woman's report is remarkably

similar to an incident reported Nov. 25, 1979, by a county couple.

The couple in 1979 told deputies a glowing, egg-shaped object followed their car along Brandywine Road for about six miles, hovered outside their home for a few minutes and then vanished skyward.

Perhaps, northwestern Shelby County has become a favorite haunting grounds for the macabe.

DEMOCRAT, Lamar, MO - Nov. 21, 1980

UFO sighting interests Japanese

By Carris B. Davis

A five-man crew from Nippon Television Network Corporation, Tokyo, Japan was in Easley Monday morning interviewing and televising an Easley man and his sons for a documentary to be aired in Japan.

The filming was done at the home of Larry Joe Garrett on Fruit Mountain Road. The subject of the interview was the sighting of unidentified flying objects by Garrett and his four sons.

The Japanese were accompanied by Wendelle C. Stevens of Tucson, Arizona, a private UFO investigator-reporter-lecturer. Stevens, a retired Lieutenant Colonel with the U. S. Air Force, is an expert on the subject of UFO's. He

has been investigating them for about 25 years.

He heard about Garrett through a man in Charleston who had also sighted a UFO and was being interviewed by Stevens and the Japanese TV crew.

Jun-Ichi Yaoi, producer-director for Nippon Television, is also an expert on the subject of UFO's. He has written nine books about unidentified flying objects, and has produced more than 20 special UFO programs for Japanese TV. He said his network has a viewing audience of 25 million Japanese.

Both Yaoi and Stevens were very interested in Garrett's UFO experience.

On the morning of Sept. 11 Garrett saw a tremendously big object hovering just above the tree tops in front of his house. Earlier that same morning an Anderson man saw a similar object near his home. Sketches made by artist Mickey Tate from descriptions given by the two men were almost identical, indicating that they had apparently seen the same object.

About two weeks later Garrett's son was playing in the front yard when he sighted a strange brightly lighted object flying in the air a great distance away. He called his father and brothers, all of whom watched as the object darted around in the sky. They were joined by several neighbors who also saw the object.

Garrett said this second object was too far away to be clearly discernible, but it definitely was not a normal aircraft.

Stevens says he is absolutely convinced, after 25 years of similar interviews with people all over the world, that the UFO's are in fact space ships from another planet. He believes they are manned by super-intelligent beings possessed with a technology incredibly superior to ours.

He believes the space visitors have been coming to earth for thousands of years. He says there is evidence that they were seen in Bible times, and that drawings on the walls of pre-historic caves substantiate the fact that spacecraft similar to Garrett's sighting had been seen by early man.

He advanced a number of theories as to why the space men come here. Many of them are simply exploring, he believes. He pointed out that Earth is only one of many planets in the universe, and that space people are constantly exploring.

He thinks some of them are interested in the amount of radio frequency emissions on this planet and are looking into it to see what is causing it. And some, he says, are here out of simple curiosity, just to see what we look like, and what we are doing.

"Do we have anything to fear from the space people?" Stevens was asked

"No, not at all," he replied. "With the kind of technology they have, they could take over the earth any time they wanted to. They are not here to harm us."

"Then if you, a private citizen, can unearth enough evidence to convince you that UFO's are real, why is it that the U. S. Government, with all its resources, takes such a negative attitude toward the question and apparently ignores the existence of UFO's?"

"For two reasons," Stevens replied. "First, simply because the Government doesn't have any answers."

"And second, I think they are trying to fathom the space man's technology without letting some other government find it first. We don't want to give Russia, for example, any information like this," he said.

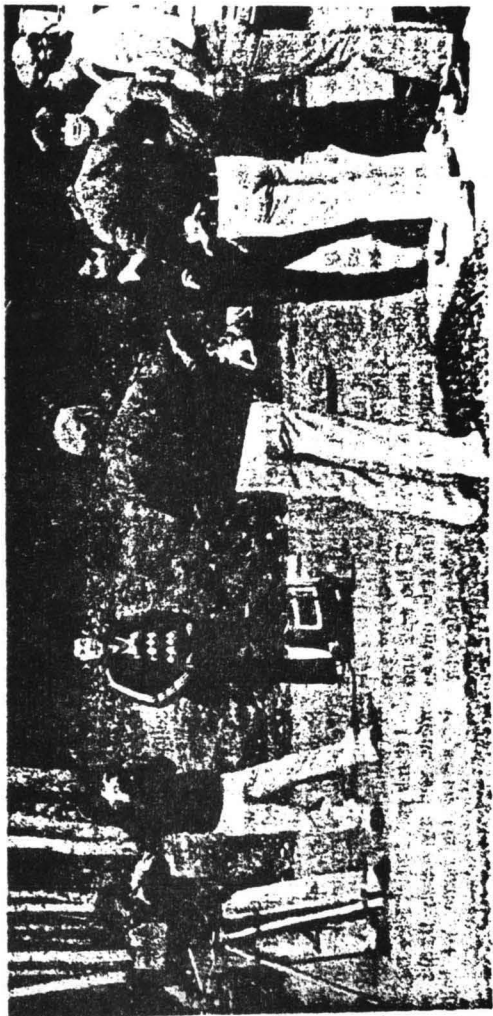
"I am convinced that the U. S. Government has much more information than they are giving out to the people. I am convinced that they have hundreds of times more information on the subject than I and other private investigators have been able to uncover," Stevens said.

"Has there been any noticeable difference or variation in the style or pattern of UFO visits over the years you have been investigating?" he was asked.

"No," he replied. "The UFO's come and go in pretty much the same pattern they have followed for centuries. They have varying levels of technological advancement."

Jun-Ichi Yaoi said that the Japanese-produced documentary will not be shown in the United States. However, he promised to send Garrett a video-tape copy of the interview. Unfortunately the Easley man and his sons won't be able to understand a word they are saying when they see the re-run.

The producer told them the words will come out of their mouths in Japanese instead of English. The interview will be translated into Japanese and someone with voice tones similar to Garrett's and his sons' will synchronize the words to their lip movements.



Larry Joe Garrett and sons Ricky and Randy, right, are interviewed by Jun-ichi Yaoi (with mike), TV producer from Tokyo, Japan. Other members of the Japanese TV crew are seen at left. (Victory photo)

Interview

What Is It?

MESSENGER, Hillsboro, NH - Dec. 3, 1980

Friday night was dismal with rain and fog creating an almost London-like eeriness over Hillsboro and the area.

But this didn't deter Bob Goss and his wife, who live on Myrtle Street in Hillsboro, from going over to his sister's house on the River Road to play cards for the evening.

The short trek from his home in the family pickup seemed routine enough, but shortly after 8 p.m., while enroute along the River Road, he viewed a phenomenon that "was like nothing else he had ever seen in 30 years of life."

A blue flash of light shot in front of his pickup. At first, the couple thought it might be the lights of a police car in pursuit. Bob slowed his truck down and glanced over his right shoulder through the window directly behind his head. There, hovering over tree tops some 1/2 mile away, was a large, ball-shaped object glowing brilliantly despite the adverse weather conditions.

"It wasn't a plane, helicopter or the moon," Goss said. "It wasn't like anything I have ever seen before," Goss said. Goss said that there was no sound and the object disappeared as quickly as it appeared.

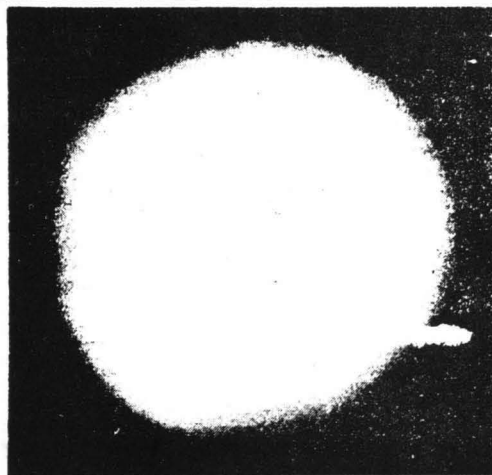
An avowed skeptic on the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects, Bob is now having second thoughts. "I can't explain what I saw, but I definitely know there was something out there," Goss said.

Bob's sighting apparently was not an isolated incident that evening. The Hillsboro police department received several calls from people in the same area about seeing a UFO.

Bob Giglio of Hillsboro, a free-lance photographer who has studied the UFO question in the area for four years, picked up the UFO calls to the police department over his scanner at approximately 8:30 p.m. that evening. He went up to the Old Henniker Road near the old Gray farm when a bright, multi-colored light enveloped his car and the road directly in front of him.

He then looked to the east and saw the large bright object drifting over a house some 100 feet above the roof. The object moved from east to west directly in front of Giglio's car and then vanished into the murky night. Bob had just enough time to snap two shots with his camera. The results are shown in the photo above.

The question does not seem to be whether people are actually seeing something in the sky, but WHAT IS IT?



WHAT IS IT? This brilliantly-lit object was photographed Friday night on the Old Henniker Road by free-lance photographer Bob Giglio of Hillsboro. Several local people had similar sightings in the same area at approximately the same time. This is not an isolated incident, according to Giglio. He has over 50 taped interviews of people who have had sightings in the area over the last four years. The sightings have attracted some regional and national coverage with an article in the Boston Globe, a Channel 4 News Magazine segment and a soon to be published article in McCall's Magazine. It is expected to hit the newsstands on December 15th.

[Photo By News-5 Bob Giglio]

UFO is reported at Clifton

CLIFTON: "We don't know what it was, but I've never seen anything like it before. It was absolutely eerie!"

This was the statement last Friday by a reputable resident of Clifton when asked about the sighting of an unidentified flying object—more commonly termed a UFO.

The object in the night sky on Wednesday—whatever it was—was not seen by just one person. In fact, scores of area residents saw it and, unlike most such sightings, all of the descriptions coincided, with the exception of a few small details.

A Clifton businesswoman stated, "I was a non-believer until Wednesday night! The object that I saw was triangular in shape with several rows of lights. It appeared to be reddish in color.

"It seemed to be above the Plant Site area," she continued, "and, after circling, headed off toward New Mexico. Before the lights went out of sight, however, it returned and circled an area to the south of town. This happened several times. It was very large, very low, and very quiet. The only sound I heard was a soft, dull jet-like sound, but it definitely was not a jet," she concluded.

This recount of the sighting tallied with that of four other people contacted by the Courier Friday. Most of those who saw the object were reluctant to have their names used, fearing ridicule. However, it was not only individuals who were witnesses to the "happening," but also groups of people who actually stood on the sidewalk, or elsewhere, and watched the unknown object.

Another reputable person stated, "On Wednesday night about 7 o'clock my sister and I were just getting into our car, when she saw something in the sky. It was a low-flying something, with yellow lights and was shaped like a triangle. At that time it was near the Phelps Dodge weather station.

"It circled around the area," she continued, "and then disappeared. Then, about 7:20, it seemed to come out of the mountain area around Metcalf and crossed the canyon. At this time, we were with a group of people and it came toward us very low and slow. I clearly saw the bottom of it and there were yellow, jet-shaped lights," the viewer said. "There was a sort of white light shining backward underneath the body, lighting it up very clearly. Then it disappeared for a while."

Again, about 8 p.m., the strange craft (for want of a better word) made another appearance, but at more of a distance. The configuration of lights on the object had changed at this sighting.

"It looked as big as the parking lot at the pit mine," said one observer who saw the object at various times that evening. "There was no noise and it just seemed to float through the air. The night was perfectly clear and there was no smelter smoke in the area."

Another man, a lifelong resident of the community and now retired, told the Courier, "Both my wife and I saw whatever it was. We're used to airplanes overhead day and night and this didn't even move like a plane. Also, there was no sound."

At this point, his description varied somewhat from the others. "We saw four lights on the object—two white and two red—and they seemed to be in tandem, like a chase, but there was no variance in the distance between them. Then, at one point, the direction changed to where the lights were moving 'sideways,' and whatever it was seemed to be shaped like a kite, or diamond-shaped.

"One thing I'm sure of," the man continued, "whatever it was was tremendously big and the way the lights were spaced solidly there's no possibility that they were all on

separate crafts. I don't know what it was, but it was definitely a flying object of some sort," the man concluded.

In contacting people on the "sighting," the Courier made it a point to talk to people who did not work together and, to the best of anyone's knowledge, were not together that Wednesday evening. This, it was felt, provided more of an opportunity for variance in descriptions and opinions.

One lady stated, "I know that there must be some logical explanation for the whole thing, but I have not the slightest notion what it might be."

The incident was reported, by telephone, to the agency in Washington, D.C., that receives and investigates reports of such sightings.

Making a trip to Clifton to talk to people about the sighting was Jim McCoy, field investigator for the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Tucson. The APRO, over many years, has gained national recognition for its research efforts on the matter of unidentified aerial phenomena.

On Monday of this week, additional reports on the incident were received by the Courier and, apparently, the object in question returned to the Clifton area Friday night but was not viewed by as many people.

It has also been reported that the sightings last week were not isolated happenings, but that similar incidents have been happening over the past months. However, none of the sightings have been as definite and descriptive as the recent ones. Also, some of the latest reports term the strange craft a "mother ship," as two accounts tell of smaller objects leaving it—one moving off toward New Mexico and the other toward Safford—and then returning to their original place.

Needless to say, there are also some reports that, based on others, have been discounted as to some of the details.

The Courier talked to another area resident who reported a firsthand experience Friday night. The man and his family were inside their home when a neighbor drove up and began honking his car horn. The family went outdoors and the neighbor said, "Look at that! What is it?"

The homeowner related that it was about 6:30 p.m. and above his house was an object that "looked like a boomerang with lights" sort of floating above them. It appeared to be around 1,000 feet above them, as well as the man could guess. The object then left.

"About an hour later," the resident told the Courier, "whatever it was returned and we became aware of it because of loud noise and a feeling of vibration. Our little girl went outside and then called us, pointing upward. There it was again," the man continued, "just seeming to float there and it had reddish-amber lights. I'm familiar with helicopters and it definitely was not a craft of that kind. I have no idea as to its size, but it was big," he concluded.

There are other people, in professional positions, who allegedly witnessed some of the sightings last week, but had not been contacted at press-time. Also, some of the witnesses are unavailable for comment.

So... the mystery, at this point, remains unsolved. However, it is definite that the people of the Clifton area did see something that was extremely out of the ordinary—something for which an explanation is unknown.

Whether this will go the way of the Air Force's Project Blue Book, or whether knowledgeable researchers will come up with some explanation remains to be seen.

In the meantime, speculation continues.

That's incredible!

First, UFO hovered; then, the media

By DEB RICHARDSON-MOORE
News staff writer

ANDERSON — Things haven't been normal around the Jerry McAlister household for months. Three months, to be exact. It was three months ago Thursday that the 40-year-old electrician heard the hum heard 'round the world.

On Sept. 11 McAlister heard that helicopterlike hum. He saw those blinding flashes of light from a giant saucer that hovered just above the trees in his back yard.

And now, a film crew from the ABC-TV show "That's Incredible!" is coming to the house on Purnell Road Dec. 20-21 to interview the McAlisters and to "re-enact" those fateful pre-dawn moments of Sept. 11. But the interest of a network TV show willing to pay \$750 for the story is no more incredible than the attention the family has received from all over the world.

A Japanese film crew from the Nippon Television Network came to get footage for a documentary. They contributed \$200. A reporter and a photographer from the National Enquirer, the supermarket-distributed weekly that is second in national circulation only to TV Guide, spent a day with the McAlisters. The result appeared in the Dec. 9 issue with one of the publication's typically low-key headlines — "Burned by a UFO."

But McAlister is much more kindly disposed toward the Enquirer — which paid him another \$200 — than toward The Globe, a similar publication. In its Nov. 4 issue, The Globe ran a story that quoted McAlister directly although a reporter never contacted him. "They didn't call me or nothing," said McAlister, pointing to the things he allegedly told the magazine.

In addition, McAlister said he's been contacted by staff personnel from both "The Tonight Show" and "The Merv Griffin Show." He said he's willing to appear on both shows and is only waiting for confirmations of dates.

Reporters and producers haven't been the only ones calling, however. McAlister and his wife, Faye, have received calls and visits from interested people all over, many of them scientists.

An article in a South American newspaper led to their strangest communication. A man in Paraguay wrote a letter, requesting in fractured English that McAlister send him an Arabian language textbook because it was hard to obtain one in Paraguay.

The widespread publicity accorded McAlister's sighting is apparently due to the corroboration of his tale: Besides the close-up view described by Jerry, Faye and the oldest of their five daughters, 14 witnesses, including four sheriff's deputies, claimed to have seen something in the sky after the saucer allegedly sped from McAlister's yard.

At 8:05 a.m., one hour after the object finally lifted from telescopic view over Broadway Lake, an Easley man claimed it passed over his yard. Larry Garrett described the huge, purplish-gray saucer to an artist in the Pickens County Sheriff's Department. Artist Mickey Tate said it was practically identical to the drawing he concocted from McAlister's description.

Oddly enough, Garrett has received little attention from his sighting. Only local journalists, the Japanese film crew and a California radio reporter have called him. "I haven't pushed this thing," Garrett said. "But if anybody calls and asks me, I'll tell them."

Further credibility was afforded the story by two investigators from a UFO research group in New York, who classified McAlister's sighting "as a close encounter of the second kind," one in which physical evidence is found.

Pete Mazzola and Jim Fillow, international directors of the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, flew to Anderson Sept. 11 and spent the next two days with the McAlisters. They reported finding higher-than-normal traces of radiation in the exposed area of the yard.

Moreover, the bureau reported, the three McAlisters who saw the craft up close suffered mild eye burns from the bright lights. McAlister said his irritation was the worst and lasted four days.

In reaching its conclusion that the Anderson sighting was authentic, the bureau team analyzed taped statements of all the witnesses on a voice stress analyzer. The machine is the most advanced lie-detection unit available.

UFO seen in Will County is further investigated

The unidentified flying object reported recently by Linda Berger, of Route 1, 248th ave. in Wheatland Township, was also witnessed by the Will County Sheriff's Department two nights earlier.

Mrs. Berger reported her sighting to the Will County Sheriff at 5:30 a.m. the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and was told that it had been observed by the department since Monday.

Lt. Karl Sincinski and Sgt. Jay Mau investigated a report of a UFO sighting on Monday, Nov. 24. They observed the object from 4:30 to 6 a.m. Sincinski described it as being, "one huge, huge, bright light." He said, "It had no discernible shape or size to it because of the (night's) darkness." When describing its movement, he said, "It traveled horizontally across the sky from north to south, then it arched rapidly to the east and back to the north in just a second's time and stopped suddenly." He said that it ascended very slowly after-

wards until the officers lost sight of it.

Mrs. Berger also observed the object in the early morning for approximately two hours. She didn't witness any horizontal movement, but said that it appeared to ascend slowly the entire length of time she saw it; until 7:30 a.m., when it rose so quickly that it was out of sight in a matter of minutes. Since she saw it in the day light, she was able to observe that it appeared to be about the size of a jet airliner and shaped like a saucer, with four headlights on its sides.

The Sheriff's Department sent a report to The Center for UFO Studies in Evanston. Sincinski received a call from Alan Hendry, chief investigator for the center who said that it could not have been a star or planet because of the movement Sincinski described. They also sent a report to The National UFO Center in Seattle, Wash., where the object has been given a case number.

Officials offer no reason for apparent UFO sightings

By STEWART JENNISON

Messenger-Inquirer

HARTFORD — Airport, Army and weather service officials say they have no explanation for the mysterious display of moving lights apparently witnessed by dozens of Ohio County residents Sunday night.

More residents came forward Tuesday with reports of their sightings after realizing they were not the only ones who may have encountered unidentified flying objects that clear, cool night.

"If my neighbor hadn't mentioned it, I guarantee I'd have never said anything to anybody about it," said Charlie Jones, who watched the bright lights from his farm in Olaton, south of Fordsville.

"Several people saw a lot of different things," said Paul May, chief of Dundee's volunteer fire department. "That's all you'd hear, everywhere you'd go today."

Bobby Martin, a Hartford city policeman who was called out to verify a sighting Sunday night, said he drove along Kentucky 69 until he saw red, blue and white blinking lights. "It looked like someone had launched a Christmas tree," he said.

His wife, Betty, and children saw something, too, from the hill near their home. But Mrs. Martin said the colorful lights they saw disappeared for a while after an aircraft that sounded like a helicopter flew into the same area. The possible UFO lights reappeared later, but in a different location, she said.

Martin said the flashing lights were "tremendously high" and stationary, with lights that blinked slowly.

Martin said that in 22 years of police work, he had talked to several people who thought they had seen unidentifiable objects in the air. "This was the first time I ever really saw what people would call a UFO. What made me think

I was seeing something unusual was that it was so high and still. I looked 10 or 15 minutes, and it never moved."

The policeman said that his 17-year-old son has a strong interest in UFOs but that the experience left the boy worried to death.

"I saw something, but I don't know what," said Jones, the Olaton farmer. He described a dim light moving at a slow speed.

"I watched it about a minute. Then it turned straight up about 20 feet. Then five or six lights shot off and left a trace, like a firework. It was like a Roman candle, but the brightest light I've ever seen."

The lights arched out and down, in the shape of a mushroom, he said. "It was like nothing I've ever seen before."

Fire Chief May, who lives near the Martins and was in the Air Force, preferred a more conventional explanation for what he saw. One object was "definitely an aircraft, with red and white beacon lights," he said, but two others were hard to distinguish. They were possibly weather balloons, or high-altitude jets on a training maneuver, he speculated.

But no such explanation could be confirmed by military or aviation officials in the area.

Fort Knox sent out one helicopter on a medical mission around noon Sunday, but aside from that, the base was shut down to a holiday schedule, according to a spokesman.

Fort Campbell officials said only one or two helicopters left the post Sunday and probably didn't get as far as Ohio County.

The National Weather Service office in Evansville said weather balloons are sometimes released from Nashville and Salem, Ill., but such balloons, which carry an instrument package, do not have multi-colored lights. The Nash-

ville office could not be reached to confirm any Sunday launchings.

At the same time, airport tower officials in Owensboro and Evansville each said they received no reports from pilots on any usual air traffic.

"We seldom get UFO reports," the Evansville supervisor said, "but pilots would be reluctant to report them."

At least one organization, the privately funded Center for UFO Studies, based in Evanston, Ill., will probably investigate the sightings, according to Alan Hendry, the chief investigator, based in Stone Mountain, Ga.

The incident was reported to the UFO Center by the Ohio County sheriff's office through a special telephone message service made available only to law enforcement personnel.

The center receives thousands of UFO reports each year but investigates only those that seem to offer the most research value, Hendry said. He said he plans to make inquiries in the Ohio County encounters, chiefly because of the credibility of the witnesses, who include members of the sheriff's office and a Kentucky State Police trooper.

The most detailed report came from deputy Frank Chinn, said he saw a total of eight objects, including six that followed the same flight path in a stair-stepped pattern.

Chinn, who observed the UFOs through binoculars and a telescope, said they could hover quietly, then dart quickly to another location.

The deputy's observations began about 5:30 p.m. and continued until clouds moved in about 10 p.m.

One reason so many persons saw, or thought they saw UFOs, was that reports about the sightings over police radio were monitored over scanners, May said, and this sent people out to see for themselves.

CR: R. Heiden

Many report seeing UFO in Waushara County

WAUTOMA — "Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird, it's a plane, no, it's — it's, what is it?"

That seems to be the question numerous Waushara County residents are asking themselves since sightings of an unidentified flying object were reported Saturday evening and today.

While the talk around town seems to be concerned with the sightings Saturday night, Gary Fingres of Wild Ros, said the Northwestern he saw a UFO about 6:15 a.m., today near County Trunk H and W.

Fingres said he saw lights about 150 to 200 feet in the air and thought at first it was a helicopter. He said he looked closer and all he could see were lights and nothing solid. He also said he saw the same thing last Tuesday at around the same time. The sky was clear both times, he said.

A Wautoma woman who said the UFO Saturday night said it seemed to be circling over the Redgranite area. She said it continued moving around and never remained in one place. She said there were two things in the air but the second object never moved and she had no idea what either object was. "It was kind of fun watching it," she said.

A husband and wife in the Poy Sippi area, who did not want to be identified, spotted the UFO at 8:45 p.m., Saturday. He said he was sure it was a plane but said the strange thing about the object was that it had unusually strong landing or belly lights. He said usually landing lights point towards the front but the lights on the UFO were more in the center and exceptionally bright. He said it was about 1,000 to 1,500 feet

in the air and was traveling in a northwest direction. He said the sighting could have been due to the cold weather.

They saw the object for about 30 seconds.

A spokesman from the Waushara County Sheriff's Department said they finally gave up trying to keep track of calls from persons reporting the UFO. He said the sightings were probably due to the clear, cold nights and northern lights, with reflections from objects in space.

The sightings were reported from 8 to 10 p.m. throughout the county but mainly in the eastern portion which includes Wautoma, Mount Morris, Redgranite and Poy Sippi.

The spokesman said four sheriff's deputies on duty also reported seeing the UFO. The sightings were not reported to any federal agencies, the

spokesman said.

Harold Lingen Jr., Wild Rose, was at a neighbor's house listening to the police scanner when he became aware of the sightings. He decided to drive into Wautoma and see if he could spot the object.

When returning to Wild Rose from Wautoma, traveling north on Highway 22, he saw a bright, solid, round white light coming from the east and traveling west.

Lingen said he was a few miles north of Wautoma when he spotted the light.

Lingen said he continued to watch the light and when it got over the highway, ahead of his car, it stopped for a couple of seconds and then took off continuing west.

Lingen said it wasn't a plane and the light was very bright.

Sightings of UFOs reported

By STEWART JENNISON

Messenger-Inquirer

ECHOLS — It was no fantasy, said sheriff's deputy Frank Chinn of Ohio County, adding, "and I don't drink."

Chinn, at first reluctantly, was explaining how he sighted eight brightly colored, unidentified flying objects in Ohio County Sunday night.

Among the witnesses were another sheriff's deputy and a Kentucky State Police trooper.

In addition, the Ohio County Sheriff's office received several reports of the sightings Monday after getting 14 such calls Sunday night.

Chinn said he was at his home in Echols, about 1 1/2 miles south of Rockport, when six objects following an

identical flight path began traveling slowly out of the southeastern sky, beginning about 5:30 p.m.

The deputy called for verification from State Police, and Trooper Don Beemer said he arrived in time to see one of the objects leaving.

Chinn said he saw two more UFOs later in the evening, at times using a pair of binoculars. Chinn said he and fellow deputy Johnny Cooper also watched one UFO through a telescope set up on a tripod at a Centertown gas station.

Chinn said he saw rotating red, green and yellow lights, which through the telescope resembled lights through the facets of an upside-down diamond.

Chinn, a former Marine, said, "I

don't know any aircraft of ours that could move like that — so slow and no sound. It was definitely not a helicopter."

Beemer said that by the time he arrived, the object looked like a bright star changing colors. Beemer, a Vietnam veteran, said he couldn't be sure what it was, but he was sure what it wasn't.

"It was no airplane and it wasn't a helicopter. It took forever to move across the sky."

The Ohio County Sheriff's radio dispatcher said that she contacted a UFO reporting center and the Henderson State Police post but that there were no reports of downed aircraft, search parties or off-course weather balloons.

Sheriff gets 3 reports of UFO sightings

Several residents who live along Highway 18 north of Morgantown phoned the Burke sheriff's department early this morning to report sighting unidentified flying objects.

The Burke Sheriff's Department received three reports from people claiming they saw the UFO's at 7:30 this morning.

The three reported seeing the same thing. They said several small saucer-shaped objects were flying just above the tree line. The callers said the small objects flew through the door of a large saucer-shaped object which had been hovering in the sky.

Then in less than a second the large UFO disappeared.

A sheriff's deputy was dispatched to the area, but the deputy reported he did not find anything.

UFO'S dominate area skies

The Waushara County Sheriff's Department was so besieged with calls on unidentified flying objects last Saturday night that the department eventually gave up trying to keep a record of the sightings.

A spokesman for the department said he believed the sightings resulted from the aurora borealis, the northern lights, and clear, cold nights.

The sightings were reported from about 8-10 p.m. Jan. 3 primarily in eastern Waushara County — Redgranite, Poy Sippi, Mt. Morris, and Wautoma.

The spokesman said four sheriff's deputies saw a UFO while on duty but

that the sightings were not reported to any federal agencies.

Area residents reported seeing exceptionally bright flashes of bouncing lights, with some speeding away at excessively high speeds and others remaining stationary, temporarily, in the skies.

No one reported encountering any aliens or other unearthly creatures, however. It's a lucky thing it wasn't New Year's Eve.

UFO Is Seen Cruising Over Mount Union

A silver, saucer-shaped object with flashing orange lights was sighted in the Mount Union area shortly after midnight Tuesday night. The unidentified object, flying at roof-top heights, was reported to have skimmed over the L.O.O.F. cemetery, nearly colliding with a house on Halley Street, before disappearing into the wooded area adjacent to the cemetery. The object reappeared several hours later flying in the opposite direction. Several sightings of a similar object were reported in the Mount Union area earlier this week.

CR: P. Guttilla

REVIEWS, Herman, MN Feb. 5, 1981 CR: B. Moore

Flashes

Ray's brother, Scotty, stopped in last week to tell us about the display of lights in the sky on January 23.

He saw the two bright flashes as he was going out to the barn to check on his sheep, which were lambing. The first flash of "white light" he thought was the yard light coming on. Then he realized that the yard light was already on.

He looked up after the second flash and saw a round ball or disk hang in the northern sky, then go out. He said that the disk of light had clearly defined edges and didn't move. "It was like a small moon."

After the display of lights, he said, there was a rumble.

His description of the light show is similar to that of others. But the disk of light was something we had not heard about before.

It all happened, he said, about 11:10 p.m.

Daily takes scientific approach to hairy monsters, UFO's

by Deborah R. Hamilton

When John Daily says he has seen an eight-foot hairy monster and a flying saucer with a lime-green light, his acquaintances sometimes doubt his sanity.

The Bromley resident, however, is not bothered by their opinions. His adventures have given him insight experienced by few UFO and Bigfoot investigators. Someday, he may build an observatory in his backyard.

Now he hopes his tales of research and close encounters will spark interest in other northern Kentuckians. With the coming of the new year, Mr. Daily plans to initiate a Kentucky chapter of Unidentified Flying Object Investigators League, to be known as KUFOIL (pronounced kay-you-foil).

After 30 hours of training, KUFOIL members may take a four-part test to become an investigator. Their first assignment, he says, will be solving the mystery of Maysville's two Bigfoots.

Other local cases that remain open are the Big Bone Beast and Covington's Satan, he adds.

His own encounters with Bigfoot and a UFO came before he joined the Ohio UFOIL in April.

The UFO sighting occurred at Carriage House apartments, Florence, in 1978. He relates how he and his friend were sitting in his mother's living room when a noise like a truck started rattling the window panes. "Then the room lit up with a lime-green cast," he recalls. "It looked like an infrared light, but it was lime green."

While the room was bathed in the green's light, neither man was able to move. Whether the light had a physical or psychological effect on their immobility, he could not say. But he did say he felt as if something were searching him.

When the light vanished, he jumped up and ran to the window where he saw

a UFO hovering above a tree across the street about 200 feet away. By the time his friend made it to this side, the craft was speeding off into the sky. The friend caught only a glimpse of the object.

Mrs. Daily, who was upstairs, missed the visual effects, but wanted to know what the racket was about.

Actually, UFOs are only a secondary fascination with Mr. Dailey. "You don't go looking for UFOs," he says. "They'll find you if they want to."

What he can go looking for is Bigfoots. And that is how he discovered one in Colorado.

He had been investigating such hairy creatures with friends out West since age 13. In 1976, he accompanied friends into the mountains of Colorado on a three-week trek for Bigfoot.

One day they heard a suspicious noise and dove into bushes to hide. Within eight feet of them passed an eight-foot-tall animal with brown hair all over its body. Judging from depth of its foot print, they determined it weighed about 369 pounds.

His ultimate goal is to find a Bigfoot and safely capture it, he says. He describes himself as a nature freak who could not hurt a Bigfoot if he met it face to face.

In the meantime, he continues his search, trying to validate and invalidate information supplied by witnesses.

His most recent investigation is of the Maysville beast which showed its shaggy face four times in the last five months. He is convinced there are two separate Bigfoots, a white one and a brown one, wandering the area between Maysville, Mays Lick and Flemingsburg.

He has talked with eye witnesses involved with sightings made in August and on Oct. 4, Oct. 10 and Nov. 5. Three of the sightings were of a white beast; one was of a brown creature.

All witnesses reported the thing had animal-like eyes which reflected light.

In one instance, the animal entered a house and stole liver, bread, two chickens and an oatmeal cake from a freezer. White hair was found on a studded snow tire near the freezer and on a door knob.

Two witnesses say they shot at the thing, one from 20 feet with a 12-gauge shot gun and the other from 30 feet. Both times, the Bigfoot escaped.

A specimen of brown hair was obtained after one sighting as well as a sample of blood, Mr. Daily says.

If he can round up enough investigators by February, Mr. Dailey plans to camp out on a farm where one of the sightings happened. The farmer has already granted him permission to trespass, he says.

That is a big advantage of being an actual UFOIL investigator rather than a hobbyist, he explains. People are more willing to talk to someone and cooperate with someone bearing credentials, he relates. "We're specialists in the field."

As soon as he has enough people interested in joining KUFOIL, he will begin training sessions. Sessions generally meet on Saturdays for three hours. Prospective members must attend 10 sessions plus a field test before taking their written test.

Yearly dues are \$15 to cover material costs, he added. Investigator's must pay an additional \$2 yearly. Dues entitle one to attend all meetings and sessions and receive a quarterly newsletter on area investigations.

For \$2 annually, one may join a league as a spotter and receive the newsletter without going to meetings.

The organization is strictly non-profit, he notes, and dues and expenses incurred during investigations are tax deductible. He is in the process of having the organization incorporated, he adds.

Currently, he is the only investigator in northern Kentucky. To cover the area well, he would like to have a full crew of about 20 investigators with whom to work, he says.

By the time new members finish his course, they are expected to know how to determine fraudulent sightings, interview witnesses, accumulate data, file reports, judge distances and craft types, and recognize standard aircraft. Simulated landings in the wilderness and follow-up investigations are also part of the training.

Learning what natural phenomena can cause reported UFO sightings is important, he says. Persons often mistake lightning balls, meteors, comets, mirages, balloon spiders, Venus, Jupiter, and marsh gas for alien crafts, he explains.

UFOs, he theorizes, carry alien life, to determine how far advanced earth dwellers are and how fast earth has progressed scientifically.

Bigfoots, on the other hand, are probably the missing link between man and ape, he continues. For some reason, the Bigfoot failed to evolve as rest of his race did, he claims.

The earliest Bigfoot sightings that he has investigated were of a beast known as Satan in Covington during the early

1960's. Two boys spotted the thing in Winston Park in 1962, while an 18-year-old man spied it twice in 1964.

The 18-year old first ran into it at Goebel Park. The creature followed the young man home, however, and hit

500 feet off the ground. "It seemed to be no more than an easterly direction and said the object was traveling in a green and white light moving very far off the ground because as it went over Gosport it looked to be at tree top level. From where we live that meant it couldn't be very far off the ground." Parker said "the tail was really the amazing thing. It was huge compared to the size of the main object. It looked like something out of a Buck Rogers movie. I'd like to see it again."

In the second report Mrs. Parrish said she and her husband were also watching TV when she caught sight of the object "out of the corner of my eye." They live on highway 67 near the Deck Redi-Mix plant and she indicated the object "appeared to be green and wasn't very far from the house." She described the object as round while her husband noted it seemed to be more oblong. . .

Parker admitted "I've seen some strange things before but nothing like this. It was really crazy. I know it wasn't very far off the ground because as it went over Gosport it looked to be at tree top level. From where we live that meant it couldn't be very far off the ground." Parker said "the tail was really the amazing thing. It was huge compared to the size of the main object. It looked like something out of a Buck Rogers movie. I'd like to see it again."

In the minutes that followed several reports of the same kind were issued in Morgan County with the last report coming at 9:35 p.m. from an area over highway 135. About 9:55 p.m. a weather bulletin came over the local police radio indicating a meteor shower was expected in the central Indiana area Saturday night...but Parker stressed "there's no way that was a meteor. I've never heard of a meteor traveling parallel to the ground for that long. This was the first time I ever called the police about anything like this. I'd sure like to know what it was."

'UFO' Reports Focus Interest On Gosport Area Saturday Night

EVENING WORLD, Spencer, IN - Jan. 5, 1981 CR: J. Stevers

The Lake Hollybrook resident said his wife was watching TV when she saw a bright object go past a window near the TV. "Seconds later we both saw it through the kitchen window and ran to the [UFO], was described by Parker as a very bright yellow, pato to get a better look." He reported about 9:20 then less than three minutes later, Mrs. and Mrs. Bud Parrish who also

live west of Gosport...plus additional reports were heard over police communications from Morgan county sources reported their sighting to Sheriff's Department and received. The Parkers made their report about 9:20 then less than three minutes later, Mrs. and Mrs. Bud Parrish who also

to 20 seconds near their home. They called the Owen County Sheriff's Department and reported their sighting to Sheriff's Department and received. The Parkers made their report about 9:20 then less than three minutes later, Mrs. and Mrs. Bud Parrish who also

of a Buck Rogers movie" was the explanation given by an Owen County man Saturday night following multiple sightings of a strange object in the area over the Gosport area. Earl Parker, 37, who lives near the Lake Hollybrook dam west of Gosport, indicated he and his wife, Cheryl, watched a "very strange" object for 15

but neither noticed the tail Parker had witnessed.

Mrs. Parrish admitted "I yelled at my husband that it looked like a flying saucer in the yard and I guess I kinda sat there in a daze for a few seconds." She said the object was traveling east and she was absolutely sure it wasn't an airplane.

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3 UFO's Sighted In Central Pa. In 1980

By MIKE SHORT
Express Staff Writer
MILESBURG — During the last few years, unidentified flying objects have been sighted in north-central Pennsylvania.

Ernie Dabiero, Box 651, Milesburg, who is an investigator for the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research, has released eyewitness reports of the sightings to The Express.

Three sightings were reported to Dabiero in 1980.

On Sunday, Nov. 30 at 10 a.m. a Snow Shoe man and his friends said they saw a football-shaped object hovering in the southeast sky. The object was surrounded by a blue ring, and the object made little movement.

When the object did move, the observers reported, it moved in the shape of a "W."

The witnesses said they watched the object through a telescope, but could hear no noises coming from the craft. The Snow Shoe man and his friends observed the object for one-half hour.

"Until an investigation is completed, this is all the information available," Dabiero told The Express.

In the second 1980 sighting in north-central Pennsylvania, a State College man reported seeing a "strange" configuration of lights in the northeast sky in late October. He told Dabiero that he observed the lights for three straight nights and said the lights remained stationary in the night sky. The man said the sightings took place at dusk.

"This (sighting) was, and is classified as a combination of stars and constellations," Dabiero said about the State College sighting.

The third 1980 sighting occurred sometime in late September to early October, on the Tyrone Bypass between State College and Tyrone, Dabiero said.

The witness reported seeing a silver and metallic object on the west side of the bypass. The object, it was reported, had no apparent

wing span or method of propulsion, and no noise from the object was audible.

The report said the day was clear, when the sighting occurred, sometime between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.

The object was shaped like a helicopter with no propeller blades or tail, and it held a steady speed, the report said.

The witness guessed the size of the craft to be comparable to a compact car, and was sloped in the back.

In releasing this information, Dabiero asked that the names of the witnesses be withheld, since the witnesses were guaranteed confidentiality by the Center for UFO Research.

The center was formed in 1966 as the Westmoreland County UFO Study Group and then, in 1973, changed its name and became a statewide organization where state residents could report UFO sightings on a confidential basis.

A center brochure says the organization does not advocate any political, religious or philosophical causes, or support or become involved in unfounded theories or rumors.

"The functions of the center," the brochure says, "are to investigate UFO sightings, to analyze these reports, to share this data with other organizations, to promote public education and awareness of the phenomena and to provide evidence for scientific research."

Some of the reports Dabiero receives are in great detail, like the following sighting by a Pine Glen, Centre County man, quoted from the description the man scrawled out of what he witnessed:

"Well, let's get one thing straight before I even begin this story. What we did not see was saucer or cigar-shaped spaceship carrying little green people with antennas.

"What we did see was something neither my father nor I can explain and it could be called an unidentified flying object.

"It was a cold, clear summer night as Dad and I headed for my grandparents house in Pottersdale. We were riding in an old 1956 International pickup when I spotted a flying thing that looked like a lighted helicopter.

"However, it was flying strangely closer and closer to the ground as if it was going to wreck. When I pointed it out to Dad he also thought it flew strangely different from a normal helicopter.

"It then disappeared over a hill, leaving Dad and me in a state of amazement. This object, although strange, we both agreed to as being a helicopter.

"What happened next, though, was even more amazing. As we eased down to the bottom of the hill at Clark's fishing ponds, we spied what looked like a red tail-light of a motorcycle at the bottom of (the) hill. It then glided gently up another hill directly in front of us.

"This was nothing weird, just an ordinary night-going motorcycle, right? However, when it reached the peak it did something that caused Dad and me both to open our mouths in shock.

"At the peak of the hill it shot straight into the sky, (and) then jolted down to the peak of the same hill and zigg-zagged quickly to the right into nearby woods.

"When we got to the peak of the same hill, I looked into the woods and saw no sign of any red light. I knew I wasn't seeing things when I asked Dad if he saw the same thing. His surprised expression told me he had seen it even before he answered, yes.

"Although not as big as or mysterious as a flying saucer, Dad and I still can't explain what the red light was."

Reports like the 1978 sighting by the Pine Glen man are received by the center from all over the state. Not all, though, are considered UFO's.

A Monroeville woman who saw a "catamaran"-shaped

object in the sky over Pittsburgh in January, 1980, was informed that her sighting was probably an airplane, according to the center's newsletter.

Lights in the sky over Pittsburgh, reported by a McMurray man, were discounted as lights from helicopters.

On Feb. 25, 1980, at 2:30 p.m., an oil worker was sitting in his truck with the engine running in Youngsville, Warren County.

The radio was on and one of the truck's windows was down when the man heard an explosion with a "whine." He looked to the left, according to the report, and observed a silver object which was saucer-shaped with a small bubble on top. The object was at tree-top level, about 150 yards away, and flying at about 100 miles per hour.

The witness estimated that the craft was the size of two pickups with an aluminum-like body and a plastic or translucent glass bubble the size of the ones mounted on police cars.

The report said no observable markings on the craft were visible, and that two other workers in the area heard the noise but saw nothing. The report is still being investigated.

The center also asks for reports of other strange sightings or occurrences and has received them. Reports of Bigfoot sightings in Bradford County have been received by the center, according to the organization's newsletter. Bigfoot is an ape-like creature of Indian legend.

The center says Pennsylvania has the highest number of UFO sightings in the nation, although 75 percent are found to be some type of natural phenomenon.

The majority of the sightings, the center says, are meteors, balloons, satellites, clouds and the planets, but five to ten percent of the sightings are unexplained.

To contact Dabiero, phone (814) 355-1113. He's interested in the five to ten percent.

UFO spotted in Edwall area

EPHRATA, Wash. — The Grant County Sheriff's Department received an unidentified object report last night from Arlie Eaton of Wenatchee. Eaton reported that he was driving west from Spokane on Highway 28 at about 10:15 p.m., and in the area of Edwall and Reardan he saw a very bright light.

He claims it seemed to be lighting up the ground and at first he believed it to be a jet approaching Spokane for a landing. However, he said, the light remained in one place for a while.

By this time he stopped his car, turned off the lights and got out to observe the light's behavior. He became frightened when the light continued to blaze and returned to his car. The light started moving in a northerly direction until it was out of sight, Eaton said. But as it left he saw two streams of red light trailing behind.

He told the sheriff's office that he will report the sighting to the UFO Research Center in Seattle when he arrives there.

UFOs reported over Tahoe

By JOHN MORRIS

Numerous South Shore residents reported seeing UFOs over the State line area Wednesday night and early today.

While they are being written off as optical illusions, some of the sightings don't match possible explanations.

Apparently the sightings have not been referred to the National UFO Center since the prevalent explanation for the "hovering" object was flood lights on the side of Caesars Tahoe Hotel lower reflecting off of the low-hanging and slowly-moving cloud cover, Douglas County Sheriff's officials said today.

One caller, Albert Fiori of South Lake Tahoe, said the UFOs were seen between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., but doesn't agree with the flood-light theory. He said he saw a "bright blue object" over the Caesars-Sahara Tahoe area that turned and streaked across the lake toward North Shore.

Patrick Bagwell took pictures of the UFO about 5 a.m. and also discounts the flood-light theory.

"When I first saw it, it sent chills right down my spine," Bagwell said, but he grabbed his camera and took pictures as "it's not something you'd let go by."

"People told Bagwell the object was only a reflection of Caesars light, but said there was no beam from the hotel.

"If there's any source of light at the bottom, there's a beam," Bagwell said. "But there wasn't any. I didn't see a beam and there isn't one on the photographs."

Bagwell said the object was "bizarre, triangular in shape with three points to it." He said it was sort of hazy, but clear and brilliant at times, depending on the sky, and yellowish, amberish in the dark night.

"Some people said it moved, but I couldn't say it did," Bagwell said.

Deborah Cody of South Lake Tahoe was among some 50 people who watched the object between 3 and 3:30 a.m. outside of the Sahara Tahoe.

"It was straight overhead, triangular with lights at each point," she said. "It seemed to be moving up because it was very sharp and distinct at first and then became fuzzier as it going up."

The leading point of the silver, yellowish triangle seemed to be facing west, she said.

When told of the flood-light theory, she said it would have to have been "very strange atmospheric conditions if it was a reflection because it was very sharp at first, seemed to be changing directions and getting higher."

Tahoe-Douglas firefighters think they might be responsible for some of the sightings as emergency lights on their engines on two runs, about midnight and at 4:10 a.m., could be seen reflecting off the low clouds.

The timing was about the same at the 4 a.m. fire on Elk Point, Capt. Tim Smith said. "While we were inside on a small fire, the engineer told me he could see the engines red and blue lights reflecting off the clouds."

Smith said the engineer turned off the emergency lights and the objects in the clouds vanished, but reappeared when he switched the lights back on.

The Elk Point run took about 45 minutes and routinely the emergency lights and the blue rotating beacon on the engine would be switched on until firefighters cleared to return to the station, Smith said.

"From the calls, I guess it really looked like something from outer space," a Douglas deputy said, noting an officer on patrol also officially reported a possible UFO, but at 9 p.m. Wednesday night.

The officer's report said he was patrolling southbound on Highway 50 at 2100 hours near Marita Bay when he saw a bright light crossing from his right to left directly to the east over the Zephyr Cove area.

He said the light was bluish-white in color and traveling extremely fast.

The officer thought the light might have been an emergency flare, but in checking the area was unable to locate anything further.

No sightings were reported after sunrise, deputies said.

TAHOE TRIBUNE, South Lake Tahoe, CA - Jan. 15, 1981

Shining Silver Man Stalks Forest Acres Area

HERALD, Grand Forks, ND

Jan. 27, 1981 CR: J. Clark

'A ball of light'

Part of that Friday night sky display hit close to home

By Ryan Bakken
Herald State Editor

Lynn and J.D. Duval were among thousands of people in four states who saw the sky light up Friday night. But Lynn also saw "a ball of light" land in the Grand Forks Country Club parking lot.

"I was facing the window when the sky lit up. I then saw this light, about six feet in diameter, sail over the portico and hit the

parking lot. It was orange, but was blue around the edges.

Her husband, the country club manager, had his back to the window "but the light lit up the entire interior of the building. It was like a camera flash blub, only it lasted a second or two. It wasn't bright enough to hurt the eyes, though.

Thinking at first someone was playing with fireworks, they ran outside. The only evidence they found was a 20-foot diameter circle of dry pavement. The

rest of the lot had a slight ice coating. "It was bare and completely dry," Duval said. "But there were no burn marks, no crater and no object.

"When we heard it was probably a meteor shower, we figured what we saw was the tail end of some bit of meteorite," Herb Monson meteorologist of the National Weather Service, said that's possible.

"From all reports, it sounds like we were in the middle of a meteor shower," he

said. "I'm not sure, but what they saw could have burnt up after it hit the surface. It could have been something in a gaseous form."

The married couple were the only ones at the Country Club when it happened shortly after 11 p.m.

"We were a bit sheepish about reporting it because we were the only ones here," Mrs. Duval said. "But then when we saw it in the papers, we figured we would.

"We knew our friends wouldn't wonder about us because they know we don't drink. But we wondered what others would think."

Unlike some reports, they did not hear a rumbling noise accompanying the light. "It never crossed our minds that it was some flying saucer or such," Duval said. "Neither one of us believe in them."

"But it sure eased our minds when we read others had seen the bright lights, too."

WE ARE NOT ALONE!!

At least that seems to be the case for the residents surrounding the Forest Acres area.

Last Tuesday night around 10 p.m. a person . . . or something in the form of a person was seen at the intersection of Bee Gee and McLeod street wearing a "bright shining metallic space-like suit — covered from head to toe with what appeared to be some sort of space helmet . . . antennas and all," as one local couple report.

One local couple in the vicinity reported that they were returning home last Tuesday night between 9:30 and 10 p.m. when they encountered this unusual being.

As they turned off Barker Ten Mile road they saw some sort of round flashing light toward the turn-off at Bee Gee and McLeod. As they drew near they resolved that the flashing light was coming from a vacant wooded lot on the corner.

The moment they turned the corner onto McLeod street a subject (fitting the description above) came "out of the bushes waving his arms as though signalling for them to stop their car. The strange light proceeded to flash in the woods behind him. Naturally they had enough intellectual ability to ignore the plea of the subject and continue forward, should we say, with a bit more pressure to the accelerator.

When told of this strange occurrence, this reporter did some extensive research and discovered a very bizarre story. According to reports on Robesonian files, almost duplicate reports of this same nature were given to the Sheriff's Department along with a write-up in the Robesonian, six years ago, in the same residential area!

Here is a reprint of the article published in the Robesonian on December 30, 1974

Area Residents Report Sighting UFO Sunday

Multiple sightings of an "object or subject wearing a silver and black suit and wearing some type of helmet" were reported to the county sheriff's department around 10 p.m. Sunday night from the Forest Acres area. County dispatcher Fred Barnes said he received four calls from residents of the area who claimed to have seen the "object or subject" and who reported that what they saw, when sighted, would jump in the bushes at the intersection of Forest Road and Barker Ten Mile Road. Barnes says all the callers sounded sober.

In addition to the man-like appearance, reports were also given of a white object with bright lights flying above Forest Acres.

Four county deputies investigated the sighting but were unable to locate anything.

12-30-74

Photos and Story By Tim Lewis

One of the things that makes this report so interesting is the fact that both stories . . . the one filed six years ago along with the one filed last week occurred in the month of December, around the time of a full moon, and that both occurrences happened at approximately the same time and the same residential area.

Other reports have been given to our staff in addition to the ones on our silver friend.

The railroad track that runs across the Bee Gee through Forest Acres could have some connection with these unearthly encounters. Neighbors living on McLeod Street on the side of the track have reported hearing strange noises along the track in the woods behind their homes. One resident reports hearing strange loud whaling sounds coming out of the woods across the track, north toward Forest Acres. Another resident reported hearing loud voices coming from the railroad track area. "The voices were loud and distinct but I could not understand their vocabulary. It certainly wasn't in the English language, I can tell you that," informed the resident.

About two weeks ago it was reported that a local resident on McLeod Street living on the side of the track, was sitting in the den of their home one night when the lady of the house looked out and saw a figure dash out of their yard into the woods. She had her husband to go outside the house with a flashlight and discovered a set of fence post completely pulled out of the ground. Evidently, this had to have taken super-human strength to have pulled fence-posts out of the earth, bare-handed. That, my friends was exactly how it was done!

All these strange nightly happenings all seem to have taken place on the railroad track in the woods. Also, take in consideration this: in 1974 when our silver friend was seen, it was at the Forest Acres end of the track. In 1980 he was seen at the Bee Gee road section of the tracks. As far as we know, there have been no unusual happening, as of yet anyway, in the Wycliff settlement. Evidently, our "alien from space" prefers Forest Acres.

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7 - THE ROBESONIAN, Lumberton, NC - Jan. 4, 1981)

Could this particular path of track, secluded all to itself surrounded by woods and thick bush, hold unknown mystery and the answers to these unexplainable happenings over the past several years?

Who or what could this be? If this is nothing more than a practical joke, why would one carry over through a six year time span?

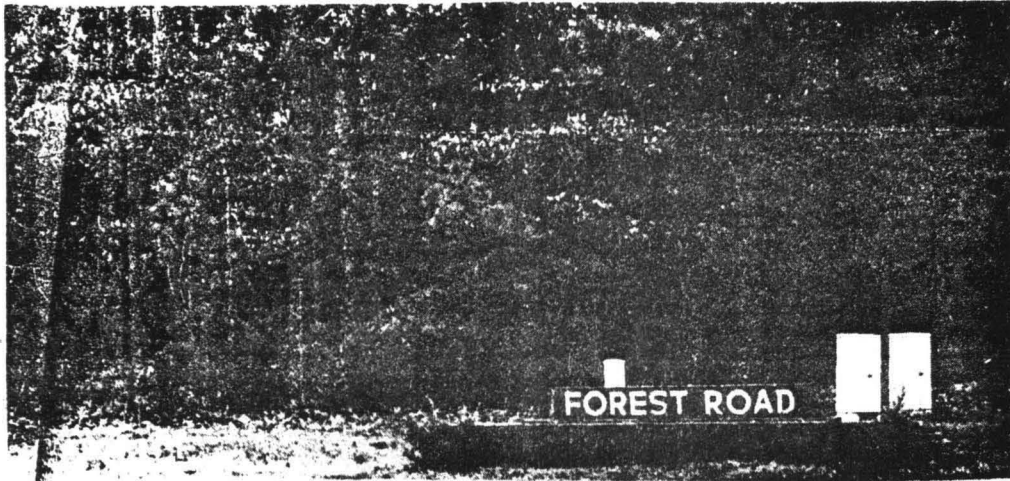
Has he come out before at night perhaps spooking the residents of this area to the point of fearing to report it to the authorities? Does he come out perhaps only in the month of December each year, maybe for some unexplainable reason that we not dare to try to reason?

These are only a few of the questions that have been going through people's mind that live in Forest Acres and have witnessed this form of life. Thankfully enough, whatever or whoever it is, seems to be on the harmless side. The Forest Acres residents just hope that he will stay on the friendly side if he continues to stroll the neighborhood area for the next 6 years or for ever how long.

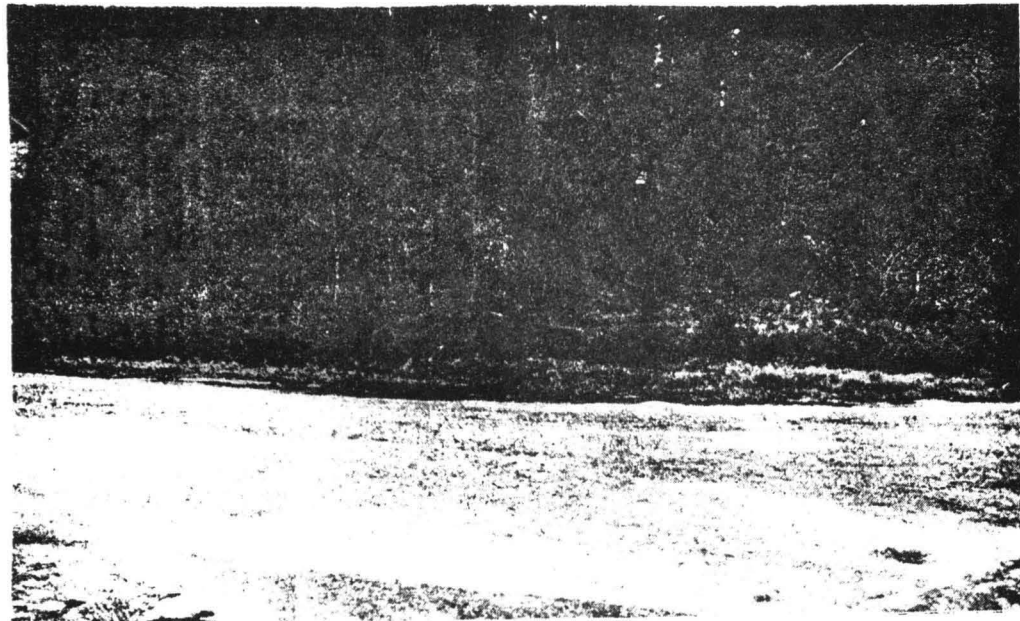
If you live in the Forest Acres area, keep a look out for our shining silver friend. If you want to try and get a look at him, remember that he seems to favor moonlit nights, street corners and the Forest Acres area. Though he has harmed nobody over the years, this reporter advises one to play it safe and don't stop to pick him up, if you see him by the road.



This is a simulated photograph of the Silver Man, produced by Tim Lewis and Betty Bujack of The Robesonian, based on the description given by some residents of the Forest Acres area.



This is the intersection of Forest Road and Barker Ten Mile road where the man in the "shining silver suit" was first reported in 1974. The bushes in the foreground, according to reports, was where he was first sighted.



This is the intersection of Bee Gee and McLeod Street where the man in the "shining silver suit" was reported just last week after what seemed to be a six year rest. He was sighted near the telephone pole in the right-hand corner. There was some sort of bright round flashing light behind where he stood in the woods.

RECORD, Columbia, SC - Feb. 12, 1981 CR: W. Jones

Pilots report encounter with UFO

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UPI) - Two Cupertino, Calif., pilots said they had a close encounter with an unidentified flying object in the skies over San Jose Municipal Airport.

The object was about 10 feet in diameter, they said, and emitted a bright, red, pulsating light.

The strange object was also seen by two controllers in the airport tower but could not be detected on the radar.

Gary Rounds, 21, who was piloting the rented Cessna 150, and his passenger, Charles Shackleford, 20, also a pilot, said the object appeared to head straight for their plane Monday night as they were practicing landings and takeoffs.

Air controller Rich Guterud said the object "was coming right at him. He had to extend upward (climb above) from whatever it was."

"It was really wild," Shackleford said. "First it was in front of us. The next thing we knew it was right behind us."

A close encounter changed his life

By JOE ROGERS

JACKSON DAILY NEWS Staff Writer

PASCAGOULA — Calvin Parker's life hasn't been quite the same since he told the world that creatures from another planet took him aboard their spaceship.

A quiet fellow by nature, he wasn't ready for the kind of attention a story like that brought. Nobody could hear enough.

He didn't mind talking to serious people — those who wanted to know more about what happened but he couldn't handle the crackpots, the ones who threatened to kill him.

"You run into a few of everything," he said, looking back on it.

Second look

Things soon got so hectic he decided to disappear. Now, seven years later, his own mother still isn't sure exactly where he lives, but the *Jackson Daily News* was able to talk to him in a telephone interview from Denver.

"I've been staying out of sight. I had to work and make a living. People just would not leave me alone."

This is his story.

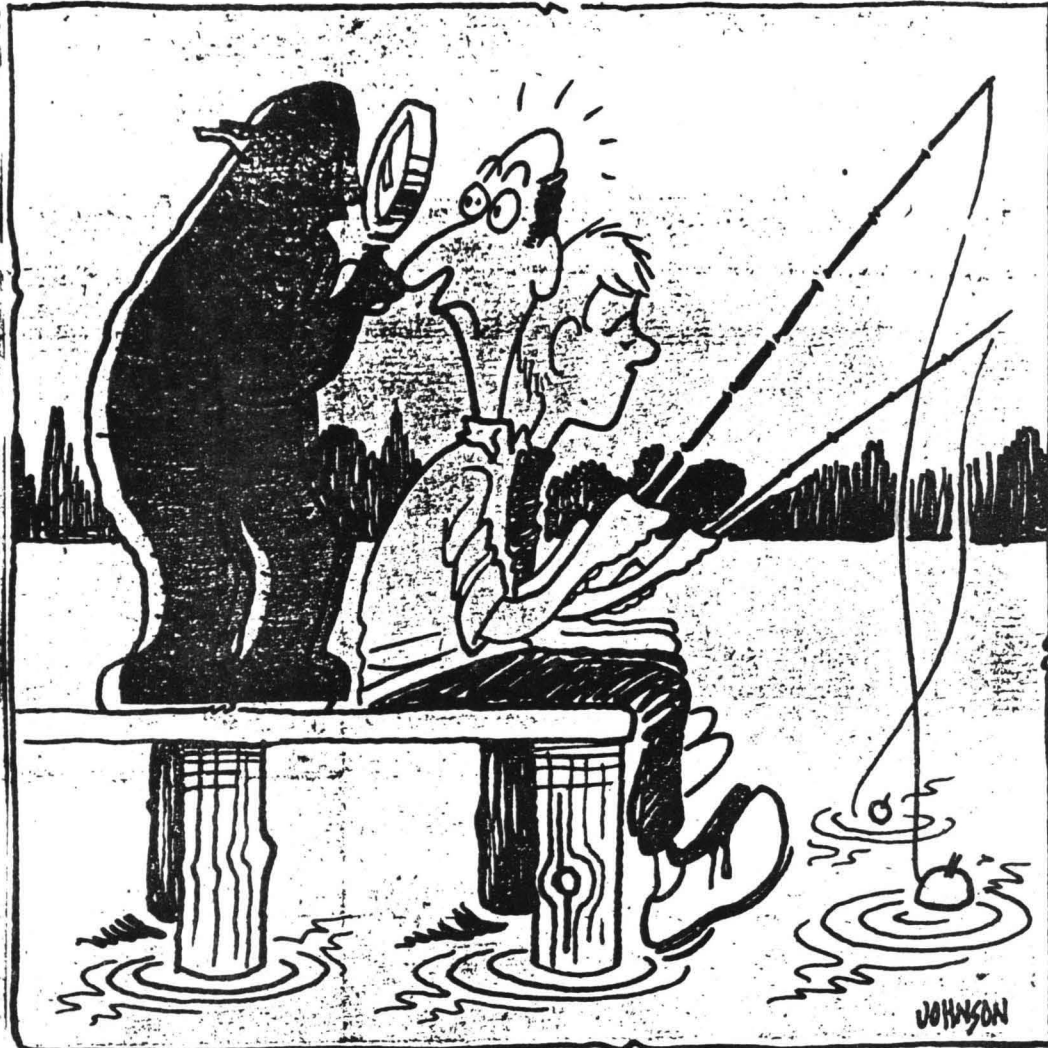
On Oct. 11, 1973, Parker and a friend, Charles Hickson, were fishing — without much luck — near an old shipyard on the Pascagoula River.

They heard a *zzzip* noise, turned around, and saw a spaceship hovering about a foot off the ground 40 feet away. Three creatures, each 5 feet tall with pointed ears, sharp noses and crab-like hands, came out and headed toward them.

The creatures took a dumbfounded Hickson and a fainting Parker inside the ship, where they were examined with some sort of optical gadget. Later, they were returned to the pier and the spaceship *zzzipped* off.

The two men debated whether to tell anyone and finally decided to call the Jackson County Sheriff's Department. Instant fame followed when the local paper got their story.

"We had more phone calls, more sales on the racks, more interest than anytime since I've been here," said Gary Holland, editor of the paper. Calls for more information came in from all over the world. Staffers took turns handling them.



"Journalistically, I overplayed it, but it sure did sell papers."

Just as suddenly, people all along the Coast started seeing things. Normal everyday objects like weather balloons and even mosquito control trucks became alien spacecraft.

When a woman who claimed to be in contact with UFOs predicted a landing, more than 1,000 cars paraded caravan style to the site on the Mississippi-Alabama border.

A New Orleans man was seriously injured when he walked into the path of a police car while scanning the skies for UFOs.

A Biloxi cab driver, late returning from work, first said he had been detained by spacemen — then admitted he spent the time in a bar.

Ocean Springs aldermen considered an ordinance banning landings

but the move failed when the mayor decided to welcome any and all from deep space.

Through it all, Hickson and Parker never changed their story — even under hypnosis. They even passed lie detector tests.

"There was definitely something here that was not terrestrial," said one scientist.

Hickson, the older of the two at 48, glutted the media and appeared at UFO conferences. But Parker dropped out and tried to clear his mind.

"It's real hard to reason out," he said.

He was only 18 when it happened, and it didn't make much sense to him for a long time. He drifted, working here and there and seeking out other people who had close encounters. But

even in hiding people recognized him, and still do in Denver, where he lives now and works on offshore oil rigs out of Florida.

Slowly Parker came to grips with it. Now he talks freely, and is even considering an invitation to talk to a high school group, a possibility he would not have given a second thought to not long ago.

"During the last four months, I think I've grown up," he said. Parker gives much of the credit to his wife of a year.

He seldom sees Hickson but he sometimes feels he's in mental contact with the creatures.

"There's no doubt in my mind. I was picked up and examined by some humanoids or whatever you want to call them."

Reported UFOs seen in area

OHIO CO. TIMES, Hartford, KY - Jan. 8, 1981

Twin tales of strange sight

It is a common characteristic in a majority of parents to take lightly much of what is said by their children...especially very young children.

Bobby and Christine Williams, Hartford, learned last week that even the innocent ramblings of two six-year-old boys are worth bending an ear to.

Even so, the nature of what the youngsters were talking about would prompt the average parents to be a little less than understanding.

Jason and Jesse are the twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Williams. What they saw on the evening of December 28 — strange as it may seem — apparently was seen by several other Ohio Countians.

More fiction than fact has been attached to sightings of uniden-

tified flying objects (UFOs) but nobody in an official capacity has been able to disclaim their actual existence.

Jason and Jesse were not capable of placing an accurate identity on what they saw in the sky near their home but whatever it (or they) was created a level of excitement in their young imaginations.

"I didn't pay too much attention," Mrs. Williams recalled. "The boys were in the front yard and came back in excited about something they saw in the sky."

It was not until after a story appeared in the Wednesday edition of an area daily newspaper did the wooter attach any importance to what her young sons attempted to say.

Reports of strange lights over the

Olaton area came from several residents, including a Hartford police officer.

Officials concerned with possible UFOs have been unable to explain the reported sightings.

That, however, does not satisfy the curiosity of young Jason and Jesse Williams.

Although their stories differed slightly, the boys unmistakably believed that what they saw was not an everyday happening in a cold, winter sky.

Jesse, in a tone as authoritative as a six-year-old can muster, said he saw some "silver things" in the sky and that one of them dropped something.

"It looked like a bomb or missile but I didn't see it hit the ground," the youngster said.

Jesse said two of the flying

machines went straight and the other two went off in other directions.

"They were flying like a plane...about 10 feet up," Jesse recalled.

Jesse said the "silver things" did not make a noise and moved slowly.

Jason saw "little triangle things flying through the air...two in one direction and two in another."

Unlike his twin brother, Jason did not see anything drop from one of the craft.

"I just watched for a minute and then had to go in," he said.

Regardless of what they saw or what it actually was, the sightings did not upset the Williams twins.

"We didn't know what it was so it didn't scare us," Jason said.

UFO sightings investigated

By GREG LITHERLAND

A great number of UFO sightings in the Washington and Monroe City areas have been reported since late September 1980.

As a result of the sightings, representatives from the National Enquirer newspaper and UFO research officials plan to do more in-depth investigation to determine what has been filling the area's air space.

One injury has been attributed to one of the sightings as a Washington youth sustained burn-like blotches on her face and left arm. The youth reported the burns after a group of five persons spotted something in the sky.

According to Jerry Sievers, a Vincennes resident responsible for investigating alleged sightings, most persons who have reported the objects have identified the "aircraft" as a black triangle. The largest sides have been estimated at 100-foot long.

It was the black triangle that reportedly burned the local youth.

In her report it shows that the victim and four others were just south of Monroe City near the White River flood plain late September about 1:30 a.m. when one person spotted the black triangle. The object blocked out stars, then started to make "fighter passes" toward the viewers. As the object passed over the youth, she reportedly felt an ash-like substance fall on the left side of her face. She immediately covered her face with her hands. After the incident, the group went to a UFO researcher, who also examined the burns.

Another group sighting allegedly occurred in the same location just a few nights later. That report shows a group of four persons seeing the object that had no lights but emitted a faint blue glow and left a smoke trail for 15-minutes once the triangle was out of sight.

The most detailed report of the strange black object was made by a Knox County deputy. The deputy, who asked not to be identified because he feared he would lose his job, noted the incident occurred Oct. 15, 1980. Again, the triangle was just south of Monroe City—at Lucky Point—the new name for the area that has been the hotbed of UFO activity.

In his account, the deputy notes that he was on patrol about 9:30 that night when he stopped his vehicle to stretch his legs. He looked down, and when he looked up, the object was there. He described it as the triangle with four port holes.

The deputy claims to have had telepathic correspondence with "aliens." It was noted that the officer mentally was asked "Why do you hate Iranians?" His response was that he

does not hate anyone. With that, the spaceship left. It reportedly came within 100-feet of the officer and hovered about 20-feet above the ground.

The deputy left also, and returned to the encounter spot about 1:30 the following morning. He could see a blue fog where the triangle had been.

Two Terre Haute women reported seeing a brown furred creature walking near the Indiana State Prison. The creature was said to have red luminous eyes.

"What persons have seen has not been explained, but something strange is going on," according to Sievers.

"We (at the project) are dumb-founded—we just don't know where else to go find out about what's going on," the project leader commented. He noted that all airports from Indianapolis to Evansville have no reports of anything unusual on their

monitoring equipment and the National Weather Service has not "sent up" any weather balloons.

The project has decided that the Washington area is the originating air space as all the objects have been reported coming from the northeast.

Joe Brill, Quincy, Ill., a researcher for the Mutual UFO organization, says research has found UFO observations in Missouri where 500-600 people watched strange objects. He said the Missouri sightings are in the same corridor as the Washington-Monroe City sightings.

"It could be B52s making mock bombing runs," Brill pointed out. He says the organization is checking Air Force logs to see if there were any flights in the area.

Says Sievers, "the Washington area was the most active UFO area in the United States, and varied groups have made plans to determine the secret of the black triangle."

UFO Over San Jose

Two pilots flying over the San Jose Municipal Airport encountered a flying object that shone with a bright, red, pulsating light, it was reported yesterday.

The unidentified object, about 10 feet in diameter, was also seen by two controllers in the airport tower but could not be detected on the radar, officials said.

Gary Rounds, 21, who was piloting the rented Cessna 150, and his passenger, Charles Shackelford, 20, also a pilot, said the object appeared to head straight for their plane Monday night as they were practicing landings and takeoffs.

Air controller Rich Gutterud said the object "was coming right at him. He had to extend upward from whatever it was."

Gutterud and air controller Randy Blount, both of whom saw the UFO, said the light followed the plane briefly, hovered, and "then it just took off at an extremely high rate of speed."

REG, Sacramento, CA - Jan. 16, 1981

Light View Is Taken Of Tahoe UFO Reports

By Jim Sloan
Ree Correspondent

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE — Scores of people in Lake Tahoe's glittering casino district were dazzled by mysterious lights in the night sky Thursday, but authorities say those close encounters may have been with spotlights instead of unidentified flying objects.

According to Douglas County sheriff's deputies, the hovering, amber lights that attracted a large crowd early Thursday were actually casino floodlights being reflected by moonlit clouds that shrouded the Tahoe basin.

The deputies also discounted an earlier UFO sighting, made by two patrolling officers riding in separate cars around 9 p.m. Wednesday. The officers reported that a light streaked across the sky for several hundred yards before it landed in the lake near its southeastern shoreline.

"We figured it was either a flare or a meteor," Sgt. Les Osman said. "There was a search conducted after the sighting, but no more lights were located."

However, later in the night, a crowd gathered on Highway 50 between the Sahara Tahoe and Caesars Tahoe casinos. Amber-colored lights, in what onlookers described as being in a distinct triangular pattern, floated several hundred feet in the sky.

"It was bizarre, really bizarre," performer Patrick Bagwell said. "It was hazy but you could see the lights clearly. They were just floating there."

The Douglas County sheriff's office at nearby Zephyr Cove began receiving calls around 5 a.m. Officers investigated, Osman said, and determined that the lights were reflections from Caesars' roof. Onlookers were not convinced.

"We have been getting calls all day, and most of the people I have talked to say, 'No way' — that is not what they saw," KRLT broadcaster Michael Bennett said. "They are convinced they saw something else."

"I know that is not what I saw," Bagwell said. "If those were lights from the casino, you would be able to see the beam, right? We saw no beam."

Bagwell said he fetched his camera and using a tripod, slow-speed color film and a short telephoto lens, shot several frames of the lights. They were quickly developed in a Sahara darkroom. "They came out pretty well," Bagwell said. "It looks like there is something up there."

Flying object baffles Forest River woman

By Dean Hanson

Was it a bird? A plane? A meteor? A psychologically-induced "atmospheric phenomenon"? A Forest River woman isn't sure what it was she saw Thursday speeding over her farm home.

"I was looking out of my north kitchen window and at first I thought it was a plane, but it made no noise. It left a thin white trail (vapor trail) that a jet usually leaves," recalled the woman, who asked that her name be withheld.

"I don't know how large the object was, but from where I was it appeared to be very small. In fact it looked like it was thinner than the trail it left," she said.

What disturbed her about the object was that it appeared out of control, moving like an airplane doing a nosedive. It passed out of sight into a bank of clouds before it reached the horizon, so she couldn't tell if it in fact crashed or not. The vapor trail persisted for several minutes before disappearing.

"I didn't go outside to see where it went, but it seemed to be coming from the south and veering off to the northeast, toward Grafton," she added.

Neither the Federal Aviation Administration at the Grand Forks Airport nor the Grand Forks Air Force Base Approach Control had reports of any unusual flying objects or meteors that day.

Master Sergeant Ernest Lawrence of the Grand Forks Air Force Base public information office offered five possible explanations based on aircraft known to be in the area at the time of the incident.

A T-38 took off at 11:21 from the base, and would have arrived at Forest River at 11:30, flying at 20,000 feet. An F-106 from Minot would have been 33,000 feet overhead at 12:07.

In an effort to clear up the mystery, the Record invites others who saw a similar object in the area north and east of Forest River between 11:30 and noon Thursday to write us at Box 471, Grafton, and tell what they saw.

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincoln, NC - Feb. 4, 1981

Lincoln County Family Reports UFO Sighting

A UFO visited Lincoln County last night, according to a Reepsville Road area family.

The farm of the Frank Berryhill family, located on Road 1193 off the Reepsville Road, was quiet until about 7:35 p.m. when the animals became agitated, Elizabeth Berryhill said.

"Our Australian Shepherd (dog) began howling, the geese and ducks flew off the pond and were screaming as they went toward the barn, and some of the 26 cows in the herd in the pasture began bellowing. It was an unusually lot of noise and it was scary," she explained.

Eight-year-old Shawn Berryhill called his father, Frank, to come outside to see what was disturbing the animals. Frank went to the

kitchen window and saw a strange bright-lighted object in the sky, his wife said.

Berryhill called his wife to come with him and they both went outside where they saw the large object with green and yellow lights and a circle of yellow and orange lights hovering over their pasture.

Mrs. Berryhill said she and her husband and son watched the strange object in the sky for about 15 minutes before it disappeared behind some trees bordering a neighbor's pasture, apparently going down.

"The lights would be bright, then they would get dim," she continued. "It looked like it was going to land in the other pasture when we last saw it behind the trees."

Berryhill called the Lincoln County Communications Center and reported the UFO. While he was on the telephone, he returned to the yard "a couple of times" and told the communications operators the object was still there, his wife said.

A deputy from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department arrived at the Berryhill's farm and went to a nearby branch but did not investigate further since the object was no longer in sight, she said.

Lincoln County's UFO investigator, George Fawcett, is scheduled to meet with Berryhill today and search the area, particularly the adjoining pasture, to seek evidence that the UFO might have landed, she explained.

CR: G. Fawcett

RECORD, Grafton, ND - Jan. 10, 1981 CR: J. Clark

If the lady says she saw a flying saucer, then she saw a flying saucer

By Dexter Waugh
Examiner Staff Writer

Cindy Gaffney, eight months pregnant, has been having insomnia lately, and around 4 a.m. yesterday morning was sitting up in bed in her Richmond District home when from the back yard she heard a loud, humming noise.

A flying saucer was landing.

"I've heard of other people seeing things like this but not me," she said later yesterday. "I have a little boy and my first thought was of danger."

"It was a very deep, loud, humming noise and then when it was actually on the ground it went hummm, hummm, hummm."

Mrs. Gaffney woke her husband, who began fumbling around for his glasses and couldn't find them. All her nearsighted husband Carl could see, she said, was the general outline "and he did hear the noise."

"It was four feet high, approximately 8 or 10 feet long. It looked like coffee saucers, two of them, upside down and next to each other," she said, cupping her hands together, "the classic flying saucer shape."

"It was white and had a very slight fluorescent glow. No windows, no wheels, gizmos, no nothing. Just a plain white, glowing saucer."

It actually landed in her neighbor's cemented back yard, of which she has a clear view from the second floor bedroom window of her home on 27th Avenue.

It left suddenly, about 10 minutes later, she said, when she went downstairs and into the attached garage to waken her brother. She turned on the light in the garage, which she figures frightened the saucer away.

It left behind, she said, a round, whitish mark on her neighbor's cemented patio, as if in landing or hovering above the surface it had scoured it clean.

"I'm 100 percent sure I saw this," she said. "I don't smoke dope, I don't drink, I don't hallucinate, and I, damn it, saw that thing land



Examiner/Eli Reed

CINDY GAFFNEY DESCRIBED THE SAUCER AS 'CLASSIC' IT LANDED ON THE PATIO BEHIND HER HOUSE, STAYED FOR 10 MINUTES

there and I'm scared to death of it."

Both she and her husband said the early morning air was clear, there was no fog or mist.

All morning they tried to raise the neighbor, Ros Makaroff, whose yard it landed in, but he didn't answer the knocks.

She said she called the police while the saucer

was still there, but they didn't respond. She said she told them a flying saucer had landed in her Russian neighbor's back yard.

She called the California Academy of Sciences and was told no one there was interested in UFOs. Call The Examiner, they said. She did.

The Examiner was out there yesterday taking

pictures of the round, white spot when Makaroff appeared. He is usually up at 4 in the morning getting ready to go to work, but Saturday morning he slept in. He hadn't heard any humming, Makaroff, of Russian extraction, said he'd lived there 28 years. The round, white spot, he said, used to be covered with earth, and had rose bushes

planted in it. He said he thinks it has always been whiter than the rest of the cement. "I don't believe, really I don't believe," he shook his head.

Mrs. Gaffney shook hers, too. "I saw it," she said.

GAZETTE, Schenectady, NY - Feb. 13, 1981

CR: R. Girard

We Know About Detente What About De Parcel?

DES MOINES (UPI) — Somewhere in the Soviet dead letter files apparently are two copies of the last half of Herb Strenz's Ph.D. dissertation: "A Survey of Press Coverage of Unidentified Flying Objects, 1947-1966."

* * *

Strenz, dean of the School of Journalism at Drake University, said he started receiving correspondence two years ago from a man in Nov Sibirsk in the Soviet Union.

"He was interested in UFOs, I gathered, but he didn't say exactly what his interests were."

Obliging the man's request, Strenz mailed him a copy of the bulky dissertation in two packages. The Russian's return correspondence indicated the package with pages 1-200 got through, but he did not receive the package with pages 201-341.

"I figured it got lost, so I sent it again registered mail," Strenz said. "When that didn't make it,

I had a tracer put on it. I got back a form letter from the (U.S.) Postal Service saying they had asked Soviet authorities and were advised the thing had been seized."

Strenz said the news surprised him greatly. He said the dissertation rarely mentioned anything to do with the Soviet Union, with the exception of a passage on anti-communism related to hysteria over UFO's in the early 1950s.

"I've gone back through to see if there was anything I've missed. But there isn't," he said. "What strikes me as odd is that one box got through."

* * *

As executive secretary of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, Strenz was asked if he could bring any pressure to bear on the Soviets.

"Right away," he said. "Just as soon as we get compliance with open meetings and open records laws in Iowa."

(ALL CLIPPINGS FROM THE FILES OF THE LATE GEORGE F. HAAS; ALL FROM CALIFORNIA PAPERS)

San Francisco Examiner 15
Sunday, June 29, 1947 *CCCC*

'Flying Saucers' Seen in Oregon

SEASIDE (Ore.), June 28.—(AP)—The latest report on the "flying saucers" came today from a Seaside woman who said she saw one of them winging soundlessly south at 5:05 p. m. She was Mrs. Sidney B. Smith, wife of a Seaside policeman, who with her 8 year old daughter, Joanne, said she watched the "round" object for nearly three minutes.

Mrs. Smith added that it was flying high, east of the city, but she believed it was close enough for her to have heard regular engines. She said she could hear nothing.

SUNDAY, DEC. 18, 1949
San Francisco Chronicle

'Stunting' Disc Sighted by Ship's Officer

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 17 (AP)—What with "strange objects" and "mysterious high-speed airplanes" cluttering up the sky over the Straits of Juan de Fuca it's getting so a respectable aircraft won't be able to find a place to fly in that area.

Latest "strange object" report comes from the first officer aboard the Chinoik, the Seattle to Victoria car ferry, and is vouched for by the quartermaster and lookout.

This week they saw a "bright light in the sky moving towards Victoria at about 2000 feet."

"It was moving from side to side and up and down much too sharply to be a plane," the officer said.

Last Saturday a high-speed mystery plane was spotted leaving a vapor trail over the straits.

The latest "object" was "too erratic to follow with binoculars and it was too lark to see any shape."

"It came within a mile of the ship and then spiralled swiftly upwards through the overcast."

Oakland Post-Enquirer
FN Friday, April 28, 1950

Co-Pilot Sees a Saucer It Definitely Was Not a Barn

By First Officer
Robert Manning
(Trans-World Airlines Co-Pilot)
(As told to International News Service)

CHICAGO, April 28.—I sat at the controls of an air liner 2000 feet over Indiana last night and watched an object so shapeless it was disconcerting, overtake our plane and cruise alongside, only half a mile away.

I've heard of Flying Saucers, too, so I watched it several minutes before I said a word. I wanted to be sure it was really there—and it really was.

It glowed a dull red, like the gas stack of a refinery. But it moved right along with us at 185 miles an hour, creeping up from our right rear until it was about a half a mile away, off our right wing.

Only then did I ask my pilot, Capt. Robert Adickes, if he saw anything. He noticed it, too. We rang for our stewardess, Miss Gloria Henshaw—and she saw it. She went back and asked the passengers, and they saw it. There was no doubt about it.

Later, in Chicago, I was told a big barn caught fire near South Bend about that time and lit up the sky for miles. I know that's not what we saw.

First of all, it was definitely an object. Secondly, it kept right up

with us. And most important of all, we could see that it was moving in relation to lights on the ground.

We watched it fly parallel to us for seven or eight minutes. I couldn't tell its shape, but I'd guess it was roughly 50 feet across. Then Adickes said "let's get a better look" and we turned to the right to fly closer.

As soon as we did that, the object increased its speed and seemed to turn also—away from us. Then it descended and seemed to disappear among the lights of South Bend. That was at about 6:30 p. m.

When I first saw it coming closer and closer, I thought it might be a jet plane. But it, couldn't have been—you can only see a jet plane from the rear, and this thing approached from behind us.

We radioed the Chicago Air Traffic Control, too, and they said there were no jet planes scheduled to be in that area. Then we called the South Bend radio range and asked them to be on the lookout.

When it was all over, Adickes went back to the passengers and asked them what—if anything—they'd seen. Those on the right side of the plane described to him just what we'd watched—an object like nothing any of us had ever seen or heard of before.

4 REPORT HUGE OBJECT IN SKY

TUCSON (Ariz.), April 3.—(AP)—A strange oval-shaped object was reported seen high in the sky over Benson, Ariz., today.

At least four men connected with Marana Air Force Base, about twenty miles northwest of Tucson, reported seeing the object.

Chick Logan, a civilian flight commander, described it as five or six times as large as a B-29 Superfortress, oblong in shape, and without wings or other projections.

"It was not like a saucer,"

he said, "but more oblong . . . I flew as high as I could to 14,000 feet and it appeared to be at least 40,000 feet higher than that.

"It was real bright and shone like polished aluminum," he

1950
Oakland Post-Enquirer
Monday, April 10, 1950

Mars Acts Up Strange Formations Seen on Planet

OSAKA, Japan, April 10 (AP)—Japanese astronomers report new observations of strange cloud formations on the planet Mars, caused possibly by a "terrific explosion."

Tsunoo Saeki's discovery of the phenomena Jan. 26 set off a worldwide watch of the nearby planet. Now Tsuguo Ebizawa tells of observations begun March 29.

Saeki joined him in the watch and reported that clouds originally gray turned dirty yellow in two days, bluish white in another four days and dirty white but without brilliancy after a week.

Saeki said the clouds were similar to those he saw in January.

Those Flyin' Saucers Are Back Again!

MIAMI, Fla., July 16 (CP)—Two veteran airline pilots added to the flying saucer lore today accounts of seeing eight huge discs zipping in formation at supersonic speed near Norfolk, Va.

Pilots W. B. Nash, 35, and W. H. Fortenberry, 30, of Pan American Airways, said the "glowing, orange-red" saucers maneuvered too sharply for human endurance at a speed of "far above 1000 miles per hour."

"Whoever was in those things," the pilots declared, "had capabilities far beyond our own. Those things absolutely did not contain any human beings as we know them."

Nash and Fortenberry said they were flying their DC-4 with 10 company officials aboard southward between Newport News, Va., and Norfolk night before last when six of the saucers appeared 6000 feet below them.

First they flew in an echelon formation—a diagonal straight line—at about 2000 feet altitude. Nash said. As the DC-4 passed over them, he said, they turned sharply westward and were joined by two other discs. He said the eight "saucers" zoomed upward to an estimated 10,000 feet altitude.

Nash estimated they "watched the whole maneuver" for between 10 and 12 seconds" before the glowing light "pulsated off" and the "things" disappeared into the sky.

San Francisco Examiner 7
Friday, April 4, 1952 *CCCC*

continued. "I'll tell you, I have been flying for twenty-five years now, and I have never seen anything like it."

1950
Oakland Post-Enquirer
Tuesday, July 4

Meteor or Guided Cone, It Has Alaskans Guessing

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, July 4 (AP)—The Alaska Air Command issued a bare announcement today that a flaming object that flashed across the sky over Fairbanks Saturday night was a meteor.

However, the Public Information Office at Ladd Air Force Base here indicated that investigation of the phenomenon would be continued.

Many civilians and military personnel reported sighting the object. Several persons said it appeared to resemble a guided missile.

Lt. Gen. Nathan Twining, chief of the Alaskan Command at Anchorage, said planes couldn't get off the field fast enough to track the object. He expressed doubt that it was a guided missile.

Don McCune, a Fairbanks radio announcer, said he and his family spotted the Saturday night "thing." He said it was shaped like an ice-cream cone.

"It was about as round as a wash tub and flew at a parallel

with the earth," McCune said. "From its rear end we could see exhaust flames of blue and orange. I stopped the car so we could get a better look but it vanished before I could get outside."

Mel Lejune, a University of Alaska student from Seattle, said he and several companions sighted the object streaking up from the horizon.

"It appeared to be rising gradually and as it passed over us it was about 2000 feet off the ground," he said.

"After it passed us, it leveled off and disappeared to the North of us. It was going so fast we couldn't tell what it was. But about 30 minutes later a jet plane flew past and this 'thing' traveled much faster."

General Twining said there was no jet or rocket-like trail behind the object but it did have "a little tail like a shooting star." The general had no reports on the object sighted Saturday night.

Berkeley Daily Gazette
July 17, 1952

Air Force Starts Probe of Saucers

WASHINGTON, July 17 (AP)—The Air Force followed familiar routine today—sending through channels its latest flying saucer report.

Two airline pilots, First Officers W. B. Nash and W. H. Fortenberry, reported in Miami eight objects 100 feet in diameter glowing like red hot coals and traveling 1000 miles an hour passed directly beneath their plane over Chesapeake Bay on Tuesday night.

The Air Force said it has made a preliminary report to the Air Force's technical intelligence center at Dayton, O., and that a complete written report is expected to follow.

Until this report is made, the Air Force added, no evaluation can be made of this reported sighting.

Airlines Pilot Spots Huge Mystery Craft In Iowa Sky

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 22 (AP)—A veteran airline pilot described today a mystery plane "as large or half-gain as large" as a B-29 in a flight above Sioux City, Ia.

Pilot Larry W. Vinther, 32, said he flew his Mid-Continent Airlines DC-3 passenger plane up to 4,000 feet in an effort to get a good look at the huge plane.

The plane was silhouetted in a moonlit sky, Vinther said, "but all we could actually see was its shape and nothing of the detail of its construction except that the leading edge of its wing was absolutely straight."

Vinther said he saw "no visible means of powering the aircraft," such as engine nacelles or pods.

"I'd like to know what we saw," he said, "and so would the control tower at Sioux City."

The mystery visitor appeared shortly after 8:30 p. m. Saturday as Vinther prepared to depart with Flight Nine for Omaha, Nebr.

"The tower saw it first," he said, "when a red light somewhere on it began to show at what the tower thought was 8,000 feet."

Vinther turned inside the mammoth plane as both aircraft circled Sioux City, "but we could see no light aboard and I can't even describe the tail assembly—if it had one."

Vinther remained in radio contact with the tower throughout the strange air episode. His co-pilot, Jim Bachmeier, also of Kansas City, joined him in observing the plane.

The cigar-shaped aircraft disappeared finally after rushing

almost straight at Vinther's DC-3. It went under the passenger plane's fuselage and continued northwestward until it was lost from view.

Vinther estimated the plane was "about four times the size of our DC-3." He said he did not observe that it traveled at any "super speeds."

Vinther joined Mid-Continent in 1943. Prior to then he flew in the air transport command and at one time was a flying instructor for aviation cadets.

Berkeley Daily Gazette
Aug. 11, 1952

FIVE

Japanese Report Flying Saucers

TOKYO, Aug. 11 (AP)—A dentist in Beppu, Kyushu, reported last night he saw two bright circular objects sail through the sky from northeast to southwest and from east to west.

The dentist said the objects moved much faster than an airplane but that he felt they were not shooting stars.

Several other persons reported seeing aerial lights.

'Saucer' Over Africa's Highest Peak

MOMBASA, Kenya, Africa, Feb. 20 (Reuters)—All passengers and crew on an air liner claimed they saw a "flying saucer" hovering over Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro in Northern Tanganyika, when they flew past Monday. They signed a statement they had seen it as soon as they landed here from Nairobi. They described the "saucer" as "metallic, silvery and bullet-shaped," and said it appeared to have tail fins. It hovered over the 19,317-foot-high peak at about 30,000 feet for 14 minutes before flashing eastward out of sight, they said. Two American passengers took photographs of it with a camera with a telescopic lens. Another passenger, Captain H. B. Fussell of Newport, Wales, photographed it with a precision camera after watching it through powerful binoculars.

(Newspaper & City Unknown) - Feb. 21, 1950

Fussell said: "It reminded me a bit of an alrship. After hovering around 30,000 feet, it rose to 40,000 feet, stayed still for about a minute, then flying level, sped away at a terrific rate." The air liner, with nine passengers and a crew of two, was flying at 10,000 feet on a regular East African Airways flight when the object was seen.



KEIGHLEY NEWS, Yorkshire, England
Nov. 28, 1980

Mark sees UFO over Broomhill

Yet another unidentified flying object has been sighted in Keighley.

The latest edition to Keighley's diary of the unknown came on Saturday, when 13 year old Mark Adams, of Luddenden, Halifax, spotted some strange lights in the sky over Broomhill, Keighley.

Mark, who was walking with his grandparents through Broomhill estate at 8.45 p.m., described the lights: "I spotted a so-called UFO in the form of red, green, and white lights travelling from South West to North East. "Although it was a moonlight

night the sky was cloudy and it was very plain to see below the clouds, travelling at a great speed.

"It could not have been a plane because the lights on it did not flash and there was not a single sound in the sky. I would be grateful to know if anyone else saw the object in the sky."

Mark's is the latest in a string of UFO sightings in the Keighley district over the past three years.

Anyone seriously interested in UFO's should contact Mr. Harold Mattam of Nelson, who wants to form a club in Keighley. Mr. Mattam can be reached, after 6 p.m., on Nelson 691978.

EVENING POST, Doncaster, England - Dec. 5, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

Mr. Wright's Close Encounter at 5 am

Intake pensioner, Mr. Jacky Wright believes he has had a Close Encounter — but with what, he has no idea.

Mr. Wright (67), saw an object of "dazzling brilliance," stationary in the sky, from his home in Northumberland Avenue.

It all started for Mr. Wright, an ex-Doncaster Rovers footballer — when he went downstairs at 5 a.m. on Wednesday to make a cup of coffee.

"I looked out of the kitchen window and saw a really brilliant light that was like mercury vapour," he said.

Mr. Wright, a retired electrical engineer, fetched some powerful binoculars and watched the semi-circular object — about two minutes, while it

remained stationary.

"Then I saw two more lights, about one quarter the power, coming in from different directions," he said.

They seemed to touch the object, then they went out."

Mr. Wright watched the object, which was dazzling through binoculars, for another 90 seconds before it started travelling vertically and disappeared.

"I used to laugh about this kind of thing, and, I thought it was a lot of bunkum," he said. "But when I saw this, I began to think otherwise."

A spokesman for RAF Finningley said there had been no flying at the time, and there had been no reports of UFOs

More UFO sightings

FURTHER reports of close encounters with UFOs have reached the Lynn News this week, following our story on Tuesday about a West Norfolk couple's sighting of a mystery craft.

Mrs Julie Williamson, of Low Road, Grimston, telephoned to say that her eight-year-old daughter, Andrea, spotted flashing lights in the sky on the same evening as two other villagers had a hair-raising experience when they went for a drive in the country.

Sallyann Rudd and Jeffrey Warner, claim to have come across a diamond and triangular shaped craft hovering above the Hillington Road, near Sandringham, last Wednesday.

On the same evening, at around 5.30 pm, Mrs Williamson's daughter shouted from her bedroom that she could see a spaceship.

"We didn't take any notice of her at first, but went to see her a couple of minutes later," said Mrs Williamson.

"By that time the flashing lights had disappeared. Andrea said the lights were yellow and orange and were floating above a field at the back of our bungalow.

"I am sure that she must have seen something, but it was unfortunate that we didn't go and have a look more quickly," said Mrs Williamson.

North Lynn pensioner Mr Frank Simpson (75), of Burkitt Street, also contacted us to say that he had seen a mystery object flying over the docks on the same evening.

"I didn't get a good view of it, but I saw something fly across the docks from east to west at great speed. It then turned round and went back the way it had come," he said.

"I am sure it wasn't a bird or a plane — it was moving too fast. I haven't just made this up — but I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes."

Another West Norfolk woman contacted the Lynn News to say that she saw exactly the same shaped craft as Sallyann Rudd and her boyfriend flying across the sky — exactly a year ago to the day.

UFO'S

Redditch prepared for the invasion of an alien force?

Several sightings were reported of UFO's flying above the town and one eye witness Alcester housewife Vera Oakes had an eerie experience when she spotted a UFO in Coughton — and as she watched her car windscreen wipers inexplicably stopped.

Fears of a radiation risk in the town were allayed by health chiefs.

Investigations showed there was no risk of a leak from transmitters in Moons Moat and Headless Cross.

Zig-zagging UFO spotted over C'church

A UFO, giving off "a brilliant twinkling white light," was sighted by several people over the centre of Christchurch shortly after dark yesterday.

It was first spotted by 10-year-old Kestrel Hawkins, of Whitehall, Christchurch, as he was walking in Wick Lane with his mother, Mrs. Julia Hawkins.

At first they thought it was a shooting star, said Mrs. Hawkins, but it was cloudy and no stars were visible. And it did not follow a straight course but zig-zagged about.

They had time to call several people from John Trokes general stores to watch it with them and had it in sight for about three minutes.

"We all agreed it was not an aircraft because the light was not alternately flashing and there were no coloured lights with it," said Mrs. Hawkins.

It seemed to be high up and there was no sound from it. It appeared from the west and after wiggling about veered off and disappeared in the Bournemouth direction.

Riddle of the strange UFOs

STAR-gazers are still being puzzled by strange bright lights in the sky over Oxfordshire.

The latest sighting was reported last night by Mrs Nancy Burnage of 44 The Oval, Didcot, and her seventeen-year-old son, Nigel.

They were taking their dog for a walk in fields on the edge of Didcot at about 6.45 pm. When they saw a very bright dome-shaped object in the sky.

Mrs Burnage said Nigel dashed back to the house to get some binoculars while she continued to watch the object.

"It was a very, very big brilliant light and it had what looked like an old-fashioned searchlight beam coming down from it as if it was looking at the ground," said Mrs Burnage.

She said that the object was moving very fast and was visible for only a minute or two before it vanished.

EVENING ECHO, Bournemouth, England
Dec. 12, 1980

Sky spy spots a wriggle riddle

SIR — I was fortunate enough to have the "Echo" issue for December 2 which carried a report of a "UFO" seen by several people in the Christchurch area, on Monday, December 1. I would explain that I have been involved in UFO investigation for over thirty years and am currently the Public Relations Officer for the British Unidentified Flying Objects Research Association, widely known as "BUFORA."

Coincidentally, I saw a very similar object to that reported, on Friday, November 28, just after six in the evening. Originally, I looked up at two "stars" which were quite high up over towards Winchester and as I did so one of them gave a "wriggle" or a "zigzag" kind of movement and then began to move off at a steady speed towards the north west. I had time to call my wife and we watched it as it gradually vanished into the slight haze. I was then able to telephone a lady acquaintance, also an investigator, who lives on the edge of the airport at

Eastleigh, and returned to my post in the garden. After a short while, what looked like a similar object reappeared from the north west and slowly travelled towards the south, again, looking like a "star". I again advised my friend of this on the telephone and on return to the garden I could no longer see this object, whatever it may have been.

However, subsequent checking with the other person revealed her view was of an object that was emitting two white lights from either end as it moved across the sky. I would point out that my friend is well used to aircraft of all kinds and under all conditions situated where she is.

Any further reports of this or other UFOs are always received at this address and passed on to BUFORA headquarters where they are allocated to one of our many "local" investigators in that area. — ERNIE SEARS, BUFORA PRO, 12a Westridge Road, Portswood, Southampton.

TIMES, Darlington & Stockton, England
Dec. 6, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

UFOs REPORTED IN TEESDALE

Two separate sightings of UFOs have been reported in Teesdale. Mrs Rachel Ansley, of Corn Close, Startforth, described a silver and red object, like a large saucer with a dome on top. She was travelling in a car between West Auckland and Staindrop when she saw the object on Thursday of last week.

The second person to see a mysterious object was Mr Michael Bowman, of Stanton Grove. He described it as a "saucer-like white object with a dull triangular cone on the top." Mr Bowman said he had always been sceptical about UFO sightings and wouldn't have believed it if someone else had told him they had seen one. He saw the UFO on Tuesday, near Eggleston.

An aurora of Northern Lights on Thursday night could have explained Mrs Ansley's sighting, according to physics teacher Mr Andrew Keir. He said that this could change shape, colour and position because of unstable

Speedy UFO spotted

STRANGE things were happening in the sky above Orpington Hospital for an hour or so on Monday afternoon.

Dozens of people working on the redevelopment site at the rear of the hospital saw a bright light "about 10 miles up" which moved across the sky at fantastic speed.

"I came out of my office and looked up at one of our cranes—and there it was, a bright, intense light like a star," said Lovell's clerk of works, Mr Peter McSherry.

"After I'd come back with some powerful binoculars, we had a crowd of people gathered round staring up at this object."

It stayed in view from 3 pm to 4.15 pm, when it split in two and both bright stars went straight up, faded and left a smoke vapour," added Mr McSherry.

Hospital fitter Mr George Page, of Beddington Road, St Paul's Cray, said he too had seen the object moving.

Mr McSherry said the object was clearly visible as cone-shaped through binoculars, with an orange tip, silver middle and sparkling blue tail.

Police have no reports of sightings but Mr Jock Maitland, of Surrey Aviation, said a woman from Seal Chart rang up Biggin Hill Airport and told him of seeing a metallic object in the sky around 4 pm.

Airport radar had picked up nothing unusual and Mr Maitland added that atmospheric conditions with the sun low in the sky, made it perfect for seeing reflections off aircraft and similar occurrences.

INDICATOR, Redditch, England
Jan. 2, 1981 CR: B. Taylor

EVENING NEWS, Bolton, England
Dec. 18, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

'Factory in sky' riddle

THE Civil Aviation Authority can find no cause for the sightings of a UFO over the Bolton area earlier this week.

Following the reports of a "multi-coloured object which kept changing shape" in Farnworth, three Horwich people say they saw "strange lights" on the same night.

The hour-long Farnworth sightings were made by two women and a teenager, and the Horwich trio saw an unexplained flying object for about five minutes.

Mr Frank Webb, aged 31, of Brunswick Avenue, Horwich, reported his "lights" to the police.

THUNDER

He was returning from work at the Horwich Parish Church where he and two friends were landscaping the churchyard. "At first they were like

a factory in the sky with lots of bright windows. Then it began to move slowly upwards and turned into three definite lights.

"For a few seconds there was a sound like muffled thunder and then it suddenly disappeared — as though it had gone behind a cloud."

Mr Webb, who is married with three children, said that he and his friends had "never seen anything like it in their lives."

The police at Bolton and Horwich say there have been no other reports of strange lights.

The Civil Aviation Authority said today they have no explanation and there were no aircraft in the area at the time.

ORPINGTON TIMES, Sidcup, England
Dec. 18, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

BIG BOFFIN BRAIN BASH AND BUNFEED

Unidentified flying rubbish

By **PETER HOWELL**
Staff Writer

UFOs are a hoax and anyone who claims to have seen one is either lying, deranged or mistaken, a Metro professor and UFO expert told delegates to a top U.S. science convention yesterday.

Dr. Robert Hudek, a science teaching master at Seneca College, said years of following and studying "flying saucer" reports have left him convinced there are no space beings who visit earth.

People who claim to see alien spacecraft are mistakenly viewing clouds, lightning, birds, weather balloons or stars, Hudek, 40, told delegates to the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which opened yesterday.

"When really good investigative work is done on these stories, that's what they turn out to be, stories — there's really nothing out there," Hudek told a capacity crowd in a Sheraton Centre ballroom.

Hudek didn't completely rule out other plan-

etary life-forms, but he said only bacteria could exist on nearby planets because of harsh atmospheres.

Elsewhere, there could be humanoids but they're either too primitive to know about earth or too advanced to bother with it because we have no proof they've visited here, he said.

Hudek backs his beliefs with slides — which he showed — and numerous interviews he's compiled since he began seriously researching UFOs in 1972.

He's particularly sceptical of people who claim they've been abducted by aliens and then set free.

"People who report they've been abducted are either doing it deliberately, or for other strange psychological reasons," he said.

"Maybe they're doing it to get attention... I don't think there really is a true abduction."

He noted there have been an estimated 50 billion photographs taken in the United States since photography was invented, "yet there are no really good pictures of UFOs. They're all blurry or far away. There are a lot of hoax pictures."

He also pointed out that alleged victims of alien abductions always describe a different type of unearthly creature, ranging from human-like robots to octopus-shaped blobs.

Hudek used to teach a course at Seneca called "Life in the Universe," which started his interest in UFOs, but left it to teach other science courses because "it had started to attract students who thought they were going to sit there and talk about big monsters from outer space."

He was also involved with the U.S. UFO-watching group the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization, but left it because it was "too time-consuming" and he no longer believed the stories people were telling him.

"It doesn't take long, just a few weeks of listening to some of these people, to understand a lot of them are just pulling the wool over your eyes," Hudek said.

As may be expected, he's not popular with the many societies and magazines around the world dedicated to UFO-watching and believing. "They don't like me. They ignore me, that's more effective," he said.



ROBERT HUDEK
Nothing's out there

MAIL, Oxford, England - Jan. 12, 1981 CR: J. Delair

Couple's star turn

A BERINSFIELD couple's star-gazing turned to amazement last night when they spotted what they thought was a UFO flashing brightly in the sky over Benson.

The light, stationary for almost an hour, disappeared and then returned, and constantly changed colour from blue, pink, orange and then white, according to Stuart and Denise Pledge, of Wey Road, Berks-

They reported the sighting in Abingdon police, whose spokesman said later: "We recorded the message and as a formality contacted RAF Benson. Although we have had no other calls, it may come to light that someone else in the area has seen it."

Mrs Pledge said her 24-year-old husband noticed the light at about 8 pm last night on his way back from a friend's house.

"He called me to the back door to take a look and at first, I just laughed," she said. "But then I noticed this bright flashing dot in the sky over towards Benson. There was no sound and it kept still, changing colour constantly."

"It disappeared, and then came back in exactly the same place. My husband was so convinced about what we saw, he went round to his brother-in-law's in Fane Drive to see if he had seen it."

CITIZEN,
Gloucester, England
Jan. 7, 1981
**UFO seen
over
Forest?**

A Cinderford man believes he may have seen a UFO in the sky when he was on his way to work yesterday morning.

Mr Albert Chamberlain, of Steam Mills, was heading towards Gloucester between 6.30-6.45 am when he saw the object move towards Cinderford Hill and then descend into a wood.

"It was not a plane or helicopter and I wondered if anyone else saw something at that time," said Mr. Chamberlain.

SUNDAY TIMES, Capetown, South Africa - Dec. 21, 1980 CR: C. Hind

'Cloud-like' UFO seen over the Cape

By BEVIS FAIRBROTHER

It moved across the sky at great speed and then suddenly stopped.

After a while, it moved off again more slowly and then disappeared.

A similar cloud was seen over Cradock about five years ago. It was small with a dis-

tinctive broad base, narrowing out at the top.

Mrs Alta Jacobs, of the farm Riekersfontein, said she was on her way home after delivering sheep to another farm when she saw the object.

"It was about 10km away so I couldn't see how big it was. It moved off quickly and disappeared."

TIMES, Hereford, England - Jan. 2, 1981

Mystery of the lights on the 18th

THE mystery of the 18th green remains unsolved after a golfing party reported Herefordshire's latest UFO sighting.

Hereford estate agent Mr Frank Cox and three friends had just completed a round at Kington Golf Club when they spotted a strange formation of lights in the sky.

The sighting occurred at 4.10 p.m. on Saturday, December 20, and was witnessed by other golfers.

"They were like five bright car headlights — two above and three underneath," said Mr Cox.

"We were looking out towards Madley and the lights were in the sky about ten or 12 miles away, just to the right of Credehill," he added.

He estimates the lights were at between 2,000 and 3,000 ft and adds that they were stationary for about ten minutes before vanishing. "It wasn't the dishes at Madley — we could see them."

Others who saw the mystery lights were Hereford bank manager Mr Dennis Bird, saddler Mr Ken Bole and ambulance service motor mechanic Mr Louis Avenin.

Said Mr Bird: "I don't know what it was, but we definitely saw something in the sky. Two other golfers on the course also saw the lights."

"I can assure you we hadn't had a drink all day," he added.

Mr Ken Owen, manager of the Madley satellite earth station, said: "This is the first I have heard of any such sighting. I can't really offer an explanation."

Hereford police said they had received no other reports on UFO sightings on that day.

MAIL, Oxford, England - Jan. 13, 1981 CR: J. Delair

Riddle of lights in the sky

THE mysterious bright lights over Oxfordshire have proved a puzzling poser.

The report of the sighting of a UFO over Benson, in yesterday's Oxford Mail, has been supported by readers in Witney and Abingdon who also saw the bright flashing light.

Mr Dave Storer and his wife, Jane, saw what they thought was an aircraft, until it started flashing and changing colour.

Mr and Mrs Storer of Warwick Road, Banbury, saw the object while they were in Abingdon at 8 pm on Sunday night — the same time as Mr Stuart Pledge and his wife Denise, of Berinsfield, made their sighting.

"It seemed to be hovering in the Oxford direction," said Mr Storer. "We didn't think anything of it at

the time — and we were amazed to read about it in the Oxford Mail."

A similar sighting was made by a teenage couple last week as they walked from Wootton to Abingdon.

The couple, who do not wish to be named, saw a multi-coloured object in the sky.

One of the teenagers said: "After about 20 minutes it turned sideways on, becoming an oval shape, and a sort of yellow jet came out of the back of it. I was quite convinced it was a UFO."

WESTERN TELEGRAPH, Haverfordwest, Wales, U.K. - Jan. 15, 1981

UFO sighting from the past

BY LEN MULLINS

A former schoolteacher has defended UFOs after accusations in last week's *Western Telegraph* by Mr. Randall Pugh that they are dangerous and a threat to mankind.

Mrs. Nellie Thomas of Landshipping believes that Mr. Pugh — is wrong in his condemnation of extraterrestrials.

Her belief in the good intentions of UFOs stems from a close encounter her late husband experienced near Castlemartin in 1952 when he talked to the inhabitants of a spacecraft. He told no-one of the meeting except his wife.

"They told him they came in peace and that they were distressed to witness that Earth was set on a course of self-destruction. They were certainly friendly," said Mrs. Thomas.

Regarding Mr. Pugh's claims that UFOs are connected with the occult, Mrs. Thomas, who, until her retirement 14 years ago, taught at Albion Square C. P. School, Pembroke Dock, stressed that everyone has a certain amount of fear of the unknown.

"That accounts for the fact that people, especially those who are highly strung, have been frightened when they have witnessed UFOs," she continued.

"Could it be that inhabitants of other planets have also been frightened of the presence of our spacecraft which they also regard as evil — I wonder if we would all accept that opinion?"

"I don't think that Mr. Pugh's friend who saw a vision, or rather a Phoenix, rise from the ashes after burning his documents, can be psychic. If he were he would not have been frightened of the vision. The experience of the teenage girl which Mr. Pugh related, can also be explained, I feel, by fear of the unknown. Her two pet dogs were not affected by the same fright for they were psychic."

She claims her husband's meeting with aliens 29 years ago is "Untarnished truth." But why only divulge the experience to his wife?

"Flying saucers were almost unheard of at that time," explained Mrs. Thomas. "Any account then, especially in this part of the world, would have been termed fantasy and treated with scepticism."

"One interesting point my husband told me was that the aliens, who looked just like us, recharged their machine batteries by the sun's rays. Seven years after the war, solar power was not widely discussed. Today it is being used more and more. Maybe we have learnt something from folk on other planets."



By Harry S. Pease of Insight

YOU could almost feel the weight of the darkness. The moon rested somewhere below the horizon. Sudden clouds rejected most of the starlight. If a thin beam slipped through a crack in the overcast, the wet woods swallowed it.

Silence matched the dark. Now and again a stray breeze grumbled under its breath in the black tips of the spruces. Between times, you could hear your own pulse.

Tiptoeing across the soaked gravel road, a doe sounded like a cement mixer. She turned disdainfully in the beam of a flashlight, stepped onto the upholstered forest floor and vanished soundlessly.

When the flashlight snapped off, the blackness surged forward again. Urban people rarely encounter a void as complete as that perceived by the unadapted eye and ear in deep woods.

We waited.

We didn't know exactly what we were waiting for. My assignment was to find out about the mysterious Watersmeet Light, but we didn't have an eyewitness description of it.

We had been assured that it existed, first by Marion Johnson, who lives on Milwaukee's East Side, and later by such authorities as a Michigan State Police sergeant and various north country newspaper folk.

THE light appears in a remote area between Watersmeet and Paulding in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, a dozen miles north of the Wisconsin line on US Highway 45.

They say you can spot it from a point along the Bass Lake Road, near the ghost town of Bonifas.

Or you often can see it from the hill on the Robbins Pond Road above Dog Meadow.

Maybe the best place of all is on top of Dingman's Rock, a two-million-year-old basalt outcrop that shoves up out of the earth and rises 1,500 feet above sea level.

We had chosen the hill above Dog

Meadow because it's easiest to find in the dark. You just drive north from Watersmeet on 45 about four miles, turn left onto the town road and stop on the high ground.

Our eyes and ears sharpened with the passage of the minutes. We could hear cars a long way away on the highway. We could see a dimness — not so much a brighter as a less dark V — as we looked ahead down the road and the power line that ran beside it.

Then we saw the light. Right ahead of us, it began as a diffuse glow and then condensed into a hard knot of brilliant white.

You had the feeling that maybe it was moving, but you couldn't be sure you weren't moving your head instead.

It could have been big and distant or small and close. There was no way to tell.

The silence remained unbroken.

That first apparition was too startling for us to make any serious observations. No matter what anybody tells you, you don't expect to see anything like that. You're so busy just looking, you forget all the tests you planned to make.

You just stand there until the light dims and disappears. Then you ask yourself, "What was it?"

You can hear lots of stories around Watersmeet.

THE place got its name because it sits atop a three-way divide. At least according to legend, Indian tribes used to meet on the sand flats just outside the present town.

Lac Vieux Desert, from which the Wisconsin River leads toward the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, lies to the south. Most of the streams lead north to Lake Superior. A few flow east to join the Brule and thence to the Menominee and

Lake Michigan. People who traveled by water would choose such a council ground.

A DIFFERENT NORTHERN LIGHT

The glare of publicity falls on a spooky glow in the woods

LIGHT

The light, they say, is the ghost of the old messenger in search of his loyal dogs

From this tradition arises one explanation for the light in the woods. In several similar versions, the ghost of a chief long dead seeks something of value on the land from which his people have been driven.

Another story draws in part upon history.

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln directed the construction of a military road from Fort Wilkins, at Copper Harbor on the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula, to Fort Howard at Green Bay. Troops using it were to protect copper supplies essential to the Union war effort.

The road followed a much older trail that passed through Dog Meadow and the Watersmeet area. In summer, military mail had moved by water. During the freezeup, couriers took it to Green Bay by dog sled over the old trail.

The story goes that one of the mail carriers was set upon and killed at Dog Meadow. His dogs attacked the attackers, and the animals

also were killed. The light, they say, is the ghost of the old messenger in search of his loyal dogs.

There are more modern possibilities.

An old-timer, known to his neighbors only as Pancake Joe, owned a portion of the woods through which the Upper Peninsula Power Co. line runs. He fought the company when it wanted to chop a right of way through his trees, but he lost.

Now, they say, his restless spirit returns and dances in helpless fury beneath the wires.

Another set of theories was born of the flying saucer age, perhaps encouraged by a book which alleged that saucers fed from New England power lines and caused a major East Coast blackout in 1965.

"For a while," said Bob Zelinski, the operator of Sylvania Outfitters in Watersmeet and a most articulate woods runner, "everybody said, 'Well, it's the UFOs landing and sapping juice from the power lines.'"

"People would ask me — I'm supposed to be the expert — 'What does the power company say about losing watts, or whatever?'"

"I'd say, 'They're in cahoots with the government. You'll never find out. You know how that goes. They ain't going to tell.'"

Zelinski, to whom I am indebted for much of what I know about the light, said he had heard a story about an engineer who died in a

train wreck, still out there with his lantern trying frantically to flag down the other train. The woodsman doesn't regard that one as well substantiated, though.

"My neighbor who used to live across the street claimed that those lights were without a doubt from ore boats on Lake Superior," he said. "He said he had followed them down the shore."

Lake Superior lies about 50 miles to the north, on the far side of a pretty big range of hills.

WE KNEW only a couple of these stories that first night when we went out, unguided, to see the light. No question about it, it has an eerie quality.

It comes and goes. For a while you just watch, trying to liken it to something familiar. You're a little afraid to turn away, because you might miss something that you should see. Gradually, though, you get organized.

You burrow into the camera bag for the binoculars. They don't show much more detail of the white light, except that it seems to reflect around and look double.

Through the glasses you sometimes see a dimmer red light or two. Sometimes you see both colors at once, sometimes not.

When we started timing the lights with a

(continued on page 16)

(continued from page 15 - JOURNAL, Milwaukee, WI - Nov. 30, 1980)

watch, a certain regularity became evident. Quite a few "on" periods lasted just about three minutes, with a break of about a minute.

When the light stayed on longer, the break was shorter.

Luck, or a benign spirit, took a hand when we had determined this much. The clouds parted. Right down the road, the constellation Cassiopeia adorned the sky. Opposite the open top of the W above a star that could only be Polaris.

We had turned left off northbound 45, but we weren't looking west. Somehow we had been fooled by bends in the road; the light lay in the direction of the North Star. That turned out to be a key observation.

Also, the light lay right along the power line. Could that figure in it?

We knocked off for the night and headed back to the motel for another look at an Ontonagon County map.

Had we been looking west, which is your impression on the ground, we would have been gazing into 15 miles of empty wilderness. Peering north, which the stars said we really were doing, we were looking squarely at a distant stretch of Highway 45.

Sometimes white lights? Sometimes red? All in view about the same length of time? Similar interruptions, as though cars ran through a depression in the road? Light on longer, shorter dip? Maybe two cars in view at once?

It would need some checking the next night, but we had a start.

THE day dawned on soggy snow. We sought out Zelinski and reported our suspicions.

He grinned. "You sort of shot holes in the story a little bit," he said. Then he told me another story, in its way as wonderful as the light.

Just about everybody in the Watersmeet-Paulding area has known the truth since the light first was noticed. But the whole thousand of them, more or less, have built up the legends and kept the secret almost intact.

"I was, I think, in the seventh grade when some high school kids were out parking on that road and the light appeared," he began. "They figured it was somebody coming, but nobody ever came. They got scared and left.

"Everybody had to go see this light. I remember I was in the Boy Scouts and we took the scoutmaster out from one of the meetings. He was very skeptical about this light idea in the first place, but when we saw it everybody was climbing trees and running all over for a better view.

"My dad went up there with some friends. He took binoculars and did the same dirty, dastardly deed you did. He also looked at a map and figured out a few things. I guess they resolved, to their satisfaction, what was causing this phenomenon.

"But I found out in seventh grade that no one would accept an explanation for this. It was unexplained. Who wants a logical explanation?"

For quite a while, Zelinski said, it was pretty much a local sensation. Sure, kids would drive up from Rhinelander and Eagle River to see it, but the real promotion didn't begin until seven years ago.



Map by John Pinchard of The Journal

"I noticed the interest in the light, and a few other businessmen did, and for a while we did promote it," Zelinski said. "It's in the Watersmeet brochure, and on place mats. We even advertised it on TV.

"Paulding wound up advertising the light too, but they did it out of Rhinelander. We did it out of Marquette. Somehow we got the guy from Upper Peninsula Travel & Recreation interested. Talk about connections! He had it in every paper all the way from Duluth to Milwaukee.

"Right during Christmas they had it that Watersmeet had its own Christmas star. George Roberts over at the Paulding general store even had some buttons made that said 'I saw the light.'"

A LOT of people came and stayed until they figured out what the light was, but it never made any difference, Zelinski said. There always was a resurgence of interest.

"If this would have been a little bit different, I would have been hauling people," he said. "I've got a van and I would have figured out a whole itinerary of ghost towns and mysterious phenomena.

"Except, at some times it's just too obvious what the light is. The worst time to see it is when it's very clear. So I never went to town on it, though I've hauled people up there.

"I charged \$4 apiece and loaded up 12 people. That's nice. You don't have to work during the day if you can pull this kind of stuff all night long."

He began to laugh so hard he could hardly talk.

"They listed me as a source of information on this light because I'm hardy and I guess I'm not afraid to open my big trap, or something. But when anybody asks, I tell 'em I haven't the slightest idea what that light is.

"Then, just to dissuade 'em from using binoculars, I've told 'em, 'Don't do that. You'll burn your eyes.'

"I purposely steer 'em wrong. I tell 'em, 'Go north on Highway 45. Turn west on Robbins Pond Road.' That blows their orientation right away, because you aren't doing that.

You've got to purposely make directions simple, but confusing."

He said competing resort communities made serious efforts to debunk the light when it first was a popular feature. It didn't matter. People kept coming to Watersmeet and having fun.

"I've taken parties of 45 out — you know, I'm leading the pack and everybody's hanging onto the next guy going through the woods. It's a riot," Zelinski said.

"At Dingman's Rock there's a railing to support a wall tent — I guess something some deer hunters used. I tell everybody (his voice took on a tone of awe), 'I don't know what that is, but it's been in the field a long time. I don't know whoever does that, but it looks just like Stonehenge. I'm sure there's something mysterious about it.'"

Once again, he couldn't talk for laughing.

"There's been a number of reports of investigations. The best one was that NASA investigated. Some UFO groups investigated. They say National Geographic investigated, and Readers Digest investigated. I don't know if anybody ever investigated.

"I've had people say they were parked there and their car headlights and electrical systems and batteries just went dead. When those stories are noised around, I say I don't know whether it's true or not, but you hear that."

The snow was thinning. Zelinski got out a topographic map and pointed out the lay of the land. Sure enough, the mysterious lights in the woods are auto headlights and taillights on Highway 45. You pick them up on the long hill at Maple Grove Cemetery, 11 miles from Dingman's Rock.

The cemetery lies about 1,315 feet above sea level. Paulding is down in a hole between there and the lookout points. The village puts a little glow in the sky — just enough to give an onlooker a false horizon.

"The power line has a lot to do with seeing the light, because it provides an open area for a long distance," Zelinski said.

There's nothing remarkable about seeing auto lights that far. In real darkness you can see the flare of a match 10 miles away. However, people don't always get an honest answer when they raise the question.

"A TV guy asked if the light had been seen before the advent of the automobile," Zelinski recalled. "Somebody said his grandfather owned a Stutz Bearcat, the first car in the area, and Grandpa saw the light from that car in the same spot."

Sometimes you don't have to tell tall tales. Zelinski once led two carloads of Michigan travel agents out to look. One group saw the light and charged down the road in pursuit. The other stayed put. Naturally, the ones on the hilltop could see that the light stayed on. Those who hustled to lower ground lost it.

The chasers returned. "We couldn't see it at all," they reported. "See it? It was right over you all the time," their colleagues assured them.

A disclosure like this may ease a lot of consciences. Like others in the past, it won't mar the mystery light. People have too much fun being fooled. Even Uncle Sam must understand.

"There's a sucker shorn every minute" says a government placard in the Watersmeet Post Office. But it shows a postal inspector, not a backwoods guide. □

JOURNAL, Milwaukee, WI - Jan. 4, 1981 CR: R. Heiden

That spooky light
Harry S. Pease of Insight described in the Nov. 30 issue a mysterious light in the woods of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and the various theories that have been offered to explain it.

I'VE been going to see the "North woods mystery light" for 10 years now and I believe in the story about the train accident. [One tale has it that the spooky light comes from the ghostly lantern of an engineer who died in a train wreck, and who now is trying to flag down other trains.]

The part in the story I do not believe is that car lights and electrical systems went dead; all the times I went, nothing happened. And I've been going to see Watersmeet's mysterious light about 10 times a year....

If car lights on Highway 45 are responsible, then why did the light pop up next to my sister, Diane, on the passenger side of the car she was in? This happened twice.

Explain that!

The story that a person cannot see the light on clear nights is not true. We went out on a night as clear as you are going to get. We saw some falling stars — the whole works. What do you think we saw next? The light! It came out a lot that night. It comes out every night!

—Dave Drayna
Menomonee Falls

EVENING MAIL, Birmingham, England
Dec. 2, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

Casts from zoo in 'Puma' hunt

Welsh police hunting what is feared may be a puma have been sent plaster casts of big cat tracks by Dudley Zoo.

The zoo was called in after a strange beast was spotted on a hill farm near Newtown where sheep were grazing.

The creature fled but police managed to get a plaster cast of a footprint which was identified by Dudley Zoo officials as being of a big dog. Dudley Zoo superintendent

Mike Williams identified it as a big dog — but didn't rule out the panther theory, formulated after sightings in Wolverhampton and Wales.

"We have sent police plaster casts of our leopard which is similar to a puma, and of a lynx," said Mr Williams.

The Welsh police surrounded a barn where the animal was alleged to be hiding but it escaped in an incident weeks ago.

Man says sasquatch tracks located

By LINDA HOSEK
Of the Herald Staff

Tracks from an animal believed to be a sasquatch were spotted Sunday and Monday in the woods south of Slater Road, the director of a Seattle-based group said Tuesday.

Between 200 and 300 barefoot tracks meandered in "arches, circles and zig-zags" as they disappeared up a hill north of the Lummi Indian Reservation near Ferndale, said Jon Beckjord, director of Project Bigfoot, a volunteer wildlife organization.

"There was no particular direction," Beckjord said. "It appeared to be looking for food."

Whatever it was apparently slept in the snow under salmonberry bushes, he said. Its tracks were about 11 inches long, revealing a narrow heel "but broad by the ball of a foot," he said.

Its weight, which Beckjord said he estimated by comparing the compression of his tracks with the animal's tracks, appeared to be about 230 pounds. Based on its estimated weight and the size of its tracks, it probably was a juvenile animal, he said.

Beckjord said he has gathered about 150 sightings of possible sasquatches, gorilla-like primates which scientists have not accepted as a species. They are believed to be about 7 feet tall and

weigh about 1,200 pounds.

The last sighting prior to the spotting of the tracks south of Slater Road was about 9 a.m. Dec. 1, he said, when a man said he saw a sasquatch on Lummi Shore Drive near Beach Road.

Beckjord said he saw sasquatches on two occasions about five years ago on the Lummi Reservation. On one occasion, a sasquatch was standing near a garbage dump, he said, and on the other, a sasquatch was crossing a road.

Sasquatch sightings date back hundreds of years, he said.

Explorer David Thompson sighted a sasquatch in 1811 during an expedition in British Columbia, Beckjord said.

Sasquatch sightings have been a part of Indian oral history "for as far back as they can remember," he added.

The Salish Indians along the Fraser River named the upright animal "sasquatch," he said. The Lummi Indians, however, have named it "T'siatko," he added.

"According to scientists and anthropologists, the evidence is not yet firm enough to establish a sasquatch as a species," Beckjord said. "In my opinion, there is enough evidence for the average citizen."

Scientists require the body of a sasquatch before they will establish it as a species, he said.

"There are many stories about people

finding a body, but none have been brought to scientists," he said.

But members of Project Bigfoot — formerly Project Grendel — "are helping solve the bigfoot mystery," Beckjord said.

The group, started in 1975, includes about 85 people throughout the United States, he said. About 20 scientists and anthropologists participate in the group.

"We're trying for physical evidence — blood, hair, teeth," he said.

He said he hopes others look for tracks and call Project Bigfoot to report them.

"A good way is to look for tracks that go up into the woods from the road where you wouldn't expect a person to go," he said. The distance between tracks should be unusually long, he added.

Sasquatches also apparently travel from the woods to the water at night to gather mussels, he said.

The unconfirmed primate is not dangerous, Beckjord said. "I have advised that no one shoot at a sasquatch," he said. "Historically, they have not been brought down. And it might be an impersonator dressed up in a gorilla suit."

Those wanting to report a sighting or wanting additional information in tracking a sasquatch may call Project Bigfoot at 525-3302.

NEWS OF THE WORLD, London (?), England - Dec. 14, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

HERE COME THE APE MEN!

CHINA has revived an incredible plan to breed ape-men for slave labour.

Scientists believe they can cross humans with chimpanzees to create "human apes."

Now they want to re-start the experiment, wrecked when Chairman Mao's Red Guards ran riot 13 years ago.

They claim a laboratory chimp became pregnant after being inseminated with a man's sperm.

In the upheaval of China's Cultural Revolution, the lab was smashed and the chimp died.

But the scientist in charge, Qi Yng-xiang, believes the experiment almost worked.

He is convinced his ape-men could talk and understand simple ideas.

Space

They would be used to drive cars, herd animals and protect forests.

They could also be sacrificed in explorations of the seabeds, outer space and the centre of the earth.

The research, in the north-eastern city of Shenyang, is to be authorised by the Chinese government.

But British scientist Dr Marcus Pembrey said: "Creation of a hybrid ape-man is impossible."

TIMES, El Paso, TX - Dec. 22, 1980 CR: J. Clark

Beware of the 'Trans Mountain Ghost'

Question: A few years ago, we read in the paper about a ghost or monster that lives at Cotton Wood Springs. Are you familiar with this story? Also, have any local books been written on this? — M.W.

Answer: Two tales about the ghost at Cotton Wood Springs have appeared in *The El Paso Times* — each dated Oct. 31, Halloween.

A 1978 story by Ed Kimble discusses a number of El Pasoans being forced to leave the road by the sudden appearance of a man and a dog — the "Trans Mountain Ghost."

The Trans Mountain Ghost legend comes from the story of Juarez priests who supposedly operated a gold mine in the Franklin Mountains during the 1600s. During the revolt of the Manos Indians, they left a single priest and his dog to guard the gold mine.

¿quién sabe?
by Chuck Whitlock

Write "¿Quien Sabe?" c/o The El Paso Times, P.O. Drawer 20, El Paso, Texas 79999, or call 747-4787, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday

Before Trans Mountain Road was constructed, visitors to the area, sometimes called Cotton Wood Springs, reportedly were scared off by a large dog that darted out and chased the group. Some groups reported that a man appeared with the dog.

Since Trans Mountain Road was built, several vehicles reportedly were forced to swerve to miss a man in a long flowing robe and his dog, who suddenly appeared on the roadside. No identification ever has been found for the man.

The Oct. 31, 1979, story by Craig Phelon

concerns Mac MacCormack, who reportedly saw the "Thing of Cotton Wood Springs" Oct. 31, 1961. The Thing appeared to be generally manlike, but with a large head consisting mostly of a mouth stuffed with large teeth.

The Thing looked larger than a man, and appeared atop a boulder near the boy. The Thing leaped at him, and the boy ran for his life, so the legend goes. He escaped, but the story lingers to this day.

The tale of the Trans Mountain Ghost from the 1978 story came from material compiled by Karen Ramirez, associate professor of linguistics at the University of Texas at El Paso, and a section from a 1971 term paper by Alan V. Embry by John O. West, a UTEP English professor who specializes in folklore.

No background was given for Phelon's tale in the Oct. 31, 1979, *Times*.

'Egg' that gave family a shiver

The Anderton family did not know what hit them when a massive "hailstone" landed in their back garden.

Sixteen-year-old Kenneth Anderson was so taken aback with his find that he promptly put it into the family's freezer.

Luckily, the ice lump missed the greenhouse and left a dent in the garden in Monyhull Hall Road, King's Norton in the middle of the night.

Closer inspection revealed that the hailstone had a circumference of 12 ins and tipped the kitchen scales at 1lb 6oz, about the size of an ostrich egg.

A spokesman for Birmingham University Met Department said all the Anderton's had was a close encounter with a lump of ice that had probably fallen from an aircraft.

He said ice sometimes built up on aircraft at high altitudes. It would detach itself as the plane descended.



Kenneth Anderson with the 1 1/2 lb ice ball which landed in his family's garden at King's Norton.

EVENING MAIL, Birmingham, England - Dec. 10, 1980 CR: B. Taylor

Ruins in water revive controversy

LA PAZ (Reuter) — The discovery of pre-Spanish conquest ruins deep in the waters of Lake Titicaca has revived an old controversy over the mysterious disappearance of a once-flourishing civilization.

A group of Bolivian and Puerto Rican film-makers recently showed stunned archeologists footage of a documentary they shot more than a year ago in the waters of the world's highest navigable lake.

Unsuspecting archeologists and reporters saw algae-covered roofless walls which could be part of a temple bearing a strange resemblance to the ruins of Tihuanaco on the shore, as well as paved roads.

Tihuanaco has long baffled archeologists. It consists of a seven-metre-high monolithic gateway, some shattered terraces and roofless walls.

The remains are generally believed to have been the centre of South America's oldest

civilization which flourished before AD 1600.

That civilization ended abruptly, some archeologists claim by some unexplained calamity, about AD 900.

Their descendants are the Aymara-speaking Indians who inhabit the shores of the 5,600-square-kilometre lake divided between Bolivia and Peru.

When the Cuzco-based Incas of present-day Peru conquered the Andean high plateau, they found the Aymaras at Tihuanaco living among the ruins.

Bolivian writer and filmmaker Hugo Boero, an expert on pre-Inca civilizations, made the find.

He said his Puerto Rican colleagues stumbled on the underwater ruins by accident after being led by an old local Indian to what appeared to be a small rock protruding in the middle of the lake.

SAULT STAR, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada - Jan. 3, 1981

CR: M. Hall

Bigfoot In The Back Country : One Woman's Search

In the picture postcard rolling hills of Wynola, among the rock outcroppings of the Borrego desert and elsewhere in the back country, traces of the creature have been found and sightings have reportedly been made.

And though Bigfoot is the stuff of legend to most people, to Virginia Louise Swanson and other back country residents who have encountered the huge, hairy beast or seen unmistakable signs of them, they are reality.

For more than four years Virginia, a 79-year-old energetic Julian resident who has done more in her life than many of us could hope for in two lives, has researched Bigfoot and chronicled its appearance and existence in these parts.

A direct encounter with Bigfoot came for Virginia in 1953 when she was establishing a mining camp in the Big Sur area. She had always dabbled in mining on a weekend basis until she spilled sulphuric acid on her leg while working as a test chemist for the Pet Milk Company in Salinas and was forced to give up her job. She turned to mining full time after that.

While hauling supplies into her remote camp one evening, she stopped halfway and decided to camp the night amidst the rugged wooded hills.

In the middle of the night she woke up suddenly.

"What awakened me was a smell," she

recounted in an interview in her small, quaint cabin recently. "It was like a slaughterhouse on a hot day. You can't imagine it."

Then came the sounds of heavy footfalls and strange grunting noises. She reached for her flashlight as the thing or things came nearer, but it didn't work. Then suddenly something was underneath her cot, lifting her up slightly into the air. She screamed, grabbed for a saw nearby and started swinging wildly about. The animal thudded heavily off into the dark, apparently scared from the twanging of the saw. At the time she attributed the experience to wild pigs. It was only after years of talking to others who have had contacts with Bigfoot and doing research into the phenomenon that she has come to believe it was the elusive creature itself.

"It's God's blessing that my flashlight exploded that night, because if I had been able to turn it on and look up into a hairy face I would have died," she said.

In 1978 Virginia Louise (her pen name) published a book, "Night-Side of Gold," on her experiences in mining—which she gave up about ten years ago when she came to Julian—as well as her research and the theories on Bigfoot. She is continuing her investigation into the bizarre creature today, and plans further writing on the subject.

"My theory about Bigfoot is that he does not

exist in this plane of existence, but that he manifests in certain conditions. Similar to lightning, or rainbows," she stated. "The only way Bigfoot will ever be captured is on film."

Her theory about Bigfoot existing in a "parallel world" has also been suggested by a noted expert on such phenomenon as Bigfoot and UFO's, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Virginia points out.

Virginia Swanson is not the only local resident who has apparently had sightings, encounters, or discovered evidence of the creature's existence.

Accounts go back as far as 1888 when, in Deadman's Hole, a rugged canyon adjacent to Warner Hot Springs, a 400-pound "half-human, half-beast" was killed by two hunters. The incident was related in the San Diego Union in 1978, from an account by a Henry Schwartz.

In other incidents told to her, Virginia has heard of the following sightings.

A respected professional reported seeing a huge, white-haired creature cross the highway in front of him near Julian.

A prospector mining in the Anza-Borrego desert had rocks thrown at him by a naked, hairy animal standing atop a rock cleft above him.

A group of young people, hiking along the trails in the Cuyamacas at Dos Picachas near Green Valley, happened upon huge human-like tracks

which they followed into a small cluster of oak trees to a strange circular hollowed out area where the tracks stopped.

A group of dogs once reportedly located a giant man-like beast sitting on a log along the shore of a pond in Wynola. The witness reported that the creature escaped down the log away from the animals into some trees, walking, like a human, upright on two legs.

While most persons who have been in contact with Virginia have asked to remain anonymous, John Lutman, of Alpine, knows what he saw, and doesn't mind talking about it.

Lutman, 49, was down in remote Meyers Valley in the Anza-Borrego desert with a friend in 1975 looking for Indian arrowheads when he came across enormous human-like tracks.

"One set of prints came down off the rocks and went for about 50 or 60 feet before they ended. They were about 13 inches long and five inches wide," he said over the telephone last week. While checking out these mysterious prints he discovered a single print in between two rocks which was even larger. He measured the print at about 16 inches long and some eight inches wide. It sunk into the ground nearly two inches, he said.

"I'm six foot, four inches and weigh about 250 pounds and when I jumped off the rock I only sunk about a half an inch." Whatever it

was it was awfully heavy, Lutman said.

His partner, upon seeing the tracks, took off toward their truck and Lutman had to catch up with him later.

Virginia reports accounts of other Bigfoot evidence, such as the howling scream the creature is supposed to emit which has been heard in these hills, and other bizarre unexplained happenings about the back country which she says can be traced to Bigfoot.

"Reasonably, it can be assumed that certain elements of earth—perhaps minerals or vegetation—are necessary for Bigfoot's manifestation," Virginia said. "I note that he is never far away from water—even in the desert areas. He, more or less, appears in proximity to man-never animals. His presence terrifies them."

Virginia has led a colorful life, to say the least, and has had anumber of exciting careers, including being a Max Factor model, a one-time co-author of a Hollywood radio program, a dancer, a test-chemist, and mine and explorer. Her travels have included living in the wilds of Alaska.

"I'm not just a nice little old lady. I have a nose for getting into all kinds of things," she has said. Her small house just south of Julian is filled with books and scientific magazines.

But even with her eventful past, Virginia always keeps her sights on the future. "I have such a darned interest in the world, and what's behind everything. I'm too interested in what I'm doing and learning to sit around and twiddle my thumbs. I don't like to talk about the past. You have to keep yourself going."

Besides her writing and research, Virginia also keeps herself busy with crafts, such as the beautiful Christmas tree ornaments she made this year.

But Bigfoot remains her most vital interest, and she will continue to do research and eventually write an article on the existence of the creatures in the Julian area.

Meanwhile she continues to expand her files on the subject talking to people and taking part in a larger research project, called The Bay Area (San Francisco) Group of Research on Bigfoot and Related Topics, which recently had a researcher come down to tape her story and that of Lutman's.

"I am not a scientist," Virginia says. "I have no reputation to lose. Scoffing has never stopped me from thinking about and trying to evaluate the far-out events which are being widely reported in increasing numbers. Topping the present list is Bigfoot—that Will O' the Wisp monster that yells and smells up a square mile, but has never been caught."

One gets the feeling this zesty woman could certainly be the first.

'Big Foot' Hoax Uncovered In Tionesta

By WICK DIVELBISS

TIONESTA — It was, in the words of editor Bob Clever, "a fantastic feat." Or is that feet? Foot, maybe?

Whatever, Clever, editor of The Forest Press here, appears to be hot on the trail of one of the greatest hoaxes ever perpetrated on the people of Penn's Woods.

Two weeks ago, the weekly newspaper sold out its normal Wednesday pressrun plus 400 extra copies when it published a story about foot prints, apparently made by the legendary "Big Foot," that had been found off Route 36, about three miles south of here.

"It scared the hell out of people," said Clever. "There was a problem with dogs barking in that area that had never been a problem before. I thought it was real."

The tracks in the snow were found at about 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29. The prints appeared to have been made by a barefoot human-like creature and were about 18 inches long, seven inches wide. The prints were about five to seven feet apart, and the creature appeared to have stepped over fallen trees, rocks, briars and huckleberry bushes.

The tracks meandered through the woods for about a mile, and twice appeared to have crossed Route 36.

That, apparently, is what stirred doubt in Clever.

"They started and ended at the road," Clever explained. "It's obvious whoever did it got in and out of a vehicle."

After two weeks of publishing Big Foot stories, Clever learned late Monday that someone had seen two men practicing on stilts. He hasn't been able to interview the eyewitness or the acrobats, but he considers the source a sound one and is convinced the whole episode was a hoax.

"I don't know how he did it," Clever said. "It was a fantastic feat. The strides he was taking...he was climbing over fallen trees, rocks, bushes. He did it in the woods, at night and in the snow."

Clever said the hoax was elaborate enough to fool people for at least a while. He explained that the footprints had an arch, distinct toes, and a smooth outline. They didn't appear to have been handmade, and no other tracks were nearby.

He said the stiltwalkers apparently are hunters from out of the area, who have a cabin near Tionesta, and are known in the community.

"A couple of real characters," Clever said, adding he expects to interview them this weekend when they are in camp.

He added that the latest story his paper carried hinted the tracks may have been a hoax, and said if he is able to interview the perpetrators this weekend, he will tell all Wednesday — with photos of how it was done.

"It appears this one is a phony," he said of the Big Foot trail. "I think it's gone far enough."

POST, Sandy, OR - Jan. 15, 1981

Bigfoot here?

For many years I have been intrigued with a still unsolved mystery that has been explored by geological societies and the press with hopes that some reader or watcher might offer some explanation. An account of my experience is contained in Peter Byrnes book that explores reported sightings of the Sasquatch, or Bigfoot.

But nowhere have I ever hinted that there was any connection between my discovery and the existence of the legendary monster, nor do I hold to such a theory that there is.

However, since the unexplained mystery had its origin in Alder Creek canyon, I hope that some reader may offer a comment.

A companion and I were hunting along Alder Creek canyon. We left Alder Creek Road and made our way across an area once logged off and later ravaged by a forest fire in 1926. A machete would have been useful, as we groped our way

through a tangle of underbrush and second growth alders. Obviously no one had gone this way since the passage of time had erased the scar upon the hillside with heavy undergrowth and young trees.

Suddenly, we discovered a strange mound of earth which rose to a height of about 4 feet. It resembled a huge gopher hole. But such a creature could not exist. The mysterious mound of earth covered an area approximately 50 square feet. The mound was of recent origin, for no scrap of vegetation had taken root in the soil.

We climbed up on the mound, while our boots sank to the ankles in the moist, churned soil which might be compared to a garden lately worked by a rototiller.

I did observe that around the perimeter of the mound was a narrow border of upturned vegetation, about 4 inches wide — as though some upheaval from below had created this oddity far off any beaten path in the wilderness. No ferns had been crushed in the area, no

was there any indication that anyone had lately been this way.

This discovery was made 30 years ago, and I am still searching for a solution to the mystery. At the present moment, I have heard no salient comment other than there must be a logical explanation.

As a result of a published article I once wrote upon this subject, an interested author who has a book in our public library offered to fly his private plane from Vermont, land at the Sandy airport and then fly over the area.

"There must be other such strange mounds," he commented. But obviously he was unaware that the Cascade wilderness is covered with dense vegetation, and observation from the air would be impossible.

Perhaps some reader of the Sandy Post might respond by reporting a comparable discovery in the wilderness, or offer some explanation.

Keith Soesbe
3419 NE 87 Place
Portland, OR 97220

Bigfoot basher

A mystery monster in America's Northwest? Don't bet on it, says this expert

By JAY SCRIBA of The Journal Staff

SO WHAT'S new with Bigfoot after more than 20 years, thousands of alleged sightings and footprints, and at least one starring film role?

Do we have an American Abominable Snowman? Or is the fabled hairy monster just "an Abominable Snowjob," as a writer quips.

True believers marshal impressive support:

A recent investigator reports that John Napier, former top primatologist at the Smithsonian Institution, now guesses that "there is an unknown bipedal primate of some kind" wandering the misty rain forests of the Pacific Northwest.

As for the Yeti, or Abominable Snowman, nature writer Peter Matthiessen says his friend George Schaller, celebrated animal behaviorist with the American Museum of Natural History, is convinced that "an animal unknown to science" occurs in the Himalayan uplands.

Until recently, at least, there was a "Bigfoot Information Center" in Oregon, as well as a monthly newsletter called "Bigfoot News." Even in Michigan there has been a "Michigan Bigfoot Information Center," with file cabinets full of data as well as a shrine-like display of Bigfoot dung, in a glass case.

A British Columbian journalist who keeps track of West Coast evidence claims such incidental evidence as bits of hair, drops of blood and at least two handprints.

In 1959-'69, an imaginative expedition featured Bigfoot buffs "running in the woods trying to lure a presumed male giant by means of used sanitary napkins purloined in the night from service-station bathrooms and tacked to trees."

A few scientific authorities even endorse the 1967 Patterson-Gimlin movie film starring Bigfoot — or a cleverly costumed human — striding along a northern California river. At least one governmental agency, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, has acted to require protection should a Bigfoot ever be discovered. In 1978 the University of British Columbia even held a Bigfoot conference.

Above all, perhaps, Kenneth Wylie suggests in an excellent new study, "Bigfoot: A Personal Inquiry Into a Phenomenon" (Viking Press), that it is very hard to deny claimed sightings by hundreds of apparently sober, sensible people.

Wylie is billed as not only a trained historian and anthropologist, but also a woodsman and amateur naturalist.

What, for example, can be made of the classic tale of two women driving by night down a northern Michigan woods road, near Charlevoix, in the 1960s?

Wylie relates that "Suddenly a large, monstrous figure emerges rapidly from the brush at the roadside, plunging into the full glare of



Bigfoot, from the 1967 Patterson-Gimlin film.

the headlights as it pushes the foliage apart with its huge arms. The driver slows quickly to avoid a crash... Her companion screams.

"The thing stands upright on two legs, like a man, its head turned toward the car in an alert and curious state. But it is much too large to be a normal human, and too massive of build. Its body is dark, its face flat, without a snout — like that of a man, or perhaps an ape, but it is not the face of a man.

"The women glide past in awed disbelief... Aware of potential scorn, neither is willing to tell her story publicly. Not for several years."

In 1976 there is another Bigfoot scare in the same region. Three young National Guardsmen claim to have been terrified in the night by some huge creature attacking their personnel carrier, banging on its side, prying at the hatch, rocking the vehicle repeatedly on its large springs.

Then a few miles away a retired Michigan state trooper and his family are terrorized by the screaming night creature whose dung adorns the glass case. It also frightens a neighbor woman with its terrible stench, while leaving 18-inch footprints.

Wild-eyed fantasy? The Michigan dossier is tame compared to that of the Pacific Northwest, where reports range from Bigfoot rapes to kidnappings. Back in the 1920s, for example, a British Columbia logger claimed to have been seized in his sleeping bag by a Bigfoot, shouldered like a sack of flour and kept prisoner for nearly a week.

As recently as 1971, a family of Californians claimed that a huge, apelike creature not only wrecked their camp, but came close enough to be offered food. The campers even produced what they claimed were tape recordings of the beast's caterwauling.

WHAT TO make of it all?

Wylie writes that "the more I learned about the Bigfoot phenomenon, the more my initial doubt became tinged by a kind of hope, wistful but genuine nonetheless... I suppose I had almost become a 'Bigfoot buff' myself." But he held firmly to scientific investigation.

Thus, although the Yeti may yet turn out to be a mountaineering langur or orangutan, a member of a major Chinese investigative expedition concluded that Yeti hunters are "running after shadows."

Another expedition, led by Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Mt. Everest, and sponsored by World Book Encyclopedia, reported that: (1) Much-publicized giant Yeti footprints really result from snow melting the tracks of lesser animals. (2) A famous supposed Yeti scalp was a fake. (3) An alleged Yeti hand was "largely human in origin." (4) Several Yeti skins, so positively identified as such by any Sherpa, are in truth the Tibetan blue bear.

Poor Bigfoot fares even less well under the hard-punching impact of a relentless investigator.

Like most scholars who have viewed the celebrated Bigfoot film, Wylie sees the huge, hairy star as a man in an ape suit, suspiciously baggy in the rear, showing what looks like a boot sole. The whole thing, he declares, after interviewing the only surviving witness, "smells of skunk."

Listening to the 1971 California

tape, he found "a hodge-podge of incredible noises... so obviously concocted from several sources that I could scarcely believe they have been produced as evidence of Bigfoot."

As for the University of British Columbia conference, including the better-known Bigfoot buffs, an anthropologist was heard muttering to his colleagues, "My, my. We must find some way to study these people. They are a subculture all their own."

Investigating on the spot in Michigan, Wylie concluded that incidents involving the National Guardsmen and retired state trooper were brazen hoaxes. Similarly, he interviewed distinguished scientists to learn that it can be impossible to identify samples of abraded hair — thereby leaving sensationalists to proclaim that any unidentified tuft must belong to Bigfoot.

In sum, he suggests that virtually all the famous sightings, all the measured giant tracks, even the enshrined dung, derive from hoaxes — many perpetrated by the same "true believers" who so excitedly reported them.

He points out that Bigfoot is suspiciously elusive in Northwest Indian legend, as well as the printed record prior to 1958. That most residents of Bigfoot country, from farm wives to forest rangers, regard the monster as an embarrassing joke. That it would be impossible for even a small group of primate monsters to survive without leaving conspicuous evidence of feeding, foot trails, dens, watering places and droppings.

HE ALSO asks why there have been virtually no reports of young Bigfoot creatures.

Most damning, he and other scientists want to know why, after all these years, no one has ever produced the "hard" evidence of a carcass, a skeleton, a skin, even a convincing snapshot.

He suggests in explanation that Bigfoot manifests an age-old, worldwide belief "in the existence of strange humanoid covered with hair." He suspects that, pathetically, modern Americans feel a desperate need to believe in something darkly wild and mysterious, still haunting our urban civilization.

He speculates that we may carry a wistful genetic memory of humanoid relatives long extinct. Gentle, hairy giants who, perhaps, once whimpered out the night to warm at our cave fires.

Hidden story behind mutilations

It's been a while since retired FBI agent Kenneth Rommel completed his investigation into the baffling livestock mutilations that have bewildered New Mexicans since the mid-1970s. As a sort of update, here are a few reflections along with a new clue that might have saved a lot of work and worry.

Rommel's one-year investigation in some ways added to the bewilderment. The number of mutilations dropped sharply while Rommel sought to smoke out the perpetrators. And the frequency with which they have occurred has remained mysteriously low since the probe, financed through the 1st District Attorney's office, ended last May.

Had it not been for Attorney General Jeff Bingaman's blast against U.S. Sen. Harrison Schmitt a few weeks, the perplexing mutilation story might have been forgotten by most persons.

Bingaman cited Schmitt's involvement in pusing mutilation probes as an example of how the former astronaut has failed to represent New Mexico's legitimate concerns in Washington. So what if he's walked on the moon. So what if credible men once blamed the mutilations on space travelers. Schmitt's background doesn't make him an expert in livestock mutilations, Bingaman suggested. And even if it did, Schmitt should put his time and influence to better use, said the attorney general.

Bingaman, of course, felt a need to rap Schmitt. He wants Schmitt's job. And mutilations have caught a lot of attention in the past, so it must have seemed like a good subject for the attorney general to bring up while announcing his political plans.

In his prompt reply to Bingaman's criticism, Schmitt said mutilations have cost state livestock owners thousands of dollars and that they deserve attention.

District Attorney Eloy Martinez called the mutilations "crimes" when he applied for a grant from



david roybal

editorial page editor

the Criminal Justice Department to finance Rommel's investigation. Several remarks made by Martinez just before the investigation started suggested he believed it was neither predator nor spaceman who was killing livestock in New Mexico and in other states around the nation.

The rest is recorded in a 297-page report Rommel submitted last June.

Rommel said there was reason to believe the mutilations were "a law enforcement problem" when the Criminal Justice Department grant was obtained. And, he said, they appeared to pose a serious problem "both in terms of... economic impact on livestock owners and in the fear... generated among rural residents."

But the one-year investigation, Rommel said, showed that the mutilations are not being done by highly skilled persons with considerable financial backing, as many persons had thought. There was little information to support claims that precision and skill were relied upon to remove sex organs, eyes, ears, tongues and udders (the MO of "classic mutilations"), he said. Mutilations which he saw, said Rommel, reflected sloppier work of predators and scavengers.

Self-appointed investigators still scoff at Rommel's findings. Rommel's investigation lacked diligence and objectivity, not to mention a dearth of "classic mutilations," they claimed.

One of The New Mexican's readers wrote to us

several months ago with his own explanation for the way livestock parts are cut and whisked away by thieves who no one has ever seen. It's the "stealth" secret that Jimmy Carter boasted about in the heat of his re-election campaign, he said.

The same stuff that's poured, painted, splashed or mixed in with the surface of planes that Carter said can go undetected by Soviet radar hides the mutilators, their tracks and all other evidence, said the letter writer.

Why hasn't anyone realized it before? he asked. He reportedly signed the letter with invisible ink. There certainly wasn't a signature to be seen.

We don't normally run letters on this page without signatures, but I thought the suggestion was interesting enough to check out. I carefully filed the letter in a folder that I marked "Stealth Mutilators" then began to retrace Rommel's tracks.

I became stumped in my investigation Wednesday. Grasping for all available help, I went to retrieve the "stealth" letter from my files for another reading. The Manila folder was there, but the letter was missing — at least I didn't see it. There were no prints. No clues. None to be seen, anyway.

Rommel has washed his hands clean of the mutilations and is working now as an investigator for the district attorney in his prison riot prosecution cases.

I thought that if only Rommel had considered the "stealth" possibility when he started his mutilations probe in May 1979, ranchers might no longer have to fear livestock losses. Perhaps none of us would have to fear the unknown anymore. We could have stopped blaming the Martians and the poor critters who, fearing retaliation, have been cowering in their caves since Rommel's report. Schmitt and Bingaman might have had nothing to quarrel about.

Legendary man-beast target of China search

PEKING (AP) — The search is on for China's own version of "bigfoot," the smiling man-beast of the mountains — "fei fei," the great baboon.

In northwest Hubei province, the peasants talk of a smiling "dull giant," a hairy 10-foot-3-tall creature who strides vigorously through the forest.

In the mountains of coastal Zhejiang, the folk talk of smaller "man-bears" and "wild men."

For hundreds of years man-apes have figured in Chinese legends. One researcher says 250 people in remote Hubei have sighted, encountered and even fought with the wild men. Last summer an expedition found 7,000 human-like footprints belonging to a creature standing about 9 feet tall.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences has organized a research team to hunt the creatures, with the help of the provincial Communist party. Researchers say the snows of winter will help them track the denizens.

The latest clue to the mystery of the fei-fei comes from the Nine Dragons Mountains in Zhejiang on the central coast.

The Shanghai Wen Hui daily newspaper reported recently that the hands and feet of a wild man, cut off 23 years ago, have been recovered.

The specimens, intact but shriveled, had been hidden and forgotten during the chaotic 1966-76 cultural evolution.

A newspaper photograph shows human-like hands with five fingers and clearly defined fingernails. The feet appear to have five toes and an enlarged foretoe.

The paper told a bizarre tale of the capture and carnival sideshow-like display of the man-beast 23 years ago.

On May 23, 1957, 13-year-old Wang Congmei was grazing a few cows near a creek in Zhuatang village, Songyang county, the story said. The afternoon was dark and drizzling when a human-like creature appeared and headed toward

the girl.

She cried for help, the story said. The startled beast panicked, stumbled into a bog and was beaten to death with sticks by the women of the village.

The peasants thought they had found the legendary man-beast. They lopped off its hands and feet and sent them to the local government for a reward.

The creature was a sensation. The corpse was displayed at the village and hundreds of people went to view the legend in the flesh.

The beast was a humble specimen, male, about 5 feet tall, and covered with long, silky black hair. As it walked, its arms frequently swept the ground.

A local biologist preserved the famous hands and feet. Since that time, scientists have said that the creature was not a monkey but "an unknown animal with a human shape," the newspaper said.

Local researchers are now studying the specimen, while in Hubei province to the west the regional fei-fei is receiving more attention.

Peking's Guangming daily, the newspaper of science and education, reported the ongoing search for the giant.

Last June researchers found and publicized 1,000 footprints of the creature in the Shennangjia Forest area. They also found two heaps of excrement and a nest believed built by the wild men on Knife and Spear Mountain.

The leader of the wild-man expedition, Liu Minzhuang, reported the tracks had been found near a cliff in an area of jagged peaks, far from human habitation.

The prints were 18½ inches long, the creature stood about 8½ feet high and weighed about 550 pounds.

The footprints were like those of humans, researchers said, except the great toe turned outward. They also discovered a nest made of woven bamboo, shaped like a huge cradle clearly not the work of a wild beast.

Human Sideshow Freaks Gain Notoriety in China

PEKING (AFP) — Not so long ago, a poster in Nankin, central China, warned that children born with tails might become total idiots if they were ever cut off.

The author of the poster said that he knew what he was talking about because it might have happened to a 10-year-old child with a tail whom he knew.

The child, the author went on, was very clever and five years in advance of other children of his age. If he had lived in pre-Communist days the tail would have been cut off without any consideration for his intelligence quotient, the author concluded.

This is just one of numerous deformity cases, halfway between superstition and medicine, which have been traced in China, a country with 1,000 million people and, according to the law of probabilities, it must be proportionately rich in such phenomena.

The Chinese press, which usually remains silent about this subject, nevertheless regularly reports on defor-

mities which, while rather terrifying, are no doubt unique in the world.

The best known of them was the baby whose body and limbs were completely covered in long, black fur.

Yu Chenhua came to public attention in 1978 in northeast China when only one year old. He has since been the star of a Chinese film shown throughout Southeast Asia, and today is growing up normally, healthy and cheerful.

About 30 other similar babies have since been discovered, many of them in the same region as Yu Chenhua. Chinese scientists have recently held sessions on, what for them, remains still an unexplained genetic phenomenon.

In one case at least scientists have not altogether excluded the possibility of a cross between a human and a monkey-like figure whose existence has still to be proved.

The child in question is Tu Yunbao who lived at Sichuan, Southwest China.

MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Japan
 Dec. 26, 1980 CR: Y. Matsumura

Man Barely Missed 'Chinese Monster'

PEKING (AFP) — A man nearly killed the "Chinese Loch Ness monster" in August close to the Sino-Korean border, the Peking Evening News Daily reported Wednesday.

Piao Longzhi, an employee of the meteorological station of the Tianchi Lake in Jilin Province, was ready with gun in hand at dawn on Aug. 23.

Several people had seen a "monster" twice on the eve and the day before. Such sightings had already been reported in the Chinese official press.

Piao opened fire when the head of the "monster" surfaced in the middle of the lake.

Several bullets hit the water

after grazing the head, which presumably belonged to a marine animal of another period.

Piao said the animal immediately swam and dived towards the center of the lake.

According to witnesses' accounts already published in the Chinese press, these animals—sighted at least once in a group of five—have a head looking like that of a dog or cow with a jaw similar to a duck's beak at the end of a neck longer than a meter.

Investigators have already been sent to the spot after residents near Tianchi Lake reported having seen these animals at least five times in 1962, 1974 and this year.

Mutilation Mystery Inspires Gripping Tale

By FRITZ THOMPSON
 Journal Staff Writer

The Cattle Mutilators, by John J. Dalton, Manor Paperbacks, \$1.95.

There are those who have always been smugly scornful of the cattle mutilation mystery, finding in it fine fodder for ridicule. They are the same folks who are intolerant of intrigue, who believe that beef originated with a Big Mac, and that since you can see plumb across the pasture on a clear day, the earth must be flat.

No matter. What we are talking about here is the newest in a spate of books inspired by the mystery — some good, some fair to middlin' and some undeniably awful. For a first effort, John Dalton's paperback ranks better than fair; in fact, it could be right up alongside good.

The Cattle Mutilators is unabashed science fiction on a Southwestern setting. Dalton lives in Corrales and it is no accident that the novel is situated in Albuquerque.

Despite the title, Dalton's treatment of cattle mutilations is somehow fleeting, merely a vehicle for the main story line. Renowned surgeon Jerry Brandon is in an asylum, less a madman than a victim of accidental circumstances. Those have led him to seek the cause for strange, bloodless incisions in a growing number of patients brought to the hospital.

When one of Brandon's friends is killed on a high-security Air Force base (Manzano?), Brandon inten-

sifies his search for the mysterious night surgeons. What he finds is perhaps more terrifying than a couple of wierdos wandering around with scalpels.

Dalton has a fine touch for suspense. He obviously knows what it's like to drive down a dirt road in the darkest part of the night, when you tell yourself it's silly to look over your shoulder but you do it anyway.

If there is a complaint to be lodged against Dalton's prose, it must be laid to a rather contrived opening chapter in which Brandon's old college friend is narrating in the first person. This first-person account disappears early on and never comes around again, even at the conclusion.

Still, Dalton's characters are a believable lot, particularly the sleazy, wheezy old codger who's a two-bit rancher and part-time recluse, and the obese, obtuse and overbearing hospital director.

The climax of "The Cattle Mutilators," in the science fiction sense, is a believable hypothesis. And, back in reality, it will have you looking at some people differently than you did before, and wondering where the answers are really coming from. Spawning that kind of residual contemplation is the hallmark of a good Southwestern yarn.

Strange light baffles cadets at The Citadel

By RON WENZELL
 Record Staff Writer

A strange light in a student barracks has officials at The Citadel so puzzled they are seeking help in solving the mystery from the Charleston school's physics department.

After seeing the light himself for the first time last night, Lt. Col. Richard Clarke, The Citadel's public relations director, said he is recommending that professors in the physics department "take a look for themselves and give us an explanation of just what is happening."

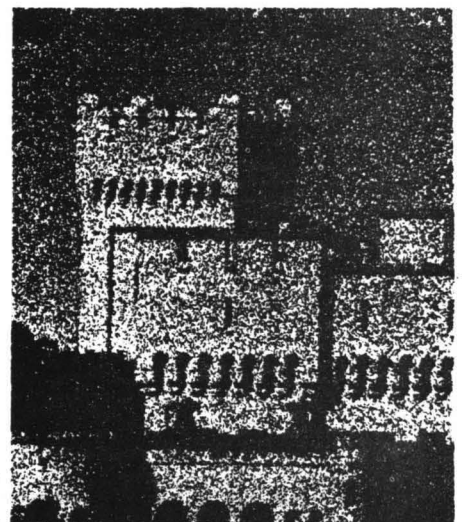
Clarke went to room 1123 in the First Battalion barracks about 11:45 last night. He was accompanied by Bob Dickinson, the college's sports information director, and student Regimental Cmdr. Bruce Jones, a senior from Belton.

"I saw it," said Clarke, "and so did the others. It began as an elongated flash about six or eight inches long and one inch thick. It was a very quick flash of light against the wall which became a spot of light before disappearing."

The room is occupied by two junior cadets, Robert L. Grenko Jr. of Bennington, Vt., and Bruce Harding of Fairfax, Va.

Clarke said that Grenko and Harding first reported seeing the light in late November.

"It appeared only intermittently at first, but has appeared with more regularity in recent days,"



Clarke said. "It rarely is seen before 11 at night and has continued as late as two in the morning."

Clarke said that aside from asking the physics instructors to look into it, the college has no plans for an official investigation at this time.

"Nobody is upset about it except maybe the cadets living in the room," Clarke said. "It's a fun story, but we are beginning to be concerned about Grenko and Harding. The light has been drawing a big crowd of spectators all this week, and Grenko and Harding are finding it increasingly difficult to study and sleep."

Clarke said the two cadets possibly will be moved to another room if the mystery continues much longer.