

UFO

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CLACKAMAS CO. NEWS, Estacada, OR - Sept. 1, 1982

Eagle Creek's UFO's source of summer fun

By Rick Beasley

UFO DEPARTMENT—"You want to come out and watch some UFOs in Eagle Creek?"

That's hardly the kind of invitation a reporter can turn down, even at the end of a 14-hour paste-up and writing stint. Besides, I hadn't seen any UFOs since somebody out at the drop zone filled a gallon jug with maraschino cherries, lemons, crushed ice and three different elixirs that made everybody look like an alien straight off the intergalactic shuttle.

I arrived at the Eagle Creek apartment Kim and Victor Greenwood share last Tuesday at about 11:30 p.m. It was obviously a good night for UFO watching. The Greenwoods have a houseful of kids in Apt. 3C. It was warm outside and Johnny Carson isn't what he used to be. Might as well watch flying saucers.

When I took this job the publisher briefed me on what he calls The Eagle Creek Triangle.

"Ron McIntyre took a bead on a glowing white ball with his shotgun," he said of Estacada's former school superintendent. "Actually tried to blast it, and it just took off."

I'm surprised McIntyre wasn't vaporized on the spot by some bug-eyed space visitor who was sore about the job a 12-gauge does on a flying saucer's tail fenders.

The Greenwoods said that a guy in 3B had also witnessed the bouncing red and blue lights that skittered across the Eagle Creek horizon, and that when one of the UFOs approached everybody's TV went on the fritz at the same time.

Leaning back against an old Ford pickup, I felt the warm summer night's breeze wash across my face. If nothing else, the UFO beat is certainly one of the most relaxing...

PRESS, Escanaba, MI - Sept. 23, 1982 CR: P. Gersten

Digest

Two local UFO's sighted

MANISTIQUE — E.T. and his friends paid visits to the Manistique and Garden areas Wednesday night. Two UFO's were sighted in different locations at 9:45 and 10:45 p.m., Wednesday.

The first sightings were reported to officers by four employees of WTIQ. They described two objects, the first a brownish-red color that passed through the sky moments before a second object, bright white and showing blue, red and green.

State Police officers Dave McGuire and Michael Sweeney also saw the objects. The objects were reported traveling one above the other in a westerly direction. At that time, both objects were a dull color and traveled silently.

At 10:45 p.m., the State Police received a call from Fr. Norbert Landreville that a group of people in Garden were watching the objects. Witnesses reported the sightings to K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base and the UFO Center in Seattle, Wash.

TIMES, Preston, IA - Sept. 15, 1982

UFO Sighting by Sheryl Ringen

"It was a round shape, like a hot air balloon and the color of fire."

"I thought it could have been a hot air balloonist who just didn't get down before dark."

"It hovered like a balloon, but then moved swiftly in a horizontal path and came to an abrupt stop again."

"It seemed to sort of bobble around as it hovered."

"We saw a plain approaching the thing and wondered what would happen, since it looked like it would pass it very closely. As the plane got near, the fire color dimmed, glowed again, dimmed and then went out."

"If it was a balloon, it would have gone down

when the fire went out and I haven't heard about one going down in that area."

"When we got home, I realized our camera had been in the car the whole time. I just never thought about it at the time."

This sighting was reported by six people, all mature, responsible adults.

They were in two vehicles headed in opposite directions on School Street, near St. Joseph's building site Tuesday, September 7 at 9:45 p.m. Some thought it was hovering over the tall cedar trees along the road, while others thought it was a greater distance away, perhaps as far as Cecil McClimmon's farm. All agreed the height and distance were hard to judge.

None of these people are looking for publicity and did not want their names mentioned. They have never seen anything they thought might have been an U.F.O. before, and have never believed in them. Yet, as one defended their report, "I don't know what it was, but we were looking at something. There were six of us, we stopped our cars, got out and watched it. There was something up there."

Where were you at 9:45, September 7? Did you see it?

DAILY NEWS, Ennis, TX - Sept. 15, 1982

UFO Sighted in And Near Ennis

By Elmer Fincher
EDN Staffer

According to reports reaching the Ennis Daily News at presstime today as many as four people saw an unidentified flying object last night they believe was a UFO.

A couple near Alma made the first sighting. They described the object to be as large as a house surrounded by a ring of white lights with alternate red flashing lights. At that time around 10:30 the object was flying at housetop level. One of the couple saw the object again

around 1 a.m. when returning to Ennis. The object was flying so low it had to gain altitude to clear a water tower he said.

At 5:30 a man in the Creechville area saw the object. He said the object flew directly overhead and the lights were so bright coming from the object that it cast a shadow directly under large oak trees in his yard.

All four witnesses said the object was large and seemed to have a flare effect coming from it. Also the object did not make a sound or noise of any kind.

ADVERTISER-TRIBUNE, Tiffin, OH

Oct. 20, 1982 CR: N. Berg

Another UFO?

Stella Cliff, 1641 E. TR 138, told sheriff's deputies she saw an unidentified flying object Tuesday at about 8 p.m.

Cliff said she was outside feeding her dog when she saw a "strange object in the sky, just south of her residence."

Sheriff's reports said "it appeared to be an arc or boomerang shape, slightly hazed over. It was cloud level, stationary and not moving. Suddenly, the lightness of it got very intense."

"Mrs. Cliff at this time could not tell if it was moving toward her or from her. It was at the location for about two-three minutes. Then it just vanished immediately."

DAILY BEE, Sandpoint, ID - Oct. 21, 1982

'Impressive' UFO spotted by family on Sunnyside

It was flying, and it was certainly an object, but that is about as far as Chip Roos can go in identifying what he saw in Tuesday's night sky.

Roos was at his Sunnyside home at about 7:53 p.m. when he and his wife and 11- and 13-year-old children saw an "impressive" flying object.

Roos said the family was outside when they watched a pair of white lights followed by a red light and two green lights in a triangular pattern speed out of the range of vision.

Roos said the lights were headed due east and up-at about a 60-degree angle. The object crossed about 10 miles in 45 seconds before it

receded into the distance.

Compounding the mystery is the fact that Roos and his family could see background stars between the lights, meaning they possibly weren't connected, and that despite the terrific speed, the flying object was soundless.

Roos, who is a Bonner County Sheriff's deputy and has seen a lot of strange things at night, said the object was unlike anything he has seen.

"I don't want to open myself up to ridicule more than the next," he said. "I'd love to say it was just a this or a that, but it wasn't."

Using a protractor and a compass, Roos calculated the speed required for an ob-

ject to cross 10 miles in 40 seconds at a 60 degree angle and came up with a conservative estimate of 1,950 miles per hour.

The lights when first sighted "were huge and they dwindled to nothing," Roos said. "It's a strange gadget. I was impressed."

Roos added that he is interested in hearing from any other Bonner County residents who might have sighted the UFO.

"My whole job and everything I do depends on logic, and there's not a whole lot of logic you can apply to that," the deputy said.

"I really didn't need to see that," he added. "I could have gone all week without seeing that."

WORLD, Wenatchee, WA - Sept. 28, 1982
CR: P. Gersten

Lights spotted in sky

Two redish-orange lights hovered in the sky for about five minutes east of Wenatchee early Saturday morning, reported Warren Bissonnette, 634 Kittitas St.

Bissonnette, 24, said his mother, Louella, woke him up to see the unexplained spectacle about 2:45 a.m. They also stopped a passerby on the sidewalk who saw the lights, too.

Jim Hokanson, air traffic control specialist at Pangborn Field, said the Federal Aviation Administration office there received no reports of the sighting. Neither did the UFO Reporting Center at Seattle.

Hokanson said the lights

could have been from one or more airplanes or helicopters passing over with lights on. He said: "Every once in a while we get a report like that but we never find out what they are."

Bissonnette said the lights seemed to pulsate and were about three times brighter than a star. One was stationary and one moved first horizontally, then downward out of sight. The other then disappeared in the distance.

"They weren't like flares," he said.

From Wenatchee, he said, they appeared to be just north of Pangborn Field. He said no noise could be heard.

An unexplained object in the sky

By RALPH FLOWERS
Daily World Columnist

LAST Friday night was clear, crisp and starry: the kind of night that holds you in awe, especially if you happen to be observing the heavens from a quiet vantage point miles out in the hills.

I was in such a situation on that particular night, accompanying Kelly Lund, game agent, on a late-night deer count in the Salsop River drainage.

Around 10 p.m. we stopped on a logging landing and were out of the truck, watching some headlights on a distant ridge, trying to determine if they belonged to poachers.

As we stood in the darkness, I noticed what appeared to be a particularly bright, pulsating star about 30 degrees up from the horizon. Kelly produced his binoculars and verified that indeed it was pulsating with a bluish-green light and that it wasn't a star.

When we drove off several minutes later, it was still hanging at the same spot in the sky. A half-hour later, from a different road, we observed it again, still in the same spot and still pulsating.

WHAT WAS IT? I don't know. But if I had to choose between the existence of UFO's and Sasquatches, I undoubtedly would decide in favor of the UFO's. That doesn't mean that I believe in the existence of extra-terrestrial alien spaceships (sorry, E.T.), it simply means that I have seen some flying objects that I couldn't identify.

However, that object in the sky Friday night did jog my memory

Keeping Ahead of the Game



to an unexplained encounter I experienced one dark, rainy April morning in 1968.

It was 8:20 in the morning, according to my diary, and I was near the end of a muddy logging road, on a ridge between the east fork and the middle fork of the Hoquiam River. Suddenly, far off in the direction of the east fork and well above the horizon, I saw a dark object that I couldn't identify with the naked eye, hovering in the gray, rainy sky.

Quickly focusing my binoculars, I was surprised to see that it was some sort of a round object with a protuberance on one side, shaped very much like a Christmas tree ball. It was moving through the air at approximately 40 mph, rotating as it came, and losing altitude.

I lowered my binoculars as it dropped below the tree line and moved up the canyon that lay below the ridge I was on. As it passed within 600 yards of me, I tried to determine the size through the dark, driving rain and guessed its diameter at less than four feet.

JUST WHEN I thought it was going to crash in the timber at the edge of the clearcut, it unexpectedly changed direction, made a left turn, and headed in my direction up a side canyon about 1,000 feet from me.

It appeared to be gaining speed as it dropped below a ridge that lay between us and disappeared from sight. Since it was well below the main ridgeline when I last saw it, I assumed that it had crashed into the thicket of 15-year-old dog-hair hemlocks that grew in the draw.

Hurrying down a side road, I gazed wide-eyed into the draw, expecting to see the object, but to my surprise it was nowhere in sight.

I searched the thicket for two hours, hoping to find the thing and solve the mystery. I found nothing. The object had disappeared as silently and mysteriously as it had come.

Yes, Virginia, there are UFOs. I have seen one. While to me it was unidentifiable, flying, and definitely an object, to someone more learned it may have been readily recognized as a weather balloon.

I'm glad I can't explain it; it's fun to leave something to the imagination.

HERALD-JOURNAL, Syracuse, NY - Nov. 4, 1982 CR: R. Barrow

'No one pays attention' to UFO reports any more

By Dennis Byrne
Chicago Sun-Times

CHICAGO — Just because you don't see frequent reports in the media any more of unidentified flying objects, don't get the idea they are not being spotted.

"We get several a week but no one pays any attention," says J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies in north suburban Evanston. "It's not considered newsworthy any more, unless it involves some prominent person. People say, 'So, what else is new?'"

Despite the skepticism and lack of interest, reports keep flowing into the center. Recent reports generally are of higher quality, and two-thirds involve witnesses, said Hynek, professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University. "Fewer and fewer people are being fooled by the Goodyear blimp," he said last week.

"Just this morning, we had a report of two deer hunters in the wilds of upper Michigan. There was a completely overcast sky and this light came along. They flashed their flashlight at it and it (the light) answered back. It made maneuvers that were obviously guided by intelligence. They were so utterly scared, they abandoned the camp."

From isolated areas

"Good" UFO reports tend to be from isolated rural areas. "For some reason, many, many of our reports come from people driving late at night and usually with witnesses."

And no, he hasn't found any increase in sightings on Halloween. Nor on April Fool's Day, holidays or even on weekends, when people are partying and might be expected to be somewhat more imaginative in what they see. In fact, he said, most sightings occur on weekdays.

Most sightings are "close encounters of the first kind," those that occur within a few hundred feet of the observer. Generally, the objects are tremendous concentrations of luminous energy, having a form that cannot be clearly de-

fined and that maneuver as though they are "programmed."

He said he doesn't believe UFOs are visitors from some distant solar system because the huge distances involved make such a trip unlikely. "The only honest thing I can say is that we just don't have any idea, any more than the best physicist in the early 1900s could have told us why the sun shines. The sun is a nuclear energy device," he pointed out.

Claims unfair treatment

"You would think the scientific world would be agog" at inexplicable phenomena, he said. He is particularly nettled by the refusal in some quarters to treat his efforts as serious scientific inquiry.

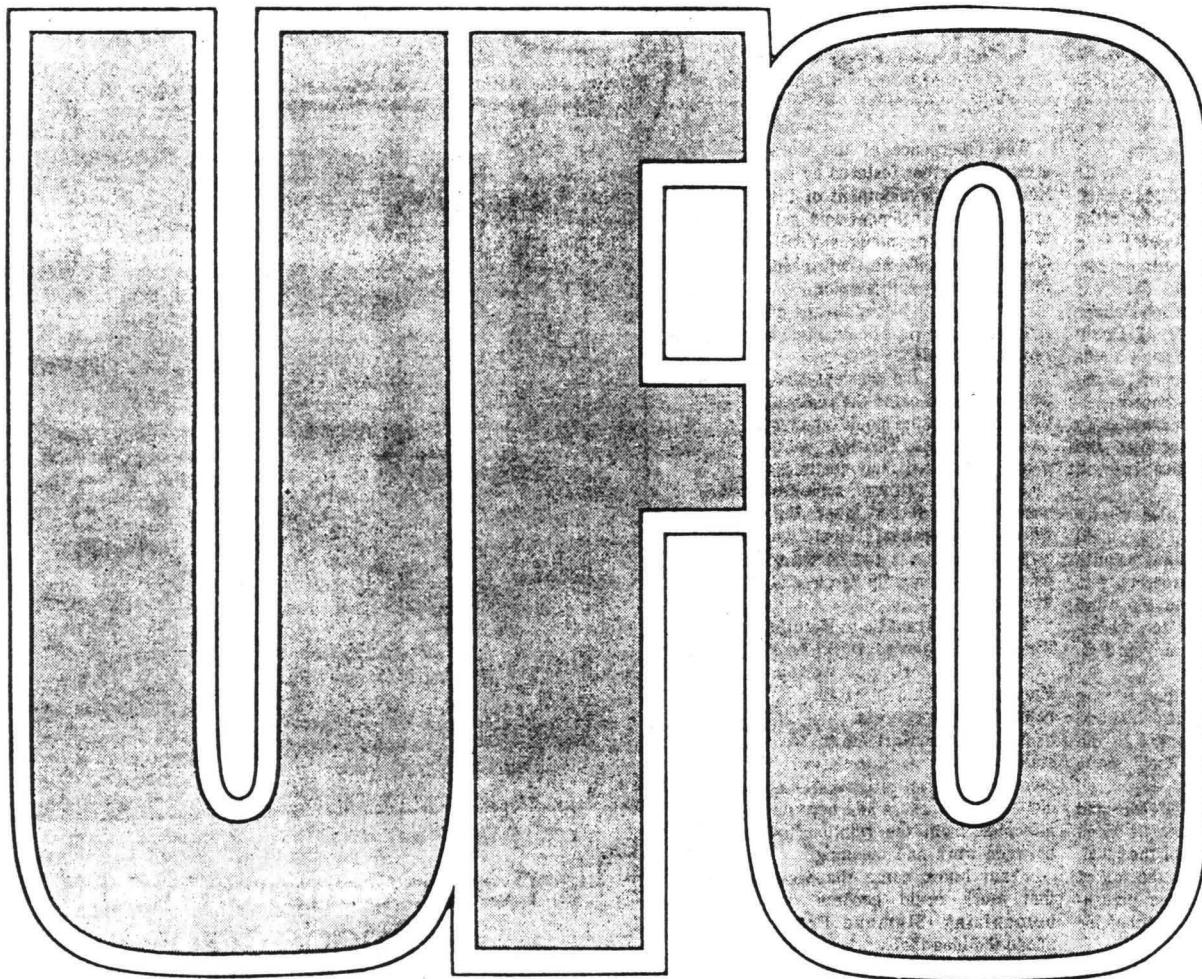
An example is the unfair treatment he said he received at the hands of Nova, a public television science series. In preparation for a program that appeared last month on UFOs, "they came here and taped for two days. I presented cases to them I couldn't explain. But they didn't mention those on the program," he said. Instead, they concentrated on cases that could be easily dismissed.

"It was a most biased presentation. ... It gave the impression that anyone who has spent time investigating (UFOs) wasn't playing with a full deck of cards."

It hasn't been easy for Hynek to finance the center, which he runs from his home. He's tried various foundations for grants, he said, "but the subject has been ridiculed so much because of these idiots, these nuts who say they have been to Venus on a flying saucer. It completely discredits any serious scientific efforts."

But he encouraged those who want reliable scientific information on UFOs or to file reports on sightings to contact the center at post office box 1402, Evanston, Ill. 60204.

It's ironic, he said, that the center is better known internationally than locally. "We get letters in all different languages, and one of our problems simply is getting them translated," he said.



By K.B. Day

We all have our "big fish" or "can you top this" stories that we haul out at family reunions or parties. But Bill Herrmann's most spectacular experience probably beats anything you've ever told — or heard — before.

Herrmann's tale involves two trips aboard a UFO with aliens called Reticulians.

At 26, Herrmann wasn't any more interested in extra-terrestrial objects or beings than anyone else. He took the accepted view that UFO sightings could be given logical explanations.

But then, on several occasions in 1978, the young auto mechanic noticed a gleaming, disk-shaped object maneuvering in triangular patterns in the sky near his North Charleston home.

Those sightings were to change his life profoundly.

He writes of his experiences in the book *UFO...contact from Reticulum*. There he describes the craft he saw as capable of changing color "like an adjustable light dimmer. It looked metallic and was an orangeish and silver intermixed. An extended dome was in the center of the disk on top, and I did not see any windows or portholes of any kind. There was no noise."

At first he believed he was observing some type of secret military weapon. But, on March 18, 1978, his theory was shattered.

Herrmann was relaxing in his living room with his wife, Patti, and a friend. He glanced out the window and happened to notice the strange object again. The thing was blipping around in the sky over the Ashley River. He hurried outside to get a closer look.

After watching the craft for awhile, Herrmann realized the UFO suddenly appeared very close, "only about 10 to 15 feet away."

"I was aware of a blue haze of light that appeared to be extending from the bottom of the disk," Herrmann recalls. Then he noticed a humming that seemed to be coming from below his feet.

"The next thing I remember is lying on a table or bed that was about 7 feet long. I recall waking up from what seemed like a very long sleep... The room re-

sembled a hospital room, very clean, very orderly."

He was not alone.

He could see "three Oriental-looking individuals about 4½ to 5 feet tall, dressed in red overall-looking, uniform-looking jumpsuits."

The aliens "looked very pale and sort of soft skinned with a sponge look about them. Their dark brown eyes were very distinct." They had bulging heads with small mouths and almost no jaw. Their eyelids had no eyelashes and their eyes no pupils.

Two hours after leaving his living room, Herrmann was found wandering near Summerville, about 15 miles from his home. He was hysterical, and sympathetic travelers called a deputy who took a quick look and then dismissed the situation.

Herrmann's family picked him up and took him home.

But that wasn't the end of Herrmann's close encounter of the third kind. He says he was abducted again by Reticulians in May 1979.

The 400-page book he subsequently co-authored describes those experiences in great detail and offers photographs of the exterior of the UFO. There are also drawings of the Reticulians and the spaceship's interior.

Of course, many were not willing to accept Herrmann's story. He says, "As for what I personally had to undergo in the aftermath of my experience: four sessions of clinical regressive hypnosis, where each session was taped and tested using PSE, psychological stress evaluation techniques."

Evaluators concluded Herrmann "seems to be telling the truth as he knows it." The PSE, in which truth is measured by recording stress levels in a person's voice, was administered by a co-inventor, C.R. McQuiston. Herrmann was hypnotized by Dr. James Harder, a professor of engineering at the University of California at Berkeley who is also a UFO investigator.

Herrmann says he also agreed to "one extensive Multifaceted Psychological Profile Test session and exam by two Columbia Presbyterian Hospital doctors" from New York City. They reported Herrmann as a "subject sane and in control of stable mental and emotional balances."

Herrmann's strange encounter landed his story in *Omni*, a science fiction magazine, and on the BBC in an interview with a free-lance journalist. His story was also included in a Japanese network television special. Plus he had the opportunity to meet Gene Roddenberry, creator of the *Star Trek* TV series.

What Herrmann says he saw during his abductions cannot be verified; he is the only witness. But other people did report seeing objects similar to his description in the same areas at about the same times he sighted the craft.

They are not alone. Between 13 and 15 million people make UFO reports each year. It would be wise to hope you never get the opportunity. If you do, there is no set course of action for reporting sightings.

The military won't listen. Neither will most scientists or educators, unless you bring hard evidence. And Frank Webb, a supervisor with the Federal Aviation Administration, says, "The Air Traffic Control Agency is not the place to call."

You could call your local sheriff about anything that endangers your life, but if it's a UFO report, he may not take you seriously. Not on the first call, anyway.

Telling your family and friends may earn you referrals to a good psychiatrist.

Herrmann, however, has not become embittered. His experience, which led to his becoming the only South Carolinian UFO investigator with first-hand involvement, has put him in touch with other South Carolinians who have reported UFOs.

"I've been involved in a number of sightings in South Carolina," says Herrmann, who recalls a sighting by Jerry McAlister in Anderson that was one of the most spectacular.

In September 1980, McAlister was awakened by a disk-shaped object humming above his yard. He described it as 70 feet long, two stories high and covered with windows and lights. In addition to being interviewed by the Associated Press, McAlister and his family appeared on the television show *That's Incredible*.

McAlister wasn't the only person to witness the strange object. Neighbors also saw it, as well as four Anderson County deputies. Afterwards geiger counter readings reflected more than ordinary radia-

tion in the area.

Another incident Herrmann relates occurred in Orangeburg around the end of 1978. "A farmer saw strange lights over his place. He ran inside, got his shotgun and fired it. But the lights started following him and his wife. So they got out of there."

"The next day he came back to find two of his hogs dead. One's throat was slit, and one was just standing on its feet, dead. His skin felt like jelly. Investigators said the hogs died of natural causes."

With a grim chuckle Herrmann recalls, "Off the record there's a lot of listening, but not on the record." He says the government is secretive about UFOs, and, like many others who investigate such incidents, Herrmann suggests there's a "cosmic Watergate going on."

John Safko, astronomy professor at the University of South Carolina, doesn't think so. When asked about government cover-ups, Safko quips, "Who can keep a secret in Washington?"

As a member of the scientific community, Safko believes "Scientists can't win in messing around with UFOs. People who believe won't take the scientific method. They'll say, 'here's a case' and then 'here's another case' and sooner or later you'll come to one where you don't have enough evidence, and you can't explain it. Then," he laughs, "they'll say, 'See! That proves my point!'"

The scientific approach requires the burden of proof be on the shoulders of UFO believers. Safko recalls a favorite quote from Pogo on the subject of extraterrestrials. "If the Martians take over the Earth, it'll serve them right."

Yet the professor doesn't deride sightings in the closed-minded fashion of many of his colleagues. He pinpoints the problem, in part, as one of communication. "There's a big difference," Safko explains, "between the event and your perception of the event. It's colored by your interpretation."

The educator says the failure to produce hard evidence is a significant shortcoming among UFO believers. "The problem is that science doesn't have any UFOs to study. All it has are UFO reports."

(continued on page 4)

George D. Fawcett, of Lincolnton, N.C., has studied UFO reports for the past 38 years. Fawcett teaches one of the only accredited courses in ufology, the study of UFOs. He says the course is very popular at the Lincolnton campus of Gaston College, where he is in his fourth year of teaching.

Fawcett sees two extremes when the subject of UFOs arise. "There's a foolish faith, where every light in the sky is called a UFO. And there's blind doubt, where a person's mind is already made up not to believe."

Fawcett says that South Carolina needs a better reporting system. He says, "Recently the Supreme Court upheld a ruling that UFOs are a threat to our national security."

This directly contradicts findings by the Denver-based Condon Committee. After studying UFO reports, this committee determined that such phenomena are not a threat to national security. "But even President Nixon," Fawcett cracks, "accused Mr. Condon as being the weakest link in our national security."

Fawcett says he receives letters about unidentified flying objects from all over the world, even from places like Russia and Red China. "Reports average about 150 a day worldwide," he says.

Fawcett says sightings are mostly nocturnal, with about 35 percent of them occurring during the daytime. He says that about 3 percent are hoaxes, such as the famous Orson Welles' Halloween broadcast which caused many people to believe a Martian attack was in progress.

When asked if a lot of the people who make reports to him sound like they're

intoxicated, Fawcett says with a laugh, "Most people drink after seeing a UFO. Not before."

Public awareness of objects from outer space got a resounding beginning in the late 40s. A reputable civilian named Kenneth Arnold saw nine disk-shaped objects above a mountain range in Washington State.

He described them as "flying like a saucer would if you skipped it across the water." Newspapers capitalized on the phenomenon by reporting Arnold's story widely, hence, "flying saucers."

"Unidentified flying object" was coined by the military. Technically, UFOs are any aerial objects that fail to identify themselves to or to be identified by trained crews using visual and electronic detection methods. The public seized the military term and uses it to include anything seen in the sky with the naked eye that can't be identified.

The Air Force, after Arnold's sighting, conducted a study into the phenomena, in a project named *Blue Book*. The study concluded that about 3 percent of the cases reported could not be explained.

Waves of sightings, called flaps, have occurred sporadically throughout history. Flaps often coincide with natural wonders like comets.

According to Saffo, "There was a jump in UFO reports that ties in with a lot of our space voyages."

The planet Venus is often mistaken as a UFO. Weather balloons generate sightings, as does geologic activity near earthquake faults. Additionally, all the junk scrapped by space programs has outer

space cluttered right now, enough to warrant an Air Force project to seek solutions.

Fawcett says his ratio of explained versus unexplained cases is higher than that of *Blue Book*. "Twenty-two percent of 1,000 cases I investigated remain unexplainable," he says.

And Fawcett stresses that where reports are concerned, we've only scratched the tip of the iceberg, because, "Only 10 percent of the people who see such events actually report them."

The hesitation to come forward with details of encounters stems largely from fear of ridicule, a typical human response toward dealing with the unknown. Herrmann remembers the story of one South Carolina highway patrol officer who spotted and reported an "amber-colored, wedge-shaped object" in the Lowcountry of South Carolina.

No test aircraft were in the vicinity at the time, and, "Anyway," Herrmann says, "this thing was on the ground." Herrmann says the patrol officer endured quite a bit of sarcasm from colleagues and now avoids any discussion of the incident.

Such reactions make a curious statement about our society. For a nation spoonfed on Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny, we are Doubting Thomases when the subject is UFOs.

In lieu of a clearcut avenue for reporting UFOs in South Carolina, Fawcett invites those with such experiences to write him at 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092.

"I'd really like to hear more," encourages the former state director of the Mutual UFO Network. "South Carolina has a rich history where UFOs are concerned."

If, upon an eerie night, along some abandoned path, you encounter a creature such as one described in Fawcett's 1981 UFO report, "a hairless being with pink skin, a large head and frog-like hands," take some advice. Run like crazy.

Or be prepared for the fact that almost no one, except maybe a UFO investigator, will take you seriously when you report what you have seen.

But who knows? Maybe one day, in the far distant future, human representatives may sit down in a stellar boardroom on some far-flung asteroid to discuss mining rights on Jupiter.

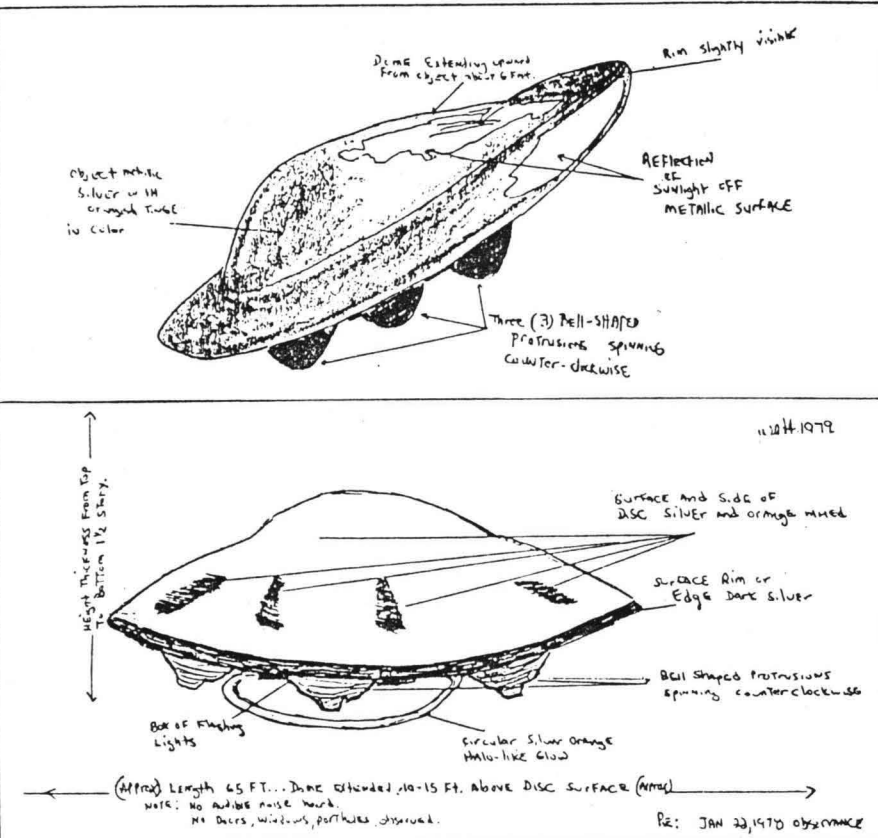
Sitting at the table there may be a tiny hairless being with pink skin and frog-like hands. The slit that is a mouth may twitch a bit and beep playfully, "Hey, remember when you people thought we didn't exist?"

You don't think so, huh? Well, just remember, we've walked on the moon and cloned carrots, haven't we?



K.B.
Day

Day is a freelance writer in Columbia who edits a monthly magazine, "Palmetto Pharmacist." Articles by her will be appearing soon in "Globe" and "Review," and she has written for "South Carolina Wildlife" and "On Campus." Her last article for "The State Magazine" was on round dancing.



Bill Herrmann's sketches of UFOs from his book, "UFO... Contact From Reticulum." The top sketch is of a UFO spotted Dec. 2, 1977, from his North Charleston home. Bottom sketch is the side view of a second UFO

EVENING STANDARD-TIMES, San Angelo, TX
Sept. 22, 1982 CR: P. Gersten

Falling debris still a mystery

Hot debris falling from explosive-type devices being set off over Southland Park could cause house fires, a fire department official said Tuesday.

An unknown substance from the second of two separate flashes reported by area residents in the past three weeks set off minor grass fires in a yard at 3346 Timber Ridge Drive, Fire and Arson Investigator Ken Land said.

"We don't know what caused the flashes," Land said. "All we know at this time is that the debris is hot enough to start a fire. There are a large number of wood-shingle roofs in the area and we are concerned about what could happen if the incidents continue."

Land said he has collected several samples of the debris for analysis. "It's not plastic," he said. "It could be a type of fireworks, but none of the witnesses reported hearing any noise. All they saw was a bright flash and smoke."

"I don't know what it was, but I'm awfully concerned," Mrs. John Guess said. She reported seeing a bright, reddish flash about 11:30 p.m. Saturday and watched as smoking debris fell into her backyard.

"The flash lasted a minute or so," she said. "It was very bright and lit up most of the block. It only lasted a minute or so. I went out to the patio and saw whatever it was trying to start a fire in the yard. There was a strong smell of smoke."

Mrs. Guess said she couldn't identify the type of smoke. "It smelled more like burning paper

than wood or gas, she said. She said the debris appeared to be crumpled-up tinfoil.

"My neighbor's son (Tom Guthrie, 3350 Timber Ridge Drive) saw a similar flash two weeks ago," Mrs. Guess said. "He and his father were working in their garage and I heard him (Tom) calling his father to come quick and see it. He sounded scared."

Guthrie was not available for comment but Land quoted him as saying that the flash illuminated a wide area. "No one reported hearing any noise or seeing any debris," Land said.

Mrs. Jim Guthrie said she didn't see the flash, but that her husband had told her of it. "I'm really concerned because of the wood-shingle roofs around here," she said.

"People around here are worried," Mrs. Guess said. "There is no noise or anything that would cause the dogs to act up. It's happening late at night and the next one could do more than burn grass."

Although he hasn't received any additional reports, Land said he believes other residents in the area might have information which could help resolve the mystery before something serious occurs.

"Recent incidents have shown us what wood shingle fires can do. We don't need anymore of them," he said.

Anyone with information that might help in the investigation should call the Fire Marshal's Office, 655-5314, as soon as possible, Land said.

LEDGER, Noblesville, IN - Oct. 26, 1982 CR: C. Jones

QUOTE OF THE DAY: Stephen Spielberg wasn't kidding when he made "E.T. - The Extra-Terrestrial." As he told People magazine, "I unequivocally think there is life in other solar systems in our galaxy. I think we'd drop dead of heart attacks if we knew what it was. I've never seen a UFO, but I've talked to so many people who have, people I'm best friends with, that I believe there is something going on. I really am waiting for my turn. I would love to see something that can't be explained by science or logic."



Looking over Polaroid pictures of an unidentified flying object observed and photographed by Alan Potasnak, 11, of Knollwood Road, Ridgewood, (center), are his friends, Sam Dillehay, left front, Terry Coyle, left rear, Peter Dillehay, second from right and Jonathan O'Conner, right. (Photo by Barbara J. Haemmerle

Youngster on trail of a UFO

By BARBARA J. HAEMMERLE

RIDGEWOOD — "In our opinion it's a UFO," was Peter Dillehay's comment about three Polaroid pictures of "something" seen and photographed by his friend Alan Potasnak, 11, of 570 Knollwood Road.

Alan, who brought three photos of the phenomenon into The Ridgewood News, said he saw the object in the air over his back yard Tuesday at three different times. He said he first saw it about 7:30 p.m. and was able to photograph it before it "went up" and disappeared. About 45 minutes later it returned, Alan said, and he took another picture, and about an hour after that it again appeared and he took the third picture.

Ridgewood police said they had no reports of UFOs sighted in the village during the early part of last week.

"The kids in my class didn't believe I saw anything," Alan said, "until I showed them the pictures. Then they changed their minds a little."

"It looks just like E.T. to me," said Terry Coyle, 11, as he looked at the three pictures, each showing a bright orange glowing streak against a dark blue background. The object appears to have moved as the picture was being taken, and Alan says that's exactly what did happen.

"I don't know what it was, but it didn't look like a paper bag burning or anything that could be explained," Alan said.

Alan said there are some "scientists" in his class who said it had to be a falling star or ball lightning or something explainable. He said that even his mother didn't believe him. "She said it has to have a scientific explanation or that I did tricks with the camera," Alan said.

The Knollwood Road youth took the pictures with his father's Polaroid camera, he said.

Alan's friend Sam Dillehay, 7, said he tried to get a look at the "thing" after Alan called him on the phone. "I tried to get a look at it, but it scared me," he said.

Alan said the object appeared to be about 25 feet away from where he was standing and that it disappeared and reappeared into the sky.

Jonathan O'Conner, 8, also a friend of Alan's, said he agreed with Peter Dillehay: "It looked just like E.T. to me."

Alan said, "One of the strangest things was that my older sister couldn't see it. Even when I pointed to it and said 'It's out there, right now!' she said she didn't see it. But my little sister, who's only in kindergarten, saw it."

Alan's pals said they thought it was strange that the "older people couldn't see it," Terry Coyle said.

Alan said he planned to continue to look for whatever it was each evening. "Maybe it'll come back," he said hopefully.

Unusual lights seen in Flagstaff areas

SEDONA (UPI) — Several people in the Flagstaff and Sedona areas reported seeing a strange light in the sky Thursday night.

Six residents said they saw the light between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. north and east of Flagstaff. They described it as a bright light surrounded by a cloud and close to the ground. It vanished after about 15 minutes, they said.

Some west Sedona residents reported seeing a similar light between 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. They said they smelled sulfur about the same time.

Officials at the National Weather Service and at Lowell Observatory near Flagstaff said they couldn't explain the light.

Ray Jordan of the U.S. Geological Survey plans to interview some of the witnesses.

REMINDER, The Dalles, OR - Oct. 7, 1982

UFO spotted

A man from The Dalles spotted a UFO Tuesday night, according to a city police report.

Paul Ryan, 1819 E. 16th, reported seeing two large lights in the sky at approximately 11:30 p.m.

He said the lights took off all at once, very very fast towards the Dufur area.

Wasco County Sheriff's Department was notified, and Ryan was given a telephone number of a UFO information station.



WAS IT OR WASN'T IT?

4 claim close sight of UFO

WEST AUSTRALIAN, (City Unknown), Australia - July 12, 1982 CR: V. Godle

FOUR Mt Barker men claim to have had a strange close encounter early yesterday morning.

The men, who are professional kangaroo shooters, were boiling a billy about 5.20am after a night's hunting when they all saw an odd glow rise above a group of trees nearly 1km from their camp.

One of the hunters, Ray Drage, said that the object glowed yellow and red and hovered in the air for about 10 minutes before slowly moving off in a northerly direction.

The men observed the object for about an hour.

Glow

"We were on one hill, and the glow rose from behind a group of trees on another hill about half a mile (0.8km) away," Mr Drage said.

"We all saw the glow, but I had to train my gun's telescopic sight on it to discern any shape. It looked like a cigar with a yellow glow coming from the front and a red glow from the rear as it moved away."

The men make it a rule that no alcohol is taken on hunting trips.

At the time it was still dark but moonlit. Mr Drage said that the object was definitely not a helicopter or an aeroplane.

"We watched it hover above the trees for some time, and at one stage it looked as if it was coming towards us," he said.

German visitor says: 'I saw UFO land on moor.'

GERMAN businessman Gerhard Bruckhorst talked exclusively to the Courier this week about a "close encounter" he experienced on a trip to Cornwall. Mr. Bruckhorst, 42, a scientific instrument-maker from Dusseldorf, also handed to us a film he took showing what could be an unidentified flying object.

Mr. Bruckhorst, on a business trip to Cornwall, said he saw the UFO hovering low over fields near Bodmin. He followed it and then says he saw it land.

From the description given to us by Mr. Bruckhorst, it seems that the first sighting was near the clay works at Hawkstow, on Bodmin Moor.

Mr. Bruckhorst, well-respected family man in his home town in Germany, told us: "At the beginning, I thought it was a reflection in the car window, like you sometimes get, so I wound down the window and the thing was still there."

"All of a sudden, as I reached the bottom of the hill, the object, which had been almost still, accelerated very fast and strangely, sort of smooth but suddenly, away from me."

"I got quite a good look at it while it was still, although it was a long way away. I know that it sounds a bit what you would expect, but it was definitely saucer-shaped."

"At first it looked long and thin, like a cigar, but just before it took off, it tilted a bit and you could see that it was round. It had sort of portholes in the upper

OFFICIAL COMMENT

● A TOP government spokesman confirmed yesterday that officials were probing reports of UFOs over Cornwall.

Michael Tellam, permanent Under-secretary at the department of aeronautical studies, said they were looking into a number of reports which reached them on Monday.

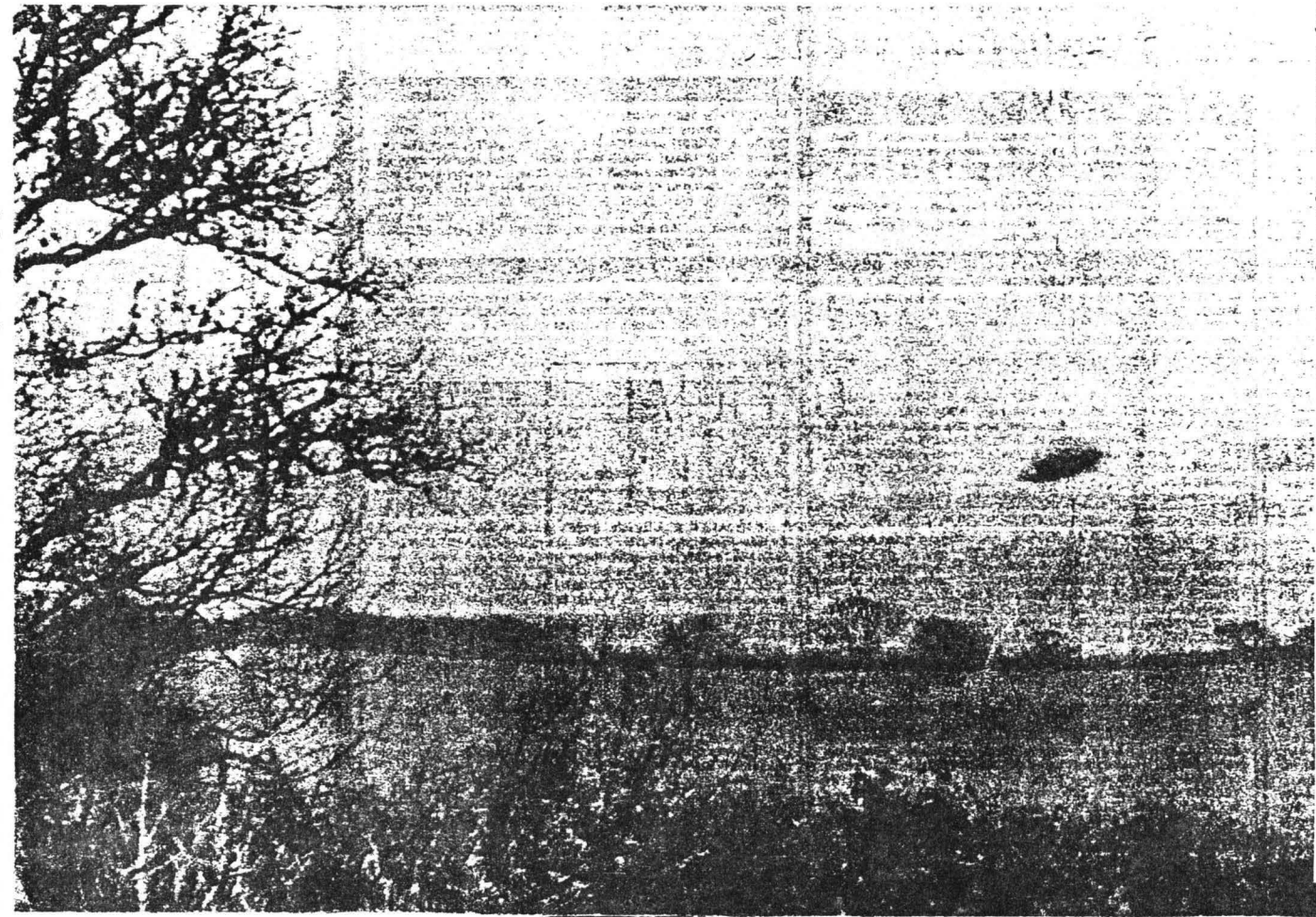
"RAF St. Mawgan reported that pilots saw bright lights in the sky and the air base also received a number of calls from members of the public," said Mr. Tellam.

"Of course, this doesn't mean very much. We often get reports of this nature, but there are usually quite obvious explanations such as air force activity."

"For reasons of security, RAF St. Mawgan might not be told about flying activities over Cornwall by squadrons from other bases."

Mr. Tellam said he could not confirm reports that scientists were combing the fields around the area where Mr. Bruckhorst said he saw a UFO.

"You are starting to ask questions which could be said to interfere with national security," said Mr. Tellam. "and I must remind you of your duties as a newspaper to take note of the Official Secrets Act."



BRADFORD TELEGRAPH & ARGUS, West Yorkshire, England - Sept. 22, 1982

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involved in the strange episode not to give out more details on the case. Nevertheless, a person who was with the two policemen who testified to seeing the UFO land, gave the following version:

"I saw a yellow light which turned to an orange color, which practically blinded me. I was nearly paralyzed, but my brain never stopped working. The light source, about 50 meters in diameter, came from above, and the object which was emitting it landed between the Londres slaughterhouse and the pen where the cattle are held. On landing, a burst of flame shot up as though someone threw a match into naphtha. The fire stayed there. Luckily, the wind wasn't blowing in the direction of the village, for if it had, there would be nothing left..."

The only thing certain at this point is that official and scientific units and numerous journalists are swarming in the area, trying to disentangle the threads of the "UFO fire" which has amazed the country with its baffling chain of events throughout the northeast.

- 1) City and country of incident: Plain of Marcahuasi, Peru
- 2) Date of incident: (Not Given)
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: CARAZON, August 18, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: (City Unknown), Argentina

EXTRATERRESTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHED

Shows Oval-shaped Head and A Colored Uniform

Lima, Peru - A photograph of an alleged extraterrestrial, with an oval-shaped head and colored uniform, was taken accidentally in the Plain of Marcahuasi, a strange, esoteric and mysterious place 90 KM from Lima. The photo of an alleged being from another world reveals, from a distance, a thin person sitting on a boulder, with his right arm raised in salute.

The weekly magazine OIGA (LISTEN), which printed the photo of the alleged Martian, indicated that the image was taken from an altitude of 200 meters, above a rock 60 meters high. From this it may be deduced that the figure is at least three meters tall. The youth who took the picture says that the figure was not visible when he exposed the film, but appeared in the color print when the film was developed. According to the color of the film, the extraterrestrial has an orange-colored head and is wearing a uniform of a bluish-green shade. OIGA reports that the picture has not been faked. It did not reveal, however, the name of the photographer, saying only that he is a university student. He is a member of the esoteric group, Rama, which is said to be in contact with beings of other planets and which occasionally organizes trips to Marcahuasi, a place in which it is said to be possible to enter into contact with UFO crewmen.

Marcahuasi is a small mesa which was discovered by the Peruvian, Daniel Rufo, noted for his studies and photographs. Marcahuasi contains a series of sculptures, made using the natural form of the rock, which show animals which never existed in South America. According to Rufo, whose theories have appeared in numerous esoteric books such as those by the now-deceased Robert Charroux of France, Von Daniken and others, there are similar sculptures in other parts of the world. A proto-human race, which lived before the Flood, was the creator of these sculptures, says Rufo, who claims to have found on Marcahuasi, tombs and monuments, one dedicated to the Egyptian goddess of fertility, Tueris. Marcahuasi has a strong mystical attraction, and perhaps the extraterrestrials—if there are—also like the place. Unless the three-meter-tall gentleman is a hoax.

- 1) City and country of incident: (Location Unspecified), Venezuela
- 2) Date of incident: (Not Given)
- 3) Name of publication and date of article: TAL CUAL Magazine, August 20, 1982
- 4) City and country of publication: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO ATTACKS, BURNS THREE IN VENEZUELA

"My God, save us! That thing is on fire and it's coming over us! It's getting closer! We're burning! God, help us!"

As if hypnotized, Maria Elena Suarez relives her horrible encounter with a flaming UFO along a deserted highway in Venezuela. She tells of how she, her grandson, Gonzalo, and a friend were driving along when they suddenly noticed that a luminous object was covering the entire sky. It was an intense blue color, was at treetop level and was emitting reddish tongues of flame down to the highway.

"We couldn't pass through," says her friend. The road was blocked, and I remember that the three of us were petrified with fear. Maria Elena began screaming and got out of the car, running. I begged her not to leave but she didn't listen. The little one, five years old, also wanted to escape, the same as his grandmother, but I stopped him. I pressed him to my womb and hugged him tightly. For 15 minutes the object floated over us, while flames burst from its insides."

The story told by Susana, 55 years old, appears to be a fairy tale, but it was all true, for three weeks later horrible burns appeared on the bodies of both women and the boy. Susana, the most severely affected, has had to be admitted to a special clinic, because beyond the loss of skin, she is suffering from terrible bouts of diarrhea, nausea and headaches. The cardiologist who examined her said that in all three cases there were symptoms of radiation poisoning—and that after all of this, he had lost all doubts concerning the existence of UFOs.

- 1) City and country of incident: Londres, Catamarca, Argentina
- 2) Date of incident: August 13, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: LA GACETA, August 23, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Tucuman, Argentina

UFO: LONDRES OFFICIAL SAYS STILL NO CONCLUSIONS

Londres, Catamarca - "The police have made all necessary statements, but so far nothing else is known about the cause of the fire," the leading official of Londres, Victor Manuel Bestani, told LA GACETA. The official made it clear that in recent days police elements met in the various places in which the UFO may have landed, but there are no conclusions, while in divisional headquarters our reporter was told that there is no new information.

they meet to pray in the half-destroyed church.

The Governor

The governor of Catamarca, Arnoldo Castillo, will be briefed today by Bestani about the destruction caused by the wind and fire, which wiped out 2,500 walnut trees (mostly blown down by the wind) in full production. Twenty houses in one neighborhood and three other houses were practically destroyed. Also, there are total losses in other minor products of the region.

- 1) City and country of incident: Villa Serrana de Marcos Pas, Argentina
- 2) Date of incident: September 9 (?), 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: CRONICA, September 11, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

TUCUMAN: UFO FLIES OVER VILLA SERRANA

San Miguel de Tucuman, 10 Sept. - Three children of Villa Serrana de Marcos Pas, of the province of Tucuman, were witnesses to a spectacular appearance of a flying saucer "which flew over our heads," and which emitted red and green lights, "with a honey-colored, brilliant light from the center."

The sudden apparition of the UFO terrified the children, who, frightened, called their mother, who upon coming out onto the patio also observed the object which "flew slowly, spinning like a top."

Observing the phenomenon were Fanny Alderetes de Albornoiz and the children, Paola Veronica Albornoiz, 11, her cousin Sergio Albornoiz, 6, and her friend Ana Carolina Gimenez, also 6. They all described the object as flying slowly while spinning like a round top, with a lighted fringe with red and green coloring and a bright, honey-colored light in the middle.

Paola Veronica said it was about 9:45 P.M., local time, when she heard a noise like a clap of thunder. "I looked into the sky to see if it was cloudy, but it wasn't. Then I saw how Ana Carolina was gesturing toward the sky. I looked up again and saw how the UFO was spinning. I stayed calm," she continued, "and watching the UFO pass right over my head. I wasn't afraid at all at that moment. It was round, but not very big."

Her mother said, "I was watching the news on TV when I heard my daughter calling. She yelled, 'Come here, mommy, there's a flying saucer!' I thought she was fooling, but I went out right away. She pointed excitedly up in the air with her finger and then I saw the UFO, which was heading slowly toward the area of Tafi Viejo. Its white light was turned on and off, and the rest was green and red."

"I didn't believe in flying saucers before this," she said, "but now I do because I really saw one."

CREDIT: Irene Granchi

- 1) City and country of incident: Itacoatiara, Amazon State, Brazil
- 2) Dates of incidents: September 17-22, 1982
- 3) Name of paper and date of clip: O DIA, September 22, 23, 1982
- 4) City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

(A condensation of accounts appearing in O DIA for both dates given)

FLYING SAUCERS TURN WOMEN PREGNANT

Manaus (AGS) - According to the police chief of the town of Itacoatiara, Amazon, flying saucers are once more attacking their population. The people are in a panic for a strange light comes down, leaving people dizzy, as well as invading homes and making the women become pregnant. In Urubu, the people are putting up trenches /barricades? in the street for protection and the Military Police have been given orders to put all their soldiers on patrol to avoid panic. The lighted discs have been around since last Friday and the people in Itacoatiara, which is 270 KM from Manaus, have armed themselves with guns and revolvers and carbines to meet the strange invaders. In Urubu, while the men take turns at the trenches, ready to fire as soon as the UFO lights appear, their families gather together to spend the night in one home so as to prevent the women from becoming pregnant. Police chief Francisco das Chagas Oliveira said he does not know what he should do.

A farmer, Orinaldo Carvalho de Oliveira, 26, married to Maria do Rosario de Oliveira, has 5 children, aged two months to eight. Having heard about what was happening, Orinaldo did not want to risk having another child, so he took his steps to avoid this. Well-armed, he called his friend Domingos Capistam da Costa. Taking turns, he and his friend shared the work, and Domingos stood outside the house, ready with a tin can to tap it if any luminous object should appear.

Orinaldo stayed in bed, keeping awake, when all of a sudden, a light entered the room. He says: "It was a strange sensation—the cold made one feel dizzy." He awoke his wife and children. Outside, Domingos was hitting the can like mad. But nobody found the strength to react or to move. They all felt that awful dizziness and Orinaldo even believes that for some moments, he fainted. He heard nothing more but could not take his eyes off the light, that came in many colors. After recovering, he could still see the light in the windows and, by fits and starts, started firing in all directions. After using up all his ammunition, he finally discovered his friend Domingos, who had fainted, leaning against the water tank. Little by little, they both felt better and started examining the 'sitio' (small farm), trying to discover where the light had come from. Halfway out, they encountered a neighbor, Ataliba Pereira Filho, nicknamed "Pururuca," who was also armed and looking for the "Martian invaders."

After a short while, the light reappeared straight above Orinaldo's home, blinking on and off, non-stop. This time he did not feel dizzy and he started firing at it. It immediately took off at a great speed. Orinaldo ran into his home and his wife and children were still feeling dizzy. Now he is in fear of her having become pregnant, although he recognizes the fact that, if a child were to be born, he would never be able to tell whether it was his own or that of somebody from another planet.

Several Itacoatiara residents are saying that the present UFO invasion reminds them of the Amazon legend according to which, at every party where an Amazon



CALIFORNIA BIGFOOT—A 10-foot-high wooden image of the "Bigfoot" creature stands watch over the Willow, Calif. home of the Bigfoot Days Festival, to be held from Sept. 4-6. Local residents hope the mythical hairy man-beast will draw big bucks to the town's coffers during the festival. **AP Laserphoto**

'Bigfoot' means big bucks for tiny town

WILLOW CREEK, Calif. (AP) — "Bigfoot" means big bucks for this tiny Northern California hamlet, its town park graced by a 10-foot-high wooden statue of the huge, hairy man-beast said to lurk in rugged mountains hereabouts.

For about 15 years "Bigfoot Days," scheduled this year for the Sept. 4-6 Labor Day weekend, has drawn increasingly larger crowds of people who leave behind increasing larger sums of money with local merchants.

People fascinated by recurring bigfoot tales won't be let down — because one of the long-armed beasts, also known as sasquatch, will be in the town that bills itself as the "Bigfoot Capital of the World."

Actually, it's going to be Dave Martinez, a 6-foot-5-inch, 300-pound local bartender and beer truck driver who dons a costume and spends the holiday chasing girls and "scaring children out of seven year's growth," according to a local Chamber of Commerce spokeswoman.

Martinez, adds Chamber secretary Eunice Marcum, "makes the best bigfoot you ever saw in your life. He's huge, and he fits the costume to a T."

The town plans a parade, a dance, a tug-of-war, egg tosses and other somehow unsasquatchlike events — except perhaps for a mud-wrestling contest. Up to 7,000 people are expected to show up in the town of about 2,800 residents — and spend up to \$12,000.

The "Bigfoot Capital of the World" claim is emblazoned on the masthead of the local newspaper, the Kourier, along with a drawing

of one of the mythical creatures.

Kourier publisher Jess Garst, a former composing room supervisor for the Los Angeles Times, says he's "not exactly too strong a believer in bigfoot myself. But I don't play it down much."

"Why should I? It's interesting, it's good for business, and I can't prove it's not true," he adds.

Garst periodically prints accounts of sasquatch sightings or related stories — including reports that tend to pooh-pooh the legend. He says people from all over the country take the weekly paper "for no other reason but to keep up on bigfoot."

Unlike Garst, Mrs. Marcum takes sasquatch accounts more seriously — even though she admits "Bigfoot Days" is not intended to advance any anthropological studies of the creature and is done "strictly for promotion and fun."

She says there are many, many reports of sightings or other developments that indicate the beast actually does inhabit the rugged, forested mountains around here — including one from her late husband.

Mrs. Marcum says her husband's logging crew once deserted him in the woods after coming upon a site were full, heavy oil drums were stored — but had been "tossed over the side of the mountain like someone had been playing games with them."

That story and dozens more will no doubt be told on the streets and in the bars of Willow Creek during the upcoming "Bigfoot Days."

SUN, Calgary, Alberta, Canada - Sept. 5, 1982

'We've seen Loch Ness Monster'

By JOHN GRADON
Staff Writer

Jennifer Bruce stood on the drizzle-swept shores of Scotland's Loch Ness and playfully shouted into the breeze: "Here Nessie ... here Nessie."

And she took a picture of Urquhart Castle barely visible through the mist.

Now Bruce, 22, wonders if the legendary critter called Nessie didn't answer her call. So does her mom, Calgary schoolteacher Norma, who was with her on the Scotland trip.

For in the snapshot appears the familiar shape of the monster that has made Loch Ness a Mecca for scientists and tourists.

The *Sunday Sun* is sending the photo to the Loch Ness Monster Museum, which promises to have it officially analysed.

Norma Bruce doesn't insist the picture shows Nessie, but she does insist whatever it is is no hoax.

The picture shows the distinct outline of a small pointed head atop a long, sloping neck rising above the loch's choppy waters, with the castle looming in the background.

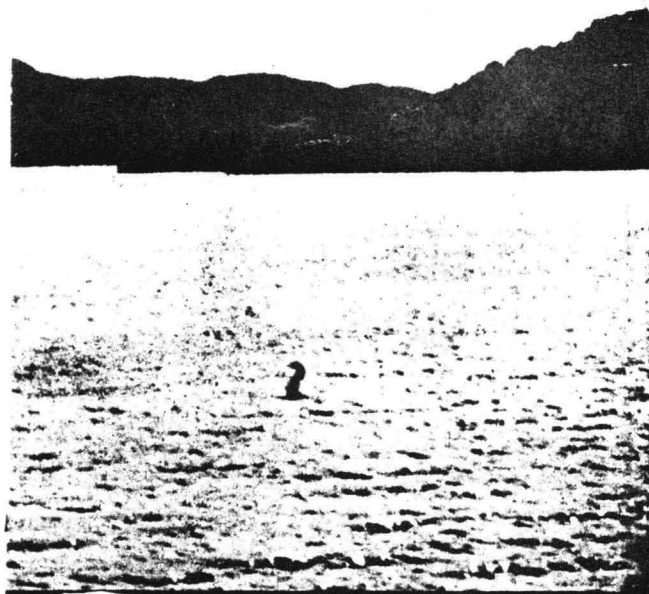
After the Scotland trip Jennifer returned with her husband Gordon to Vancouver, where Jennifer works as a car rental firm receptionist.

"A few weeks ago I visited her for the first time since the trip," explains Norma. "She showed me her photo album and there was the picture."

"She'd put a caption over it saying 'Nessie?'. I was excited about it. I thought straight off it just might be the real Nessie."



GORDON BRUCE with wife Norma (inset) ... took this picture of 'Nessie'.



NEWS TRIBUNE, Tacoma, WA - Oct. 24, 1982 CR: J. Moseley

Prof says print details prove it's Sasquatch

VANCOUVER, B.C. (AP) — Footprint casts taken after a reported Sasquatch sighting near the Oregon-Washington border show skin ridges and furrows like those found only on higher primates, an anthropologist says.

The fine detail on the casts is evidence of the authenticity of the legendary, ape-like creature that is said to roam furtively throughout the Pacific Northwest, said Grover Krantz, an associate professor of anthropology at Washington State University.

Such a creature reportedly was sighted June 10 in the Blue Mountains by a former U.S. Forest Service patrolman.

"The ridge and furrow pattern

is something, I'm afraid for a number of reasons, seems to be beyond the ability of anybody to fake," Krantz said at a news conference Friday.

"All the animals that could have been there have different structures, a different type of skin on the sole of the foot. Primates have dermal ridges."

Krantz said the arch pattern of the ridges and the narrow furrows were "exactly the kind you'd expect in a primate." He also said the casts show some distinctive movement of the toes.

Krantz is a founding member of the International Society of Cryptozoology, the science of hidden animals like the Loch Ness mon-

ster and Sasquatch, also known as Bigfoot.

The footprint casts were taken by forest service personnel June 10 after Paul Freeman reported seeing an unidentified animal in a northern Oregon watershed just across the state line from Walla Walla. A week later, Freeman and another patrolman reported finding new tracks on the Washington side of the border.

Freeman, who resigned one month after the sighting because of publicity over the incident, says he feels vindicated by Krantz's findings and claims he will hunt for the creature "until I find one."

In advancing his claim of au-

thenticity, Krantz said the area in which the prints were found was inaccessible to the public and that the stride between the prints and their depth indicated the creature was more than eight feet tall and weighed about 750 pounds.

While there is "nothing remarkably new" in this, the information combined with the existence of the dermal ridges makes the sighting more believable than others, Krantz said.

The casts are the first of the thousands that have been made over the years to clearly show dermal ridges, Krantz said. He attributed that to the good mud the prints were found in.



WSU's Grover Krantz poses with a footprint — from a sasquatch?

DAVID LEDFORD of the Chronicle

Sasquatch 'phenomenon' called real; 'Let's not pretend they don't exist'

By TERESA TSALAKY

Of the Chronicle

Take several hundred reports of sightings of huge, hairy, man-like animals in forested areas of the Northwest.

Mix in some large footprints and handprints.

Add one anthropology professor from Washington State University and one from the University of Idaho.

Blend a generous portion of scientific curiosity together with a sprinkle of myth.

The result?

A systematic, detailed study of sasquatch.

Roderick Sprague sits in his office in the UI anthropology building. On one wall hangs a poster with a cartoon drawing of a sasquatch. An uprooted tree occupies one of its hands, and a screaming female camper in a sleeping bag occupies the other.

"OFF LIMITS," the poster warns. "This area protected by BIGFOOT REPELLENT... If you confront him while hiking, a bit of repellent tossed between his toes will turn the brute into a whimpering 10 inches."

No, Sprague says, there is no such thing as bigfoot repellent.

But is there such a thing as sasquatch?

Sprague opened a book to a series of photographs — the "Patterson film" — taken in 1967 in Bluff Creek, Calif. The film showed a gigantic, upright animal dashing through a clearing in the woods.

"The people at (Walt) Disney said there was only one place in the world that could have undetectably doctored the film to look like that," Sprague said. "And they said they didn't do it."

"The odds are that it exists."

But Sprague won't say flatly that it does.

"All I'm saying is, let's not pretend it doesn't," Sprague said. "It exists in people's minds. The phenomenon is real whether you believe in the physical animal or not."

"So why ignore it? We can at least look at it from a sociological point of view if nothing else."

WSU's Grover Krantz is a bit less skeptical:

"I'm virtually convinced they exist. What I've found can't be explained any other way."

If one or more sasquatch do exist, why haven't sightings been positively verified? Why do we hear about them but never see them?

"Suppose someone told you he'd seen an animal that goes around cutting down trees and building dams, and that slaps its tail in the water as a warning when the tree is about to fall," Sprague says, pausing to grin.

"Have you ever heard of a beaver?"

Is it unusual to have two professors within eight miles of each other scientifically studying sasquatch?

"It's not unusual," says Sprague. "It's unique."

"Whether we are willing to acknowledge that there may indeed be such a living thing as a sasquatch, the fact remains that as anthropologists we have an obligation to study the sociological and anthropological implications of the belief systems which contain or encourage the continuation of such beliefs," Sprague wrote in "The Scientist Looks at Sasquatch."

The book, published by University Press of Idaho, is a collection of articles written by American and Russian scientists, including many college professors, and edited by Sprague and Krantz.

All but one of the nine authors say there is at least a possibility that huge, primate-like animals occupy some of the heavily forested regions of the world.

The dissenter, Richard Beeson, a UI anthropology and sociology professor, writes:

"What the sasquatch represents, I believe, is a modern form of myth, and we are privileged to be able to see it in the making... Like most myth, there is the freedom of improvisation and opportunity to participate in this creation. There is the breaking out of the bonds of the usual..."

The other authors go beyond arguing about whether sasquatch exist.

Instead they discuss the best way to catch a sasquatch, whether or not one should be taken alive or killed, the best approach to sasquatch identification.

Krantz, for instance, advocates the killing of a sasquatch because he believes it would be almost impossible to take one alive.

He is criticized by a Seattle scientist, Jon Beckjord, who writes: "Because these reports feature hairy bodies, and not hairless bodies, we have persons who feel this is a license to shoot first and ask questions afterward... I deplore this form of scientific arrogance."

And the Russian scientist writes that he is against not only killing but any kind of violence against the creature.

Krantz still insists a sasquatch must be killed. However, he warns sasquatch hunters to be certain it is not a human being dressed in a fur suit.

"I have already seen four films of people in fur suits purporting to be sasquatches," he writes, "and have heard about still others."

Krantz and Sprague say they're frustrated with "the lunatic fringe" who take credence away from scientific study.

"A guy from Seattle who's nuts calls me all the time to try to prove (sasquatch) are extraterrestrial," Sprague said.

While some people are studying sasquatch behavior, Krantz believes that until physical evidence is available, "these studies are almost as useless as investigating the sex life of unicorns."

One problem in gathering information about sasquatch, Sprague said, is that the amateurs who made sasquatch-hunting popular ("because

they're such a weird bunch") are fighting among themselves and jealously guarding their information.

Unlike the amateurs, scientists — at least those willing to admit they study sasquatch — are anxious to combine efforts and share research with other professionals.

But there are many who fear ridicule from the scientific community and therefore won't discuss their involvement in sasquatch study.

"There's no question Krantz has suffered loss of promotion because of his beliefs," Sprague said. "He's still an associate professor. With the amount of research he's done and material he's published, he should be a full professor."

"I was chairman of the department for 12 years," he said. "They weren't about to argue with me."

A 1977 survey of 70 people who study sasquatch, conducted by Ron Westrom of Eastern Michigan University, confirmed the difficulties of doing sasquatch research in an academic environment.

Seven of the 16 academic respondents to the survey asked for anonymity. None of the non-academic respondents did.

But sasquatch research in the academic world continues — in full swing.

More and more scientists are becoming interested, and willing to acknowledge the possibility that sasquatch exist.

As Sprague says: "Who are we to question it?"

But we know beavers exist. People who report a sasquatch could be lunatics, glory hounds or near-sighted.

Though there has been an upsurge in recent years in sasquatch sightings (reported sightings in the Northwest total about 1,000), Krantz estimates 50 percent are invalid.

"They either see another animal or they lie about it to get their names in the newspaper," he said.

Krantz says sasquatch feet are not just exaggerated human feet.

"They've been modified to carry much weight," he said, "and I don't think any hoaxster would be able to figure that out."

Of the only known set of sasquatch handprints, Krantz says: "If they were fabricated, they had to be made by an expert primatologist."

Unlike a human hand, he said, all the digits turn in the same direction, the thumbs are not opposed, the palms are flat, there are no thenar (ball of the thumb) pads.

Is that enough proof? The scientific establishment doesn't think so.

Krantz concedes that sasquatch bones must be found or a sasquatch killed before the scientific community will accept its existence.

Meanwhile, a small but increasing number of professionals in America, Canada, China and the Soviet Union are carrying on scientific analysis of data connected with the massive creature.

Footprints reported in Wenaha area

Bigfoot steps forth once again

Six men who packed into the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness area late in July on a fishing trip, caught more than a mess of trout.

They caught Bigfoot fever in a big way. Their account which follows will be an updating of the Blue Mountain Bigfoot affair which started early in June with the reported sighting of the creature.

The man who reported seeing a Bigfoot — a bipedal primate reported by other people over many years from Northern California to British Columbia — was Paul Freeman. Freeman, along with Bill Epoch, rode the Mill Creek Watershed patrolling to keep men and livestock out of the water source for the city of Walla Walla.

Anything resembling a routine ride through this rugged area of the Blues came to a halt June 10 when Freeman reportedly came almost face-to-face with a Bigfoot as it came off a steep bank when Freeman rounded a curve in a mountain road.

Freeman reported to his superiors what he had seen and his life hasn't been the same since.

He says he quit his job with the U.S. Forest Service because of the flak he took about the Bigfoot sighting. He moved from Milton-Freewater to Athena and has since returned to Camas, Wash., from whence he and his wife, Nancy, and children had come when he took the forest service job.

But, Freeman has not given up on eventually finding a Bigfoot, if only to vindicate that he had truly seen the monster.

Finding a Bigfoot is a vow Freeman made to himself when he got all the "flak." Seeking to fulfill it, he made more than one trip into the Blues before he left Athena. What he — and others — found add much to the updating.



Outdoors in the Blues

Vance Orchard

One such trip came in late July when Freeman's boss, Allen Mitchell of Athena, mentioned a fishing trip he and some others had planned into the Wenaha country. Freeman was invited to come along.

Besides Mitchell and Freeman, the rest of the party consisted of Russ and Mike Evans, Andy Ely and Rodney Bonifer. All live in the Adams-Weston area. All have spent time in the Wenaha and Mitchell says he has hunted and fished there for more than 25 years.

Unloading horses at Timothy Meadow, the party rode down the South Fork Wenaha River to make camp near the mouth of Milk Creek, a favorite camping place of hunters and anglers.

Mitchell struck out downstream to do some fishing before it got too dark.

On his return to camp, he found the others buzzing about seeing big footprints and that Freeman had made some plaster of paris casts.

"I just said, 'Yeah...okay' and went off to bed. I've never been concerned with that Bigfoot stuff in the past."

The next morning, Mitchell and Mike

Evans saddled up and took a ride toward Shoofly Creek and about a mile from camp Mitchell became a Bigfoot believer, he says.

He and Evans found scores of big footprints — three different sizes in the lot — that he swears could not have been faked.

"Absolutely no way possible," he says. "Don't disturb anything," Mitchell admonished Evans. "Freeman hasn't been up here yet."

A big man, it required three of Mitchell's steps to stretch from one of the big footprints to the other, he says.

"As near as I could figure, the Bigfoot would have to be right at six feet high at the crotch and would have to weigh around 1,200 pounds to sink into the mud as deep as those prints were," Mitchell says. "My horse weighs around 1,200 pounds and I walked him through the mud and he didn't sink as deep as those feet did."

"Nobody could have faked those prints." Mitchell and Evans tied up their horses and followed the tracks.

"We found tracks all over the place for a quarter mile, including three different sets, and one was a cripple-footed one, just like Freeman had made a cast of back at camp," Mitchell says.

Mitchell figures the three creatures were in the bottom of the canyon when the party of six men rode in and the three spooked and headed up into the rugged Shoofly region.

The men weren't too far away from the manlike creatures, he says. Patches of melonweed were trampled and rolled in and looked like something had just done it before they got there, he says.

Mitchell took pictures of the prints and Freeman has casts of the three different tracks found on the Wenaha.

As to publicity about his find on Shoofly, Mitchell said he didn't "care what you put in the paper; nobody is going to prove I didn't see the tracks, I have proof the tracks are there."

"Print what you want; but that's the truth." Plaster casts of the big footprints have been gathered by the thousands over many years over most of the Northwest and those gathered here haven't drawn any more credulity than the rest, until recently.

Now, after examining several casts made at the time of Freeman's sighting of Bigfoot in Tiger Saddle as well as casts made of prints found inside the watershed, an anthropologist feels these might be different.

Grover Krantz, WSU anthropologist who was the first such scientist to express belief in the manlike monsters, has conservatively called the Freeman sighting "of good quality."

But, it is the footprints which have caught Krantz' attention in this incident.

"I've always found footprints more convincing than somebody's verbal account of a sighting," he says.

Why are the watershed prints so significant?

Krantz again was conservative in his reply, but said two casts are of the left foot which have differences in the toe positions, which he termed "a very important feature."

Krantz will have much more to say about the Freeman sighting Oct. 22 when he appears on the program of the conference of the International Society of Cryptozoology at the University of British Columbia.

It's a meeting many people, including Freeman, Mitchell and four other Athena fishermen will be watching with more than passing interest.

Champ Keeping A Low Profile So Far This Year

by Richard Cowperthwaite

The summer of 1982 did not turn out to be a banner season for spotting the Lake Champlain Monster.

Longtime Champ researcher Joseph Zarzynski reports that Champ has been seen at least six times so far this year, a far cry from the 21 reported sightings in 1981.

"The Champ animals have kept a low profile so far in 1982," acknowledged Zarzynski, a Saratoga Springs, New York schoolteacher who heads the Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation.

While sightings of Champ are down, it appears likely the "Champ-sighting season" will last longer than usual this year because of the lake's above average temperature, which finally dipped below 60 degrees on Columbus Day.

The six sightings of the legendary creature bring the total number of reported sightings to 166, said Zarzynski. However, the Wilton, New York resident, who has made numerous Champ forays to Franklin County, has suggested that there may have been as many sightings of Champ that have gone unreported.

"I firmly believe these sightings have perished as long as people have resided in the Champlain Valley," said Zarzynski, who made his sixth expedition this summer to Loch Ness, home of the world's most famous lake monster.

"However, it is just within the last few years that a positive atmosphere has been created that encourages people to report their sightings."

The most significant sighting of Champ was the one in the late 1970s by Sandra Mansi, whose purported photograph of the creature generated considerable national, even international, publicity.

The photo, which apparently was taken somewhere on the shoreline of Franklin or Grand Isle counties, was analysed by a number of photography experts, who concluded the picture was genuine. Exactly what the picture shows — and exactly what Champ is — remains, of course, open to debate.

Although Champ has thus far maintained a low profile this year, Zarzynski stressed that 1982 still has been a significant year in that both the Vermont House and New York Senate passed springtime resolutions protecting the Champ animals "from any willful act resulting in death, injury or harassment."

Zarzynski has long advocated securing an endangered species designation for Champ, while at times mildly objecting to the term "monster" to describe the creature.

Anyone who has information on Champ is asked to contact Zarzynski at P.O. Box 2134, Wilton, N.Y. 12866. His phone number is 518-587-7638.

COUNTY COURIER, Enosburg Falls, VT - Oct. 14, 1982 CR: J. Zarzynski

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GLOBE-DEMOCRAT, St. Louis, MO - Sept. 2, 1982 CR: R. Nelke

For Illinois woman, metal shower means mystery with a capital E

By KATHY O'DELL
Globe-Democrat Staff Writer

The mystery of why metal capital letter E's were raining down on a small area of east Belleville remains unsolved.

Judy Reeves, who found the metal pieces around her home, said Wednesday she believes they are stabilizers from an electrical transformer, but has no way of knowing how they got to her home.

Illinois Power Co., the Federal Aviation Administration and Belleville police have been given samples of the 35 objects found around her home and several others in the neighborhood. The investigations so far have been fruitless.

WHEN SHE arrived home last Thursday, she saw some of the objects in the alley, several on the garage walkway, a few imbedded in the garage roof and one that had destroyed a tomato plant.

Mrs. Reeves said police suggested children might have been throwing the pieces of metal, but she does not believe they could have thrown them hard enough to be imbedded in the roof.

Fearing children could be injured by the sharp edges, Mrs. Reeves does not plan to give up her search for the origin of the metal.

The E-shaped objects were about five inches long and two inches wide. Several neighbors also had a few on their property.

"I CALLED Belleville police and they thought I had been drinking," she said. She took a sample to Scott Air Force Base to see if the metal might have fallen from a plane, but no one had ever seen similarly shaped metal pieces.

The FAA office in St. Louis sent a representative to collect the samples.

"Everything about it is unusual," said Troy Sims, aviation safety inspector. "It did not come from part of an aircraft. We don't think it fell out of a plane."

He said the objects may be stabilizers from an



Globe-Democrat Photo by Rick Stankoven

Judy Reeves and her daughter, Kim, 8, display the pieces of E-shaped metal that fell around their home.

electrical transformer.

Illinois Power workers say the items are too small to be from their transformers, Mrs. Reeves said.