

UFO

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JOURNAL INQUIRER, Manchester, CT — Dec. 4, 1982 CR: B. Greenwood

Another unexplained incident reported in Enfield

By JON ELSÉN
Staff Writer

ENFIELD — A local man says he had a bizarre experience in late October that may relate to a reported UFO sighting on Washington Road.

The man, a resident of the Georgetown condominiums on Bradley Circle, asked that his name be withheld. He is in his early 20s, a former Air Force security policeman who runs a family business in Enfield with his wife. He explained that having his name in the paper might hurt business because many think those who say they've seen UFOs are crazy.

On Oct. 21, the day after an Enfield man reportedly saw a UFO hovering over a field on Washington Road, this man took his small

dog for a walk in nearby woods at around 7:30 p.m.

When they entered a path that leads through the woods to a nearby field, he heard a faint vibrating buzz. The sound grew louder as he and his dog proceeded down the path.

He decided to follow the sound, but realized it was all around him, he said.

The noise grew louder and the vibrations stronger. Finally the noise grew so loud he and the dog stopped in their tracks and waited.

The buzzing continued at that level for about two minutes.

"You could feel the vibrations go through your bones," he said. His dog started barking but "I could hardly hear him" the vibrating noise was so loud, he said.

His dog slipped its collar and bolted back down the path toward their home, he said. Suddenly, he saw three intense flashes of white light — each for only a split second — then there was silence.

The man said in a phone interview Friday he decided to report the incident when he read an article in Wednesday's Journal Inquirer detailing a reported UFO sighting Oct. 20.

On that night, an area businessman in his mid-40s reportedly encountered an acre-sized UFO with a gray-white belly flecked with 300-500 basketball sized white lights, according to Robert Bletchman, a Manchester lawyer who has lectured on UFOs in the area for 10 years and is state director of the Mutual UFO Network — MUFON.

Bletchman said the man has told him that he was on the way to a meeting at around 7 p.m. when his car grew warm and was flooded with white light. The craft hovered above him at about 200 feet for about 30-40 seconds then became a glowing, flaming sphere and shot off in an arc into the distance, Bletchman said.

An old scar on the man's hand has become irritated since then and he has been feeling out of sorts, the effects of what the Manchester lawyer thinks may be the effects of radiation.

Though the UFO was seen the day before the reported vibrations the two experiences may be related, according to Bletchman. "UFO phenomenon often recur in the same area over a short period of time," he said Friday.

He said he cannot reveal the name of the first man who reported seeing the UFO. He arranged to have him contact the *JI*, but as yet, that man has failed to do so.

Both events occurred near the intersection of Washington Road and Elm Street, Bletchman says.

He says he has gotten several other responses to the Journal Inquirer article and a personal ad he put in the *JI*, but those accounts are "tenuous."

He decided to come forward so the man who said he saw the UFO "doesn't think he's nuts." In addition, there are about 10 homes in that area and he hopes others there who may have seen something will come forward.

Enfield Police Lt. Herbert Foy, who has handled UFO reports in the area before, has

said police received no report of the sighting.

Residents of Enfield — a town that has become known for its UFO sightings — spotted UFOs on two consecutive nights early this year, Foy said. In early April, a few days after April Fool's Day, eight teen-agers said they saw a large object hovering over a house on John Street in Windsor Locks while they were playing in a field off Stevens Street.

It was around that time that state police in Stafford said they were investigating a report of a UFO sighting in Mansfield.

Bletchman, who still is looking for additional witnesses, can be contacted at 643-3433.

CAPITAL-JOURNAL, Topeka, KS
Jan. 14, 1983

Family spots mysterious object in sky

A rural Shawnee County family watched a shining blue ball shooting arms of fire for five minutes as it hovered in the sky and then winked out.

The unidentified object was spotted in the eastern sky near the Lake Clinton area at 6:20 p.m. Thursday by Doris Benander, Route 2, Overbrook. She was reading a newspaper and glanced out a window when she first saw the object.

"I ran quick and got my husband and daughter and we went outside to watch this thing. It was a great big blue thing and it was shining, just as blue as can be. It was round, and while we were watching it, it shot out these streaks of fire that sounded like electricity shorting out," she said.

Mrs. Benander, 52, said it must have been as large as a house and did not move. It made no noise except for the electric-shortening sounds.

While they watched the object, a high-flying airplane approached the area, and the object "just blinked out," she said. "It never came back, and we went out driving around to see if we could find it," she said.

While driving around she said all the dogs near the zone were barking and continued barking into the night. "That was real weird," she said.

Officials from the Air Force Strategic Air Command in Omaha, Neb., said they had no planes or items in the area that could have accounted for the object. Likewise, the North American Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs said nothing had been sighted in the Clinton area.

A Topeka National Weather Service office spokesman said he knew of no weather phenomena that could cause the strange sighting and that weather balloons were not the culprit.

JOURNAL, Lincoln, NE — Dec. 24, 1982 CR: P. Guttilla

Offbeat
with
Don Pieper



The light in the east

For heaven's sake, don't misunderstand me. In no way do I intend to be sacrilegious. But I can't help wondering this Christmas Eve whether some of the shepherds might have figured that light was a UFO.

And, if they did, whether there was a Ray Boeche to notify.

Ray's our man in these parts in these days for lights in the sky. He, as you regular Offbeaters know, is the Nebraska representative for the Mutual UFO Network and he looks into reports of strange phenomena.

Such as the recent extraordinary sightings in eastern Nebraska.

Surely you read in the paper earlier this month about the purplish-pink objects that buzzed rural Nebraska City ... and the white light that zig-zagged over Syracuse, Weeping Water and environs ... and the silent flash that was seen in five counties.

Ray has been looking into those events. "They are really unique," he says. "I've never run across anything quite like it." That's saying something because Ray has run across some pretty strange things.

He has interviewed witnesses, including the five law enforcement officers who watched the lights dancing across the clear skies. He's checked the radar reports (no aircraft in the area; nothing

that could account for what so many people saw). He's noted with great interest the effect of the incident on animals (horses were spooked and a dog that used to bark a lot has been quiet since the purplish-pink objects buzzed his pen).

"It's an odd one, it really is. As things stand now, and as they'll probably remain, it's unexplained," Ray says. "There still are some things to sift through, but it isn't likely we'll solve it." He'll file his reports with MUFON and other agencies which collect data on this sort of phenomena.

Ray says this wasn't "your run of the mill strange light in the sky type of thing."

You wouldn't have to convince Shirley Jahn of that. She and Dennis Heckman were driving in rural Lancaster County that Saturday near midnight when the sky lit with a flash that was spotted in Otoe, Nemaha, Cass and Johnson counties as well.

"We were turning east off 56th onto Saltillo Road when the sky to the east just lit up. The skies were clear, so it wasn't lightning. It was as if someone were taking a picture of the earth and that was their flash bulb going off," she says.

The shepherds 2,000 years ago who saw the strange light in the eastern sky investigated, too.

They found the answer in a manger.

UFO Lands On Campus

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A chunk of slightly radioactive metal "came down in a ball of flame" Thursday night and slammed harmlessly into a lawn at the University of New Orleans.

"We don't know what it is," said campus police director Robert Knight. "It looks like some form of meteor"

"It appears to be burnt metal, two or three feet long. It came down in a ball of flame and it dug deep into the ground," he said.

Knight said the New Orleans Police Department and Fire Department examined it, and checked it for radiation with a Geiger counter.

He said the university was waiting to hear next from representatives of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The object crashed into the lawn about 8:15 p.m., about 100 feet from the UNO Fine Arts Building, said Knight, and attracted 50 or 60 curious spectators.

"You could walk right up to it," said Knight. "People were touching it. We turned it over and looked at it. There were traces of radioactivity, but not much. We have the area cordoned off now."

He said NASA "was supposed to send a crew out here" and they would probably take the object to their Michoud laboratory for tests.

LINCOLN TIMES-NEWS, Lincoln, NE — Feb. 11, 1983 CR: G. Fawcett

Vaghi still has space under tree for an outer space alien friend

By Bill Seymour
News-Times staff

BETHEL — Dante Vaghi's Christmas wish is for an outer space

alien to take him for a spaceship ride.

For more than a decade the middle-aged wood craftsman has sent his "UFO friends" an annual

Christmas greeting through newspaper ads, hoping they might note he's friendly and one might drop by his Elizabeth Street home for a visit.

"I wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a healthy and blessed New Year especially to all my UFO friends wherever they may be. May God bless you all," he says in this year's ad, which goes on to give a brief history of his sightings and credentials.

"I do know that UFOs do exist and come from some other planet in this universe," he says in the ad.

Although he professes disbelief in aliens strutting along the streets of the world, or even the Danbury area, Vaghi says he doesn't want to take any chances of missing them, if they are there.

"If they read it, they'll say this guy Vaghi is one of me, he's friendly, he's an OK guy," says the nearly life-long Bethel resident who first claims to have seen a UFO March 10, 1960 and six others during the next 32 years.

For more than 30 Christmas seasons Vaghi has hoped that a person from another world might be standing under the Christmas tree some morning and visit — if only for a

short stay — and take him for a ride around the sky.

During the past 10 to 15 Christmas holidays he has sent greetings to them.

Christmas, rather than the Fourth of July or Easter, is the best time to give these greetings because more people universally celebrate that holiday and would take notice of him, he added.

He reasons that the more publicity he can get, the better his chances of meeting an alien or someone else who has met one.

Although he only puts his Christmas greeting in two area newspapers, he hopes that by word-of-mouth other people will read it and his message will get national attention.

But just in case it doesn't, he sends copies of the ads to television personalities such as Johnny Carson and Merv Griffin, and to television programs featuring people involved with unbelievable happenings.

"Many people say this is a fantasy with me, well that's not true. I have seen them," he asserts.

His obsession with aliens and their mystique has led him to acquire a U.S. government file with reports of his sightings, he says. It also led him to spend many thousands of dollars researching UFOs, their sightings and life in other worlds. The UFO Evidence Book, published in 1964, lists his 1954 sighting in West Redding.

Vaghi has seen a variety of objects in the sky. The one claimed in 1950 was a black wing, while two in 1956 were white and green egg-shaped discs, he said. He also has reported seeing a blue flash in a long V-shape in the sky Dec. 9, 1965. A similar sighting was reported in Michigan.

Letting his beliefs take some human shapes — at least the way he imagines them — he has used skills developed as a craftsman in the family woodshop, Vaghi Woodworking, to reconstruct spaceships he saw, spaceships used by the U.S., and those he imagines.

He also created what he calls a space bird and named the blue and orange object "Lola," after his niece in Italy.

Vaghi, also interested in the U.S. space program, has sent telegrams over the years congratulating astronauts when they have landed. His enthusiasm — which some local townspeople call eccentricity — led him in April 1972 to ring the bells at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church when the Apollo spacecraft landed.

Vaghi, a Catholic, says he believes the Christmas story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and Immaculate Conception. He says aliens never caused any biblical miracles.

Science fiction, detailing ugly three-eyed monsters with eight hands and green skin have been invented in Hollywood, he says. The popular movie "E.T. — The Extra Terrestrial," while warming the heart, offers nothing as an example of cold fact, he claims.

"I like to think that these people are just like you and me as human beings, but what their make up is, I don't know. I think they probably look just like you and me."

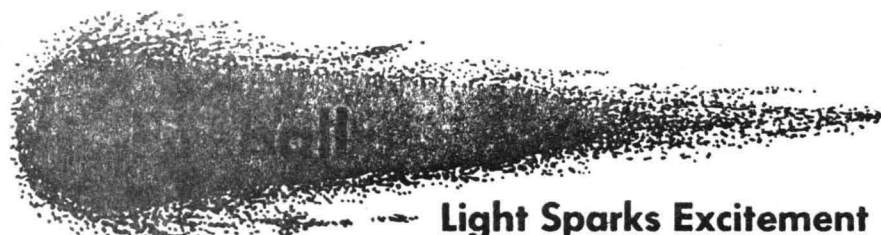
"I'm really hoping that before I go to the other world, they'll come down. I would just love to go with them. It's kind of like promoting good will," he says.

"I really would just love to find one under the Christmas tree — but then I don't think it would fit. My tree is only three-foot, and I'm sure these people would be more like five or six-foot."



News-Times photo by David W. Hough

Dante Vaghi of Elizabeth Street, Bethel, stands by a spaceship he has created. Vaghi, who said he believes in alien life forms and space travelers, for more than a decade has sent Christmas greetings to them through newspaper ads.



Light Sparks Excitement

By STEVEN THORPE
News-Sentinel Staff Writer

Whatever it was, it caused a lot of excitement.

"It" was a huge ball of bright white light with a long tail of fire which early today zipped through the skies of East Tennessee and was seen as far away as Savannah, Ga., and North Carolina.

A spokesman at McGhee Tyson Airport's control tower said the ball was apparently a meteorite flying at high altitude, though he said he could not positively confirm that. Several pilots radioed in about the flying object.

The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in East St. Louis, Ill., had no report of the object. Local authorities began receiving reports about the ball around 4 a.m. Many callers reported hearing loud explosions at the same time the light was seen.

Some callers feared the ball was the remainder of a Soviet nuclear satellite that is falling back to earth. But officials at the North American Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., said the satellite is not expected to reenter the earth's atmosphere for 10 days and should burn out before it hits the ground.

At least one witness disagreed with the conclusion that the ball of fire was a meteorite flying at high altitude.

"This wasn't in the upper atmosphere," said Steve Gilliam, a truck driver for Ashland Chemical

Co., who witnessed the ball with other employees at the company's East Knoxville plant. "I mean it wasn't more than 400 feet above the ground. And it made an ungodly sound. It went directly over me. It went over a hill and all I could see was a red glow. Then it disappeared. You wouldn't believe it! It lit the whole (Island Homes area) up," he said.

He said he believes it hit some trees when it crossed over a hill.

Gilliams described the ball as "bigger than a 747 (airplane) in diameter, with a 50- to 60-foot flame" stretching from it. As it passed over Ashland Chemical Co., there were three explosions, he said.

He said workers were terrified when they first saw the object, since Ashland houses several flammable 10,000-gallon tanks and one 30,000-gallon tank on its site.

Tom Perkins, a foreman in the composing room at The Knoxville News-Sentinel Co., said he was looking out the window to see if it was raining when he noticed the huge light. He said the object he saw made no sound. He said he saw the object fly past between The News-Sentinel and the Business Loop.

Meanwhile, both the Knoxville Police and Knoxville Sheriff's Department received calls from citizens and officers, who reported seeing the ball of light and hearing the explosions. Neither police nor deputies could find any evidence of the object.

Just Talkin'

According to the newspaper people over at the Couthatta Citizen, there have been some strange and inexplicable sightings, some UFOs or something, in a certain tract of woods to the northeast of town.

It all began around dusk on Dec. 30 when a number of Couthatta residents called officials reporting strange occurrences in the sky.

Some residents said it looked like an airplane; some say they saw a fiery ball hovering in the sky, or crashing to the earth.

One man said he saw a "circle of lights with a smaller circle of lights within the bigger circle. It was just hovering over the treetops and it sounded like a fan motor, nothing else, then all of a sudden, it left."

And an altogether separate eyewitness reported seeing the

same lights in about the same spot and described them the same way.

"It was hovering over the tree tops, but it made no sound like a helicopter or an airplane, just a silent rushing sound, then it took off real fast and disappeared.

In the days following the reports, searchers combed the surrounding areas, and filed this report: "We went to the spot where (they) saw something. We went there and found fresh broken trees, sheared off the top, and the green branches were laying on the ground. It looked like something had come through the trees, because it left a path through the tops of trees. But we didn't find anything there."

The searchers also said there is a strange, unexplainable "acid-like" odor in a certain area.

Lately, however, the incident seems to have been solved — at least to some. Authorities now

believe that a stunt pilot who was flying in the area at the time was what all the fuss was about.

But the newspaper people maintain the riddle is not solved.

"Just this week we've had several new reports: a couple reported that they had followed some kind of UFO for about a mile and a half," says Citizen staffer David Irvin. "And another man said he saw something on fire hovering, then the flames went out, just like someone turned it off. Then the craft—it was oblong shaped—disappeared. I've been out there several times, and we have something out in those woods."

"It may be a plane down, or it may be something else. But we're going to keep looking for it as long as we can," he says.

Who knows, JT can't help but wonder, maybe E.T. has finally come home?

SIGHTINGS

Scientific study bares UFO reality

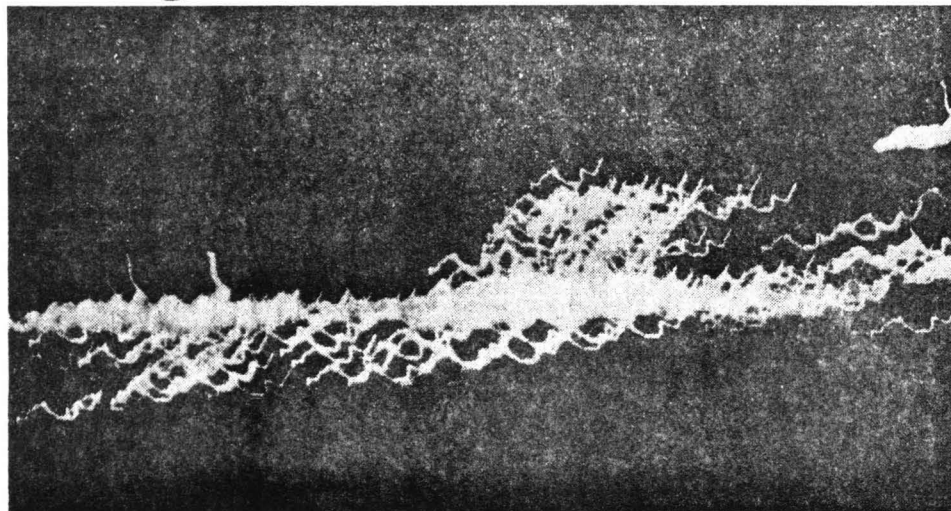
Physics prof. uses latest instruments in sightings

James Hammond Robinson
NEWS WORLD STAFF

Project Identification: The First Scientific Field Study of UFO Phenomena, (Prentice-Hall) by Harley D. Rutledge, Ph.D., is just that — the first scientific field study of the UFO phenomena, and Dr. Rutledge has gathered some irrefutably scientific data confirming not only that UFOs exist, but that they are intelligently operated.

It all began when Piedmont, Missouri became a tourist attraction after residents reported "strange events" which seemed to be tied in with sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects. Dr. Rutledge, who had put in 10 years at Southeast Missouri State University at Cape Girardeau; 9 years as chairman of the Physics Department; who had earned his Ph.D. in the area of solid state physics, and who had just completed 2 years of service to the Missouri Academy of Science as vice-president and president, was preparing to collaborate in research on the electron emission properties of thin films of tin oxide when the Piedmont flap came to his attention.

Though skeptical about the exis-



An enlargement of an approximate one-minute exposure of a mysterious light that moved 3.6 miles from left to right across the night sky, toward the north.

tence of UFOs since the early '50s, Rutledge had read several books on the topic, including two by Major Donald Keyhoe — *Flying Saucers From Outer Space* (1953) and *The Flying Saucers Are Real* (1960) — as well as the *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects* (1969), a.k.a. the Condon Report, by Dr. E.U. Condon.

Condon is described by Rutledge as "a no-nonsense physicist who was well respected in the scientific community." Rutledge described the Condon study's thrust as "inves-

tigat(ing) UFO reports, not the UFOs themselves," which left the door open for a field study of the UFOs themselves.

Nearby flap piques interest

In March of 1973 Rutledge's interest in the "UFO enigma" increased as more reports of UFOs "poured out of Piedmont," but career considerations made it difficult for him to decide whether to "become publicly involved with the UFO phenomenon." But having decided to

satisfy his curiosity about UFOs, what with the phenomenon being only 75 miles from Cape Girardeau, Rutledge involved a few of his colleagues in seeking to obtain data on the phenomenon.

The instruments used included "several astronomical telescopes rigged with cameras or light-sensing devices, a magnetometer, sound recorders, radios, and binoculars."

Upon arriving at Piedmont, Rutledge and crew found that a report had recently been filed by basketball coach Reggie Bone, who was "probably the best-known and most popular person in the area." His sighting occurred on the night of Feb. 21, 1973 and was witnessed by himself and five of his basketball players who were returning home from a basketball tournament.

After informing the proper authorities of his presence, Rutledge became involved with UFOs in the Piedmont area six weeks after the Bone sighting.

Keeping a journal of his activities, Rutledge recorded sightings as they occurred as well as any information recorded by the instruments. During the time spent in the field the presence of military aircraft was noted on several occasions directly related to the observed UFO activity.

In Nov. of '73, Rutledge made a report on his observations at the fall meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers, Missouri Section. Somewhat hesitant to request permission to speak before his colleagues on the controversial topic of UFOs, he was relieved at the response of the meeting coordinator: "Why sure. We need something far-out to pep up the meeting." Among those present was John Schuessler of NASA.

Continuing the project "because of sporadic but continuing UFO reports from others living in southeast Missouri, and because of" his own "infrequent accidental sightings" Rutledge "continued to check the sky on a daily basis."

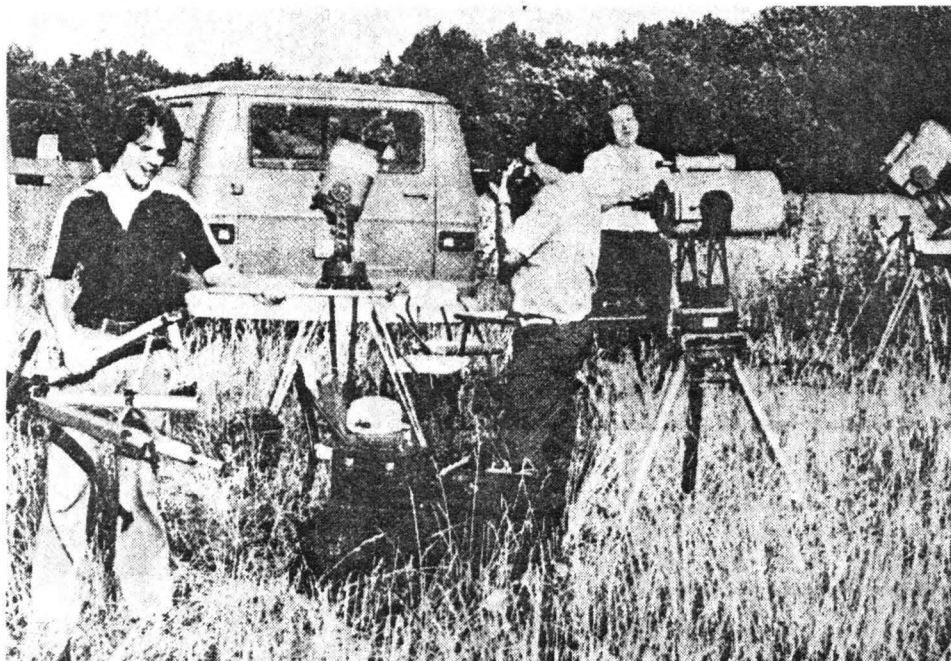
He reports that he "had sequences of accidental sightings, mostly incredible, often from my yard, followed by long intervals of no sightings," during the years between 1975 and 1980.

UFOs played 'game'

In his final report, Rutledge says "In this research, more was involved than the measurement of physical properties of UFOs by dispassionate observers. A relationship, a cognizance, between us and the UFO intelligence evolved. A game was played. In my opinion, this additional consideration is more important than the measurements or establishing that the phenomenon exists. This facet of the UFO phenomenon perturbed me as much as the advanced technology we observed. It is a facet I cannot really fathom and I have thought about it every day for more than 7 years."

Calling attention to a poll conducted by and appearing in the July '79 issue of *Industrial Research/Development* magazine, Rutledge revealed that "a large number of applied scientists and engineers believe in UFOs," but added that their suggestions for the cause of the UFO phenomenon ranged from "swarms of spruce budworms stimulated by large atmospheric electric fields to emit light in the form of St. Elmo's fire," through

(continued on page 4)



A photograph taken during a field setup about 30 miles northwest of St. Louis, Missouri, on July 3, 1978. Helping with the setup and subsequent UFO watch are from left to right, Mark Rutledge, Bob Adams, and Jim Hickam.

TRIBUNE, San Diego, CA - Jan. 22, 1983 CR: D. Clements

YOU AND YOUR PROBLEMS

By Richmond Barbour

Q. "Do two people ever have the same hallucination? My wife and I camped in Davey's Valley one night last November. We were awakened after midnight.

"I realized my body was responding to static electricity. Every hair stood on end. My wife was awake, and reacting the same way. Above us hovered a huge airborne object. It was shaped like a manta ray but was at least 200 feet across. It made a humming sound. Slowly it passed over us, headed to the east.

"We were scared. We packed up and drove straight home. Could we have been having a joint

hallucination? Was that big thing real? Dare we go back to Davey's Valley again?"

A. People do not share genuine hallucinations. I've no doubt that you saw a UFO. Davey's Valley is a lovely, isolated desert area. I think you will be safe if you go there again. We still have been told too little about UFOs.

I remember Jimmy Carter's vivid promises to reveal all of the government's secrets about UFOs. That was while he was running for office. Once elected he forgot his promises. Such trickery is not confined to Jimmy Carter. But it is hard to swallow.

New York, NY - Jan. 29, 1983)

"the product of the Devil," to "creations of the media" and a few even thought they were "devices built by the Nazis."

As Project Identification continued Rutledge upgraded and expanded the equipment used to record UFOs. And in consideration of future field investigations he suggests employing "certain types of radar, as well as devices to record the intensity and spectrum of electromagnetic frequencies including the optical ranges such as infrared, visible, and ultraviolet ranges." He also suggested that the data be scanned and stored in small computer devices. "Most important, automatic tracking devices are needed so that the detectors can be locked on the direction of a moving UFO. Consequently, any signal emanating from a UFO could be continuously monitored."

Confident that his research "has established that there is a UFO phenomenon," he conjectures about the nature of the intelligence behind the capricious UFOs.

Rutledge speculates that the

"game" being played by UFOs "is to gradually create general acceptance by repeating appearances. More UFO flaps will occur from location to location, winning 'converts.' More people will 'believe in UFOs,' he says.

"UFOs will come back to southeast Missouri again for another flap," he said. "I plan to be ready with more sophisticated instrumentation, adequate facilities, and sufficient technical help. If we are to learn their secrets," he continued, "they must be studied scientifically — with instruments. When we understand them on a technical-scientific basis, when most of the world's inhabitants accept the reality of UFOs, then we will meet them face to face. And then will we know their mission."

All in all Project Identification is the record of one man's quest for the truth about UFOs put forth in a way that can be duplicated by anyone with the desire and the backing to explore what Dr. Rutledge calls "a very subtle phenomenon."

Strange green lights seen along East Beach

By SUSAN HAIRE
News Staff Writer

GALVESTON — Six green lights were seen "zipping" around East Beach just after sunset Saturday, Galveston police and Coast Guard officials said.

The unidentified objects were reported to Galveston Police and Coast Guard officials about 7 p.m., officials indicated.

The "strange lights" were reported to have appeared suddenly, moving slowly around the East Beach area for about five minutes.

The lights then reportedly came to a stop and remained stationary for about 30 minutes before "zipping off just before the moon rose," one witness reported.

Two other witnesses said the lights were in arranged in a straight line and were first noticed moving along the shoreline at East Beach.

The lights became stationary for 30 minutes and suddenly took off at a "very fast" speed over the Gulf.

"I watched the lights for about 30 minutes before they disappeared," one man who called *The News* reported.

Chris Fredericksen and Deborah Stobie, who were on East Beach when the lights appeared, said that "whatever it was made no sound. And it was pretty low."

They added that though the lights were arranged in a definite planar pattern, they did not seem to be connected.

"I got right under the lights when they were stationary and you could see the stars between them, so they were not connected as we could see it," Fredericksen said.

"I don't know what it was," they added, "but if it was some kind of trick or hoax, it was an effective one. I would like to meet the person that was able to do that!"

Law enforcement officials said that they had received several calls on the strange lights, but that no reports from patrolling officers or the Coast Guard indicated that any officials had seen the objects.

Witnesses at the scene said that 10-15 people in the area saw the lights.

NEWS, Longview, WA - Feb. 4, 1983

What was that thing?

By Jay McIntosh
The Daily News

Bob and Janet Farmer had a bright encounter of the low-flying kind Thursday night as a skyborne object bathed their house in light.

Bob Farmer was watching television at about 10:45 when he noticed something outside his front room window. An oblong object was quietly flying toward their Holcomb Acres home.

"If it was a big airplane it was flying way too low," Mrs. Farmer said.

"All of a sudden," Bob Farmer recalls, "there's just this great big bright light, like a great big floodlight. I told the wife, come here, look at this, and we looked out the window."

They walked out on the porch and the flying object, still quiet, seemed to stop. The light shone straight at their front yard. Mrs. Farmer went inside to call the Kelso police and the light went off.

"It didn't go out like you shut off a light switch, it just sort of faded," Farmer said. "It left an orange halo around where it was."

Had E.T. come back for a visit? Probably not, Jerry Zebor said this morning.

"I get a lot of those calls," said Zebor, general manager of Davis Air Service in Kelso. He said the UFOs turn out to be airplanes or helicopters flying along Interstate 5, a main air route between Seattle and Portland. Those aircraft often use their landing floodlights as beacons, he said.

"If they see another aircraft in the distance somewhere, they flick (the lights) on and off," Zebor said. That's probably what happened in the Farmers' case, he said after hearing a description.

Bob Farmer is still wondering about the encounter, however.

"The thing that got us was that it was so quiet, flying that low," he said.

TIMES-PICAYUNE/STATES-ITEM, New Orleans, LA

Feb. 11, 1983 CR: D. Labat



—Staff photo by Eliot Kamenitz

Fireman Don Ponsaa checks object on UNO lakefront campus

Burning object is hoax

A NASA official late Thursday night said an unidentified burning object found in an open area of the University of New Orleans' lakefront campus was a hoax.

F. Edward Williams, NASA deputy manager, and UNO geology professors, who examined the object, said it apparently was man-made, placed at the scene and set afire.

"Someone carried this whatever it is to the scene and set fire there," said Williams.

UNO police received a call about 8:20 p.m. reporting a burning object near a campus parking lot, about 100 yards from the Fine Arts Building.

"I think it's man-made," said Louis Fernandez, of the UNO earth sciences department. "Whatever it is, it's stuff that's been melted."

The object burned with a low flame

for 15-20 minutes before it burned out, said Allyn Freeman, a UNO employee.

Williams took a 1-foot by 18-inch piece of the 2 feet by 2 feet object to NASA to "determine its genesis," he said.

There was a foot-long skid mark next to the object and a 3/4-inch hole in the ground beneath it.

The object, as large as three basketballs, was reported about 8:30 p.m. by a man who identified himself as Allen Gerson.

"I saw what looked like a long flash, a shooting star, that arched over the lake," Gerson said. "I didn't see an explosion, but I think it landed in the UNO campus."

The object was tested by fire and civil defense officials for radioactivity. All tests were negative.

DAILY LEDGER, Noblesville, IN - Feb. 11, 1983 CR: C. Jones

Fireball Hits Campus Lawn

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — A "glowing and smoking" fireball fell from the sky and burrowed into the University of New Orleans lawn and professors said they detected radioactivity from the 50-pound space mystery with its protruding circuitry and parts.

The object fell to the ground around 8:19 p.m. Thursday as faculty members in the college's Fine Arts Center looked on. Officials said the object appeared to be a satellite, but they were awaiting a NASA scientist to inspect it.

One official, who asked not to be identified, said he believed it was a hoax, but Robert Knight, director of campus police, disputed that.

"It's definitely not a hoax," Knight said. "This thing came out of the sky."

Knight said there were no tall buildings around the site from which the object could have been dropped, but he conceded it could have been deliberately dropped from an airplane.

"It was red, red, red, red hot," Knight said. "It was

glowing and smoking."

Knight said professors examined the object with Geiger counters and detected faint signs of radioactivity.

"They're very interested in it," he said. "This is very strange."

He described the object as "like a very huge squash. I think it flattened out on impact."

The object landed about 70 feet from the arts center, frightening those inside, Knight said, and breaking into numerous parts.

"They didn't know if it was going to hit them or what. They were pretty shaken up," Knight said.

Knight said the object dug a hole 2-feet along the side, about 12 inches deep.

"It looked like a meteor coming out of the sky," he said, "but it's definitely not a meteor. It has some sort of circuitry and parts that protrude that appear to be glued to a piece of rock."

He said it was locked in a vault until a government scientist could examine it. The area around the hole was cordoned off.

Young UFO Sleuth Claims Aliens Exist

By JOE IPSARO
Journal Staff Writer

Franklin Youri's grainy color photograph shows a white saucer-like craft hovering against a blue sky — bona fide proof, Youri says, of a down-to-earth expedition by other-world beings.

A card-carrying investigator of unidentified flying objects, Youri said he snapped the photo on Oct. 8, 1978 in his hometown of Urmia in northwestern Iran.

When he immigrated to the United States with his family three years ago, Youri, 19, of Turlock brought along the picture and a burning interest in astronomy and UFOs.

Soft-spoken, courteous and almost shy at first, Youri's deportment accelerates to enthusiasm when the topic is unidentified flying objects and what he believes is their ultimate purpose.

Youri said the UFO in the photo was his fifth, and last, sighting (no two were alike) and vividly recounts the picture-taking episode.

He was photographing his younger brother, Neboneed, playing soccer outside the family home in Urmia when something overhead caught his eye.

"Suddenly I saw an object and thought it was a plane. It came to my mind the object wasn't making any noise," he remembered.

The "craft" in the picture looks like a bowl sitting upside down inside a larger bowl. On the inverted portion are three vertical red dots which appear to be lights.

Youri moved from Iran to Chicago where he contacted J. Allen Hyenk, a nationally known astrophysicist and UFO investigator. He said Hyenk was convinced the sighting was genuine, and his story and photo were featured in the newsletter published by Hyenk's Center for

UFO Studies.

Youri then joined the Mutual UFO Network, and he shows a laminated card with his picture that identifies him as an investigator for the group. He claims to be the youngest UFO sleuth "in the whole world."

Based in Seguin, Tex., MUFON is a "scientific organization" whose members "want to get to the bottom of this, where they (UFOs) come from. We know why they're coming," Youri said.

Youri believes aliens visit Earth to scout technology they might adapt for themselves and to study humankind.

"If they come, naturally they don't want to destroy us. They could have done that a long time

ago. Documents show they've been visiting here for a long time," he said.

Asked why "aliens" don't just land on the White House lawn and formally introduce themselves rather than resort to furtive shy-in-the-sky observations, Youri answered, "That's a very interesting question, no comment."

Files at U.S. government agencies like the FBI, CIA and NASA are crammed with documentation proving UFO's exist but the information is kept secret for fear of panicking the public, he contends.

A Turlock resident the past 1½-years and a student at Modesto Junior College, where he majors in engineering and

astrophysics, Youri said his ambition is to be a rocket designer for NASA.

His bedroom decor reflects his goals: the walls are covered with maps of the solar system and detailed drawings of the space shuttle, and a model rocket sits near books on UFOs and astronomy.

Youri said his interest in UFOs and astronomy started at age 7, when he sighted what he now thinks was an unidentified flying object.

As a UFO investigator his name and telephone number are on file with local law enforcement agencies who Youri asked to pass along any reported sightings.

Although he admits there is a stigma attached to the field of UFOology, Youri said he makes no secret of his investigative role.

"Sometimes they say you're nuts or you're crazy. Even my family asks why am I doing this," he commented.

And while the earthbound UFO sleuth continues scanning the heavens for clues to the existence of extraterrestrials, he hopes for a closer encounter.

"Every night between 8 and 9 o'clock I walk around (outdoors) and pray that they take me so I can find out what's going on," he said.



Journal photo by John Baba

Franklin Youri talks of UFO he caught in photograph.

SUN, Bremerton, WA - Feb. 4, 1983

Was UFO over Kitsap? Light puzzles spotters

By Seabury Blair Jr.
Sun Staff Writer

Three things are known for certain about the light in the sky many Kitsap residents reported seeing this morning:

- It was bigger than a star.
- It was smaller than the moon.
- It was moving.

From there, things get less definite.

Six Kitsap residents reported the sighting to CenCom between 7 and 7:15 a.m. today. What they saw might best be described as a "fireball," although there are differing accounts of its color.

The same object, apparently, was sighted from Seattle north to Canada, and the Coast Guard in Seattle said it received reports of a green flare fired over Elliott Bay, according to the Associated Press.

Jim Ragsdale of Port Orchard was driving west on Salmonberry Road, just west of Jackson Avenue, when he spotted the light.

"I saw it come from my right to the left," he said. "I reported to CenCom that it was in the Gold Mountain area. It came down in one piece and busted into two pieces. The first one flared out just like a rocket in a Fourth of July show."

"The bottom piece broke into smaller pieces. It was exactly 7 a.m. When it first came in it caught my eye because it was a pretty blue-green. And then, POOF! It was gone."

Beverly Harnish, who lives about nine miles south of Port Orchard, said the rapidly moving light reminded her of fireworks at first. She was in her car,

returning from dropping her son off at the bus stop.

"It did look large to me," she said. "I'd say it looked bigger than an apple. I think a shooting star would move much faster."

In Bremerton, Edith Mort was standing at the desk of the Chieftain Motel, which she manages with her husband. She looked out the window to the west and saw the light flash by.

"I said it must be a shooting star, but the man I was talking with said it would have been blue if it was a shooting star."

"But to me, it looked kind of yellow, like a fire. It wasn't moving too fast, not like a shooting star. And it didn't seem too close, but it was quite big."

She said that a dime held at arm's length would not have covered the light as it streaked from the northwest to the southeast.

"It was very plain to see, a yellowish-orange, not a real deep orange, but darker than a lemon yellow. It looked like an airplane going down, and then I thought it might be the rest of the Russian satellite."

"I've seen falling stars before, but it differs a little from the ones that I've seen. It seemed closer, for one thing, and it was the shape of it — it was so definite."

She said the light she saw was shaped like a teardrop, with the rounded edge leading a narrowing pointed tail.

Although the three witnesses may disagree on the color of the light, they did seem to agree on its path of travel and all

felt that it was traveling slower than shooting stars they had seen before.

Ragsdale, who was facing west, said it moved from his right to his left — from north to south, and Mrs. Harnish said it was moving toward Tacoma.

Mrs. Harnish said she watched the light for about three or four seconds; Ragsdale estimated it took about seven seconds for the light to pass across his field of view, and Mrs. Mort said she saw it for a "few seconds."

"I've never seen anything like it before," she said.

They saw E.T., and not at the movies

By SCOTT FAGERSTROM
The Columbian

Call them Aliens Anonymous.

They come from all walks of life. They represent all ages, all races, all religions.

They have only two things in common: an experience so weird that it can't be explained by ordinary circumstances, and an almost overpowering sense of loneliness.

They believe they've been visited by creatures from another planet. And, until Saturday afternoon, there wasn't a soul they could tell.

"When this happens, nobody believes you," said a woman from La Center. "People think you're crazy."

But nobody was using the word "crazy" Saturday afternoon. About 10 local residents gathered at Columbia River High School to talk about close encounters of the first, second and third kinds, in what local psychic Linda Williams hopes will be the first of many such group encounters.

"People who've had these experiences need to find each other, to give each other support," Williams told The Columbian earlier this week. "We're not crazy. People are not lying about what they're experiencing."

The main speaker at the Saturday affair was Ron Chaput, a member of the UFO Contact Center in Seattle, who said he was a 37-year-old electronics technician for Boeing.

"I don't have all the answers," Chaput said. "I'm still looking for the answers, but I know something's going on."

While conceding that a certain percentage of UFO reports are filed by those who are "out for the publicity," he charged that the government is ignoring sincere people. The Air Force and other agencies refuse to look into UFO sightings, he said.

All sorts of qualified witnesses have seen UFOs, and world literature, all the way back to the Bible and ancient Indian folklore, is full of references to unexplained events in the sky, he said.

"It's a giant puzzle," he said. "It seems like everybody has a little piece."

Chaput's interest in UFOs was pricked by a

movie about the "interrupted journey," a famous flying saucer incident several years back. A husband and wife were driving through upstate New York late one night when their car was stopped by a flying object that landed in front of them.

According to the story, the couple didn't remember what had happened to them after that. But, under hypnosis, they were able to remember that aliens had taken them on board the craft and performed experiments on them before returning them to their automobile.

While watching the movie, Chaput said he started "shaking" because it triggered an early memory in his own life that he'd suppressed. He was only 5, and his parents'

car had broken down for no reason in an unpopulated area of the Midwest.

Under hypnosis, Chaput said, he was able to remember a contact with aliens at that time, and again when he was 19.

Members of the audience told similar stories, although those who talked to The Columbian preferred to remain unidentified.

"You're not talking about kids imagining things," said a man from northern Clark County who said a UFO tailed him while he was driving down Interstate 80 in Nebraska.

No date has been set for the group's next meeting. Stay tuned for more details.

GLOBE, Auburn, WA - Feb. 6, 1983

Was streaking object a UFO, or just a meteor event?

By CATHY STONE
Staff Reporter

An object that streaked across the Pacific Northwest sky Friday morning was one in a series of such objects that have crossed the Puget Sound horizon in recent weeks, said an aerial phenomena researcher.

Dale Goudie, director of Puget Sound Aerial Phenomena Research (PSAPR) said "they don't appear to be meteors or anything manmade."

On the other hand, GRCC astronomy instructor Dennis Regan said the behavior of Friday's UFO is consistent with that of a meteor.

Several people called the Air Route Traffic Control Center in Auburn and the King County police to report the object, which was visible about 7 a.m.

"There were several reports from all over the Pacific Northwest," said Jim Grant, area manager of the traffic control center. Callers described the object as orange or bluish-green. "Some people seemed to think it crashed right here in the Renton area and others thought it crashed out by Richmond Beach (north of Seattle). The Coast Guard reported it crashed into the ocean off Astoria, Ore.," he said.

Crash reports varied

King County police also received varying reports, said Sgt. Keith May. Some said that the object crashed near Lake McDonald, east of Renton, while others reported it crashed near Dash Point west of Federal Way, and on Novelty Hill, northeast of Renton, he said. "It doesn't seem like too many people are concerned. Nobody

has been hit by it yet, whatever it is."

A traffic control employee saw the object as he was stopped westbound on South 320th Street, a couple blocks west of Pacific Highway South. "When it first caught my vision, it was high in the windshield. (It looked) just like any returning red fireball thing, dropping through the atmosphere. When it got lower into the atmosphere, it appeared to break up and turned more a bluish-greenish color."

He said he has no idea what it was, but when he first saw it he thought it may have been the rest of the Russian satellite that had fallen to earth.

Meanwhile, in Auburn, Betty Carpenter was sipping on coffee in her mother's apartment when the object appeared. "All of a sudden, I saw it at

the top of the sliding glass doors. It was an iridescent turquoise blue object, beautiful. It kind of looked like a huge snowflake or Christmas ornament. It had kind of jagged edges."

'One blue flash'

Mrs. Carpenter said it floated down behind two trees. "Then about 40 seconds afterwards, there was one blue flash, in a line, like a horizontal line."

The object, which Mrs. Carpenter believed fell between the West Valley freeway and Auburn Way South, "didn't come down real fast, but faster than a balloon floating down."

"I was thunderstruck. It was so beautiful, I knew it wasn't something of this world."

Goudie said PSAPR has been receiving reports on such objects for

about a month. The first one came down near Alki about a month ago, he said. Another one was reported by a Tacoma resident, who thought it had fallen in the Sound.

"These things have been seen ever since 1942, during World War II. They used to be called foo-fighters," he said, noting at the time people thought they were some sort of secret weapon of the enemy.

Three kinds of meteors

While Goudie doesn't think the object was a meteor, GRCC instructor Regan stopped just short of saying it was. Regan explained that there are three types of meteors: stony, which are literally rock; those made largely of iron or steel; and a mixture of the two, the stony iron.

"Those stony or stony iron meteors tend to break up when they hit a

dense layer of atmosphere," he said. When an object begins to heat up, as an entering object would, it starts with a dull cherry red until it finally hits a bluish color which means it's very very hot, he said.

Part of the bluish glow also may be caused by electrons that are stripped off the entering object and cause an electric glow.

"Just from the colors alone, it would indicate that the object came in at a very low speed and accelerated to a very high speed and the fact that it seemed to split into several fragments is very common to the stony and stony-iron (meteors).

"I would say that it is consistent with what one would expect with a meteor," he said. "But it doesn't mean that was what it was."



Steve Rice / The Hartford Courant

Betty and Bob Luca in their living room with papier-mache replicas of alien beings.

Couple Claims Contact With Aliens

By GARRET CONDON
Courant Staff Writer

Bob Luca thought Thursday was over. He had put in a full day working on cars at Middletown Toyota and had driven home to Cheshire when the phone rang. It was a friend from Hillsboro, N.H., and he was agitated.

Bob listened and asked questions. What did they look like? Who saw them? Where? OK, OK.

OK, Bob and his wife, Betty, would drive right up. Soon, they were cruising northward up I-91 through the late-fall night to rural New Hampshire.

"It's 3 a.m., and we're sitting out in the middle of this field like a bunch of dummies," Bob recalls. But no one saw anything unusual. Bob and Betty headed for home at 4 a.m. and got back just in time for Bob to go to work.

All this because of what happened. To their Cheshire neighbors, the Lucases are the couple next door. They are soft-spoken, God-fearing, hard-working people of modest education and income. What sets them apart is that they believe they were abducted by aliens from another planet. This, and the publicity around two books on the abductions, has changed their lives.

By day, they are a middle-class couple, working to save money for a new house. But at night and on weekends, they track UFOs in New Hampshire, speak at M.I.T., talk at the local library about the government's UFO cover-up, debate the topic on national television and answer the hundreds of letters they get.

Betty Ann Luca, 46, is best known to UFO aficionados by her former married name, Andreasson. In 1979, UFO investigator Raymond Fowler published "The Andreasson Af-

fair," an account of what she described under hypnosis as an abduction in 1967. The celebrity began the summer the book was published. She and her husband, Bob Luca, went on a national tour to promote the Prentice-Hall book. Fowler's latest book on further hypnotic sessions, "The Andreasson Affair, Phase Two," has just been published.

Life was at a low ebb for both Betty Andreasson and Bob Luca in 1977, when they met in Pompano Beach, Fla. Andreasson, an evangelical Christian and the mother of seven, had come to Florida after divorcing her husband of 22 years. She left her children, with the older ones in charge of the younger ones, behind in South Ashburnham, Mass.

It was a difficult year. She lived with her sister, Shirley, while looking for a house and job. And later that year, two sons, Todd, 17 and James Jr., 21, were killed in a car acci-

dent in Massachusetts. Meanwhile, somewhere in Idaho, Bob Luca, whose second marriage had broken up two years earlier, was in the midst of a cross-country tour with his lifelong friend from Meriden, Ed Bochinski. They had traveled as far as Texas and Arizona, north to Oregon and back through Idaho. That's when Luca got the idea of going to Florida, even though it wasn't on the itinerary. Bochinski said OK.

The subject of UFOs came up at dinner at Bochinski's brother's house in Pompano Beach, the day Luca and Bochinski arrived from Idaho. Luca told of an experience he had had in 1967, when he was 29, while driving to Hammonasset Beach in Madison. It was a sunny day, he was tooling along in his Cadillac. Then he saw large, shiny, cigar-shaped objects overhead, and he pulled over. The next thing he remembered was driving to the beach. Three hours had gone by, but he couldn't remember anything else.

Bochinski's sister-in-law was intrigued. She knew a woman at the restaurant where she worked who had had a similar experience and seemed to know a lot about UFOs. Luca went to the restaurant and met Betty Andreasson. She was too busy to talk at length, so she agreed to meet him later (continued on page 8)

Secret UFO Documents Released To Investigator

Over 200 documents on UFOs from the FBI, the CIA, the USAF and other government agencies retrieved through various Freedom of Information Act law suits were received this week by George D. Fawcett of 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton.

Fawcett received the retrieved government documents on UFO activities (1947-1977) from the executive committee of the Fund for UFO Research, Inc. at Mount Rainier, Md.

He was picked as custodian for the documents for the officers and members of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON) in North Carolina.

The secret documents

were pried loose by the Freedom of Information Act through law suits filed by UFO researchers and investigators in 1978 in Washington, D.C.

"These documents demonstrate intense government agencies interest in the growing concern over increased UFO sightings worldwide, which included many cases involving pilot reports, photographs, landings, occupant encounters, human abductions, radar trackings that have puzzled world governments over the past four decades," Fawcett said.

"I feel extremely fortunate to have received this informative, thought provoking and valuable documentation for viewing at this time," the Lincolnton investigator stated. The total number of documents recovered to date number over 2,000 pages, so that the small sample I received was just the "tip of the iceberg" view, Fawcett concluded.

Interested persons desiring to obtain some of this similar information are asked to write the Fund for UFO Research, Inc., P.O. Box 277, Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712.

TIMES, Maiden, NC - March 9, 1983

CR: G. Fawcett

for dinner. They were married in August 1978.

Betty Luca had a detailed, bizarre tale to tell. Like her husband, she recalled an unusual experience in 1967 in South Ashburnham. All she could remember were small, human-like beings with large heads that seemed to be in her kitchen for a few moments. Time had passed unaccountably. She felt she had been visited by angels.

In 1975, she read a newspaper appeal by J. Allen Hynek, an astronomer who heads the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill. — a kind of national clearing house for UFO stories. She wrote Hynek, and he contacted a volunteer researcher for his center, Jules Vallencourt, then a student at the University of Massachusetts. In 1977, Fowler read the report on Luca's experience that Vallencourt had sent to Evanston and assembled a team of other UFO researchers and a hypnotist.

The results of the 1977 hypnotic sessions with Betty Luca are the text of Fowler's book, "The Andreasson Affair," in which she describes walking with small, human-like creatures through the walls of her house and into a spaceship. Inside, she was given a series of tests, and constantly reassured by the leader of the aliens — telepathically — that she need not worry.

While the rest of the family in the house was in a state of suspended animation, she was placed on a table and examined with odd machines by creatures with large heads, gray skin and oval eyes. She was able to draw them under hypnosis, and even made life-size models of them out of papier-mâché.

"They told me they loved the human race," she said. "They said my race would not believe me until much of my time had passed. The voice said I had been chosen to show the world something."

She gave them a Bible. They gave her a long, blue book and asked her not to show it to anyone until they told her to. She showed it to her daughter, Rebecca, and put it away. It has never been found.

Under hypnosis in Cheshire in 1980, Bob Luca told a similar story of abduction that occurred on his way to the beach in 1967. He was inspected and tested by aliens of similar description. Both also revealed early-childhood experiences, talking to creatures who appeared in round, clear spheres of light.

Dr. James P. Kornberg, who treats occupational illnesses at his Boulder, Colo., clinic, was living in Boston in 1977 when a friend close to the UFO investigation asked him to speak with Betty Luca in 1977.

Kornberg, who is skeptical on the subject of UFOs and wasn't familiar with the whole abduction story when he talked to her, said he was unable to detect any obvious thought disorders.

"She seemed preoccupied with religious themes," he said, "but that's not unusual at all. There was no real formal psychological testing. My impression was that she was sincere. You can have someone's who's psychotic who is very sincere, but I wouldn't have referred her on [for psychiatric treatment] after talking to her."

The Lucases are used to keeping a low profile locally. Bob Luca is lead mechanic at Middletown Toyota. Betty Luca does not have a job. Until recently, they made most of their appearances out of the region.

"Most of our neighbors don't know anything about this," Bob Luca said. They are wary enough to ask that their street address not be given.

But now that Betty Luca's youngest child, Cindy, 19, has

graduated from high school and joined the Air Force, the Lucases have decided to take their stories wherever people will listen to them.

Bob Luca is a soft-spoken man with short, wavy brown hair and a neat beard. His main role as half the husband-and-wife team is work on what he believes is an elaborate government cover-up of UFOs. When they get letters from former military pilots and others describing UFO incidents, Bob tries to get records of them under the Freedom of Information Act.

He is also involved in trying to track the "black helicopters," — unmarked aircraft that the Lucases say fly low near their house. He has called local airports, United Technologies Corporation's Sikorsky Helicopter division in Stratford and the Connecticut National Guard, but no one seems to know about them. He believes the helicopters are part of some kind of harassment linked to their belief in UFOs.

Betty Luca also now "gets writings." There are sheets and sheets of these writings. Some of them are lines and lines of strange symbols and scribbles. Others are lines of English words, similar to chemical or engineering terms. Although these word strings have sparked some interest from audiences, the Lucases have not have them formally analyzed. She says she does not understand them all, but she is convinced they are related to her UFO experience.

A good deal of the Lucases' time is spent answering letters they get from others who believe they've had similar experiences. They get at least 20 letters a week. After a public appearance, the load doubles or triples.

During these appearances, whether a speech, a book autographing session or an interview on TV or radio, Betty Luca describes her 1967 experience. Her husband talks about what he believes the government knows about the phenomenon.

Like those who write letters, many of the people drawn to the Lucases' appearances want to tell their own stories.

"I can tell they're relieving their frustrations over what they've been through," Betty Luca said. "They can't tell even their closest family members. I feel very close to these people."

Bob Luca admits the public speaking and the interviews can be hard on him and his wife. After the first book came out, a Chicago radio interviewer accused them of trying to start a new religion. The Lucases said Tom Brokaw, then co-host of NBC's "Today" show, sneered at them throughout an interview.

"We're fairly shy people to have to get up and tell a fantastic story on TV," Bob Luca said.

They have made something less than \$6,000 from the books — they share author Fowler's profit. But they reported that postage and phone costs are as much as \$200 a month.

The big motive behind their quiet campaign is that they believe that they — and we — are not alone.

Although both are Christian, they do not belong to a church. They believe faith in the Bible has helped them explain all of this. Betty Luca believes these visits are part of God's plan.

"I know I'm supposed to be out there doing that work for God," she said.

"We're not out to convince the world," her husband added. "We just want people to open their minds and listen."

UFO Group Pursues Interest In The Strange

By Charlotte Grimes
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

What do a housewife, a surgical assistant, a map maker, a retired autoworker and a Lutheran clergyman have in common?

Would you believe... UFOs?

Not that any of the five, or the 50 others, who gathered at the Farm and Home Savings Building at 110 West Lockwood Avenue in Webster Groves on Sunday expected an unidentified flying object to materialize out of a crystal-clear sky. Some — in decidedly unexpected circumstances — say they have already had that experience.

Rather, they are pursuing a personal fascination with the strange, often hoping for explanations as to how it came into their lives.

Their communal attempt at that is called the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis Inc.

"We have members as young as 14 and two who are in their 70s," explained John Schroeder, chairman of the 14-year-old group and a Lutheran clergyman. "As far as education, most have college degrees and many have a background in the sciences."

He chuckled and added: "Some come to the meetings just because they like a good story."

He said the group has about 80 dues-paying members but that as many as 200 people might show up for its lectures, Schroeder said. Among them, good stories are not rare. And despite the official name, the stories don't always have anything to do with UFOs and visitors from space.

Anything will do — the strange, the unexplainable, the fascinating and perhaps the frightening. The Loch Ness monster or dinosaurs in Africa, say.

The featured attraction Sunday was Bigfoot — alias "Sasquatch" — North American cousin to the Abominable Snowman of the Himalaya Mountains.

But the lure only wears different skins.

"It's a very deep, personal thing,"

said Jeff Kretsch, by day a cartographer with the U.S. Defense Mapping Agency, by night an investigator into UFO sightings for the group. He likes to balance fact against wishful thinking.

"People want to believe in it," he said. "Sometimes when I'm investigating and can show that there was a natural explanation, the people lose interest. But others, well, they find it exciting and it becomes kind of a hobby for them."

Long before Steven Spielberg, close encounters were de rigueur for the group's members.

Schroeder had his encounter as a 17-year-old in 1941. He recalled that he and his 16-year-old brother had watched a 30-foot shape hover above a house, its skin a burnished metal and its portholes alternately flashing lights of lavender and orange.

"I've been looking for others who saw it ever since," he said.

Frank M. Brown, a retired General Motors Corp. worker, was snickered at by his co-workers and dubbed "The UFO Man" for his fascination that began with a sighting when he was 12. But he takes it seriously indeed.

He reads constantly in scientific and popular journals and hopes that someday, he'll get a chance to "walk right up to one." He advertises his interest with a highly personalized license plate. Under light-reflecting letters that spell out "Did", is the question "U C A UFO." He wants those who have to call him.

Gayle and Phil O'Brien, both 35, aren't quite so dedicated. But they know the feelings for UFOs well. Gayle, a housewife, saw unaccountable lights in a night sky not long after Phil, a surgical assistant at a hospital, had his car chased by a UFO, they say.

"It's scary and intriguing," Mrs. O'Brien said. "When you see strange things flying in the sky, you'd like to know why."

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - March 1, 1983

Financial woes hit top UFO investigator

The Associated Press

EVANSTON, Ill. — Hard times have hit Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an astronomer and once the nation's leading UFO guru, whose only close encounters these days are with his pocketbook.

Hynek, who was scientific adviser to the 1977 movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," says he receives 80 reports of unidentified flying object sightings each month but he doesn't have enough money to look into them.

Hynek, who founded the Center for UFO Studies in north suburban Evanston and coined the term "close encounter," relies on an annual budget of \$40,000 collected from the center's 2,000 members around the world.

It's far from enough. Two years ago, the 72-year-old professor emeritus at Northwestern University had to close his office and move his documents into his home. Last year he was forced to disconnect a toll-free UFO hotline number.

Yet the calls still come in — even from the White House.

A few weeks ago a Michigan City, Ind., man and his sons reported they came across three aliens with large heads who were whisked away into the clouds when they were spotted. The man called the White House to report his sighting. The White House, in turn, checked the national index under "UFOs" and called Hynek.

Hynek said that report may have had its origins in an overactive imagination, but he can weed out those with a tendency to exaggerate.

In fact, he said "only 5 percent of the 70,000 reports in our files are 'close encounters of the third kind' (actual encounters with alien beings)."

Hynek, who has never seen a UFO himself, said he needs money to translate reports coming in from Finland, Japan and Portugal that lie unread on his desk.

The B-17 and the 'Foo Fighter'

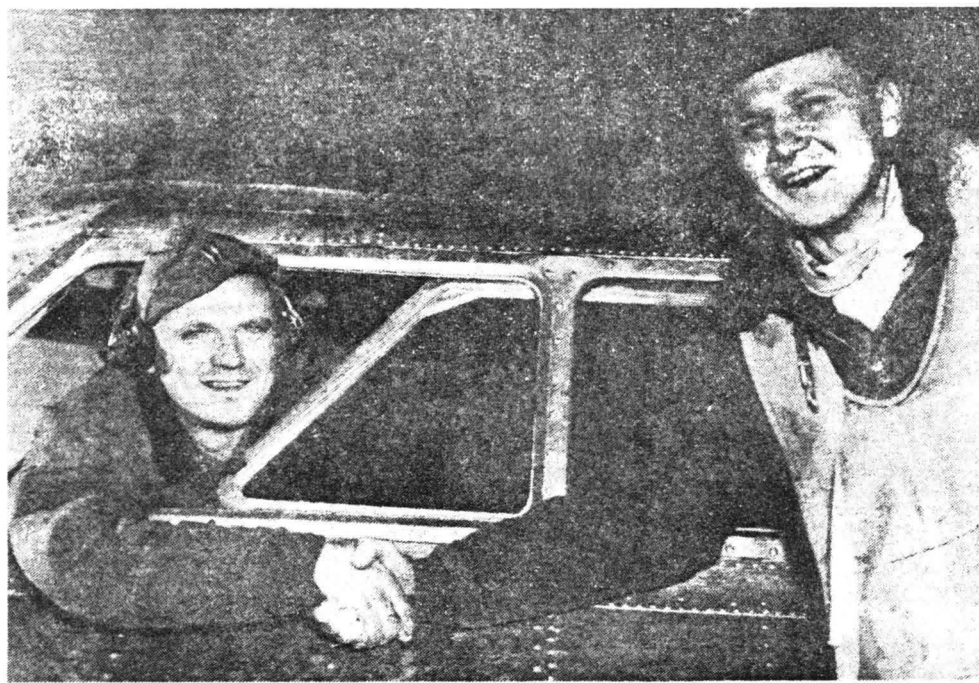
One pilot's story of how UFOs tailed WW II planes

By William D. Leet
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS WORLD

On that cold, dark night of November 24, 1944, when my B-17 crew and I were briefed to fly a "Lone Wolf" bombing mission to Salzburg, no mention was made of "Foo Fighters."

The officer who gave us the intelligence part of the briefing listed the number of heavy and light anti-aircraft guns we could expect at the target, and what types and how many German fighters might hit us. We were also given the figures for alternate targets, in case of inability to reach the primary target which was the railroad marshalling yards at Salzburg. We were also briefed on escape routes and procedures to follow if we should be shot down so we could parachute safely to the ground and have a chance to make it back to Allied lines.

There was no mention whatsoever in the briefing that there was a chance of our encountering a Foo Fighter. Kenneth Arnold's sighting of the first "Flying Saucers" had yet to occur, and years would pass before Captain Edward Ruppelt's coining of the term "UFO," but our Intelligence people knew very well that the Foo Fighters were real. Intelligence officers interrogated pilots and crews after combat missions, and had



Author Bill Leet (left) shakes hands with his brother Warren Leet from the cockpit of his plane. Bill Leet is one among many bomber pilots who saw UFOs they called "Foo Fighters" following their planes during World War II.

I was unable to ascertain the form of the bogey; it could have been a sphere, or a disk at 90 degrees to the earth's surface, but it definitely was not the exhaust or lights from another aircraft. It positively was neither man-made nor a natural occurrence.

received numerous accounts of the unearthly craft over Europe and the Pacific. As the UFO cover-up had already commenced, and this vital information was prohibited to flying personnel, my Flying Fortress crew of ten men and I were unprepared for the confrontation we were to experience on that mission.

The 15th Air Force, operating long range heavy bombers from airfields in southern Italy, flew at high altitudes far into Nazi-held Europe. The B-17s and B-24s destroyed strategic objectives — oil refineries, principally — bombing in great formations by day. Great Britain's big bombers of the Royal Air Force kept it incessant, night-bombing the enemy, and he was allowed no respite.

'Lone Wolf' bombing missions

The relentless onslaught was interrupted by the severe weather of late 1944 grounding the massive formations, so the 5th Bomb Wing initiated the Lone Wolf missions to

ies and factories. It was on such a Lone Wolf flight that we made our takeoff that November night.

As the pilot of "Old Crow," the B-17 I nearly always had on combat missions and called "my airplane," my intention was to push the big bird up just as high as she would go — 30,000 feet, at least. I had bombed at Salzburg once and learned first hand that the Krauts there had master sergeants firing their anti-aircraft guns. When we returned to our field at Amendola, the crew chief and I counted 240 flak holes in Old Crow. Miraculously, no engine had been shot out, there had been no fires on board, and not a man on my crew was wounded. We were over Salzburg at 25,000 feet that day. Tonight, with me calling the shots, we would be much higher where the flak was not so ferocious, and we'd have better prospects of a good bomb strike and returning safely to home base.

My plans were changed on takeoff. I eased the four throttles to max power and we raced down the perfor-

rated steel runway with no trouble, but we were hardly airborne when one of the superchargers disintegrated. That meant that we could climb no higher than 18,000, much too low for Salzburg. The navigator, bombardier and I selected Klagenfurt for an alternate target. We would blast the railroad yards that were marshalled there, and send the laborers to the air raid shelters for the night.

Old Crow reached 18,000 feet only from my patient coaxing. She was over-loaded, carrying thousands of pounds of fuel, ammunition and bombs above the maximum gross weight that Boeing, her designer and manufacturer, had set. It surprised me that the loss of one of four superchargers made such a difference in her ceiling, but once I had nudged her up to 18,000 the stable old warrior munched right along.

The weather had improved considerably — there was a high overcast blackening the sky, but much of the time we were not in clouds and icing conditions. We flew a north-northwesterly course up the Adriatic Sea, and upon making a landfall at Trieste we had only a short distance to Klagenfurt.

The night was so dark that I was piloting Old Crow by instruments, but soon after turning on the bomb run and opening the bomb bay doors, we were in a blinding light. I felt the heat from it, and thought the Krauts had caught us in their searchlights, but it lasted only two or three seconds. We kept flying the bomb run, approaching the instant for bombs away, but I was relieved to see and feel no more of the light. I thought no more about it as this was the crucial moment of our mission, and I concentrated on maintaining a constant airspeed and keeping Old Crow flying straight and level, so the bombardier could put the bombs precisely on target.

Upon bombs away Old Crow leaped upward, freed of her ten 500-pound bombs, and I whipped her off the target, scurrying for safety. It was then I realized that we had gotten no flak on the bomb run; and where were the Messerschmitt night fighters? As much as we had disrupted their oil production, surely they had enough gas to fly fighters up to attack one lone B-17. Well, no need to tempt Fate, I knew. No flak and no fighters was peculiar, nevertheless — unprecedented.

Weird craft appears off wingtip

Heading back toward Trieste, all at once there appeared just off our left wing a round amber light. None of us saw it approach or had any sight of it until it was right beside the B-17, flying along in formation with us. The object's outline was a perfect circle — too perfect, its color was a luminous orange-yellow — too luminous. We could only guesstimate its distance and size. To me, it looked to be about 100 yards off from the wingtip, 10 yards to the rear, and 10 feet in diameter. Was it 100 yards distant and 20 feet in diameter? I was aware of a fascination while observing it.

The gunners wanted to shoot whatever it was with their 50-calibers but I ordered them not to — if the thing was hostile we would have been shot down without ever having seen it. As we coursed on through the black night, winging homeward to our field in the south of Italy, the weird

craft kept us company. Its position relative to Old Crow's did not vary, its shape did not change, and its brilliance never wavered.

I was unable to ascertain the form of the bogey; it could have been a sphere, or a disk at 90 degrees to the earth's surface, but it definitely was not the exhaust or lights from another aircraft. It positively was neither man-made nor a natural occurrence. After 45 or 50 minutes, our companion from another world simply turned off — precisely the way an electric light goes out when turned off by flipping a switch. That is how the Foo Fighter disappeared — it turned off.

Stock answers don't wash

The rest of our return to Amendola was uneventful, and after landing and riding the truck from the field to 2nd Bomb Group Operations, an Intelligence officer conducted our debriefing. When we had reported the standard items of weather, the alternate target we hit, bomb strike accuracy, and the fact that we encountered no enemy resistance, I mentioned the momentary light we flew into on the bomb run, and inquired whether there were searchlights at Klagenfurt. No, ours was the first such report.

The description I gave of the amber object and its behavior met the quick explanation that it was a "New secret German fighter." To my answer that it did not shoot at us, the Intelligence officer rebutted that it was radiating our course, altitude and airspeed to the German anti-aircraft batteries. When I reminded him that we had not seen one burst of flak the entire night, he said nothing more — he had run out of stock answers. He had told us all that he could tell.

The superior performance of American Intelligence in WWII was essential to our victory, but an unwise policy was the withholding from combat personnel information about the Foo Fighters. When our confrontation occurred on that Lone Wolf mission, had we been forarmed with the knowledge reported to Intelligence previously, we would have reacted with more certainty and confidence. We, and other crews in similar encounters, could have disproved the false assumption that Foo Fighters were German weapons, and further assisted our war effort.

A more enlightened strategy concerning these early manifestations by the foo fighters would have brought the dawn of our understanding the UFO phenomenon. The flash of light that struck our B-17 on the bomb run; the absence of German fighters and flak; the appearance and actions of the Foo Fighter; our receiving no interference with our bombing or other electronics — our calm discernment and reporting of such data to Intelligence would have been of inestimable value had they prepared us for it, and then listened to our reports. So, the most important products of the Lone Wolf mission to Klagenfurt were lost: improvement of combat effectiveness, and insight into visitations from another world. Multiply this by many, many UFO confrontations in World War II.

Decisions of truth and positive action involve additional hazards, but danger is inherent in a program of deception. And who knows what perils are imbedded in the cover-up that continues to this day.

Was it a close encounter, or a lighthearted prank?

By Gary Fong
Herald staff writer

Aside from a swarm of phone calls, there was little panic triggered by the eerie lights that danced across San Fernando Valley skies Monday night, according to authorities.

Officers at the Los Angeles Police Department's West Valley Division received some 200 calls from residents in Encino, Reseda and Northridge. Calls flooded phone lines for more than an hour, but police said the calls were more of a nuisance than a real concern.

"I told them (the callers) it was just someone playing around with a light system," said Officer Albert Aird of the West Valley division. "People were just kind of curious, but there were some people who were concerned it might have been a space object."

Aird said the lights would converge at one point, separate into four dots of light and move in separate directions and then converge back to the one point. The lights continued in this pattern for more than an hour beginning around 7:45 p.m.

Authorities speculated the lights

were caused by a laser projected into the cloud cover. A spotlight, such as the ones used by advertisers, would have left a faint column of light traceable to the ground.

The first call Aird received was from a child who saw the light and thought it was a space object.

"I thought he was just kidding. I told him to take a picture of it and it might make him famous," Aird said.

Police at first thought a plane spelling out a Valentine's Day message caused the effect as it flew through the cloud formation. Aird said a police helicopter, dispatched to investigate, reported that the plane was not the source of the lights.

Capt. Douglas Marshall of Vandenberg Air Force Base said no aircraft were in the vicinity and added that no missiles had been launched from the site. Missile trails sometimes cause a light phenomenon in the upper atmosphere.

"It was obvious somebody was playing with some lights... maybe shooting a spotlight through a reflective type of object," said Sgt. Joe Morgan, assistant watch commander at the West Valley station.

Man Who Reported UFO Feels Alienated

By JIM DUMBELL
Observer Staff Writer

CHARLESTON — For the past five years, life has been one frustration after another for Bill Hermann.

Just because he has ridden in a flying saucer a couple of times and talked to the saucer drivers is no reason why others should doubt his experience and stare at him peculiarly. He feels the fear and terror that swept over him should have been enough, without this pervasive disbelief that seems to surround him now.

Not that it makes any real difference whether or not others believe, but it is highly disconcerting to be told by a battery of doctors, researchers, analysts and hypnotists that they're convinced "you believe it yourself, but..."

Pleasant, soft-spoken Hermann, 30, a diesel mechanic by trade and church custodian of necessity, recently ruminated over what has happened since March 1978, when he rode his first UFO.

On a recent day he sat in a North Charleston restaurant, stirred a cup of coffee and desultorily picked at a hamburger.

"I'd never been interested in science fiction. I thought that was all hogwash. Garbage. But I've had two contact experiences and 15 sightings of UFOs, and I've also investigated 40 sightings statewide."

Hermann first saw the saucer hanging around his neighborhood in late 1977 and early '78, and he wasn't alarmed. But it was odd even for Charleston, where in March weird tourists in strange craft are not all that unusual.

At first, he thought it was some sort of secret military aircraft flying out of nearby Charleston Air Force Base. When it flew low near his home in North Charleston one March evening, he went outside and walked toward it for a closer look.

"It dropped, and I was scared,"



Observer Photo By JIM DUMBELL

Bill Hermann

he said in a hushed tone. "A green light came up around me. I was disoriented. At my feet there was an orange circle of light..."

When he became reoriented, he was on an examining table inside the UFO. He distinctly remembers the craft was a molded metal, two-decked contraption about 70 feet in diameter and 25 feet high. The inhabitants were about 4½ feet tall, Hermann remembers, "and looked like human fetuses." They spoke English with no accent and told him not to be afraid, but that didn't help much. "I had this horrible fear."

The UFO crew showed a lack of sensitivity by callously referring to him as a "subject" and said that he, along with certain other earthlings, had been chosen for their experiments. They anticipated his questions, and they spoke without moving their lips.

Hermann came to later that

night in Summerville, nearly 20 miles away.

The second ride was somewhat similar but much less scary.

"It was a 3½-hour trip down to Florida and back. We flew over an orange grove and over the (Kennedy) space center. I remember looking down through some kind of monitor at the faces of people looking up at us."

His visitors told him they were from Zeta Reticuli. ("There is such a star," says Dr. Lee Shapiro, director of UNC's Morehead Planetarium.) "That's a solar system 32 light years from here," Hermann said. "They said I'll see them again, but I haven't. Not that I'm looking for them. December 1982 was my last sighting. But I won't be afraid next time."

Word of Hermann's visitors got around, as word of such things will, and in no time he'd made television and newspapers. That's when the real troubles started.

He began getting harassing letters and phone calls. Then threatening calls. "Some people fear the unknown. They think you're some kind of threat." People began to follow him, he said, and the most threatening thing was when two men tried to run him off the road. He still doesn't know why.

The fact that he lost his job as a diesel mechanic was unrelated, he emphasized. "My company had to cut back because of the economy, and I was one of several that got laid off. Now I'm temporarily a church custodian. It's all I could get." He would not name the church. "They understand, but they don't exactly... you know..." He left the sentence unfinished.

One thing that happened should boost anyone's ego. Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Wendell Stevens of Tucson reported Hermann's encounters with the extraterrestrials in exhaustive detail and published

them in a hardback book. Stevens could not be reached, but Hermann says 5,000 copies of the \$17 book have been sold.

Bill Hermann counts his blessings. He has a job. The publicity has pretty much died down. Most people accept him. "I've gone through all kinds of medical batteries, and I don't have any radiation or side effects. And no implants, like one woman got."

He thinks his visitors are peaceful. Still, he would not advise anyone encountering extraterrestrials to run tell the media all about it.

"I'd advise them to cope, first, and then to document their contact and take the evidence to a responsible agency. I'll not say nothing until I have proof of the next contact."

He says he has proof of his past encounters. His visitors gave him a 4-inch-long metal bar on which were inscribed the letters MAN and some unfamiliar symbols. "MIT analyzed it and said it's lead-based. It's put away in a very safe place," he adds significantly.

These days, Hermann says, he is trying to convince the CIA and the National Security Agency they should release the UFO information they have gathered. "The CIA says it would constitute a threat to national security. It wouldn't. This is not military. I'm convinced it's extraterrestrial."

"This has changed my life," Hermann said as he pushed the hamburger from one side of its saucer to the other. "It's made me reassess my own values and attitudes, specially about things scientific."

"Nobody's said I'm a nut, but they look at me like I'm out in left field. Nobody calls me a liar, particularly after all those experts said I believe what happened to me. But nobody says that what happened actually happened, just that I believe it did."

"That's the sad drawback."

NEWS, Ann Arbor, MI - Feb. 17, 1983 CR: D. Wright

Dexter man's passing recalls UFO sighting

By WILLIAM B. TREML
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

The death this week of Frank E. Mannor of Dexter Township recalled for many in Washtenaw County a series of bizarre "Unidentified Flying Object" episodes which occurred 17 years ago and which have never been fully explained.

Mannor was 64 when he died Tuesday at the Veterans Administration Hospital on Fuller Road. Funeral services are scheduled for 1 p. m. Friday at the Hosmer Funeral Home in Dexter. Burial will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

It was on the Mannor farm on McGinnis Road, northwest of Dexter, that the most spectacular of the UFO sightings was reported. About 8:30 p. m. on the night of March 20, 1966, several persons living in the Quigley-Brand Road near the Mannor property reported seeing a bright, shining object fly overhead. The object, which witnesses said did not have the characteristics of an airplane, appeared to land in a swampy area on the Mannor farm.

Mannor and his son, Ronald, then 18, also saw the lighted object when it first appeared overhead. When the object appeared to have landed they dashed from their house to investigate. When the Mannors reached a marshy area on the farm they reported seeing a lighted, brown, sphere-shaped object which appeared to have a

"quilted" effect on its surface.

Two small lights at the outer edges of the object issued a glowing, bluish-green color which intensified and turned a brilliant red at times, they later told Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department deputies. The entire object turned yellow-white at times, and the light ran horizontally between the two outer lights, they said.

The object disappeared at one point and reappeared seconds later across the swamp, about 500 yards from its original position, the Mannors reported. As deputies and Dexter police approached the area with flashlights, the lights on the object went out.

Mannors said he and his son then heard a sound like a whistle, similar to that of a rifle bullet ricocheting off an object. They said the UFO then went up in the air, passed directly over them and disappeared.

Moments later Robert Hunawill, then a patrolman with the Dexter Police Department, saw what he later assumed was the same object the Mannors had observed. The officer had parked his patrol car at the Quigley-Brand Road intersection while the late Dexter Police Chief Robert Taylor and Patrolman Nolan Lee entered the Mannor property to aid in the police search.

Hunawill said the object appeared over his patrol car at a height of about 1,000 feet, hovered there and then began a series of

sweeps over the Mannor swamp. The object had red and white lights which changed to a blueish tinge at times, Hunawill said. While the officer watched, the object was joined by three other flying ships and the four flew off together, he reported later.

A short time later in the same general area two sheriff's deputies, Stanley McFadden and David Fitzpatrick, saw a lighted object in the sky at North Territorial Road near Mast Road. The officers turned their scout car's spotlight on the object.

"It was the size of a small house, kind of pushed down flat," McFadden would report later. "It had red-green lights on it and movements which could not possibly have been made by any aircraft I'd ever heard of."

The object disappeared moments after the deputies saw it.

In the week that followed, a number of other sightings of UFOs were reported, the most outstanding coming from Hillsdale County, 70 miles southwest of Ann Arbor. The witnesses included more than 80 Hillsdale College women students and the Hillsdale County Civil Defense Director, William Van Horn.

The students called Van Horn after spotting a strange, flying light over a swamp near their campus dormitory. The CD director said he watched the object through binoculars for more than an hour. He said it emitted wavering or-

ange, red and white lights and hovered over the swamp less than a thousand yards from a college dormitory.

The local reports were so widespread that the U.S. Air Force, which at that time had a section for the investigation of UFOs, called in Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an astrophysicist from Northwestern University. Hynek was a scientific consultant for the Air Force and had investigated and explained scores of UFO sightings.

In a press conference held in Detroit on March 26, 1966, Hynek said the Mannor sightings and the one at Hillsdale College were "probably swamp gas."

The scientist said gases, created from rotting swamp vegetation, are ignited into flame when a thaw occurs and releases the gases from ice and frozen ground. He said the flame of chemical luminescence moves quickly and freely about the air over a swampy area, giving the appearance of a solid object.

Then-Sheriff Douglas J. Harvey was doubtful about Hynek's explanation.

"That's a pretty weak theory. I'm not ready to accept it," Harvey said. Frank Mannor was equally dissatisfied.

"I spent time on army maneuvers in the swamps of Louisiana during World War II," he said. "I've seen plenty of swamp gas. This wasn't it. We saw what we saw, all right."



Even radar men saw new UFO

A possum trapper, a travelling salesman, a farmer's wife and a Social Credit candidate are among the growing number of people reporting that they saw Westport's UFO.

Their descriptions of the object and the area where it vanished are remarkably similar and, though Wellington Airport radar reported no contacts, it did report a bright white light over Upper Hutt two hours after the West Coast sighting.

Westport display artist Mr Paul Archer and a friend were driving through the town about 11.30pm on Tuesday night when they saw a bright

light, twice as big as the moon, straight ahead.

"We drove towards it," Mr Archer said, "until it moved away at unbelievable speed, eastwards toward Mt Rochfort."

About the same time, miner Mr Jim Cumming watched a "very big ball of light" moving rapidly toward the mountain.

Farmer's wife Mrs Dianne Henderson saw the greenish-blue light about the size of a dinner plate descend behind some willows on her husband's property near Mt Rochfort.

Her family searched the area next morning but found nothing.

Neighbouring farmer and Social Credit candidate Mr Eamon O'Connor said the object could have landed in an area 2km square and suggested an intensive search be made.

At 11.39pm, a trapper working at Murchison, north of Mt Rochfort, saw a bright light "travelling very fast."

And three Westporters driving in the town soon after 11.30pm saw a "green, glowing ellipse, moving about as fast as a shooting star."

Mr Keith Olsen, Miss Heather Wallace and Mr Richard Cunliffe watched the object for several seconds — until it disappeared behind Mt Rochfort.

UFO chasers in search of a close encounter

The scene is a cornfield near Oakville where UFOs have supposedly been known to hover. This is not your average stroll in the country.

Joe Muskat's yellow Toyota wagon, license plate UFO 747, is legally parked on the grounds of the Ukrainian Children's Camp on Dundas St. W. Joe, his associate, Harry Tokarz, and I have (illegally) hopped the wire fence and crossed over from camp property into... The Alien Zone.

The two 35-year-old boys are praying the unlikely will happen: "Look, over towards that dead oak tree, behind the corn," says Tokarz, up to his knees in unpicked stalks. "It's the dearest tree in the whole area — UFOs are known to harm vegetation. That's exactly where they saw the entities hovering."

The incident is supposed to have happened five years ago. The story goes that a bunch of comp counsellors watched from their cabins three nights in a row as strange orange spheres materialized out of a nearby gully and hovered around the tree.

Hushed up

A day after the sightings, officious-looking men supposedly arrived mysteriously at the site to run tests. They disappeared without a trace. So, the yarn continues, the whole incident was hushed up, the counsellors kept quiet.

Enter Tokarz and Muskat, co-founders (with Larry Fenwick) of the Canadian UFO Research Network.

"This thing doesn't have any of the real good evidence our other investigations have had," says Tokarz, "but it's interesting all the same."

He and his associates (the Network boasts 65 members world-wide) heard about the cornfield caper through the UFO grapevine. They recently tracked down the counsellors and are convinced something alien was out there. "Those kids were scared," says Tokarz.

"There wasn't corn growing there five years ago; now there's a full field of corn that hasn't been picked," Muskat says. "Maybe, maybe they planted corn to cover up evidence."

It's only speculation, but the camp security guard said he thinks the cornfield is now owned by the government. Hmm. A cover up?

Facts in files

So maybe this cornfield will be a dead end. No matter. There are plenty more cases on the horizon. Muskat and Tokarz will continue to investigate sightings; Fenwick will enter all data in the Network's extensive files.

Muskat and Tokarz are the Blues Brothers of Ontario's UFO circuit. Their mission is to investigate sightings with a zeal and thoroughness that drives their spouses around the bend.

"My wife wishes I'd spend a little less time on this," says Muskat, a dental technician who lives on Peter Andrew Cres. Richmond Hill. "My girl wishes the same," nods Tokarz, a showbiz booking agent who lives on Madison Ave., Toronto.

This is no fly-by-night obsession. Tokarz and Muskat have been working on close and not-so-close encounters for nearly 20 years, long before E.T. was a twinkle in Steven Spielberg's eye. They incorporated The Network five years ago and, almost daily, compile data on "unexplained aerial phenomena," interview witnesses and swap information and snapshots with other UFO groups around the world.

While the authorities remain sceptical, the military at CFB Downsview, the OPP and other agencies often refer calls about UFOs to the Network's 24-hour hotline (886-2345). They average three calls a week.

As one of the most active civilian UFO watch groups in Canada, the Network bears an awesome responsibility. The members must weed out the quacks and pursue the credibles. Interviews, soil samples, photograph analysis — most people think their evidence doesn't



Bob Pomerantz

stack up to a hill of beans, but the Network continues.

Their biggest and costliest investigation of the year was putting a St. Catharines man under hypnosis, with a doctor standing by, to recall his abduction by four-foot-tall aliens on the QEW. The result?

"We believe the man believes it happened," says Tokarz, who explains that the aliens brainwashed the man so he'd forget it ever happened. "That's enough."

Tokarz and Muskat liberally lace their language with phrases like "U.S. Air Force cover-up" and "radioactive" and have enough strange anecdotes to fill 10 Spielberg movies.

Like the one about the Caledonia, Ont. miner who was in a field late one night when he spied human-like creatures taking sludge samples from a riverbed — their cigar-shaped spaceship hovering above.

Set off alarm

Or the golfers in Woodbridge, Ont. who watched a metallic fluttering object from the ninth hole. It triggered a burglar alarm and set strange spotlights in motion. The Network's geiger counter reading was abnormal.

Muskat and Tokarz have personally witnessed aerial phenomena: Muskat was initiated 18 years ago at the Dufferin Drive-in when something dropped out of the sky during a triple feature. ("The whole area was cordoned off the next day, they confiscated cameras.") Tokarz watched a spaceship from his bakery some years later.

But why — if the authorities ignore them, civilians laugh at them and the whole obsession costs a bundle — do they continue?

"Personal gratification," Tokarz says. "We are interested in following this for our own advancement of knowledge. It's that simple." May the force be with you, guys.



Calling all stars: Lawrence Fenwick (left) and Joe Muskat check out their extra terrestrial finder before a trip into the night.

Hundreds spot mystery lights over city

SOUTH WALES EVENING POST, Swansea, Wales - Jan. 20, 1983

HUNDREDS of sky-watchers in the Swansea area were today still puzzling over the strange ET-like happenings of last night.

Many early evening joggers and householders looked upwards in amazement at a skyline decorated with strange illuminated shapes. Mrs. Margaret Gaskins, of Lucy Road, Stevenage, said her children 14 year old Leanne and 10 year old Carl were watching television when they spotted strange flashing lights in the sky at about 5.45 p.m.

They came running into the kitchen full of excitement," she said. "At first I didn't believe them, but when I looked out of the window I could see a sphere of flashing lights which travelled from the Kilvey Hill area over to Baglan Bay."

The whole family were hanging out of the windows of their flat for a better view and soon neighbours were also peering out.

"It was all very exciting," said Mrs. Gaskins. "We couldn't believe what we were seeing."

Shortly after seeing the flashing lights the family spotted a large red glow in the sky over the lower Swansea Valley, heading towards Stevenage.

"Later I heard that a Sea King helicopter from Brandy had been in the area. At first I thought the flashing lights must have been from that," she said. "But then I was told the helicopter was not over Swansea Bay until 6.20 p.m."

"I don't believe in UFOs. There has got to be a logical explanation for it, but I can't explain what it was I saw."

Another UFO spotter was Mrs. Rita Bradley of Finbury Terrace, Brynmill, Swansea.

"I saw two triangular objects close together with lots of white lights towards Towmill. I could hardly believe it."

And Mrs. Carol Batcup of Yr Aryn, Durnant, Swansea, said: "I saw an object bigger than a jumbo jet over Killey, but moving too slowly to be an aircraft. It had flashing lights at the front and back."

A spokesman for Swansea Council said: "We get these fairly frequently when the sky is clear as it was last night. They show up like flares. They glow predominantly white and green."

Counsellors had sightings reported over a wide area, stretching west as far as Milford Haven. The spokesman said they were probably meteorites but discounted any possibility that the sightings were connected with the impending re-entry to earth of the Russian satellite.

SUNDAY NEWS, Auckland, New Zealand - Jan. 16, 1983

Was it really a UFO?

WE walked along the long, dusty road to our house from a tiring day's work.

The bus had picked my friend and I up early that morning to take us to work and it was now quite dark, being winter.

I watched a falling star drop from its place in the black sky.

footsteps.

"Was this my imagination or was it really something from outer space?" I asked myself.

Then I looked at my friend and she was staring at the sight too.

"I can't be imagining it if she's seen it too," I thought.

Flashing

There was no moon that night to light up our way, but then there was a greenish mist not far off with a flashing multi-coloured lighted object behind it.

The mist soon cleared and revealed a very large space ship towering above us.

I froze with fear in my

Disappeared

Then the mist covered over the machine again, the lights went out and it disappeared.

We both ran home and had tea before going to bed.

I thought: "Had we really experienced a UFO sighting or was it just an illusion?"

RACHEL BLACKIE (10) Cambridge

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF A VANISHING KIND

CHOOSY ALIENS GIVE US BIG MISS

It's been a bad year for flying saucers and Queensland's faithful band of UFO researchers have not had a close encounter of any kind.

President of UFO Research (Qld) Mr Colin Phillips said there was almost nothing to investigate during the year.

"It's been a very, very bad year for UFO's," he said. "And it's not just here, the situation is the same all over the world."

Mr Phillips attributed the decline in sightings to a drop in the number of visitors from outer space. He said aliens appeared to have changed their attitude toward this planet.

Hovering

There were only two sightings in Queensland in 1982 worthy of investigation, compared with as many as 100 per year in the mid-1970s and two or three times as many per year in the 1950s and 60s.

"One of the two good reports this year happened recently at Waterford," Mr Phillips said.

"A local resident saw a saucer-like object hovering over a sports field and moments later it took off at a tremendous speed."

And the proliferation of science fiction movies in recent years has done little to help matters.

"In fact, there has been a steady decline which, I believe, adds more credibility to the reports we have received," he said.

Sightings were so scarce this year a 26-year tradition of monthly meetings of the UFO research group had been axed.

By
STEVE ROUS

And the group's membership numbers had dwindled from 100 to 80.

"My theory on the declining number of sightings is that there has been a drastic reduction in visits to earth from other planets," Mr Phillips said.

"If I was tripping around the universe now, I think I'd give earth the big miss too."

Mr Phillips said he believed aliens had changed their attitude towards this planet.

Around the 1950s, aliens would have been very interested in the changes in technology, especially in the area of atomic weapons, he said.

But the aliens had now lost interest in earthlings and regarded the planet as some kind of game reserve.

Queensland has not always been so quiet on the UFO front.

In fact, just two years ago a man at Bowen reported he had experienced a close encounter of the third, or maybe fourth, kind.

Mr Bill Ross, 33, said he



COLIN PHILLIPS

was plucked out of his tomato patch by a flying saucer and was whisked into space.

Aboard the saucer, he met Ahhuahuhuhurn and his female companion, Methuhuhuna, from the planet Tuhhunkia—a mere 270,000 light years from Earth.

"I'm not some crackpot," Mr Ross swears.

The Bowen area was a very popular UFO sighting region in the 1970s.

The local research group, based at Nathan, collects information about sightings and reports to the Australian Centre for UFO Study. Information from there is forwarded to a UFO research institute in the U.S.

France gives up on UFOs

PARIS, Sunday. — In a display of scepticism about the existence of extra-terrestrial life, the French Government has decided to close a unique research establishment set up six years ago to investigate unidentified flying objects.

But it has encountered unexpectedly stiff opposition from some scientists shocked that the Socialists do not believe in flying saucers.

One scientific writer, Jean-Francois Boeder, said the research centre, the Groupe d'Etudes des Phenomenes Spatiaux, had paid the price of being too closely associated with the former President, Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who set it up in 1977.

The Government denies the closure is political spite. It says the idea was an expensive folly.

It now emerges that Mr Giscard d'Estaing, who had an almost school-boy passion for UFOs, was persuaded to open the centre on the advice of a scientist friend who ran it for a year, then resigned to sail round the world in a yacht.

Since then the centre has been sifting through dozens of reports of UFOs sent in every year by the public. It distributed instruction manuals to 15,000 police stations on what to look for and what questions to ask witnesses.

SOUTH WALES ECHO, Cardiff, Wales
Feb. 3, 1983

Flying triangle

I READ with interest the reports of UFOs. I am an ambulance driver for South Glamorgan and I was taking a patient home on January 18 and we both saw the mysterious flying triangle over the Barry-Gibbonsdown area and watched it until it disappeared.

I think the sketch in the paper is a true picture of it.

When I told my husband about it he smiled in disbelief, but when he saw the Echo next day he said it must be true.

M C WILLIAMS (Mrs),
Bwlch Road,
Fairwater, Cardiff.

WEST AUSTRALIAN, Perth, W.A., Australia - Jan. 5, 1983 CR: P. Norman

Family tells of close encounter

By NORMAN AISBETT jun.



Mr Andy Potocznyj shows a sketch of the object. He is with his wife Glennis and children Andrea (3), Damian (6) and Michelle (9).

TWO Northam families are convinced that they have seen the same big, unexplainable flying object moving in a brilliant ball of light over a similar point on Great Eastern Highway.

Both say that the object was moving only at treetop height and was big enough to straddle the road.

They also claim that it was moving at no more than 20kmh and made no sound.

By coincidence, the families say that the sightings were made almost a year apart to the day and were both about 47km from Perth—about half way to Northam.

An Air Force spokesman confirmed yesterday that a detailed report of the latest "sighting" had been made to the RAAF base at Pearce. The report was being investigated by the "unusual aerial sightings officer."

He said that he was impressed by the man-

ner in which the report had been detailed.

The report was made to the RAAF about 9.30pm on Monday by Mr Andrew Potocznyj, who had been driving his family home to Northam.

He said yesterday that he was accompanied by his wife Glennis, daughters Michelle (9) and Andrea (3) and his son Damian (6).

"It started off in the sky some distance ahead and looked like a brilliant star, then it dropped down in altitude and came slowly directly above the highway," he said.

Michelle said: "It was big and round, with a lot of light coming out. Damian was screaming and jumped in the back of the car."

He told mum to ring the police."

The other sighting was reported by Mr

Gary Carter, a Northam Westrail worker, who was with his wife Cheryl and three children including his daughter, Donna-Anne (4).

He described the object as "like a Hercules plane . . . glowing brilliantly . . . but without wings, a tail or a nose."

Lights on Wednesday

SIR.—Re U.F.O. sightings. On Wednesday, January 19 at 6.30 p.m. I was observing through binoculars the star groups of Pleiades, The Bull and Orion.

At this time I saw three sets of bright lights in triangular formation travelling slowly in an easterly direction. I assumed at the time that the lights belonged to aircraft as some of the lights flashed on and off at regular intervals.

The only unusual thing that struck me at the time was the absence of any noise.

Incidentally, as the lights were going over a shooting star travelling from North East to South West passed immediately behind the lights.

Quite an eventful evening.
Richard Gravelle
Baglan Road,
Port Talbot.

SOUTH WALES EVENING POST, Swansea, Wales
Jan. 27, 1983

NEWS, Perth, W.A., Australia - Jan. 6, 1983 CR: P. Norman

Hot air, or a UFO with a brilliant light?

Are two reported UFO sightings near Northam just a lot of hot air?

An RAAF spokesman suggests a balloon as a

possible explanation.

But he also said: "There could be any one of a number of explanations. It will take some time to get all the facts together."

The two sightings —

by Gary Carter and his wife Cheryl, and Andy Potocznyj, his wife Glennis, and three children, all of Northam—were made a year apart.

But publicity given to

the most recent case, on Monday night, brought the previous encounter to light.

"I didn't say anything about it at the time because I didn't want to upset the children or

get involved," said Mr Carter.

"But after Andy's latest sighting we matched stories and realised how close they were."

Mr Potocznyj said: "I

was amazed at the similarity even though Gary saw the object from a side on view."

The RAAF spokesman said that facts would be checked with the witnesses.

**Support
for UFO
spotters**

ON the evening that the large triangular object was seen in the sky over Cardiff my son and I also observed it from home, passing in a westerly direction towards the channel.

Furthermore, a little later we observed other lights which were pulsating but stationary.

In view of the many Gwent sightings reported in the Echo between March and November of last year one imagines a large part of Wales yet again to be in the grip of a UFO flap.

With due respect to the police, there is very little they can do, apart from pass on all information to voluntary investigative groups such as the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association.

These organisations, log, file and thoroughly investigate all details of the phenomena of which they are informed. Given the facts relating to the validity of the UFO, the Government must show a more positive interest in the subject and perhaps help finance these dedicated groups, who all operate (in this country) by donations and subscriptions only.

WILLIAM RICH,
East Wing,
Llandough Castle,
Cowbridge.

NEWS, Adelaide, S.A., Australia - Jan. 7, 1983 CR: P. Norman

UFOs may be real, admits Russia

REVIEW, Weyburn, Sask., Canada - Jan. 12, 1983

UFO sightings

Unusual lights seen by area residents

The strange lights seen Monday evening from Creelman down to Lake Alma may have been undetectable to the Canadian Air Force and NORAD, but that doesn't mean they didn't exist. Or does it?

At about 7:20 p.m., farmer Les Ray of Creelman was watching television with his sister when both of them saw a bright light in the sky through the window.

"It was brighter than the yard light, a really bright green. There were sparks coming out the tail," said Mr. Ray on Tuesday. "It was flying on the level straight across the sky so I didn't think it was a falling star. It was travelling from north to south."

Mr. Ray said at first he thought it was a satellite or a "sputnik" about to crash into the ground, but by the time he ran to the window for a better look, it had vanished. His brother Chester and his wife saw the same thing from their farm about a mile away, said Mr. Ray.

Several witnesses

At about 7:30 p.m. Bruce Mitchell saw a light from Osage, west of Creelman. At 8 p.m. a woman in Weyburn spotted a light, and at 8:20 p.m. it was seen again, this time by Gladys Offet of Lake Alma, south of Weyburn.

Mrs. Offet said the light "was very bright, flying straight across. It came from

the north, and it looked almost fluorescent." From where she was the light appeared about three feet long, she said.

Inquiries to Canadian Forces Base Moose Jaw and to the NORAD headquarters in Great Falls, Montana, proved fruitless. Neither base reported anything unusual on radar Monday night.

The strange light seen by several people on Monday could have been a fireball or meteorite, aurora borealis, or any one of a dozen natural phenomena. But the many witnesses who saw it tracking from north to south might not be satisfied with such an explanation. It sounds too ordinary.

MOSCOW (AAP): A Soviet newspaper said today Unidentified Flying Objects could exist.

It said a Soviet fighter plane had a brush with a mystery object two years ago.

The weekly Sovetskaya Kultura said there still were many unexplained phenomena behind various "flying saucer" reports and urged scientists to collect and collate as much information as possible on the subject.

Many senior Soviet scientists "do not deny that such phenomena could be connected with extra-terrestrial civilisation," the newspaper said, adding that among them was a corresponding member of the elite Academy of Science.

In an example of recent strange happenings in the Soviet Union itself, the report said a fighter plane encountered a "fiery ball" five metres in diameter, in 1981.

Damage

The ball had travelled in front of the craft for some distance "as if measuring its speed" and had then passed through it, exploding as it reached the tail and causing structural damage.

Scientists had at first assumed the phenomenon was ball lightning, but the damage to the plane did not tally with this, and lightning would not be able to move in the same direction as the fighter, the newspaper said.

It also revealed that the Soviet Union was working on plans for a long-distance unmanned space mission in order to try to track down signs of civilisation on distant planets.

HERALD EXPRESS, Torquay, Devon, England - Jan. 17, 1983

BLUE UFO 'LANDS' IN SOUTH DEVON FIELD

TWO Torquay teenagers had an encounter of the frightening kind early today when a UFO flew in from the sea and "landed" in a field.

Eighteen-year-olds Bruce Cowling and Andrew Jarvis were riding on a motorcycle between Shaldon and Maidencombe beach on the main Teignmouth to Torquay road when the mysterious object was sighted.

Bruce, of Burrage Road, Chelston, Torquay, was riding pillion on the machine when he glanced towards the sky.

Lights flashed

He said: "I saw a large, blue light heading towards the ground. It was white-tipped and extremely bright."

"It was about 30 feet long and shaped like the body of a rocket firework. It was heading at 45 degrees and left a vapour trail behind it just like a jet. It was just like a blue flame."

"It seemed to land in a field on the landward side of us."

Andrew, of Thurlow Road,

Sighting by Torbay youths

Torquay, said: "I was concentrating on driving when I heard Bruce shouting. I looked up quickly and saw a glint of blue. That was enough for me. We were both frightened and did not bother to slow down."

The youths believe that a man in a red car travelling in the opposite direction might have seen the UFO as well.

Bruce said: "He started flashing his lights at us as if he wanted us to follow him."

The teenagers, who are unemployed, have open minds on UFOs.

The two CB enthusiasts spent an hour deciding whether or not to report the sighting to police.

"We thought they might think they had a couple of nutters on their hands," said Andrew.

Eventually, they reported the incident to police at Torquay who passed on the information to their colleagues at Teignmouth.

A Torquay police spokesman said: "I would have thought it was a meteorite. It is always difficult to tell how near it is. What they thought was quite close could have been several miles away."

"We have passed on the details to Teignmouth and they will have a look."

Not a flare

Bruce and Andrew thought up all sorts of theories at first. They dismissed the possibility of a ship's flare because of the size. They did not think anybody would be letting off fireworks so early in the morning — between 6.15 am and 6.30 am.

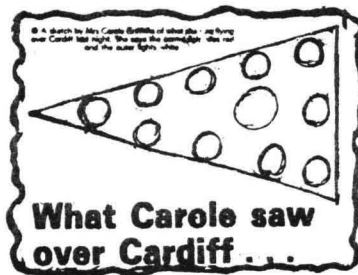
They also thought, at first, that the UFO might have been part of the Russian satellite which is due to re-enter the atmosphere soon.

■ The remains of a "ball of fire" which flew over Reading at the weekend and fell to earth nearby are to be examined by forensic experts today.

The fireball, described as "the size of a dinner plate," was seen between 9pm and 9.30 on Saturday.

Today, Pc Paul Beecroft, who has seen the remains and is leading inquiries, said: "I can state right now that it is definitely not extra terrestrial, or anything like that."

The object set alight 35 square yards of grass



● THE sketch and headline that appeared with the report in last night's South Wales Echo.

MYSTERY is growing over reports of a low-flying object, that appears to be skirting the South Wales coast at nights.

And the strongest theory, that the flashing lights belong to a patrolling Sea King helicopter, have been denied by the Sea King search and rescue flight at RAF Brawdy.

"Our helicopters have the standard aircraft lights, red, white and green, and up to seven very bright spotlights that could be shining at any one time," said a spokesman from the flight.

"But we haven't been flying after 4pm, so the possibility it was one of us is remote."

Sightings of the UFO have continued to flood in to South Wales Echo offices, after last night's publication of a sketch of the craft.

"I saw two massive lights, close together in the sky," said Mrs Jennifer Brotherton, aged 37, of Church Rise, Wenvoe. "Until we saw the front page of the Echo, I would have thought people

UFOs? It's not us, say RAF rescue flight

would think I was some kind of a nut.

"It was standing still in the sky — that was what caught my attention. It seemed to be like an aircraft on its side."

Mr Robert Whitehouse, of Carter Place, Fairwater, described exactly the same phenomena spotted at 7.15pm on Tuesday.

Moon

Mrs Vera Russell, of Sedgemore Road, Llanrumney, said she saw three identical objects flying across the light of the moon, last night.

"It's not a word of a lie," she said. "An aeroplane went by at the same time, so we could tell how slowly they were going."

Mrs Russell's flying objects all followed the same course through the sky, and she was most struck by the size of them.

The Cardiff Weather Centre say they have not released any meteorological balloons recently, and air traffic controllers at Cardiff Airport have not reported anything unusual.

Police say they have passed on their reports to the Civil Aviation Authority, at West Drayton, and the Ministry of Defence will be investigating.

But meteors and air refuelling theories have also been dispelled by a long-standing member of the British UFO Research Association, Mr Bill Rich, who says that what he saw in the night sky did not answer either description.

"People get UFO happy," said the Swansea coastguard, "on clear nights, dust in the atmosphere causes refraction — even a planet can look like a lantern in the sky."

SOUTH WALES ECHO, Cardiff, Wales - Jan. 21, 1983

Superpowers in UFO cover-up conspiracy — Earl

'E.T. based upon fact'

LONDON, Sat. — The smash-hit movie ET which is enthraling millions with its tale of a little man from outer space, is based on fact, says Britain's leading expert on unidentified flying objects.

The Earl of Clancarty, chairman of the all-party UFO study group in the House of Lords, claims real extra-terrestrials have already landed on Earth.

And, he says, the world's superpowers know all about the aliens but are keeping the knowledge secret.

The earl, 71, claims his inquiries have revealed a cover-up by the governments of the US, Russia and Britain.

He says: "A UFO actually landed at Earl Mountbatten's home in Hampshire.

"It crashed and the remains are being kept for research purposes but the public is being kept in the dark."

Another crashed UFO is being held by the Americans at a secret base.

"There is a race by superpowers to find out how UFOs work," the earl said. "That is why there is a big cover up."

"We have monitored thousands of UFO sightings every year, in all parts of the world, Australia included. Many of them indicate strongly we have visitors from outer space," the earl said.

Evidence

Ten governments openly admit that there is strong evidence that flying saucers exist. They include France, Norway, Sweden and Brazil.

According to the earl, movie-maker Stephen Spielberg's films E.T. and Close Encounters, are inspired by extra-terrestrials.

He believes Close Encounters was based on a real meeting between beings from space and a US leader.

"President Eisenhower is supposed to have met aliens by arrangement at Edwards air force base in 1953," the earl claims. "Eisenhower decided that the aliens were so advanced that the world was not ready for open contact."

"The aliens suggested an education program should be put in hand to prepare the way."

"This information came directly to me from an air force pilot who was present at the confrontation as an adviser."

"I believe E.T. and Close Encounters are part of that education program," the earl said. "The earl is no wild-eyed newcomer to the ranks of flying saucer enthusiasts."

A former executive for respected aviation magazines, he has written a number of best-selling books on UFOs.

As founder-member of a world-wide network of flying saucer investigators, he uses his elegant London home as a command post for harassing civil servants.

"I know they dismiss me as dotty and a bit of a crackpot," he admits happily.

"I'm quite used to that. It is all part of the big cover-up."



Mystery of the strange debris from sky

Aliens drop in claims NASA expert

By Science Writer MARK CAMM

INTELLIGENT extra-terrestrial life has visited Earth, and witnesses have radiation injuries to prove it, a top NASA scientist said yesterday.

"UFOs are real, solid things," Mr John Schuessler, the project manager for Space Shuttle flight operations, told a Sydney press conference.

He said he had verified more than 300 cases where people reported injuries after contact with a UFO.

The radiation injuries included eye damage, sometimes serious enough to lead to blindness, burns, hair loss, fingernail damage, lowered resistance to infections, diarrhoea, vomiting, altered menstrual cycles and damaged heart muscles.

Evidence

Mr Schuessler, who is in Australia to deliver a series of public lectures, said all the physiological damage was connected with the UFOs.

"That's my hypothesis, even though each of these things can be caused by something else."

"We've found people who have claimed the affects were caused by UFOs, but discovered their injuries were caused by something else."

"But the medical evidence and the sightings are the most concrete facts I have to prove the existence of UFOs."

He said the injuries were caused when people came within 50m of a UFO, although many reporting close contact suffered no ill effects.

The people who claimed to have been kidnapped by aliens were not lying, Mr Schuessler said.

"These people believe they were abducted, and although I haven't been able to prove it, I believe their stories," he said.

AN ASTONISHING sight greeted farmer Irwel Evans as he trudged across his fields to tend his newly born lambs.

Hundreds of pieces of honeycombed metal foil were strewn over an area the size of three football pitches.

Huge twisted alloy plates, painted green on one side, grey on the other, lay everywhere. And in a nearby copse branches had been sheared off trees.

Mr Evans telephoned the police. Soon his farm at Llani-lar, near Aberystwyth, was like a film set from a spy thriller.

Police took away fragments of metal for analysis. A team of uniformed RAF men with plain clothes officers combed the land and nearby woods, by using flashlights as darkness began to fall.

Number

Among the pile of debris taken away was an aerial and a large chunk of metal with part of a serial number on it.

Everyone concerned was convinced that whatever it was that covered Mr Evans's fields had fallen out of the sky at the dead of night.

But after two weeks the riddle still remains. Police are baffled. So too are the RAF.

No one in the close-knit Welsh community heard a plane that night. Nothing unusual showed up on RAF radar scanners.

Mr Evans, 29, who farms his 260 acres single-handed, said: "Whatever tumbled from the sky broke up on impact."

"It must have been a fair size. Wreckage was scattered across four fields. Had it hit a building there's no doubt the devastation could have been terrible."

"It must have come down the

by ANDREW CHAPMAN

night before I found it for the area was clear in the afternoon when I checked the flock.

"Although the pieces themselves were extremely light they must have fallen with some force to sever branches off trees. It is all very disturbing."

Mr Emrys Hughes, secretary of Cardiganshire farmers' union, said: "I've asked the Ministry of Defence for an explanation, but so far have had no reply."

Chinese See UFO

PEKING (AFP-Jiji) — Eight people spotted what appeared to be an unidentified flying object (UFO) over their town of Harbin, in northeast China, the daily Yangcheng Evening News, reported in its latest edition reaching here.

The paper said the object, which appeared on Feb. 18, resembled a large oval orange balloon. Eyewitness accounts said it paused for nearly a minute some 1,000 meters (3,000 feet) above Harbin before heading south.

The Chinese official press only exceptionally mentions the possible existence of UFOs.

However in 1980, the Peking Evening News published a photograph of what was claimed to be a UFO, only subsequently to admit that it was a fake.

MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Japan
Feb. 24, 1983 CR: Y. Matsumura

DORSET EVENING ECHO, Weymouth, England - Feb. 2, 1983

U.F.O. sighting?

REPORTS of mysterious lights in the sky over Salway Ash, near Bridport, have come from 16-year-old schoolboy Andrew Robinson. He was playing a space video game in his caravan home at Higher Kershay Farm, Salway Ash, when his brother Daren (18) pointed out a circle of five bright lights hovering overhead in the evening sky.

Andrew, who thought the lights could have been a U.F.O., said the illumination could not have come from helicopters because there was a complete absence of noise. "They stayed for a few minutes until, one by one, they went out very slowly," he added.

Looking inwards

IN trying to bring UFOs down to earth Paul Devereaux is in danger of suffering a similar fate. His theory is that unidentified flying objects emanate not from space but from beneath the surface of our own planet.

He presents a mass of evidence which, he says, shows that UFO activity is commonest where four factors coincide. These are: where there are geological faults, where the earth's surface is particularly

rich in certain minerals, where there are megalithic sites such as Stonehenge and where there is low thunderstorm activity.

In *Earth Lights* (Turnstone Press, £9.95) he explains why he finds the relationships so convincing. He believes that UFO aeriforms and their "occupants" are created from a new category of phenomena which he calls proto-entities.

These materialise in response to geological movements, and electromagnetic events beneath the earth's surface, interacting simultaneously with the psycho-kinetic abilities of the human brain.

All in the mind, so to speak.

Keith Pusey

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Coventry, England

Jan. 21, 1983

UFO sightings more spaced out despite ET

By KATHY KERR

Herald Edmonton Bureau

EDMONTON — Albertans charmed by the film ET may be scanning the skies more often, but they aren't spotting any more unidentified flying objects, says the president of the Edmonton UFO Society.

John Musgrave, who is also superintendent of the Alberta National Resources Science Centre, says UFO reports are down from five or ten years ago.

"UFO skeptics suggested all the films would generate a lot of reports," says Musgrave. But that hasn't happened.

The more interesting reports are coming from areas such as South America and Australia now. Musgrave says knowing the reason for the shift would provide a clue to the factors generating the phenomena.

Musgrave, 41, has been involved with the UFO Society since 1972, and says reports and

interest peaked around 1967 and into the early 1970s.

Reports have come to him from Southern Alberta, he says. A case some years ago involving some university staff in Lethbridge sighting a glowing object attracted some press coverage, he adds.

Reports of burn rings and stalled cars, apparently caused by flying phenomena, have also come from the Lethbridge area, he says. But like everywhere in Alberta, the number of reports from the area has dropped.

Musgrave says the phenomena may be caused by mirages, ball lightning or psychological phenomena.

Or some could be space visitors. "It's quite likely these people have visited," says Musgrave.

The problem has been a tendency to assume UFOs are all the result of the same cause, says Musgrave.

He says all possibilities should be studied because they all add to knowledge.

There is some thought that luminous phenomena could be precursors of earthquakes, for instance.

Musgrave has also looked into reported abductions by space visitors. He says the abduction stories may be similar to Witches Sabbath reports in the middle ages and could be an important clue to psychological functioning.

The abductions seem to represent an altered state of consciousness, he says.

Musgrave says people calling him are often looking for a simple identification of an unknown body in the sky.

"Sometimes it's a weather balloon, satellite or Venus."

But sometimes the reports are unidentifiable and Musgrave sends out a questionnaire to create a record. In some cases he may drive out to the area, take soil samples and seek

verifications from neighbors.

Clinical hypnotists have even been used, says Musgrave.

The Edmonton UFO Society is fairly unique in Canada, he says. It meets regularly, every second Sunday of the month, in an elementary school.

Musgrave, who has taught and written elementary texts on astronomy, is the only scientifically-trained member of the society.

He says his training in the area of philosophy of science and history is more relevant to studying UFOs, since they can be a sociological phenomenon. He looks back in history for reports which seem to parallel modern UFO sightings.

Musgrave says there isn't really a national clearing house for UFO information. The National Research Council (NRC) collected reports but was actually looking for information on meteors.

NEWS WORLD, New York, NY - March 12, 1983

Mexican occultists build UFO airport

TUXTEPEC, Mexico — If creatures from outer space are heading to Earth, Mexico's witches will be ready to receive them, their leader said Saturday.

Antonio Vazquez told reporters during the Fourth Annual International Witches Conference that Latin America's first UFO airport was being built in Mexico for the expected arrival this year of space visitors.

"This is the year of direct communication with the extra-terrestrials," said Vazquez, leader of Mexico's witches.

About 150 occultists from Chile, Canada, the United States, Mexico and Venezuela are attending the 3-day conference in Tuxtepec, a town nestled in the mountains of the state of Oaxaca, 180 miles southeast of Mexico City.

Vazquez said his followers are building a concrete UFO airport 90 feet in diameter to receive the first

space ships.

The "UFO-port" is under construction in the mountains of the state of Puebla east of Mexico City.

He claimed the installations in Puebla are the first of their kind in Latin America. He did not say where other UFO airports were located.

Vazquez said that UFO-port will be perfectly round since "UFOs are round and have three feet which look like cushions."

United Press International

DAILY MIRROR, London, England - Feb. 3, 1983

Diary by PETER TORY

Marcia and the little green men



FOREWORD: Marcia

LADY FALKENDER is about to reveal—to those of us that didn't have the foggiest idea—that she believes in flying saucers.

The ever-surprising Marcia has written a most enthusiastic foreword to a book on the matter in which she calls for a widening of interest in this "highly sensitive subject."

According to the authors, one of whom is Timothy Good, professional violinist and adviser to the House of Lords U.F.O. group, Lady Falkender actually knows that the Government knows that the Military know all about flying saucers.

And that there is, to use that dark and sinister phrase, a "cover-up."

My researchers were unable to discuss this amazing business with Marcia. One was told that "a friend has just popped in unexpectedly from Paris."

But in the foreword of the book George Adamski—The Untold Story, she writes: "This long overdue appraisal contains much that is exciting and new about the controversial claims of George Adamski."

"Something clearly of tremendous significance happened to this man and some of the information in the book is new, highly controversial and thought-provoking."

The late Adamski's book was full of pictures of UFOs and even gave accounts of meetings with funny little men. He was regarded by many as an outrageous hoaxer and a looney.

Still, Marcia evidently believes that—hoax or not—THEY are out there.

On the subject of that cover-up, Mr. Good says: "She says she knows an

awful lot more than she has told me."

We put all this chilling stuff to LORD CLAN-CARTY, one of Britain's leading flying saucer experts. He said: "The Russians and the West have discovered the secret of UFOs and have learned how to tap energy from them."

"If the public knew that both sides had these high-powered things it might cause panic."

Quite. That is just why STEVEN SPIELBERG, who is in the pay of the Planetary Propaganda Unit on Uranus, gave us the loveable E.T.

To lull us into a false sense of security.

SUNDAY MIRROR, London, England - Feb. 20, 1983 CR: N. Oliver

QUICK-DRAW KIDS TRACK A UFO



Spotters—Jonathan Hutchins, 7, and sister Lyndsay, 5

AN amazing UFO sighting by more than 200 people is being investigated.

Among those who spotted the "flying saucer" along a 40-mile stretch of South Wales coastline were two policemen, a class of schoolchildren and a football team.

The sighting—over a one-hour period—is one of the best-witnessed ever.

First to spot the huge, triangular-shaped craft were 22 pupils at Cardiff's Eglwys Wen primary school.

Good view

They told their teacher, Helen Williams, who was astounded when the children later produced near-identical drawings.

Twenty miles west, at Llantwit Major, football coach Joe Toland and a team of boys also got a good view of the UFO.

And at Swansea, detectives Mike Troake and

By STEVE BAILEY

Gethin Humphreys could hardly believe their eyes when the craft glided slowly overhead.

Sgt Troake, 42, said last week: "I'm used to seeing

aircraft in the sky but this was massive—much bigger than a plane."

"There was a large main cluster of lights at the front, shaped a bit like a Zeppelin, followed by a triangular group of lights."

"They were moving gracefully across the sky about

1,000 ft up." The two officers did not enter an official report for fear of ridicule from sceptical colleagues.

Ian Mrzygrod, of the UFO Research Association, said: "Simple lights in the sky are easy to explain away."

"But this was a gigantic solid structure."

HERALD EXPRESS, Torquay, Devon, England - Feb. 2, 1983

BULBS BLEW ON UFO NIGHT

TWO Torquay teenagers who claimed to have seen an unidentified flying object over Teignmouth have had their story confirmed by a member of the Exeter UFO Research Group.

Mr James Jeffrey was with a colleague, Mr John Perrett, on Haytor, Dartmoor, conducting a UFO skywatch when a series of bizarre events happened. This was at 6.15 am — the same time the teenagers reported seeing the UFO.

"We did not see anything, but some strange things happened to our car," explained Mr Jeffrey. "Five bulbs blew and there was a strange drumming sound and lot of static on the car radio."

James, 34, has been in-

vestigating UFO sightings for 16 years and has records of between 15 and 20 cases which he cannot explain. He is compiling a log-book which has special reference to Dartmoor.

"We have made many sightings on Dartmoor including objects shooting skywards," he said. "Things have been seen by the police, but they do not like to say anything."

He refutes some people's suggestions that UFOs are merely the invention of cranks.

"We have been doing it long enough to distinguish

between the ordinary and unexplained phenomena. I like to keep an open mind and I do not make wild claims," said Mr Jeffrey.

As reported in the Herald Express, two eighteen-year-olds, Bruce Cowling and Andrew Jarvis, were riding on a motorcycle between Shaldon and Maidencombe when they sighted a large, blue light heading towards the ground.

Bruce said: "It was about 30 feet long and shaped like the body of a firework. It was heading at 45 degrees and left a vapour trail behind it just like a jet."

"It was just like a blue flame. It seemed to land in a field on the landward side of us."

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - March 6, 1983

GREAT UFO RIDDLE

ROME: Italian flying saucer addicts are worried. There has not been a single UFO sighting reported for more than a year. "It's a mystery," said Roberto Pinnotti, President of the UFO Society of Italy. In 1978 there were 700 reported sightings. By 1981

the number had dwindled to a mere 60 and absolutely nothing for 1982 or so far this year. "They seem to have stopped all activity over Italy," said Mr Pinnotti. "and we are worried about what the cause could be. All we can say is that something strange is happening."

CREDIT: Jane Thomas (Translator: R. Heiden)

City and country of incident: Paysandú (department of Paysandú), Uruguay
 Date of incident: March 12, 1982
 Name of paper and date of clip: CRONICA (evening edition), March 12, 1982
 City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A UFO ARRIVED, NOT THE END OF THE WORLD

PAYSANDU (Uruguay), 12 (EFE). -- Thirty or so people who were looking at the sky to watch the planetary alignment and anticipate the results of the so-called "Jupiter effect," in Paysandú, 380 kilometers (236 miles) northwest of Montevideo, only verified the appearance of a "UFO."

At least three times the "unidentified flying object" moved over several neighborhoods in the north of the city of 90,000 inhabitants, as the witnesses asserted that they saw it at different times during the pre-dawn and morning hours today. ("Jupiter effect" was March 10--RNVH)

The report of the appearance of a "UFO" over Uruguayan territory is the first one in the past two years.

The unidentified object disappeared toward the west, in the direction of Argentine territory, after stopping some moments about 160 meters (525 feet) high over the international bridge over the Uruguay River, on the border between the two countries.

One witness, Eulogia Herreras, said that she seemed to see "like two human silhouettes that looked out a type of window." She was the only person who related this experience. The others indicated that the UFO was a luminous sphere that gave off yellowish lights for some moments.

Cities and country of incidents: El Lincen (San Luis) and Añatuya (Santiago del Estero), Argentina

Date of incidents: March 23, 1982
 Name of paper and date of clip: LA RAZÓN, March 28, 1982
 City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

IT SEEMS A UFO LANDED IN A FIELD IN SAN LUIS, AND ANOTHER ONE, IN THE SHAPE OF A CLOUD, MANEUVERED OVER AÑATUYA

SAN LUIS--In yesterday's edition of the San Luis "El Diario," it points out that in the town of El Lincen an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) evidently landed last Tuesday night. According to the different witnesses who saw the event, the UFO, of some 8 meters (26 feet) in diameter with a support base like a tripod, must have landed on property of the Provincial Agriculture Administration, some 3,000 meters (1.9 miles) from national highway number 7. The head of the cited experimental station, Mr. Juan Baltrán, called the event to the attention of the local delegation of the Federal Police, before whose personnel he narrated the event in a sufficiently coherent manner to not leave any doubt as to the truthfulness of the claim. Reporters for the daily, besides observing and photographing the supposed traces left by the UFO, talked with Alicia Rufino, a 12-year-old girl who, along with her parents, must have been the first ones to spot the traces of the supposed UFO, located some 50 meters (165 feet) from their dwelling. With the help of the girl's parents, the reporters of the morning paper could see two equilateral triangles in the flattened joint grass, each about a meter (39 inches) on a side, and also two concentric circumferences, all of which formed a great isosceles triangle with a base of 6 meters (19.7 feet) and two equal sides of 8 meters (26.2 feet). Because of it, in hypothetical reconstruction, the reporters for the San Luis "El Diario" claim that such a figure could have been produced by the landing on that site of some heavy object resting there on three feet, which would coincide with the shape of a supposed UFO. Meanwhile, news from Santiago del Estero gives an account of how, during approximately 15 minutes, the movement of an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) was observed by inhabitants of the city of Añatuya, seat of the department of Taboada. The object, circular in shape, bright, and with many characteristics of an illuminated cloud, slowly crossed the city heading toward parts unknown, until disappearing. The observers point out that the phenomenon did not have beams or flashes of light.

City and country of incident: Caraz (Ancash), Peru
 Date of incident: Nov. 14, 1982
 Name and date of paper: LA RAZÓN, Nov. 15, 1982
 City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A UFO CAME DOWN IN A BULL RING IN PERU, SHOOTING OUT FIRE

LIMA (EFE)--An unidentified flying object (UFO) landed in the bull ring of the town of Caraz, in the northern department of Ancash, which borders that of Lima. According to the Lima daily "Expresso," the descent of the UFO in the bull ring was produced yesterday, the supposed saucer releasing multicolored lights and then flare-ups. The descent took place at night and one person, Wenceslao Motanes, who observed it, shouted to call the neighbors of the place. Then--say the eye-witnesses--the UFO rose up and disappeared toward Huandoy Mountain. According to "Expresso," a military body that it does not specify has sent partícipos from the place where the saucer landed in the middle of the bull ring, to the laboratory of the National Engineering University in Lima for analysis. Traces of the landing that have been found in the arena are now analyzed.

City and country of incident: Nazareno (Salta), Argentina
 Date of incident: Nov. 16, 1982
 Name and date of paper: LA RAZÓN, Nov. 18, 1982
 City and country of paper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE UFO OF NAZARENO

An old ox driver in the distant Salta town of Nazareno claims to have seen a flying saucer that gave off colored lights and had a peculiar sound.

SALTA--Bernabé Abraham Ferreyra, an old ox driver of the town of Nazareno, which can be reached only on the back of a mule, after five hours' travel, related a story about the apparition of a flying saucer, which was reproduced by the local newspaper ("La Voz del NOA." According to Ferreyra, it all began in the wee hours of the morning two days ago, when he saw a bundle of lights rise up from the mountain for woods--the Spanish is ambiguous--R.W.H.J and immediately lose itself on the horizon with its mountain ranges. Troops of the National Gendarmerie who approached the place gathered coincident accounts, and someone even put forth the possibility that the craft--as it is considered a UFO--has been photographed, just at the moment it was taking off. The story stirred up the residents of the place, who spend their time taking care of their plots of land and their flocks, and Ferreyra himself provided as significant data--as the newspaper calls them--that the colored lights that came from the strange craft, as well as the craft's ever-so-strange sound, cannot be compared with anything that he knows.

CREDIT: Michael Hesemann

City and country of incident: Wedel, near Hamburg, West Germany
 Date of incident: February 20, 1983
 Name of paper and date of clip: BILD, February 22, 1983
 City and country of newspaper: Hamburg, West Germany

STRANGE PHENOMENON IN THE SKY: UFO'S OVER THE ELBE-RIVER by Wolfgang Ehrlich

Perplexed promenaders craned their necks at the Elb-boulevard between Rissen and the Wedel Power-Station late Sunday morning. Flying objects which they had never seen before appeared in the sky on the other side of the Elbe River. They were sickle-shaped, with surprising flying motions, changing colors (black, red, orange, yellow, white). Maneuvers of military aircraft? Weather balloons? Mirages?

Diplom-Engineer Richard Kasulke (42) from Rissen is convinced: "I have seen four flying saucers!" His wife Natascha (42; served 15 years as a stewardess

for Russia's "Aeroflot" airlines) and her friend Angelika Kloth (29), who also observed the strange phenomena, agree.

The Puhlsbüttel air traffic control did not have any explanation yesterday. The Central Command for the surveillance of military air traffic, "EUROCONTROL" in Hannover: No missions reported.

German UFO society in Wiesbaden, President Karl Veit (75): "In the last month reports about these objects from the northern part of Germany increased. Mostly they are ball-shaped or flat discs."

Engineer Kasulke ("I do not believe in ghosts") has recorded his observations.

City and country of incident: Kamp-Lintfort, West Germany
 Date of incident: February 23, 1983
 Name of paper and date of clip: NEUE RHEIN-ZEITUNG, February 24, 1983
 City and country of newspaper: Essen, West Germany

"It was no shooting star!" - TERRIFIED BY A STRANGE FLYING OBJECT by Christina Adam

Kamp-Lintfort - They were still terrified when calling our office. Helga van der Velden and her two daughters Ute and Annemarie were nearly ashamed of it and discussed the matter for some hours before deciding to inform the newspaper. The van der Velden family felt threatened yesterday morning at 6 a.m. "by a mysterious flying object" hovering directly above them and disappearing in the direction of a field.

"It was on the way to work," Helga van der Velden reported. She and her daughter Annemarie left their home at the Konradstrabe when 20-year-old Ute started running excitedly in their direction, shouting, "Look, a shooting star is falling from the sky!" In fact, a glowing yellow star-like object came toward them with a tremendous speed and they became anxious. When the thing came nearer, they realized, "That's no shooting star!"

-- Metallic disc with lights

"Suddenly the thing hovered close over us and we could see that it looked like a flat, shining metallic disc, surrounded by yellow lights and passing over with a dull rushing sound, disappearing in the direction of the field," daughter Annemarie told us. "We don't believe in UFOs and such nonsense, but we did experience this in this way indeed." All three women confirmed the sighting and wanted an explanation for the apparition.

-- Düsseldorf air traffic control

A call to the Düsseldorf air traffic control resulted in the response that no Unknown Flying Objects were detected by radar at the time in question. "It's our duty to register each flight from Earth to a height of 8,000 meters," Officer Robert Schulze explained. There must be a logical explanation for the phenomenon at Kamp-Lintfort.

For example, last year the telephone did not stop ringing when dozens of Duisburg people saw a "silver glowing fireball" hovering over the town at night. An aircraft was ordered to the area and a meteorologist solved the mystery. A small snow cloud "snowing" was illuminated by the light of the full moon, resulting in the fireball effect. "The optical appearance of apparitions like this is mostly wrong," the expert of the air traffic control said. It was his idea to call military headquarters in the Niederrhein area to check on nightly exercises and the use of signal rockets, but the response was negative. Nothing like this happened on the night in question.

-- Cinema hit, "E.T."

Asking a recognized scientist, Professor Heinz Kaminski of the Bochum Observatory, for his idea on the strange phenomenon was our last attempt to enlighten the mystery.

"I can assure you there are no such things as UFOs," the Professor stated. Astronomers have photographed the sky for 100 years and have found no trace of life on planets other than our Earth. The cinema hit, "E.T. - The Extraterrestrial," might have activated something in the witnesses' mind. (Helga van der Velden and her daughters have never seen "E.T.") Astronomer Kaminski is convinced there is a "rational explanation" for the Kamp-Lintfort sighting.

The fact remains that in the last few weeks, many people from Moers and Kamp-Lintfort have observed similar phenomena at night and in daytime.

CREDIT: Luis R. Gonzalez

City and country of incident: Between El Rompido and Punta Umbria (Huelva), Spain
 Date of incident: Exact date unknown - December 1982?
 Name of paper and date of clip: GARBO (magazine), No. 1554, January 1983
 City and country of publication: Madrid, Spain

IT WAS A STRANGE TALL BEING, CLAD IN A METALLIC SUIT - RAFAEL PERALTA MET AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL BEING

Rafael Peralta, famous spear-wounder and bull-fighter, has been the witness of another UFO case. GARBO interviewed him at his home in Puebla del Rio (Sevilla), Spain:

- Rafael, tell us how did you meet the UFO?
- I had finished a bull-fighting festival and was driving towards Punta Umbria, where my family was staying, when (about 4:00 a.m.) before a crossing towards Huelva, on the road from El Rompido to Punta Umbria, I saw several flashing lights, red and yellow, on the beach beside the road. I could not see exactly where they were. I stopped my car and walked towards them, thinking it could be a car crash, and wishing to offer some help. When I was about 10 meters from the "accident," I discovered that there was a bright metallic object behind these lights.
- What was the shape of the object?
- Well, a little bit oval. Not exactly oval nor round, with blunt edges, I would say.
- Did you see something or somebody?
- Yes, in front of the object there was a strange tall being, clad in a metallic suit, like a space-suit. It was 2 or more meters tall and very broad. I did not see any arms, but it must have had them. A very strange apparition indeed.
- Could it have been a robot?
- No, it was not a robot; it was more human than a robot.
- Did he tell you something? Did he make any noise?
- Yes, when I came closer, he emitted a noise, a guttural sound, like a short sentence. I was shocked and answered, "What did you say?" At this question, he ran away very quickly and entered the UFO on its left side. Immediately after, the UFO ascended and moved over the sea at great speed. At 15-20 meters high, it just disappeared.
- Did somebody else see it?
- Well, next day I read that some people at the site and also in Cadiz saw it.
- What did you do after the encounter?
- I went home, woke my wife up and told her everything. But I did not want to tell anybody else, you know, they could laugh at me. That night I could not sleep because I was quite afraid.
- And your wife, when you told her, how did she react? Did she believe you?
- Yes, of course. My hair was standing on end and I was very much afraid. Of course, she believed me.
- Did you return to the site?
- Yes, the day after, with daylight. I went to the site with my wife, but we found nothing.
- Did you tell the police?
- No, I told nothing to nobody. But after a few days, I discussed the event with a lawyer, a friend of mine, whose brother is a local newspaper director, and so that was how the event went public.

No need to panic, just phone Mr Gilroy

by TONY POTTER

If you're tramping around the Coromandel and bump into a great big hairy bloke with a receding forehead, no neck, fingers reaching to the knees and a pigeon-toed walk — don't panic.

Instead rush (since we don't know the speed of these things) to the nearest phone and call Rex Gilroy, who will be delighted to hear from you.

Mr Gilroy is the director of the Australian Strange Animals Investigation Centre at the Mount York Natural History Museum in Victoria, New South Wales, and he won't laugh at you, promise.

The phenomena known as "Coromandel Man" is a subject which, Mr Gilroy feels, "has too often been a source of amusement to many

people who have never bothered to properly investigate the matter."

He writes: "As a strange animals researcher... I wish to point out that, strange though it seems, the Maori physical description of the 'Coromandel Man,' or Moehau, compares exactly with that of the American 'Bigfoot,' and Asian Yeti (Abominable Snowman), not to forget New Guinea's Kibornee, or 'hairy devil-man' and the Australian Aborigine's Yowie, or 'great hair man.'"

According to Mr Gilroy, Russian, American and European scientists involved in researching these creatures have long pointed out that the general physical description of them all is identical.

But how did our chappie get to the Coromandel, do I hear you asking?

Mr Gilroy explains: "They (the boffins) suggest these beasts to be a still-living ice-age form of 'relict primate' race related to the extinct giant forest ape species known as Gigantopithecus, which roamed Asia and South-east Asia more than 500,000 years ago at a time when New Zealand/Australia and America were joined by land bridges to Asia. "This would have allowed migration of the creatures into the areas where they are still reported seen."

In case you might mistake old CM for a gold-prospecting hermit who hasn't shaved for a month, here's Mr Gilroy's description: Eight to 10 feet tall, a pointed sagittal crest (skull dome), receding forehead, thick eyebrow ridges, no neck, the head being sunk into the shoulders giving them a stooped appearance,

walking on two legs, arms longer than a man's, fingers reaching to the knees and feet haying opposable big toes, which could account for the funny walk.

"These are primate and not human characteristics," says Mr Gilroy. "If your 'Coromandel Man' was just an old Maori myth, from where did they obtain such a description prior to European arrival?"

CM's habitat may have dwindled to the rugged Coromandel Ranges today, and there may be no more than a dozen or so left, at a guarded estimate, according to Mr Gilroy.

"But sightings do continue to be made, mostly by deer hunters and campers," says our strange animals researcher.

Or do they? To find out what old Coro Man has been up to lately, I called Thames police, a

constabulary with its finger, as they say, on the pulse.

"Coromandel what?" was the local sergeant's reaction. "Never heard of him. Strange sightings? None at all. What's he look like?"

Over to Auckland University, where the Associate Professor of Zoology, Professor Michael Miller, said "I've never heard of it" and passed the inquiry on to Anthropology.

There, Professor Bruce Biggs, suggested that Moehau, the mountain at the northern tip of the Coromandel, is the resting place of the Maori chief, Tama Te Kapua, who was reportedly a very tall chap.

"But I've never heard of this thing — Mr Gilroy seems to have got something garbled," he said.



Coro Man — New Zealand's "Yeti" or another shaggy beast story?



FORTEANA NEWS

STAR, Auckland, New Zealand - Dec. 9, 1982 CR: R. Collins

Nature or early astronaut

Did astronauts park their spacechips in Glover Park, St Heliers, 15 million years ago?

Gregor Potts, of St Heliers (pictured), believes it is possible, and says he has the hardware to back his claim. It all started in 1978 when Mr Potts and a friend were at the park throwing rocks at each other.

Embedded in one of those that fell at Mr Potts' feet was a 5cm disc made of an iron-based material.

Since then rock-hunting has produced a host of other ferrous objects, including this 10cm-long rod made of cylinders sheathed inside each other.

What would be metal and 15 million years old except pieces of an ancient astronaut's spaceship or his rubbish?

It would have to be that age, he says, to become so snugly embedded in the prehistoric rock.

Among his other recent finds are two fine, metallic veins running through the rock which he believes may be electrical wiring. He wants the rock X-rayed to see if it is attached to anything. He is afraid breaking the rock open further will destroy the specimen.

Mr Robin Collins, a neighbour and author of four books on ancient astronauts, believes heart-shaped holes in some of the rocks were burned, perhaps by a laser.

Mr Potts (19) a data processor, plans to search the area in a more scientific way using metal detectors and electronic equipment.

Mr Anthony Wright, a botanist-geologist at the Auckland Institute and Museum, said the metallic objects were "nothing unusual."

A pebble was probably trapped in wet sand. As the sand stone dried, iron was drawn through the rock to the pebble, resulting in the concentrated deposits.

He said Mr Potts had found a good example of this process.



Stone-age transplant

STAR, Auckland, New Zealand - Dec. 2, 1982 CR: R. Collins

CAIRO — A stone-age skeleton from Egypt is about to take a jet-age flight to Washington for a scientific study of its estimated 80,000-year-old frame.

The skeleton was discovered eight months ago near the Egyptian city of Aswan, in the Upper Nile Valley, by anthropologists from the Southern Methodist University of Dallas, Texas, the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Egyptian Geological Survey Department.

A locked room at Cairo's Egyptian Museum has housed the skeleton while Egyptian and American experts worked out an agreement for 12 months of testing at Washington's National Museum.

The agreement will provide American guarantees for its safety and a multi-million dollar insurance policy.

Before tests can start, experts say, the skeleton will have to be extracted from the huge stone block in which it was found, an extremely delicate operation. — NZPA Reuter.

Following in his footprints

SUNDAY JOURNAL ("Magazine"), Providence, RI - Dec. 19, 1982

So why do his friends think he's crazy?

JOSEPH FERREIRA has a steady job, dresses and speaks well, lives comfortably with his wife and nine-year-old daughter in Pawtucket, and has a friendly smile and infectious laugh. An all-around nice, normal guy.

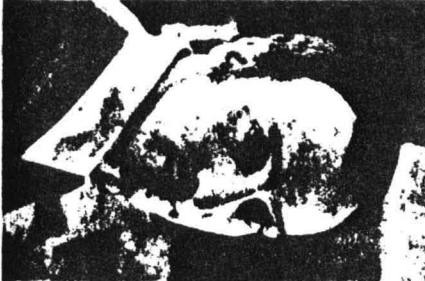


Photo: J. Johnson J. FERREIRA

In April, should his plans hold, Ferreira is heading for the dense jungles of Ecuador in search of Bigfoot, the hairy, mammoth, human-like creature that has been reported in Canada, South America, the Himalayas, Mexico and, Ferreira says, 26 states, including New York.

An amateur anthropologist, Ferreira became obsessed with Bigfoot after reading of a sighting in the Florida Everglades about 10 years ago. Since then, he has read everything available on the subject and done extensive research on the ancient Indians of the Pacific Northwest and South America. He believes that Bigfoot actually may be a member of a tribe of giant Indians living in caves and traveling through underground passages.

Ferreira plans a four-to-six-month expedition with his wife and daughter, two anthropologists, four college students, two workers, a writer/photographer and two local guides.

One guide may be an Ecuadorian Indian named Antonio, whose says his youngest son was killed in 1968 by "huge, hairy creatures." Six months later, Antonio led an archaeologist to the site in the Pecos Valley Mountains, the men fled after reportedly being surrounded by giant, howling beasts. In 1970 the archaeologist returned and entered a dome-like room in a nearby cave. Within minutes, Ferreira says, howling started and the party was bombarded by boulders.

That's where Ferreira plans to travel this spring. "After all," he says, "one sighting's worth a thousand footprints."

Reports of attacks on humans leave our great adventurer undaunted. More frightening is the estimated \$160,000 cost, which Ferreira hopes to raise through colleges, museums, scientific agencies, corporate sponsors and private individuals.

"With a little luck," Ferreira says, "Bigfoot will be mine." Or with a little luck, maybe Ferreira won't be Bigfoot's.

— Jim Johnson

Scientists risk reputations to study creatures

By DOUG ESSER
Associated Press

SEATTLE — It's getting harder for Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster and other such creatures — if they exist — to remain in hiding.

The few scientists who seriously study Sasquatch footprints, sea serpent sightings and similar reports have organized into a scholarly society.

The International Society of Cryptozoology is dedicated to the study of "undetected" animals. Founders say they hope to be a clearinghouse for information — analyzing the findings using scientific standards and publishing articles in a journal.

The founders admit their toughest job may be trying to convince fellow scientists, who are usually leery of hoaxes and "the lunatic fringe," to take them seriously.

Still, a few curious scientists are "coming out of the closet," risking their reputations, and admitting they had an interest in undetected animals all along, a society official says.

"We're trying to start with a clean slate scientifically and hoping most scientists will accept us in the spirit of it we're approaching it," says J. Richard Greenwood, one of the society's founders and now secretary-treasurer and editor of publications.

"There are some strange people out there attracted by these things, you might call the lunatic fringe. Once by these things, you might call the lunatic fringe. Once

Their toughest job may be trying to convince fellow scientists.

those people get involved most scientists say 'Oh my gosh! Look at those nuts. I'd don't want to get involved in that.'

"What happens is a legitimate animal can go undiscovered because scientists purposefully ignore a topic because of the lunatic fringe."

"We're trying to break that vicious cycle," Greenwood said recently in a telephone interview from Tucson, Ariz., where he conducts society business.

Greenwell, formerly with the University of Arizona in anthropology, and Roy P. Mackall, of the University of Chicago department of biology, contacted potential members and founded the society with a meeting last January at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Mackall, society vice president, headed an expedition to central Africa in 1981 to check out reports of a dinosaur-like creature the natives called Mokele-Mbenbe.

The title of president was given to Bernard Heuvelmans, the acknowledged "father" of the science, author of "In the Wake of the Sea-Serpent" and founder of the Center of Cryptozoology in LeBourg, France.

The 15 founders at that Smithsonian meeting, from countries around the world, make up the board of directors. One of them is Grover Krantz, an associate professor of physical anthropology at Washington State University. Krantz has investigated Sasquatch sightings and believes casts of footprints made in northern Oregon, 25 miles southeast of Walla Walla, Wash., last summer, prove Bigfoot exists.

Another founder is Paul H. LaBlond, professor of physical oceanography at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver. B.C. LaBlond has made a survey of sightings of Caddy, a sea serpent-type creature in the waters off British Columbia.

Greenwell says the society has nearly 400 members now. It publishes a quarterly newsletter and plans to publish its journal, "Cryptozoology," early next year.

The lead article will be "What is Cryptozoology?" in the definition, the study of unexpected animals, the word "unexpected" was chosen carefully, Greenwell says. "You can't say the animals are unknown; there are too many sightings. You can't say they are extinct; that means they do not exist. You can say they are unexpected."

"The bigger they are, the more unexpected they are," says Greenwell.

Other articles in the journal will summarize 10 years of research at Loch Ness and the press coverage, which has given the incorrect impression nothing has been found.

Close encounters of a different kind

By Robert C. Cowen
Natural science editor of The Christian Science Monitor

For Mrs. E. V. Sale of Te Ngaere, New Zealand, what happened in her living room during a thunderstorm was like a scene from a Steven Spielberg movie.

Lightning struck nearby. Then a flow of light came in under the door. It settled in a blob beside some metal tools on the floor. "Arms" flowed out of the blob, weaved between the tools, then contracted only to be extended again. Suddenly the blob drew in the "arms" and disappeared under the door. The episode lasted about 15 seconds. There was no sound or odor.

Such is the latest report of a close encounter with a phenomenon that has awed observers for millenniums and baffled scientists for centuries — ball lightning.

The phenomenon is so weird and has resisted explanation so successfully that scientists have traditionally dismissed reports of it as old wives' tales. But an accumulation of reliable accounts, such as that of Mrs. Sale, has convinced many scientists over the past 20 years that they should take ball lightning seriously.

In reporting their investigation of Mrs. Sale's experience recently in Nature magazine, physicists P. W. Burbridge and D. J. Robertson of the University of Auckland emphasize their confidence in her account of what happened late in the evening of Sept. 3, 1981. "Mrs. Sale," they say, "is an amateur astronomer, and impressed us as a reliable

observer."

But believing in the phenomena is not the same as understanding it. "No firm conclusions as to the nature of the body seem possible," the two physicists say.

They speculate that it may have been an electromagnetic phenomenon involving a mass of air and perhaps other lightning-created gases in which small loops of electric current or some other effect behaved as tiny magnets.

They suggest this would be consistent with the blob's motion. It seemed to be guided by the local geomagnetic field as well as by air drafts.

Martin A. Uman of the electrical engineering department at the University of Florida calls this "far-fetched." However, assessing the Burbridge and Robertson report in Nature, he emphasizes that their "observations are of considerable interest."

He explains: "Reports of ball lightning can be found in both ancient and modern literature, and the similarity in described size, color, smell, duration, sound at demise, and physical damage lends overwhelming support to the view that ball lightning is a real phenomenon."

A typical lightning ball is round or oval. Mrs. Sale's flat glob was unusual in this respect. Sizes range from roughly that of a marble to that of a basketball. The ball glows,

lasts a few seconds, and may disappear in an explosion. It can be dangerous and burn objects.

Such balls have entered buildings and aircraft — singeing a pilot's eyebrows in one case. They have been seen by scientists, including meteorologists, as well as by laymen. They have even been implicated in explosions of trucks and tankers that carry petroleum products.

For example, in 1976, I. Ginsburgh and W. L. Bulkley of the Amoco Oil Research Department reported eight such incidents. Typically, what was described as "a ball of light" moved across the deck of a ship or entered a transport truck's tank just before the explosion.

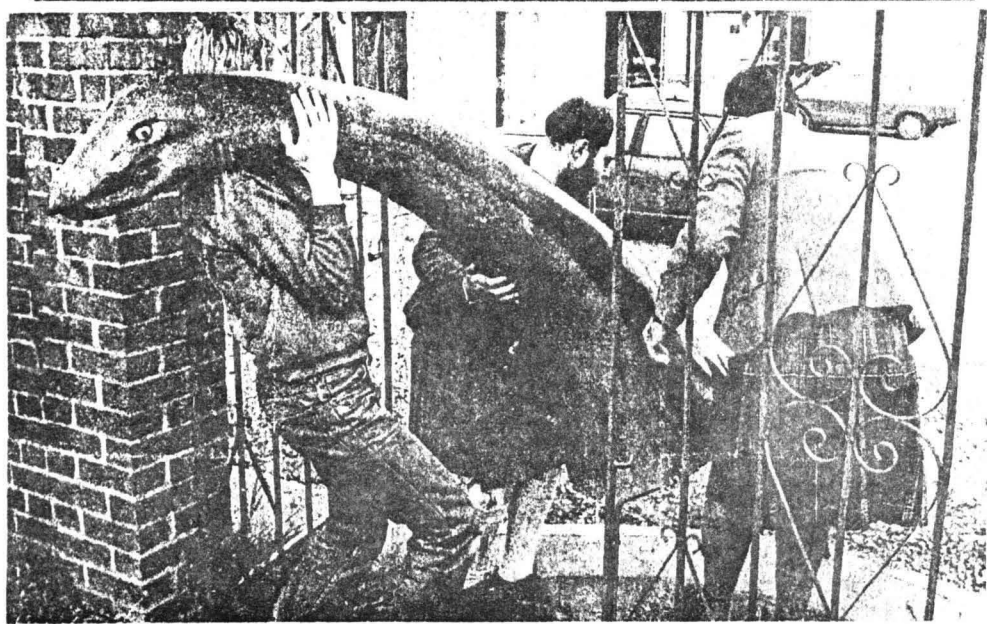
Physicist Paul Davies of the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, has summed up the situation by saying, "It's all very scary, and one wishes the theorists would do a better job in getting to the bottom of it."

In this respect, the situation with ball lightning seems to be just the opposite of that with flying saucers. Well over 90 percent of saucer reports are eventually explained as well understood phenomena, perhaps seen under unusual conditions. Only a few percent are baffling, mainly because investigators don't have enough information to go on.

With ball lightning, on the other hand, many scientists now concede its reality. But so far, they find it to be incomprehensible.

EASTERN EVENING NEWS, Norwich, England - Feb. 4, 1983

COUNTY'S FIRST SIGHTINGS OF MONSTER



NESSIE makes an unorthodox arrival at Old Brewery House Hotel, Reepham.

Hoots mon! Nessie has landed in Norfolk.

The beastie has left the shores of Loch Ness — and arrived at Reepham.

In fact, it is only models, photos, and films of the famous creature — for behind the first sightings of Nessie in Norfolk yesterday is the first and only tour south of the border of the official Loch Ness Monster Exhibition.

Today it opens at Reepham's Old Brewery House — with Nessie forsoaking the cold murky depths of Loch Ness for the comfort of a

It's Nessie in Norfolk!

banqueting hall.

The exhibition spent three years at Drumadrocht beside Loch Ness aiming to get sceptics — Scottish and Sassenach — to take Nessie seriously.

Now it is venturing south for a unique tour in a bid to

find more sponsors and supporters to continue the hunt for the monster, said curator Mr. Anthony Harnsworth.

Britain's foremost expert on Nessie, Dr. Adrian Shine, was on the verge of a breakthrough in proving its existence, he said.

Meanwhile the exhibition shows the evidence so far in 40 displays of video, films, photos, sonar readings and eyewitness accounts — of which there have been 3000 since 1933.

Reports of a fearsome beastie living in the depths of Loch Ness began in AD 600, but it is only in the last half-century that proper research has gone into finding the creature.

The display will be open from 9.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. from today to Monday at the Brewery House, and more than 5000 visitors are expected.

NEW ZEALAND HERALD, Auckland, New Zealand
Dec. 9, 1982 CR: R. Collings

Live Frogs Entombed

Press Assn Hamilton
A Railways bridge gang discovered two frogs while working on the main trunk railway south of Te Kuiti last month.

Under normal circumstances perhaps not a significant discovery, but the frogs were sealed under four metres of rock, and after close inspection were found to be alive.

The "black-as-black" specimens were found at Waimihia — south-east of Te Kuiti — by workmen laying a culvert.

The first frog was found by a member of the gang who was trimming a rock face of sedimentary mudstone with his shovel. He saw the frog in a cavity in the rock, and placed the lump of rock containing the frog on his shovel.

It soon became obvious that the frog was alive after it had been shaken from the rock on to the shovel.

A Railways bridge inspector, Mr. L. Andrews, who was with the gang, said he began to believe the claim when the workman stuck to his story.

The frog was moist, but not exactly bouncing about, he said, and as the gang was busy, the find was left on a bank.

Later the same day another frog in similar condition, was uncovered by the drilling machine which was working at a depth of four metres. Mr Andrews is certain neither frog could have fallen with loose rock.

Before resuming work the frog was placed near a stream, but workmen were unable to find either frog when they checked later.

The phenomenon of live frogs encased in rock is known in the scientific world, though debate has taken place over the age of the frogs.

The professor of biological sciences at Waikato University, Dr J. Pendergrast, said he was certain the Waimihia frogs had managed to crawl through small cracks in the rock, which could later have closed with earth movements.

"Frogs can go into a very quiescent (dormant) state," he said, "and are able to survive for many weeks without food."

Sonic boom is just Mother Nature

By SANDRA SKOWRON
Times Staff

An explosion? An earthquake? Perhaps a flying saucer coming to take E.T. home?

It happened about 1:57 a.m. Tuesday, and it certainly was mysterious. A booming, explosion-like noise was heard from Beaver to Ohioville. Then followed a white light in the sky. Windows rattled. Homes shook. Whole families were awakened.

Minutes after it happened, nervous residents called police stations wanting to know where the explosion was.

No one seemed to know.

Logs show there were no emergency calls for aid or ambulances at the Police Center in Beaver nor at police stations in Midland, Industry and Beaver.

In some areas, sirens went off. Some people feared goings on at the Beaver Valley 1 Nuclear Power Plant.

No, said Ken Scherer, media relations coordinator for Duquesne Light. No problems at Beaver Valley One or Two.

No, said Walt Conover, spokesman for Penn Power. Nothing happened at the Bruce Mansfield coal-fired plant in Shippingport.

But there does appear to be an explanation. No sonic booms. No UFOs. The "explosion" was thunder.

Thunder, you say? In January? Yes, said Chet Hendriksen, meteorologist in charge at the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh. A thunderstorm moved through parts of northern Allegheny, Beaver and Butler counties early Tuesday morning.

The situation is very unusual for this time of year, he admitted. But it was created by a mass of cold air colliding with unusually mild temperatures — for January — which graced the area early this

month.

Tuesday's forecast called for rain and gusting winds. The weather service recorded .24 inches of rain between Monday and Tuesday morning. Tuesday's high was 46 degrees.

Scherer said no outages were reported despite the storm and some unusually brisk winds.

Beaver police got their first call about the noise at 2:02 a.m. Tuesday. Beaver Police Chief Charles Krepps said two patrolmen who heard the noise and saw the light reported it looked like thunder and lightning.

Coral Castle Work Stumps Engineers

By John Platero
The Associated Press

HOMESTEAD — An unrequited love in Eastern Europe, a stonemason's skill and 20 years of solitary labor contributed to the making of Coral Castle — an enduring memorial to one man's lost love.

How Edward Leedskalnin singularly quarried massive chunks of coral, carved them into pieces of furniture and moved them into place in an open courtyard surrounded by a stone wall continues to stump engineers three decades after his death Dec. 7, 1951.

"Ed was a very private man and never allowed anyone to watch him work," said Bob Gross, manager of this historical site that attracts about 75,000 visitors each year.

The Latvian native, Gross said, did much of his work at night so others wouldn't learn how he mastered the science of physics and built his "castle" from perhaps 1,000 tons of coral. Many of the stones he cut and carved are three times bigger than the largest used in the Great Pyramid of Egypt.

Although secretive about his work, Leedskalnin was friendly. When asked how he was able to apply hand tools in manipulating pieces of stone weighing thousands of pounds, he would smile and say he understood the laws of

weight and leverage.

Scientists and engineers equipped with computers are still unable to explain how this 5-foot man, who never weighed more than 120 pounds, was able to carve a 9-foot gate from a single slab of stone, stand it on end and find the exact center of balance so it can be opened or closed with one finger.

Leedskalnin called his place Rock Gate Park, admitting it was inspired by his love for Agnes Scuffs, a 16-year-old girl he was engaged to marry in Latvia, once an independent nation on the Baltic Sea but now part of the Soviet Union.

However, Sweet Sixteen (as he referred to her all his life), rejected him the day before they were to be married in 1913, saying the 10-year difference in their ages made him too old for her.

Brokenhearted, Leedskalnin left his homeland and never returned. His travels took him to Canada and later to California and Texas. A touch of tuberculosis brought him to South Florida around 1918. Two years later, he bought an acre of land 10 miles south of Homestead near Florida City. There he began carving his stone furniture in hopes that Sweet Sixteen would join him one day.

By 1936, population was increasing in Florida City and Leedskalnin purchased 10 acres in a more isolated area. To transport the large carvings to his new home, Leedskalnin made a flatbed trailer from an old truck and had a neighbor haul them to the new site.

The coral furniture is placed in groupings around the open courtyard.

These include a bedroom, bathroom, children's play area, dining room and even a throne room. Surprisingly, there are no chisel marks on the furniture and the chairs, which weigh an estimated 1,000 pounds each, are co-tour-shaped and remarkably comfortable. Many of them are rockers and even a small child has little trouble making them sway.

Rips Through Roof

3-Foot Chunk of Ice Gives Visitors a Chill

By NANCY GRAHAM, Times Staff Writer

Clara Riddle was sitting in the den of her parents' Santa Monica home Sunday night when she and the rest of her family were shaken by what sounded like a loud sonic boom. It wasn't.

When Riddle and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Varady, ran outside, they discovered that the noise actually was the sound of a three-foot-thick chunk of ice that had fallen through the roof of a guest room attached to the Varadys' garage on Pearl Street.

"We didn't know what on Earth had happened," said Riddle, who is visiting from Seattle with her husband and 4-year-old son.

Police speculated that the ice fell from the wing of an airliner. "It is not an uncommon situation. We have these reports all the time," said a duty officer at the Federal Aviation Administration's regional office in Los Angeles.

Ice falling from an airplane usually melts by the time it reaches the ground, the officer said, but sometimes it does not.

Normally, Riddle said, she and her husband sleep in the guest house when they are visiting. But because of the cool weather on Sunday evening, they had decided to sleep inside the main house.

Riddle said the family is keeping a piece of the ice in the refrigerator.

Loud 'boom' unexplained

PAINESVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Weather and aviation officials cannot explain a loud boom reported during the weekend by area residents.

Residents who called police departments and other officials said the boom shook their Lake County homes shortly before midnight Saturday.

In December, residents in parts of Cuyahoga, Medina and Lorain counties reported hearing a loud boom, which never was explained.

Federal Aviation Administration of-

ficials at Oberlin and Cleveland Hopkins International Airport say the sound Saturday could not have been a sonic boom.

"There were no (supersonic) planes in the area at that time," said Kenneth Washington, FAA area manager at Hopkins.

Dale Paddock of the National Weather Service at Hopkins said no atmospheric conditions could have caused the boom at the time.

Police and fire officials in Lake County said callers as far east as Fairport Harbor said the noise sounded like an explosion, but no fires or blasts were reported.

STAR-BEACON, Ashtabula, OH
Feb. 21, 1983 CR: D. Filichis
JOURNAL, Albuquerque, NM - Feb. 1, 1983
CR: P. Hudson

Flying Ice Block Falls Into Home

A chunk of ice, apparently from a passing airliner, punctured Arthur Carr's roof Sunday. Carr surveys the world through the new skylight in his home in Vancouver, British Columbia. There were no injuries.



AP Laserphoto

My Lochness me!

THE first sighting of the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition south of the border was made in St Annes today.

A four-day exhibition of the most conclusive evidence on the controversial subject started at the St Ives Hotel, South Promenade.

The official exhibition, staged permanently on the shores of Loch Ness, today began a 10-week tour of Britain to mark 50 years of modern interest in the elusive Nessie.

Evidence now on show in St Annes includes new material drawn from intensive scientific work carried out last year.

Sonar sightings, videos and photographs are featured as well as a detailed history of many of the 3,000 sightings reported since a main road was opened near Loch Ness in 1933.

Also present, together with items of equipment used in the search, is top naturalist Adrian J. Shine, who has taken time off from the quest to give lectures to parties visiting the exhibition.

More than 250,000 people



Mr Tony Harmsworth, curator of the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition, displays a side scan sonar used for tracking the supposed monster. Assisting are Francesca White and Sheila Davenport next to an impression of the monster by artist William Owen.

have visited the exhibition since it was opened in Scotland in 1980.

Exhibition curator Mr Tony Harmsworth hopes the tour will mark a new era in which more conclusive evidence of Nessie's existence will be found.

"There is certainly a far

more academic approach being made to the subject and it is now attracting more and more leading scientists. It is certainly not a sport for nuts," he said.

It is hoped the current Loch Ness and Morar project will attract new recruits to add to the 130 people who

assisted the search last year.

The exhibition is open from 9.30am to 9.30pm daily until Thursday.

An official opening ceremony performed by Liverpool's Scottish soccer international Kenny Dalglish was scheduled to take place this afternoon.

Sonar Sighting May Be Loch Ness Monster

LONDON (UPI) — The Loch Ness monster may have shown up on sonar tests, scientists searching for the elusive creature said Thursday, but they have no proof the blip on the screen was "Nessie."

The findings, reported in the magazine New Scientist, were another step in the 20-year scientific quest to establish whether the creature is myth or reality.

A total of 40 sonar contacts last year together with rock and marine samples provided "data consistent with the presence of large animals," in the lake in northern Scotland, said Adrian Shine, leader of the Loch Ness project.

So far, whatever is in the loch merely shows up as a curve or a blip on a sonar chart. Scientists are making no rash predictions.

But Shine said scientists now "have a strong data base from which to operate" and find out what the signals mean "perhaps to show that there are monsters, perhaps to find, at least beyond reasonable doubt, that their existence is too unlikely to warrant further study."

The sonar sightings showed something moving vertically in the depths of the loch in the Scottish Highlands. Sonar experts monitoring the search from May to August last year included personnel from Simrad of Norway, "who have the longest commercial experience of horizontal sonar in the world," Shine said.

The latest survey also confirmed the biological conditions for marine life exist in the lake which is deeper than most of the seas around Britain — 660 feet in places.

The water temperature is even at around 43 degrees, high oxygen levels mean life can survive even in the deepest water and fish are abundant to a depth of at least 90 feet.

The Loch Ness "monster" has existed in myth and fable for centuries.

Mystery surrounds disappearance of 2 ships

LOG CABIN DEMOCRAT,
Conway, AR - Feb. 27, 1983

SEATTLE (AP) — Investigators may never solve the mystery of the two modern, sea-tested ships from Washington that were lost in the Bering Sea, says the chairman of a four-man Marine Board of Investigation.

"If we can find nothing wrong with the design, loading and seaworthiness of the vessels, about all we'll have left is a

'Bermuda Triangle,'" Coast Guard Capt. John De Carteret said Friday.

The Bermuda Triangle is an area of the Gulf of Mexico in which ships and even airplanes have disappeared without a trace.

An investigation by two Coast Guard officers and two officials of the National Transportation

Safety Board begins this week in Seattle.

The sea search has been abandoned, and 14 men from the sister ships based in Anacortes are missing and presumed dead.

One vessel, the 125-foot Americus, was seen capsized on Feb. 14, and sank on Feb. 16. The second ship, the Altair, simply was not heard from after both left Dutch Harbor, Alaska, on Feb. 14 for fishing in the Pribilof Islands of the Bering.

De Carteret said investigators are baffled by the fact that neither vessel sent out any radio calls, even from emergency transmitters in lifeboats, and that no trace has been found of the Altair.

The Altair was built in 1980 and went through several years of hard service in the far north, De Carteret noted.

The Americus, which another ship saw sinking in heavy seas, was built in 1978 and went through five years of work at sea in all types of weather, De Carteret said. He said it would be difficult to explain its sudden loss of stability when it capsized

about 40 miles south of Dutch Harbor.

De Carteret said the board would investigate the design of the vessels, the way in which each was loaded for the 220-mile trip to the Pribilofs, weather and sea conditions.

The board will take three days of testimony in Seattle beginning Tuesday, then reconvene for two days of testimony in Dutch Harbor beginning March 8. De Carteret said a Coast Guard investigator from Anchorage is already gathering information at the scene of the disappearances.

A Marine Board of Investigation is convened only when a sinking involves the loss of six or more lives, the loss of a vessel of more than 100 gross tons, and property damage of more than \$50,000. De Carteret said. Board members are De Carteret, Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Paul Larson, and Doug Rabe and Herb Collins of the NTSB.

The Coast Guard investigates all fishing vessel sinkings, including the nine boats that have disappeared in northern waters during the past winter, De Carteret said.

TIMES-PICAYUNE, New Orleans, LA
Feb. 27, 1983 CR: D. Lebat

Tremors shake Miss. Gulf Coast

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — Three mysterious tremors rocked the Mississippi Gulf Coast Saturday, knocking goods off shelves in stores and rattling windows.

An earthquake expert in Alabama said the tremors that occurred from Bay St. Louis to Ocean Springs seemed to be atmospheric in origin, and probably were not earthquakes.

A Harrison County Civil Defense official said Keesler Air Force base here told him four F-4 fighters were spotted on radar over the Gulf about the time of the tremors.

An official of the Louisiana Air National Guard, who refused to identify himself, said the four planes broke the sound barrier as they flew over the Chandeleur Islands, about 25 miles offshore.

Louisiana Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud Jr. said he did not think the planes were from Louisiana.

"I have no reports of any unusual activities involving the Louisiana Air National Guard," said Stroud.

"The French doors, they just shook, shook, shook," said Sophie Hatten, a resident of nearby Lyman.

"There was no noise with it and no explosion," Hatten said. But others reported hearing a thunder-like noise prior to the three tremors, which spread out between noon and 1 p.m.

"It was incredible," Enid Yonko said. "I got in the shower and it happened again, and I got scared. I could just imagine the earth swallowing us up."

An employee of Superior Fastener Co. in west Biloxi said the doors in the plant "shook like crazy."

An earthquake expert at Spring Hill College in Mobile, the Rev. Louis J. Eisele, said his seismograph detected the disturbances.

"Normally, an earthquake of sufficient magnitude to give me readings would have been recorded a longer time," he said.

Eisele said he believed the shocks were caused by disturbances in the atmosphere reflected down to the earth's surface.

"I don't have any idea of what the origin was, but it could have been 100 or more miles away," he said. "This was more in the nature of an atmospheric disturbance. You could call it a sonic boom, but the frequency is too low to be heard."

Geophysicist Bruce Presgrave at the U.S. Geological Survey's earthquake monitoring center in Colorado said they received calls about the tremors, but monitoring equipment showed nothing.

"There's a possibility it's below our threshold, but I seriously doubt there are earthquakes in the area," he said.

He said equipment would show any quake that measured 2.0 or above on the Richter scale.

Terry Thompson at the Edgewater Shopping Mall Merchants Association in Gulfport said shoppers became agitated when merchandise started falling off the shelves, but there was no damage.

Word on lake monster spreads

By ROBIN MEADE

An Endicott native who has spent the last eight years searching for serpent-like creatures in Lake Champlain is hoping to spread the word about "Champ," the reputed Lake Champlain monster.

Champ Channels, a four-page newsletter due to be published three times a year, is designed to seriously discuss the Champ phenomenon, said Joseph W. Zarzynski, the author and dedicated Champ spotter.

"I wanted to get the information out to the public and to the established academia and I thought the newsletter was the best way to disseminate information on the Lake Champlain zoological mystery," Zarzynski said yesterday.

Zarzynski, 32, a graduate of Union-Endicott High School and SUNY-Binghamton, formed the Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation after he moved to Wilton in 1974 to become a ninth-grade social studies teacher at nearby Saratoga Springs.

He has spent countless hours watching the waters of the lake and has made six trips to Loch Ness in Scotland to research "Nessie," a similarly mysterious beast.

"When I first moved to Wilton I did a lot of reading and one of the books was about Loch Ness. Then a colleague said that I shouldn't worry about that when we have our own mystery

right here," he said.

Zarzynski began with armchair research but then progressed into lake watches, scuba and sonar detection work.

There have been several reported sightings of Champ, and the animal is mentioned in Indian legend. Samuel de Champlain logged a sighting of a 20-foot long serpentine creature in the early 1600s and reports continue today. The heyday of Champ watching was in the late 1800s, when P.T. Barnum offered a \$50,000 reward for the carcass.

Zarzynski believes there is probably a community of animals in the 400-foot deep lake but he has never seen them.

"The newsletter is an attempt to address and seriously discuss the Champ phenomenon," he said.

The first issue is due out in April and will be published again in August and in December. If the newsletter is successful, Zarzynski hopes to expand to a quarterly publication.

Zarzynski said a similar publication about the Loch Ness mystery has about 200 subscribers worldwide.

"I am hoping to have a little bit more, such as information about the environment and ecology of the lake and some things on Loch Ness as well. It's not a commercial venture, I am just hoping to break even," he said.

SUN BULLETIN, Binghamton, NY - Feb. 15, 1983
CR: J. Zarzynski