

UFO

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CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

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RANGE NEWS, Willcox, AZ - Dec. 25, 1980

U.F.O. sighted in Clifton area by many

A number of responsible people in the Clifton area reported seeing an unidentified flying object Wednesday night, December 10, 1980, as was announced by the Eastern Arizona Courier.

The object in the sky on Wednesday night—whatever it was—was seen by scores of area residents. Unlike other 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, heading 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 jetlike sound, but it definitely was not a jet," she concluded.

This recent of the sighting tallied with that of four 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 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 a more of a distance. The configuration of lights of 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 longtime 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 then 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 it 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.

RIM COUNTRY NEWS, Payson, AZ - Jan. 9, 1981

Witnesses observe UFOs over Payson

Four unidentified flying objects flew over Payson Tuesday morning, according to Gila County Sheriff's Deputy Loyce Hamlin.

Hamlin said he and two other people observed the four round silver disks "flying in diamond formation" for "about two minutes" as they crossed the sky from the south to the northwest.

Hamlin, who was once a crop duster pilot, said the objects "moved too fast to be jet airplanes," and that there were no engine pods and definitely no wings on the flying objects.

The sighting occurred at 10:55 a.m., as Hamlin was seated in his patrol car outside the Sheriff's Office, talking to County Health Inspector Slim Anderson, who was standing beside the car.

Hamlin said he was looking up past Anderson when he first saw the objects come up over Oxbow Hill.

"I said to Slim, 'What in the world is that?' At first Slim couldn't see them, but then he managed to make them out too," Hamlin related.

Hamlin said an unidentified woman, coming out of the license office, also observed the objects and agreed that they did not look like aircraft.

Hamlin estimated that the objects were flying at approximately 15,000 feet. He said that they were "eight or 10 times further apart" than jets flying in formation, but that they kept perfect alignment as they executed three turns.

"When they made a left turn, the sun would shine on them and they'd be clearly visible. When they turned right, they seemed to disappear," Hamlin said.

When they were "at about a 45 degree angle over the Sheriff's building" two of the objects dropped down below the others and

disappeared over the horizon. The other two followed shortly thereafter.

Anderson corroborated Hamlin's story by saying that by the time he was able to make out the objects, "there were two in front and two in back" and "they were really travelling."

Anderson said they looked like "round disks" and were "aluminum-colored."

What seemed really strange to Anderson was that "we couldn't hear any noise or anything" from the objects, such as a sonic boom.

Hamlin immediately called in the sighting on the UFO hotline.

Hamlin admitted that this is the fourth time that he has sighted UFO's, but "I never said anything about it before, because of what people might say."

Once, he said, he saw an object flying above the courier plane that leaves Payson every morning.

"I saw it come down and stay right above the plane for a while, and then it went up again," Hamlin said.

And one night two or three years ago, Hamlin said, he was called out to a woman's house on Miller Road, where they observed "four big lights" flying in the sky.

Anderson also said he was afraid people might think "we were strange for saying we saw them, but we did, and the woman coming out of the license office said she did too."

If anyone else made the sighting Tuesday morning or has information concerning it, please contact Nick Berezenko at the "Payson Roundup/Rim Country News," 474-5251.

The UFO hotline number is 1-800-323-6556.

Was it 'A Close Encounter' on Christmas Eve in Powell?

When Gary Morse looked out the window Christmas Eve, it wasn't a sleigh and eight tiny reindeer that appeared to his wondrous eyes ... it was something the likes of which he'd never seen before.

Gary and his wife, Brenda, were in Powell from Billings, visiting Brenda's grandparents, the Dailey Kasingers, 741 N. Day Street. The couple was in the kitchen, finishing up the evening's dinner dishes. It was between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Gary said something

caught his eye and caused him to look out the window and up into the sky.

There, in the eastern sky was what looked like a cluster of eight to 10 headlights, combined in a circular shape. The lights were shining downward in white light. Above the lights was what appeared to be a dome-shaped object, he said.

Morse said he thought it was a blimp, as it "had a humming sound, like a blimp with a small engine in the back." Morse ran out into the back yard and

watched it move slowly over the house. He ran back inside and got his wife, who came out and watched it with him.

It kept a steady course, about 300 to 400 feet above the ground, and it didn't travel fast, he said. The object never changed its course, but headed westward over the house, in a straight line.

The lights were intense, he said, and although he could always see the lights, at times it seemed as though some hazy, transparent shape he couldn't identify came

between the lights and his view.

Morse said as soon as he saw the object he said, "It's gotta be a UFO." He described himself as a "practical person" who usually "figures out a practical explanation" for things. He said he thought of all the vehicles that fly and he couldn't think of anything that could fly that low or slowly, he said.

Morse said he reported the incident to a UFO expert in Billings, and watched the news on television, but didn't hear of any other sighting.

DAILY COURIER, Grants Pass, OR - Feb. 19, 1981

Anybody See Lights

Jennie Welborn of 1127 NE Ninth St. wants to know if anyone else saw a strange light in the sky last night.

She said her son Allen Jones of Central Point and his son Cliffie told her about the unusual phenomenon when they arrived at her home about 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Mrs. Welborn said she went outside with her son and grandson, and all watched the two reddish lights in the sky. She said the lights moved slowly, then stopped for a time, and then disappeared when the object appeared to be changing direction.

"Object was not oval, but triangle shaped"

By Joseph Barrett Jr.
Mount Union Bureau

Patricia Vietch, 41 E. Garber St., Mount Union, and her family have seen the strange object in the sky a number of times last year and this past week.

Vietch said the UFO is shaped like a huge orange ball, to the naked eye, and it glows like a star. She first saw the object January 1, 1980 at 9 p.m., and saw it five more times that month. Then, on Christmas Eve, she spotted it again.

"We kept a pair of binoculars on hand, and looked at it to see just what it really looked like," Vietch said. "The object is really not oval, but is triangular shaped. I could see rods connecting the triangular dots in the glowing orange UFO, and the dot at the top was more humped shaped than the two below. Then, at the lines, I could see sparks being ejected, like sparks flying from a kettle of burning steel. The sparks were dropping down from the lines, but did not hit anything."

Vietch said the first time she saw it, it was stationary over Shirley Street, and it lowered an entire house length before it disappeared. The sparks stayed lit for a whole house length. Then, the sparks disappeared, and for about two or three minutes, each spark began to drop from the lines. The orange object did not move for about five minutes, then it began to move toward Newton Hamilton area, and she could not see it after that. The sparks disappeared, two at a time, but the ball stayed orange in color.

Vietch notified her parents, who later saw it move over the Blue Ridge Mountain. Two weeks later, some neighbors reported that they too saw the UFO. One neighbor used the scope on his rifle, and also said it was triangular shaped and moved in a slow and steady direction. He described it as being bigger than a pick-up truck. He also said that it had three dot like figures with lines connecting the dots.

People have reported that it stays in the sky about two house lengths above an ordinary built house and some have seen it for fifteen minutes and some have seen it for as long as two hours. All have testified that it is round and orange in color. One person saw it this past summer and one person has reported seeing it in the daytime.

Vietch reports that one relative from Germany Valley was picking alfalfa for her rabbit one night last October, and while doing this, saw a huge blue object as big as a house fly over her. It had jagged edges and went past her very quickly.

She ran back to her truck and told her husband about the incident. He had not noticed the object and they went back home; however, she and her father have seen the orange UFO over the former Mount Union airport. It swooped over the terminal and stayed for a while over the airport.

A strange thing happened when the couple arrived home. They placed the alfalfa in the rabbits' cages, but the rabbits did not eat the alfalfa. In fact, they would not even go near the alfalfa.

One man, a bus driver from Germany Valley, went to warm up his bus one morning shortly after this happening. While doing this, he noticed a huge ball that had a fog like effect. The fog like object began to rise and as it did it glowed white in color.

Vietch also said that on Christmas Eve the orange object was moving so fast over the Market Street area that by the time she got her binoculars the object, headed toward Hill Valley, was out of view. Others have seen it from Overbrook Acres and from Washington Street.

"I can't see where this is a stunt pulled on us by children, because it's too complicated for someone to conjure up," Vietch said. "Also, I believe that it is some type of a foreign being from another universe, because I believe that God has made other beings, and not just we here on Earth."

Vietch got a list of 50 people who saw the orange UFO and talked to the state and local police about the object. At this time, they were busy investigating the Helen Poppa murder. She discovered that the UFO Center in Wright Patterson Airforce Base, Canton, Ohio had disbanded, but finally reported having seen the object to the Pennsylvania UFO Research Commission, Irvin, Pa. They asked her where the nearest airport was and she told them it was at Martinsburg. She had to fill out report forms as to when she saw it, its motion, duration and direction. The officials at the commission told her that if she could get a snap shot of it, she must send the film to the commission who would have it developed.

Two youths Charles "Skip" Shope and Tim Long, Mount Union saw the orange UFO Wednesday, December 31 at 10:45 p.m. They saw it at the A&P Store, and said it began to move slowly across the sky until it stopped at Chestnut Ridge over the IOOF Cemetery. Then, the boys said it just disappeared. Both said it was a bright orange ball, and lasted for about 15 minutes. Shope saw it again Thursday, January 8, at 8 p.m. at Garber Street, only this time, it moved very quickly and disappeared.

Vietch reports another strange incident. She said she has an uncle, who has experience in operating planes. One night last year, his son was driving along Cassville Mountain with a friend and the boys saw a white diamond shaped object on the road. The object lifted from the road, as the boys approached it. The youth on the passenger side fainted, and when the boys arrived home, her cousin told her uncle what they saw. The uncle also noticed that the boys' pupils were dilated.

Vietch's uncle went to the area to see if he could spot anything and, when he arrived, he saw a huge light in the sky and three little lights scanning the ridge. He was convinced that they were not airplanes, because, as he said, "nothing could fly like that."

Vietch also said that she has seen a white ball shaped object over Ridge Street. When she got her binoculars, she said it was actually green and blue in color. She said she also saw the orange ball, and the two were moving toward each other; however, she

Several sightings in Mount Union

UFOS REPORTS ROLL IN

By C. Arnold McClure

Are the recent reports of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) in Mount Union a result of unsubstantiated rumor, or is there a basis of fact behind the excitement that grips many residents of Mount Union's "town hill"? An investigation by the Valley Log staff indicates that a relatively large number of people have seen and are seeing some sort of phenomenon in the same part of town, on a regular basis.

The descriptions of the object have varied from a "light that moves across the sky, slowly, then quickly; back and forth, then straight up or down" to a "metallic disc that has windows in it, lights on the exterior and interior." All people who have seen it agree on the fact that it makes no noise and originates in the same area between 8 p.m. and midnight, and is subject to disappear "into thin air."

There is a detailed description on the object, but local newspapers have refrained from publishing the exact description in order not to prejudice future sightings.

Several people interviewed by The Valley Log displayed nervousness and quickly denied seeing anything. Others told us that they had seen the object, but did not want their names used.

It was also requested that newsmen not interview one lady in particular. "She has been a nervous wreck ever since she first saw it," a neighbor told us. "I don't think she can handle talking about it." The lady in question is the person who first reported it to police.

We talked to patrolman Bill Park, 31, of the Mount Union Police Department, who took the call the night the lady reported the most unbelievable sighting. Park reported the call that he received: "A woman called, but wouldn't give me her name. It was about midnight; she said that she had called the state police at 12:08.

"According to the lady, it came from over by the A & P and almost hit the houses on Green Street. It went toward the cemetery and lowered itself to one and one half feet above

the ground, in the empty northern portion of the IOOF Cemetery. At this point it stopped. Smoke then came out of the back end and it went into the trees. It disappeared.

"I asked her if it crashed when it went into the trees," said Park. "but she repeated that it went INTO the trees."

Park reported that at first he thought it was a crank call, so he kept her on the line asking a lot of questions, hoping to recognize the voice.

"She told me that it was metallic, silver colored, and 'big as my kitchen'; bigger than a car. It had windows and flashing yellow lights."

She told Park that she had seen it before. "It came up over the bank behind the A & P," she told him. Another time she saw it go into the A & P parking lot at 9:30.

Park told us, "I was on duty that night and the A&P closed at 9:00. At first I thought this was a prank, but this woman sounded totally serious, in fact, she sounded scared to death," he concluded.

As reports from other citizens became known recently, additional persons have come forward to note that they had seen the phenomenon in the past two years, but had been reluctant to report it for danger that people might "wonder about (them)."

Herb Rosensteel of 25 W. Maxwell Street, an orderly at the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital operating room, is one person who has seen it. "I saw it last year about this same time. My daughter, Brenda, 17, called my attention to it. She and the neighbor had seen it in the sky. We watched them for quite a while -- between 11:30 and midnight."

What did they look like and how were they, we asked?

"I saw four discs," answered Rosensteel. "They were up pretty high. They looked like a frisbee, only about 20 to 30 times as large. They were higher than Chestnut Ridge, I guess 5000 to 8000 feet."

Rosensteel went on to describe the discs: "We were looking toward Allenport, toward the A & P. They were

orange; they had a glow. They were in line, then two went toward Hill Valley, and then the other two went toward the river; then, they came back and got in line again."

Did he hear of anyone else seeing it that night?

"Yes," answered Rosensteel, "I heard that a guy from Newton saw them that same night and some lady also saw them. A the time I didn't know if the government was experimenting with something or not."

Rosensteel agreed with all of the others who have seen the object that there was no sound at all.

Jeff Kauffman, his wife Sue and Joe Giacobello Jr. also are reported to have seen the strange lights in the same general area. "My husband and Joey were lifting weights that night in a building in the alley behind Shavers Street," said Sue Kauffman. "We saw a bright gold light move toward the ridge (Chestnut Ridge) and then toward the cemetery. It got brighter, then dimmer. Then all of a sudden it dropped straight down and disappeared." She concluded her story with, "I don't have any explanation for what we saw, but we all saw it."

Others reported that they had seen the lights, but didn't want their names mentioned. "We saw the lights, in fact, we've seen them several times," one person told us, "but I don't want people wondering about me. But we did see something."

Beulah Palmer, 70, lives on Vandevender Street, but hasn't seen anything. "Thank God I didn't see it," she laughed, "I'd be scared to death. I'm told that it came from over Chestnut Ridge, went right over our house and almost hit a house on Halley Street."

Charles (Pee Wee) Klinger told us, "I heard one flew over my house that evening. I was home, but I didn't see it."

COURIER, Safford, AZ - Jan. 14, 1981

'Nuff Sed

By Sam

Delayed reaction is not uncommon in this business, whether it be in response to advertising or something else that appeared in print.

One thing we always stressed when we were in the publishing business and sold advertising, was that with a newspaper you can read what the seller states and a week later can go back and re-read it. Advertising is like that; sometimes it takes a while to work on the prospective buyer.

This delayed reaction also takes place in other areas.

Just last week we received a letter from a rancher in the San Simon area who, after reading our story last December about a reported UFO sighting in Clifton, decided to tell us about a similar experience that occurred in 1978. (See what we mean about delayed reaction?)

According to the letter writer, he and his wife saw a craft of some type over their ranch, but never reported it to anyone.

It apparently was extremely large and the viewer even sent us a sketch of what he and his wife reportedly saw, along with permission to forward it on to proper authorities. This we did, sending the letter (after making a copy) and sketch on to the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization in Tucson.

What this writer can't understand is the seeming lack of curiosity on the part of people. If we saw something unexplained like that, it would bug us until we found out just what we were seeing.

Most such things have a logical explanation, but there never seems to be an attempt to take a picture or substantiate it in other ways. The matter just seems to be forgotten and, to us, that doesn't make sense.

By no means are we entirely discounting what people say; our curiosity doesn't allow that. But, we'd give our eye teeth for something concrete to latch onto!

We want to hear about these things and perhaps someday there will be an explanation, so please keep us informed.

Woman Says Flying Saucer Hovered Over W-G Plant

By GEORGE B. GRIFFIN
Of The Gazette Staff

Florence L. Dion of 6 Gold St. is having trouble finding anyone who will listen to her.

She called the police, who, she said, told her to call the airport. She called the airport, but was told that there was no radar at the airport. Airport personnel suggested that she call the newspaper, she said.

Mrs. Dion told The Evening Gazette that at exactly 7:19 a.m. Tuesday, she saw a flying saucer hovering beneath a cloud bank over the Wyman-Gordon Co. plant, 105 Madison St.

Mrs. Dion said she was alerted to the presence of the flying saucer by her dogs, who suddenly started howling and scratching at the door. She said that one of the dogs howls whenever it hears high pitched sounds. She said she saw the flying saucer when she stepped onto her porch to see what was causing the disturbance.

She said she watched the flying saucer for about three minutes before it flew off to the northwest and out of sight.

Lights Flickered

"It was circular and had some kind of hood on top," she said. "On the outside rim, there were the most brilliant silver-white lights flickering on and off."

She said she could not estimate either the size or the color of the flying saucer because it was too high.

"It took off while I was standing on the porch and it went off to the northwest," she said. "It just seemed to streak across the sky like a bolt of lightning. There was a crane working down there and the crane was going beep-beep-beep. But this thing had a sound of its own, sort of a wee-oh, wee-oh, wee-oh, wee-oh."

Mrs. Dion said Tuesday's flying saucer was not the first she had seen. She said she once saw a flying saucer hovering over the Mechanics Tower building. She said she saw three flying saucers hovering over Holy Cross College. She also has seen flying saucers in Winchendon, she said.

"I was told several years ago when I was in Holden that they had static on the radar," she said. "But they could get nothing else on the radar, no blips. . . . I think it's about time somebody explained why radar cannot locate those flying objects."

Donald Cherry, chief flight controller at Worcester Airport, said the airport control tower does not have radar.

"I'm not certain what she saw or reported to see," he said.

Cherry said there had been no reports to the airport about unidentified flying objects in connection with Mrs. Dion's sighting.

A U.S. Weather Service meteorologist at the airport said weather service radar did not record any objects during the time Mrs. Dion was observing the object over the Wyman-Gordon Co. plant.

"There is a UFO reporting center that is manned 24 hours a day," he said. "The number is 1-206-722-3000. If we can get these people to call when the sightings are fresh, then maybe they will be able to verify the sightings." (This is the number for the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash. Robert Gribble, staff member, said the organization accepted information of sightings and may even arrange for investigations if the evidence warrants.)

The meteorologist suggested that persons who see strange flying objects report the sightings to the state police.

A Wyman-Gordon Co. spokesman said no one at the plant reported sighting the object. She suggested that the object could have been a reflection of some sort.

Mrs. Dion, however, is convinced that she saw something out of the ordinary.

Mrs. Dion's sighting is only the latest in a string of sightings of flying saucers and other unidentified flying objects in Worcester County in recent years.

Last February, several persons reported seeing UFOs flying over Leominster, Fitchburg and Lunenburg. Police officials speculated that the people who reported the UFOs were actually witnessing military flight operations at nearby Fort Devens.

A Fort Devens public information officer, however, said that on the night of the sightings, there were no military operations or non-military flights at Fort Devens. The Fort Devens airport was closed that night, he said.

Strange Machine

On Jan. 5, 1979, a woman who called the state police in Sturbridge said she saw a strange machine hovering above the woods near Interchange 9 on the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Strange flying objects also have been reported in Thompson, Conn., Marlboro, Webster and Gardner.

Local police will accept and check into reports of unidentified flying objects. But reports also may be made to several national organizations which have been formed to collect information about unidentified flying objects.

Some of those organizations are: Center for UFO Studies, 924 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Ill.

This organization was founded by astronomer J. Allen Hynek, a former consultant to the Air Force who quit that association when he came to believe that UFO sightings were not being considered objectively.

The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 3535 University Blvd. West, Suite 23, Kensington, Md., founded in 1956, is the oldest nationally significant group in the United States that investigates UFOs.

The Mutual UFO Network, 103 Old Towne Road, Seguin, Texas, publishes a regular bulletin on current sightings and has compiled a training manual for UFO investigators.

Residents sight three more UFOs

There have been three more UFO sightings by Payson area residents since Gila County Sheriff's Deputy Loyce Hamlin reported seeing "four shiny disks" over Payson on Jan. 6.

Two of the new sightings occurred on the evening and night of the same day as Hamlin's observation, although the phenomena described seemed to be of a different nature.

The most recent sighting, reported on Wednesday, Jan. 14, had features reminiscent of Hamlin's observation.

Around 8 to 8:30 p.m. Jan. 6, painting contractor Bud Farmer was sitting out on the porch of his home in Diamond Shadows east of Star Valley, when he noticed "a fireball, four times as big as the biggest falling star, and with no sparks and no tail" appear in the night sky northeast of the Diamond Point lookout.

Farmer said that he watched it for two or three seconds—during which time it appeared to be moving away from him, heading east—and then it "completely went out."

Farmer continued sitting on the porch for ten to 15 minutes, and had "practically forgot about it," when the light reappeared somewhat to the right of where he had seen it earlier.

"It looked erratic—going slow and fast—like it was on a zigzag course," said Farmer.

The object made three or four small zigzags, then suddenly made a sharp right turn, going south, and its speed "increased tremendously" as it went horizontally to the ground.

This lasted a couple of seconds, and then it went out again.

What convinced Farmer that it was not a jetliner was that final horizontal burst and the fact that "there was no noise at all."

Later, at 2:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, Diana Iles, a student at Payson Junior High, was riding as a passenger in a diesel on its way to Phoenix, when "somewhere in the vicinity of the Verde River Bridge on Highway 87" she saw "lights and stuff" appearing in different places of the sky.

Iles related that there were more than two or three lights, whose exact coloration she could not determine, and that they appeared two or three times, for a total observation period of about five minutes.

Iles said, "They were going pretty fast, up towards Payson."

Last Wednesday, at around 8 a.m., Tommie Woolwine, a secretary at Phil White Chevrolet, and her two sons and nephew were on their way to town on Highway 87 from Oxbow Estates when "coming from west to east" she saw "two objects flying one on top of the other."

The total observation lasted "about 30 to 40 seconds" and the objects "gave an impression that they were moving slowly, but must have been moving very fast, because we didn't see them for very long."

3 youngsters sight 'UFO' in Seymour

SEYMOUR — Three Seymour youngsters are certain they spotted an unidentified flying object hovering in the sky over Great Hill while they were sliding Friday.

Eric Anderson, 13, of 198 Mountain Road, and his two companions, John Cronin, 13, and Jeffrey Cronin, 9, of 197 Mountain Road, said they were frightened for a few moments after they spotted a strange object in the sky.

Eric said the trio had been sliding in his backyard late Friday afternoon when they noticed what seemed like a "flying saucer" in the sky to the southwest. They said they could hear a "low roaring sound" coming from the object.

Eric said he and his friends watched the "flying saucer" maneuver in the sky for about half an hour.

"It kept disappearing and

then re-appearing," Eric said. "I got a pair of binoculars and we were able to get a better look at it."

"It was round and dark-colored. It had a long tail," Eric said.

"At first we thought it might be an enemy missile. We were kind of scared. But we watched it and nothing happened."

Eric said both his parents and the Cronin boys' parents were somewhat skeptical. But they boys are sure they saw "a real flying saucer."

There have been periodic reports about sightings of unidentified flying objects over Great Hill.

The Seymour police said they had not received any reports about unidentified flying objects.

Eric and John are eighth-grade students at Seymour Middle School. Jeffrey attends fourth grade at Bungay School.

Plane...2...or what?

It was Friday, Dec. 19, when we saw these lights slowly moving east to west across the sky. We had gone over to my mother-in-laws on Stewart St. my husband got out and we stayed in the van.

It was my daughter who first spotted the lights, calling it an airplane. I looked up to see it, I watched it for a few seconds and heard no sounds, so I opened the window to check it out, it still had no sound, but it was slowly moving across the sky, it had as far as we could see some lights (white) in the

back in a row and a couple or so (red) lights in the front. Airplanes usually have red and white lights blinking on and off but as far as we could see these did not blink. I got out of the van to get a better look, but by then it was slowly disappearing. We told my husband about it, he said it was probably two airplanes fueling. So we dropped the idea about it being something other than planes until I read the story of the UFO in Clifton.

It was my daughter and son and I who saw these lights. Lucy Catano

Expert to study UFO reports

Messenger-Inquirer

The national Center for UFO Studies has assigned a field investigator to look into multiple reports of unidentified flying objects over Ohio County Dec. 28.

Alan Hendry, a chief investigator for the Evanston, Ill.-based group, said this week that he has passed on information given him by Ohio County officials to a volunteer investigator in Kentucky.

The investigator's report should be available in a few weeks, he said.

A number of Ohio County residents,

including sheriff's deputies and state and local police officers reported seeing brightly colored, strangely moving objects in several areas of the county on the last Sunday night in December.

Hendry said the UFO Center receives thousands of reports of sightings each year but investigates only those considered to be the most significant. The spokesman said the study group is interested because of the credibility of the law enforcement personnel who gave reports.

Golden spots possible UFO

Friday night Jan. 9 was an extraordinary night for Central School Principal Hank Golden. Driving back from the theatre near N Avenue and Walnut Street near Deal Canyon, Golden and his daughter saw a "gigantic bright light."

"I thought it was an aircraft that had come over the hill on an erroneous landing path," Golden said. "(But) as I watched it, it didn't move."

However, Golden added, the object was moving up and down and back and forth. "It was so bright it was hurting my eyes," he said. "The light flashed on and off six or seven times."

If the object was flying, it may be what is commonly known as an unidentified flying object, Golden said. The next morning Jan. 10, Golden reported, there was a clearing spot, a meadow, where the possible UFO had been.

Golden, who reported another possible UFO sighting when he lived in Illinois, said the object was "too large and too bright

for an aircraft."

He said Jan. 9 another car in front of Golden's vehicle also slowed to have a look.

Golden isn't alone in his extraordinary sighting.

A southwest La Grande resident who requested anonymity said she recently spotted, "a big light moving from Baker toward La Grande. I don't know. It was just a big light in the sky. It didn't look like a star. It wasn't blinking like an airplane."

She said she looked at the light two minutes, trying to decide whether it was moving. "I finally decided it was moving a little bit," she said.

However she downplayed her sighting: "I saw something that aroused my curiosity, but that's the extent of it."

Another Central School employee, Kathi Carr, a cafeteria worker, has also reported a possible UFO sighting. But this happened in 1975 as she was driving from Pendleton up Cabage Hill.

Man says he saw UFO at 309 bypass

WEST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP -- A West Rockhill man, while smoking a cigarette outside his home late Sunday evening, claims to have spotted a UFO.

Police in West Rockhill, Hilltown and Quakertown said they had not received any reports of the sighting.

The man, who wished to remain unidentified, alleged that at about 11:15 Sunday night he was standing outside his home when he saw an oval shaped object in the sky hovering over the 309 bypass. He described it as being about 35 feet in diameter, blue-green in color and flying at about 25 feet above ground. The object then moved toward the spot where he was standing, coming down near the tops of the trees.

As it came closer, he observed a circle of colored lights on the center bottom about five feet in diameter. On either side of the circle was what he thought looked like a trap door.

After about 20 minutes it flew away. (SS)

AS I SEE IT

By The Editor

Residents of Mount Union in recent weeks have sighted some very strange unidentified flying objects in recent weeks-- called UFO's by some. A very extensive report of the sightings was carried in the January 14 issue of *The Valley Log* at Orbisonia, Pa.

Some people of that area have seen the UFO's as often as five times. The glowing object, which flies rapidly and is described as triangle shaped, makes no noise but moves quickly back and forth and up and down. Those seeing it have become quite excited and even the Mt. Union police no longer believe it is a prank.

There are rumors that the same phenomenon has been seen in the Broad Top area in recent weeks. We cannot conform or deny these reports but the Bulletin would like to hear from any area residents who believe they witnessed these lights in the night sky.

Some years ago I heard a tale about a strange flying object that followed a car that was traveling between Robertsdale and Broad Top City; also a similar tale of one landing in a field where residents found the grass burned the next morning. Most of us pass these stories off as products of an active imagination.

But are they? You always wonder about their validity. When a great many people see the same thing, as they did in Mt. Union, then it is worth looking into.

UFO sighting reported

By MARGO ASKIN
Press Associate Editor

The Dickinson Press staff was an apparent "ear-witness" to an area sighting of an unidentified flying object early Friday afternoon.

A telephone caller told the Press a large silver object, about 30 to 35 feet long, was hovering near his farm home

eight miles northwest of the city. "It came down so slowly, we didn't even see it at first. We were just sitting down to dinner, and there it was," the man said.

At that point in the conversation, his voice rose and the words came more rapidly. "It's moving. It's coming closer. It's coming right at the house," he said.

A deep humming noise blotted out the conversation momentarily. "It just crossed our power lines. I can't hear you. Can you hear me?" the caller asked.

As he gave orders to a family member about how to operate a camera, the man continued to describe the object as being "long and roundish and very shiny."

"I've never seen anything like it before. I don't know. I never believed in UFO's or anything like that, but I just don't know," he said.

"We have a pasture by the house, here. All of the cattle are gone. They all ran away, I guess," he said.

Asked if he would report the sighting to the authorities, the man said "No, I don't think so. I don't want anyone to think I'm crazy or something. Now I can't see it any more. It really moved out." The man indicated the object was traveling away from Dickinson.

He said he and his family weren't afraid, just excited.

Flashes in sky are reported by two residents

Mystery still surrounds the reporting of two flashes in the sky observed by Smith River and Crescent City residents.

The sheriff's department said they received a call from a Smith River resident at 6:30 a.m., Monday reporting spotting the object going over a fog bank and disappearing.

Another call received at 8:09 a.m. reported a citizen had earlier witnessed a fiery ball over the ocean. According to this informant, the object "just went up and blew up."

The Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration at Jack McNamee Field said they had received two calls, very probably the same ones received by the sheriff's department, but that none of their staff had seen the flashes, nor had they been called until at least an hour after they were reported to have occurred.

The FAA said its facility had no reports of anything unusual that might have caused the reports, and they were unable to shed any light on the sightings.

Also, the Coast Guard Cutter "Cape Carter," which was berthed at Citizens Dock, reported none of its officers or crew had received reports of any flares or other unusual firings.

Albion's flying object cannot be identified, UFO analysts report

ALBION -- The Center for UFO Studies has issued a statement that an unidentified flying object reported last October by four witnesses from Albion remains unidentified after an investigation by its analysts.

The report was made by Donald and Star Shive of 75 High St., who, with their children -- Renay, 9, and Scott, 4 -- were returning home on the evening of Oct. 19, 1980, after visiting Mrs. Shive's mother near Albion.

The object was seen as the family rode in a van down a country road off B Drive South near Albion.

As the van approached a stop sign, the object -- described as diamond-shaped with two steady white lights at the sides and a red and blue light forming the front and back -- approached the car from the air.

The CUFOS report, published in the November/December issue of "Frontiers of Science," said Shive, an Air Force veteran, guessed the altitude of the object as 200 to 500 feet. Darkness prevented the Shives from seeing the outline of the entire object.

CUFOS said a check was made with Kellogg Regional Airport at Battle Creek for the height of clouds over the area, which was placed at 2,300 feet. The family said the object was seen against a background of clouds.

As the object flew overhead, the van stalled 20 feet short of the stop sign.

Shive told CUFOS that the van never had stalled before.

Stalled motors frequently are reported during UFO sightings, and often are attributed to an electromagnetic field from the UFO.

The CUFOS report classifies the physical effect in the Shive case as electromagnetic interference.

Allan Hendry, chief investigator for the Evanston, Ill.-based organization, said the report has been classified as a close encounter of the second kind, UFO terminology for a case involving a physical effect on the environment.

"Ironically," the report continues, "UFO reports were big news in Michigan the following day, but they were all based on a Detroit advertising plane, not this more interesting event."

Mrs. Shive said at the time that her husband had seen UFOs in the same general area a few times before, but that "I never really believed in UFOs, though, until last night. Now I'm a believer."

Area police agencies said at the time that they had received no other reports of UFOs in that area.

CUFOS, founded by former U.S. Air Force UFO consultant J. Allan Hynek, maintains a permanent staff of qualified analysts, a UFO "hot line" with law-enforcement agencies nationwide, and a computerized catalogue of UFO reports.

Airport UFO claim linked to quakes

By Robert Hof

The recent sightings of UFOs at San Jose Airport and Interstate 80 may have had something to do with a mysterious earthquake-related phenomenon, according to County Geologist Jim Berkland.

On Jan. 9 strange red lights still unidentified were spotted by two pilots and the air traffic control tower above San Jose Airport. They did not appear on any radar screen.

About three weeks ago a Burlingame man said he saw glistering lights moving in the skies above Interstate 80 near Vacaville.

A segment on a recent 20-20 television show explained that many UFO sightings could be caused by earthquakes. The theory is that the quakes cause large chunks of rock, especially quartz rock, to rub together and produce electricity that may manifest itself as balls of light.

That's quite possible, Berkland confirmed, though he admitted the 20-20 segment was the first time he had heard the theory. He added no quakes were reported at

the time of the airport sighting.

He said anyone can get a similar effect, called triboluminescence, simply by rubbing together two pieces of quartz in the dark.

"They'll glow," he said, and what they're producing is electricity. In fact, they also give off the smell of ozone, caused by the charged air.

And quartz is the most common mineral in the world, he added.

Berkland is well known for his seismic window theory, that states quakes occur most often in the week after the full moon, or when the sun or moon and earth are lined up or are closest to each other in space.

In making his predictions he also takes into account reports of lost cats, much as the Chinese do. It's possible, he said, that animals see the balls of electricity, causing them to hide or run away.

Berkland also pointed to historical evidence that UFOs could be caused by quakes. On June 29, 1947, he said, numerous UFOs were reported in the same period several earthquakes occurred.

Low aircraft alarms many, no evidence of crash is found

A low-flying aircraft alarmed Howard County area residents early Tuesday night, but aviation authorities have told the News that there have been no reports of a crash.

Calls began coming in the police radio dispatcher's office in Nashville at 6:50 p.m., and ended at 8:14 with a report of a possible downed aircraft near Ben Lomond in Sevier County.

Officers from Little River and Sevier Counties investigated the area but found nothing.

Nashville City Officer Fred Ware was visiting at

his father's home at Dierks, and saw the aircraft fly over. He said that it was flying extremely low, and that it was a large, multi-engine aircraft.

The first report to officers here came from Dierks Mayor Johnny McKnight who said that a woman had called him about a lighted, 'strange-looking' aircraft which might be down.

Five minutes later, Howard County Deputy Walt Allison reported a low-flying aircraft at his Umpire home.

At 7:00, a 15-year-old caller from the Chapel Hill community reported an

'Unidentified Flying Object.' The youth said that the craft had flown over approximately 15 minutes earlier. Six minutes later, Deputy Allison reported that the object was headed northeast of his residence, according to the police dispatcher's log.

At 7:15, Dierks Marshall David Shelton reported that he had received several calls about the aircraft.

At 7:25, the Pike County radio dispatcher told the dispatcher here that a Langley resident had reported a low-flying aircraft.

At 8:14, the Little River County dispatcher notified the dispatcher here that a possible downed aircraft had been reported at Ben Lomond.

Federal Aviation Administration officials at Texarkana and Ft. Worth, Texas, told the News that they knew nothing about the aircraft and had no reports of a crash.

The Team Supervisor of the tower at the Hot Springs municipal airport said he knew nothing about the aircraft since the area is just outside their air control space. He did say, however,

that the tower had received complaints from the Mountain Pine area about a low aircraft.

The Memphis Air Route Traffic Control Center also knew nothing about the aircraft, and the Watch Supervisor suggested a call to the Base Operations office at Little Rock Air Force Base. A Public Information spokesman there said that there were no military flights from the base in that area Tuesday.

Several Nashville residents have since said they heard the aircraft pass over.

UFO follows two Cupertino pilots, vanishes

By Carolyn Kennedy

Two young pilots from Cupertino, Charles Shackleford, 20, and Gary Rounds, 21, had an encounter with a mysterious red light last week that has left them with the feeling that we are not alone.

Monday night, Feb. 9, at 10:40 the two men, both licensed pilots, were practicing "touch and go" landings at the San Jose Airport.

As they were "climbing out" at about 600 feet, they spotted what they first thought was another aircraft in front of them. Rounds, who was piloting, turned their rented Cessna 150 to avoid whatever it was. Shackleford radioed the control tower.

Air controllers radioed back there was no known aircraft in the vicinity. Nothing showed up on their radar.

However, what the two pilots and the two air controllers, Randy Blount and Rich Gutterud, did see was a large, red, pulsating light about 10 feet in diameter.

"At first we thought it was an airplane," said Shackleford. "But when we got closer we could see it wasn't a plane because it just had that one red light and no body to it."

"Then we thought it was a helicopter because of the way it moved — hovering and making sharp turns," mused Shackleford. "But I never saw any chopper with a light like that."

"The tower suggested it might be a hang-glider or a hot air balloon, but we ruled those out because of the way it was maneuvering," Rounds recalled.

After the initial sighting, the two pilots could not see the light again, but Blount and Gutterud could. And so for the next five to 10 minutes the air controllers advised the pilots about the light's position to avoid a possible collision.

"Supposedly the light hovered for a short time," Rounds said, "and then the tower reported it went off to the west and fell rapidly out of the sky."

They said they weren't frightened and there was enough room to maneuver around the UFO. Shackleford estimated the light was a half-mile to a mile away and 800 feet above them, although he said it was hard to judge distances under the circumstances.

Ron Scholer, the airport's public information officer, said the controllers judged the object to have been 3,000 to 4,000 feet above the plane and a couple of miles away.

He blamed the difference of opinion over the distances on distortion caused by the plane's wrap-around Plexiglas windshield.

Rounds said the two of them even joked at the time that it might be a UFO. And neither of them reported it except to answer questions from the tower personnel for a report.

Apparently it was tower personnel who reported the event to the newspapers, speculated Rounds. And the next thing the Cupertinoans knew they were receiving calls from radio stations from as far away as Hollywood and Yuba City asking for their story.

"One local station even called at 2:30 in the morning and woke me up," Rounds said.

"If I could only reach through the phone," he sighed with a grin.

In addition to the 10 or 11 radio stations, three newspapers have contacted them and Channel 5 invited them to appear on Eyewitness News. Both declined because, as college students, they had too much homework to do that evening.

"Originally we didn't even want to report it," Rounds said. "We were afraid people would think we were nuts."

"Yeah, we were afraid the FAA would come and take our licenses away," agreed Shackleford, laughing nervously.

A scientist from NASA, whose hobby is investigating possible UFO sightings, has asked to meet with the two pilots and the air controllers to find out what they saw.

Shackleford describes himself as "indifferent" as to whether UFOs exist and Rounds says he believes most people who claim to see UFOs are publicity seekers.

However, Rounds added, "It's possible there's something out there, and if there was a logical explanation, I'd be able to accept it."

He said he's looking forward to comparing what they saw to what others have reported in the past.

He also said many people have told him what he described looks like the UFO in the movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"I don't know, though, because I haven't seen the movie," he said.

And neither had Shackleford.

Of the incident, Scholer said, "There's no question that there was a light. But then the South Bay is full of lights. We can't determine how it was suspended, but it could have been a hang-glider or a hot air balloon."

The same type of unexplained red light has appeared between the hours of 10 and 11 p.m. several times during the past four weeks, according to Scholer.

"No official investigation is planned but of course we're all interested in it. It's a curious phenomenon. Our only concern is that if it's a prankster, it does not present a hazard at the airport," Scholer said.

Both men say they love flying and plan careers in aviation. And this adventure won't change that.

Shackleford, who has had his license for two years, said he has wanted to fly ever since he was in third grade. A junior at San Jose State University, he is studying aeronautics and plans to become a commercial pilot.

Rounds received his license a year ago, crediting his friend's enthusiasm for flying for his own interest. He is also studying aeronautics at De Anza College and plans to work in aircraft engineering.

Both agreed they won't go back and look for the mysterious red light.

"But if it decides to see us again, that's fine," Shackleford said.

If they had to do it over again? "We'd go after it, next time," Rounds predicted.

TRIBUNE, Tampa, FL - March 5, 1981

By MIKE WOLNY
Tribune Staff Writer

NEW PORT RICHEY — Reports of mysterious low-flying aircraft and the sighting of a bright unidentified flying object in the sky over parts of Pasco County Tuesday night has baffled Pasco sheriff's officials.

Air Force spokesmen at MacDill, Eglin and Patrick air bases Wednesday denied knowledge of the aerobatic maneuvers spotted in the skies over Hudson, Land O'Lakes and Dade City between 7 and 8:30 p.m.

U.S. Customs officials in Tampa said the operation was not of their doing.

Air traffic controllers at the tower of Tampa International Airport said they tracked the crafts as unidentified flying objects, according to sheriff's reports.

"There was some unidentified activity up northwest of the airport," said Assistant Tower Chief Jack McGinn. "But we didn't stay with them very

long."

Though the governmental agencies said they didn't know the source of the craft, sheriff's officials said there had been at least 50 reports of low-flying helicopters Tuesday night.

One Land O'Lakes man said he saw more.

Truck driver Terry Roch of 74C Pangola Drive said he was inside his trailer at about 8 p.m. when it began to vibrate.

"I was sitting there watching Reagan on television and I heard something like a jet rattle over our trailer," Roch said.

He rushed outside and spotted what he said resembled a falling star traveling toward the horizon. Roch said it looked like a satellite. The object was being pursued by a jet, Roch said.

Another object Roch described as hour-glass in shape with two green blinking lights fell to the earth in the nearby area of the Cypress Creek well

field as the two aircraft vanished.

About 10 minutes later, four unidentified helicopters raced across the sky in the same direction, Roch said.

"That is very weird," Roch said.

Roch said sheriff's investigators who responded to his report of the low-flying objects told him there had been 13 other such reports. The deputies later told Roch that what he saw was a military refueling operation. He's not convinced.

"I think it is very peculiar that they are saying it was a military operation," Roch, a former Marine said. "If it is, then I'd like to know what are they doing dropping that hour-glass shaped object into the well field?"

Sheriff's spokeswoman Cindy Kuhn said there had been a flood of inquiries from the Hudson, Dade City and Land O'Lakes areas about low-flying helicopters without lights. Those sighting the helicopters included a sheriff's detective and a department dispatcher. Neither was available for comment Wednesday.

Kuhn said she knew of no reports of the bright object described by Roch.

According to the sheriff's spokeswoman, U.S. Customs officials in Miami said Tuesday night the aircraft sighted were involved in a military refueling operation.

"I don't know why these people think they can fly over Pasco County and not tell us about it," said Kuhn Wednesday.

But Frank Beall of the U.S. Customs office said sheriff's officials misunderstood what his agency said.

Beall said U.S. Customs dispersed a ground unit and a single-engine, high-wing plane only after the original reports of helicopter sightings. Customs officials suspected the reports stemmed from some sort of illegal drug trafficking operation.

"The findings were negative," Beall said.

Antics In The Air Baffles Officials 5

'Horrible' UFO experience makes Texan believer

CHRONICLE, Houston, TX
March 4, 1981

CR: M. Hall

LONGVIEW (AP) — Lavell Morales says she was always skeptical of flying saucers, but a "horrible" experience along a dark, lonely stretch of highway turned her into a believer.

"Since it happened, I haven't been able to rest," said the White Oak resident. "I wake up at night thinking about it. That thing was not of this world."

The "thing" seen by Mrs. Morales and her daughter Dawn, 18, was a large orange and gray object hovering just off U.S. 271 near Owentown.

"People naturally think you're a nut," said Mrs. Morales, explaining why she didn't make public the Feb. 23 incident earlier. "That's the first reaction. But my brother finally convinced me I should report it. My daughter and I know what we saw."

Mrs. Morales and her daughter were returning home from Tyler about 9 p.m. when they had their close encounter.

"It was huge, taller than a building. And it was hovering to the right of us, just off the highway," she said.

The object was "about a car's length" above the ground and "the top of it was turning. It looked like a fruit jar lid. There were orange lights, bright orange lights," she said. "The bottom was grayish, and it wasn't moving."

After she spotted the object, Mrs. Morales said she tried to point it out to her daughter but couldn't.

"It put me in a light trance. I couldn't get my eyes off of it. I couldn't tell her to look at it," she said. "I'm not a dummy, but I'm convinced there was an energy field of some kind. The energy forces were tremendous."

At that point, she said, the car began to swerve toward a deep ditch and Dawn cried, "You're going off the road!"

Then her daughter spotted the object and started to cry, Mrs. Morales said.

She said she stepped on the accelerator and sped toward home, not looking back.

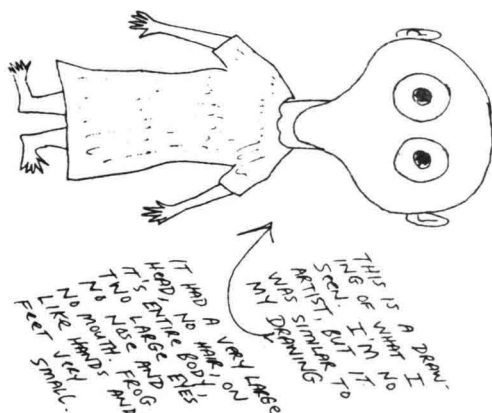
After arriving home, Mrs. Morales called the Tyler Police Department and the Smith County Sheriff's De-

partment, which said no one else had reported seeing the object.

Mrs. Morales said she is reporting the incident publicly "because I feel it is still in the area somewhere. My daughter feels the same."

She said she is convinced that what she and her daughter saw was more than swamp gas or reflected lights.

"I think it was something from outer space," she said. "And I just hope I don't see any more of them."



Editor's Note: It is obvious from the following letter that a resident of the Westfield community recently had quite an experience. His description of a chain of events that happened on his farm recently made for some interesting reading. We are publishing the letter in its entirety, and would be interested to hear if anyone else has seen what we here at the News office have dubbed, "Little Foot."

Dear Editor:

Before you tear my letter up, please take a few minutes to read it. I live in Westfield. I live on a country road almost deserted from people. There are only about three other homes where I live, but they aren't too close to mine. I own a small farm. You may think I'm crazy, stupid, or just telling you a fib, but what I'm about to tell you actually happened.

A couple of weeks ago, I went out to milk my cows as usual. I was a little later this particular night. It was almost dark outside. I have a hunting hound which always goes with me to milk my cows. I noticed that he had begun barking, and carrying on as if he was about to chase a rabbit, or something. Then he took off running, and sniffing the ground. I had just about finished my milking, so I followed him just to see what he was after. He went to the top of a hill next to my farm, which is a wooded area.

It was pretty hard to see where he had gone, because it was completely dark. But I did have a small flashlight with me. Then I noticed he was fighting with something. I was 30 feet, or maybe a little more away from him. At first, I thought he was fighting with another animal. But when I saw what he had almost chewed up, I was so scared that I almost froze. I don't know what this was, I don't know whether it was a person, animal, or what. It had no hair on its head, or body. It was only about 5 feet tall. It had pink skin, a very large head, and small frog-like hands and feet. It had two large eyes, and no nose or mouth.

The best I could tell it was wearing a dress or robe. I looked at it for only a few seconds. It seemed to still be alive. But where my hound had chewed on him I saw no blood at all. My dog had mangled both his legs and one of his arms. I think it was his right arm. After I examined it for a few seconds, I ran back to my home as fast as I could.

I could, locked my doors, got in my car, and headed for Mount Airy. I spent the night at a motel right behind the diner burger. I can't remember the name of the motel right off.

I haven't told any one about this. You're the only ones I've told this story to. If I told anyone what I had seen that night they would think I was joking, or had a nut loose in my head. The reason I am telling this is that maybe someone else has seen what I've seen if I showed you what it looked like.

I don't own a camera so I sketched out a rough drawing of what this thing looked like. When I went back home the next day I found my dog dead, and two of my cows were missing. And the thing my dog had fought with was gone.

I won't give you my name as of yet, but if anyone else has also seen something of this nature and informs you at the News about it, I will also come out in the open and let you use my name if you want it. Below is a rough drawing of what I saw about 2 weeks ago. I have never believed in aliens, or monsters, but I don't know what it was that I saw.

Has Anyone Here Seen 'Little Foot'? One Man Has

NEWS, Mount Airy, NC - Feb. 20, 1981 CR: G. Fawcett

6

Glowing, Glowing, Gone

At Least 9 In N.C. Report Sighting UFOs This Year

By WAYNE NICHOLAS
Observer Gastonia Bureau

LINCOLNTON — Ruby Campa said her dogs, Charley, Trixie and Tiny, went wild.

The image on her color television set turned green. Mrs. Campa, 37, who lives in the rural Howard's Creek area just west of Lincolnton, and her daughter, Frances, 16, ran outside to see what was going on.

Overhead was a flying object, gliding at about treetop level. "It was star-shaped with lots of points coming out of it, gliding until it got way over in the sky, and then it started revolving," Mrs. Campa said recently. "It was really bright-colored like the color of a star."

"It wasn't an airplane," she added. "I can swear that. It didn't have any blinking lights. This light was just brilliant."

A friend, 27-year-old Melba Finley, said she, too, spotted the object.

Mrs. Campa and Mrs. Finley are among at least nine persons who say they have seen unidentified flying objects (UFOs) since Jan. 1.

George Fawcett of Lincolnton, an investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, which is based in Sequin, Tex., said he received reports of UFOs on Jan. 10 in Gaston County, Cleveland County and Lincoln County, Jan. 14 in Anson County, on Feb. 3 and Feb. 6 in Lincoln County and on Feb. 23 in Lincoln County.



Fawcett

Nancy and Jerry Carpenter of Lincolnton, who said they spotted a UFO on Feb. 21, and Ira Beam of Vail, who said she saw one Feb. 22, did not report to Fawcett.

At one time, there was enough interest in reports of UFOs that the U.S. Air Force initiated a program to investigate them. But after 22 years of checking out thousands of UFO reports, the Air Force abandoned "Project Bluebook" in 1969. The project was headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

The Air Force concluded none of the reports it investigated hinted that flying saucers were a threat to the national security.

Furthermore, Air Force 2nd Lt. Roger Overturf at Wright-Patterson said investigations didn't uncover any evidence of extraterrestrial life, or any evidence that UFOs represented any kind of technology that hasn't already been mastered by earthlings.

But astronomers such as J. Allen Hynek, who served as chief consultant for "Project Bluebook" for 18 years, labeled those conclusions "junk."

The 70-year-old Hynek, former chairman of astronomy at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., admitted that nine of every 10 UFO reports he studied could be explained as a natural phenomenon. But one of 10, he said, couldn't be explained.

"The Air Force simply doesn't want the American public to know what UFOs are, and that we're totally helpless against them," charged Hynek, who heads 40 other scientists at the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston.

Hynek said he believes flying saucers do exist and use an extremely sophisticated method of traveling.

He said he and his colleagues started the Center for UFO Studies in 1973 after thousands of UFO reports in the Southeastern United States.

L.H. Stringfield, 60, another investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, which says it has 800 trained UFO field investigators, agreed the Air Force has been less than candid about UFOs.

Stringfield, of Cincinnati, who also was a consultant for "Project Bluebook," claimed he has interviewed 20 former Air Force officers and airmen who participated in retrieving crashed UFOs and bodies of individuals who flew them.

Springfield claimed, further, that an Air Force physician did an autopsy on a dead space traveler.

However, Overturf denied the Air Force has ever investigated a UFO crash.

"Are you asking me if we covered up stories about UFO sightings?" he asked. "... That is not true. Between 1947 and 1969, the Air Force investigated 12,618 sightings. We couldn't offer an explanation for only 701 of them."

Meanwhile, Hynek said he thinks Mrs. Campa probably did see a UFO.

"People can lie, but animals don't," he said.

"I know it ain't something I ever want to see again," Mrs. Campa said.

Seen A UFO?

George Fawcett, investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, can be reached on weekends and after 6 p.m. weekdays at 735-5725. The address for the Center for UFO Studies is P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, Ill., 60204.

'Fireworks in the sky' produce curiosity, mystery

The celestial fireworks that were seen on the evening of Friday, Jan. 23, have been the cause for much speculation, some of it quite intriguing.

Witnesses reported seeing a pair of whitish-blue flashes at around 11:30 p.m. Shortly after the flashes occurred (about 30 seconds), a loud noise similar to a sonic boom was heard, according to witnesses.

The flashes were visible over a four-state area, according to an article in the Sunday, Jan. 25, Minneapolis Tribune. The article, which came from the Associated Press, went on to state that reports were particularly noted in western Minnesota and eastern North Dakota.

The National Weather Service in Minneapolis was quoted as saying that the cause of the phenomenon was not known. However, the Weather Service speculated that the wide area over which the light was observed indicated that it may have been one or more meteors burning up as they entered the earth's atmosphere.

The phenomenon has greatly aroused the curiosity of a Morris resident, who has been conducting a fascinating investigation in recent weeks. This person disclosed the details of his investigation to the Sun/Tribune Feb. 16, on the stipulation that his identity not be revealed. For the purposes of this article, he will be known as John Doe.

The investigation conducted by Doe has been wide-ranging, involving conversations with numerous witnesses and authorities. His diligent work has allowed him to piece together several interesting scenarios.

Doe neither heard nor saw the phenomenon, as he was in bed at the time. He was awakened by his wife, who reported that the windows had shaken and that she felt alarmed. One of her first thoughts was that it might have been an earthquake. The significance of the event did not immediately register with Doe, who fell asleep again soon thereafter.

The following morning, Doe began going about his normal daily routine, with the previous evening's incident at the back of his mind. It came to the forefront of his thoughts when he visited a local hardware store, where the proprietor asked him if he had either heard or seen the phenomenon.

"Then, my curiosity was aroused," he remarked.

The first day of his research involved some uneven phone calls. One was to the radio station in Fargo, which had on hand a taped interview with the air traffic controller who was on duty at the Fargo airport when the phenomenon happened. The controller simply stated that two flashes were seen to the southeast at around 11:30 p.m.

Doe also made a call to the Air Force liaison officer at Grand Forks Air Force Base. Doe quoted the officer as saying, "I know nothing about it." Another phone call was made to the Associated Press news bureau in Omaha, Neb. Nothing new was turned up as a result of this call. The Omaha bureau is a central news data collection point for the AP.

The next step for Doe was a field investigation, involving interviews with witnesses. Doe was joined by an associate in this stage of the research process. One of their chief concerns was to obtain directional data. If a meteor had hit the earth in the Morris area, this data would help pinpoint the impact site, through a process known as "triangulation."

The phenomenon had an interesting appearance, according to the witnesses. Some described the fireworks as reminding them of "a big ball of fire." Others made an analogy with comets, noting that a vaporous trail was visible behind a round central mass. The object raced through the sky until it reached a 45-degree angle, at which point it vanished, witnesses remembered.

The object appeared white at first, then became red-orange before going out, witnesses said. These descriptions led Doe to conclude initially that a meteor was responsible for the phenomenon. The descriptions also seemed to indicate that there may have been more than one object.

The next step for Doe was to call on a local aviator, who took him up over the area where the objects were likely to have hit. Doe kept a sharp eye for ash marks and other telltale signs but found nothing. However, he emphasized that no firm conclusions could be drawn without a ground search.

The next couple of days were devoted to endless phone calls, mainly to law enforcement agencies and media outlets. He asked all law enforcement personnel to relay any pertinent information to him.

At this point, he felt pretty well convinced that meteors had fallen on the evening of Jan. 23, he said.

The next step in his research efforts took an interesting turn, and led him to some intriguing speculation as to the cause of the phenomenon. On the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 27, Doe received a call from a friend in the Air Force, who asked him if he had heard about the two Air Force planes that had gone down on the evening of the 23rd. Doe responded in the negative.

"We've got one down north of Omaha and one down in North Carolina," the friend said.

Doe's interest was immediately aroused, since the crash sites are directly on each side of the line assumed to be followed by the objects as they entered the earth's

atmosphere. His growing curiosity led him to call the Air Force base in Omaha. He was told that the plane that went down near Omaha was an F-4 Phantom not owned by the Air Force, but by McDonnell-Douglas. The plane was up for a post-maintenance check flight at the time of the crash, the Air Force spokesman added.

Doe then contacted the sheriff's office in the county where the crash occurred. He was given the names of witnesses who were at the scene before authorities arrived.

The official account of the crash stated that the plane was so broken up that no piece was bigger than a cigarette. However, one of the witnesses contacted by Doe passed along some contradictory testimony. This witness, who had a military background, stated that amidst the rubble was the back half of a wing armament station, with the back half of a sidewinder missile still hooked to it.

"What was McDonnell-Douglas doing with an aircraft armed with missiles, conducting a post-maintenance flight in the middle of the night?" Doe said.

Doe, who gained an aviation background in his Navy experience, felt convinced that this question had no satisfactory answer.

Doe was unable to obtain any information regarding the North Carolina crash.

In the Omaha crash, the pilot and the radio-intercept officer had bailed out and landed one mile from the crash scene. Doe learned through his Air Force friend that the personnel of both aircraft had severe "flash burns" on their eyes, similar to welder's burn. This led Doe to speculate on why the aircraft went down. The temporary affliction prevented the pilots from reading their instruments, he reasoned. Symptoms of this affliction include itching and blurred vision.

A couple of weeks ago, Doe's research efforts took a new and fascinating turn. New tidbits of information came forth from residents of Ottertail County, who heard a deputy sheriff present his eyewitness account of the fireworks over their police scanners. The account, if

The hovering object emitted a bright white light and appeared to be disc-shaped, according to the deputy sheriff.

valid, sheds an entirely new light on that evening's phenomenon.

Doe wished not to disclose the name of the county represented by the deputy sheriff.

According to what was heard over the scanners, this deputy sheriff stated that he saw an object hovering in the sky at approximately 11:25 p.m. on Jan. 23. The object was being approached by two other objects, one from each side, which had red flashing lights. In addition, one of the two approaching objects emitted a white flashing light.

The hovering object emitted a bright white light and appeared to be disc-shaped, according to the deputy sheriff.

Later, he saw a bright yellow flash from the object bearing the red and white flashing lights. The flash disembarked from the object in the manner of a missile and headed toward the hovering object. The flash appeared to be enveloped by the hovering object, whereupon an extremely bright flash occurred, followed in a few seconds by a secondary flash.

The hovering object then started falling toward the ground, emitting a shower of sparks behind it. After descending for a few moments, it headed toward the northwest, and changed from a whitish-blue color to red-orange before disappearing at 45 degrees off the horizon.

Just as the deputy sheriff was ready to radio in a report, about 35 seconds later, the boom was heard. Doe interprets the boom as either a missile striking the object, or one of the planes pulling out of an attack dive. (Obviously, he believes that the two other objects were planes.)

The county represented by the deputy sheriff is refusing any confirmation of the event, according to Doe.

Doe emphasized that his conclusions represent nothing more than conjecture and speculation, but that they nevertheless lie on a firm foundation.

"The coincidences are overwhelming," he said.

In addition to the pilots' eye injuries, another cause for the crashes might have been shrapnel damage, according to Doe. One might ask: Why did the aircraft come down so far away from the point of the incident? The Air Force has a procedure to protect its interests in the event of a territorial air-to-air conflict that results in damage, Doe said.

The procedure requires that the affected planes be dispatched to bases as remote as strategically possible,

within a distance that the planes are capable of covering in light of their condition. This procedure makes it easy for the Air Force to write off a mishap as an accident or in terms of other explicable phenomena.

Doe sees himself as being in a good position to understand Air Force procedures, due to his experience in the Navy as an air traffic controller.

Based on all of the information that Doe has now collected, he has drawn up several possible scenarios that might have led to the "fireworks in the sky."

Doe has still not ruled out the meteor interpretation. The Air Force might have feared that because of the meteor's size, it might cause deaths and damage if it were to land in a heavily-populated area. It thus might have set out to shoot at it with a warhead of sufficient magnitude to break it up.

Why would the Air Force seek to keep such a maneuver secret? Doe believes that a weapon of unacceptable force might have been used, and that the Air Force did not wish to alarm the public.

"On the other hand, a bright flash is characteristic of the violent burning of gases accompanying the entry of a meteor into the atmosphere," Doe said.

Another scenario constructed by Doe is one that is sure to excite everybody, especially readers of National Enquirer. The hovering object may have been an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) attempting a landing, against the wishes of the Air Force, Doe speculates. The Air Force, not wanting to deal with a major UFO incident, might have wanted to destroy it, enabling it to write off the phenomenon as a meteor. The fact that the object was hovering, not falling, is convincing evidence that this scenario might be plausible, in Doe's opinion.

Incidentally, the deputy sheriff was not the only witness of the incident. A farmer north of Herman also viewed it and gave identical testimony. Doe did not wish to disclose the farmer's name.

A third scenario presented by Doe is based on information he got directly from the Air Force. During the period that the incident occurred, the Air Force and Strategic Air Command were undertaking extensive maneuvers in the skies over North America, simulating battle readiness conditions. The hovering object might thus have been a simulated target.

Doe reported feeling some stress as a result of his investigation. He hopes that he is not stepping on any toes by showing curiosity.

The phenomenon may leave the public's attention through being accepted as a meteor. On the other hand, it might provide fodder for an upcoming article in National Enquirer.

MERCURY, San Jose, CA - Feb. 20, 1981

Mystery light appears again

A mysterious red light was spotted again by residents and air controllers Thursday night in San Jose skies.

"It was flying real slow, then all of a sudden it took off fast and headed down," said Al Backer, 63, of San Jose, who lives near the airport.

"We saw it too," said a controller in the tower at San Jose Municipal Airport. "It was a steady red light when it passed over us. Then it started flashing and went straight out so fast it went out of the line of sight. And again, it didn't show up on the radar."

Another red light was officially logged as an unidentified flying object by San Jose tower air controllers Feb. 9 after it buzzed and followed a private plane, then shot out of sight.

Although seen by controllers and pilots, the object did not show on San Jose or Oakland Bay Approach radar.

A Mercury story about last week's sighting brought several calls from area residents; from San Jose to Fremont, who had also spotted a similar red light at varying times on different days.

3 hunters blink flashlight signal

Three hunters used a flashlight to communicate with what they believe was a UFO.

The men have hunted raccoons together near La Vernia for more than 20 years.

"We're used to seeing aircraft. But, what we saw that night was something we've never seen before," Vernon Ramzinski told The News.

Ramzinski, Anthony Kotzur and Karl Thompson had just released their dogs when they saw a strange object moving toward them.

"It looked like two eyes at first," Kotzur said, adding:

"There were two lights, like street lights. They weren't blind ing. They kind of glowed."

The hunters watched the object move toward them for about 10 minutes, Ramzinski said.

"When it got on top of us, it was about the size of an eight-room house. The strange thing was, it just made a humming sound," he added.

Ramzinski estimated the craft passed about 1,300 feet above them.

"I flashed an SOS at the thing with our flashlight, but it didn't respond," Kotzur said.

Despite the jet black darkness, Ramzinski said he saw what appeared to be a cockpit near the center of the triangle-shaped object.

"We hadn't been drinking," Ramzinski emphasized.

30 CLAIM UFOs BUZZ LA VERNIA



News EXCLUSIVE

By JOHN MOULDER AND JIM MARTIN

LA VERNIA — UFOs knocked out television sets, disrupted telephone lines and set off a false fire alarm in this town of less than 1,000 people 15 miles east of San Antonio, residents say.

At least 30 people told The News they saw a triangular-shaped craft hovering near here between 10 and 10:30 p.m. Sunday.

Earlier in the day, two mysterious objects were also seen buzzing an Air Force plane in the general area.

Witnesses told The News the sightings were not reported earlier for fear of embarrassment. They kept silent about it, not realizing so many others were witnesses until they began comparing notes Wednesday and Thursday.

Welder Juan P. Saldana described what he saw:

"It came down close to Baumann's store (in La Vernia.) It looked like a triangle. There were two white lights

Related story, 4-A

at the front and a red light at the rear. The lights went up real high, then came back down again."

The 32-year-old Saldana described a strange "low whooshing" sound coming from the craft.

"I'm not saying they're visitors from other planets," said Paul Mattke, volunteer fire chief.

"But I've never seen anything like this before. It was weird."

Mattke and two other volunteer firemen answered an alarm last Sunday at Baumann's Supermarket.

Smoky smell

Two passersby reported smoke coming from the rear of the structure in downtown La Vernia.

By the time Mattke and the other volunteers arrived, only "a smell like burning tar or insulation wiring," hung in the still air.

"We could find no evidence of a fire," store co-manager Jim Helmke said.

Helmke, however, said he talked to several people who saw a "cloud-like mist" drift from behind the store, then gradually dissipate.

Allan Mattke, brother of the fire chief, said he and two others drove on a side street beside Baumann's and saw smoke "billowing" from the building.



VERNON RAMZINSKI ... with son Ryan, 3

This was only a few minutes after Saldana spotted the mysterious object.

Saldana's account was backed up by his wife and 11 relatives who also saw the object.

Three men hunting raccoons two miles east of here reported seeing an object matching the description given by Saldana only 20 minutes before the smoke was seen at Baumann's store.

Chief Mattke, an automobile mechanic, told The News the hunters' story was identical to versions of two other groups who saw the phenomenon in the sky.

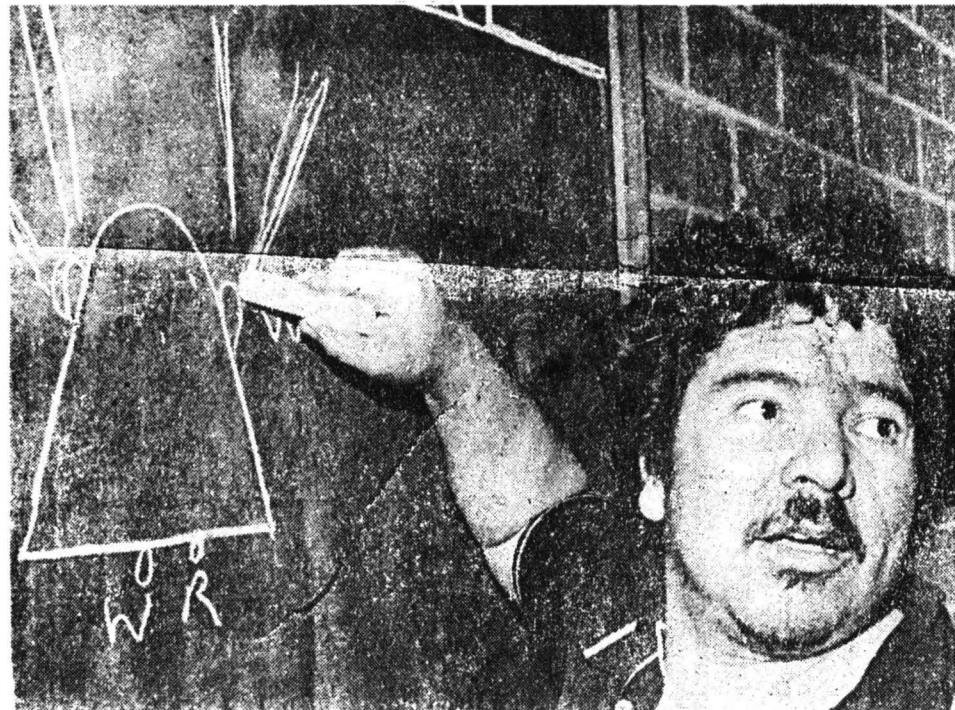
A 24-year-old construction superintendent, Jeff Pierdolle, said he saw what "appeared to be the body of a large aircraft."

"There were two bright lights. I watched it for about 10 minutes. It was barely moving."

"It sounded like the wind — just blowing."

Earlier Sunday, a retired Air Force mechanic saw two "saucers" following a plane toward San Antonio, the fire chief said.

"He thought the plane was towing the objects. Then, all of a sudden, they passed the plane," Mattke said.



JUAN SALDANA DESCRIBES OBJECT HE SAW IN LA VERNIA ... says low whooshing sound came from triangle-shaped craft

PHOTOS BY HAL WELLS

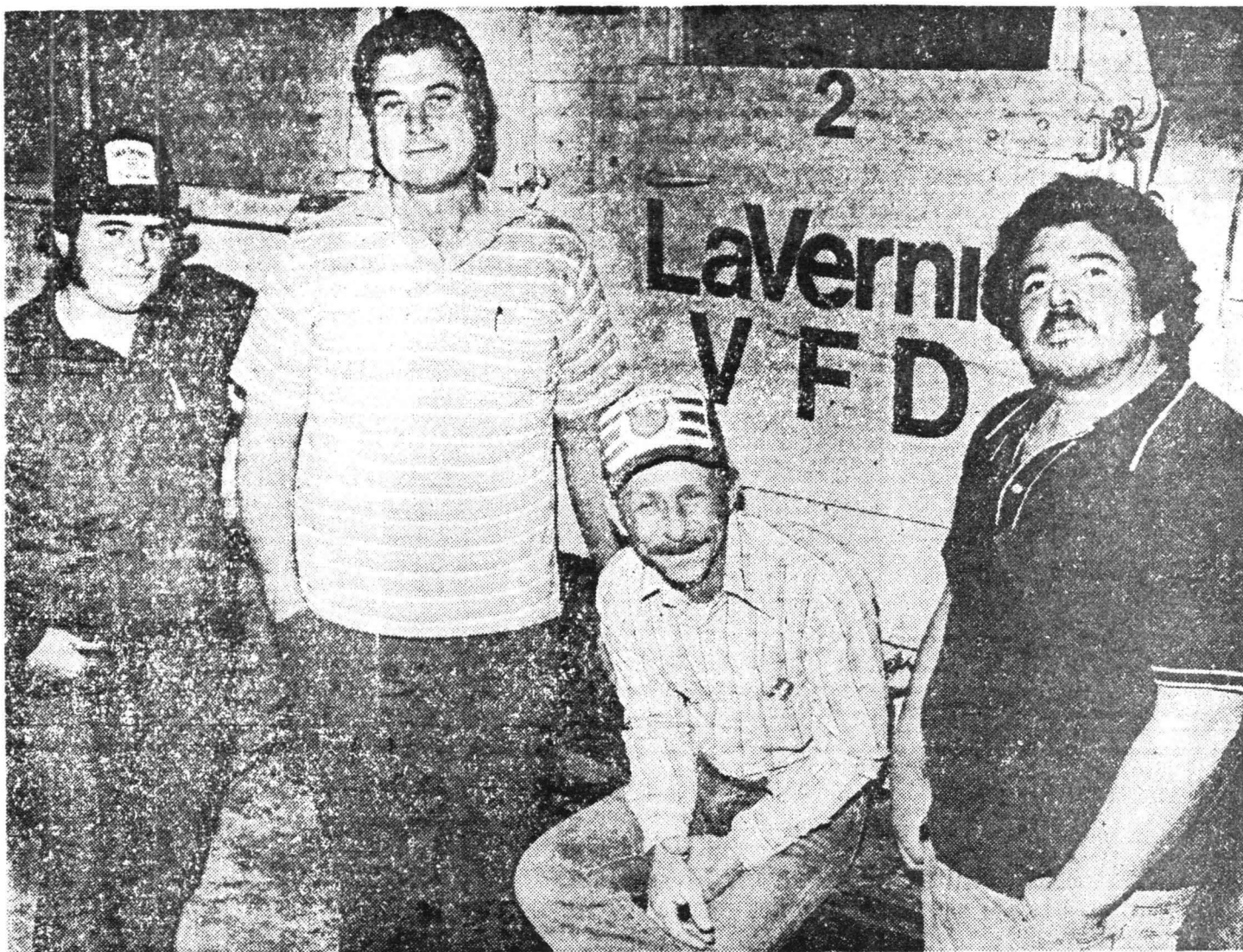
C-5 near at time of UFO sighting

NEWS, San Antonio, TX - Feb. 28, 1981 CR: MUFON

LA VERNIA — A cargo plane bound for Kelly Air Force Base was circling over this community at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, the same time about 30 residents reported seeing an unidentified flying object.

But a Kelly spokesman said Friday it would be hard to mistake the huge cargo plane for a small, triangular UFO.

"This was a C-5 aircraft from Delaware, circling at about 3,000 feet with its landing lights on. It's the biggest cargo plane we have, and it's not a triangular-shaped plane," said Kelly public information officer Harry Nixon.



LA VERNIA RESIDENTS TOLD REPORTERS FROM THE NEWS ABOUT UFO SIGHTINGS
... from left, Jeff Pierdolle, Paul Matke, Allan Matke and Juan Saldana

PHOTO BY HAL WELLS

UFO was big as Boeing 707

By JOHN MOULDER
NEWS STAFF WRITER

LA VERNIA — One of several UFOs sighted near here Sunday was about the size of a Boeing 707, moved very slowly and only the sound of a rushing noise could be heard, said the owner of an oil field construction company.

Jeff Pierdolle, 24, gave this eyewitness account to The

News: "It appeared at first to be a large aircraft. It had two bright white lights and a red light."

Pierdolle said he was helping a friend repair a trailer a short distance west of La Vernia when he spotted the UFO.

"We watched it for about 10 minutes. It wasn't making any

noise. It was barely moving. It had two bright lights.

"It was coming from the southeast to the northwest," said Pierdolle.

"It was the sound of the wind — just blowing. All we could hear was the rush of the wind. We kept listening for engines but all we could hear was just wind blowing."

He said when he and his

friend saw the object coming toward them, "It looked like it was going to crash into us and then it went straight overhead. Then it drifted over us and went back west."

Pierdolle was one of about 30 people who spotted UFOs at La Vernia Sunday. Investigators say descriptions of the objects by independent witnesses match very closely.

Most LaVernians: UFO plane ... but 5% still unconvinced

By BILL HENDRICKS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

LA VERNIA — Most people here who reported seeing a UFO now believe it was a C-5 transport plane they saw, says a man who conducted an unofficial probe for a UFO monitoring organization.

"I have talked to eight people who saw it," grocer Jim Helmke said, referring to the Feb. 22 incident which has been the main topic of conversation in this community just east of San Antonio.

"I'd say 95 percent of the people are satisfied with the explanation

(that the UFO was a low flying monster C-5 transport headed toward Kelly Air Force Base)," Helmke said.

"That leaves 5 percent who are not."

Helmke said the C-5 explanation accounts for what people saw in the sky that Sunday night. (About 30 residents reported seeing a triangular object with two white lights at the top and a trailing red light.)

Helmke admits he is still puzzled by reports of smoke billowing from the roof of Baumann's Supermarket where he works.

"They (residents) called us in Floresville about 10:20 p.m. and told us the store was on fire," Helmke said.

When Helmke got to the store he found firemen inside, but no fire.

Helmke began his unofficial investigation for the Seguin-based Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

He grins at the irony of making his first UFO investigation for MUFON into reports of a sighting at the store where he works.

Still unexplained, he said, are the many reports of an acrid odor of smoke in the air.

He is not certain the C-5 theory explains the odor.

Residents had claimed UFOs knocked out television sets, disrupted telephone lines and set off a false fire alarm to the supermarket in this town of less than 1,000 people.



JIM HELMKE
... '95% satisfied'

Flying Disc Reports Like a Rash

(By International News Service)
The flying saucer season, apparently dead several weeks ago, took a new lease on life Saturday. People in scattered communities in the South and Southwest craned their necks and looked at the sky for a glimpse of the flying discs or saucers.

More than 100 persons in Farmington, N. M., Friday, "saw" a fleet of flying saucers stunting and maneuvering over the town. An aerial object with a flaming exhaust was spotted over Chattanooga, Tenn., Friday night and immediately newspaper and police telephone switchboards were choked with reports of flying saucers.

There were two different versions of the flying disc story from the Dallas, Texas, area. Six bus passengers said they saw a disc or saucer shortly after 6 p.m. Several hours earlier, a naval petty officer related seeing a disc streak at a B-36 bomber, follow it for an instant and then break away.

OVER MEXICO, TOO
Discs were still flying over Mexico City, too, to the delight of pickpockets. One Mexico City account said that a group of eight or nine people who stopped to stare at an object in the sky discovered several moments later that they had been relieved of their wallets.

At least one amateur expert, however, placed some credence in the flying saucer stories.

He is George A. Whittington, secretary of the Chicago Rocket Society, who said he believed the discs were space ships from another world piloted by intelligent beings who are reconnoitering earth.

He added he believes American armed forces have contacted the pilots of these ships and may now be in communication with the men from space.

But the control tower crew at Lovell Field, outside Chattanooga, examined the flying saucer reported there through powerful binoculars and agreed it was a jet plane.

In Farmington the evidence was not so conclusive. Editor Walt Rogal of the Farmington Times said half of the 150 people he interviewed believed they had seen space ships from another planet.

The rest thought they were jet planes of one type or another—or maybe just spots and hallucinations.

One witness, the Rev. Clayton J. Boddy, a war-time B-29 gunner, said the "objects" flew "in all positions both vertically and horizontally...their speed varied from almost loafing to that far greater than any jet plane I have ever observed."

'The Thing'— Glowing Monster in Hills

People 'See' Giant But Don't Stay To Meet Him

SUTTON, W. Va., Sept. 15 (AP)—Eyewitness accounts of a tall, glowing monster with a blood-red face skulking in the hills divided Braxton County today into two camps—believers and skeptics.

Seven persons said they saw the unearthly being, described as "worse than Frankenstein," in the hills above Flatwood, WVa., Friday night.

State police and a number of residents hooted at the reports as a product of mass hysteria. Police said the eyewitnesses' guess as to the monster's height varied from seven to 17 feet.

The excitement began when the two young sons of Mrs. Kathryn May, a Flatwood beautician, said

Jet Chases, Can't Catch 'Flying Disc'

MITCHELL FIELD, N.Y., Sept. 11 (AP)—Two Air Force jet pilots reported today they chased a mysterious, round flying object—travelling at a speed they estimated at 900-miles-an-hour—for 30 miles and couldn't catch it.

Wilbert S. Rogers of Columbia, Pa., told Mitchell Field authorities that he and Capt. Edward Ballard of Dover, Del., sighted the object yesterday over Sandy Hook, N.J., while they were on a routine flight in a T-33 jet training plane.

"I don't know if it was a flying saucer, but it sure was something I've never seen before," Lt. Rogers, pilot of the plane, said. "We couldn't have caught it in an F-86." (The F-86 Sabre jet is the United States' fastest jet fighter.)

Rogers described the object as white or silver-colored and said it was about the size of a fighter plane.

Lt. Rogers and Capt. Ballard, on a flight from Dover Air Base in New Jersey, said when they sighted the object they were travelling at 450 miles an hour at 20,000 feet.

"I pointed it out to Capt. Ballard," Rogers said, "who suggested we try to follow it. But we soon found it was no use. It was going too fast."

The object moved in an arc from Sandy Hook to Redbank, N.J., and then headed out to sea at Ashbury Park, N.J., Rogers said. He estimated it travelled the 30-mile course in two minutes, or at a speed of 900-miles-an-hour.

The US Air Force and Navy have officially said that flying saucers reported previously had been nothing more than weather balloons.

"This couldn't have been a balloon," Rogers said, "because it was descending and no balloon goes that fast."

He said they got as close as 8000 feet to the object, which kept a constant speed and "didn't appear to be running away."

Capt. Ballard returned to Dover Air Base to report the incident to officials of the 148th Fighter Interceptor Wing, where both pilots are assigned.

had an overpowering metallic odor that nauseated them.

A. Lee Stewart, co-publisher of the Braxton County Democrat, received the first report from Mrs. May. The veteran newspaperman organized an armed posse and went to the scene.

"The odor was still there," Stewart said. "It was sort of warm and sickening. And there were two places about six to eight feet in diameter where the brush was trampled down."

Stewart said he did not know what to think.

"I hate to say I believe it, but I hate to say I don't believe it," Stewart said. "Those people were scared—badly scared, and I sure smelled something."

Authorities said they believed the "flying saucer" which Mrs. May's sons saw was a meteorite. The incident occurred during a meteor shower over a three-state area.

Mrs. May said Lemon stared and then screamed as the monster duckwalked toward them. All of them fled, occasionally looking over their shoulders.

The monster, Mrs. May said,

they saw a "flying saucer" land on C. B. Fisher's farm near here. Mrs. May, National Guardsman Gene Lemon and five boys climbed a hill on the Fisher farm to look for the "saucer."

Mrs. May said a "fire-breathing monster, 10 feet tall with a bright green body and a blood-red face," bounced and floated toward them.

"It looked worse than Frankenstein," she said. "It couldn't have been human."

Lemon, 17, said he thought he saw a "possum or a coon until he put his flashlight on 'the thing.' It was then that he saw the monster with the blushing face and the green body "that seemed to glow."

Mrs. May said Lemon stared and then screamed as the monster duckwalked toward them. All of them fled, occasionally looking over their shoulders.

The monster, Mrs. May said,

LOOKING BACK

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

'PROBABLY,' THEY SAY

Flying Disc 'Picked Up' By Air Defense Radar

Air defense radar "probably" picked up the "flying saucer" reported by two Ground Observer Corps aircraft spotters over their Santa Cruz post early yesterday.

The Western Air Defense Force said today that one of the radar stations in its West Coast defense net "trained on that general area and picked up a trace of something. It could have been the object spotted by the ground observers."

A spokesman said no attempt was made at interception.

"The object was reported by only one post," he explained. "We need at least two reports to establish a direction of flight."

The spokesman added that it was impossible to establish a speed or course on the object in the brief time it showed on the radar scope.

He emphasized that the contact possibly could have been a light plane, but agreed that a flight by such a plane at that early hour—about 5 a.m.—was unlikely.

The two observers reported their sighting as "objects which appeared as bright lights and which flew at terrific speeds." A deputy sheriff also reported seeing a fiery streak of light in the Santa Cruz area at about the same time.

Another "flying saucer" report was made yesterday afternoon by Harold Groger, chart plotter for the Weather Bureau at San Francisco Airport.

He said he was sunbathing on the roof of his home at 557 South

Van Ness Avenue about 2 p.m. when he saw an "object like a small blimp and silvery in color."

He said the object disappeared behind a cloud for a moment, then reappeared, "flying at tremendous speed and at right angles to its original course."

JETS PURSUE FAIL TO CATCH —BALLOON (?)

COLUMBUS, O., July 24.—Six armed jet planes thundered high into the skies over central Ohio last night, chasing a mysterious object they never did catch.

Thousands of persons on the ground thought they might be watching a flying saucer, but the Air Force decided it was only a weather research balloon.

TV Station WTVN in Columbus interrupted the Democratic National Convention to televise the object and the jet chase through a powerful television lens.

The U.S. Weather Bureau in Columbus estimated the balloon was drifting well above 65,000 feet. Clear skies and the enormous size of the balloon made it an easy target for ground observers. They swamped newspaper offices and radio stations with reports of a "flying saucer."

Berkeley Daily Gazette 'Saucer' Is Seen Over Berkeley July 25-'52

Three Berkeleyans today joined the ranks of Americans who have spotted strange objects flying in the sky.

The three, John Myers, 18, of 1817 Yosemite Rd., and two University of California Extension employees, Misses Elizabeth Davies, 19, and Ann Baldwin, 18, told the Gazette this morning they saw a "large orange ball of fire" in the sky last night at about 10:15.

"Honest, we really saw that thing in the sky. No, it wasn't a flying saucer. It looked more like a tennis ball," said Miss Davies.

The incident, which the girls said terrified them, occurred as they were out for a stroll last night. Miss Baldwin, who lives at 1400 LeRoy Ave., is staying with

Miss Davies, of 615 Arlington Ave., while the latter's parents are on a trip.

"We were on San Antonio Ave.," said Miss Davies, "when we glanced up and saw this thing, shaped like a tennis ball and colored orange, streaking through the sky. It was going as fast as an airplane."

"All of a sudden there was a big flash and this ball-like thing disintegrated. The explosion lit up the sky something fierce."

Ann and Elizabeth, pop-eyed with excitement, raced to the safety of the Davies home.

Myers said he first saw the "orange blob" while he was driving in the vicinity of Thousand Oaks Blvd. and San Fernando Ave. He said it was heading north at "about the speed of an airplane" and appeared "about the size of the moon."

"It flickered and appeared to give off sparks," Myers said. "After about two minutes it exploded."

July 22, 1952

Calif. Pilot Sees Eerie Sky Object

DALLAS, Tex., July 22 (AP)—A California pilot set his light plane down at Dallas minus its propeller yesterday and then told of seeing a strange object over west Texas.

Robert H. Hamilton of Gilroy sighted the object about 10 miles northwest of Kermit, Tex.

"It was a more brilliant white light than the sun," he said, and was playing near a bank of high-altitude white clouds.

"I know it wasn't the sunlight



Associated Press
SONNY DesVERGERS

PEOPLE

"I Know..."

The Florida everglades last week yielded up one of the weirdest flying saucer stories yet to hit the U. S. press. Its main figure was D. S. (Sonny) DesVergers, a 30-year-old hardware salesman, ex-Marine and Boy Scout leader from West Palm Beach.

It was about 11 p. m., Scoutmaster DesVergers recalled, and he was driving three of his young charges home through a heavily wooded section 12 miles southwest of the resort town. Suddenly, they saw "flashing lights" off in the gloom. His curiosity aroused, DesVergers grabbed a machete and a flashlight, told the scouts to call police if he was not back in 10 minutes, and walked into the brush to investigate.

What he found, the scoutmaster later related, curdled his blood: Hovering about 10 feet above ground was a "hissing," phosphorescent object shaped like a half rubber ball, some 30 feet in diameter and 10 feet high in the center. "I believe I was under and near it for about three minutes," DesVergers said. "Then, they (presumably the saucer's occupants) suddenly shot a ball of fire at me... I blacked out."

When DesVergers came to, Deputy Sheriff Mott N. Parlin (who had been summoned by the scouts) was standing over him. He listened patiently to the scoutmaster's tale of horror. He noticed that the hair on the latter's arms had been singed and his cap burned in three places. He also found the grass badly scorched all around the area. But later pressed by reporters for an opinion, the deputy sighed: "I just don't know." And Air Force officials, sent down from Washington to investigate the story, also had no comment.

But Scoutmaster DesVergers didn't share their uncertainty: "I know what it was, and it's of vital importance. It's not ours. It's not foolish to say it will determine the future of all of us someday. However, it's better for me not to go any further for the public good, because it might cause another Orson Welles panic... Me, I'm not even looking up in the sky any more."

glaring off the wing of another plane because it didn't behave like a plane," he said. "It would hover, then jump two miles south and hover again. I watched it travel 20 miles like that. It was gone when I reached the cloud bank."

Hamilton estimated the object moving at about 10,000 feet.

Fifteen miles out of Dallas, Hamilton said he heard a "zing." "The motor wound up fast and I throttled down," he said. "I looked up and no propeller."

His radio was dead but Hamilton glided on to Dallas, got a green light at Love Field and set his light plane down for a perfect landing. "I might have hit a bird," he said. "The prop just disintegrated... and all I could think of was that eerie light and if it could have caused it. I know, of course, it couldn't after thinking it over."

Hamilton flies for a living as a navigator for California Eastern Airways hauling Korean war supplies between the West Coast and Tokyo.



'SPACE FABRIC' MADE BY MAN UNI SAYS

By TREVOR MUNNERY

AUSTRALIAN scientists investigating charred material claimed to be wreckage from a UFO have concluded the pieces are man-made.

Their analysis at a Sydney university follows months of speculation and controversy surrounding a finding, described by enthusiasts as the first solid evidence of UFOs.

Sydney scientists are conducting further microscopic examinations of the material, which is believed to be fibreglass.

Pieces of the material were found in 1968 on a property in the outer Brisbane suburb of Greenbank.

The discovery, two years after a claimed UFO sighting on the property

by its owner, Mrs Jean Fraser, was hailed as a major scientific find.

The book *Alien Honeycomb*, detailing the discovery, was published earlier this year.

Written by Melbourne researchers John Pinkney and Leonard Ryzman, it claimed the material contained unknown elements and configurations which are presenting science with fundamental problems.

The authors said the material had defied the understanding of eminent American scientists, but they have consistently

refused to allow Australian scientists to examine the pieces.

After these refusals, Sydney millionaire Dick Smith flew a researcher to Brisbane to trace the material and interview Mrs Fraser.

The researcher acquired several pieces of the material from Mrs Fraser. These were handed to the university for tests.

The head of the university's research team this week said the honeycomb material was man-made and identifiable.

Ethical reasons prevent the university or the head of the research team being named.

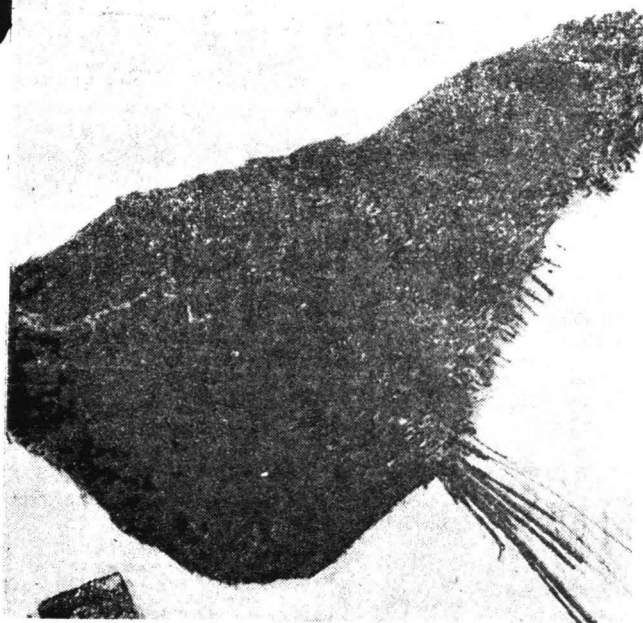
Dick Smith told Truth he arranged to obtain parts of the "wreckage" because of the book's claims and to prove whether it came from a UFO.

He said: "I offered \$10,000 to Mr Pinkney if scientific tests showed it was from a UFO, but he refused to allow Australian scientists to examine the material."

Co-author of Alien Honeycomb, Mr John Pinkney, said this week he stood by claims in the book.

He said: "There is no worry for us what Dick Smith says about it. We stand by our book."

"If the material analysed from Mrs Fraser is the same, we wonder about the conclusions reached by the RAAF, which is on record in the Queensland media as saying the material is unidentifiable."



★ *SOME of the material claimed to be wreckage from a UFO. Sydney scientists believe it to be man-made.*



★ *JOHN PINKNEY ... co-author of Alien Honeycomb.*



★ *DICK SMITH ... researcher traced samples for analysis.*

Experts reject book

★ AMERICA'S leading UFO private investigator this week described the book *Alien Honeycomb* as very suspicious.

Mr Phillip J. Klass said the people who found the material were very vague about details.

He said: "If indeed this was something that came from space, you would

think they would remember more."

"I have not in 14 years encountered a single UFO case that would cause me to suspect we had alien visitors in our skies."

"In my experience, all UFO occurrences can be explained and this honeycomb episode, I believe, is in the same category."

One of Australia's

leading UFO experts, Mr Bill Chalker, challenged Mr Pinkney and Mr Ryzman to produce scientific proof to support their claims.

He said: "Unfortunately, this book has created a stir and there is a need for it to be thoroughly investigated."

"Mr Pinkney has refused to debate his claims with me and also to provide any of the pieces for scientific evaluation."



★ *BILL CHALKER ... challenged John Pinkney.*

EVENING POST, Nottingham, England
Jan. 5, 1981

Witness is sought after UFO sighting

A MOTORIST travelling along the A514 road near the Derbyshire village of Hartshorne last night, claims he saw a "red oval light" move towards his vehicle, descend from the sky to about half its original altitude and move off rapidly towards Derby.

The UFO sighting took place at about 6pm and Nottingham UFO Investigation Society is trying to trace a second witness. Mr. Syd Henley, for the society, said: "The object was in view long enough

for the car driver to stop, get out of his car and speak to a second man walking three large dogs. This man saw the strange light too and we would like him to contact us."

Man has close encounter

MRS Linda Talbot has been giving her husband, 26-year-old Howard, some funny looks recently — but it won't make him change his mind.

He emphatically insists he saw Unidentified Flying Objects in the sky above Messingham at 4.30 pm on Tuesday.

"I'm no nutter. I saw between five and ten glittering white objects, shaped like tadpoles, flying over Messingham playing field," he said.

Howard, of Aysgarth Avenue, Messingham, plays centre forward for Messingham Trinity FC and was taking down the football nets.

"I looked at the sky because it was already dark and I wondered if I'd have time left to take the other net down before it got too dark. The objects were just above broken cloud and moved rapidly towards the direction of Winterton. I blinked, wondering if I had something in my eye. But no, they were still there, fantastically beautiful, like the white lights which come from rockets," he said earnestly.

They travelled in an arc and Mr Talbot is certain they were not aircraft.

EVENING POST, Nottingham, England
Jan. 6, 1981

Mystery remains

THE Nottingham UFO Investigation Society has released an interim report about a group of sightings in the Ashbourne area of Derbyshire in August, 1980.

Although the report has gone into every detail of the witnesses' reports, no conclusions have been reached.

The first sightings were observed from a camp site at Beresford Dale by two independent groups of witnesses who described the object as large, oval shaped and moving horizontally.

Others described it as being the size of a medium-sized aircraft flying at an estimated height of 1,500 ft.

Another sighting occurred at Shirley, Derbyshire, and was described by a witness as looking like a big jumbo-jet at close quarters with about a dozen lights around it.

SUNDAY MERCURY, Birmingham, England - Jan. 11, 1981

I saw blue 'football' in sky

I ARRIVED at work in Ladywood, Birmingham, about 7.30 one dark morning about eight years ago. The sky was clear and bright.

I was walking round the end of the building to open ground beyond when I was stopped in my tracks by the sight of what I call an "unidentified object" in the sky.

There above me was an object like a large football — it was perfectly round and a bril-

liant electric blue in colour and it seemed to be glowing.

I stood and watched it for about four minutes during which time it remained stationary. Then suddenly it shot off at terrific speed across the sky in the direction of Birmingham. As it sped away there was a long trail of yellowish colour from the end of the object. — JAMES BROMLEY, Hadley Road, Bilston.

CUMBERLAND NEWS, Carlisle, England
Jan. 23, 1981 CR: B. Taylor

Mystery object

A Lochmaben woman, Mrs Potts, of Parkfoot, and members of her family saw an unidentified flying object above their home in the early hours of Thursday morning.

The time was about one o'clock and they describe the object as "quite large, with three distinct bright lights shining from it". They are quite certain it was not an aircraft and they wonder if the object was spotted by anyone else.

Another woman also saw UFO

A HODDESDON woman claims to have seen the unidentified flying object hovering over Hertford Heath on January 5.

The mystery was described in the Mercury when a woman claimed she saw a strange object while she was on her way home from work just after 5 pm.

Now Mrs Marion Phelps, of Dorchester Avenue, Hoddesdon, has reported that she saw the same object.

Mrs Phelps was driving home from the Hertford garage where she works and was passing through Hertford Heath when she happened to glance upwards.

CIGAR SHAPED
"I saw what I thought at first was a very big star and although it was dark I could see that it had the shape of a cigar."

"Although I was keeping an eye on the road, I could see this thing for quite some time. I saw a red light and a white light beside it and then the white light just disappeared."

"They couldn't have been tail-lights on a plane because they would have stayed the same distance apart."

"I was a bit mystified by it and I told my husband about it. It seems I'm not the only one who saw it."

Unidentified flying objects are nothing new to Mrs Phelps and her family. Some years ago her husband was calling their cats in at night when he saw a strange circular object shooting across the sky.

STAR, Lincolnshire, England - Jan. 2, 1981

MERCURY & COUNTY PRESS, Hertfordshire, England - Jan. 23, 1981 CR: B. Taylor

The Ashbourne Event

Unsolved close encounter

by Sarah Gibbings

IT BEGAN as a pleasant summer night like any other — but soon after midnight the sky above Derbyshire came alive with mysterious lights.

For August 31, 1980, was the day 37 people in 13 places from Hatton to Buxton spotted inexplicable shapes and lights flying over the countryside or hovering above the rooftops.

The number of independent sightings and witnesses was so impressive that Nottingham UFO Investigation Society mounted the most intensive investigation of a 13-year history which spans more than 2,000 reported sightings.

And after four months of research they have come to a startling conclusion — for the first time ever they were faced with a rash of totally unidentified flying objects.

Society secretary Mr Les Hall, who was one of the investigators, explained: "Normally we will classify a sighting as unidentified, but not unidentifiable."

"But in this case we have ruled out every probable explanation. We are no nearer to an answer than we were when we started four months ago."

The three investigators assigned by the society — Mr Hall, a design engineer and former maths and science teacher, Mr Sid Henley, a typewriter mechanic and past

member of the Royal Observer Corps, and retired farmer Mr Peter Ann — began by collecting detailed reports from witnesses.

Pulsating

From the descriptions they gathered they decided that the sightings fell into three groups, two of which could have been caused by a single flying object.

The third set of sightings could not be linked logically by time and location, and were assumed to have been of a further object or objects.

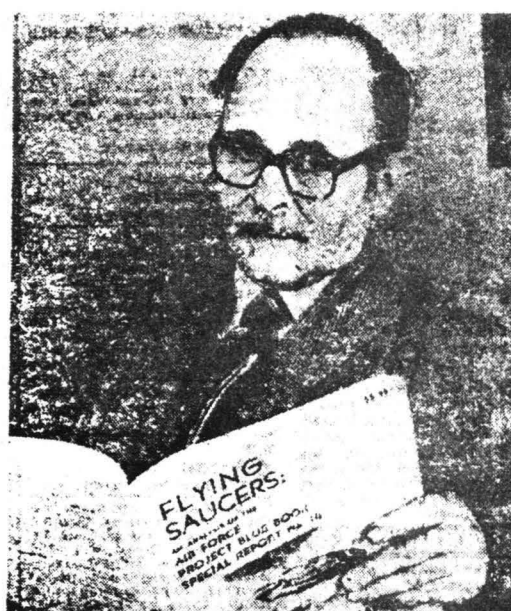
The first group of sightings started when an Ashbourne housewife was saying goodbye to some friends at 12.30 that

night. Suddenly they noticed a mass of lights flying towards them from the Osmaston direction, and when they looked more carefully they saw a pulsating object slightly larger than a four-bedroom house, covered with flashing red, blue, and green lights.

As it passed overhead with a buzz-humming sound, it was in the field opposite the house, and the woman's dog — who normally refused to come into the house when called — raced inside.

The object headed off north-west, towards Clifton, and it could have been the same thing seen by Nestles shift worker Mr John Lister at about 12.35, a minute after the people in Ashbourne lost sight of it.

Mr Lister described the experience: "I saw a cluster of brilliant lights coming towards



me, red, green, white and blue. The blue light seemed to be higher on the craft than the other lights, and they were extremely brilliant."

Vapour

He continued: "When the craft got closer it seemed to turn a few degrees to its left, and I had a distinct impression of a high tail fin and what seemed to be ducting at the bottom and to the rear of the craft, which was giving off steam or smoke or vapour of some sort."

The overall effect resembled a cross-Channel hovercraft, and Mr Lister ran round the factory building to watch it fly silently away to the north west.

A few minutes later a Mayfield disc jockey and his wife were approaching Mapleton on their way home when they spotted a group of white, blue and green lights surrounded by a strange mist. It flew off towards Dovedale, so low that it narrowly missed the corner of a house in Mapleton, with a buzzing noise like a very old aircraft.

The second group of potentially linked sightings, came from a woman in Chad-desden and five people saying goodnight in Shirley.

The woman had just gone to bed at 12.30 when she saw what seemed to be an unusually large, bright star outside her window. So she got up, and noted something like a giant chandelier, dome-shaped and covered with bright lights, hovering silently on a level with her bedroom. It was four times the size of the full moon, and flew off slowly westwards after two or three minutes.

Halo effect

Perhaps it reappeared in Shirley at 12.35, when one witness was seeing off four friends when they all noticed a bright star like Venus heading towards the village from the south.

As it came nearer it slowed down, and when it was examined through binoculars it looked like an outsized jumbo jet with about 12 lights producing a halo effect above it.

The final, unconnectable set of UFO's consists of eight separate sightings between 12.20 at night and 5.00 in the afternoon.

The investigators plotted all the sightings on a map, and started the search for possible explanations. They began with the idea that the UFOs were really a large, twin rotor helicopter, perhaps involved in military exercises in the weeks

before Operation Crusader — the big NATO defence exercise in Europe.

But inquiries to the Ministry of Defence at Whitehall, the RAF, and the American Air Force, revealed that no helicopters of that type were in Britain at the time.

Next came the possibility of a glider, a hot air balloon — including a meteorological type — or even a hang glider.

Thick file

But Watnall Weather Centre in conjunction with the bodies governing ballooning and hang gliding scotched that suggestion.

Meanwhile the civil aviation authorities and local airports had drawn a blank on civil aircraft.

Eventually, after four long months and hundreds of man hours, the investigators were left with a file almost six inches thick. All the technical data from civil and military authorities, the reports of the Society's consultant aero-space engineer and pilot, and the increasingly baffling witnesses' descriptions and diagrams offered no clue to the origin of the UFOs.

Now all the available evidence about what has been christened The Ashbourne Event — because most of the sightings were centred round the town is being circulated throughout Britain, Europe, and America in the hope that somebody will be able to explain the phenomena.

Spaceships

As Mr Hall said: "We don't investigate UFOs because we want to contact little green men from outer space. It's just an outlet for the detective in all of us, the satisfaction of solving a puzzle, or at least giving some reason for an unusual occurrence."

"And this is an exceptional case, both because of the number of independent witnesses and because we can find no probable solution."

He said: "If anybody thinks that he can help with new information, we'd be delighted to know about it. We want to solve this mystery, and we're open to any suggestions. It could be spaceships, or ordinary aircraft, hallucinations or ghosts — we're open minded, but we do want to find out."

Mr Hall can be contacted at the Nottingham UFO Investigation Society, 443 Meadow Lane, Nottingham, or by phone at work on Loughborough 30731, and at home on Nottingham 250316.

(Refer to UFONS #139, page 14; "UFO sighting from the past")

Dyfed SA67 8BE
West Wales

8/3/81

Dear Mr. Parish,

Thank you for your letter regarding my report in the Western Telegraph of January 15 about my husband's sighting of the U.F.O. near Castlemartin in 1952. I received it on Feb. 24th, a fortnight after you posted it.

My husband was taking an after lunch walk when he saw the U.F.O. shining very brightly in a sheltered spot amongst the sand dunes. Naturally, he went nearer to investigate & saw the occupants on the top of the "Saucer." One of them who was obviously the captain of the crew spoke to him in perfect English & told him not to approach any nearer because he was not wearing protective clothing like they were & therefore could be injured by the strong rays emitted by their craft which was then in the process of being recharged by the Sun's rays. Naturally, my husband was intrigued by that because, as you know, not much was generally known about Solar Power at that time. Their interest for his safety discounted Mr. Pugh's theory that they were coming to destroy.

He told me that they looked just like we did & they said that they had been travelling to & around our Planet for 5 years & were then about to make their return journey. They told him the name of their Planet but I cannot remember it. It had a short name of about 5 letters beginning with an 'A', I think. They said that their crafts had been landing on the waste lands in America for hundreds of years because they were less likely to be interrupted there in their examination of the soil and terrain which is exactly what our craft have been doing on the Moon, etc., in recent years.

They were very concerned that our "Earth" was on a course of self destruction & wished that they could be allowed to help to prevent this.

They said that as scientists their knowledge was far in advance of ours on this planet. My husband was very impressed with all the information which they gave him, especially as he had a brilliant brain himself & therefore could appreciate it. I am sorry that I cannot remember anything more & there is no written record unfortunately, but suffice it to say that many of their predictions at that time have been & are still being proved right with regard to our planet.

With Best Wishes

Yours Sincerely

(Mrs.) Nellie Thomas

Will Martians finally appear — in Mao jackets?

By WILLIAM D. MONTALBANO
Globe-Democrat-Knight News Service

PEKING — And all these years you imagined that when the Martians finally did come it would be to a pasture in Kansas or a quiet lake in Minnesota. How provincial.

Chinese skywatchers take another view. When the green men one day alight from their spacecraft it will be on a commune in western Xinjiang Province, or in the countryside around Peking. The leader to whom they will be taken, in polite Mandarin, will wear the plain blue jacket of a Communist Party official.

About two years after the Frisbee made the same cultural jump, UFOs have at last come to China.

Not as any national craze, mind you, but more as a private passion for a hardy band of Chinese who share a conviction that there is SOMETHING out there.

The new respectability of the UFO, measured in newspaper articles, a national association of believers and even a research journal, is one more signal of changing times in China.

A few years ago, any Chinese who had presumed to waste the revolution's time with such folderol would have been encouraged to mend his ways in more earthbound pursuits. As in slopping the hogs.

Not so in the recent case of Xin Sheng and two fellow tourists, who went camping in mountainous Changping County not far from Peking.

The tourists' encounter with the outer-world occurred at 4:08 a.m.

They had awakened early to watch the dawn when suddenly they spied a bright white light on a nearby mountainside. They scrambled for a better look and Xin grabbed for his camera to try a time exposure.

The tourists saw a small flying object shaped like three stars in an inverted T. There was a ring of light around a dark middle. The middle seemed to be spinning freely. There was no sound.

The UFO remained at the site for about half an hour, in Xin's words, "flying beautifully".

Xin and his friends sent their unexposed film to a Peking newspaper and became modest celebrities. The

picture, although of poor quality, did seem to show a strange lighted object hovering on the mountainside.

The Peking Evening News published it as the "first UFO photo ever taken in China," but later had to correct the claim when older pictures turned up in response to the newspaper's request for more on UFOs from its readers.

Scientific and quasi-scientific bodies from around China deluged the newspapers with their own findings and requests for the new picture.

Older pictures began to surface: one taken by an American in the port city of Tianjin in 1942, one from Henan Province in central China in 1961, one from Taiwan in 1973. A Japanese tourist had even photographed UFOs in Peking and Shanghai last year, the newspaper learned.

All right, you UFOs, say cheese for Sid...

UFOs are attracted to Sid MacKinnon, but they keep ducking his photo sessions.

MacKinnon, 30, a maintenance engineer, is hoping to snap the first indisputable photographs of alien spacecraft visiting earth and he's installed a UFO-spotting device in his Cambridge home to catch them.

The device has registered nine visits from strange airborne objects since he installed it.

It is set to pick up only the enormous electromagnetic fields UFOs are believed to generate, which are stronger than those produced by airplanes and magnetic storms.

The device, called a field-induction magnetometer, was specially built for MacKinnon in Don Mills using blueprints supplied by U.S. UFO-watching groups.

The \$200 device has an alarm that keeps going until MacKinnon shuts it off. It also lets him know when a UFO is hovering overhead — which hasn't yet happened while he's there — and cues him to reach for his long-lens camera, which is loaded with film at all times.

He and the 25 other members of the Cambridge UFO Research Group, a local UFO-studying society formed in 1976, are just waiting for the day when they'll prove to the world UFOs exist.

Bonnie Wheeler, the group's president, says most but not all UFOs use electro-magnetic power

stronger than any normally found on earth.

"Not all UFOs have it... It could be a fact that different UFOs are coming from different planets so they're not constructed the same way. That's the only conclusion one can come to."

But who are the strange visitors ringing MacKinnon's chime? They're not sure, but he said the next move is to install a TV camera and scanning device that will be triggered automatically by the alarm.

RAF is to report on local UFO sighting

R.A.F. Manston is reporting the sighting of an unidentified flying object at Broadstairs to the Ministry of Defence.

Four residents saw the unusual object in the clear night sky.

Mrs. Sheelagh Norris, of Swinburne Avenue, described it as a slightly curved object with five white lights flashing.

"I saw an inexplicable object in the sky and I do not know what it was. I have got an open mind on this as it is possible that it could have been an aircraft," she said.

"I decided to report my sighting and was told that three other people had seen it. R.A.F. Manston could not identify the object so they are sending the details to the Ministry of Defence."

ISLE OF THANET GAZETTE, Margate, England - Feb. 13, 1981

EVENING ECHO, Southampton, England - Jan. 7, 1981

Yellow light ruled out as UFO sighting

SPECULATION that a mysterious yellow light seen travelling across the sky near Basingstoke yesterday was an Unidentified Flying Object has been discounted by nearby RAF Odiham.

A spokesman for the airbase said that the light, which travelled horizontally above the M3 motorway for an estimated quarter-of-a-mile, was most probably an ordinary aircraft.

"There is quite a bit of normal aircraft activity in this area. We have aircraft flying most of the day and into the night," said the spokesman.

He added that the motorway and other major roads are used as navigation points for aircraft.

"I would say it is most likely to be a normal aircraft."

The light was seen at about 12 noon by a man and woman standing outside a town centre estate agents.

The man, who said he had served in the RAF and asked not to be named, said: "It was about 1,000 feet up. I am convinced it was not an aircraft. The light was not flashing and I can offer no explanation for it. It was possibly a UFO."

EVENING ECHO, Southend, England
Jan. 23, 1981

Bus stop boys spot mystery in the sky

THE bright, glowing diamond-shaped light moving fast across the morning sky looked like a real-life UFO when brothers Andrew and Gary Reeves spotted it as they waited for their school bus.

Andrew, 11, saw the mystery light first, high above a hill in Clay Hill Road, Basildon.

He said later: "I looked up while we were at the bus stop and saw this bright light in the sky. I stared at it and saw it was a glowing diamond shape, then I called Gary."

Gary said: "I looked up to where Andrew was pointing. At first I thought it might be a weather balloon, but I changed my mind because it was glowing so brightly."

"I told mum to look up because I thought it was a UFO, but she wasn't really bothered — she was looking for something in her bag."

Gary and Andrew insisted that she look up — and Mrs. Reeves, of Sunnedon, Basildon, took one glance at the boys' excited faces and looked.

Imagination

She said: "I saw a flash which dazzled me for a moment. When I looked again the sky was empty."

"At first I thought it was my imagination, but the boys said the object had suddenly disappeared with a flash."

"Whatever the object is, it certainly made an impact on Gary. He was trembling with excitement."

Gary said: "I am convinced it was a UFO. Some of my friends didn't believe me when I told them and my teacher, Miss Kingston."

"I didn't feel scared, but I was all shaken and trembly. It was a funny experience."

Probe into UFO

An investigation is being launched into an enormous triangular-shaped object seen recently in the sky above Welling.

The unidentified flying object, was seen in the early hours by two men in a lorry when they stopped at Welling corner traffic lights.

They described it as an enormous black triangle emitting a V-shaped beam from the front and with other coloured lights underneath it.

Researchers from the British UFO Research Association are investigating the sighting, led by Acting National Investigation Co-ordinator Mrs Maureen Hall of Hall Road, Dartford.

She said: "It is a rare shape for a UFO. One interesting thing is that I had a phone call from Cheshire about someone who had seen a similar delta shaped object later the same day."

The Welling UFO was spotted on January 16 by Mr Eric Kempson, 39, of Bexleyheath and his brother-in-law, Mr Tony Nichols, 36, of Plumstead.

They first noticed a bright light in the sky when driving from the Erith side of Shooters Hill and thought it was a weather balloon. "It was enormous — it was massive. I have been in a DC10 which held 400 passengers and that was small compared to this thing."

They said it was probably half a mile above them and a beam came from two powerful lights on the front of the craft.

OBSERVER & KENTISH TIMES, Erith, England - Feb. 19, 1981

An artist's impression of what Lynn Simmonds and Peter Higgins claim they saw above the Midland countryside on January 10.



Simmonds is a very down-to-earth person who would be most unlikely to make up stories or let her imagination run away with her.

"Many cases have been documented in which the object has disappeared when the witnesses have looked around for other people who may have seen it. There is a theory that the intelligence behind the UFOs wants them to appear only to selected people."

UFOFIS is now making a full investigation into the event. Other sightings can be reported to Mr. Eric Westley, of UFOFIS, on 021-707 0234.

Mr. Gary Lanham, of the Unidentified Flying Object Investigation Service, who was the first investigator to learn about the case, said: "Miss

"It looked as though it was coming down to land. I could see that the lights formed part of a much larger, oval shaped object, partly illuminated along its entire length by moving orange lights."

"It was too long to be an aeroplane and a completely different shape. I couldn't see any wings."

"I was absolutely terrified. Nothing usually frightens me, but that did. We just couldn't work out what it was."

"We drove to Kenilworth to escape it. But it seemed off the following us. Peter turned off the car lights but still it appeared

about the case, said: "Miss

Car journey into 'terror'

THE mysterious sightings and close encounters continue — right here in the Midlands. Just 15 days ago on the night of Saturday, January 10, a young Midland couple claimed the latest sighting to cause a stir among Midland UFO investigators.

A quiet trip out to a country pub turned into a frightening brush with the unknown for 23-year-old audio typist Lynn Simmonds and her boyfriend, Peter Higgins, a bank clerk.

They say that as they were driving from Lapworth, Warwickshire, at about 10 p.m., they noticed two unblinking lights in the clear moonlit sky. One was blue and the other red.

Suddenly the lights started to descend and were soon close to ground level, says Lynn, from Wythall. The object was about a quarter of a mile away.

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SUNDAY MERCURY, Birmingham, England - Jan. 25, 1981

Two lights 'hovered' in the sky

THE important thing to remember when discussing UFOs is that we are not necessarily thinking of visitors from other worlds.

Maureen Hall told me that early on in my interview with her at her home in Dartford.

Mrs Hall is a pleasant woman with a lively sense of humour who gives the impression of calm, rather than the air of nervousness I expected to find at my first meeting with someone involved with UFOs.

Objects

The modern trend being to categorise people, it is the lot of those who concern themselves with such phenomena to be tarred with the epithet "loony."

As long ago as the mid 16th Century, the memorably named Pole, Copernicus, was causing a stir with his theory that the Earth was not the centre of the universe and revolved with the other planets around the sun.

His followers were burned at the stake by indignant Popes; and purists will no doubt want to do that to me for mixing astronomy with UFOs but I do so merely to show that opinions change as learning advances.

Mrs Hall has recently been made National Investigative Co-ordinator of the British UFO Research Association, a prominent group, and has also been elected to the board of BUFORA, which has become a limited company.

Her involvement with UFOs was forced upon her when she was in her teens.

She saw two objects, a cigar shape and pulsating lights, within two weeks but she didn't follow up the sightings.

"In those days I was only interested in boys and dances," she said. Then four years ago, while on duty in the part-time police service at Dartford, she saw something else which could not be explained away as an aircraft or heavenly body.

Mrs Hall described how, with another police officer, she watched as two orange lights manoeuvred at treetop height - one hovering while the other caught up, and then moving off together, making no sound.

This was reported and she received a sighting form from BUFORA via the now defunct North West Kent UFO Society.

The form had a section to be filled in by those wanting to know more, and eventually Mrs Hall became an investigator.

She is quite honest about the fact that many people fill in the form in the first flush of excitement after seeing something they can't explain and then, when nothing earth shattering happens, their interest wanes.

There are no actual qualifications required by BUFORA and, as yet, a period as an investigator brings with it no qualifications, just experience of how to handle cases if you stick at it.

THE number of cuttings in newspaper libraries up and down the country which tell of odd lights in the night sky and incredulous witnesses would fill a large UFO. And for every such report there will probably be four or five different explanations accounting for it.

The nature of UFO business is such that sightings are open to all kinds of theories and it seems relatively easy to put up an argument for or against some kind of aerial phenomena.

In a series of features starting today, NEIL CLEMENTS looks at the UFO issue and talks to some of those involved - the witnesses and the investigators. The UFO Probe begins with an interview with Maureen Hall of Dartford, who has risen to the post of national investigator for a leading UFO organisation.

Basic courses in subjects such as meteorology are offered as an aid.

Gnomes

Mrs Hall progressed from local to regional investigation and now holds the brief for nationwide follow-ups.

"If anyone had told me four years ago I would be doing this I would never have believed them. UFOs have changed my life," she declared.

The workload has steadily increased until she now spends about 40 hours a week on BUFORA business.

A spare bedroom at her flat in Hall Road is to be fitted out as an office so that she can file the reams of reports, manuals and magazines which come with the job which has involved four cases a week.

Her first husband was in the RAF and she says she became familiar with aircraft and during his various tours of duty - knowledge which now has its worth.

Michael, her second husband is not dismissive of his wife's work, as I expected. He says he has also seen a UFO - it was blacker than the night sky and had lights along its oval perimeter.

They both attend interviews with witnesses and during my interview with Mrs Hall, Michael tackled a telephone query from a north country investigator.

Before her interview with the Post, Mrs Hall had been going through a crisis of beliefs, questioning the point of her endeavours.

"I used to have some way out ideas and theories four years ago, such as UFOs under the sea but now, I don't know."

"I began to think UFOs could be inventions of the mind like werewolves or gnomes, but when I get a call like the one I had recently my doubts disappear," she said.

A few days before I visited Mrs Hall she received a call from a man who works in television and lives in Kent who had a very close encounter of the second kind - face to face with a UFO.

He got her name from his local Citizen's Advice Bureau and telephoned because he said he wanted to record what he had seen.

An account of her interview with the television writer will be given in the next feature in the UFO Probe series.

Mrs Hall makes it clear that investigators cannot afford to have fixed ideas on the nature of the objects they are called on to catalogue.

One case, reported in the Post, involved a family who claimed to have seen a flying object regularly for several days.

They drew an elaborate outline of the mysterious "craft", but it turned out that the family had been witnessing the path of Venus across the sky.

World figures for UFO sightings suggest that 95 per cent of cases can be attributed to either man-made objects or natural phenomena.

As for the other five per cent, which includes actual meetings with "aliens", there can be no concrete answer.

Challenge

Mrs Hall says she was once visited by an earthling from the Ministry of Defence after investigating a case involving dark hexagonal shapes near Chingford in Essex.

"He told me in a polite way to drop it - and I did," she said.

Tomorrow's case featuring the television writer involves a similar shape.

Mrs Hall has issued a challenge to the authorities to come clean on UFOs.

"If anybody will say these are military devices we will drop our investigations, but until then we will continue because there may be the possibility that we are being visited by someone from another place in space or time," she said.

"I thought it was going to land in the yard. We called Jim over and when he saw it he immediately went to call the police. Then, all of a sudden, it took off at a terrific speed downriver. It was the fastest thing I've ever seen."

Mr Dixon said it was strange that a Vulcan bomber aircraft came by straight for us."

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Strange object in the sky

By NEIL CLEMENTS

DURING my interview with Mrs Hall she revealed that she had recently taken a call from a man who wanted to report a sighting.

After hearing a brief synopsis of the case I arranged to join her when she visited him for an interview and one evening we both travelled to his home in Kent where he told his story.

Peter Langridge, a television scriptwriter whose work has included The Two Ronnies and Not the Nine O'Clock News, said he saw the craft on Friday January 2 in the early evening after returning from a family gathering in West Sussex.

Stars

He was travelling in his MGB GT with his 15-year-old son, Neil who he described as "the world's worst map reader."

They were soon lost near Petworth and found themselves traveling along a narrow, winding lane bordered with high hedges near the A272.

Rounding yet another bend, Peter Langridge saw an object in the sky straddling the road at a height he estimated at "one and a half telegraph poles."

"At first I thought it was one of those hydraulic cranes they use for mending street lamps but at the same time I realised it couldn't be."

There were no street lamps or houses anywhere near the lane and it was dark but the night sky was bright and clear with stars.

"I stopped the car and said to my son: 'Just look out the back window and tell me what you see. There is

TOP UFO investigator Maureen Hall, featured last night in the first part of a Post UFO Probe, has handled about 250 cases. In part two of the series, a witness in a recent case, one of Mrs Hall's most exciting, gives his account of a close encounter in a quiet country lane.

something in the sky behind us and it's got lights on."

Neil confirmed that there was something there, and Peter said: "I think it's a flying saucer. I'm going to have a look."

He ignored his son's plea to refrain and got out. Neil could not follow because his passenger door was hard against the hedge.

Later in the interview, Peter told Mrs Hall that when he got out of the car his feelings were friendly towards the object hovering above the road.

The thing was dark but a deeper dark than the night and it had lights around it - they were yellow and created a haze rather than a beam, rather like disco lights."

He described the outline of the craft as resembling two 50p pieces, one above the other and connected by inward curving panels.

As it hovered it appeared to be reverberating.

The word he used to describe the effect was "purring," but there was no audible sound coming from it.

"When I got there I was suddenly incredibly frightened, panic stricken." He moved back to the car and his son said: "I think we should go."

Peter looked back and saw the object was still in the air, although it had shifted slightly to one side. He was then distracted by a passing car but looked up to see the mysterious shape going away.

Peter told Mrs Hall that moving away was not really the right description for the

object "faded out" gradually from one end "as though it was being erased."

At the end of his story, before Mrs Hall began filling out forms and asking specific questions, Peter said: "It was the most amazing thing."

"I do a strange job for a living and I am not easily impressed any more."

"My whole family works in television and I know people who could reproduce that thing."

"It was a very real experience for both my son and I. The panic feeling that I had was very frightening but I also had a sort of feeling that there was a purpose to what happened."

Peter told me he felt he could have reached the object with the beam of a torch if he had had one with him. "I've seldom have a feeling of panic but I felt out of my depth, incredibly small and very lonely."

For detailed questions Mrs Hall disclosed she would be using a form called an R2, set aside for cases where there seems to have been some kind of psychological effect.

Hours

She did this because neither Peter nor his son Neil remembered the incident by the time they reached home some time later.

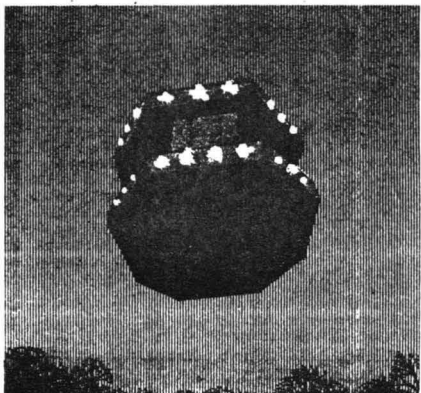
Peter described both himself and his son as "garrulous" and "great communicators" but told Mrs Hall that neither of them discussed what they saw during the return journey.

Only much later did a chance mention of something in conversation remind Peter of his encounter and his son had also failed to mention the experience to anyone else, he said.

Mrs Hall is also still concerned that Peter could not remember the time scale of that evening's events and that he took some three hours to cover what should have been a one and a half hour drive - even accounting for the unintentional detours.

She wants to see Peter Langridge again and is considering using a hypnotist in an effort to find what she thinks could be missing evidence - maybe of a close encounter of the third kind.

In the third part of the Post's UFO Probe, Neil Clements takes a look at the official line on the subject of mystery objects in British airspace.



Strange object had lights around it

UFO sighted over Gooles

Yet another UFO has been sighted over Gooles.

Three Gooles men at Tudor Scrap Metals in Jerry Lane, Old Gooles, saw a yellow - white circular object in the sky at around dusk on Wednesday of last week - and they had mixed feelings about the experience.

Mr Richard Sherwood, of New Close Lane, said: "I was frightened. I've seen all sorts of aircraft but this was no aircraft. It had no lights and did not make a sound."

Mr Sherwood said that Mr Jim Taylor, of Jerry Lane, was lying up the night guard dog for the night while he and Mr Alan Dixon, of Canal Side, were shutting the gates when they saw the round, yellow - white object in the sky above the docks. "It looked like the moon at first," said Mr Sherwood. "But it seemed to be heading straight for us."

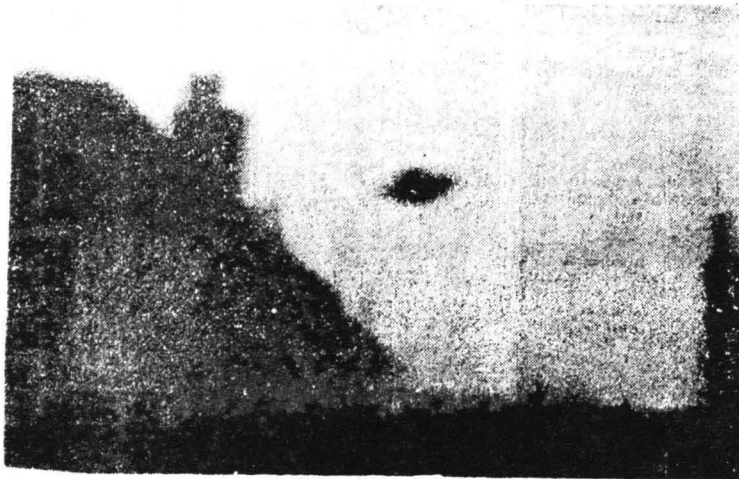
"I thought it was going to land in the yard. We called Jim over and when he saw it he immediately went to call the police. Then, all of a sudden, it took off at a terrific speed downriver. It was the fastest thing I've ever seen."

Mr Dixon said it was strange that a Vulcan bomber aircraft came by straight for us."

HOWDENSHIRE GAZETTE,

Yorkshire, England

Feb. 20, 1981



Snap! UFO spotted at Misson

Evening Post Reporter

Schoolboy Steven Emsley has been seeing things — but there's nothing wrong with his eyes, or his camera for that matter!

The sharp-eyed 14-year-old snapped a picture of a UFO which just happened to be passing over Misson at tea-time on Monday.

Steven, a pupil of Hayfield Comprehensive School, near Farningley, was quite sceptical about UFO's but now he says he's changed his mind. "It was an accident, really," says Steven.

"I was just walking past the living room window when I saw something overhead. I thought it was a plane, as it was about the size of a light aircraft."

Steven says it was moving slowly when he took his picture with an instant camera.

Hovered

"It kept on moving until it got to just above the telegraph wires where it hovered for about five minutes and then it moved off very fast."

Now, Steven, of Willow Cottage, High Street, Misson, intends to pass on his intriguing photo of a flying saucer to officials at RAF Farningley for investigation.

A spokesman at RAF Farningley said he had not received any other reports of sightings, and he would be glad to hear from Steven.

"It will be passed on for investigation in the normal way," the spokesman said.

Mr. Tony Storey, who is headmaster at Hayfield Comprehensive says: "I think there must be a natural explanation." But the picture (seen here), taken by a 14-year-old boy, is enough to make any one wonder if we are being watched after all!



KENT EVENING POST, Maidstone, England - Jan. 28, 1981

Experts' saucer watch

THERE is really nothing to be gained by taking a sensational approach to the question of unidentified flying objects, apart from a few million dollars at the box office.

The official line expressed for the sake of those like me who bother the Ministry of Defence Air Force press desk with inquiries is decidedly unsensational.

Of course, what we all want to know is: Does the MoD investigate UFOs?

In the late 60s, Robert Chapman, the science correspondent of the Daily Express, wrote a book called UFO - Flying Saucers Over Britain? in which he revealed that there was a department, albeit secretarial, within the MoD which handled reports and followed them up with "a great deal of care."

Mr Chapman included a breakdown of 888 cases reported up to 1967, of which 88 remained unexplained.

In 1978, around the time of Close Encounters of the Third Kind mania, the Daily Express went in for UFO stories in a big way and revealed the name of the secretarial department as S41 (Air).

The MoD spokesman who dealt with me said the department was now called DSA.

No statistical breakdown of reports received was available, he added.

Meaning

He said that 99.9 per cent of DSA's work involved processing public complaints about low flying aircraft noise and suchlike matters.

Yes, he said, the department did handle UFO reports but no, the fact that reports are received and processed did not amount to recognition that there was a phenomenon.

The spokesman said the term UFO negates any such classification by its very meaning — the objects are unidentified.

The MoD's interest is purely in national security. "We do not investigate UFO reports. We receive reports from the police and we look at them to see if they have any bearing on national defence," he said.

The Air Force source said no cases have ever had a bearing on national security. He also said any interviews associated with reports would be handled by the local police.

Two people involved with UFO investigation contacted by me for the Post's UFO series have spoken, independently, of cases where

SO FAR in the Post's UFO Probe NEIL CLEMENTS has interviewed a top investigator and sat in on the examination of a recent "close encounter" case. Today the series continues with a look at the way the officials handle the subject in Britain.

members of the public who have reported a sighting have been visited by "officials" said to be from Government departments. Mrs Hall, the national investigator featured in Monday's Post also claimed that she was warned off a case she was investigating and that an "official" visited her at her home in Dartford.

Those interested in UFOs claim that the fact that objects are detected which cannot be explained away as aircraft, weather balloons or heavenly bodies must also be of concern to those interested in national defence.

There is a lobby in this country, with a rather unorganised voice, which seeks to encourage the Government to make a clean breast of all it knows.

A UFO investigator for BUFORA, Mark Underwood of Frindsbury, tried to organise a petition to bring this about but was disillusioned by the fact that one British UFO group handed in a petition without organising proper publicity and nothing was gained.

Green

Mark Underwood, like many others in scattered UFO groups throughout the world would like to see greater uniformity and co-ordination on a scientific basis of all their efforts.

As to the official machinery for gathering information, on the surface this seems to rely in Britain on the police.

If you see something you think worthy of recording you may tell your local police station where you should be invited to fill in a form.

According to a spokesman at the Kent County Constabulary HQ in Maidstone, all Kent's reports arrive on the desk of one man, a civilian with the title of Warning and Monitoring Officer.

This sounds sinister but he is in fact part of the UK Warning and Monitoring Service, which is a Government civil defence organisation.

The Home Office knew of no connection between the service and UFOs when I asked, and I was told by the police spokesman that this is just a responsibility given to the warning officer in Kent.

At the time of going to press, and after several attempts to find out, I have not been told where the reports received from the various Kent police stations end up once they have been collated at headquarters.

I was also unable to get any figure on the number of reports made in a given period.

One of my colleagues suggested that I couldn't speak to the man because he is nine feet tall and green, but that was just a joke.

So apparently, the only way reports get through is if they are made to a police station. It is clear that many are not.

For comparison's sake I rang Essex police HQ to see how they handle UFO sightings.

I was told that the military air traffic control at West Drayton are notified, along with the MoD and a civilian UFO investigator, Bill Eden, of Chelmsford.

This UFO procedure is a general duty and not one person's specific job within the Essex force, said the spokesman.

The Essex UFO investigators have a relationship with the police envied by their counterparts in Kent who have no arrangement with the police.

Mr Eden receives calls from police stations all over Essex and says he knows of other investigators who have been turned out in the early hours of the morning to look at objects reported by police.

He says he is confident that most of the information in reports made to the police actually reaches him.

As far as access to information is concerned, British UFO investigators will probably never reach the dizzy heights attained by the Ground Saucer Watch in America who sued the CIA for withholding information.

But there is no doubt that this gripping subject will continue to be pursued in an increasingly professional manner by those civilians on the ground who keep an eye on the heavens.

Meanwhile, the man at the ministry will continue to tell inquisitors: "The official MoD line is that we don't dispute the possibility of intelligent life existing in other parts of the universe but no one has come up with proof that it exists."

"If proof were to be presented, like any responsible Government, we would look at it."

CR: B. Taylor

TRANSLATIONS

BRAZIL — Credit: Irene Granchi

- 1) City and country of incident: Jacarepaguá, Brazil
- 2) Date of incident: Late January, 1981
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: O GLOBO, February 10, 1981
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

"Coluna do Carlos Swann"

About fifteen days ago, that is between the 26th and the 31st Jan. — at dawn, the Air Force base at Santa Cruz seems to have been put on red alert (unofficially, this did happen) because of the presence of UFOs in the region of Jacarepaguá — this fact was registered by its radar system (this 'carlioca' — Rio de Janeiro — base is in charge, among others, for the aerial defence of the Nation). The alert also caused the observation system of the civil airport of Jacarepaguá to enter into action. This was not the first time that F-5 fighters were scrambled from Rio to intercept UFOs.

Obviously the subject was maintained classified by Air Force authorities and will certainly be denied by them, as is the custom. In true fact, for some years hence, the Brazilian Air Force has been seriously preoccupied with the UFO problem in Brazilian territory, so much so that it maintains a (secret) department to examine such cases as come to its knowledge. The captains of civil aviation, moreover, must always notify, in classified reports, the appearance of any identifiable or unidentifiable objects on their routes. The Mirages from the Anapolis base are always on the alert as well in the eventuality of an UFO appearing, in case they are detected by their radar-system and visually confirmed by commercial craft.

MYSTERY CRAFT SWOOPED AS SHE TOOK WASHING

LATE at night a Dorset housewife suddenly remembered she had left washing out on the line.

Leaving her husband watching TV, she stepped out into the back garden—and became transfixed with fear.

For on that night, April 3, 1978 Mrs Ethel Field was to become yet another witness to upset the claims of top scientists that UFOs do not exist.

Humming noise

Ethel saw a spacecraft manned by silver-clad men hover over the garden of her Parkstone home, flooding it with light. Two crewmen stared unwavering down at her.

"I stood rooted to the spot," Ethel, now 65, told "The Weekly News." "The UFO was oval-shaped and the size of a double-decker bus.

"It was a dark grey colour but the lower half was bathed in a bluish light. There was a large dome on top.

"The roar of the thing died into a humming noise like a vacuum cleaner but I could feel the ground vibrating under my feet.

"It moved towards me and I found I just couldn't budge at all. Then from underneath the craft came brilliant multi-coloured lights which lit up the entire garden.

"To my horror I saw two figures inside the dome. They were both clad in a silver-coloured uniform and wore tight-fitting helmets, like caps.

Frightened

"What was most unnerving was the fact I could not move my legs. One of the men was looking right at me and I became very frightened.

"Strangely, the moment he took his eyes off me I could move. I turned and ran up the garden path towards the house.

"As I was running I turned in time to see the huge thing coming after me. But at the last moment it zoomed up over the house at an incredible speed. And all the lights on the craft went out.

"I ran into the house, told my husband what I had seen and urged him to come out and see if he could spot the craft in the air.

"He refused and laughed. He thought I was joking

OFF THE LINE

RIDDLE OF THE AGE

FLYING SAUCERS

PROBED
FOR THE
WEEKLY
NEWS BY
A SPECIAL
INVESTIGATOR



Amazing eye-witness stories that challenge experts who deny the existence of alien spacecraft

although he did say the television had gone haywire and the dog had barked furiously after I'd gone out to pick up the washing.

"Because my husband laughed at me I didn't phone the police to tell them of my fearful experience. I didn't want them thinking I was crazy.

"But I was very relieved to read in the papers that coastguards in Bournemouth had reported seeing an oval-shaped UFO moving out to sea at great speed on the same night it had hovered over my garden."

Orange glow

The British UFO Research Association agree Mrs Field had seen something which could not be logically explained away.

"The humming noise coming from the UFO, the fact that the Fields' TV had

gone haywire, all point towards the theory that UFOs are powered by some electro-magnetic force," said Norman Oliver, spokesman for BUFORA.

"Mrs Field's description of the UFO and the size of the craft, the silver-clad figures inside it, tallies with sightings from other parts of Britain.

"Perhaps the most amazing case was that of Mrs Joyce Bowles who, along with a close friend, apparently had two encounters with men from outer space," said Norman Oliver.

Around 9 p.m. on November 14, 1976, Joyce Bowles and a family friend Ted Pratt, were driving home from Winchester to Chilcomb in Hampshire, when they saw an orange glow in the sky.

Then something seemed to lift the car off the road and move it sideways on to the grass verge bordering the narrow lane they were in.

But more unnerving things were to follow. In front of them was a glowing cigar-shaped object hovering about a foot off the ground.

Collapsed

It was about 16 feet long with a cockpit and windows. And through the windows they could see three men wearing silver jump suits.

As Joyce and Ted watched in utter amazement, one of the men, very tall with long fair hair down to his shoulders, stepped out of the craft.

The man walked towards the car with very long strides indeed. And as he walked a high-pitched

whistling noise seemed to come from him.

The alien put his head through the open car window. Mrs Bowles, now naturally terrified, noticed the man had very pale white skin and pink eyes with hardly any iris showing.

For Joyce it was too much. She collapsed in hysterics.

The man from space withdrew his head, walked to the rear of the car and disappeared. Almost at the same time the strange cigar-shaped UFO vanished.

Ted and Joyce's terrifying experience had lasted barely five minutes but it seemed a life-time.

Frightened, they hurried home and reported the incident to the police, who had received other calls from motorists claiming they had seen a UFO flying low over the Winchester by-pass.

More terror

The shock brought Mrs Bowles out in a rash and she could not eat for three days.

But more terror was to come to Mrs Bowles and her friend.

About six weeks later at around 7 p.m. on December 30 they drove off to get some petrol.

On the way back they were apprehensive when an orange glow lit up the sky.

Suddenly the car began to shudder and swerve from

side to side. A high-pitched whistling noise was heard.

Next moment they found themselves standing beside their Mini... in a dome-shaped room. And facing them were the three men they had seen on their previous encounter.

The man with the long stride stepped forward and startled Joyce and Ted by speaking in broken English. "We are not hostile towards you."

Joyce noticed on one side of the dome was a control desk with multi-coloured flashing lights. On the walls were strange charts of circles and lines.

One of the aliens talked to Ted but in a language he didn't understand.

The next thing Mrs Bowles recalled was being back in the car with bright lights shining through the window. Headlights from other cars.

But the odd thing was their car was parked beside a river outside Winchester. And on the other side of the town from where they had last been driving.

Silver craft

Another spine-chilling UFO encounter occurred in West Lothian on November 9, 1979.

Forester Bob Taylor had been working alone in the forest at Dechmont Hill. Around 10 a.m. he rounded a path in the forest and was confronted by a silver craft in the shape of a toy spinning top.

The craft was standing in a clearing and seemed to be supported on narrow rails. There was no sign of life.

As he watched in amazement, two balls, each about a yard in diameter, shot out from the craft. They brushed past him and thudded to the ground.

Bob staggered and collapsed as a sickening, powerful smell came from the objects. He lapsed into unconsciousness.

When he came to half an hour later there was no sign of the craft. The clearing was empty but he did see a pattern of deep triangular marks in the earth.

Raised alarm

The forester managed to reach his van but was so shocked he was unable to drive it. Instead he staggered the mile or so to his home in Livingston.

Where the objects had brushed against him, there were neat, identical tears near the pockets of the trousers.

After hearing the weird story, Bob's boss raised the alarm. He knew Bob was a quiet, level-headed man.

The police rushed to the forest clearing where the craft had been seen by the forester and found distinct triangular marks in the earth.

"This is certainly a case where we have a sighting of a UFO on the ground. Yet another sighting which cannot be logically explained," said Mr Norman Oliver of BUFORA.



Some work to protect beings called monsters

(Editor's Note: Joseph W. Zarzynski, of Wilton, N.Y., bills himself as a lake monster investigator and researcher, a professional lecturer, writer and educator. He is a member of several organizations which investigate reported phenomena such as Lake Champlain's Champ.)

By JOSEPH W. ZARZYNSKI
What if the Loch Ness monster, Lake Champlain monster, Bigfoot, Yeti, or one of the many other monsters reported worldwide were suddenly proven to exist?

Many investigators and researchers in the field of cryptozoology (the study and search for unidentified living animals) have uncovered a wealth of information to suggest that these and other unknown animals may indeed inhabit parts of our vast planet.

Yet, very little has been done to safeguard these creatures. Because of the publicity attributing monstrous qualities to these unknown animals, they are more apt to become victims of hunters, thrill seekers, the effects of uncontrolled pollution or any of the other equally dangerous man-made perils.

Nonetheless, some inroads have recently been made toward recognizing the need to protect such monsters that are "damned" by much of the scientific community.

Take for example the Champ creatures, the serpent-like beasts of Lake Champlain. Recently, these denizens of Lake Champlain's depths were granted protection by one small community along the shores of the 109-mile-long lake.

On Oct. 6, the Port Henry Village Board of Trustees passed a resolution that gave the Champ creatures limited protection. At the village board meeting, the topic of Champ protection was brought before the board and passed unanimously.

The resolution, in part, said that "all the waters of Lake Champlain which adjoin the village of Port Henry are hereby declared to be off limits to anyone who would in any way, harm, harass, or destroy the Lake Champlain sea monsters."

Some members of the scientific establishment doubt the existence of such creatures as sea serpents or Bigfoot-type primates.

However, one can counter this bulwark of skepticism by citing evidence like the discovery of the gorilla and giant panda during the first half of the 20th century.

Until 1912, science refuted the existence of giant lizards on an island in the southeastern Indian Ocean. Today, knowledge of the Komodo dragon (Varanus Komodoensis) which grows to lengths of more than 10 feet would be universally accepted.

One prehistoric fish, the coelacanth, was thought to be extinct for some 65 million years until one was caught by fishermen off southern Africa. Still, very little has been done to pursue avenues to establish protection for mythical creatures that may indeed exist.

The Fish and Wildlife Service within the United States Department of the Interior maintains that "long-term federal protection of Nessie or Bigfoot would basically be a matter of following the same regulatory mechanisms already used in protecting whooping cranes and tigers." That mechanism is the Endangered Species Act, which became a federal law in 1973.

Although this instrument has worked successfully to protect hundreds of threatened and endangered species, it has been a cumbersome device for investigators anxious to protect Nessie- and Bigfoot-type creatures.

Several steps or actions must be made before a species receives protection under the Endangered Species Act. First, a formal description of the species and its naming must be made through publication in a recognized scientific journal or magazine.

Next, the governor of the state in which the species was found would be contacted. After that the Secretary of the Interior could then grant emergency 240-day protection.

Within that time, both federal and state officials would move to "make a formal determination as to whether the species should be afforded endangered or threatened status."

A representative from the Fish and Wildlife Service addressed this issue and was quoted as saying: "Under normal situations we must know a great deal about a species before we list it. How big is the population? Does it occur anywhere else? Is the population in danger of decline? Is its habitat secure? Is the species being exploited? What is its reproductive rate? Obviously, if a Bigfoot really were found we could use emergency provisions of the Act to protect it immediately. But for the record, I seriously doubt whether such a creature really does exist."

Possibly a far better route to insure safety for unexplained creatures is not through federal means, but by state or local action. In 1969 Skamania County in the state of Washington passed Ordinance No. 69-01. This piece of paper made it a crime punishable by a \$10,000 fine and/or imprisonment in the county jail for up to 5 years for "any premeditated, willful and wanton slaying of such creature." The creature in question is Bigfoot.

Dr. Roy P. Mackal in his book, "Searching for Hidden Animals," published in 1980, tells of the history of the White River monster in Arkansas. Sightings of Whitey, the aquatic monster of the White River, were so persistent around Newport, Ark., that protective measures were taken to secure its safety.

Mackal writes: "The culmination to the White River monster was that enough serious citizens petitioned the Newport City Board of Directors to declare that portion of White River adjacent to the Jacksonport State Park a 'White River Monster Refuge and Sanctuary.'"

This idea received wide support resulting in the passage of a resolution to the effect by the Arkansas Senate in 1973. This resolution made it illegal to "molest, kill, trample, or harm the White River Monster while he is in the retreat."

The need to give protection to these "unknowns" must seriously be considered if for the only reason that their protective status will act to deter people from lashing out in a destructive manner to destroy these creatures.

One of the motivating factors in the Port Henry decision to give Champ protection was the report of rifle shots being fired at what was thought to be a Champ sea monster. A person with a rifle could fire at a swimmer or a diver mistaking their body form for the sinuous motion of the monsters. The Port Henry resolution will act to dissuade such action.

Port Henry has set a precedent in beginning the process for granting preservation for the Champ, creatures across all Lake Champlain. The more than 100 sightings of Champ are evidence enough to label majestic Lake Champlain as "America's Loch Ness." Their record plays a major role in the bountiful chronicles of historic Champlain Valley. At least one lakeside community recognizes this and acted to "adopt" its legendary beasts by granting them sanctuary.

Artesian Sees 'A Furry Thing'

A story in last Wednesday's Current-Argus prompted an Artesia woman to come forward with a report of a tall furry creature she saw standing in the alley near her Eagle Creek apartment a week ago.

Ms. Marion Dean, 65, is quoted in the Artesia Daily Press as saying the "thing" she saw was about seven feet tall, black with fur all over it, and had white eyes.

The description closely matched that of a "thing" sighted by a Carlsbad man while he and others were camping in the Sitting Bull Falls area on Friday.

The Artesia report said Ms. Dean saw the creature two days later.

She is quoted as saying the creature she saw was standing between the garbage container and a cement slab located about 20 feet across the alley from her back door.

She said she heard her dog "fussing" about 11 p.m. and went outside. She is quoted as saying "It didn't move, it just stood still and glared at me. I unchained my dog and acted like I hadn't seen it. But I looked at it all the time."

She said she went back into her apartment and when she looked again it was gone.

"But it stood there long enough for me to know I saw it. I don't know what it could be, but I would stand on a stack of Bibles and say I saw it."

Ms. Dean said she thought maybe she hadn't seen the thing, "until I saw a copy of the Carlsbad paper which had an article in it about somebody else seeing something like I saw."

Like the Carlsbad people, including another couple who saw a similar creature in February 1975 at Sitting Bull Falls, Ms. Dean was reluctant to come forward with her story because she thought people would take it too humorously or it would scare the residents at the apartments

State Mare Mutilated

LAS VEGAS, N.M. (AP) — A brown mare found mutilated near Las Vegas is believed to be the first horse in the state to fall victim to the mysterious animal deaths in the past few years, an official said.

As in previous incidents with cows, the uterus, udders and rectum of the horse belonging to Arthur Padilla had been removed with "perfectly round" incisions, said cattle inspector Carlos Lovato.

Albert Padilla, who found his brother's dead horse last Friday, said there were no clues—no bullet holes, no tracks, and no signs of a struggle.

"Not a drop of blood was left," he said. Padilla said the left eye and ear also were removed.

Lovato, who said he has seen six or seven cows similarly mutilated in his district, could offer no explanation or motive in the killings.

"There are no clues as to who did them or what," he said. "A 1,600 pound horse is not easy to mutilate."

CURRENT-ARGUS, Carlsbad, NM - Nov. 10, 1980 CR: G. Underwood

Nessies Live On Nectar

By HUGH A. MULLIGAN
AP Special Correspondent
BRUNSWICK, Ga. (AP) — I

know not what nectars the natives of these lovely Georgia coastal marshes have been nipping of late, but there have been sightings of a giant sea serpent along the lines of the Loch Ness monster in the Altamaha River.

Having devoted considerable time as a foreign correspondent in pursuit of Scotland's elusive Nessie, including many evenings in the public rooms of the Drumadroit Hotel where it all happens in the Highlands, I take a scholarly interest in monster sightings.

Georgia's giant sludge or whatever it is differs from Scotland's slithering beastie in that people actually claim to

have seen it. Around the shores of Loch Ness, you only meet people who know people who have seen Nessie, like Father Aloysius, the prior of the Benedictine monastery on the west shore of the loch who has written a book on the monster.

Georgia, on the other hand, offers at least three first-hand witnesses to the Altamaha River monster and a fourth who saw the wake it left in the river.

Former newspaper publisher Larry Gwin, who lives on the banks of the river, reported he was eel fishing with his partner, Steven Wilson, late in December when they saw a snake-like creature 15 to 20 feet long "as big around as a man's body with two brownish humps about five feet apart." It dived

"in a big swirl of water and was not seen again but boiled up a swell that was 'like the wake of a racing boat.'"

With that, Harvey Blackman, 74, of Brunswick, came forward and recalled something similar in the river a few years back at a place called, interestingly enough, Two Way, Ga.

Blackman, who has been fishing the river for 20 years, was standing on a floating dock which suddenly was rocked by a great wave. He saw "a monstrous something, 15 to 20 feet long ... big around as a man's body."

Frank Culpepper, who owns the fishing camp at Two Way, was inside a camp building when the monster surfaced, so he didn't actually see it, but he witnessed its wake, bumping

the boats about, and remembers one of the men running inside for a rifle.

That, of course, was bad form. Fortunately, the marksman was too late or the sea serpent too swift.

If Georgia is going to have itself a first-class tourist attracting monster, folks can't go around shooting it at first sighting. You don't want to kill the glob before it lays its golden egg.

The next thing needed is for the monster to acquire an affectionate nickname, like maybe Altamaha Annie. Then a logbook must be kept at a local road house or fishing camp of official sightings.

Georgia, which is bourbon country, has a lot going for it as a national habitat for monster sightings.

On the trail of the ape-man in Santa Clara County

By Tom Harris
Staff Writer

IT may have been the strangest expedition ever assembled for the elusive Bigfoot.

The searchers for the legendary hairy humanoid included "Fat Patty," a portly mountain man; Ringo, a gimpy-legged ex-motorcycle gang member, and an unlikely entourage of reporters, photographers, self-professed experts and an unwilling scientist whose scepticism was politely obvious.

All we had to do was talk to "Crazy Joe," a local but frequently hard-to-locate ranch hand. He could lead us to the mysterious eyewitness who could, in turn, take us to the spot where he is alleged to have made the latest sighting of what the Indians call Sasquatch.

We were in the arid rain shadow of the isolated San Antonio Valley, about 40 miles east of San Jose and so deep in the heart of the Diablo Range that they still don't have telephones.

It started like any of the other bizarre tips that funnel into a newspaper office in the course of an average day.

Bigfoot, the tipster said, had been sighted near a stock-watering pond in the digger pine and brush-covered San Antonio Valley.

To understand what happened next is to know the depths of a journalist's imagination. It could be just another wild story, but then ... you never know.

Only an on-site inspection would do. A photographer was summoned; his bulky 600 millimeter telephoto lens could double as a weapon in an emergency.

The rendezvous, we were told, was the the Junction Bar. Suspensions arose but we pressed on, not altogether reluctantly, to this mountain watering hole.

There, Lois Kuehn offered the second-hand story of Bigfoot:

"This big guy came in a week ago Saturday. His face was all sweaty and really flushed. You could see he was scared."

Pencils were scribbling frantically on notebooks.

"He kept looking back over his shoulder, gesturing about the size of these two 'big hairy animals.'"

"He could barely speak English, so he showed me with his hands," added Mrs. Kuehn without emotion. "One time he raised his hands over his head ... 'this big,' he said. And he's about six-foot three."

"Then, he showed me how big the other one was. He raised his hand to about my height ... five feet high."

The story was that the witness told of driving up a narrow creekbed in search of three lost cows.

When he neared a small stock-watering pond, he spotted two large hair-covered, humanoid-type creatures. He raised his rifle to shoot, then worried about only wounding one of them and being mauled.

Instead, Lois recounted, he raced back to his truck and "took off. He told me he might not ever come back. He sure was scared."

The story was good fodder for the Saturday night crowd at the Junction Bar that night before some of regulars, including another motorcyclist-turned-mountain man, "Ringo," went to investigate.

Above the creekbed, on a freshly bulldozed place of hillside intended for grazing, they found what looked like the prints of a very large foot.

Suddenly, the story was not so funny. A crude mix of ready-made plaster was found, mixed up and poured into the prints.

The rumors reached the newspaper a week later. After Lois finished recounting the experience, the Big Foot fan club began to grow. "Fat Patty," a resourceful motorcycle gang member and his burly son Robbie offered to locate the prints.

The tracks looked genuine enough, despite the eroding effects of an intervening two-inch rain.

Hot damn! This could be the story of the decade. Neither the long drive homeward nor the shattered fly-wheel housing on a Mercury News car from the rugged dirt road dimmed the excitement.

The next hours were spent in a blizzard of telephone calls. Veteran Bigfoot researchers Archie Buckley of San Leandro and Warren Thompson of Redwood City, part of The Bay Area Group that investigates such sightings, agreed to join a hastily-assembled expedition.

Dr. Howard Shellhammer, a noted zoologist from San Jose State University, cringed at the whole idea. But, in the interest of science and "a healthy scepticism," he volunteered to play a devil's advocate role and go along.

Three reporters, one of them bilingual should we ever be able to locate the mysterious Spanish-speaking eyewitness, a photographer and the "experts" motored to the scene.

We were equipped with plenty of gear for an impromptu Bigfoot search — a four-wheel drive vehicle to negotiate the muddy fire trails, binoculars, tents and sleeping bags for camping overnight, walky-talkies and a radio-equipped car to relay word of any important discovery to the outside world.

Such was the scene the next day as we waited breathlessly, not so much from the excitement as from the steep climb up the brush-covered hillside, where the locals proudly pointed to a series of tracks. "There," said Ringo.

Shellhammer, Buckley and Thompson looked at the three-toed prints, which seemed to have come from a large creature. Slowly, the zoologist raised up from his intense inspection of the huge, odd-shaped prints everyone thought to be those of Bigfoot. The silence was deafening.

"Cow," he said, matter-of-factly.

"Cow?" the incredulous reporters echoed rhetorically.

He repeated his finding, and the Bigfoot experts nodded solemnly in agreement.

Further up the hill, probing a pile of fresh dung also thought to have been left by the man-beast, Buckley sniffed, "Coyote."

Down along the creekbed, more tracks. Anticipation.

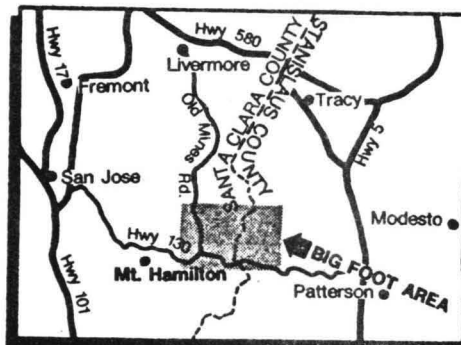
"Mountain lion ... good set of tracks," rules Shellhammer.

There was that sinking feeling. Two days of rigorous hiking, breathless searching and endless interviews had led us to this ignominy.

The way not to end these kinds of James Bond episodes, especially not on deadline, is with a report that your "Bigfoot" turned out to be a pigeon-toed cow with a penchant for slippery slopes and a puzzling affinity for walking single-file, a not-inconsiderable task for an awkward four-footed bovine.

But that is how this story did end, with one still-unsettling exception.

The bilingual reporter continued the vain search for the eyewitness. Maybe we were look-



Wes Hillis — Mercury and News

ing in the wrong place and, nearby, the "real" Bigfoot tracks lay undisturbed.

Hours and endless telephone calls later, the man who leases the rangeland to the our witness is found and we have a name, Jose Rivera.

Still a little puzzled about why and how the reporter located him, the 58-year-old part-time rancher retold his story, this time without the language barrier that existed at the Junction Bar.

"I took my pickup as far as I could on the canyon road, then I got out on foot," he said.

"After I walked a short way I heard some noise ... like splashing in the pond up ahead. I thought they were wild pigs, so I got my rifle."

"I was no more than 125 feet away when I saw these two hairy things. They were splashing around in the pond ... up to their armpits. I think they sensed me because they stopped playing in the water and turned around."

The rest of the story is one of how Rivera froze behind a bush, thought of shooting one of the beasts he says he saw but then deciding to "get out of there."

The same pond was closely inspected nearly two weeks later. The experts could find no credible evidence to support Rivera's story ... nor to discount it.

The heavy rain had obliterated even the cow tracks along the shoreline and the murky pond water concealed whatever signs may have been left on the muddy bottom.

All that remains now is Rivera's insistence that the story is true.

"I don't have any reason to lie. There's no need to," said the 22-year-resident of San Jose, a former carpenter and now a disabled diabetic.

"I'm only going back to get my animals out but I don't want to see them again ... ever," he said.

Back at the Junction Bar they still talk about the sighting and the unfulfilled desire to have a sample of real Bigfoot dung for the collection of oddities that line the mantle.

And the ranchers in San Antonio Valley are looking over their shoulders a little more frequently these days.

KOREA HERALD, Seoul, Korea - Jan. 22, 1981 CR: J. Brill

Chinese Find Footprint of Giant Apeman

Compiled From Wire Services

HONGKONG — The world's largest footprint of an apeman has been discovered on a peak 2,400 meters above sea level in Xienlongqia, central China's Hubei Province, a Peking report claimed Tuesday.

The footprint, measuring as long as 48 cm, has been recorded on film by the Central Newsreel Studio, the New China News Agency (NCNA) said, quoting the Peking Evening News of Monday.

The footprint is shown clearly on film with five distinct toes without any blurring by the apeman's movements, the report said.

The film team had come along with an expedition who had set out on a year-long

hunt in 1980 for strange animals in the northwest of Hubei Province.

The footprint was among some 200 similar ones found by the expedition in the province.

An old peasant, Yan Mingde of Bancang Commune, Xienlongqia, said that in September, 1947, he saw eight red-haired apemen in a primordial forest and for over 10 days many people chased the eight-foot-tall apemen and cornered them in isolated house in the mountains.

Seven of the tall apemen finally ripped off the roof to get away, leaving only a younger apeman who fell into a fire-pit and was caught and cut up into many pieces, the report said, quoting the peasant.

STAR, Indianapolis, IN - Feb. 24, 1981 CR: C. Jones

Just shout and it'll rain on Chinese mystery lakes

Peking (UPI) — Whenever residents in part of China's southern Yunnan province need rain, they simply yell for it.

The louder they yell, the more rain falls. And the longer they yell, the longer the rain lasts.

Shanghai's Liberation Daily newspaper reported this curious weather phenomenon from the Gaoligon mountain region in Yunnan.

The newspaper said at the foot of the mountain there were a group of pools, nicknamed "the mysterious lakes."

"Whenever anyone speaks in a loud voice at the side of the lake, heavy rain

immediately follows," the newspaper said. "The louder the speaker, the heavier the rain and the longer the person speaks, the longer the rain lasts."

The Liberation Daily reported that the local Communist Party boss shrugged off these reports but when he recently visited the lakes and shouted in a high voice "a downpour followed in less than a minute."

Local experts theorized the air around the lake was so wet that the slightest vibration such as a high-pitched voice could precipitate showers.

Did Bigfoot visit Linton?

By Mike Waits

Someone is going to read this story and have a good laugh because they have pulled a practical joke on the people in this area. At least, I hope so. In my mind, I cannot conceive of a creature such as Bigfoot. Or could it be...?

Anyway, following last week's snow, some strange footprints appeared in the Linton community near Lake Barkley. These impressions in the snow were about 18 inches long and perfectly shaped with toes and everything.

Residents of the area say Bigfoot has returned. Yes, returned. About three years ago, someone recalled a dog being attacked by a tall, hairy creature standing upright on two feet. Could it be?

From personal observation using outstanding tracking abilities (it was

easy in the snow), the footprints begin at a briar patch near the portable toilets at the Linton boat ramp on Lake Barkley. They twist and turn through the parking lot before continuing around the lake and up to Highway 164.

From that point, I lost the track (my superb tracking skills again not to mention that I was out of time and almost late for the Chamber of Commerce meeting), but the prints stretched for about 500 yards. According to one report, someone had tracked the footprints for four miles, but that could not be confirmed.

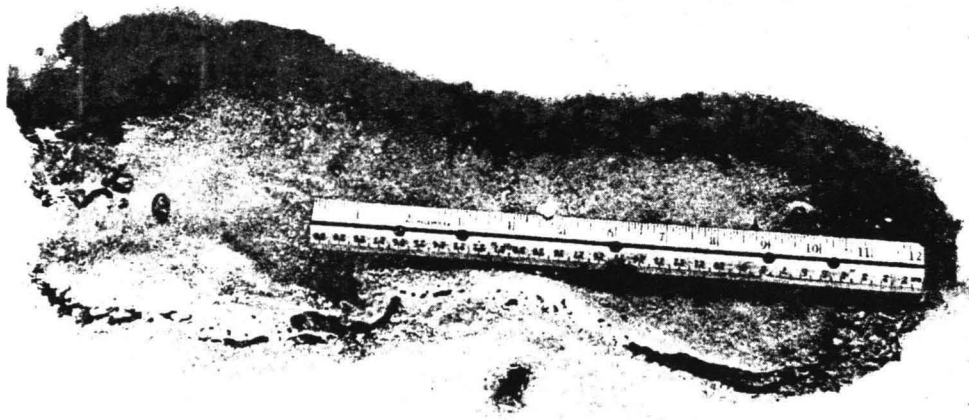
From our information, Mrs. Lillian Dawson was the first person to notice the strange tracks and, not wanting to be laughed at, was not going to tell anyone until she saw a friend, William Bartee. After telling him about her find, they both followed the trail. Mrs.

Dawson says there were no other footprints around.

After word got around, several others investigated the tracks including Rev. Johnny Carr, myself and Dianne Ford.

At one point along the trail, the creature steps completely over a bush about three feet tall. Could it be someone on stilts? Maybe, but the depth of the impressions in the snow was deeper than any other human footprints near them.

Some residents of the area really believe they have been visited by Bigfoot, while others keep telling themselves that there is no such creature. But most believe it is the work of a practical joker that found these footprints in a gag store somewhere and has been waiting for the first snow. That's what I believe. Or could it be...?



Bigfoot's big foot?

YOU TELL ME WHAT MADE this footprint. The 12 inch ruler shows that the length is about 18 inches and the width about six inches at the widest point.

Believe it or not... they say this elephant can talk!

WHEN zoo manager Boris Kosinsky first heard that the zoo's eight-year-old Indian elephant, Batyr, could talk, he dismissed it as "complete nonsense." And when keeper Ravel Astakhov insisted he was speaking the truth, the manager snapped: "You must be drunk, comrade."

But Ravel was adamant and the manager visited the animal house himself.

"To my astonishment," he said, "I really did hear that elephant say, in Russian, 'Batyr good boy. Go away.'"

Within a short time the tale of the talking elephant at the zoo in the city of Karaganda, in Kazakhstan, had spread all over Russia. Some newspapers were sceptical, raising the question of whether or not it was nothing more than a publicity gimmick.

Uncanny

But true or not, the zoo's attendance figures have shot up and manager Kosinsky is convinced that Batyr can talk.

"It is uncanny," he said. "Batyr has about ten phrases which we have recorded several times. He likes to say that he is good which is not quite the truth since he can be an aggressive animal."

"When he is thirsty he asks for water and when hungry he demands food. There is no explanation for it. He just started to talk quite suddenly." Russia's leading animal experts are split.

Some say it is sheer nonsense. Others say that Indian

from
VICTOR LOUIS
Moscow

elephants are capable of producing a variety of sounds in imitation of human speech.

The controversy raised such interest that Vladimir Spitsyn, director of the Moscow Zoo and one of Russia's leading animal experts, decided to visit Karaganda.

Now he is back in Moscow. But the mystery of the talking elephant is still unsolved. "While I was in Karaganda," said director Spitsyn, "Batyr was in a gloomy mood and I did not hear him utter a single word the whole time I was there."

"I listened to the tape recordings. But they were too indistinct to make a judgement. I am sceptical. But I do not think this is some sort of publicity stunt. It needs further research on a very serious level and that will be undertaken soon."

Until the result of that research is published Russia will have to wait for the answer to the question... can Batyr the elephant REALLY talk?

Chinese Speculate 3 Ships Lost in 'Devil's Triangle'

PEKING (UPI) — The reported disappearance of three vessels in the South China Sea prompted a Peking newspaper Wednesday to suggest that huge whirlpools had swallowed up the ships in a "Devil's Triangle."

The Peking Evening News said three vessels had vanished without trace between May 1979 and February 1980 in the South China Sea within a triangle bounded by Manila, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

The newspaper gave no details on the size of the vessels, the date and location of their reported disappearance or the prevailing weather conditions. It did not mention whether they were Chinese or foreign ships.

"What is strange is that searches of the scene of the disappearance recovered nothing at all," it said.

"Some people therefore ask: Is there also a devil's triangle in the South China Sea?"

The newspaper said the disappearance of vessels in the area was not new. Documents from

600 years ago mentioned ships disintegrating at sea on calm, windless days.

The records from the southern Sung period described how water spouts suddenly appeared "and no matter how hard the oars were rowed, the vessel could not move forward," the newspaper said.

"According to this, the ancients had discovered the devil's triangle of the South China Sea 600 years ago."

The newspaper tried to offer a scientific explanation for this theory.

It pointed out that in the South China Sea there are coastal currents, a circular current and a warm Gulf stream-like flow, along with the flushing effects of ocean currents rushing through the Bashi channel.

The convergence of the various ocean currents in areas where islands interfere with the natural flow could lead to huge whirlpools — the possible cause of the disappearances, it said.

Bull Mutilated

A Bald Hills cattle rancher reported yesterday that he found his 9-year-old registered Hereford dead in the pasture, its lower jaw partly cut away, the left ear cut off and testicles cut out of the sack.

The owner said he found the body of the \$2,000 animal yesterday when he went out to

feed the cattle. He had not seen them since last Friday.

The cattlemen said he intends to order an autopsy, since the cause of death is not clear.

He said this is the first instance of animal mutilation which has occurred on his place.

Photograph Of 'Monster' Passes Test

TUCSON, Ari. (UPI) — A color photograph purporting to show an American version of the legendary Loch Ness monster appears to be authentic, University of Arizona scientists said Tuesday.

The photograph of a brown, long-necked creature that may be a primitive whale was taken during a vacation in 1978 at Lake Champlain, Vt., by Sandra Mansi, the wife of a Connecticut shipyard employee.

J. Richard Greenwell of the University of Arizona Arids Lands Committee said that analysis of the photograph, specifically the wave patterns surrounding the creature, indicate the picture was not faked.

University of Chicago zoologist Roy Mackal said the creature may be a Zeuglodon, a long-necked mammal believed to have been extinct for ages. Mackal had sent the photograph to Greenwell for study.

The picture shows a back, a long neck and a head above the water's surface about 150 to 180 feet off the shore, and there also may be a fin, Greenwell said.

Image Real In Picture, Lab Finds

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — A snapshot said to show some type of long-necked creature swimming in Lake Champlain appears to be authentic, University of Arizona researcher J. Richard Greenwell says.

He said Wednesday that the lab's preliminary analysis of the picture shows it is not a fake and that the image is one of a live animal.

A couple from New Haven, Ct., has copyrighted the picture, which they said was taken during a vacation four years ago in Vermont.

A man who has searched Lake Champlain for a creature resembling the Loch Ness Monster said the color photograph shows a long-necked animal with its head in a shadow, looking off to one side.

Greenwell said the lab has determined the photograph is not a montage, or superimposition or the result of trick photography. He said an examination of wave patterns surrounding the animal shows it came from underwater and was not a model dragged along the surface.

The next step will be to perform a computerized image enhancement, he said.

Dead Cow Called Mutilation Victim

By MARY FREI
Journal Staff Writer

TIERRA AMARILLA — State Police Officer Gabe Valdez says a dead cow discovered last month in a pasture several miles east of Tierra Amarilla was the victim of a "genuine" mutilation.

But Valdez, a veteran mutilation investigator, said the evidence was impaired by the fact that the cow had been dead about three days when he examined it.

There was some predator damage to the animal, Valdez said, but, "It was a mutilation."

The 3-year-old heifer was owned by Tony Casados Sr. of Ensenada. It was the third cow to have been declared a "genuine" mutilation by Valdez since former FBI agent Ken Rommel discounted the phenomenon last summer.

After a lengthy federally funded investigation, Rommel concluded that predators — coyotes, foxes, birds and plain old dogs — were the source of what had been regarded as cattle mutilations in Northern New Mexico for several years.

Rommel contended all the animals died natural deaths before the predators attacked them.

But Valdez said that after Rommel issued his report, mutilated cattle were discovered near Vallecitos in July and east of Tierra Amarilla in August. Predators could have not have caused these mutilations, Valdez contended.

Critics of Rommel's report have said he chose cases that weren't real mutilations. They have also claimed the wave of cattle mutilations that occurred during the late 1970s subsided once his investigation began.

In addition to the surgically precise removal of reproductive organs, tongues and other parts — the phe-

nomenon has been associated over the years with reports of aircraft in the areas where the cows were later found.

Steve Polaco, an Ensenada man who lives near the pasture where Casados' cow was found, said he didn't see anything, but heard a "real soft hum" about midnight the night before.

Polaco said he looked out the window, thinking it might be a car. It wasn't. But the hum didn't exactly sound like a car's engine, either, he said. "It was unlike anything I ever heard before."

Polaco said the cow was found the next morning by a friend of his. Still, Polaco says he can't connect the humming sound to the mutilated cow. The animal appeared to have been dead a couple of days, he said. "It's got me. I don't understand it, really."

Casados said his cow was finely cut with a sharp instrument. "If they used some kind of a knife, it had to be pretty damn sharp," he said, noting how difficult it is to cut a cow's hide so smoothly.

"They opened the belly and they removed some of the organs and they removed the udder," Casados said. The cow's left front leg was also missing, he continued, as well as the skin "all the way from the ribs to the head."

The side of the mouth was cut open, he added, and the tongue sliced off.

Valdez, who works out of Dulce, said the manner in which the tongue and skin around the neck were removed indicated it was a real mutilation: "You could tell where it was cut real good."

"I don't feel very happy," remarked Casados, who lost his first cow to the mutilation phenomenon three years ago.

Left, Howlett's track is dwarfed by the large track he discovered.



The string of tracks leads out of the top of the picture. Smaller tracks at the left were made by Leonard Howlett and his son.



Leonard G. Howlett measures with his hand one of the large tracks.



The Evanson vicinity has joined the long list of areas which have reported evidence of the presence of "Bigfoot."

The report came to the Herald Thursday from Leonard G. Howlett of Pleasant Grove, Utah, who reported that he had come upon tracks of the large creature January 2nd in the High Uintas.

Howlett and his 14 year old son, Lester, were camping in the Uintas, cutting wood January 1st and 2nd when the discovery was made. They reported that they discovered two sets of the large tracks near their camp, apparently made by two creatures walking in the same direction about six feet apart.

Howlett said the tracks measured 19 inches from heel to toe and were about

11 inches wide. He reported that the average stride from one track to the next measured 54 inches.

The woodcutters returned to the area for another load of wood, January 15th. As they camped that evening, something startled their dog and horse. Howlett reported he heard something out in the trees and brush, also he heard a noise that seemed to be something "between a growl and a grunt."

Later investigation showed the same large tracks circling the campsite. Further investigation revealed nearby the remains of a large beaver that had been eaten.

A passerby who happened to be working in the same general vicinity took pictures of the tracks for the Howletts.

Mr. Howlett, 58 years of age, reports that he is experienced in the mountains as a woodsman and a cowboy and knows animal sounds and tracks and is positive the tracks are not bear tracks or any other animal he has ever seen.

He says that he's positive it's Bigfoot, and as soon as he can, he's going back to spend some time. "If one man goes alone and waits long enough, the creature might lose its fear and be seen," he says. "All animals are curious, and this one should be the same."

As has been the case in other areas, some will scoff and some will believe the story, but Leonard Howlett is "sure it's Bigfoot."

BIG FOOT IN OUR AREA?

HERALD, Evanson, WY - Feb. 11, 1981 CR: P. Guttilla