

UFO

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Ripples

By MARY DURAN

Three Somers Point students can tell you what a UFO looks like.

The children, in fact, have become something of an authority on such phenomena — because they saw one.

The three were privileged to observe — at close range — what can be described as a strange airborne object.

It did indeed hover for a while over the car in which they were riding.

And since all three agree to the letter on its dimensions and appearance — ergo, there really are such things, right here in Somers Point.

Bill Hawthorne, art instructor at the Jordan Road School in Somers Point, did some investigating into the incident. "One of the children told me what she had seen," explained Hawthorne. "Then another in the group also began to tell me about the strange thing which followed their car here on Bala Drive," said Hawthorne. By this time he was interested enough to have all the students draw a picture of the UFO which they had seen earlier this month. Amazingly, the pictures matched. "They drew them separately, with no knowledge of what the other two

had drawn," said Hawthorne. The sixth-graders who saw the object were: Jennifer Montgomery, Michele Frisko and Patti Meyers.

A credible witness confirms the children's stories. Sixth grade teacher Lillian Frisko was the driver of the car which attracted the brightly lit UFO. She was taking the girls to a gymnastics event, and earthly traffic can be difficult enough without being distracted by an unidentified flying object. Hawthorne, being thorough in his investigation, requested Frisko also to draw the object she had seen — and it corresponded exactly with the others.

Summing up, the Somers Point UFO was disc-shaped in appearance, and colored orange. The four agreed there was a row of lights across the bottom — and it paused and moved at the same pace and in the same direction as the car.

"We checked around and there seems to be no scientific explanation," said Hawthorne. "We're surprised no one else seems to have seen it.

PRESS, Atlantic City, NJ — Dec. 18, 1981

3 Somers Point 6th-Graders Have Strange Encounter



Staff photo by Mike Blizzard

Art instructor Bill Hawthorne compares Jennifer Montgomery's UFO drawing with the others

NEWS, Greenville, SC — Feb. 3, 1982

JIM McALLISTER

A close encounter near Simpsonville

Camelia DeGraw was reading at her home east of Simpsonville just before midnight Sunday. Her cousin, Ann Jones, and her son were asleep in the house.

When the room started filling with light she thought she was hallucinating. So she put down the book to clear her head.

There could be no doubt about it. There was a bright light — growing even brighter — outside the window.

She went to the window and looked out. Above the trees was one of the brightest lights she had ever seen. It was bigger than the moon and getting bigger and brighter.

She watched it for a minute or so, blinking every few seconds to make sure she wasn't imagining this.

She hesitated to awaken Ann, but somebody else had to see this. She had to make sure that she was actually seeing it.

So she called Ann to come to the window. She also awakened her son.

Now they were all standing at the window. The big bright light was drawing closer.

"I'm going outside to see if I can hear anything," Camelia declared. Ann and the boy said they would just stay inside and watch, thank you.

"Yes, it was bigger than the moon," Ann declared. "And it just kept getting wider and wider. I knew right then that it was a UFO. I had heard about UFOs, but I wasn't sure that I believed in them. The light coming from the thing was so bright that we couldn't have slept if we had wanted to. It lit up everything like day."

Floating silently

They watched it for about 15 minutes. "We were upstairs looking out the bedroom window and it looked like it was sitting right on top of the trees. It didn't make any noise."

When Camelia got outside, she confirmed that the object was making no noise, even though it appeared to be only a short distance away. "I wish you could have seen it," said Ann. "It was unbelievable. It looked like a whole circle, but only half of it — the bottom part — was lit. The top part was sort of in shadow. I kept looking at it and hoping that it was the moon. But I knew all the time that it wasn't the moon. It couldn't have possibly been the moon, not the way it moved in toward us and got larger and larger."

They decided to stand right where they were and see what would happen to it. "I hoped it would gradually disappear," Ann continued. "Then maybe I could convince myself that it was the moon and had gone behind a cloud. But it disappeared in a matter of seconds. Just sort of went sideways and disappeared. Yes, I really did want to think it was the moon. But I know that it wasn't. It was a UFO. We all know that's what it was. Couldn't have been anything else."

They got the toll-free number to call in Washington about UFOs. The people in Washington seemed pleased to hear about the Simpsonville sighting.

"We also called a local radio station," Ann laughed. "They asked us if we had any Stroh's in the house."

ENQUIRER & NEWS, Battle Creek, MI — Dec. 28, 1981 CR: P. Guttilla

The World of UFOs

By Bob Pratt

'Saucer' spotted by guard

William F. Hunter, a middle-aged security guard, was so intrigued by what he saw in the afternoon last May 4 that he couldn't help but tell others. But later he was rather sorry he ever opened his mouth.

"You're marked as a looney as soon as you say something," he complained mildly in a telephone interview more than a month later.

Hummer lives on Honey-moon Street in Danville, Pa. He had gone for a ride on his motorcycle and when he returned home he was walking toward the house when he happened to glance up at the sky.

There was something up there, fairly high, but the sun was overhead and it was hard to see. Stepping into the shadows of the house, he got a better look. Then he got a pair of binoculars.

Was it, he was asked, a UFO, an unidentified flying object?

"It was like a type of UFO," he admitted, and further questions brought out that it was "one of them round-type saucers . . . with something of a dome on it."

When he looked up toward the sun, he saw what appeared to be a giant object. From this, small disc-shaped UFOs came out and shot off in different directions in groups of three.

Even more unusual, while this was going on some kind of wispy material like cobwebs came floating down.

"This stuff was coming down continuously," Hummer said. "It was like a giant spiderweb hatching or like something might have exploded or burned. I went after some of it but it was like you wasn't touching anything. It just disappeared."

Hummer called a newspaper and told some of his neighbors.

"I told the news lady that maybe it was hatching something out or maybe it was burning something or maybe they were having war combat." At that, he laughed.

"One neighbor, she was scared to death. I told her and her husband. They definitely didn't want their name in the paper. Then I stopped a guy coming home from work and the oxygen man was here."

The oxygen man was delivering a tank of oxygen for Hummer's sick mother. He watched for a while and tried to catch a "cobweb."

"He grabbed a piece of it and it just went right out of his hand, just disappeared," said Hummer.

Hummer's sister, Marie, came home from work about 2:30.

"I could see like silky cobwebs and it would be in great big strands," said Marie. "It would break off and you could see these things like flying saucers. It all took place by the sun, and 'way, 'way up you could see big masses of this — well, I call it cobwebs. I seen that stuff flying around for a long time."

"It's intriguing. It makes you wonder. But once you open your mouth about it, you're definitely marked," Hummer said.

This is the last in "The World of UFOs" series. The column has been discontinued by its author.

UFO sighted over northern part of county, man reports bright lights on object

By SEAN O'BRIEN

It was about a quarter past 9 p.m. when Antionette Woods noticed the bright light in the eastern sky and called to her husband, Preston.

Mr. Woods came to the door and looked, but he too could not figure what was giving off the bright light. He decided to investigate.

He and his son got in the car and left their home near Walnut Grove Baptist Church north of Town and headed in the direction of the light.

They traveled approximately three-quarters of a mile down the road before they came to the spot beneath the lights in the sky.

"We were almost underneath it at that point," he said.

In the meantime, Woods' brother, George, who lives across the road, was called and told of the mysterious happenings.

He watched the lights through binoculars from his window.

By 9:30, Woods and several members of his family were watching what they only could describe as a UFO.

"I'm 43 years old and I never seen anything like it," Woods said.

As Woods and his son looked up, he said they saw four bright lights, two white, one red and one green. It was one white light at the front of the object they saw that was so bright, he said.

"It was the brightest light I've ever seen," he said.

He said the object was high enough that it could not be seen clearly, but that it was a clear night and the shape of the object could be distinguished against the night sky.

The red and green light, on the sides of the somewhat diamond-shaped object, were blinking, causing all the lights to blur together, Woods said.

Judging the size and height of the object was difficult, he said.

1,800 FEET UP

From appearances, he said the object seemed to be 1,000 feet up and maybe 50 feet across. It was high enough that the lights did not reflect off the ground but still low enough to make out the shape and some of the details of the underside of the thing.

As the object hovered overhead, Woods said there was what looked to be a row of windows around the bottom of it. From his position, he said he could not tell anything about the sides or top of the object.

His son, looking through binoculars, got a little clearer view.

After standing there watching the object for approximately one minute it slowly began to move off in to the west, gradually picking up speed.

"It looked like the big light went out and it started moving west," Woods said.

Woods said the only sound he heard began as the object began moving. It was low whirring noise and the sound of wind rushing.

The wind was blowing hard, making it difficult to hear any sounds clearly, he said.

What he said he did not hear was the sound of any conventional engine or propeller. Woods said he saw nothing on the object that looked like an engine.

Soon, the object was out of sight.

In all, about 10 members of Woods' family saw the object. No one could offer an explanation of the event.

All that happened Jan. 4, Woods made no effort to report the sighting until Tuesday, that at the prodding of his wife and co-workers.

FEARED REACTION

Woods said he was reluctant to report the sighting because of the reaction he might receive. Indeed, at first when he told some of his fellow workers about it, they laughed.

"At first, they thought I was joking," he said. Then, when they realized he was not kidding, they began to believe him, Woods said.

First, he called the sheriff's department. There was little they could do but they gave him the number of a UFO reporting service in Washington, D.C.

The folks in Washington promised to look into the matter and give him a report.

A spokesman for the National UFO Reporting Center in Washington said he was not aware of other reports from the Hillsborough area.

The center, a private research organization, looks into reported sightings and tries to determine what was seen.

For major sightings, when persons report a close encounter or a landing, an investigating team is sent to the site, the spokesman said.

Researchers then try to determine scientifically if there is a reasonable explanation for what was seen.

Currently, the center is receiving approximately eight calls a day. Approximately one call in 10 is classified as a major sighting, the spokesman said.

Woods also learned that another person had seen the same thing he had earlier that evening. The other person had seen two of the objects at about 7 p.m. in the same part of the county.

NOT FROM MARS

Woods is not sure what he saw, but he does not think men from Mars are about to attack.

"I think it's some type of aircraft the Air Force has," he said. "It's definitely not alien. I don't believe there's anyone around except us."

Woods said he had heard of reports of people seeing flying saucers and was aware of UFO scares over the past few years, but had never given the matter a great deal of thought.

He said he certainly never expected to see one.

IPSWICH TODAY, Ipswich, MA
Jan. 15, 1982 CR: B. Greenwood
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Police received a report from an Essex man, George Severence, of 114 Conomo Point Road, that he and his wife had observed an unidentified flying object over Conomo Point. According to the report, the couple observed the object at 10:30 p.m. circling Conomo Point with red and white flashing lights. The report said the object was about 800 feet off the ground and then headed toward Crane's Beach where it disappeared. Police checked that no planes were overdue in the area and the Coast Guard was notified. Sgt. Peter Foote reported that police could not investigate the report at Crane's Beach because a four-wheel drive vehicle was not available. Severence reported he observed the object for about 30 seconds. Essex Police went to the man's house but the police report did not contain any new information about the sighting. According to the Ipswich police report, the Coast Guard suggested it may have been a drug drop.

EAST WASHINGTONIAN, Pomeroy, WA - Jan. 28, 1982

UFOs sighted in county?

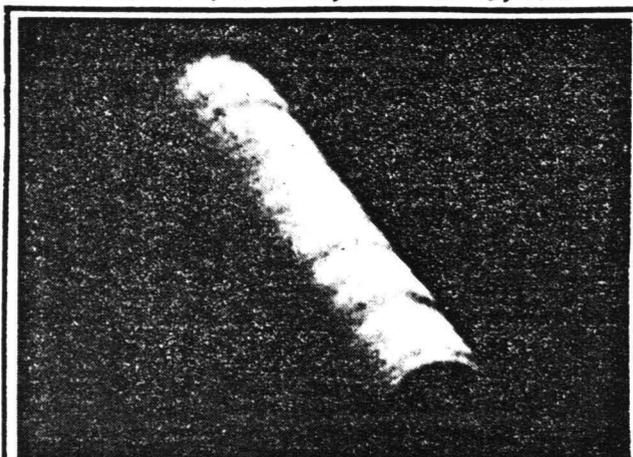
Are creatures from another planet keeping an eye on us?

Two county men reported what they are convinced might have been an unidentified flying object seen in the skies north of Pomeroy Monday at about 4:45 p.m. They said that they observed some strange lights in the sky by the river.

They said that they watched the light through a nine-power scope, and were unable to detect any body or craft that it was attached to. The light was white, and appeared to be 10 to 15-foot across, they said. It hovered over the horizon, split and then rejoined together. After rejoining, the light suddenly disappeared, they said.

There have been several other reports of UFO's in the county in recent years, with at least two sightings taking place in the Dutch Flat area.

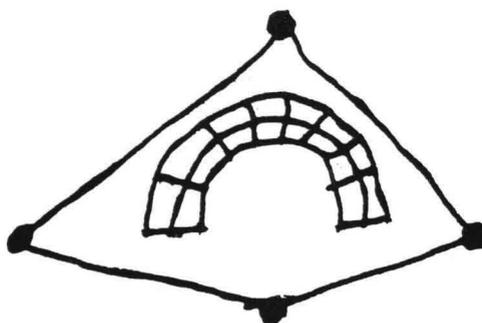
NEWS WORLD, New York, NY - Feb. 13, 1982



ICUFON Archives

Cylinder-shaped UFO over N.Y. City

A cylindrical, tubular-shaped craft was photographed hovering over New York City on March 20, 1950. The photo was declassified by the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book. The name of the photographer was withheld.



Woods' sketch of object

The Time Farmington Looked Skyward

By Debi Yeager
And Tim Farrell
Daily Times Staff

In the middle of March 1950, Farmington residents were looking skyward and seeing strange craft in the spring blue. It was one of the earliest sightings of what have since become known as Unidentified Flying Objects and caused quite a stir in the community at the time.

A story which appeared in the Daily Times on March 18 of that year described the incident: "For the third consecutive day flying saucers have been reported over Farmington. And on each of the three days, their arrival here was reported between 11 a.m. and noon. Three persons called the Daily Times office to report seeing strange objects in the air just before noon. Persons along Main Street once again could be seen looking skyward and pointing."

The news account estimated that "fully half" of Farmington's population said it saw the "strange aircraft — hundreds of them — zooming through the skies."

There were several people interviewed who said they saw the aircraft flying over the area. Many of those people have either moved from the area or have since died.

Johnny Eaton, a real estate and insurance salesman at the time, and Edward Brooks, an employee of the Perry Smoak garage, reported seeing a red object in the sky.

According to the story, Brooks had been a B-29 tail gunner during World War II and "he was positive the objects sighted were not airplanes." Brooks stated that "the very maneuvering of the things couldn't be that of modern aircraft."

John Bloomfield, another employee of Smoak's garage, said the objects he saw travelled at a speed that he said appeared to be about 10 times faster than that of jet planes of that time. In addition, he said that the objects frequently made right-angle turns.

"They appeared to be coming at each other head-on," he said. "At the last second, one would veer at right angles upward, the other at right angles downward. One saucer would pass another and immediately the one to the rear would zoom into the lead."

Marlo Webb, a former mayor of Farmington, and in 1950 a garage employee, said the objects to the naked eye appeared to be about eight inches in diameter as seen

from the ground. He described them as about the size of a dinner plate.

"They flew sideways, on edge and at every conceivable angle," Webb said in the 1950 interview. "This is what made it easy to determine that they were saucer-shaped."

Clayton Boddy, a Farmington businessman, said in a recent interview that he had seen the objects. "I haven't the faintest idea what the

for sure. I just don't know. Now there were stories going around about it being cotton floating in the air, but this was not cotton. These were some kind of aircraft going at very high speed."

Boddy estimates there were 50 to 100 objects. "We contacted the Air Force and they denied everything. They said it didn't happen."

Boddy, who laughs about the sighting now, said that he takes it all in stride because

rumors about something being developed by the Air Force or visitors from outer space and so on."

Another account came from Harold F. Thatcher, head of the Farmington unit of the Soil Conservation Service in 1950. Thatcher said he made a triangulation of one of a number of flying craft and said if it had been a B-29 it would have been 20,000 feet high and travelling more than 1,000 miles per hour.

Force, which from 1948 to 1969 investigated UFO sightings has no record of the Farmington sightings, strangely enough. That news came from Edwin Coffee, assistant branch chief at the Modern Military Records Branch at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. "Project Bluebook, which should have those sightings, doesn't," he said. "There was a reported sighting near Sandia Base near Albu-

querque at that time, but then there were 210 total sightings in that one year. Out of those, 27 of those sightings were identified." In other words, only that small number were ever disproved.

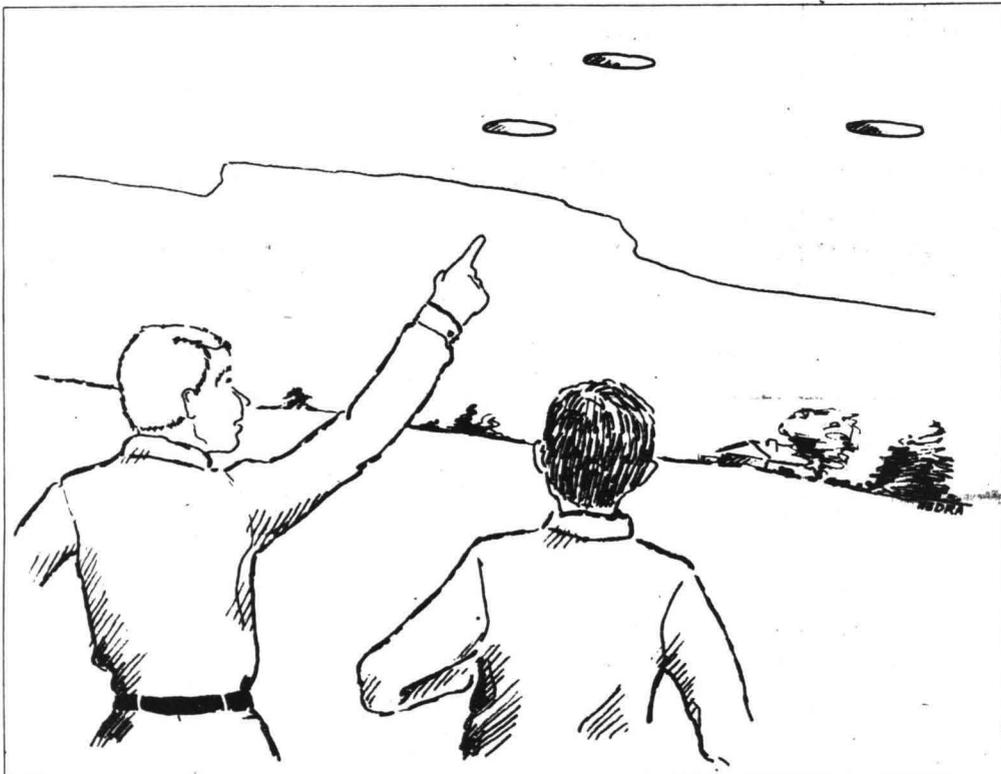
The spokesman said that Project Bluebook wrote its last page in 1969, when a study by the University of Colorado determined the project had not really proven anything of significance. "One, no UFO reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force has ever been proven to give an indication of a threat to our national security," he said. "Two, there has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that the sightings categorized as 'unidentified' represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present scientific knowledge; and three, no evidence has ever been brought forth indicating that the sightings categorized as 'unidentified' are extraterrestrial vehicles."

Bob Warth, president of the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained, located in New Jersey, did find some information in his group's files concerning the Farmington sightings.

He said that 3,000 citizens observed groups of discs "flying simultaneously. They (the citizens) watched the formation pass high above the city. The Air Force refused to admit the existence of flying saucers. On March 18, the Air Force flatly denied they (the objects) were there or that they were secret missiles or space exploration devices."

Warth said that his group has theories about what UFOs are. "They possibly could be experiments by various governments to develop propulsion systems that their (alien) craft have. We feel many of the craft are real objects. They have been around for a long time; possibly they are from other worlds and are here for our protection and to observe our progress."

The sightings of the UFOs in Farmington may never be totally understood. And they may never be proven one way or the other. But many citizens of Farmington who lived here at that time believe they saw something and that it was very much out of the ordinary. It will most likely go down in UFO history as just another sighting, along with the thousands of other sightings around the country and around the world since 1948.



things were," he said. "I've always minimized it (the sightings) because it was unusual and no one could say for sure what they were."

Boddy said that he and two friends were walking down the street, going to lunch, when they saw "these unusual things up in the sky. They looked like elongated silver cigars or plates that weren't exactly circular."

Boddy remembers it as being "a very bright day, so we could see very clearly. The sun would reflect off the objects — they were silver in color. They had a leader which had a reddish color to it."

Boddy said that he gets inquiries from around the world about the sighting. "I've gotten letters from all over," he said. "I tell them what I saw, but as far as saying they were spaceships or not, I am not going to say

"if you see something like I did, then people look at you kind of funny. I usually don't talk about it because of that. You see, every kook in the country has seen a UFO. I saw something though, and I'm not a kook. Really, it doesn't matter a great deal to me whether I saw a UFO or some military aircraft. All I'm saying is I saw something pretty strange."

Lincoln O'Brien, founder of the Daily Times, said in a book on his life, which was recently published, that "we finally got the AP to accept the story, phrased in a rather doubting manner, and some national TV program wanted to put on a show and pay my expenses to New York if I would come and testify. I really had nothing but hearsay as I was in Santa Fe and refused. We never did learn what all this was about although there were all sorts of

"I'm not a professional engineer," he said at the time, but I have engineers working under me and I know how to work out a rough triangulation on an object."

Thatcher said that the objects were not pieces of cotton fuzz floating in the atmosphere. "It was not cotton," he said. "I saw several pieces of cotton fuzz floating around in the air at the time, but I was not sighting on any cotton."

Thatcher has since moved to Las Vegas, N.M., and talked briefly about the 1950 sightings. "It wasn't normal," he said of the aircraft. Thatcher said that some of the townspeople who had seen the UFOs were of the opinion there was nothing to the story. He said it was like "the farmer looking at a zebra and saying there's no such animal."

The United States Air

Force said that his group has theories about what UFOs are. "They possibly could be experiments by various governments to develop propulsion systems that their (alien) craft have. We feel many of the craft are real objects. They have been around for a long time; possibly they are from other worlds and are here for our protection and to observe our progress."

The fact that Project Bluebook has no record of the Farmington sightings is rather odd, due to the fact that there was a lot of publicity on the incident. The Associated Press picked up the story, but the Bluebook report has no record of AP stories on the sightings. "That is rather strange," Coffee said. "If there were AP stories on the sightings, then at least that would have made it into the Project Bluebook files. But I haven't found anything on it."

An Air Force spokesman in Washington said that he could not explain why the Farmington sightings were never included in Project Bluebook or even if the Air Force investigated the incident. "The Bluebook was in

HERALD AMERICAN, Boston, MA - Feb. 4, 1982 CR: B. Greenwood

Vermont's encounter: UFO or aurora borealis?

By PAUL SULLIVAN

WINDSOR, Vt. — Were three bright yellow objects from outer space holding maneuvers in the skies over this Connecticut River town Tuesday night? Or were the mysterious lights, spotted by two policemen and a handful of people, just a part of the aurora borealis?

Police Sgt. Richard Pollard, 47, a 14-year veteran of the force, said he spotted a "bright, yellow cylindrical object" in the sky over a ridge near the river about 6:15 p.m. "I notified my office and learned one of my officers, David LaPlante, was also watching it," Pollard said. "We watched it for four-five minutes. Suddenly, it shrunk down to the size of a star and sped away."

A few minutes later Pollard saw two bright lights over the same area. "They were maneuvering around. One trailed the other, came up beside it and then went under it."

"Then one took off to the west and the other to the south," Pollard said. A short time later the two "objects" repeated the process, he said.

Thomas Murphy also spotted the lights from his home here. "It just glowed. I was amazed. I've never seen an airplane or a helicopter move that fast. It was nothing like an airplane. I wanted so much for it to come closer, I'll be watching again tonight."

National Weather Service officials in Burlington said the aurora borealis, or northern lights, which have been bright all week, might deserve credit for such a spectacular light show over Windsor.

But Pollard, who served three years with the military in Alaska, discounts that theory. "It was definitely not the aurora borealis. I'm very familiar with that."

Pollard added: "I don't know what it was. People a lot smarter than I am are trying to figure it out."

The local police received four or five calls from residents who said they saw the mysterious lights in the sky and the officers said they would report the sighting to the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill.

UFO report:

By FRANCES BORSODI
Herald-Standard Staff Writer

It's a soft, white light that pierces the darkness of night.
It's a lonely, shrill cry and a strong, humming buzz.
It's a big, hairy, apelike creature that disappears into thin air.
And it drives dogs wild.

It's an unidentified flying object.

UFOs are as common to Fayette County and western Pennsylvania as beans are to Boston. And both have been around for a long, long time.

While a true history of UFO sightings in Fayette County would take long study and a stream of sources, the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research quickly brought the Herald-Standard up to date on sightings which have taken place in the last 10 years.

UFO sightings usually occur in spurts, with the most active period taking place through 1973-74.

For the most part, sightings include bright lights, humming noises and large, hairy creatures. They have been spotted throughout the county, and UFO researcher Diane Enion noted that Fayette County especially has a large number of creature sightings.

The most spectacular UFO sighting took place Oct. 25, 1973, in rural country, north of Uniontown. It was the first definite case showing a relationship between UFOs and hairy creatures, according to a report by the agency's former director, Stan Gordon.

Enion noted this was a nationally-publicized event. However, the agency has chosen not to release names or specific locations at this time because those persons involved suffered a great deal of public harassment following the initial announcement.

The Herald-Standard reported that the incident took place on a farm along the Vances Mill-Butte Road.

On this particular night about 9 o'clock, several people became aware of a large red ball-like object slowly descending through the sky towards the pasture area and thought that it might be a plane crashing.

The farmer's son, a 22-year-old city boy, jumped into a pickup truck, hoping to give assistance. Two other boys jumped onto the back and the three took off. One carried a rifle.

As they approached the spot when the "craft" had landed, the headlights on the truck started to dim. The trio proceeded on foot to the top of the hill and they could see the object resting on the ground, or close to the surface.

The object was now bright white and it appeared to be about 100 feet in diameter. The trio heard screaming sounds from the area of the craft and the object itself was making a loud sound like that of a lawnmower.

One of the young boys yelled that there was something moving along the fence across from their position. From the illumination of the craft, it was possible to make out the approaching figures. What they saw were two tall apelike creatures with glowing green eyes.

The creatures were making a crying sound and the smell of "burning rubber" filled the air, they told Gordon.

One of the boys became terrified and fled from the field. The farmer's son fired several shots over the heads of the creatures and, when that didn't stop them, he shot three rounds directly into one of them. When the creature was hit, it made a whining sound, then raised its hand up toward the other creature. Instantly, the UFO in the field disappeared and the sound stopped.

The creatures then slowly turned around and moved back into the woods. At this point, the two men went back to the house and took the family to a neighbor and then called the state police.

About 9:45 p.m., the state trooper arrived on the scene and went to the spot where the UFO was reported to have landed, Gordon wrote.

In the field was a glowing white illuminated ring — 150 feet in diameter.

"Witnesses said the light was so bright that you could read a newspaper by it," Enion said. "Cows and horses who grazed in the pasture refused to come near the area where the light was."

Eventually, the circle faded.

The trooper and the witness proceeded to the spot where the creatures had been seen and reported they could hear something in the woods following them.

When they walked, it would follow and when they stopped, the sound stopped.

According to the trooper, the farmer's son was almost hysterical. The group returned to their cars and notified the UFO research agency.

After meeting the group at Laurel Mall at approximately 1:30 a.m., the director and the group arrived back at the woods where another strange experience was to take place.

"The young man just freaked out," Enion said. "He felt there was still something in the woods. When the people checked the area, they found trees and branches dragged back like something heavy had been running through there."

The director had a tape-recorder going and Enion said it recorded the fit of the young man and the race back to the patrol car.

"He felt there was something evil in the woods. I heard him freak out on the tape. He tried to strangle his dog. He had to be subdued. He tried to strangle people. Finally, they had him subdued and they threw him into a patrol car," Enion said.

Gordon wrote that several of the witnesses also began experiencing trouble breathing and detected a strong sulphur odor in the air at the pasture.

Twelve witnesses saw the light and three witnesses saw the creatures. But no one ever saw the light ascend and the creatures were never seen again — in that area.

On Feb. 6, 1974, Mrs. A. was watching television in her mobile home near Smock about 10 p.m. when she heard sounds of rattling tin cans on her porch.

Living in a rural area, Mrs. A. was accustomed to stray dogs frequenting her home. Planning to scare the dog away, she calmly loaded a 16-gauge shotgun with one round of eight-shot ammunition and opened her door.

Greeting her was a 7-foot-tall, hairy, apelike creature.

Before opening the door, Mrs. A. had turned her porchlight on and the light scared the creature so that he raised his hands above his head.

Mrs. A. thought the creature was preparing to lunge on her, became frightened and fired the shotgun into his mid-section.

In a flash, the creature disappeared.

There was no sound, no smell. He just vanished. "She said it was like the flash from a camera," Enion remarked.

But the night was not over.

Mrs. A. ran into her house and immediately received a phone call from

her son-in-law who lived approximately 100 yards away. He had heard the shot and called to ask what happened.

Mrs. A. told her son-in-law about the creature. He loaded a revolver and ran towards her home.

On the way, he noticed shadows of approximately four or five hairy, apelike creatures that he said had long arms and fire-red eyes that glowed in total darkness.

He fired two shots at the group and they began to move towards him. The son-in-law began running towards Mrs. A.'s home.

All the while, he noticed a bright-red flashing light that was approximately 500 yards away, hovering over a woods. "They said it looked like a Christmas tree light and revolved like a beacon on a police car," Enion said.

Two state troopers and three national guardsmen were called to the scene. (This was during the trucker's strike and the National Guard was present as a backup.)

The ground was frozen and so the officials found no footprints, Enion said. However, a heavy supporting factor was the animals' reaction.

"Mrs. A. had four dogs and all of them were pretty shaken up. She had cats in her home and they hid under the furniture and sought human contact. Her horse refused to eat and stayed in a section of his pen that he normally refused to stay in," Enion said.

In addition, there was the humming.

"Thirty minutes before the shooting, Mrs. A. had heard a humming sound. Thirty minutes after the investigating officers left, she heard it again," Enion said.

It was learned through intensive questioning that Mrs. A. appeared to have a period of time that she could not account for.

After the police left, her daughter called to see if Mrs. A. was alright. However, Mrs. A. did not answer her phone. After several minutes, the daughter sent her husband to Mrs. A.'s to check on her.

When he went into her mobile home, his mother-in-law was just at that time picking up the phone. When he asked her why she didn't answer sooner, she said the phone had just begun ringing.

This was not the first encounter Mrs. A.'s son-in-law had with the creatures.

In November 1973, he was running his dog through the woods when he spotted a figure approaching him.

It was one of the creatures.

He fired six rounds from his revolver into the creature. It disappeared into thin air.

Gordon wrote the son-in-law could hear the creature running but couldn't see where the sound was coming from. He ran to his home and grabbed a rifle. Upon returning to the spot, the creature was once again in its physical form.

When he shot at it, it let out a shattering scream which he said sounded like a baby crying.

A few days before, the couple's female cat, which had been locked in its cage, disappeared during the night. Fresh snow had just fallen, but there were no footprints anywhere.

There are more stories.

Couples spotting the creatures at Jummonville. A man running one down with his car near Republic — again it vanished upon impact. Animals disappearing. The sounds. The smells. The lights.

The latest-known sighting of a mysterious creature came in August 1980. However, witnesses described the animal as a black panther instead of an ape.

And the latest reported UFO sighting was last November in the Brownsville-Grindstone area. The UFO research agency found this UFO actually to be a searchlight used as a promotional device for a new shopping center in Charleroi. However, several conflicting reports received could not be accounted for.

Enion noted that UFO sightings come in spurts and have been detected heavily throughout western Pennsylvania. The state is considered a window area by the agency, who noted its topography and industry make excellent hiding places for creatures and spacecraft.

"Pennsylvania has many mines and tunnels. They say that all of them are connected so the creatures can use the mines to travel from place to place without being detected," Enion said. "The mines may also account for the heavy sulphur smell associated with them."

Surprisingly, Westmoreland County has accounted for the heaviest number of creature sightings in the district while Greene County has not reported one.

Many theories exist on the creatures. Enion noted they may be the missing link — a creature that became stuck in time. "That's what the Indians believed," she said.

Some theorists consider it to be an ape mutant. "And we do know that they produce offspring," she added.

And they could be creatures from outer space, sent here to observe, explore and possibly conduct experiments.

The creatures range in size from 3 to 9 feet tall. Their hair comes in colors of white, silver, brown and black to a mixture of all. And people have reported they both do and do not wear clothes.

"We believe they do not wear clothes. When someone is frightened and gets only a quick look at a creature, he can't remember exactly what it looks like. Sometimes details, like clothes, are confused," Enion said.

Though the creatures are similar to Bigfoot, the agency insists they are a different species due to the relationship of the lights and supposed spacecraft.

Because people are raised with the belief that these things are not possible, Enion said a great deal go unreported. The agency often learns of events many weeks or months after the fact because a friend or relative later informed the agency of a witness' story.

"Because of the number of reports we hear about later, or the number of people who come forward after an event is publicized, we realize there are a great number of sightings out there that we just never hear about," Enion said.

But the list of sightings does continue to grow everyday.

Are UFOs real? Do the creatures actually exist? And if not, how can these events, witnessed by many different people in many different situations, be explained?

As Enion remarked, "Everybody can't all be crazy. There has to be an explanation."

For more information on UFOs, or anyone who would like to discuss or report any unusual activity, Enion may be contacted at 884-3064. The Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research keeps all names confidential.

REPUBLIC, Columbus,
IN - Jan. 8, 1982

Woman Sees UFO, Aliens Land Here

City police assistance was requested Thursday afternoon after a woman reported seeing an unidentified flying object and "small beings" in the 2100 block of Home, police spokesman Oake Hardy said this morning.

Hardy said the woman called an unidentified branch of the Army and told officials that if soldiers would not take care of the beings, she would be forced to take care of them. She reported her neighbor had shot two of the aliens.

Hardy said two city police officers were sent to the area, but "couldn't find the little rascals."

It wasn't learned which branch of the Army the woman called.

DAILY OLYMPIAN,
Olympia, WA
Feb. 15, 1982

News Notes

What was
that!?!

An unidentified flaming object fell from the skies Sunday afternoon and dropped into the waters of Capitol Lake, according to three people who witnessed the incident.

The object was approximately 10 feet long, a foot in diameter and was flaming at both ends. No one knows what it was.

Olympia police said it was 5:52 p.m. Sunday when they were called to a Sherman Street residence where a 73-year-old woman told the following story.

She was eating dinner, facing east and looking over the north end of Capitol Lake, when she saw a flaming object fall straight down into the lake. She said it hit the water and emitted a plume of smoke as it immediately went under the water.

Police said the woman's 69-year-old friend whose house she was visiting also saw the plume of smoke but did not see the object while it was in the air.

The women contacted a neighbor, a medical doctor who said he saw the object in the air but could not see it hit the water from his vantage point.

The doctor said the object was on fire at both ends and the middle portion of it glowed.

Police contacted aviation authorities who said they had no reports of overdue aircrafts or aircraft problems in the area.

Police checked the north end of the lake by boat at 8:30 p.m. but did not find anything.

UFO reports out of sight, but not out of mind here

By Sam Smith

Chicago Tribune Press Service

WASHINGTON — For 35 years now, reports have persisted of pulsating cigar-shaped objects hovering over open fields and strange lights dancing in moonless skies like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

There have been those who claim they have the physical evidence, like photographs showing what appear to be landing strips for spaceships on Peruvian mountaintops and drawings of alien beings on cave walls and commingled with ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.

There have been those who claim to have the usual proof, like Betty Hill of Portsmouth, N.H., who said she was chased by a flying object one night 20 years ago. Later, under hypnosis, she told of eleven 4 1/2-foot tall creatures, gray, hairless with large eyes and no ears and wearing green uniforms (evidently a good color for aliens) taking her into their craft, where she received a physical examination. It's not clear, though, whether she passed.

AND THERE HAVE been those who may have experienced too much, like Frederick Valentich, a 20-year-old Australian pilot whose plane disappeared in 1977 shortly after he reported seeing a mysterious object while he was flying. Just before his radio went dead, Valentich reported that the large green object appeared to be "playing games" with his plane.

Valentich's father said, at the time, he expected that the aliens wanted to keep his son for a week or two for observation. But Valentich never turned up.

Actually, much of this heavenly attention got going in earnest in 1947, when a man named Kenneth Arnold, piloting a plane in the Pacific Northwest, said he was buzzed by nine pie-shaped objects.

Arnold told a reporter of his experience. The reporter called them flying saucers and, prompted by a public that began seeing lights flashing hither and yon, the government kicked off its 23-year investigation of unidentified flying objects, officially called "Project Bluebook."

SOCIETIES to chart UFOs sprung up, one of the largest appearing in Evanston, where J. Allen Hynek, the former astronomy department head at Northwestern University, directs the Center for UFO Studies, lectures and monitors UFO sightings, about 1,000 every year, he says.

Futuristic movies such as "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (Hynek coined the phrase, which means encounters with alien beings) have kept public interest high, and increasingly, reports have surfaced of respected scientists observing strange objects in the sky.

Even former astronaut Gordon Cooper said he believes UFOs have visited Earth, and former President Jimmy Carter reported seeing UFOs one night in Georgia before he became president.

The government, however, still appears to be unconvinced.

THE REAGAN administration, in its budget-cutting mania, recently killed a NASA program aimed at finding extraterrestrial intelligence. The program, about one year from completion, involved searching the universe for radio signals from advanced civilizations.

The six-year-old effort, though, always was controversial and three years ago earned a "Golden Fleece" award from Sen. William Proxmire (D., Wis.) for government waste.

"It is hard enough to find intelligent life right here in Washington," Proxmire said at the time.

But did you ever wonder why those shiny yellow football-shaped objects, and green egg-shaped ones, and blue and white fish-shaped ones with flashing, blinking or pulsating lights never seem to spend much time hovering around the Chicago area?

It seems they did. Locked away in the bowels of the National Archives are hundreds of reports of UFO sightings in the Chicago area among 20,000 nationwide from the Project Bluebook files.

ON THE CITY'S Northwest Side, for instance, near Foster and Harlem Avenues, where an Air Force major followed a series of lights that formed a

triangle, to the suburban Crete farmer who watched an object hover and then dart away, Chicago area citizens had UFO stories to tell the government that ranked with the most bizarre on record.

And yes, there were little green men. On Lake Shore Drive, no less.

The woman who saw them, according to the Air Force investigator who interviewed her, was "cultured." She spoke several languages, he wrote in his report, and she lectured widely on psychology. Maybe a hint, he must have thought, to what she claims to have seen that spring night in 1954 as she peered east from the picture window of her 3121 North Sheridan Rd. apartment.

IT WAS A "parachute-like object," she said, that skimmed across the waterfront near Belmont Harbor. The object was very bright and hovered for a while before setting down in the parkland adjacent to Lake Michigan.

This is what she said she saw next: "Somebody got out. He was short, but natural in structure, dressed in a green, one-piece suit with a simple tight-fitting head and chin head-dress. He walked up and down the lakeshore, but I couldn't see too much. He blended in with the grass."

The investigator's response was not included in the eight-page report, even though Hynek maintains it wouldn't have mattered since he claims the Air Force's mission in Project Bluebook was to find a logical explanation for every UFO sighting.

They apparently could not in this case. "Unexplained," was the way the entry read.

THE GOVERNMENT, likewise, didn't really explain what Maj. John Eleveid Jr. claimed he saw one night in June, 1952.

Eleveid, according to the Project Bluebook report, saw two extremely bright lights he was unfamiliar with near Foster and Harlem Avenues, and watched as they moved slowly northwest, where they were joined by a third bright light near what is now O'Hare International Airport (at that time a military airfield).

The three lights, now moving more quickly, formed a triangle, then moved into single file again and disappeared in an instant.

According to the files, the Northeastern Illinois skies were busy that month in 1952 with strange lights and objects.

On North Linder Place, several members of a family said they saw an egg-shaped object, yellowish, extremely bright and sporting a long red tail, making large circles, at high speed, around a commercial aircraft.

THAT SAME WEEK, a Broadview man said he observed three slow-moving bright lights form a "V," hover above an aircraft moving at jet speeds and then flash into the night.

About the same time, according to the files, three airmen from O'Hare, including a veteran staff sergeant, watched a polished silver and blue oval object hover, then accelerate quickly and disappear.

They checked the radar logs but found no planes, military or commercial, reported in the area at the time.

It was late August, 1960, when the Crete farmer made his sighting. He told investigators, "I have been a farmer most of my life and have directed my attention toward the skies (for rain) and have never seen anything like that." The object he described was bright, shiny, round and silvery, he told investigators. It disappeared quickly, but by going straight up at unheard of speeds, he said.

THE INVESTIGATOR did concede, in that case, that "the object does not fit any known pattern of observation."

That's probably what two fishermen on Lake Michigan must have thought, if they thought in bureaucratic jargon, in July, 1965, when they watched a saucer-shaped object hover over the lake near their small boat, about 300 feet above the surface, and then vanish into the night sky in a bright, flashing light.

These flashing lights, some of which the Air Force claims were weather balloons, advertising planes, meteors and shooting stars, nevertheless, befuddle Chicagoans and their suburban neighbors.

An Arlington Heights woman in 1960 reported seeing an oval object, slate gray

in color, fall straight down, stop before hitting the ground and take off again. From Evanston two years later came a report from a woman of a spinning orange disc that hovered near her home for about 15 seconds before disappearing.

NEAR ADDISON Street and Central Avenue on the city's Northwest Side that same month, a high school student who was studying astronomy and looking for Jupiter, said he sighted a spherical object with lights across its middle rotating as it passed by.

This was no hoax, the youth assured investigators, because "Watching the object cost me time on my homework."

That the government might think they were crazy, in fact, concerned many from this area, like the Des Plaines salesman who at about the same time in 1962 as the aforementioned sightings spotted a saucer-shaped object with a bubble on top traveling, he estimated, 600 to 700 miles per hour only a few feet above the low slung roofs of the suburban homes.

"I am sure in the last few years you have had numerous reports of UFOs throughout the United States," he told investigators. "Some you may consider crackpots, while others (like me) you may believe. I hope my report will help you piece together the UFO puzzle."

MANY ALSO PUT considerable thought and analysis into their observations, including the 11-year-old Glen Elynn youth who in 1963 wrote to the Air Force that he saw three solid, flashing objects behaving crazily. And for those who questioned his credibility, he explained: "I am a competent observer of celestial objects. The validity of my observations may be questioned because of my age, but, I must point out, however, that several persons older than myself have confirmed the sightings."

Also that year, a 44-year-old Chicago Public Library employee tried to explain what she saw one summer night that same year and what had occurred.

"The object hovered for a while. It had either lost its strength and was seeking energy or it was trying to generate some.

"As soon as it gained power, from what we do not know, it sped up, and when I looked at the Moon, which was bright and full, I didn't see a moon, but a beautiful ornate cross with a trail of light extending down."

THAT'S NOT EXACTLY what a 24-year-old Chicago man said he witnessed in 1965.

The man explained he was waiting for a CTA train on a North Side platform when an object, lights flashing brightly, began to hover near a hospital.

The object, or someone or something inside, then began to exchange code signals with someone (or something) inside the hospital, and then took off and disappeared. Either "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" was not that farfetched, or it was getting increasingly difficult at the time to get a private room at a decent hospital.

Cracked pool poses mystery

By ROBERT E. SHOTWELL
Correspondent, The Oregonian

BEND — Whatever punctured 7 inches of ice and cracked the bottom of a suburban fish pool remained a mystery Wednesday.

A scuba diver from Salem probed the bottom of the pool for 25 minutes Wednesday afternoon but was unable to locate any object that could have caused the damage.

Don and Gerri Morelock, who live on Century Drive between Bend and Mount Bachelor, discovered a hole in the ice, then noticed that the water was draining from their pool.

"We didn't know what to think," Morelock said. "We've got about 200 Japanese koi in the pool. That's an exotic carp — sort of a large goldfish. We don't want to lose them, but that might be the end result."

Morelock called professors at Central Oregon Community College, asking for their help in finding an object or at least helping him to determine what kind of object it could have been.

Robert Powell, head of the science department at the college, said Wednesday, "It's difficult to believe that anything round could break through 7 inches of ice, fall through 10 feet of water, and still have enough force to crack the bottom of the pool. I feel it must have been something long and cylindrical to have done that."

But diver Richard Arendt could find neither round nor cylindrical object.

"It's pretty murky in the pool," he said. "In fact, there were times when I couldn't even see the underwater light at the end of my arm that I was using to explore the bottom."

Bruce Nols, geology professor at the college, said at the scene Wednesday that the suspected object would be much easier to deal with had it landed on the ground and not in the pool.

"I got a call this morning (Wednesday) from the Scientific Early Alert Network at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. They had heard about the falling object and wanted to know what we had over here in Central Oregon. I had to be honest with them. I really don't know what it is."

Powell said he has contacted geologists at the University of Arizona, who are experts in meteorological phenomena.

"They told me that if we come up with an object, they will analyze it and let us know what it is," he said.

The pool, built by Morelock to hold the exotic fish and "something for the waterfall to run into," contained from 150,000 to 200,000 gallons of water.

That was before something made a round hole in the ice, about 12 inches across. There were very few cracks in the ice around the hole, but some cracks appeared as the water level dropped.

When the diver failed to produce anything but reports of murky water and hampered vision, Morelock decided to call off the search.

"I don't know if I'll drain the pool or not to rake the bottom in an attempt to find whatever it is," he said. "I guess I'm not really obligated to do anything about it for the next two or three days at least."

The rest of the country is not quite so complacent, however. Mrs. Morelock said Wednesday she was awakened at 6 a.m. by a reporter from a radio station in Los Angeles asking her about the mystery. That call was followed by several others — from San Francisco and Hollywood — wanting the same information.

"I just don't know what to tell them," she said. Morelock was pleased about one thing. The diver told him he saw several of the fish, and they seemed to be doing just fine.

PRESS-GAZETTE, Green Bay, WI

Feb. 21, 1982 CR: R. Heiden

Six UFOs reported

ESCANABA, Mich. — A string of sightings of unidentified flying objects has been reported in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The sightings, reported between Feb. 9 and Feb. 13, were all in the Escanaba area.

One of the sightings, reported by Tammy Utt, 17, Soo Hill, resembled an upside-down cake pan. She told police that the object landed on a road a half-mile from her car. Another man described a sighting several days later as looking like a 30-foot wide salad bowl with lights around the bottom.

Police were investigating.



Photo by ROBERT E. SHOTWELL

NO COLD FACTS — Diver Richard Arendt emerges from hole in pond at home of Don Morelock, Bend. Arendt was unable to find or identify "mysterious object" that penetrated ice and cracked pool bottom.

Punctured pool still mystery

By ROBERT E. SHOTWELL
Correspondent, The Oregonian

BEND — Interest waned Friday in a mysterious object that punctured a 7-inch icecap and cracked the bottom of a 10-foot-deep fish pond at a suburban Bend residence last week.

However, the owner of the pond still is curious about the phenomenon.

"I'd still like to know what it was," Don Morelock said as divers began packing their equipment after a probe of the pond's bottom.

Whatever it was, the object punctured 7 inches of ice on the surface of the pond, dropped through about 10 feet of water, and cracked the 8-inch-thick pond bottom.

The search for the object attracted nationwide interest. The Morelocks have been fielding telephone calls from radio stations and newspapers since a mysterious round hole appeared in the ice Monday afternoon, causing the 200,000 gallons of water to begin draining from the man-made pond.

Diver Richard Arendt probed the bottom of the pond Wednesday but was

thwarted by murky water and hampered vision. He surfaced empty-handed after a 25-minute search.

Arendt did report, however, that Morelock's 200 exotic Japanese goldfish appeared to be doing fine despite all the activity on the surface.

Friday, two divers from the Bend Fire Department who also work for the Deschutes County Search and Rescue Unit brought sophisticated equipment to the scene in a concentrated effort to locate the mysterious object.

The divers, Ralph Maybee and Leo Renk, dropped a dredge nozzle into the pond, set up a pump and a riffle board, and started sifting silt and rocks off the bottom.

The effort proved fruitless.

Robert Powell, head of the science department at Central Oregon Community College in Bend, used a magnet to pick up some metal fragments from the riffle tray.

"They're not really significant," he said, "but I am going to have our geologist take a look at them to see if they

could be meteor fragments. Actually, they appear to be the same type of metal fragments that could be picked up by dragging a magnet anywhere."

The divers eventually gave up on the dredge and then used the magnet on the pond floor in an attempt to attract any metal fragments that could be embedded in the silt. That effort also proved fruitless.

Next, an underwater metal detector was used, with the same negative results.

As the divers packed their equipment, Morelock said he may not know what caused the freak hole in the ice until this spring or summer.

"I'll probably have to drain the pond to get a close look at the bottom," he said.

Although the divers cleared a 5-foot-wide circle with the dredge, they were unable to locate any crack in the concrete at the bottom of the pond.

"I'm not giving up," Morelock said. "If there's something down there I'll find it — eventually."

Big Spring police officers watch 'UFO'

GAZETTE, Texarkana, AR - March 4, 1982 CR: B. Leet

BIG SPRING, Texas (UPI) — Night shift police officers and nurses watched a glowing object with flashing lights hover on the horizon early Wednesday, but were unable to discover its source.

"They all described it the same way," dispatcher Jamie Schooner said. "I guess what they saw was really there. But it sounds kind of weird. Officers armed with binoculars watched the mysterious object hover just above the horizon west of town for 45 minutes in the early morning hours, another dispatcher said.

"The officers said it looked like it was just west of Big Spring," the dispatcher said. "They described it as white at the center with green and white lights flashing around it."

"It didn't look like an airplane or anything," he said. "We had a guy with binoculars looking at it. It did not seem to be moving."

"We received a call from a citizen at 1:57 a.m.," he said. "A nurse at a hospital was outside and saw it and called the other nurses at the hospital out to look."

The department received calls from two other residents who reported seeing the glowing object.

NEWS WORLD, New York, NY - March 6, 1982 (Reprinted with permission of copyright holder)

SIGHTINGS UFO from horse & buggy era

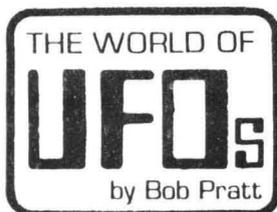
The "modern" era of UFOs dates back to 1947, when pilot Kenneth Arnold saw nine of them skipping through the sky near Mount Rainier. But UFOs have been around for a long time. Here is a report from the first decade of this century.

The evening's revival meeting was coming to a close and the 30 men, women and children stood to take the benediction. Suddenly, through the church windows a brilliant light could be seen in the north.

"The men thought someone's house was on fire and everyone rushed outside, but there was no fire," said Gretchen McKeon, her memory of that night still vivid more than 70 years later.

"We could still see the light in the north, moving very slowly towards us. Everybody got in their buggies, their wagons and on horseback and started off."

It was between 9:30 and 10 o'clock on a fall night in 1906. Gretchen and her father jumped into their buggy — her invalid mother had stayed home — and fell in behind a wagon in the stream of people hurrying along the dirt road in western rural Missouri.



"My father's team was quite spirited and in front of us was a wagon-load of people drawn by a mule team. It was all my father could do to keep his team from crashing into the back of the wagon.

"The light kept getting closer and brighter ... and all of a sudden there appeared this strange object just floating along in the sky!

"Oh, it was huge! It was a monstrous thing. I was just a child of 9 or 10 but to me it seemed like it must have been 200 feet long.

"The whole area was lit up, it was just such a dazzling light. It was real long and seemed to be larger in the middle and tapered off at each end. It

made no noise at all.

"There were some things along the top that looked like stove-pipes. They looked to be red, orange and blue or green. Underneath were some things that looked like bright colored ropes, and along the side were dark streaks, like they could have been windows.

"The people were scared almost to death. The horses got excited, people screamed and two ladies fainted. The men on horseback had guns and they shot at it but nothing happened.

"I asked my father what it was, but he said it was nothing but foxfire, which is just a reflection of the moon on a certain kind of decaying wood. But I knew it wasn't foxfire.

"He told me not to look at it because it might ruin my eyes. He didn't want me to be scared. But I wasn't afraid because I thought that when I had my daddy with me I had all the protection I needed.

"But Daddy told me years later he didn't feel too safe either. He didn't know what it was.

"This thing kept going south and we must have seen the light for 15 or 20 minutes. We could still see it in the distance when we got to our farm, it was moving so slowly.

"Nobody knew what it was. Some people thought it was an ill omen. Some thought it was a warning."

For years, Gretchen's father refused to talk to her about it. "He was afraid I'd get scared. But after I grew up we would talk about it. He laughed about it then, and for years he said it looked to him like a floating mountain."

Gretchen was getting close to her 81st birthday when she talked about this in a 1977 telephone interview, but the sight remained fresh in her mind.

"I can shut my eyes right now and see it," she said. "It has always been busy on my mind, but I never talked to anyone else about it. Many of those who were there that night have passed away.

"This was in the horse and buggy days. There weren't any airplanes in this section and very few automobiles. They had balloons come over in those days but this wasn't a balloon.

"I've read so much about UFOs in recent years and what I wanted to know is, could this have been a UFO?"

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Have you any questions or comments about UFOs? Just write to: The World of UFOs, in care of The News World.

UFOs sighted over Spa

By HELEN PALMER
S-R Staff Writer

Not only does Hot Springs have charm, it provides around the clock entertainment, especially for those insomniacs who watch the moonlit skies and the coming and going of a UFO.

Early Saturday morning, in the sky over Hot Springs, and long after the last horse had been bedded down at Oaklawn, a woman in the Amity Road area called the Garland County Sheriff's Office to report her sighting of a U.F.O. overhead. The time was 1:39 a.m. and Betty O'Neal had been awakened by pranksters in a car that traveled the length of her driveway, lights shining in her windows, and then backed out and parked at the top of the drive.

From her window, O'Neal saw the first of four U.F.O.s over the mountains in that locale. She called the sheriff's office and a car was dispatched to Amity Road.

In the report by investigative officers, Jack Schnellor of the sheriff's office mentioned that he indeed saw an object that fit the description of that given by O'Neal and he wrote that "the object had very distinguishable colored lights moving in a rotating movement." O'Neal had told officers that the object had red, blue orange, and green lights.

Sheriff's deputies stopped their car and watched the first object move to the south, southwest toward a second object. Both objects, Schnellor reported, appeared to be at approximately the same altitude, but because of that altitude it was difficult to determine the size. Both objects were about 5 or 6 miles ahead of the deputies. Both objects then took a southerly turn and went in a southerly direction. They were larger than an airplane, according to the officers.

While the patrol car was in the clearing, officers observed a third object considerably larger than the first two. Although the lights were not as distinguishable, the mass was much larger, they said.

As the unit drove to South Percy Road and Highway 70 West, deputies made yet another sighting of a fourth object just northeast of the third one. Lights were very large and clearly

discernible with the same rotating colors. Captain Hall and Deputy Abernathy watched through binoculars, and both men said in their report that "movement was very erratic" and moved from side to side much too fast for a plane.

Deputies met Arkansas State troopers Jerry Chancellor and Ray Coston, who also substantiated the report by the deputies. Both agencies watched the moving objects until 3:30 a.m.

Because the municipal airport tower was not manned at that hour, officers were unable to make contact for a verification from those in the tower. However, contact was made with F.A.A. in Little Rock and it was confirmed by men there that two objects, not able to be identified, were actually sighted on their radar. They also stated that they had no scheduled air traffic in their area at that hour.

Bobby Chambers of Hot Springs also saw the objects in the clearness of a moonlit sky, and as he walked in an area near Indiandale Shopping Center, he said he saw two objects, with varied lights, moving in the southerly direction, and he said also that he had heard the sound of an engine coming from one of them and he said "dogs in the area were barking and a couple whose dog howled, turned their outside lights on and came out."

O'Neal, who sparked the investigation with her original call to headquarters, said the objects reminded her of a helicopter.

O'Neal mentioned it was strange that all dogs in the neighborhood were barking while the sightings were in evidence. She said "they actually howled at one point" almost as if they heard a sound not distinguishable to the human ear.

Her houseguest was at one door while she was at another, and the guest said just about 3 a.m. that she (O'Neal) should come to the back door and look because the "one object was heading right toward them," and coming in from right over the crest of Trapp Mountain. O'Neal looked, yelled, "get the shotgun" and jumped in bed, pulled the covers over her head and left the entire matter in the hands of God.

Anderson couple's 'UFO photos' on national TV

By JOAN D. LaGUARDIA
Evening Press Staff Reporter

ANDERSON — It was silent and black on the night of Aug. 12 when Rupert and Reba Pring sat in their car in a field about nine miles south of here.

Pring, who has taken photographs as a hobby for the past 60 years, was hoping to capture a meteor shower on film. Instead, his camera recorded an event so unusual, that he and his wife appeared on the "Good Morning America" show Wednesday to tell the nation they'd had a "close encounter of the first kind."

The Anderson residents are convinced they experienced and photographed an unidentified flying object,

a UFO.

They appeared live on the televised news show from 8:30 to 8:45 a.m. in the New York ABC studios with Dr. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astronomer and authority on UFOs, who is apparently convinced the Prings did in fact have a "close encounter."

Pring said Hynek has conducted studies of UFO sightings from 28 countries. He was referred to Hynek when he began to suspect that his photographs were highly unusual.

The pictures were made in 15-minute exposures. Pring recalled that he first noticed unusual lights in the sky during the exposure of the sev-

enth frame at about 2:15 a.m.

"We saw a strange light that came across the windshield. It had to be coming straight down from above us."

When Pring got out of the car to advance the film, the two lights moved to the north side of car and appeared to be hovering above, as if watching them. The lights then moved to the other side of the car.

More unusual, perhaps, than the lights was the feeling Pring experienced outside the car.

"Something hit me on the head and on the shoulders like a hot wet blanket. It was like a magnetic force. It's a very, very uncomfortable feeling. I was frozen there."

"It is sure a weird feeling when it hits you," the electrician said, describing the feeling as far more powerful than the kind of magnetic forces he has ever experienced while working between high voltage transformers.

"Then they took off. Zoom, they just disappeared at terrific speed."

Hynek classified the experience as a "close encounter of the first kind" because it occurred within 300 feet. Pring calculated that the lights were 57 meters or approximately 182 feet above them.

The Prings did not contact anyone about the incident until the pictures were developed. The color pictures illustrated the unusual tracing of lights in the dark blue sky. The lights appear white, although Pring saw them outlined in blue. The tracings of the stars are also pictured, however, Pring did not photograph any meteors.

"We didn't say anything about it at first because there are too many crackpots who say they see these things."

As if once was not enough, Pring also photographed an unusual phenomena on Nov. 18. "We don't know what it is and he (Hynek) doesn't know either."

The November pictures are of a long, white object like a sausage with an orange halo, hovering just above the horizon. Hynek is now in the process of having that film analyzed.

Regardless of whether or not people believe the Prings' tale, the couple has been getting a lot of attention. Pring said, "We got home (from New York) yesterday afternoon and the neighbors called us and, of course, our relatives taped the show."

"I've always been skeptical of these reports," Pring said, "but when it actually happens to you and you feel the effects of it, you begin to be a believer."

The effects include minor amnesia, nausea and irritation of the eyes. A Civil Defense volunteer from Anderson tested the Prings for radiation, but found none.

Pring recalled, "One week later Reba's eye looked like a tomato, just all swollen and red. I was feeling rotten all over. I lost my memory for one whole day."

Of the August photographs, Pring said Hynek agrees, "There's no way you can fake this thing. No way. This is a close encounter, UFO."

CR: P. Trumble

Ohio man hopes to reverse negative attitude on UFOs

The Associated Press

LIMA, Ohio — The public's scoffing attitude toward UFOs bothers John P. Timmerman.

The 58-year-old Lima man is raising funds for a scientific UFO study to reverse the public's "attitude of disbelief and ridicule."

The former businessman's interest in UFOs isn't a passing fancy. He is treasurer and chairman of the board of directors for the Center for UFO Studies.

He recently began spending much of his time as production manager for the *International UFO Reporter*, a bimonthly magazine published for members of the UFO center. The magazine is put together at Timmerman's home.

The first issue of the independent magazine, which was temporarily published jointly with another periodical, was published in Lima. It contains drawings and accounts of UFO sightings from across the world, as well as book reviews, letters to the editor and an index of reports received by the center.

Timmerman says the center has more than 1,500 members, who contribute to its \$75,000 budget for the magazine's costs and for field work on sightings.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the center's scientific director and president, writes the magazine. Hynek has served as chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and also worked on the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book, the official study of UFO phenomena by the federal government.

"We're not examining little green men, and we're not supporting any theory," Timmerman said. The magazine defines a UFO as an abnormal aerial phenomenon whose appearance cannot be ascribed to conventional or man-made causes.

Timmerman first began reading about UFOs in 1946 as

an undergraduate at Cornell University. While establishing a heating and air-conditioning business in Lima, he continued his reading.

Timmerman says his dedication to the subject stems from an "intense intellectual curiosity." He says he doesn't jump to hasty conclusions about phenomena reported to the center.

But he said, "Maybe we're seeing the shadow of something approaching us. It (these sightings) might ... could ... possibly indicate other life forms monitoring our planet who are able to disappear and reappear and apparently involve technology completely above our understanding."

"It's as if an aborigine were to look up and see a 747 jet. The analogy may not be too far off. We're rather young as far as life forms go."

Officials try to solve mystery in Hot Springs skies

By DAVID GLENN
S-R Staff Writer

State police and sheriff's deputies are still trying to figure out exactly what they saw early Saturday morning in the night sky over the Amity Road area.

Betty O'Neal of Route 5, Box 997 reported seeing a total of at least four circular, brightly-lit objects flying in zig-zag formations over the mountains.

State trooper Jerry Chancellor was among the officers who likewise reported seeing the unidentified objects. "They were bigger than any airplane," he said, "about twice as large as any airplane I've ever seen. Their movement was very erratic, sometimes even making an abrupt reversal of direction."

He said one of the UFOs had a bluish tint around it, almost like a halo. He said the objects were too far away to discern

any actual lights, just colors of light — red, green, and white. He said he wasn't able to make out a definite shape, either. "Two of them were closer together, and appeared to be flying in some type of formation," Chancellor said.

"It was a weird feeling," he added. "a feeling of amazement, curiosity, wondering what it was. As far as being scared — well, I'm not supposed to be."

O'Neal and a houseguest, Roger Siegmyre, were able to discern a shape. "They looked pretty much like an oval," said Siegmyre. "One had a greenish-yellow glow on top, and a white light on bottom, something like a bright car headlight."

He said three of the four UFOs traveled in a triangular formation, darting across the sky with a speed slightly faster than that of an airplane.

At one point, O'Neal and Siegmyre said, one of the objects

started approaching, appearing larger and larger. "That's when I decided I would go into bed and pull the covers over my eyes," said O'Neal.

It was about 3:15 in the morning by then, and Siegmyre also decided he had stayed up long enough. "I was just too tired to keep watching. They could have come and carried the place away for all I cared at that point."

After Sunday's story on the sightings appeared in The Sentinel-Record, two other Spa residents called the paper to report similar sightings Sunday night.

A private group of UFO-watchers in Seattle, Wash., named the UFO Reporting Center, will begin Tuesday processing called-in reports of UFO sightings. Its number is (206) 722-3000.

Chancellor was still working on his "incident report" Sunday night, and said, "It's hard to find the exact words to describe what we saw. I really don't know what was out there."

Ufologist Gets No Respect

Editor, Gazette:

As the owner of the only full-time UFO book service in the United States, I am forever scouring newspapers in search of those rare items regarding flying saucers. It was with interest that I noted the story in the Feb. 15 Gazette concerning the Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) suit against the National Security Agency, now heading for the Supreme Court.

What stood out most in this story? The repeated references to CAUS as a group of "buffs." For some, Ufology is not a hobby or a pastime, like model railroading or stamp collecting. Rather, at its best, Ufology is a serious, and yes, scientific effort to study and interpret the most profound, well-documented and baffling set of phenomena ever to confront mankind. This effort, carried on exclusively by dedicated study groups, often at great personal and financial sacrifice among individual members (such as Peter Gersten, not mentioned in the article but who is attorney for CAUS) is not made any easier by the press consistently tilting its attitude toward both UFOs and Ufologists.

Nor is it made any easier by

government attempts to bypass the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. After all, having disclaimed and debunked the existence of UFOs for 35 years, surely the government has nothing to hide from us about them, or do they — thousands of pages of formerly classified UFO-related documents have already been obtained under the FOIA, indicating to this observer a very, very deep interest in the subject after all).

A group of mere "buffs" would certainly not be before the Supreme Court with their plea for more information and the government would not be making an intense effort to block their attempt if there weren't something of tremendous importance behind it all.

The press would do very well indeed to give CAUS and other serious UFO groups its support. For when the "Cosmic Water-gate" breaks at last, as someday it must, your front pages will banner one of the great news stories of all time. Separating the men from the buffs will help prepare the way.

ROBERT C. GIRARD
Scotia

News analysis

UFO sightings stir sense of cosmic consciousness

By DAVID GLENN
S-R Staff Writer

"Who would venture to say, that nowhere else were to be found any that enjoyed the glorious sight of Nature's Opera, (that) we were the only ones that had dived deep to the secrets and knowledge of it?"

— Dutch astronomer Christiaan Huygens, circa 1690.

The idea that there is someone looking back at us as we gaze into the night sky, is probably as old as man himself. But there are times when the idle curiosity turns into serious searches — or fear.

This weekend's rash of reported sightings of unidentified flying ob-

jects "hovering" over the Hot Springs area sparked anew the curiosity, awe, and fright we all harbor in anticipation of making a true close encounter with another life form.

Exactly what was seen in Hot Springs and vicinity Saturday morning and Sunday night has not been determined, and may never be. The seven people who called The Sentinel-Record throughout the day Monday used different words to describe the UFOs, but all the descriptions matched on a few key points. The UFOs, the callers said, glowed brightly with multi-colored hues, and moved quickly in the sky in unpredictable formation.

"We've been seeing them regularly in Mountain Pine for months," said Pam Trumble, who is a "volunteer investigator" for the UFO Center in Seattle, Wash., "but no one would listen to us. They thought we were all crazy."

If those who reported seeing the UFOs in the last two days are crazy, so are the two state troopers and four county sheriff's deputies who filed official "incident reports" on what they saw — and chased — in the dead of night along Amity Road.

But even those who've stared in bewilderment at the strange nocturnal sights are hesitant to conclude the lights are really beacons of another civilization. "I don't

know what they were," said Betty O'Neal of Route 5, Box 997, the first to report the sightings to the Garland County Sheriff's Office. "I just wish somebody would find out."

Out of the thousands of UFO sightings reported across the country, "about 99 percent turn out to be explained very satisfactorily by natural events," said Dr. Larry Coleman, professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. "They are lights reflecting off clouds, weather balloons, or the planet Venus rising. There is of course, that one percent which is not explained, and there are different views about that. Some say

these, too, would be explained naturally with more data, but others consider the one percent still a mystery."

The scientific community, Coleman said, makes a distinction between reports of UFOs, and the very real possibility — or even probability — of intelligent life on other worlds. "It may seem like a contradiction, to look for extraterrestrial life, and then discount reports of possible visits by such life. The problem is, though, that there hasn't been a clearcut case with solid evidence for an alien vessel actually coming to earth."

He said many scientists have

accepted the premise that life is probably fairly common in our galaxy — or for that matter, in other galaxies as well. But the distances between planet star systems are so vast that travel between worlds even in just the Milky Way Galaxy, would require technology far more advanced than anything we know today.

There is another, discomfiting theory, Coleman said. Some scientists have speculated that anytime a civilization reaches the technological point when it is about to travel to other stars, it winds up destroying itself. The theory, as far as this planet is concerned, could be considered either an avoidable warning, or an inevitable destiny, "depending on whether you're an optimist or a pessimist."

Although most scientists barely give the time of day to someone talking about UFOs, the utterance of "SETI" will raise eyebrows. SETI is, simply, the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, a movement which in recent years has taken on the respectability of true science. One of SETI's main tools is another acronym, the VLA, or Very Large Array of 27 radio telescopes in the remote Socorro, New Mexico, operated by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. These receptors are incredibly sensitive, and scan the heavens in the hopes of picking up radio signals of a clear, intelligent origin. So far, they haven't, at least, not in any provable way.

Scientists are not only trying to listen to anyone who's out there, they're talking too. On Nov. 16, 1974, the "Arecibo Interstellar Message" was transmitted from Cornell University. The radio message, sent out toward another galaxy some 25,000 light-years away, is a code describing where we are, who we are, and what we're made of.

The Voyager II probe, now on its way beyond Saturn, bears another message — a gold-plated copper phonograph record, "The Sounds of Earth," including the music of a variety of earth cultures.

The golden record may be, as astronomer Carl Sagan wrote in his popular book, "Cosmos," a "love song cast upon the vastness of the deep."

"Some of (the music) expresses our sense of cosmic loneliness, our wish to end our isolation, our longing to make contact with other beings in the Cosmos."

Court Keeps Lid On UFO Secrets

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA
March 9, 1982 CR: W. Thompson

Washington

The super-secret National Security Agency won a Sunday court victory yesterday when the justices rejected an appeal by some flying saucer buffs who demanded access to 135 NSA documents related to unidentified flying objects.

Without comment, the high court decided to avoid a close encounter with a New York City-based group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, which sought the material under the Freedom of Information Act.

The justices refused to hear the groups' appeal of a lower court

order allowing NSA to keep the documents secret.

The case dated back to 1978 when the UFO group filed a formal request for NSA documents under the information access law. NSA, a low-profile branch of the Defense Department, later admitted it had 135 "UFO-related" documents, but has declined to release them.

NSA argued that releasing the documents might tell foreign governments "which of the vast number of radio communications NSA attempts to intercept, which are intercepted, and of those that are intercepted, which yield to NSA processing methods and techniques."



SUNDAY NEWS, Auckland, New Zealand - Jan. 17, 1982 CR: K. Berry

-UFO a biggie- but it didn't wake 'em

A LARGE and spectacular UFO was spotted near Te Kuiti by an Auckland man on Friday morning.

Mr Dan Saunders, of Takapuna, who was travelling to Auckland on the Northerner, was counting sheep trying to get back to sleep at 5am when he saw an extremely bright light on a hillside.

Mr Saunders, who claims the sighting lasting about three minutes, spotted the UFO about 20 miles south of Te Kuiti. "At first I thought it was a farmhouse, but as the train got closer I could see it was a UFO. It was the size of a very large container truck and from the angle I was looking at it appeared to be oval shaped," said Mr Saunders.

Tripod

"It had its nose tilted up and you could see tripod legs supporting it. The incredible thing about it was the amazing light it was throwing out.

By CLAIRE PARKER

There was a blood-red light coming from the square windows and underneath a brilliant white light lit up the whole hillside. It appeared to be about a quarter of a mile from the train.

"It was standing on the side of a very bare hillside. How the hell it stayed there I don't know.

"As the train came closer, the lights dimmed and as it passed the lights were completely extinguished.

"I thought when the train had passed it might light up again, but I didn't see it again. It seemed to be the typical UFO shape."

Mr Saunders, a retired naval driver, said he had never seen a craft like it and rejected the sugges-

tion it could have been a helicopter.

"There'd be no helicopter that big in New Zealand. Apart from that, the light was so incredibly bright."

Mr Saunders said he didn't know whether the train driver or any of the other passengers saw the UFO.

Snoring

"A bit earlier I had got dressed and taken a walk through the train and everyone else was snoring their heads off."

Mr Saunders said he had thought hard about contacting Sunday News because of public reaction.

"But I've got an open mind on the subject of UFOs and have always believed it was possible there was life on other planets, probably much more advanced than we are."

SUNDAY MIRROR, London, England
Dec. 6, 1981

UFO COPS IN NEW RIDDLE

A NEW "flying saucer" sighting has baffled a town's police.

By JOHN SHEARD

One policeman arrived and after looking at the object through Gordon's binoculars called in several other officers to confirm the sighting.

The object was seen again

In the sky at Pontefract, Yorkshire, the following night at the same time—10.45pm—by Gordon, his son, and another policeman.

Checks were made but the UFO did not show up on radar screens.

Pontefract is only a few miles from, and almost exactly due east of, Todmorden, the centre of a bizarre UFO riddle uncovered by the Sunday Mirror.

The body of Polish-born miner Zygmunt Adamski was found near the town, covered in strange burns.

And Pc Alan Godfrey has told under hypnosis how he was taken aboard a flying saucer by aliens, at a nearby council estate.

The new UFO sighting came on Monday, just a day after the Sunday Mirror printed an amazing report on P.C. Godfrey's videotaped interview.

Gordon, 56, an Age Concern supervisor, said: "I saw a bright light, and it started to tilt and move upwards."

"It was surrounded by a red glow with blue and green lights."

"About eight policemen came down including some in plain clothes."

"One said he had been on night duty for 20 years and had never seen anything like it."

GAZETTE, Whitby,
North Yorkshire, England
Dec. 31, 1981

A WHITBY resident claimed to have seen and heard a UFO, which hovered over Whitby cemetery, and which in perspective appeared "bigger than the moon". It was described as a purple, incandescent sphere, which hovered motionless above the cemetery cross.

A flying visit for Vanessa

FLYING saucers are no longer sci-fi objects for little Vanessa Luckley - because she has seen one.

Vanessa, 10, was playing on the village

By VICKY YOUNG

green at Rockcliffe with two friends when the saucer with red and white lights circled the area.

"We were frightened

at first. It was low in the sky and looked a bit smaller than an aeroplane," she said.

Vanessa of Blencarn Park, Rockcliffe said the UFO made a noise something like a train. It went round the green and then disappeared.

"It is the first time I've ever seen anything like that I hope I don't see it again," she said.

The day after Vanessa's sighting, people in West Cumbria and Thursby claimed they had seen UFOs.

CUMBERLAND NEWS, Carlisle, England

Jan. 22, 1982



Scanning the skies for more UFO's are Vanessa Luckley (right), and her friend Isobel Perry. Picture: MIKE SCOTT.

Mystery white light has the sky watchers all at sea

by NORMAN BATCHELOR

IT WAS a chance glance that drew the attention of Malcolm Littlejohn, an experienced yachtsman, to the mysterious light in the night sky.

Although Mr Littlejohn was looking out over the sea he was not at the helm of his ocean-going yacht in which he has crossed the English Channel to the Continent on several occasions.

Horizon

Instead he was bemusing his bad luck that he was engaged in a massive home-bound traffic jam on the coast road. Then he spotted the light. It was no ordinary light, he decided.

It was bright and whiter than any star he had seen in all the hours he had sailed under a night sky and it hung well above the horizon to the south west.

What Mr Littlejohn, 39-

year-old former commodore of Lancing Sailing Club, on the Sussex coast, did not know was that he was just one of many people who had reported mysterious white lights recently.

Police and coastguards along a 25-mile stretch of coast-line between Newhaven, Brighton, and Littlehampton have received dozens of calls - some have even been made to the Old Royal Observatory at Greenwich.

And on one occasion at the height of a storm, a lifeboat was launched following reports that a light had been seen, although the crew found nothing in the sea.

Mr Littlejohn, who lives in Queens Road, Lancing, said: "As I sat in my car heading west out of Brighton I saw this light over the sea."

"At first I thought it was a plane with its landing lights switched fully on. But then I

realised that no aircraft could be landing in that spot.

"Then I thought it might be a flare. It was very, very bright and it seemed to hang low in the sky. Then it suddenly disappeared. It puzzled me."

The calls persisted for several days with people reporting sightings from around 6pm to midnight.

One couple on Worthing seafront reported seeing five white lights encircling a single big white light. Then, they said, they vanished as suddenly as they had appeared.

To add to the mystery the lights were always seen to be over the sea about 15 miles out in the Channel in an area often used for exercise by NATO warships.

The calls reached their climax when Selsey lifeboat was put out after a report of a bright white light seen

many miles out off Bognor Regis.

The crew searched for four hours without finding anything and finally returned to base.

What is the source of the strange lights? One man who thinks he may have the answer is coastguard Peter Cherriman, who has spotted them on several occasions.

Mr Cherriman said: "We have certainly had a lot of calls and we have logged them all. We think the light in the sky is the planet Venus, which is very low and bright at the moment."

One of his colleagues at Shoreham said: "If you look at the planet through powerful field glasses you can see several smaller lights encircling it. This would explain the smaller lights seen by some people."

But in stormy weather with thick cloud cover?

Astronomer Mr Gordon Taylor, of the Greenwich observatory, is not so sure. "We have had calls from people on the Sussex coast and I do not know what to make of them," he said.

Bright

"Certainly Venus is visible for an hour or two after about 6 pm at the moment but I understand there have been sightings much later than this when the planet would not be visible."

"And Venus would certainly not be seen if there was thick cloud. It most certainly does not appear to be anything astronomical which is causing the sighting."

"Venus does not have small satellites encircling it. It is very bright and if your field glasses are not too clean you can get an appearance of smaller lights because of the refractions."

Star note: Venus is slightly smaller than Earth and from now until about the end of this month it will move slightly nearer to us. By the end of December it will be about 30 million miles away.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - Dec. 20, 1981
CR: J. Delair

Family say 'We saw U.F.O.'

SANTA CLAUS may have abandoned his reindeer and sleigh in favour of a flying saucer.

Because that is what an entire family claim they saw over Cheam Village a few nights ago.

Security officer Bill Lambert was at home at his flat at Far-

nham Court, High Street, Cheam, at about 10.20 the other evening with his wife Pamela and his four sons.

One of his sons was out on the balcony when he called to the rest of the family that there was a strange object in the sky.

Mr Lambert went outside and there, about three hundred

feet in the sky, he claims, was the flying saucer.

"It was saucer shaped, the colour of fire, and the outer rim was spinning round.

"I saw it and all my family saw it and we have never seen anything like it before.

"I was eleven years in the Parachute Regiment and I was trained to observe, so I know what I saw.

"I said to my wife if I tell people they will say I saw it through the bottom of a glass. But I don't drink.

"Pamela insisted that I come and tell the paper about it."

While they were watching the flying saucer a police car drove up behind the flats and a policeman got out.

"He stood and looked at it and said, 'I've never seen anything like it'."

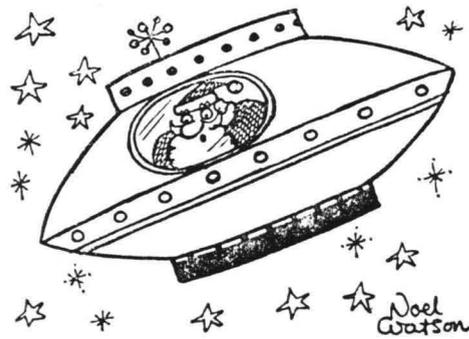
When he phoned the Police

Station the duty officer said to Mr Lambert, "Not another one."

But when the "Advertiser" phoned Sutton Police Station they denied that they had

received any reports of unidentified flying objects.

The object, according to Mr Lambert came from the direction of Epsom and moved at high speed towards Croydon.



SUTTON & CHEAM ADVERTISER, Croydon, England

Dec. 24, 1981

STAR, Christchurch, New Zealand - Jan. 28, 1982 CR: F. & P. Dickeson

Spotlight theory on UFO sighting

Spotlight hunters could be responsible for Tuesday's reported UFO sighting at Christchurch Airport. Gunshots were heard near the Waimakariri River

reflected spotlight.

The effect, known as back-scatter, could produce an orange halo when seen through hazy cloud, Mr Rowe said today.

Mr Rowe admits that in cases of reported UFO sightings he tries for the mundane explanations first.

But two more witnesses to the incident have strengthened Mr Rowe's theory.

Mark Ley and Rodney Jones, both 14, were camp-

ing out near the Waimakariri River bed at the time.

Mark said today how the pair were woken by a bright light - orange coloured - which shone from above on to their tent and surrounding trees.

They were terrified by the incident, he said.

Rodney had noted the time at 1.10am when he woke - more than three hours earlier than the reported sighting by airline

ground staff.

"We opened the tent and poked our heads out," Mark said.

The pair at first thought there was a fire, though they could not hear crackling but a "faint hum."

The source of the light was to the south of the tent and could not be seen over the treetops.

According to Mark the area was lit up for three or four minutes.

"We thought at first it

might have been a car or a spotlight, which is still a possibility, but the light never stayed in one spot.

"We just sat there for a while, then there were a few gunshots from behind us (to the north)."

"We were lying there terrified really - my friend said it could be a UFO," Mark said.

The pair managed to get back to sleep about two hours later, then woke early and cycled home.

SUN, London, England - Jan. 4, 1982



Maxine... "I don't know what it is"

Maxine snaps a flying saucer

By GORDON BROOME

TEENAGER Maxine Gaffney took a holiday snap with a really exotic view ... of a flying saucer.

The mysterious shining object appears on one of three pictures she took of the sunrise in Aghios Nikolaos, Crete ... but she saw nothing of it through the viewfinder.

Maxine's film stayed forgotten in her camera after her holiday there last summer.

But now the mysterious ob-



Maxine's UFO picture

ject has appeared after the film was developed.

Maxine, 13, of Southport Road, Chorley, Lancs, said yesterday: "It's weird. I didn't see or hear anything when I was taking the pictures."

Sun photographer Roy Spencer said: "The negative is genuine and has not been tampered with.

"But the picture could result from freak light conditions or a reflection."

Maxine is sending the picture to the UFO Society of Great Britain.

GAYNOR has seen vague shadowy figures walking about since she was very young.

At first she thought this was normal, but when she found others could not see them, she kept quiet.

Once she saw the indistinct form of an aircraft crashing into a nearby estuary. The pilot bailed out. Later, her mother told her there had been such an incident at the same spot during the war.

In 1979, three years after her encounter with an alien spaceship in a field near her home, the child started to dream about her experience. By June, she had a foreboding that there was more to come: perhaps the aliens would visit her at night.

It was suggested that she keep a loaded camera in her room - not because it was thought she would get any pictures, but rather to persuade her that aliens would not come if they thought they might be photographed.

Reading in bed one night, she felt a sudden dizziness. The world was spinning and she felt herself being transported in a tunnel.

Then the dizziness stopped and she could see clearly. She made out the forms of two aliens.

Flash Gordon

Her bare feet stood in a carpet of grass. There were flowers of a variety she had not seen before.

Gaynor wrestled with her thoughts. Could this be a dream? She was not sure - yet the vividness of the experience suggested it was real.

The man and woman were the aliens she had met in the field near home. Between them was a small boy, two or three years old and looking exactly like the man.

The man and the boy wore a one-piece suit of green, with short trousers. The shoulders seemed padded and almost triangular. They were rather like characters from Flash Gordon films.

"We did not want to frighten you," said the woman. "I am Arna." She spoke in English, though her mouth barely moved.

"You have come far away," said the man. "I am Parz. We shall now show you our city."

Arna reached out for the child's hand, but there was no feeling of pressure. Immediately the scene disappeared, to be replaced by a totally new perspective. The boy had gone. It was an amazing sight - a bizarre and completely alien city.



GAYNOR Sunderland was nine years old and regarded as very bright at school when, in 1976, she spotted a UFO in a field near her North Wales home.

Over the next four years she and her brother Darren would have closer and closer encounters of the most extraordinary kind with visiting spacecraft and their occupants.

It is July 1979 as this second extract begins. Gaynor has had her story checked while under hypnosis.

However unexplained, however childlike her story, her experiences appear to have been real. She has met aliens from another world ...

Adapted by ROBIN OLIVER from Alien Contact - Window On Another World, by Jenny Randies and Paul Whettnall. Published in the UK by Neville Spearman.

The buildings were flat-roofed, with edges curving out as if the protect people from falling off.

They were of various sizes, but never large. The windows were arranged in a curious stepped fashion.

There were no roads, only rubble paths like broken cobbles. There were silent vehicles made of clear plastic or glass that moved like a hovercraft.

There were many people, all remarkably like Arna and Parz. All seemed quite young and they hardly gave her a glance.

Without warning, she was back in the field. The boy was there. The city had vanished. Arna spoke.

"Do not try to wonder where we come from. We are from another time or dimension. In the future many of us will come and try to live in peace with you on earth."

Gaynor understood that these people were kind, but incredibly advanced. They had been keeping watch over the Earth for a very long time. She regarded its inhabitants as their children.

Suddenly she was given a promise. "One day you will have something you want a great deal, but you must not tell anybody about it."

"We have come to you in your darkness because we thought you would be afraid. Other people will see us differently in their darkness."

Gaynor knew that this darkness meant dreams. The aliens were telling her that this was a dream. It was about to end.

The dizziness returned and Gaynor was back in bed, wide awake, with her elbows propping up her head and staring into the soft darkness of the summer night.

In September, Gaynor woke up in her room to a blinding flash of light. She felt dizzy and then Arna and Parz stood before her in a field.

They reached out and touched hands. This time Gaynor knew the experience was real. She could feel the warmth of the alien's skin. "You are going on a trip," said Arna.

Above was a vast circular opening. A beam of light shone down and was drawing them upwards into a hovering saucer.

There were five aliens on board, including Arna and Parz. There

were rows of buttons with lights. Between the two main sets of lights there was a rectangular panel with writing or symbols. In the centre of the floor, where the entrance hole had apparently been, now stood an octagonal object in a box.

It looked like a crystal with plugs and wires. She was told this crystal generated the spacecraft's power.

The trip lasted 30 minutes and Gaynor found herself emerging in a strange locality, like a zoo, with lots of weird animals, but no bars or cages. She was told that one of the creatures was a tuzzo and another a keepho named Papi from Farnhos.

Many questions raced through Gaynor's mind, but she found it hard to put them into words. However, she did ask for more details about her alien friends and where they came from. Arna gave a strange reply.

"We live much longer than your kind," she said. "For every year of your lifespan, we live 100 years. Parz and I are about 3500 of your years old."

The two aliens smiled. "It is time for you to go home," Arna said.

Instantly, the alien world melted about her. Gaynor was back in bed. It was well after dawn. This time the trip had lasted several hours.

Strange Fireballs Seen Over Tohoku

Forty eyewitnesses in northern Honshu said Tuesday that they had seen "huge fireballs" zip across the skies on Monday evening.

The reports were made from Hokkaido, Miyagi, Iwate and Aomori prefectures to the surprise of officials of the Astronomical Observatory in Sendai, the capital of Miyagi-ken.

A primary school teacher, 51, in Ichinohe, Iwate-ken, said that he saw two fireballs, both greenish white, and that he heard a bang five minutes later, at about 4.30 pm.

They could be huge meteorites, the observatory said.

DAILY YOMIURI, Tokyo, Japan
Jan. 28, 1982 CR: Y. Matsumura

TELEGRAPH, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia
Jan. 11, 1982 CR: P. Norman



The Pinkney Report

Investigating the incredible

A weekly column by John Pinkney, Australia's leading authority on UFOs and psychic phenomena



UFO terror grips a NSW township

SCIENTISTS ARE STUDYING a cassette recorder which, reportedly, was melted by a light beam from an immense UFO.

The recorder's owner — pastrycook Frank Burke of Nowra, NSW — says the skin on his left leg was also painfully seared during the encounter.

Frank is only one of dozens of people to have been caught up in bizarre events which are plaguing this town, 150 kilometres south of Sydney.

Local railwaymen say they have seen eerie lights hovering around abandoned mineshafts.

And a foal, which belongs to a far parlour owner Ron Smith, was recently found with the leg shorn neatly from its shoulder.

Much of the area's UFO activity seems to centre on Kangaroo Valley, a sparsely-inhabited bush area outside the town.

Frank Burke was driving home from work through the Valley at about 10.30pm, when his car was suddenly engulfed in blazing light.

"It lit up everything in a radius of 25 feet or more," he told me. "The glare was so intense I could have read the fine print in a newspaper or counted the ants at the roadside."

The cassette recorder on the seat next to me stopped playing as soon as the light came on.

"Frankly I was terrified ... mainly because a dead silence had settled over everything."

"Although the car kept going I couldn't hear a sound from the engine. At one stage I stopped, because I could see flames licking around the wheels — but I wasn't game to get out."

"The light, which was so enormous it must have come from a huge object, followed me right up the mountain and only disappeared when another car came into sight."

Next morning Frank rose early, so he could report the strange incident to police.

Under the shower he noticed that his leg was extremely sore. The flesh was blistered and puckered. He was also suffering from double vision — and his fingernails had begun to flake and fall off.

"But the biggest shock came when I got into the car," he told me. "My recorder's cassette carriage had been melted and buckled."

This week, Frank gave the mysteriously-damaged machine to Thomas van Andel, a researcher with the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, a group of US physicists who specialise in studying UFO data.

Nowra police have received several other reports of strange incidents in Kangaroo Valley.

Recently, three hunters returning from a shooting expedition were suddenly confronted by a human-like figure about two metres tall.

When one of the men shot at the entity it vanished — leaving behind what all three described as a "powerful, horrible smell". One hunter was so overcome by the stench that he was sick for several hours.

Early this year, local bus operator George Sampson was driving 40 pensioners from Yass to Nowra when a huge, brilliantly-lit object suddenly appeared above the coach.

As everyone aboard watched, astounded, the intruder paced the coach for seven minutes, before vanishing up a shaft of light into the clouds.

Nowra newspaperman Alec Field has taken a personal interest in the area's UFO phenomena since 1978, when he spotted something inexplicable.

"I was parked on Camberwarra Mountain, operating my CB radio," he told me. "Suddenly, in the area of the dam in Kangaroo Valley, I saw a mass of what looked like white shooting stars."

"But they couldn't have been meteorites because, instead of plunging to the ground, they were hurtling up into the air."

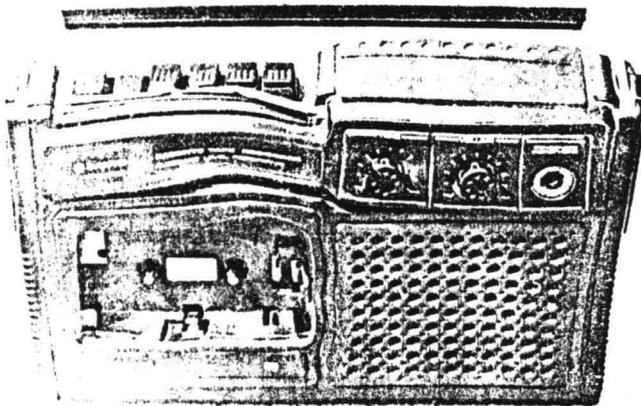
"The things stayed in sight for about 20 seconds — and they convinced me there could be something in all the stories I was hearing," said Alec.

"One of the oddest cases I covered was at Robertson. A farmer rang police and said a weird thing had crashed on his property, starting a bushfire."

"No craft was ever found — but the farmer showed me a perfect ring of burned grass, about 12 metres in diameter. Something seemed to have landed there."

Nowra is linked by rail to Wollongong, where (as this column recently reported) the RAAF has seized UFO films from witnesses.

"Odd things are going on throughout this entire area," a traindriver told me.



The tape recorder which melted after an encounter with a UFO near Nowra.

More claims of UFO sightings

TWO more people have contacted the Townsville Daily Bulletin about a flying object they claim they saw on Sunday and Monday nights.

The first report of the object in yesterday's paper came from five Yarrawonga children. They said they saw two white lights at either end of green, red and blue lights at 9.45 on Sunday night.

Since that report, a Village Haven resident has said he saw a bright stationary light at 9 pm on Sunday. It was estimated to be located above the CAE.

He said that as he watched, the light seemed to lose height and move further away.

His wife also claimed she saw the object just before a power flash in the city illuminated the sky. They said the object then disappeared.

"On Monday night I looked again in the same direction without seeing anything like what I had seen," he said. "This indicates that the light I saw on Sunday night wasn't derived from any house or street light."

Six members of a

family in Lancaster Street, Garbutt, said they saw a bright light at about 8.45 on Sunday and Monday nights. They said it was in the direction of the airport.

"On Monday night I was telling others in the family about the Sunday night sighting," one of the people said.

"When I pointed to where I had seen it, it was in the same place again."

"On both nights the light zig-zagged its way upwards for about three minutes and then disappeared. There seemed to be a green and red light with the white light."

All the lights were flashing at irregular intervals, he said.

The RAAF received two reports of sightings just before the power blackout on Sunday night. Wing Commander Alan Lockett of the Garbutt RAAF base said yesterday.

"We have had no reading of such an object on our radar screens," he said.

"Reports of sightings on Friday and Saturday nights correspond very closely with the movement of bright stars and planets across the sky, including the Formulant star."

UFO sited at Rainier

Sightings of "fast moving bright lights" in Rainier area, approximately 25 miles south of Brooks, were reported to the Bulletin last week.

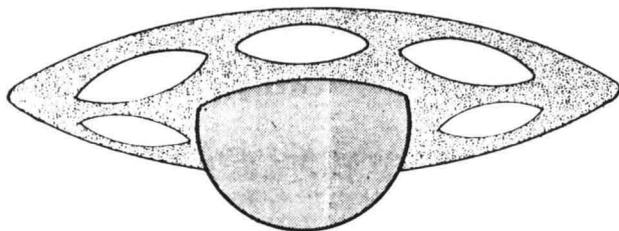
According to witnesses at approximately 4 pm December 29 just west of Rainier two bright lights appeared in the sky, with one eventually heading south and the other going west.

Five people, including three adults and two children, saw the objects which they reported as UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects).

Brooks RCMP received no report of sightings have come in to their department.

BULLETIN, Brooks, Alberta, Canada - Jan. 6, 1982

A close encounter



Cumbria flying saucer mystery

By ANDY ANDERSON

A UFO riddle grew today in Cumbria.

A mystery object has been spotted in county skies.

Sightings have been reported at Whitehaven in the West and Thurstby in the east.

Skywatchers rang police and RAF stations, saying they had

seen an oval object with flashing lights.

One of the spotters was 29-year-old teacher Chris Bates, of Harras Moor, Whitehaven.

SILENCE

"I was talking to a neighbour at about 7.30 p.m. when I saw this object in the sky," said Chris.

"It was about the size of a helicopter, ellip-

tical in shape, and with what appeared to be a dome in the middle.

It came in from the South-East, very fast and in complete silence, and with no trace of a vapour trail.

"As it moved over the sky, I saw a number of red lights around the side and a large central light."

"It moved across the whole sky in an arc in

about 10 seconds.

I rushed in and immediately drew a sketch.

"Then I phoned the police, assured them I had not been drinking, and told them what I had seen."

"I also phoned the RAF."

"If I had seen it on

my own, I would not have reported it for fear of being called a crank."

"But my neighbour saw it as well, and the radio said others had also seen it."

"The thing was certainly not a plane. I've never seen anything like it before."

"I wasn't frightened,

more astonished. I'll certainly be looking out for it again."

The UFO was also reported over Thurstby and Dearham and there were two other sightings at Harras Moor.

Two girls rang Whitehaven police station saying they had seen a "large star with flashing lights" in the sky.

Workington Times and Star editor Terry Kirton saw a UFO as he was out jogging near Dearham.

"At about 9.15 p.m. I saw a large floating light come in from the coast and move completely silently across the sky," said Terry.

"It was as big as a very bright star, and lights were flashing regularly on it."

"The lights seemed to be changing colour. I watched it for a couple of minutes, and then it moved off."

The RAF are investigating the incident.

the UFO file

A CHILLING dossier on unidentified flying objects is being compiled by Norfolk author and freelance radio producer John Kirkbride.

The amazing evidence he has collected so far has caused such a stir that he is rigging up a 24-hour UFO spotters' hotline to his Kirby Bedon home.

And the dozens of mystery sightings may soon be featured in a radio programme — called 'Sightings.'

Then he plans to form a local society for UFO enthusiasts — based on the same name as the programme.

Research

To help in his research for the programme — which John plans to produce himself — he is keen to hear about people's UFO experiences.

He particularly wants to hear about those spotted in East Anglia. That is why he is setting up the hotline so people can phone at any time.

He also has advertised in local newspapers for UFO information.

Mr. Kirkbride's sons, James, 22, and Stanislaus, 14, have also helped in the investigation. James has now even started writing a book on the subject.

Mr. Kirkbride thinks that the reason that there are so many more mystery sightings over the past few years is because films like "Close

Christine Cunningham investigates chilling new research on the UFO phenomena.

Exploring space through the lens

SOMEONE who has very much an open mind on the subject of UFOs is Mr. Brian Mitchell, chairman of Norwich Astronomical Society.

While wishing John Kirkbride good luck in his venture, Mr. Mitchell said that despite hours of star gazing — he and society members had yet to see a UFO.

"A plane's landing lights can appear quite startling. The lights can look as if they are hovering in the sky," said Mr. Mitchell.

GALAXIES

If there were any UFOs, Mr. Mitchell feels sure that either he or one of the society's 60 members would be likely to spot it.

At the moment, the society uses a 10-inch telescope at the Norwich Observatory in Colney Lane, but is in the process of building a powerful 30-inch telescope which will be able to explore galaxies millions of light years away.

HOVERING

"I have never seen anything that could not be satisfactorily explained," he said. He thought that people often mistook the lights of a plane coming into land for a UFO.



Press cuttings detailing eye-witness accounts of local UFO sightings in recent years.

Encounters" have made people more aware about the possible existence of UFOs.

"I believe the interest in other world activities is very much greater than all the media think at the moment," he said.

In fact, Mr. Kirkbride's own interest in mystery sightings started after he saw a UFO near his home.

So, does Mr. Kirkbride really believe we are being visited by creatures from outer space?

"I'm not absolutely convinced — but the probability seems so high that we must be prepared for it," he replied.

If you think you have seen a UFO and want to tell Mr. Kirkbride about it then write to "Sightings", Stud Farm House, Kirby Bedon, or phone Framingham Earl 3469.

When the programme "Sightings" gets off the ground it could make John Kirkbride as well-known in the space enthusiasts world as he already is in educational circles.

About eight years ago Mr. Kirkbride decided to exercise a little-known right of law and educate his children himself. His work providing an alternative education for his children — the youngest of which is now 14, has been featured in newspapers and television.

He has also written a book using words and pictures called "That'll Teach You" — which is a plea for educationists, parents and children to think about today's schools — and make changes.

John's vivid vision of a stairway in the sky

A close encounter with a UFO first sparked off John Kirkbride's interest in mystery sightings.

He saw an abnormal light in the sky at night near his Kirby Bedon home.

It had a very bright centre with shafts of light coming from it. He said it moved in sections across the sky.

"It moved in the shape of a stairway. It was almost as though it was plotting some sort of chart for a map," he said.

He contacted local airbases, to try to find out what it could be but they reported "nothing of this matter being in the sky."

He also phoned the police. An officer came out to see it but could not say what it was either, said Mr. Kirkbride.

"I think in the end he just had to put it down in his police notebook as an

unidentified flying object," Mr. Kirkbride added.

Three startling close encounters of an eerie kind from John Kirkbride's records are:

● Mr. A. and his wife were asleep in their bedroom when they were woken by a strange whistling sound. Their room filled with light. Suddenly the noise stopped and the light went out. Then the couple's children started crying.

● Mrs. B. saw a brilliant electric light with shafts of light going out in all directions. When the object moved it became dimmer and it looked cigar shaped. It moved noiselessly in the sky suddenly shone brightly and then disappeared into the distance.

● Two brilliant white shining objects were spotted hovering over Mousehold Heath. They remained for about five minutes before suddenly disappearing mysteriously into the night.



Mr. John Kirkbride and his 14-year-old son Stanislaus, who live at Kirby Bedon, check out their special 24-hour "Sightings" home telephone message recording equipment.

MERCURY, Norwich, England - Jan. 15, 1982

'Fuzzy UFO' sighting by student

A WHITE "fuzzy" object was seen in the sky in the early hours of yesterday by a pupil of Rydal School in Colwyn Bay, who claims it was a UFO. Seventeen-year-old Alex Everett woke at 1 am or 2 am when he heard a noise. At first he thought it was an aeroplane, but it sounded more like the noise made by flying saucers in films, said Alex.

Looking out of the window he saw "his white rocket that was bright". To make sure he was not "seeing things", Alex put on his glasses. By then the object had stopped moving but it still looked big and there were flashing lights. Then it went away really quickly and seemed to change shape.

"I should have awakened someone, I suppose," said Alex. "Only I didn't think." Commenting on this, amateur astronomer Mr. Eric Mills, 35 Ford-y-Graig, Llandudlas, said it was the first report he had heard and there were some various possibilities.

Suggests

The fact that it was moving suggests it might have been a satellite. They are going round the earth frequently — every few minutes in fact. They are the most frequent cause of sightings.

"Satellites can be very bright and sometimes they turn, so they appear to be flashing."

Alex might also have seen Venus which is still reasonably high in the sky and is very bright. A lot of people see it and imagine all sorts of things.

"Or it could be a meteor which comes from outer space and gives a lot of light as it dives into the Earth's atmosphere."

But Mr. Mills added: "I think if there had been any visitors they would have let us know they were around."

"If they are intelligent enough to travel so far they would be equally intelligent to communicate with us, apart from flashing lights."

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OBSERVERS BURNED

Glaring, Brilliant UFO Sighted By Colony Residents At Nearby Beach

By Jenny Collins

Victims by Unidentified Flying Objects, along with those of Santa, his elves and the Easter Bunny are mostly fanciful, a great many of us believe. They are cranial encounters of the most whimsical kind, we assume.

However, there are a growing number of people who subscribe to the belief that UFO's are, indeed, real. That corps of the convinced now has a new potential set of (reluctant) local recruits.

No matter what the folks who belong to such organizations as the International Association for the Investigation of the Unexplained may say, the jump from supposed fantasy to glaring reality is a troubling experience, according to Guadalajara residents Ray and Carmen Malby, and their children. It is all the more baffling to the Malbys, for they are not inclined to cultivate hallucinations and fantasy, say their friends.

Their experience resembles very much a script digression from Steven Spielberg's 1977 film, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

The family saw a light unlike anything they had ever seen before moving overhead. A light so bright that it burned them, leaving scorch marks on their skin the cause of which no physician so far has been able to identify.

On Saturday night, November 21, the Malbys were enjoying the beach at Lo de Marcos, near the resort area of Rincon de Guayabitos. Ray and Carmen Malby, young daughters, Diana, 13, and Mini, 15, were asleep at midnight in a friend's cabin. Older daughter, Chelo, 24, and her friends, Andres, 25, and Magi, 24, were in the family's car nearby when a vivid, glaring light appeared in the sky.

There was the regular wash of the surf breaking the night silence, but no drone of a motor, no yammer of helicopter blades battling the air, no mechanical sounds at all. The intense light moved closer as those in the car watched. It came to a halt, spun about and then, more slowly, rose. Chelo and Andres got out of the car to watch it; Magi remained behind. Stunned by the nature of the light, Chelo called to her parents in the cabin.

When Ray Malby came outside, he saw a light brighter than anything he can recall ever having seen. Although he believes it was quite close to shore, he declines to estimate the distance between him and the mysterious light. It is too difficult to be absolutely accurate, he says.

Malby describes the light as being considerably brighter than, say, those used by police search helicopters at night. The nature of the light grew more perplexing as the Malbys watched, because of the silence and because it did not illuminate the area about it. It simply glared fiercely alone in the sky.

The group stood on the beach watching the light for four or five minutes as it moved out over the ocean, hovering quite low. Then it sped away, out of sight. At

that point, everyone on the beach went to bed, amazed, mystified, but not really disturbed. "I was ready to dismiss it," recalls Ray Malby, "until the burns appeared."

Carmen, Mini, Chelo and Andres all suffered burns that appeared several days after the experience. Magi, who remained in the car when the object appeared, was not burned. Neither were Ray or Diana, who were the last out of the cabin, and who observed the light for the shortest period of time. Chelo's shoulders, hands and face were burned. On one of her shoulders could be seen the outline of Andres' hand. He had rested his hand there, with his arm about her shoulder, and experienced severe burns on the back of his hand. Andres' face and legs were stung with small dots and splotches. The burns blistered and then itched. They became more severe with time and were still plainly evident three weeks later.

The Malbys visited three different doctors, hoping to obtain a definite analysis of the burns. All of the opinions offered, including that by their family doctor, Luis Castillas, were unanimous, but inconclusive: The burns were definitely not sunburn, but of an unknown origin. The possibility of chemical burn from water pollution was raised, but later discounted, because Carmen, who did not go into the ocean, was among those burned. Neither the Malbys nor their friend were exposed to any other incident during their time together that accounts for the unusual injuries.

Much like Spielberg's intergalactic film, nothing about the Malby's experience — or "sighting," as UFO folk would term it — falls into the area of simple explanation. For those on Lo de Marcos beach who saw the light and were burned, it is proof of... well, something. But what? Such encounters are profoundly disturbing, even seductive at moments. It is tempting for those who have made a UFO sighting to wonder about the next step, leap, forward. What if they could have made some kind of contact — a true close encounter of the third kind — with...with whatever it was they saw?

The Malbys are reluctant to draw any conclusions from their experience. They prefer not to go any further than merely stating what they saw and what they physically felt at Lo de Marcos. They do not, in fact, seem to expect people to readily believe them, and they are not eager to become purveyors of shaggy flying saucer stories.

Although the phenomena of the unidentified flying object at Lo de Marcos remains unexplained, life has returned to normal for the Malbys, Ray and Carmen are back to work at their English language learning institute here, and Ray has resumed his duties as treasurer of Pro Musica.

Nonetheless, to an observer listening to the account of what took place November

21 on Lo de Marcos beach, and looking at the burns, it is obvious that something extraordinary took place. Such an experience would certainly rattle the reasoning and scramble the imagination of the noisiest skeptic. And even the most tough-minded non-believers would remember that odd, glaring light — and the burns — the rest of their lives.



BAFFLED & BURNED — Members of the Malby family, residents of Guadalajara, suffered burns on their faces, legs and hands after seeing a brilliantly-lit, noiseless object approach, maneuver and then speed away, at a nearby beach. Shown above are Diana, 13, her father, Ray Malby, and Mini, 15. (V. Blak photo)

TRUTH, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - Feb. 13, 1982 CR: P. Norman

LOST PILOT'S DAD IN CASH FIGHT

GUIDO Valentich, father of missing pilot Frederick Valentich, looks like winning a lengthy battle with the Commonwealth Bank over his son's account.

By ADRIAN TAME

Mr Valentich Sen. has been trying without success to transfer \$2,100 in his son's account to a higher interest bearing deposit.

"I'm not interested in the money myself, but I'm still confident Frederick may come back to us one day," Mr Valentich said.

"His money is earning three and three quarter per cent, which doesn't even keep pace with inflation."

"I have been asking the bank to transfer the account so it pays more interest to give Frederick more money if and when he returns."

"But up to now they've said it can't be done."

Tracking

Frederick Valentich, 20, went missing amid worldwide publicity on October 21, 1978, while flying a light plane over the ocean off Cape Otway.

During the last six minutes before he lost contact with Melbourne Airport ground control Frederick described a strange craft, thought to be a UFO, tracking his plane.

No trace of Frederick or his single-engine Cessna has been found, despite widespread searches.

Controversy has also surrounded the Department of Transport's alleged refusal to release the unexpurgated tapes of Frederick's final message.

Part of the released tape records Frederick as saying of the 'UFO':

"It seems to be playing some sort of game...it's not an aircraft, it is...the thing is just orbiting on top of me...it's got a green light and sort of metallic...it is hovering, it is not an aircraft."

Every year on the anniversary of his son's disappearance Mr Valentich Sen has made a pilgrimage to Cape Otway in the hope of finding some clue to the mystery.

He contacted Truth this week to detail the Commonwealth Bank's refusal for the past three years to transfer his son's account Truth spoke to the bank's

Avondale Heights branch which keeps Frederick's account, and a spokesman said: "The problem revolves around Frederick's status. Is he alive or dead?"

Later Mr Brian Kaye, assistant to the bank's State Savings Department manager, said: "We will be talking to Mr Valentich Sen, and I am hopeful that we can sort something out."

GUARDIAN, Workop, England - Feb. 5, 1982

Night when green man was flashing his code!

by MICHAEL LYNCH

I always thought Mars was a type of a chocolate. Now I'm not so sure.

A real doubting Thomas, tales of little green men always left me unmoved. Take me to your leader — I'd probably take them to the pub.

But just last week my perceptions took a jolt. For hovering in the moonlight sky, high above my Cuckney home, I saw two flashing lights.

Aircraft, I thought. But 10 minutes later there they were, still calm and flashing bright, red, green and white.

Suddenly one shot westwards in a puff of rotating light while the other remained, motionless and steady.

Retreating inside, I peeped heavenwards — to see the second celestial Christmas tree slide off into the distance.

What could it mean? Was I alone? Was my undisciplined lifestyle taking its toll? Was I cracking up?

Well, local UFO observers recorded few reports, but were far from sceptical about my sighting.

Midlands UFO research group founder Charles Lockwood thought this phenomenon "quite interesting."

"Normally you suspect most siting to be aircraft, but this was different in that it was stationary. Until we get further details though I couldn't say anything more specific."

Ma? I'll just keep talking the tablets!

Close encounter in Lords

LONDON (AP) — Whatever the truth about unidentified flying objects, Britons are seeing more of them, the House of Lords learned Thursday in a close encounter between a peer and an aristocratic UFO buff.

The Earl of Clancarty, 70, founder of a worldwide UFO movement, Contact International, said he had logged more than 2,000 press reports last year of British sightings.

Lord Clancarty is a top member of the Ancient Astronaut Society, which theorizes that creatures from other planets visited Earth in spacecraft in ancient times, and evidently is suspicious of a cover-up by the government. He wanted to know what the military was doing about the UFO sightings.

Viscount Long, replying for the government, said there had been 600 UFO reports, up from 150 in 1978, and the Defense Ministry checked them all out — to make sure they weren't enemy aircraft.

"All UFO reports are passed to operations staff to examine them purely for their possible defense implications — for example, a Soviet aircraft which might approach our defense system," Long said.

What happened to the reports? asked Lord Hill-Norton, a former head of the Royal Navy.

Since 1967 the Defense Ministry has filed them away; before that, they were thrown away after five years as being of "no interest," Long said.

"Who was it who decided they were of no interest?" Hill-Norton persisted.

"I thought you were going to say the Royal Navy had seen the Loch Ness monster many times," Long said.

Addressing himself to Clancarty, he added: "If the noble lord is suspicious the Ministry of Defense is covering up in any way, I can assure you there is no reason why they should."

A Royal Air Force spokeswoman said later: "All of the incidents reported to us were looked at to see whether they constituted a threat. By threat, we don't mean Martians, because we don't consider them a threat."

CR: R. Heiden

Men unshaken on U.F.O.

Four Christchurch men may have been the brunt of a few jokes at work but they are unshaken in their belief that they saw an Unidentified Flying Object over Christchurch early on Tuesday morning.

"You are a bit wary of saying you have seen a U.F.O. but when there are four of you standing together you know you are right," said Mr Gerald Coward.

Mr Coward was one of four men (Messrs Lindsay Squire, Bob Mulholland, and Stuart McConnell being the others) who believe they saw a U.F.O. over Christchurch just before 5 a.m. on Tuesday.

The four men, all employed by Air New Zealand, were loading cargo on to a Bristol Freighter at Christchurch Airport when Mr Mulholland saw a bright, pulsating orange and white light in the sky.

"It came in from the south-east at great speed, then hovered for some time somewhere above Wigram Air Force Base. It moved around for a while before heading off over the Port Hills," Mr Coward said.

The four men watched the pulsating light for about 11 minutes.

"I have been doing this job for 14 years and I have never seen anything like it. It definitely was not a plane, and anyway, no planes were scheduled for this time," Mr Coward said.

"I am not very good at judging distances but I would say the object was at about 20,000ft and it moved really quickly, faster than a Boeing. About the speed of a fighter plane."

The group tried to get in

touch with the control tower but were unable to do so.

"It was a pity we could not reach the traffic controller because they should have been able to track the object on radar," he said.

The weather at the time was clear and mild.

"I may get 'had on' by a few of the boys tomorrow night, and it may sound a bit silly, but the four of us know what we saw," Mr Coward said.

CR: F. & P. Dickeson

TRANSLATIONS

CREDIT: Luis R. Gonzalez

- 1) City and country of incident: Gorniz, Spain
- 2) Date of incident: Between February 15 and February 21, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: PUEBLO, February 27, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Madrid, Spain

4 HUMANOIDS IN A CAMP AT GORNIZ (VIZCAYA)

THEIR STRANGE FACES RADIATED KINDNESS. SOME MINUTES LATER, A UFO HOVERED OVER THE CAMPING SITE, BATHING IT WITH A BRIGHT LIGHT. THEY HAD GOO-LE-YES 8 TIMES THOSE OF HUMANS. THEY ALSO HAD A BIG MOUTH WITHOUT LIPS, BUT NO EARS WERE SEEN. THE HAIR WAS BLACK AND "BACKWARDS-COMBED."

In a camping site near Gorniz, two women were panic-stricken when they saw 4 humanoids bypassing them, less than 2 meters away. The beings were short and were moving from a nearby creek up to a hill. The women described the humanoids as having very large faceted eyes, like those of insects. They walked in a crooked manner and all their bodies seemed to be covered by a thick, dark skin.

We learn about this case through the journalist J. J. Benitez who investigated it. He added that there have been many cases in Northern Spain during recent weeks. But let's return to this case, possibly the most important one this year.

Fermina Teniente and Maria de los Angeles Comin, 35, did not believe their eyes and stood still. One of them, shocked, screamed. One of the humanoids turned and studied them for a moment.

Many campers arrived to help the women and, a few minutes later, they were all surprised by a very luminous object that came from behind the hill and crossed over the camping site.

J. J. Benitez pointed out that "lately, many people from Plencia, Barribe, Gorniz, Algorta and Zorroza (towns in Northern Spain) have seen bright lights crossing the skies at low altitude. A UFO was seen for more than an hour in Plencia." About the case, he explained further:

"There were 12 huts in the camping site. The incident took place at 23:45. The women were outside their hut when they saw the first being. Fermina told Angeles: 'Look, what a strange dog!' But immediately they realized that it was not a dog. It walked in a crooked manner, its arms touching the ground, like a monkey. The humanoid was about 1.5 meters tall."

"How did they describe them?"

"First of all, I must say that just when Fermina was finishing her phrase, the humanoid turned and looked at them. Fermina and Angeles agreed that its face irradiated kindness. They even tried to shine their torch (flashlight) at the being, but strangely, it did not work. Two minutes later, they saw three other humanoids passing by (it was then that they became afraid). These other ones walked more quickly and did not stop."

"Their eyes were really so big?"

"Yes, about 8 times those of a human being. They had no lips nor ears and their mouths were quite big. The hair was black and the skin was dark."

"What happened later?"

"The camping site was thrown into an uproar, because a few minutes later, a luminous object flew over the area, bathing it in a bright light. It flew in an easterly direction. There was much excitement and the possible footprints were covered by some of the people who arrived there. The case took place sometime between February 15 and February 21, 1982."

CREDIT: Irene Granchi

- 1) City and country of incident: Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil
- 2) Date of incident: March 6, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: O DIA, March 8, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

UFO FLYOVER IN CAMPO GRANDE

Last Saturday at 20:15, spectators were ready to watch a football match between Operario and Vasco at the Morenao Stadium. An uncountable number of people watched the objects crossing the sky. According to some, there were two of them, others say four. Some called it a colored cigar, others said it was egg-shaped. It emitted a very intense colored light and crossed the sky swiftly, so it could not be any known airborne object. Although the sighting only lasted for one and a half minutes, they were seen by people in different districts of the town, moving in different directions. At first they were seen travelling from West to East, others watched them from Southwest to Northeast. At the Camp Grande Air Base, Levy Lelis Gonçalves, who was on duty, and a VASP mechanic, watched two objects go by. They informed CINDACTA in Brasilia, who said no regular flight was known at that hour over Campo Grande. According to people interviewed yesterday, the UFOs were also seen in Ribas do Rio Pardo and Coxim, both being towns in Mato Grosso do Sul.

- 1) City and country of incident: Araruama, State of Rio, Brazil
- 2) Date of incident: February 16, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: O SALINEIRO, February 20, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Araruama, State of Rio, Brazil

A FLYING SAUCER PHOTOGRAPHED ABOVE THE ARARUAMA LAGOON

(Summary) Our friend and collaborator, Edmo Gomes, established in this town with a photographic studio at Rua Major Feliz Moreira, Edifício Pinho, room 113, on the borders of the Lagoon. Just after 2 a.m. on February 16, the photographer, who had been working late, went to the window for a breath of fresh air and, to his surprise, saw a strange flying object coming from the direction of Cabo Frio, which stopped over the Araruama Lagoon at the spot Pontinha. He quickly got his camera and photographed the sight, but took just one photo. The UFO then flew away in the direction of the ocean and disappeared. Edmo immediately got in touch with the Editor of this paper, Alvaro Ricardo Gonçalves, telling him what had happened. He said the UFO looked like a cone with a very sharp point, and that it flew on impulses that were not too fast, and that after each impulse it stopped from one to three seconds, emitting lights that went from green to violet, and now and again a very strong golden beam that changed to green and blue. The weather was good, but it was dark. According to Edmo, when the UFO stopped over the Lagoon, its waters and the border that had been dark, became profusely lit, so that from his window, he could see the houses on the other side of the Lagoon very clearly. Edmo has a good reputation and is not a visionary, and took the photo on his professional instinct. We soon got to know that Macedo of the tobaccoist's by the bus-station also watched the UFO as it lit up the region.

It is estimated that the UFO was only about 500 metres distant from the witness. Edmo employed a 100 ASA film in his camera.

CREDIT: Nati Cortez via Irene Granchi

- 1) City and country of incident: Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil
- 2) Date of incident: February 18, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: A REPUBLICA, March 2, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

VICE-MAYOR OBSERVES FLYING SAUCER NEAR CURRAIS NOVOS

The Vice-Mayor of Currais Novos, Mariano Guimaraes and his driver Ivan da Silva were on their way home coming from Natal. They saw a very luminous object that had stopped at three metres from the ground on the roadway and discharged a metal board the size of a Volkswagen, that started spinning around it. The sighting occurred around 18:00 hours in the locality of Manicoba. According to poetess Nati Cortez, people in the region often see strange objects, for it is rich in minerals.

At a distance of about 80 metres from the UFO, the Vice-Mayor made his driver stop the car while they both watched the strange scene. They became fearful, so they told Nati Cortez, the researcher, for they believed the UFO might suck them up. They also thought someone might appear from inside it, but it was all closed. It was a metallic black, but something opened somewhere and discharged the metallic board, then closed again. In consequence of the strange sensation they felt, neither of the witnesses ever wishes to see anything like this again.

- 1) City and country of incident: Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil
- 2) Date of incident: March 3, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: TRIBUNA DO NORTE, March 4, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

BUTCHER: IT WAS SO BRAUTIFUL I DIDN'T DARE TO LOOK

Yesterday, at 3 a.m., a UFO was seen flying over Cidade da Esperanca. The owner of a market at the corner of Rua Ceara and Rio Grande do Norte, Francisco Saraiva da Silva, who lives close to his establishment, had gone out for some fresh air, as it was very hot. Looking down, he saw a light reflected from above, reddish. He looked up and saw what looked like a cake, circular and buzzing with a strident shrill noise. The place was near an empty lot with a pit where in winter, the waters gather. He was about 50 metres distant from the object which flew around for about five minutes at about 10 metres above the ground. Francisco Saraiva said his legs felt heavy and he was paralysed. At a not too great distance, there appeared a taxi, and as its headlights approached, the disc disappeared. "It was all very quick. If the car had not appeared, I believe the UFO would have landed. I was afraid of looking up. It was all lit up. I thought it was pursuing me," Francisco said. He also explained that the disc was emitting rays from underneath, and it seemed to have legs jutting from it. It was about ten metres across. And he also added that there was a piece of iron on top, like an antenna. Around it, there were windows from which there came a red light, like fire. Luminous rays of many colors surrounded the disc. The disc's power was such that all around it, the vegetation was moving and stirred up dust. When the flying saucer left, it did so in a swift flight, and was then seen as a star in the sky.



'Bigfoot sighting sparks calls'

The alleged sighting of a "Bigfoot" near Yale recently has triggered a rash of phone calls to the local Department of Natural Resources office in Imlay City. According to District Wildlife Supervisor

mountain lion had escaped from a circus in the Pontiac area so, sometimes there is credibility to these sightings," he remarked. As for Bigfoot the DNR chief reminded me that Wayne King, the area's Bigfoot

I don't intend for this column to make fun of such sightings and discourage folks from reporting what they see, or think what they see. There have been too many actual sightings to pooh-poo such incidents. The habitat and terrain has been changing over the years and if deer and upland game can adjust then I have to believe that so can bear, coyotes and maybe even snowshoe hares.

I have a little difficulty in buying the Bigfoot myth, but then I didn't believe in flying saucers until Delores and I left a dance at Armada High a few years back and there was one hovering just above the tree-line. And then we saw another one at an Alma College football game in Saginaw a few years later along with 10,000 witnesses.

Who knows?

Outside

By Marty Heim



Howard 'Bing' Greene the DNR has received nearly 3 dozen phone calls since the article appeared in The Tri-City Times nearly a month ago.

"Is it safe for my kids to go to the school bus?" is just one of the many questions being asked by some. Others are concerned about going outside at night or walking out to the barn or going into the woods.

"Many of the phone calls are from the media," said Bing adding that a reporter in Montreal, Canada even called to find out what was going on.

When asked if he believes a Bigfoot exists, Bing raises his eyebrows and smiles... "Anything is possible I suppose," hesitated the DNR official. "Some things are just not very probable," he mused.

Asked about the annual sighting of bear in the County, Bing offered, "If there were bear around here it seems like one would be hit by a car, spotted in the open, or leave tracks." It was obvious Bing doesn't put much stock in these sightings however, he did leave the door open slightly. "One time I got a call from a lady near Pontiac who claimed there was a mountain lion roaming around her house," said Bing. "After I told her why there were no mountain lions in Michigan a news source reported that a

specialist believes as many as 15,000 of the man-animals exist throughout the world and claimed he (King) had to stop his car on M-46 to let a Bigfoot cross the road.

As for bears in this region Bing Greene doesn't believe there are any, although he adds there are more bear in the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula than in a number of years. I asked if deer are inhabiting the area why wouldn't bears? Bing added that a few years back they (DNR) did have an authentic sighting of a bear in the Midland outskirts.

The recent shooting of a coyote near Elba in Lapeer County lends credence to the fact the terrain is changing around here. Once primarily farm country the Tri-City area has gradually shifted to a combination farming/woodland scene. This can be evidenced by the increasing deer herd, a ruffed grouse population, coyotes and less of pheasants, quail and other downland game.

Bing commented on how he and former Sheriff Carl Langley were summoned on call to answer a report of 2 timber wolves 'staring at a farmer from across the pond'—Closer investigation proved the farmer to be somewhat under the influence even though he claimed the wolves with "eyes like red glowing ember" were more fact than fiction.

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - March 2, 1982

What can eclipse star for two years?

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — A star's mysterious dark companion has caught the eye of astronomers perplexed by the enormity of an object that will eclipse the star for two years.

University of Michigan astronomer Richard G. Teske said the star Epsilon Aurigae's dark companion — if it is a single object — may be the largest celestial body yet discovered.

Teske said little is known about the companion that astronomers are preparing to study during the eclipse that begins in July and ends in the summer of 1984.

"Every 27 years and one month, the dark companion comes between the star and ourselves, partly cutting off

Epsilon's light and causing it to dim for two years," Teske said. "Because the dimming of Epsilon's light lasts for two years, astronomers have concluded that the dark companion is immense, nearly a quarter the size of our entire solar system."

Astronomers say they hope to learn more about the mysterious companion during this eclipse by using telescopes more sensitive and equipment more sophisticated than that available during the 1957 eclipse

CR: R. Heiden

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - Dec. 17, 1981

Life Brought to Earth From Space, Witness For Defense Testifies

By GEORGE WELLS
Gazette Staff

Life arose on earth as a result of organic molecules brought from space by comets, an astronomer testified Wednesday in federal court during the eighth day of the creationism trial.

Dr. N. C. Wickramasinghe, head of the applied mathematics and astronomy department of University College of Wales University at Cardiff, said that "terrestrial life had its origins in the dust clouds of space."

He also said that his theory — developed in collaboration with Sir Fred Hoyle, the noted British astronomer — led him to believe that the universe came about by "a deliberate act of creation." Dr. Wickramasinghe, who testified as an expert witness for the state, said that his theory was based partly on his belief that the probability of life's arising spontaneously on earth as a result of random events was "essentially zero."

The trial is on a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Act 590 of 1981, which will require public schools teaching evolution next fall to give "balanced treatment" to creation-science. The American Civil Liberties Union filed suit in May for 23 groups and individuals, including leading clergymen, contending that the law violated the First Amendment ban on the establishment of religion, was too vague, and violated a constitutionally protected right of academic freedom.

Expected to End Today

Federal Judge William R. Overton recessed the trial until 9 a.m. today, which is expected to be the final day of testimony. Robert Gentry, a visiting professor for 12 years at Oak Ridge National Laboratories in Oak Ridge, Tenn., was testifying when the trial was recessed and will resume the stand today.

The Hoyle-Wickramasinghe thesis has been published in several books, the most recent of which is "Evolution From Space." The theory holds that there are organic molecules in the gasses and matter between stars and that these molecules were "collected and amplified by comets" that carried them throughout the cosmos.

Says Chance Too Small

Dr. Wickramasinghe said that he had calculated the chances of life arising as a result of the random "shuffle" of molecules on earth and found the chance to be so small as to be "essentially" nonexistent. In addition, he said, if complex molecules had somehow managed to link up into chains of amino acids or other elements of life, the chances of their lining up in the right order to come together and form life

were infinitesimally small and would be required more time to happen than the estimated age of the earth, 4.5 billion years.

This led him and Hoyle to develop the theory that life must have originated somewhere else. Dr. Wickramasinghe said he believed that life occurred "once, at one time somewhere in the universe" and has become pervasive throughout the universe.

New "genetic information" in organic molecules has been brought by meteors subsequent to the first inception of life, he said, and this new information linked up with molecules that had developed on earth to account for major changes in life, including the creation of new species.

Disputes Darwin

This theory disputes the concept of Darwinian evolution, he said, as far as the idea of the origin of life and the origin of new species.

Dr. Wickramasinghe also said that the scientific community was so "brainwashed" by Darwinian concepts that it had rejected his theory and maintained a closed mind on the subject.

He said the evolutionary concept that life arose spontaneously and changed into new species by the "accumulation of copying errors" — genetic mutations — to all higher life forms was "a ridiculous proposition." Copying errors occur when cells divide and he said that it would be impossible for "a single bacterium to be upgraded" to higher life forms and eventually man through this process.

He quoted Hoyle as saying the Darwinian theory amounted to saying a "tornado blowing through a junk yard assembled a Boeing 747."

The Hoyle-Wickramasinghe theory postulates that the first organic materials landed on earth

from space about 3.8 billion years ago and life developed "within tens of millions of years," which he described as a very short period in geologic time, of the earth's reaching conditions suitable for life.

Extension of Theory

In spite of his rejection of some elements of Darwinian theory, however, Dr. Wickramasinghe said he and Hoyle considered their concept an extension of the evolutionary theory.

Among the evidence he cited to support his theory, Dr. Wickramasinghe said a German scientist had found "convincing evidence" of microbial life on a meteorite. He also said that a spectrographic study of space had revealed a pattern corresponding to the spectrograph of a common intestinal bacteria. Dr. Wickramasinghe said on cross-examination, however, that he had no "unequivocal evidence" that genes or DNA, the acid that transfers genetic characteristics, existed in space.

If the earth were somehow sealed off from the introduction of organic material from space, Dr. Wickramasinghe said, "bugs could replicate till doomsday and bugs would only be bugs and monkeys would only be monkeys" for there would be no progression to higher animals. He said on cross-examination, however, that he believed that man and apes had a common ancestor, while disagreeing with Darwinists on how that ancestor came to be.

Dr. Wickramasinghe said that his studies with Hoyle also led to the conclusion that viruses "rained" from outer space causing flu epidemics and possibly other diseases. This viral rain is not altogether a bad thing, he said, because viruses contain important genetic characteristics.

He said he had begun studying biology only about five years ago,

but that he considered this an asset, rather than a liability, because he had not been "hamstrung by dogma" and could look at biology in a fresh way.

Rejects Some of Law

Although he specifically rejected several provisions in Act 590 — he said it was "astonishing that there are no definitions" of terms such as the relatively recent inception of the earth and "living kinds" — he said that he agreed with "the spirit of the Act."

He also agreed with Deputy Attorney General David L. Williams that essentially all theories of origins fall into one of two categories, life is either created or not created. Dr. Wickramasinghe, a native of Sri Lanka (when it was Ceylon), said he was reared in a Buddhist tradition that stated that life always existed and was agnostic in its approach to God, but that he did not see any alternatives other than those mentioned by Williams and "the two alternatives are mutually exclusive."

He said his studies had led him to believe that denying "some sort of creator implies a blindness to facts."

Gentry, who maintains his status of assistant professor at Columbia Union College in Maryland, testified about the age of the earth and evidence that he said supported the belief in a worldwide flood. His work is concerned with "radioactive halos," he said, which are spheres of discoloration in rocks caused by the decay of radioactive elements.

On trail of elusive dinosaur

We have seen the jungle monster comes message from Congo's depths

By William Lowther
Toronto Star special

CHICAGO — The great African dinosaur hunt was filled with adventure, danger and dissension. For University of Chicago biologist Roy Mackal, the only thing missing was the monster.

Safely back at the university after a month of narrow escapes and disappointments, Mackal told The Star in an exclusive interview: "I'm more certain than ever that a very mysterious animal, quite possibly a form of dinosaur, is living in the dense jungles of the Congo."

Mackal didn't see the beast, called Mokele-mbembe or "one who eats the tops of palm trees" by the pygmies, but he was shown a footprint and trail left by the creature some months before.

He is far from convinced by recent reports that a breakaway group from his expedition did see the dinosaur.

After a disagreement in the jungle that led to a split in the camp, Sherman Regusters, a Pasadena Jet Propulsion Laboratory engineer, his wife and 23 others struck out on their own.

And this week, a letter reached the United States from Regusters claiming that the engineer had sighted the monster he described as a 3-ton sauropod.

The letter, reportedly carried by hand for 80 miles through dense Congo jungle by native runners and by dugout canoe, was posted to another member of Mackal's team, John Sack, a writer who had acted as the original expedition's spokesman.

Regusters claimed that he and his breakaway group, which included Congolese government officials saw and heard the creature at least five times.

Mackal, however, said he was disinclined to believe the sightings.

"I'm sceptical, to say the least," he said.

On Tuesday, a cable sent from Brazzaville, capital of the Congolese Republic, by Regusters, informed Sack that the expedition had a "possible photo" of the monster, but added that the professional photographer who took the shot had "marginal light conditions."

Reguster's earlier letter described the Mokele-mbembe this way:

"It is dark brown in color, with slick, smooth-looking skin. It has a long neck and a small, snake-like head."

Mackal said he will be surprised if the evidence is definitive.

"Obviously, we all hope romantically that what Regusters found is a real live sauropod, but I don't see how he can unequivocally call what he has seen a dinosaur. There is no zoological competence in (Regusters') expedition," Mackal added.

Mackal and a scientific team had set out last October to search for a beast that is said to have the body of a hippopotamus, a six-foot snake-like neck, a small head with a long jaw, a red cockscomb running down its back, and the tail of an alligator.

The recorded sightings of the creature date back 200 years and are as recent as last summer.

Travelling in two large, dugout canoes, Mackal and two other scientists, a photographer, a missionary, 10 pygmy porters and two soldiers provided by the People's Republic of the Congo, paddled out of base camp early in November.

They were heading into completely unexplored swamp and jungle area in the Ubangi-Congo basin near Lake Tele, which is about 600 miles north of Brazzaville. The area is one of the most remote, disease-filled and dangerous areas on earth.

None of this deterred 56-year-old Mackal who has spent most of his life tracking down — or trying to track down — exotic animals.

He worked for ten years as scientific adviser to the Loch Ness monster search, he has been called in to consult on the hunt for Big Foot in British Columbia and more recently to help in the search for a monster that supposedly lives in Lake Champlain in upper New York state.

For years he had heard reports of the Mokele-mbembe and finally launched his major expedition with financial backing from, among others, the National Geographic Society.

Mackal said this week: "The closest we came to Mokele-mbembe was being shown a trail where an animal had left two large pools where it had been residing for several months. We observed the broken branches and the footprints, about the size of an elephant's."

"The man who led us to the trail has forty years experience as a hunter in the area. He is a solid citizen and he never claimed to have seen the animal."

"But he heard about it from local people who were terrified about it being near their village. The animal had left its pools when woodcutters disturbed it, and when he first arrived all he could do was follow the trail. The same trail he later showed us."

Gross mowed

The hunter pointed out that the grass was mowed down along a two-metre (7-foot) wide area of the trail. No elephant would have left a trail that wide, Mackal said.

"We were given great co-operation from the Congolese government and I have suggested to them that they station a half dozen men throughout the area looking for information. And then, next time one of the creatures is spotted, the information could be relayed to Brazzaville."

"A Congolese biologist could check it out and notify us if the tip is hot enough for us to return and search. We could soon have another expedition funded and at the ready."

"And this is how it's going to work for the future. Next time we'll have a specific place to head for and a much greater chance of observing the creature and bringing photographs or even a sample back with us."

The expedition set out in November towards the end of the rainy season when the rivers were high enough to accommodate the large dugouts with the outboard motors Mackal attached.

However, halfway through the month the weather took an unexpected change, the rain stopped and the sun shone. By the time the expedition planned to move out of the swamp the rivers had dropped so low that it was almost impossible to use the canoes.

"The last leg of our return was through a channel about 24 kilometres (15 miles) long," said Mackal. "It had shrunk to a width of about one and a half metres (5 feet) with the jungle canopy closed in above us, only a metre above us. There were submerged logs everywhere. It took eighteen hours without let-up to get out of there."

"We were in water up to our waists, lifting the dugouts over the logs. We had 13 snake encounters. There were gaboon vipers, green mambas, and black African cobras. They would lie along the branches of the low growing grass palms and as you passed under, even though

you were beating on everything to get them out of the way, they would drop down over your shoulder right next to your face... touching your face.

"The last six hours we were in total darkness. I can only say that we were extremely fortunate not to get bitten."

Mystery sighting

But the mystery of Regusters' sighting remains.

His letter is descriptive. It puts the first sighting at 6.10 on the morning of Oct. 29, just two days after his expedition arrived at Lake Tele in one of the Congo's most forbidding areas.

"It (the dinosaur) raised its head out of the water, travelled for a quarter mile in the water, and then dived beneath the surface," Regusters wrote. Four hours later, the expedition saw it again.

The dinosaur was seen yet again Nov. 1 and the following day, Regusters said.

Two days later, Regusters wrote, 'Kia (his wife) and I were walking along one of the streams flowing into the lake when we heard this horrendous roar, very loud and eerie. We heard it several times. That night, we heard it again, and the gorillas went crazy.'

According to Mackal, gorillas inhabit the marshy 45,000-square-mile region of the Congo where the sauropod had been reported.

Regusters described Lake Tele as pristine and "surrounded by 60-foot-high trees and miles and miles of waist-high swamp."

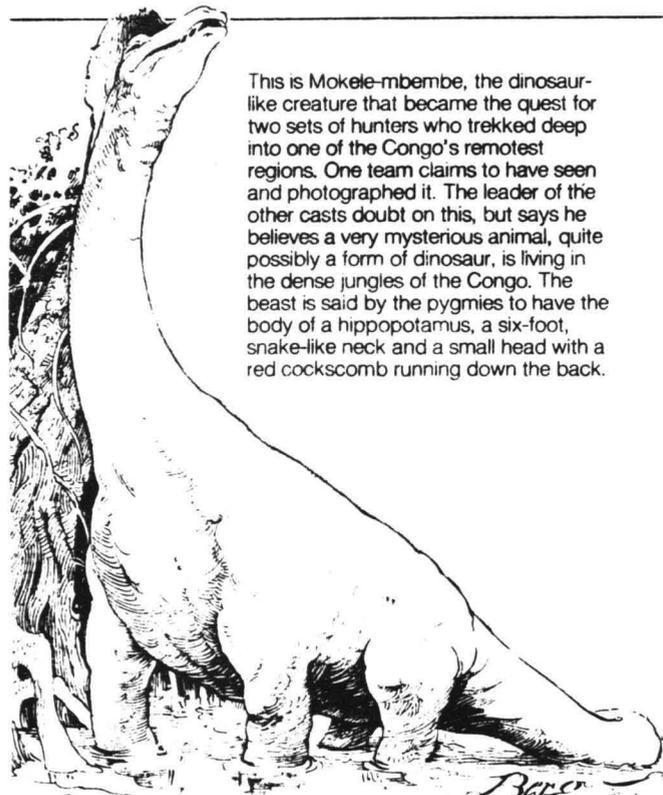
According to Sack, the reason Regusters got to Lake Tele and the Mackal expedition didn't is that the Pasadena expedition went in on foot while the Chicago expedition tried to get there by dugout canoe.

"Regusters stopped at the village of Boa and the leaders there agreed to show him the way to the lake overland," Sack said. "They told him there were simply too many unmapped rivers and tributaries in the area for them to find their way to the lake by boat."

According to Regusters, once they reached the lake it took them three days just to find a dry spot to set up camp.

"It is all swamp around there and it was pouring rain almost continuously," said Sack.

The Regusters' expedition lived along the banks of the lake for about a month, searching for the dinosaur and listening to natives tell stories about it.



This is Mokele-mbembe, the dinosaur-like creature that became the quest for two sets of hunters who trekked deep into one of the Congo's remotest regions. One team claims to have seen and photographed it. The leader of the other casts doubt on this, but says he believes a very mysterious animal, quite possibly a form of dinosaur, is living in the dense jungles of the Congo. The beast is said by the pygmies to have the body of a hippopotamus, a six-foot, snake-like neck and a small head with a red cockscomb running down the back.

MESSINGER, McLaughlin, SD - Dec. 10, 1981 CR: P. Guttilla

Big Foot? terrorizes big farm watchdog

Eugene M. Stotz who lives on a farm west of McLaughlin has like most people been somewhat skeptical about the Big Foot stories. Now he is not sure.

Saturday morning about 5 there was a commotion in the farm yard. There was a high pitched, shrieking noise the family describes as being something like that of a coyote only much louder and "shriekier". Mrs. Stotz said the noise was eerie and made cold chills run up and down her back. Craig Stotz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stotz, and Brandon Feist who is staying with Craig also heard the noise.

The Stotz's have a big German shepherd watchdog. He was barking furiously. Then he started to make a "yapping" sound. Craig and Brandon went out with guns to see what was going on. They found nothing but the dog was in his house whimpering and would not come out. Eugene went outside later and tried to coax the dog out of the house but it was not

until about 10 a.m. when the dog would come out.

Harvey Bauder who works from time to time at the Stotz farm says no matter who or what comes in the yard the dog is out barking and protecting the premises.

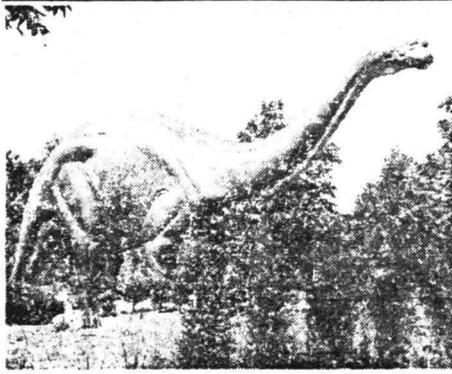
Near the dog house the Stotz's found some animal droppings. Eugene said they are certainly not those of any farm animal or any wild animal he has ever seen. They are much bigger than the droppings of any of the wild animals in this area.

The droppings are greenish in color and seem to contain particles of hair. They are about 3 inches in diameter.

Stotz is sending samples to the extension laboratories at the University of Washington to see if they can analyze them.

He said after the vivid incident Saturday he recalls one night a couple weeks ago the dog was making a noise in the yard late at night and there was some strange noises.

A hard look/ The Great Dinosaur Hunt



By Ivan Sharpe
Examiner staff writer

How The Great Dinosaur Hunt in a snake-infested Congolese swamp turned into a spine-tingling race between a veteran monster hunter and an adventurous space engineer is a tale rivaled only by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 1912 fictional classic "The Lost World."

Except neither brought home proof that the fearsome giant reptiles, which mysteriously became extinct more than 60 million years ago, survive in Africa.

So the skeptics derisively dismiss Dr. Roy Mackal's reports as Pigmy gossip and Herman Regusters' claimed sightings as jungle fever.

The reporters who jammed a news conference in Los Angeles last week to hear Regusters' nervous account of his adventures treated it like a UFO sighting — a good story but not one to be taken seriously.

Only the Congolese are impressed.

They are considering dispatching their own expedition to the remote Likouala region, according to reports from Brazzaville, reasoning that if the powerful Americans send two well-financed teams to search for the creature known as *mokele-mbembe* there must be something to the hunters' tales.

Scientists, however, say the stories are not totally laughable. If dinosaurs still exist, this is where they would be. Journeying into the Congo, Conrad wrote, "was like traveling back to the earliest beginnings of the world, when vegetation rioted on the earth and the big trees were kings."

But the dinosaur experts remain skeptical. "We really don't know too much about the Congo," says University of California at Berkeley paleontology professor Kevin Padian. "We cannot exclude the possibility that one group of dinosaurs survived there. However, it is fair to point out that seems highly unlikely."

From hunters' descriptions, the creature resembles a plant-eating brontosaurus. It weighs 9 to 15 tons and stretches about 35 feet from its small, frilled head on a long neck to the tip of its tail. Its 36-inch footprints are like an elephant's, except for the claws.

Paleontologist Donald Baird of Princeton Natural History Museum said the versatile sauropods outlived most dinosaurs into the cretaceous period. "One could exist quite happily in the equatorial rain forest," he said.

Dr. John McIntosh, research associate in vertebrate paleontology at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, suggested the Congo creature could be a titanosaur, the last dinosaur to disappear 60 million years ago.

Remains of titanosaurs have been found in other parts of Africa. They were much smaller than the 80-ton brontosaurus. Arguments still rage over whether they spent most of their time in water or on land.

"My own opinion," McIntosh said, "is that they were probably river dwellers who spent some time on land eating."

All the experts agree, however, that if the creature exists it is much more likely to be an undiscovered species. The African gorilla, for instance, was not discovered until 1855. And the prehistoric coelacanth, supposedly extinct for 65 million years, is still swimming in the Indian Ocean.

"It would be awfully big for a lizard," McIntosh says. "The description suggests a reptile, but far bigger than anyone thought possible in their wildest imaginations."

Dr. Mackal was first lured to the Congo in 1980 after hearing tales of the *mokele-mbembe*. An odd mixture of romanticist, adventurer, scientist and author, he is a pioneering University of Chicago biochemist with a strong interest in zoology.

He is probably the world's leading cryptozoologist — or monster hunter. For 10 years he directed a team investigating the legendary Loch Ness monster, concluding in a report to the British Parliament: Nessie really exists. He wrote a scholarly book, "The Monsters of Loch Ness," and later wrote another, "Searching for Hidden Animals."

In a December 1980 article for the New York Zoological Society's magazine *Animal Kingdom*, Mackal wrote of reports stretching back 200 years of the strange *mokele-mbembe* in the hauntingly gloomy rain forest.

Mackal went to the People's Republic of the Congo and gathered eyewitness accounts of the creature. "We came away convinced that, although rare, the *mokele-mbembes* do exist and they correspond to no other living forms known to science," Mackal wrote.

The stage was set for a large-scale expedition to find the creature this year. Enter Herman Regusters.

Regusters is a 48-year-old consulting electronics engineer who has worked on space design studies at Pasadena's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He had made four previous business trips to Africa and he has a second home in Ghana. When he heard about Mackal's proposed expedition, he volunteered to help on condition that he go alone.

"It captured my imagination," he said last June. "I have never done anything like this before. It was fantastic for an engineer to be offered the opportunity to participate."

Regusters quickly secured donations of equipment from such companies as Winchester Arms, Radio Shack, Bushnell Optical Co. and Buck Knives. In all, 30 companies loaned gear for the expedition.

But Mackal and Regusters quickly had disagreements. Regusters resented Mackal's attempts to curb his statements to the press. He objected to Mackal's financial arrangements with a backer, and to Mackal's choice of photographer.

Mackal blanched when Regusters made glaring errors at press conferences, and when he produced expedition T-shirts decorated with a green dinosaur emblem.

"The sad thing is that he got carried away by it all," Mackal said. "It was sort of like a gold fever. He became convinced there was a dinosaur there. He was making idiotic statements, which were totally embarrassing. He said I was nitpicking, but he had no expertise in this area at all. And there had to be one chief."

So the two split up, with Regusters resolving to lead his own expedition using the donated equipment he had secured.

Said Mackal: "He took it as a personal thing. He felt he was in a race, but I didn't because I was there first. I wished him the best of luck."

Regusters and his wife, Kia, a 34-year-old psychologist and chiropractic student, left in September, spending nearly a month in Brazzaville securing permission for his trip.

He flew in a chartered plane to Epene, 75 kilometers east of Lake Tele, a mysterious haunt of the creatures that is avoided by the natives. With two Congolese officials, a Ghanaian wildlife expert and a cameraman, he took dugout canoes to the village of Boa and then, because his maps turned out to be wrong, he was forced to make a nightmarish, five-day trek through knee-deep water and mud to the two-square-mile lake.

'The sad thing is that he got carried away by it all,' says expedition leader of his former partner. 'It was sort of like gold fever. He became convinced there was a dinosaur there'

He arrived with 17 heavily laden porters and the village chief and headhunter on Oct. 25, just as Mackal's expedition was leaving the United States. Two days after arriving, he and seven others had their first sighting of the creature, he said later.

They saw the long neck of some creature rise out of the water and submerge. There were four other sightings during the month he spent at the lake. On Nov. 4, four of the party watched in amazement for eight minutes as the sick skinned creature with a body estimated to be the size of two hippos (there are no hippos in the region) swam in the lake.

The closest sighting was about noon Oct. 28 by Mrs. Regusters. She and her husband were alone in an inflatable raft when she saw a "large serpent-like head and neck rising out of the water about 25 to 30 meters away."

She said, "I was quite startled. It was very large and very close. I snapped a picture as it descended back into the water." Her husband turned and caught only a glimpse of the creature and bubbles on the water.

At the press conference, Regusters said that the picture his wife took was the only one they had of the creature. And he is not sure if it will turn out when it is finally processed. A faint tape recording of what he said was the creature's trumpeting was inconclusive. And he had nothing else to prove the creature's existence.

"We have seen it, we know that it exists," Mrs. Regusters insisted. Regusters said his claims could be verified by the Congolese officials who were with him.

Bob Murphy, cultural attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville, said in a telephone interview that one of those Congolese officials had told him he saw the back of a large creature that local hunters had not seen before.

Ironically, before he left for Africa Regusters told The



DR. ROY MACKAL AND HERMAN REGUSTERS
Partners who didn't get along, then competitors

Examiner he did not feel it was necessary to include on his expedition a zoologist or paleontologist because pictures alone would be enough to convince the world. "I'm not a believer in fuzzy pictures," he had said.

Mackal is skeptical of Regusters' sightings. "The Pigmyies told me no creatures had been seen at the lake for a long time. But, to be fair to him, they could be wrong," he said.

He spent several fruitless and occasionally frightening weeks exploring the area around Lake Tele in dugouts with two fellow American scientists, a photographer and three Congolese soldiers.

Apart from once being nearly swamped by a tremendous wave caused by some huge unknown animal, Mackal believes his closest encounter with the *mokele-mbembe* was near the village of Dzake on the Likouala aux Herbes River.

A hunter showed him some 16-month-old tracks and broken branches caused by a large, strange creature that had frightened the villagers. But the footprints, about 10 inches across, were indistinct in the wet grass.

However, he is more convinced than ever that a creature exists that resembles a sauropod dinosaur of up to 100 feet in length. He believes the creature lives in the swamps and uses the rivers only for traveling between areas.

As for Regusters' sightings, he says they could be of large pythons or manatees (sea cows), which have invaded the area from the ocean, or even a species of long-necked turtles.

"I am really interested in a solution to this whole mystery," he said. "If Regusters has a picture of an unidentified animal I would be absolutely delighted."

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR
Dec. 29, 1981

Couple's Dinosaur Photos 'Severely Underexposed'

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Photographs a Southern California couple hoped would substantiate their contentions of spotting a dinosaur-like creature in Africa have turned out "severely underexposed," their spokesman said Monday.

The spokesman said Herman Regusters and his wife, Kai, would make a last-ditch attempt to salvage their "evidence" by sending 23 rolls of film from their recently completed African expedition to a Los Angeles aerospace firm where a friend will attempt to restore the lost images.

The Regusters told a news conference last week they saw a large beast with a serpent-like neck in the Congo.

Mrs. Regusters said she photographed the creature, which resembled a small brontosaurus, while it stuck its head out of a

swamp near Lake Tele.

John Sack, a spokesman for the South Pasadena couple, said the photo lab that processed the film explained the underexposures probably occurred from moisture damaging the camera's batteries, causing the light meter to malfunction.

"No one wants to rest the credibility of a one-month expedition on a photo taken in one 1-100th of a second," Sack said.

The couple last week also released a 20-second recording of the beast's roar, but the sound on the tape was unidentifiable.

REGISTER, Santa Ana, CA - Feb. 26, 1982

CR: J. Clark

Unseen, unheard visitor just likes to come and go

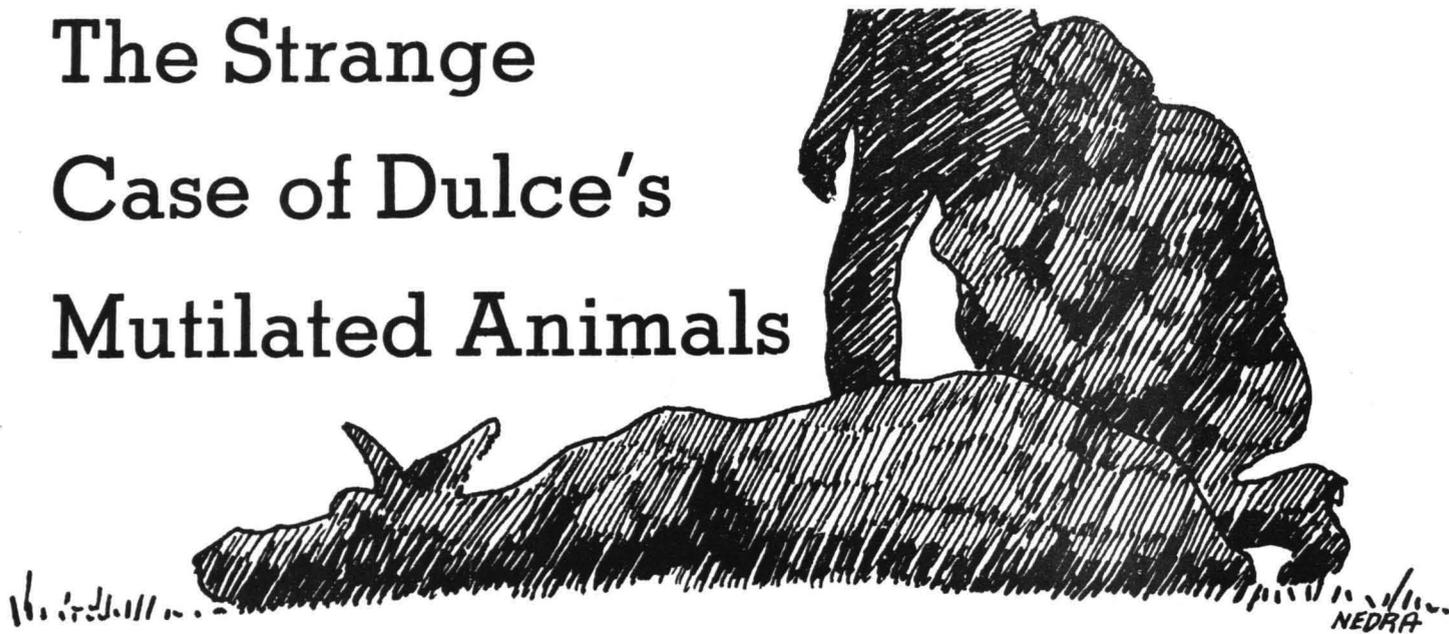
HUNTINGTON BEACH — Something, apparently a large something, has been wandering around a second floor balcony in Huntington Harbour. And whatever it might be, the something is leaving a calling card behind.

The calling card is an animal dropping, a huge dropping described by condominium resident Holly Craig as "what you might expect from an elephant."

So far, neither the police, the Humane Society of Huntington Beach nor the county Health Department have solved the riddle of the Craig family's late-night unseen and unheard balcony visitor.

A veterinarian, however, analyzed a

The Strange Case of Dulce's Mutilated Animals



By Tim Farrell
Daily Times Staff
A new twist to UFO reports concerns strange lights being seen in the evening sky and then mutilated animals being found later on the ground in the same area.

Such incidents are presently taking place in Dulce, and Gabe Valdez, a state policeman for the past 12 years, is one of the officers who has investigated the incidents.

Valdez describes the light as being bright orange, "just like the evening star. It is stationary, then it moves suddenly, sometimes at very high rates of speed. It makes no sound and I've been what I estimate to be less than a mile away from the craft at times."

Several cattle have been found dead in the Dulce area, he said, with their legs broken as if dropped from a high place. All the cattle found, Valdez said, have had their reproductive organs removed along with the tongue with sharp instruments. "In some cases," he said, "the blood has been drained out."

Valdez has never seen the aircraft which moves in the night, only the bright orange light. He said that he put two and

two together, as have other patrolmen, and determined that since the light appears every time a cow is mutilated, it is obviously connected. "Some residents of Dulce once saw the light land behind a mountain over here and then quickly zoom up again."

He added that the cows are always found the next morning and "we know for a fact that they are being picked up (then dropped) because of the broken legs. There have been marks on the cows as if something has been placed around the legs."

Valdez said that the aircraft is "very sophisticated, unlike any aircraft our government might have that we know of. The U.S. has sophisticated aircraft, I'm sure, that we don't know about, but this is amazing if we have this."

Cattle mutilations have been in the news for the past 10 years. They started in Arkansas, spread to Oklahoma, to Texas and now are presently taking place in New Mexico. Many have concluded that it might be the product of ranch wars or possibly even people who are members of some cult, possibly devil worshippers.

But Valdez laughs at both of those ideas. "First of all, the ranchers in this area barely make a living as it is. How could they have such a sophisticated aircraft and anyway, why kill cattle and drain their blood. That doesn't make any sense. And I don't believe it is devil worshippers. It's the aircraft again that rules that out. This is a sophisticated, highly sophisticated craft. Only a wealthy nation or someone with a lot of backing could afford such a thing."

Valdez said that the mutilations are "eerie, of course" but he never gets too frightened about the happenings in Dulce. "I would just like to know what is going on, why these animals are being killed."

He said that one time he was alone and saw the light and "I wasn't frightened, but, I don't know, you start wondering what is going on. What does this craft want?"

One night, he and several other patrolmen observed the light for four solid hours, and it seemed "to be playing with us. We were trying to follow it in our cars, but could never catch up with it. It was as if it were watching us, seeing how we reacted."

Valdez estimates that "85 percent of Dulce has seen this light in the sky. Just about everybody has seen something. We never see the craft, only the big light, then the cows are found later."

He said he knows federal investigators are constantly probing the sightings and mutilations. "They are like coyotes, they come from behind. They never say who they are; they just ask a lot of questions and then leave until the next sighting. I'm sure they are from the government."

Valdez is an unusual individual in that he has consistently reported what he has seen, and doesn't seem shy about talking about it. "Why should I be afraid of talking about it?" he said. "I am a policeman and I report what I see. There are those who make things up, but I don't. I am not the only patrolman to report these goings-on. We have plenty of reports we have investigated. Some people say, 'Well, why report it?' Well, the way I look at it, some day this whole thing will break open and I will be standing there saying 'See, I told you strange things were going on.'"



GABE VALDEZ: 'I Report What I See'

TIMES HERALD, Port Huron, MI
Jan. 29, 1982 CR: P. Guttilla

Bigfoot limelight disappears

By DAVE McVETY
Times Herald Reporter

BROCKWAY TOWNSHIP — Except for the extreme cold, it's been a typical winter on the William Barone farm.

All signs of a big, hairy visitor have vanished. Nothing has happened to suggest that a bear or Bigfoot still might be roaming in the area: no strange noises, no strange sightings and no missing feed.

And that's just what Cindy Barone expected. After a bear track was discovered in the area early in December, she predicted a quiet winter for her family.

"We've seen absolutely nothing," she said this week. "I've thought it was a bear all along, and this makes it even seem more like it. A bear hibernates when the weather gets bad."

"There are hunters from around here who have seen a bear. But they knew not to say anything about it because people wouldn't believe it."

The mysterious creature had visited the Barone farm every week or two after a barn door and tent pole was damaged in September on the farm of their neighbor, Leland Shepard.

The visitor drew nationwide attention after Barone's 13-year-old daughter Tina accidentally touched it in the family's barn Nov. 20. Self-proclaimed Bigfoot experts from around the nation — including Wayne King, who heads the Caro-based Michigan-Canadian Bigfoot Information Center — believed Tina touched a Bigfoot.

Cindy Barone said she always doubted the Bigfoot theory. She said in December that she learned a tame bear had escaped from a nearby resident more than two years ago. Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologists have said it would be impossible for a wild bear to migrate to the area.

Barone said the family's last sighting of the creature was shortly before Kathy Hensley, a Croswell area resident, reported Dec. 15 that a bear had wrestled with her German shepherd, Max. Law enforcement officials said the creature may have been a large dog.

The creature, if it's a bear, may have wandered to the Croswell area before it went into hibernation, Barone said. The bear may have had a feeding route between Brockway Township and Croswell.

"She called me, and we've been having the same things happen," Barone said of Hensley. "She had apples off her trees and goat feed missing. I stand by her 100 percent — I knew it was a bear."

"She was disappointed how the professional people tried to tell her it was a big dog. She knows what she saw."

The inactivity of the creature doesn't surprise King, who said he's been busy tracking down Bigfoot reports in the Battle Creek area recently. He said the quiet of the Brockway area doesn't mean the creature is a bear.

"We believe the animal has abandoned the area," he said. "For some reason if we've been in the area for an active ground pursuit, they seem to sense this and move on. We've never discovered a pattern showing that it might return."

King said two teams of trackers searched a ten-mile area around the Barone farm in late December but found no signs of a bear or Bigfoot.

"The thing that hurt us was that hunters moved into the area," he said. "And we didn't get any good tracking snow until after they were gone."

Barone said she still is in contact with

some national Bigfoot experts just in case the visitor isn't a bear. But she said she won't believe in Bigfoot until she sees it.

The family's personal life has calmed with the disappearance of the strange visitor. Barone said phone calls from curious people around the nation almost have stopped, and local residents seem to have let the mystery fade.

The calls resumed briefly after an article describing Tina's experience appeared in the Dec. 29 issue of a tabloid called "Weekly World News." Barone said the article's writer never contacted the family about the story, and she is considering suing the publication.

"That's the one that started people talking again," she said. "They never even talked to us. The kids were just starting to come out of their shells again, and then that thing came out."

But since then, life has returned to normal for the Barones.

"In fact, I've been letting the kids go back there sledding again," Barone said. "At least until spring — then I won't let them out there. Because then I know it'll be back there looking for food — whatever it is."

Texan who 'found' site of Babel, Ark of Covenant, seeks Atlantis

TRINITY (UPI) — A Texan whose discovery claims include the Ark of the Covenant, the resting place of Noah's Ark and the true site of the Tower of Babel has lowered his goals — he's going underground in search of evidence leading to the Lost Continent of Atlantis.

"We believe our work in Trinity will expose the fact there was an Atlantean civilization and they migrated throughout the area," said Tom Crotser, leader of the Institute for Restoring Ancient History International.

Crotser, 49, who led an expedition last year that made a disputed claim of finding the gold-covered Ark of the Covenant in the Middle East, is following what he believes is a subterranean shaft to rooms once used by Atlantians.

"So far we've found some pretty good drawings and writings," said Crotser, a native of Denton. "We've been searching for a number of years. We believe Atlantis existed — that it was a real continent and there's been migrations to this area."

For centuries Atlantis has been believed to be a mystical island inhabited by an advanced race in the Atlantic Ocean. It was mentioned in Plato's *Timaeus*. Legend holds that the island empire was destroyed and disappeared during an earthquake.

As a youth, Crotser learned his parents' sleight-of-hand trade from the vaudeville circuit and at age 17 was ranked the third best illusionist in the world by the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

But he also is a former minister with the Disciples of Christ and now heads a mission of about 150 believers with communities in Glenbuck, Scotland; Winfield, Kan.; Pauline, S.C.; and his present base of operations in nearby Frankston, Texas.

Crotser's latest venture was generated, he said, when he came into possession of a portion of an ancient map during a visit to Istanbul, Turkey. He said the map reveals sites of ancient centers across the world, including the area about 6 miles north of Trinity where he is excavating.

The map indicates a shaft will lead his party to two large rooms carved deep below the rolling red-clay hills and pines that mark the East Texas terrain.

"We've found a real soft area that just keeps on going down. We're down about 6 to 7 feet right now."

"We're sifting through all of the dirt and things as we go. It's taking awhile," said Crotser, who estimated excavation would be completed in about 30 days.

He said he was encouraged by the discovery of what appears to be ancient writings and drawings on the sides of the shaft, and a small porcelain stone.

"It's got several lines across the sides and a carved-out picture that sort of looks like a lotus blossom," he said. The lotus blossom was a symbol often used by the Atlantians, he said.

Crotser said he spent time with area residents in advance of the excavation, uncovering local legends and lore about the site. He said he was led to the site by two elderly brothers who hunted in the area as young men.

"As young men they went to this place, saw ancient writings and remembered a deep hole," Crotser said.

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - March 16, 1982

Chunk of Ice Definitely Not Hailstone, Meteorologist Says

NORMAN, Okla. (UPI) — A large chunk of ice that fell from the sky in Tecumseh, Okla., is definitely not a hailstone, but could have fallen from an airplane or even from outer space, a meteorologist said Monday.

"I can tell you fairly confidently that it's not a hailstone," Dr. Peter Ray, chief of meteorological research at the National Severe Storms Laboratory, said.

Dr. Ray said if the ice chunk, estimated to weigh about 30 pounds, was found to be a hailstone, it would have been the largest ever found "by a substantial margin."

Dr. Ray and another meteorologist traveled to Tecumseh Monday and retrieved a four-pound chunk of the

ice that fell on land owned by A. C. Hinson.

Cites Lack of Storms

Dr. Ray said no storms were in the area when the ice fell and "you cannot grow a hailstone without a storm. Without a very strong storm you couldn't grow anything even approaching that size."

Dr. Ray said the ice probably fell from an airplane or "it's possible" it even fell from outer space.

"Saturn's rings are purportedly ice and it's possible there are chunks of ice in outer space too," he said. "But that's a very improbable thing. It's more possible than it being a hailstone, though."

REVIEW, Sidney, B.C., Canada - Feb. 3, 1982 CR: J. Green via P. Guttila

Sasquatch, bear or . . . ?

Cougars sometimes wander out of the wilds to blunder around in the bushy areas between houses on the Saanich Peninsula. Could a sasquatch have done the same?

That would be one explanation for a report received by Central Saanich police at 5:39 p.m. Saturday. Thirteen-year-old Vance Webster, 1742 Prosser Road, and nine-year-old Tony Gruber, 1701 Prosser Road, said that while playing in a bush area west of Seabrook Road and north of Stellys X Road they had seen a 10-foot creature with hairy arms and legs, greyish black in color, and had fled from the scene.

The emergency centre dispatcher who took the first call noted the boys sounded "very sincere and terrified" on the phoe. There was only one policeman on duty, however, and the call was not followed up.

Webster called police again before 8:38 p.m. when a supplementary report was filed by another dispatcher, but was told not to tie up police phone lines unless he had a legitimate emergency or complaint.

After a third call from Webster and 12-year-old Larry Lambert, of 7278 Chatwell, who had also seen the creature, a constable contacted some of the parents and the calls stopped.

On Monday afternoon Webster showed his mother and a Review reporter the location of the sighting, indicating that only an arm and a leg had shown clearly as the creature apparently stepped forward from behind some trees onto the trail the boys were following.

He said they were investigating a growling sound they had heard a short time before, but when they saw the animal they ran.

A number of other boys came by while the reporter was there, one of whom turned out to be Larry Lambert. He described the animal as being dark brown rather than greyish black, and said that it had come towards them when they ran away, but he indicated exactly the same spot for the first sighting that Webster had pointed out.

The height the boys indicated was closer to eight feet than 10. They did not identify what they saw as a sasquatch, or as anything else, and they had apparently been persuaded by one of the dispatchers to agree that it might have been a bear or an adult person.

Bears, however, are generally hibernating in January and do not walk about on their hind legs.

DISPATCH-WEST, St. Paul, MN - Feb. 2, 1982

Pigs with heads torn off baffle UFO investigator

The two 300-pound pigs lost their heads in a way that baffles the experts.

"The heads were ripped off the bodies," said private investigator Brad Ayers. "Think of the force it took. This was no surgical procedure. It was brute force."

Nearby were the gory remains of the pigs' bodies.

"They were crushed, every bone, everything," Ayers recalled.

The incident occurred about five years ago on a farm at the north end of the Carlos Avery Wildlife Refuge in Chisago County, about 35 miles north of St. Paul.

"I came across it during the investigation of a series of UFO (unidentified flying object) sightings in the Carlos Avery area," Ayers said.

"I interviewed a farmer up there who had reported strange goings on in the sky," he added. "Apparently, about six months earlier, he had lost the pigs from a pen at the rear of his house. The farmer told me an incredible story."

Mutilation of horse a mystery

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAHAM — Another horse has been sexually mutilated in rural Pierce County in what some local residents fear is the work of a cult.

The 12-year-old quarter horse was found bleeding heavily Friday morning from a fresh castration wound. It marks the 23rd time in seven years that an animal has been sexually mutilated in the Parkland-Graham area.

Two of the animals were dogs. All the rest have been horses, both male and female. Several died or had to be destroyed after the attacks. Some people believe it is the work of a cult.

The first attacks occurred between 1975 and 1977 in Parkland. A dozen horses were sexually mutilated. Then the attacks slowed in number, and stopped suddenly after April, 1980.

Horse lovers and owners organized a fund drive to raise money for a reward, and vigilantes started to patrol, but those activities died down as incidents subsided. The owners, however, were able to have the mutilation crime changed from a misdemeanor to a felony, carrying a maximum five-year sentence and \$5,000 fine.

Following the most recent incident, residents in rural Pierce County are starting to organize. They plan to offer a \$10,000 reward for a conviction.

The owner of the horse that was cut last Friday asked that his family identity be withheld because he is afraid the attacker may return.

The horse belongs to his 12-year-old daughter. The family doesn't know if the horse will live.

"Whoever is doing this certainly knows what he is doing," said Betty Slattery, owner of Slattery's Quarter Horses. "It was a clean cut."

Slattery believes that the horses had to be drugged first. She and her husband, Dexter, are starting a fund to raise money for a reward and have raised \$4,000 so far. She says that many of her neighbors think the mutilation is the act of a cult.

The Pierce County Sheriff's Department is also mystified by the attacks. Detectives say they are no closer to solving the crimes than when they first started in 1975.

CR: L. Williford

CR: P. Guttila

Bizarre animal deaths mystery

By Jim Broede
Staff Writer

The thousands of animal mutilations in the United States in the past 10 years remain bizarre, unsolved mysteries, says private investigator Brad Ayers.



Ayers

Dogs, cattle and domesticated farm animals have been found mutilated in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. A triangular area from Marine on St. Croix, Forest Lake and the Carlos Avery Wildlife Refuge has been especially hard hit, according to Ayers. "Usually missing from the animals are the ears," the investigator explained in an interview. "But occasionally, it's the eyes, the lips, the tongue. I've seen some animals with the rectum and the sexual organs reamed or cut out — very carefully."

How carefully?

"In extraordinary ways, as if surgically removed," Ayers said, "with some sort of instrument that surgeons allege to be sharper than a scalpel."

Ayers, of Hudson, Wis., told of participating in 1974 in a U. S. Secret Service undercover investigation of animal mutilations.

"It was looked into from the standpoint of cult activity," he said.

Ayers said several convicts in federal prisons leaked word of their alleged involvement in cults.

"They told us that the animal mutilations were part of a satanic ritual," he stated, "that this was a preliminary to the targeting and mutilation of human beings, key individuals in government and industry."

"An exceedingly weird story unfolded. But the characters who made this testimony ultimately were pretty much discredited."

Eventually, the investigation was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Ayers said.

"That's the last I heard of it," he said.

Ayers told of confirmed reports of a rash of cattle mutilations in 1974 and 1975.

"The mutilations occurred around the country," he said. "But they focused here in the Upper Midwest. That kind of thing had been going on for a few years, but mostly in the southwest part of the United States."

Ayers said he became interested in the mutilations as an off-shoot of his hobby, investigation of unidentified flying objects.

"People saw strange lights in the night sky, hovering lights and helicopters," he said, "and

then discovered mutilated animals."

Ayers told of "common traits" in many of the mutilations.

"Despite evidence of surgical procedure, there usually was no trace of blood," he said. "The blood was drained. Where, nobody knows."

"Other animals, including predators, often stayed away from the scene. Normally, you expect a carcass, especially in the southwest, to be ravaged by wild dogs, coyotes or rodents. When mutilated animals are part of a herd, the rest of the herd stays away."

Ayers called for "more public awareness" of mutilations.

"There's probably more of it going on than we know about," he said. "Many mutilations go unreported."

What about the theory that "aliens" aboard UFOs are responsible for mutilations?

"It's an interesting theory," Ayers said. "Some people seem to think that aliens are taking biological samplings."

"Of course, no firm connection has been established between UFO sightings and animal mutilations — other than coincidence in space and time."

Ayers urged continued probes.

"If humans are involved, damn it, they ought to be caught and put in jail," he said.

"However," he added, "mutilation investigations receive a low priority. Like with a lot of other things, law enforcement officers are busy as hell trying to keep the peace. They can't spend a lot of time on this kind of case."

TIMES, Seattle, WA - Feb. 24, 1982

Mutilation of horse stirs up old fears

by Steve Johnston
Times staff reporter

GRAHAM, Pierce County — After almost a year of relative quiet, communities in southeast Pierce County have been upset once again by the sexual mutilation of another horse.

This time a 12-year-old gelded quarter horse owned by a Graham-area family was found bleeding heavily Friday morning from a fresh wound where its penis had been cut off. It was the 23rd animal to be sexually mutilated in the Parkland-Graham area in the past seven years.

Two of the animals were dogs. All the rest have been horses, both male and female. Several died or had to be destroyed after the attacks. Some people believe it is the work of a cult.

The first rash of attacks occurred between 1975 and 1977 in a 2-square-mile area of Parkland. A dozen horses were sexually mutilated. Then the attacks slowed in number, but occurred often enough to keep owners on edge.

Then the attacks stopped suddenly after April 1980 after a 15-year-old Appaloosa-Arabian horse was mutilated about 100 feet from the owners' home. As with the other incidents, no one heard or saw anything.

Horse lovers and owners organized a fund drive to raise money for a reward, and vigilantes started to patrol, but those activities died down as no more incidents were reported. The owners, however, were able to have the mutilation crime changed from a misdemeanor to a felony, carrying a maximum five-year sentence and \$5,000 fine or both.

Now with the incidents apparently starting up again, the residents in these rural Pierce County communities are starting to organize. This time they plan to offer a \$10,000 reward for a conviction.

The owner of the horse that



Ann E. Yow / Seattle Times

The most recent mutilation victim is held by its owner, who asked not to be identified.

was cut last Friday said if the person is ever caught, "he better not be let loose when any of us are around to see him." The owner asked that his family identity be withheld because he is afraid the attacker may return.

The gelded quarter horse belongs to his 12-year-old daughter and they have been together since she was a baby, he said. The daughter and horse have won numerous prizes in 4-H contests, but now the family doesn't know if the horse will live.

It will take three or four weeks before it is determined if scarring will block the horse's urinary tract or if an infection will set in.

But the father is convinced that whoever committed the crime had

to drug the horse before doing the cutting.

"Whoever is doing this certainly knows what he is doing," said Betty Slattery, owner of Slattery's Quarter Horses. "It was a clean cut."

She and her husband, Dexter, are starting a fund to raise money for a reward and have raised \$4,000 so far. While none of the Slatterys' horses have been harmed, the couple echoes the fear felt by all their neighbors that they could be next and they want it stopped before another horse is hurt.

There are a lot of theories about who is doing it and why. Mrs. Slattery said the most common theory is that is being done by some kind of cult and the sex

organs are being used in a ceremony.

"God only knows what someone is doing with them," she said. "We don't know if it is a cult or just some sicko."

The Pierce County Sheriff's Department is also mystified by the attacks. Detectives say they are no closer to solving the crimes than when they first started in 1975.

"We don't know if it is a cult or someone with a psychological hangup," said Capt. Chuck Robbins. "We are going back to all the victims and talk with them to see if we can find any link."

"But this is really a shame and sickening that it is happening again," Robbins said.