

# UFO

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ENTERPRISE, Beaumont, TX - June 7, 1983

## 'Big silver star' gives rise to UFO thoughts

By DAVID WIDENER  
Staff writer

The star-shaped, floating object moves swiftly and soundlessly through the air, giving off a periodic glow, following and troubling a group of Vidor residents and baffling weathermen, air traffic observers and police.

Delores Cherry, 52, of Vidor, who has seen and described in detail what she calls an unidentified flying object. Others reported having spotted the object in the past 10 days, but, so far, the reports have received no official confirmation.

"We've been kind of afraid since we've seen it so much," Cherry says. "It's kind of like it's following us."

Cherry, her nephew Byron Cole, her sisters Joann McIntyre and Wilma Cole and Cole's two daughters say they have seen it hovering at midnight in the Sandra Lane area. Cherry and McIntyre say they first spotted it 10 days ago following them as they drove west on Interstate 10. Cherry says the object disappeared at Farm Road 105.

Witnesses said the object resembled a star and had three rounded protrusions similar to points on a star.

"At first I thought it was a great, big silver star," Cherry says. "It's not a weather balloon and it's certainly not a star."

Officials at Jefferson County Airport and the National Weather Service say no unusual sightings showed up on radar Sunday night, despite a report of an unidentified flying object in the Vidor area.

The object first was spotted on Sandra Lane, just off Farm Road 105 north of the Vidor city limit. Witnesses say the UFO stayed in the area two hours, from 9 to 11 p.m., leaving only when a helicopter or small plane arrived at the scene. None of the witnesses knew what kind of helicopter it was or who sent it.

David Watson, the patrolman from the Vidor Police Department who responded to the call, said he stayed at the scene 30 minutes.

"In my opinion, it was clouds passing in front of a real bright star," Watson said. "It would be real bright, then it seemed to disappear."

Watson said he neither saw nor heard any helicopter or other aircraft in the area where the UFO was reported.

The Texas Highway Patrol does have a helicopter it can dispatch from Houston, but a spokesman said one was not sent to the scene.

"Our log indicates nothing unusual showing up on radar at the time of the sighting," says Harold Edwards, air traffic control tower manager at the airport.

"Our radar will not show or pick up anything below 1,000-foot altitude," says Edwards, "so, it's still possible something may have been in that area. We only work helicopters that are landing or coming in to our airport."

Fred Wesley was on duty at the National Weather Service when the call of a UFO came in about 10:30 p.m.

"I checked the Lake Charles and Galveston radars, and there were no unusual sightings," he says. "The weather was mostly clear at that time with visibility for seven miles, so one of the airports would have had to pick up any aircraft in the area."

Wesley says no weather balloons were in the area Sunday night.

He reported scattered cloud covers at 1,000 feet and said the sighting could have been a reflection on one of those clouds from a truck or big spotlight on the ground.

"But you can't really discount the report," says Wesley. "The people seemed reliable, and the weather conditions were favorable to see a great distance."

Some of those witnessing the sighting Sunday night say they have seen a strange object in the sky several times over the past 10 days.

"Nobody believes anything like this, and you get laughed at, so no one wanted to report it at first," says Cherry. "I've seen it four times, twice coming back at night from Orange. It's really weird. I'd just really like to know what it is."

"It puts off red and blue vapor and has a glow around it at times, but it makes no noise."

McIntyre, saw it for the first time Sunday night.

"It looked like a light and was moving fast, but you couldn't tell what shape it was," she says.

Another relative, Georgette Cole, finally reported the sighting.

"My husband went out to get some cigarettes from the car and spotted it," says Cole. "There were about 14 of us at my grandmother's house. No one wanted to report it because they knew they would get laughed at. I decided to do it so I called the Vidor police."

Cole says the object beamed brightly and had three points on it.

"It appeared to be round and sparkled all around," she says. "It moved sideways and up and down and stayed in the area until the helicopter came. They both disappeared then."

McIntyre said she could only assume the craft that arrived in the area was a helicopter. "All I could see was the lights, but it looked and sounded like a helicopter. It was moving slow like one."

Vidor Police Chief Butch Reynolds said his department sent the officer to the scene after receiving a call about the sighting. He said the department had received no calls about UFOs before Sunday night.

GAZETTE TELEGRAPH,  
Colorado Springs, CO - May 24, 1983

### Afraid to report sighting UFO

I was pleased to see the article about the two men who sighted a UFO and reported it. I did not have the courage or whatever to report the one that my husband and I saw a couple of months ago. It didn't look the same. It was just a bright orange light. It came from the north and we encountered it right outside Woodland Park heading east on U.S. 24. It zigzagged quite abnormally and then took off towards the Peak. I think it is very interesting there would be more than one type of craft that people would spot. I wish more people had the nerve to report them. My husband and I felt that since it was 12:30 a.m., everyone would act like we were coming home drunk. My husband and I don't have a drinking problem, so I believe it could be a UFO.

## UFO researchers trace extraterrestrials skeptically

HERALD, Loveland, OH - July 21, 1983 CR: R. Schaffner

Don't laugh. It's a hobby taken very seriously by two men in Loveland. Investigating unidentified flying objects is Ron Schaffner's passion and self-developed forte. The head of the Ohio UFO Investigators League (OUFOIL) believes in extraterrestrial and unidentified earth creatures, but not every story that comes along.

"I grew up in the fifties, when science fiction was really big," said the 32-year-old who has been investigating unexplained phenomena for 12 years. "When I first got into it, I used to believe everything I heard."

Now his curiosity is rooted in skepticism. He subscribes to the current popular "federal hypothesis" that many UFO sightings in the 1950s were actually military experiments. "Even today, in Ross, Ohio, in 1977 and '78, there were triangular shape sightings all over the country," he thinks they may have been Harrier jets.

Locally, the most recent sighting was in Maineville in January 1983. A bell-shaped light was seen hovering over Foster-Maineville Road. Schaffner believes it was actually a corona discharge from some power lines. "I think the frog story has something in it," he said. Schaffner

never researched the Loveland frog sighting by two police officers in March 1972, which was later presumed to be an iguana. "It's unlikely that there was an iguana in that weather," Ted Ogden, of Symmes Township, has been a member for three years. "I have always wondered what was out there in space. I've always wanted to go to the moon," said Ogden. He's seen several UFOs himself.

As one of the investigators, Ogden's talents as an amateur photographer come in handy, both in the field and in the dark room. Since he's self-employed, he doesn't have much time to devote to on-site investigations, but does participate in UFO-ology conventions, picking up lots of stories.

UFO investigators, like everyone else, have to accept life's disappointments and frustrations. With hundreds of stories about UFOs to fuel their enthusiasm and curiosity, coming to a dead end can be discouraging.

"It's very hard to get hard facts — facts (about which those in the scientific world would scratch their heads and say 'I don't know,'" Ogden said.

But not finding a real UFO or other unexplained phenomena is no reason to despair. Schaffner said, "If they turn up a hoax, or

find a logical explanation, that means they've done their job as investigators," he said.

The league takes a professional approach to their UFO investigations, using forensic techniques and laboratory testing. Schaffner said two years ago the league studied the Mutual UFO Investigators Manual. After the course, they took a six hour test on a mock landing investigation. Among the 12 Cincinnati area members is an anthropologist from the University of Cincinnati.

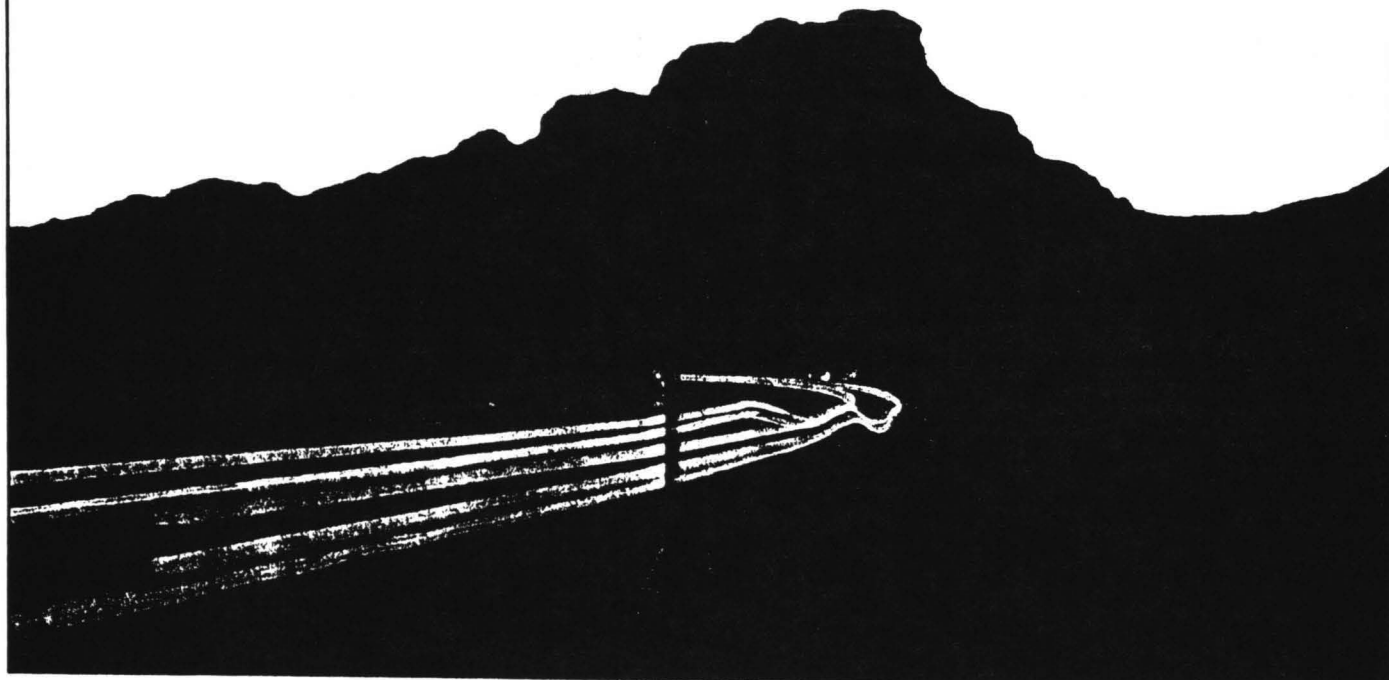
Their league belongs to the North American Federation of UFO-ologists. As part of the federation, the league is trying to

establish investigating standards. "It's a very unusual field — many disagreements, egos, and differences of theory," Schaffner said.

The local club recently held a meeting in June at Stuffin's Restaurant. Former Loveland UFO investigator Charles Wilhelm presented a slide history of UFO sightings, and a hypnotist explained how his field can be used for UFO investigations. Schaffner publishes the Creature Chronicles, with a world wide circulation of 100, and the OUFOIL Newsletter. OUFOIL's mailing address is P.O. Box 335, Loveland, Ohio, 45140.

# CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

of the mysterious kind



## Groups investigate UFO sightings

**L**onely stretches of highway curve past jagged mountains. An eerie glow cast by the setting sun inspires thoughts of mysterious happenings portrayed in such films as *Close Encounters* and *E.T.*

Driving along the highway, you scan the twilight sky, wondering whether extraterrestrial creatures actually exist. Just how would you react if a spacecraft with flashing red lights suddenly swooped down overhead?

Are accounts of UFO abductions merely the invention of people seeking attention? Or are we regularly visited by

aliens? If so, do they view us as lower level specimens for scientific study, or are they our "Big Brothers in Space" sent to save us from ourselves?

During the past 30 years, intense interest in UFOs has spawned numerous groups around the world, ranging from skeptics who doubt the existence of extraterrestrial life to those who form religious cults based on the belief that benevolent aliens will help save humanity. Representing the middle ground are scientific-oriented groups who document and investigate sightings.

By Pat Conner  
Staff writer

**A**t 7:30 p.m., April 1, 1981, Paris David Colorado and a friend were driving across a sparsely populated area of Oregon when they spotted three bright stars on the horizon.

Suddenly the "stars" darted straight up, shooting out a blue-gray light, Colorado said. As he approached the top of a hill, he stopped the car. The "stars" were attached to a spacecraft the size of a 747.

He tried to put the car in reverse, but it wouldn't move. The gear shift started jumping back and forth, then a spotlight shone through the gray light onto the highway, said the Fountain Hills resident.

"At that point, someone told me, not speaking in a voice, but inside my head: 'Relax, take it easy, we're going to come to you,'" the salesman said.

As the object moved down the highway, Colorado and his companion were pulled towards the windshield slightly, he said. The next thing he remembered, streaks of light shot into the sky. Looking at his watch, Colorado realized three hours had elapsed.

Since then, Colorado said he has been visited regularly by space creatures who teach him during his sleep.

Similar stories of UFO encounters were plentiful during a UFO Contactee Conference two weeks ago in Safford, about 180 miles southeast of the Valley. The conference was sponsored by the UFO Contact Center International, which was headquartered in Mesa until last week.

Directors Dan and Aileen Edwards founded the organization two years ago while living in Seattle. The couple left Mesa last week for Washington state, although they were reportedly in the midst of jobhunting in Arizona, said Helen Charbonneau, president of the Safford chapter. She expects the Edwards to return in mid-August to live in Safford.

The UFO Contact Center International has 32 branches in the United States and 8 foreign countries. All centers are run independently.

During the conference, a Georgia psychologist, who had recalled her abduction story under hypnosis, related that she had been abducted, then examined by a reptilian-like creature. "As horrible as this creature was physically, what I found out about him, what emanates from him is the deepest compassion and love that I have probably ever felt."

The psychologist said she was taken to his planet. "They told me to lead people to their feelings, that this will help to heal the split mankind suffers from. I have taken that direction," she said.

This sense of mission characterizes most of the contactees, the Edwards told the Safford audience. Symptoms include dreams of UFOs, visitations by aliens, unexplained lights, unexplained marks on the body, sudden development of ESP, buzz or beep in the ear before sleeping, feelings of being adopted, feelings of being alone on earth and lesions or lumps denoting implants.

"All have implants — some type of tracking device," Aileen Edwards said. "They (aliens) can find you anywhere. I have one in my leg."

A unity of thought has developed throughout the contactees, her husband said. "Not that their stories are the same, but the way they feel is the same. They all feel they have a job to do, a direction to go," he said, stressing that it was not a religion.

"They're not really sure what it is, but as they come together, information comes to light. We're working with a large puzzle. Each contributes a piece as we come together. It must be done because time is short. I'm not trying to scare anyone, because there's nothing to fear, but we must find our direction," he said mysteriously.

Edwards wore a turquoise ring and bracelet and bola tie with an abalone eagle. His blue eyes searched the crowd as he pronounced each word fully and slowly, pausing for effect.

"For many generations, the Indians have been warning about how Mother Earth has been raped," he said. "I can explain to you how a cataclysm is coming. It's irreversible. You cannot change it, and it's because of what man has done," he said.

"Oil is being drawn out of caverns, which are shock absorbers. As these shock absorbers are being drained out, the friction is building between these plates. As the friction builds, the river of lava is also increasing. You have volcanos going off in Alaska. You have volcanos going off in Washington, Oregon, California, Mexico, South America, Japan and also in Hawaii. They cannot vent the buildup of lava taking place," he said.

"The UFOs have told us over and over again they are trying to hold it off as long as possible. They no longer can do it. The top plate is vented by the volcano. The bottom plate is not. The bottom plate in time is going to burn away. The top plate is going to fall. It's irreversible. All the white light energy in this room and in this world cannot stop what is coming. It has been predicted biblically, by the Maya Indians, Nostradamus, Edgar Cayce — all down through history it has been predicted.

"You're living in the generation that it's going to happen," he said. "There are steps being taken to preserve humanity. It's as simple as that. There is

a universal law of peace, love and brotherhood that's developing within the contacts right now. But the contacts have been held until now to come awake. 'Why?' is a vital question. It is time to share, to put it together."

Contactees are being led to a gathering, the Edwards said. "We know there's a place we're to go. And we have been told the name. We don't know the exact location, but we've been given the coordinates," Aileen said. "They're going to be the preservers of humanity after the cataclysm."

**T**he Edwards' beliefs are not shared by all UFO groups. Robert Gribble, founder of the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, takes a more scientific approach.

"We attempt to approach it using scientific methods, whereas unfortunately the Edwards' contact center isn't using this type of approach," Gribble said. "They organized their contact center when they were in Seattle for the specific purpose of giving people who claim to have had contacts a place to assemble and talk about their experiences, which is fine, but it doesn't go far enough."

"These claims have to be investigated and studied, and this is not happening. I would say they get together and discuss their own particular experiences," said Gribble, who knew the Edwards when they volunteered at his center.

"They put their foot in an area none of the large scientific organizations or any scientists are going to touch because the press will pick up this type of information and make a funny story out of it and of course it reflects on the whole subject. We're trying to stick to scientific methods, and unfortunately they are not."

Gribble, a retired fireman, established the national 24-hour hotline and research organization in 1974. He is also the founder of Phenomena Research.

After getting a call, Gribble notifies an investigator who goes to the home of the person who made the report. Researchers are volunteers who absorb their own expenses.

"We give top priority to close encounters of the first kind, where a vehicle comes within 500 feet of witnesses," he said. "In a close encounter of the second kind, the vehicle has left behind some type of physical trace — impressions in the ground, snapping off of tree limbs, leaving burn marks, any radiation, so forth. Or it's a case in which the presence of the object has caused severe electrical interference."

(continued on page 3)

A close encounter of the third kind involves reported sightings of occupants at landing sights, Gribble said. These cases also receive intense investigation.

Gribble estimates about 85 percent of the reports can be identified, five percent can't be categorized and 10 percent are classified as "unidentified."

On Oct. 23, 1980, two employees at Phelps-Dodge Corporation in Morenci spotted a boomerang-shaped object approaching the smelter area.

The vehicle stopped over the north smoke stack, then dove down vertically, hovering at about 700 feet from the ground. A brilliant light was beamed into the stack, witnesses told investigator Jim McCoy.

The craft then moved to the south smelter stack, where the process was repeated. The light turned off and the craft headed toward Safford, when it unexpectedly reversed course and headed back toward the smelter area. The craft was seen by five copper workers, several Morenci businessmen and 100 members of the Morenci High School band.

Investigator McCoy had been dispatched by Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO), headquartered in Tucson.

Coral Lorenzen founded the international organization in 1952. She is secretary/treasurer and husband Jim is director of the 1,200-member non-profit organization.

"We've tried to be careful to keep this on a professional level," Jim Lorenzen said. "Because of the nature of the subject, it attracts a lot of curiosity seekers, also people who want attention. So quite a number of self-appointed experts have cropped up who have nothing substantial to offer, except maybe sensationalism and gobbledygoo."

"We feel most of the other organizations have fallen victim to it because they like the excitement and social aspect of rubbing elbows with people who have wild tales to tell. This has a detrimental effect on the research field in general."

"The element that tries to make religion out of this has always been a problem for scientific research because they require no verification," he said. "They try to relate everything usually to scriptural material."

Lorenzen said this appeals to people who find traditional religion inadequate in today's world.

"The space age is on us, so space-age messiahs naturally have an appeal — or space-age saints or big brothers," he said. "They're playing the same role in this pageantry that saints and angels played in earlier times."

EVENING TIMES, Palm Beach, FL  
July 28, 1983 CR: B. Pratt

## Average American

Lowell Smith



Q: — With all of the interest in outer space, I'm still far from convinced that there are extra terrestrial beings watching our every move. What are the latest surveys on Americans feelings on E.T.'s and UFO's. — Art M., Livermore, California.

A: Current national surveys report that 51 percent of Americans accept the idea that we humans are not alone in the universe. Only one American in three rejects the idea. When it comes to UFO's, 57 percent of Americans believe in them and one American in 11 claims to have seen a UFO.

# UFO reported in county

A 36-year-old woman told *The Mississippi Press* she saw something, "definitely not an airplane", which at one point hovered over the rear of her truck in the Big Point area late Wednesday night.

Mrs. Kathy Wiggins said she left her mother's house, located next to a new power substation on Big Point Road just off Mississippi 613, about 10:45 p.m. Wednesday. She said she saw lights which, she first thought, were reflections in the glass of her truck.

She said the lights, two red ones and a white one, were from an object she saw hovering over the substation. She said she stopped the truck and turned off the engine, intending

to get out of the vehicle and investigate the source of the lights. When she stopped the truck, she said, the lights moved from over the substation toward her truck where the object hovered over the rear of the vehicle.

Mrs. Wiggins said her seven-year-old daughter, Denna, saw the lights and became hysterical. Instead of getting out of the truck, she said, she drove to the nearby home of her sister, Joan Haniel, to get the hysterical child into the house.

She said that when she arrived at her sister's house, the lights were hovering over the pecan trees there. She said she took Denna into the house. Then, she and her sister went to look out the back door. She said the object "swished" away and the lights went out.

She said the lights were "very bright" and were in sort of a circle.

"There was no sound there (while the lights were right over the rear of the truck) or at my sister's," Mrs. Wiggins said. "There was no shape visible, just the lights."

"I wasn't scared at all but my daughter thought the thing was going to get her," she said.

Mrs. Wiggins said Charles Hester who lives near her mother's house was talking on the telephone about 11 p.m. when he heard "such a horrible noise that he thought a plane had landed on his house." Hester, she said, was unable to see anything that might have caused the noise which was so loud that he could not hear the person he was talking to on the telephone.

TIMES, Washington, DC - July 29, 1983 CR: F. Whiting & W. Leet

## Judge dismisses lawsuit; rules no E.T.s in D.C.

BY A WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF WRITER

A federal judge in Washington yesterday dismissed a suit demanding that the U.S. Air Force produce the bodies of outer-space aliens who allegedly crashed landed in the New Mexico desert.

The suit, filed by Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, asked U.S. District Court Judge Oliver Gasch to compel the Air Force to produce the alien bodies alleged to be in their possession. It said holding them, if they are still alive, is "an unwarranted deprivation of their right to travel."

The suit — which the plaintiffs entitled "A Writ of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial" — included a copy of a purported FBI document dated March 22, 1950, that said: "An investigator for the Air Force stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico" and that the bodies of nine small beings were recovered.

Larry W. Bryant, who represented the group in its suit, said the document was obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request several years ago.

An approved writ of habeas corpus, which in Latin means literally "you have the body," compels the state to present a person being held against his will and to

give the legal justification for holding him.

Bryant introduced another document submitted by Leonard Stringfield, a retired Cincinnati businessman, who says former military personnel have told him the extraterrestrials were held at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio.

When asked by Gasch whether Stringfield had actually had contact with any of the extraterrestrials, Bryant replied, "No." Gasch then ruled the evidence "hearsay."

"The judge was looking for affidavits from people who've actually seen the extraterrestrials," Bryant said.

In dismissing the suit, Gasch held with the government lawyer representing the Air Force, Assistant U.S. Attorney Royce Lamberth, who said Bryant's group "had not suffered any injury and had no authorization to represent the alleged extraterrestrials."

The judge also agreed that his court lacked jurisdiction because a writ of habeas corpus must be brought in the



district where the person is being held, Lamberth said. "No claim was made the alleged extraterrestrials were being held in D.C.," he said.

Bryant said he was considering appealing the case to the U.S. Court of Appeals, but added he may seek evidence to back up his claims through another information request. He has 60 days to file his appeal.

Bryant, an Alexandria resident, is director of the group's Washington office. Total membership, he said, is about 100.

GAZETTE, Gastonia, NC - July 31, 1983 CR: G. Fawcett

## Pentagon won't have to release E.T.

By Lance Gay

Shripps-Howard News Service

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has ruled he doesn't have the jurisdiction to order the Pentagon to release E.T. — even if the generals and admirals have any extraterrestrials pickled in jars or imprisoned in secret research laboratories.

Larry W. Bryant, who brought the lawsuit seeking the release, says he doesn't know where E.T. is either and thus admitted he is in a quandary over where he's going to find a court that might have jurisdiction.

"I'm going to study the appeal process, if there is one," Bryant said Thursday after a 20-minute hearing attended by snickering court clerks.

U.S. District Court Judge Oliver Gasch dismissed the "habeas corpus extraterrestrial" Bryant filed against the Air Force after assistant

U.S. Attorney Royce Lamberth argued Bryant could not offer proof that the bodies of any E.T.'s were anywhere in the Washington area.

Writs of habeas corpus — court orders to the government to release persons held illegally and against their will — must be filed in courts that are responsible for the areas where the offense occurred.

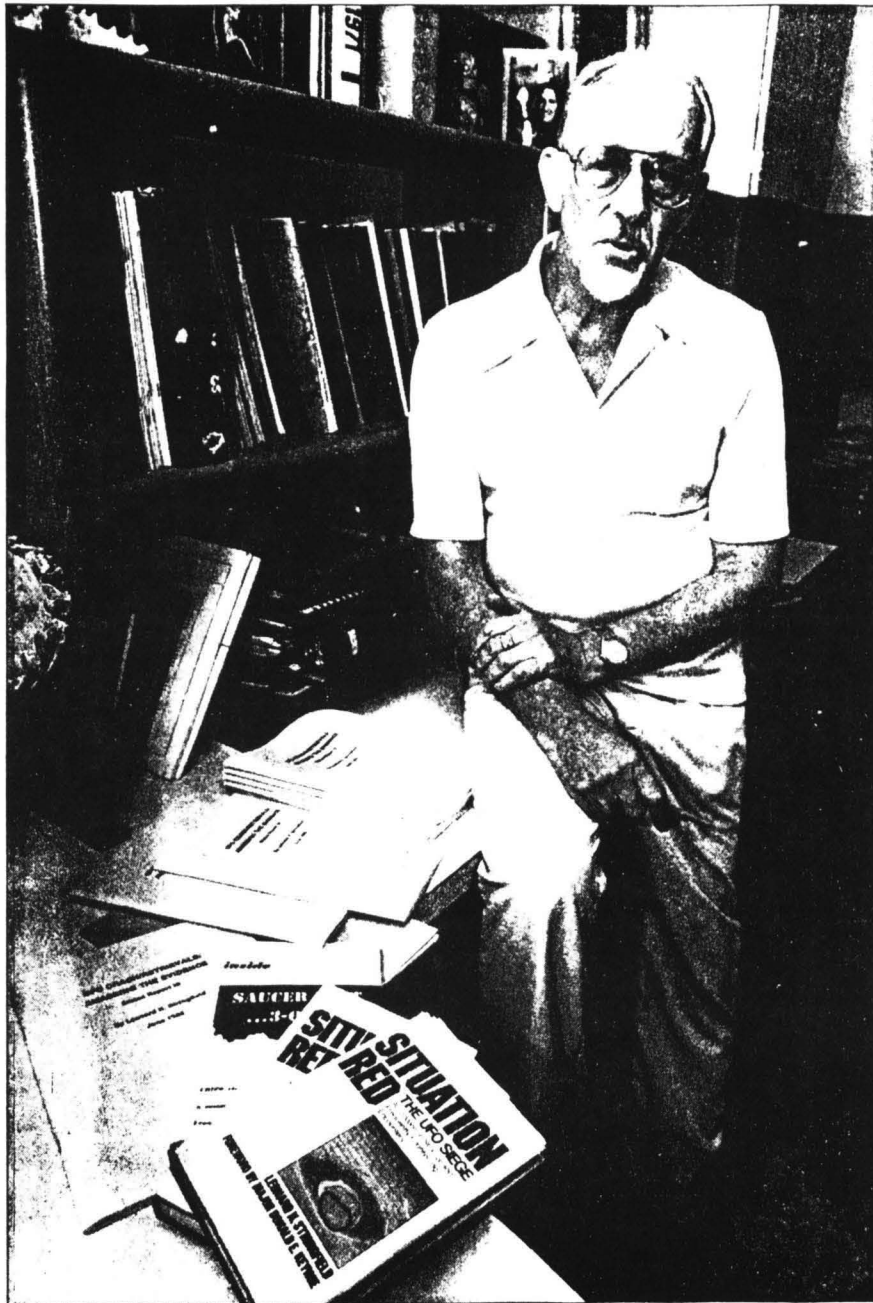
"I don't know where they are," Bryant said, pleading with the judge to consider the extraordinary nature of the case he filed on behalf of an organization called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy. Bryant cited a sanitized 1950 FBI memo which quotes an Air Force investigator as saying three flying saucers crashed in New Mexico with extraterrestrials aboard.

Philip J. Klass, an editor with Aviation Week

and Space Technology magazine here who has spent 20 years tracking the UFO phenomenon, scoffed at the idea there was any validity to the FBI report.

But Bryant told the judge that UFO researcher Leonard H. Stringfield of Cincinnati has told him he has six witnesses to the crash, including a doctor who did an autopsy on the bodies. Stringfield, he said, has done five years of research into crashed saucers and could give evidence that bodies from the flying saucers "were spirited away someplace."

He asked Gasch to allow him time to get an affidavit from Stringfield, but the judge rejected this after Bryant admitted that it would be only hearsay evidence.



Enquirer Photo BY MARK TREITEL

LEONARD STRINGFIELD doesn't downplay the significance he sees in his research into UFOs and extraterrestrials.

*"What I've collected has staggering implications for mankind. This would be the biggest thing since Christ, really."*

## Author Continues Quest For Truth About UFOs

BY CAMILLA WARRICK  
Enquirer Reporter

Never in his 30 years of researching nature's unexplained phenomena has Leonard Stringfield demanded that people believe him.

He's courted neither the faith of the gullible nor the zeal of the convinced. Even now, as he unveils his most startling pronouncement, he points out he has no proof, only compelling testimonials.

Stringfield, a longtime student of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) and an authority on the subject, said he has interviewed 23 first-hand witnesses to the crashes, retrievals or subsequent storage of such spacecraft.

More to the point, he said, "In most instances there were bodies in them that were found dead and sent away for medical research."

**IS STRINGFIELD** suggesting humanlike extraterrestrials? Absolutely.

"What I've collected has staggering implications for mankind," he said calmly while sitting in his Mariemont living room. "This would be the biggest thing since Christ, really."

Stringfield has made this allegation before. But when he described his early findings five years ago to an audience in Dayton, he didn't have the volume of witnesses that has since surfaced. His evidence is based on the reports of sources that include two physicians, a pilot in the Air National Guard Reserves, a Central Intelligence Agency official and about 100 other people.

He elicited the most sensitive and bizarre information only after agreeing that the identities of his informants would be carefully guarded. Although the pact was essential, Stringfield said he fears that the resulting text—without names and specific addresses—may be dismissed by some people as fantasy, particularly by the national media.

Stringfield's collection of anecdotes, strung together in his spare time and now during his retirement from DuBois Chemicals, is described in *Situation Red*, published in 1977 by Doubleday, and in additional books published independently. These publications, he said, inspired the recent filing of a petition that asks the U.S. District Court in Washington to force the Air Force and U.S. attorney general to release more information about UFO crashes. It gives them until mid September to respond.

"**HIS WORK** certainly was in the forefront of our thinking," confirmed Larry W. Bryant, the filer of the "writ of habeas corpus extraterrestrial" and the director of the Washington office of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS). "He's a pioneer in the field. To ignore that is to ignore a fact."

Bryant's document, which he believes is a first of its kind, also demands that the government produce

any aliens, either dead or alive, that it might be holding in custody. Bryant and Stringfield both argue that the request is not so far-fetched as it sounds.

Clipped to the petition are three "exhibits" that are actually copies of government documents obtained in recent months through the Freedom of Information Act. One of these is a March, 1950, memo of an unnamed FBI agent who reports on an investigation of "three so-called flying saucers" that were purportedly recovered in New Mexico.

The memo says that the UFOs, which were 50 feet in diameter, contained three 3-foot-tall bodies dressed in metallic suits. Bryant said he believes they have a "50-50" chance of prompting the government to produce the evidence.

**IF THEY** succeed, or even if they don't, he thinks putting the UFO question into a court of law may influence Stringfield's informants. "Perhaps his sources will come out of the closet and sign affidavits," Bryant said. "We've all agreed that this is what's needed—a safe forum so they can come forth and speak without fear of reprisals."

Stringfield nurses the same hope. "I've researched citations literally by the thousands, but it's like beating a dead horse trying to get substantiation," he said. "There's been a mammoth cover-up by officialdom from Year One."

To back up his claim of a cover-up, Stringfield points to the exhibits attached to Bryant's writ. In several places, lines of type were inked out by a government official before they were released for public consumption.

Another incident, which possibly hints at a cover-up, happened to Stringfield himself after his 1978 lecture in Dayton. After advancing his hypothesis about UFO crashes, the demise of their occupants and the role of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the retrieval operation, "I was whisked off the stage by three plainclothesmen," he recalled, "who said my life had been threatened."

**THE MEN** took him back to the hotel where he was staying and insisted on switching his room and keeping him guarded. "To this day I don't know what really happened," Stringfield said. "Was it crackpot or a scheme by the authorities to keep me hushed up?"

If the latter explanation was the right one, the authorities didn't do a very effective job. However, it wasn't so much that Stringfield talked, but that other people talked to him.

One of his prime sources, he said, is a physician high on the staff of a large Eastern hospital. This man allegedly performed an autopsy on one of the aliens in the early '50s, and although sworn to secrete

cy by the government, revealed to Stringfield that the creature had gray, reptilian skin, was humanoid in appearance, had no voice box and no red blood cells, but contained some kind of liquid.

Another key informant, a biochemist, told Stringfield he had microscopically examined some tissue and testified, "It's like nothing I've ever seen before."

These men and these stories didn't just drop in Stringfield's lap. Many of them had to be coaxed with repeated phone calls or even visits. The 62-year-old, retired public-relations director has spent untold sums of his own money tracking down these people and constructing a narrative from their information. He published his latest 53-page book, *UFO Crash/Retrievals: Amassing the Evidence, Status Report II*, in June of last year.

Stringfield talked disparagingly about people who cultivate an almost religious devotion to UFOs. "All I'm doing is quietly investigating this stuff," he said. "I'm not trying to thrust anything down anyone's throat."

About six years ago when his research took a turn toward extraterrestrials, he resisted it, he said, thinking it was "unfashionably bizarre" for someone like him. But he continued, determined to be "objective" in his search for the facts.

Even now, Stringfield refuses to voice anything as strong as a conclusion.

"I want to know whether these people (his sources) have been telling me the truth or whether they're all psychopaths," he said. "You're either right or you're wrong. . . . Let's put the case to rest or move it forward."

# I find modern tools amid ancient sermons



## Generally speaking

By JIMMIE BELL

In fact, I totted up 1,000 clues in all, and tons and tons of metal. (So many inferences in fact that I finally put them into a 200-page book and called it *A Recorded Message from Outer Space*. I may even finish it one day.)

Was this true? Had I found that the God whom I thought omnipotent chose also to pilot His own aircraft? Keep reading.

I found passages that embody it all: Super-science, a heavenly empire, love for people and a promise of an after-life.

Example: "And the Lord said unto Moses . . . Be ready against the third day, for I will come down upon Mount Sinai." And when God arrived, said Moses, "Sinai was altogether

on a smoke." (Exodus 19:18). That was in 1200 B.C. and Moses spent many days aboard God's conveyor which had a floor "as it were a paved work of sapphire stone." (Ex. 24:10).

Example: Jesus Christ 'died,' yet hours later visited with his followers in his new after-life, and 40 days later he was, for all practical purposes, beamed up from downtown Jerusalem. And at about the same time, (See Acts 10:9) disciple Peter "saw a certain vessel descending unto him as if it had been a great sheet at the four corners and let down to earth . . . wherein were all manner of beasts of the earth . . . and the vessel was received up again." Two major sky events in one day? Or the same mission? And that was 2,000 years ago.

Example: Then there's the 12-level space station (Rev. 21:2) which is to be lowered from the sky atop Mount Zion in a final disclosure by the Creator-folk.

But I was still bugged—I wanted to know why a super-race bothered conducting this continual procession—this pageant—incessantly tempting the Earthling with life beyond.

And then is when the profile began to make sense. At last, I had underscored how to get to

the new life. So here is the concrete I promised you:

You'd best not try to die and then go to heaven. You probably ought to go to heaven first and then try dying. If you do, my informants say, the spirit never gets around to dying.

So just look around you—do you sense even now breath-taking landscapes? The odor of honeysuckle? Do you answer to the cry of those in need?

Then, according to the way Jesus put it, you've already arrived because "the Kingdom of God begins in the heart . . ."

Ah, you contend, then how do we dispose of the body? For this, why not take a lesson from the caterpillar whose cocoon becomes the butterfly. For they learned it from the lowly mustardseed whose shriveled body has always known life after death.

The nitty-gritty about this vast society of Biblical messengers in their flying machines is this—they're really the only ones making an offer.

Jimmie Bell is a staff writer for "The Sun" and "The Daily Herald."

CR: D. Titler

## Wanted: true accounts of UFO visits

TRIBUNE, San Diego, CA - July 26, 1983  
By John Farina  
Tribune Staff Writer

Royce Johnson of El Cajon saw them — big as billboard signs and shaped like half moons — racing across the Colorado sky.

"They were flying saucers," said Johnson, who observed the craft two weeks ago while driving home one night. "At least, I think so. I guess they were checking out planet Earth."

Johnson told his story to Ron Jorgenson. He's seen a few unidentified flying objects himself and is searching for anyone to tell similar stories.

Jorgenson is producing a television special on UFOs for Southwestern Cable TV to be shown this fall. His job is to

CR: D. Clements

create the story line, produce the graphics and set up the interviews.

"The interviews," he said, "will be the heart of the special. We want people to come forward and tell us what they saw."

Some of those Jorgenson has found will tell about what they saw, but they do not want to be identified.

"They think people will ridicule them," said co-producer Len Quijencio. "Thousands of people have reported seeing flying saucers, but some who have seen them are unwilling to say so or do not want to be identified."

Among them is a San Diego County resident who saw UFOs as a 14-year-old and who will only tell his story

# Recounting earthly visits by The Almighty



## Generally speaking

By JIMMIE BELL

When we last left God on His visit to Earth—back in our April 9 column—he had just arrived on Mount Sinai, had put the mountain crest "altogether on a smoke" and had invited Moses aboard his so-called "burning bush," which, as our biblical research shows, had a floor "as it were paved work of sapphire stone."

We are talking seriously here about an actual year and a known place in the history of the world in which credible writers claim God visited Earth in the flesh. The year was 1200 B.C. in a mountain range on the southern tip of Asia Minor. And we are shoving aside another Generally Speaking column we had planned on War and Peace in order to respond to the surprising reader reaction to the April 9 column, "Modern Science Amid Ancient Sermons."

The reaction was quite varied: husbands told of housewives clipping the article to send to Mother, one construction engineer said the concept "affected" his thinking, and members of a famous Boston-based world religion came in for an office visit and an extra copy.

But all conveyed one idea over and over: "Do a sequel. Publish a book."

How about a column? I replied, and what topic would you like? It was the same each time: "On the day God visited Earth," they replied. Some said they felt it might give Is-God-Dead? theorists another side of the picture.

referred to as the Land of Nod, there to find a wife Cain's age from among the people He had previously created on his first visit, and also to give Cain instructions in the building of a city, which is rather early in the game for city planning and should tell us something. But it does add fodder to our contention that the God People are human as well as super-human.

► Fourth, to Sinai to send Moses back to Egypt to free his people.

► Fifth, a second visit to Sinai, there to give Moses a history of the world for brother Aaron, the writer, to set down on papyrus, plus some noted Commandments still quite well known today.

► Sixth, to Mount Herman in Jerusalem where God was seen by Peter, James and John and given a final rundown on plans for Jesus' impending "death" and resurrection.

In each of these accounts may be found many human characteristics of the Creator who is said to have created the human. It is the scientific aspect of the Creator that whets our curiosity the most.

And it is the second Sinai landing that boils it down to its essence:

► Exodus 34:9: "And the Lord 'stood' with him."

► Exodus 33: "There canst not see my face, (but) there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock and I will put thee in a clift of the rock and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by. And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts, but . . . no man shall see my face and live." Is He speaking of radiation dangers?

► And Exodus 34:35: "After he came out, the skin of Moses' face 'shone.'"

Will there be another landing anytime soon? Will contact be made by Ancient Man with Modern Man? When it happens, will He be us? Will their meeting render time meaningless? Will their spacecraft look like ours? For more answers, get a copy of the Book of Enoch, master recorder of space flights in biblical pageantry.

Small wonder his book had been eliminated from all the Bibles we researched by 1615, for it reads like an airline schedule at Tel Aviv Airport during a time in which flight by humans was something Bible translators could not condone.

Generally speaking, I'm surprised they left us the burning bush, but of course they did not recognize rocket power in those days.

Jimmie Bell is a staff writer for The Sun and The Daily Herald.

CR: D. Titler

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5 - TRIBUNE,  
San Diego, CA - July 26, 1983)

anonymously.

"If people find out who I am, they'll think I'm whacky," he said. "But I saw a V formation of five discs near an Arizona military base years ago. It was daylight and they were hovering overhead, shining golden in the sun."

Jorgenson is also in contact with people from other states who have seen UFOs.

"Although there are plenty of skeptics around about the existence of UFOs, there are believers, too, even among respectable scientists," Jorgenson said. "We'd like to hear from them."

The two producers are asking that written accounts be mailed to Sunrise TV Productions, P.O. Box 293, El Cajon 92020.

Jorgenson said his first encounter occurred nearly 20 years ago as he drove on a country road in Illinois after dark.

"I saw an extraterrestrial move slowly across the sky and then suddenly loop the loop and disappear," he said.

A year later, he said, he observed a shaft of light in the heavens.

"I really had no idea what it was, except maybe a spaceship sending out a beam signal," he said.

Quijencio said he has never seen a flying saucer but carries a camera just in case.

"I'm hoping and praying that I see one," he said. "You know, I used to look at the sidewalk a lot, hoping to find nickels and dimes, but now I find myself looking up more and more."

HERALD, Everett, WA - July 22, 1983 CR: L. Williford

## Bodies from outer space? He'll take 'em: \$3.14 each

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — After more than a decade of rumors that bodies of extraterrestrials are stored at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the Air Force says it has gotten a commercial offer for the non-existent aliens.

An Atlanta man, who refused to give his name, "wanted to offer the government \$3.14 each for any aliens we have," public-affairs officer Steve Wolfe said of this week's telephone offer.

Officials said rumors about aliens being kept at the base probably started when it was headquarters for Operation Bluebook — an Air Force investigation of unidentified flying objects — that closed in 1969.

The commercial offer apparently was prompted by an article in this

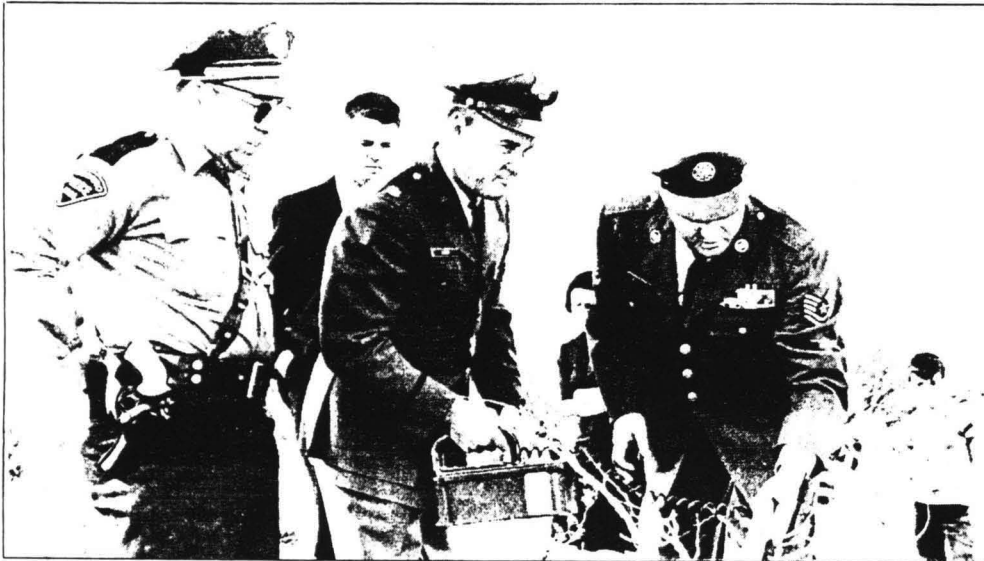
week's Newsweek magazine, base officials said.

The magazine reported that a group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy has filed a lawsuit asking for the release of any "occupants of crash-landed UFOs of apparent extraterrestrial origin."

Attached to the petition was a letter claiming that bodies of "3-foot tall, humanlike creatures wrapped in fine metallic-like cloth" were found in three downed flying saucers, the magazine said.

The caller was less interested in the aliens than he was in the cloth, Wolfe said. He said the man said that since the cloth seemed to have preserved the aliens, it might be dandy for wrapping food.

JOURNAL ("Impact"), Albuquerque, NM - Aug. 2, 1983 CR: F. Hudson



United Press International

In this 1964 photo, Zamora, then a Socorro policeman, watches as Air Force personnel use a Geiger counter to check the arroyo where he saw the object

# WHAT DID LONNIE SEE?

## The Question Has Haunted Him for Nearly Two Decades

**L**onnie Zamora has lived at the same address in Socorro for 35 years. Actually, he's lived in two houses at that address. A blue wooden one, now abandoned, belonged to his mother. Behind it is a small white stucco place which Zamora built when he got married. Both houses are located in southwest Socorro, on an unpaved road that is difficult to find: There is no street sign. Yet for the last 20 years people have somehow found Zamora's home. After circling the Lujan Funeral Parlor several times and then passing the nearby cemetery once or twice, the inquisitive frequently give up and ask, though not at the graveyard, "Where does that guy who saw the flying saucer live?"

A few neighbors who know Zamora well occasionally pretend they have no idea where he lives. Sometimes the curious are even sent on wild-goose chases.

Folks in Socorro do these things because they know that Zamora doesn't like to talk about what happened in the early evening of April 24, 1964. "Lonnie's had it up to here," says one friend. Zamora, in fact, only gives interviews when the mood strikes him. And in recent years the mood had not struck.

"You'll never get him to talk," predicted a woman who works at the Socorro Public Library.

However, not long ago, in a sudden change of mood,

Zamora did agree to talk. His explanation was that if he did talk, he hoped that the whole mess might finally go away. The interview took place in the paneled living room of Zamora's Socorro home — the white stucco place.

Zamora is a short man, about 5 feet 7 inches tall. He is solidly built in the manner of someone who has done physical labor: His wrists and forearms are thick, his hands, large and calloused. His thinning gray hair is worn in what must be one of the last flat-tops in Socorro County.

Zamora speaks slowly, choosing his words carefully. When he speaks, a gold-capped front tooth glistens. But he doesn't speak often. Zamora has always been a man who prefers to listen. As he listens, he cracks his knuckles repeatedly.

"What did I see?" Zamora asks in a polite but somewhat bored voice. "It was more frightening than anything that could happen. If you're a policeman, which I was back then, and you get in a gun battle, you're scared. But once it's over, it's over. But this you can't forget."

What Zamora has never quite forgotten is what he has always contended he saw in a deserted arroyo south of Socorro: a shiny oval-shaped vehicle and two small, peculiar-looking figures dressed in white coveralls.

The event occurred at 5:50 p.m. on a Friday. At the time, Zamora was an officer with the Socorro Police Department. Alone in his patrol car, he was following a speeder north on California Avenue, Socorro's main thoroughfare, when he heard behind him and to his left, a "loud noise, like an explosion." Glancing back, he says, he glimpsed for a moment in the distance, a "shooting flame."

Ignoring the speeder, Zamora braked, turned his police car around and rushed to the area that had attracted him — a deserted, shrub-spotted arroyo about a mile from downtown.

As his white Pontiac bounded over a gravel path, Zamora viewed in the distance what he said appeared to be an overturned car. Leaving his own vehicle, Zamora proceeded on foot. As he moved closer, the officer saw two small figures "about the size of boys," dressed in white coveralls, standing beside an object that looked for all the world like an egg. Protruding from the bottom of the object were girder-like legs. On the side of the craft Zamora spotted an upside-down red V.

As he drew to within 100 feet, Zamora called to the

By TOBY SMITH

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figures. When they did not answer, the officer retreated to his patrol car, reached in and grabbed his radio. Excitedly he asked for help. Crouching by his car, not quite understanding what was happening, Zamora suddenly heard a *bing bing* noise. Another flame appeared and then the object took off, to the southwest, cruising about 20 feet above the ground as it traveled.

From the moment Zamora saw the object until it left was later estimated to be less than two minutes. Yet within a couple of hours the arroyo was swarming with people. The biggest task that authorities faced was to protect evidence of the alleged landing: four indentations in the earth and a scorched greasewood bush.

Experts of every stripe peered at that evidence. Teams of Air Force investigators came from White Sands and from Kirtland. Another Air Force group, composed of crack UFO detectives, jetted in from Ohio. The import of the incident was elevated a notch or two when Dr. J. Allen Hynek arrived in town. A professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, Hynek was and still is recognized as one of the world's foremost UFO researchers.

Since there were no ready explanations for Zamora's sightings and since Zamora seemed so earnest, the story made international news. Though Socorro at the time had about 6,000 residents, the city suddenly became a circled spot on the map. Tourists and flying-saucer buffs appeared at the arroyo almost immediately. Within a couple of days, the marks in the earth and the burned greasewood bush were gone: They'd been trampled.

That did not stop people from talking or writing about the event. Zamora's alleged encounter became the subject of an entire book and at least two movies. Hynek, who has always said he was as baffled as anyone by what happened, nonetheless called the incident "one of the most authenticated landing sightings on record." (Since people began keeping track, more than 10,000 sightings have been reported.) The Socorro sighting was a big one though, and as such, nearly every UFO text would include a chapter on it. A "classic case," announced Hynek.

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There is little left in Socorro today of that classic case. A fenced-in monument was planned, but it never was built. The Chamber of Commerce, which once considered turning out post cards of Zamora's account, has nearly forgotten it ever took place. Only on a backroom shelf in the Chamber's small office is it remembered: In a dusty frame sits a montage of newspaper clippings describing the incident.

The same woman in the public library who claimed Lonnie Zamora would never cooperate, was also certain no one else involved in the event would talk, either. "Can you blame them?" she said. The librarian may have been entitled to her opinion: Two copies of a book written about the Socorro incident, have been swiped from the library.

Yet of all persons still living who had any connection with the 1964 drama, none contacted refused an interview. And, unlike Zamora, most of them were, in fact, enthusiastic about talking about the strange sighting.

James Luckie, now 78, is the retired undersheriff of Socorro County. Luckie was in the police station the evening Zamora radioed, in an agitated voice, this message: "You gotta come out here! You gotta see this to believe it!"

Luckie was one of the first to arrive at the arroyo. "The bushes were smolderin' like somebody'd cut them from the top with some big flame thrower. Lonnie was white as a corpse and he ain't exactly no paleface normally. He was sweatin' like a spent horse. But it was cold sweat."

Luckie says he asked Zamora what he had seen. "Maybe," answered Zamora, "I seen the devil."

Today, Luckie has on the living room wall of his Socorro home a copy of the same framed document tucked away at the Chamber of Commerce. Luckie says the Socorro newspaper manufactured about 100 of the mementos and sold them for \$2.25 each.

Because he arrived at the scene early, Luckie was later interviewed by a radio station in Los Angeles. A week after that he received a letter from a UFO investigator in Spain. "One of these days," says Luckie, a man who never liked to move too fast, "I'm gonna have to answer that letter."

Two other persons came to the arroyo shortly after Luckie. One was D. Arthur Byrnes, an FBI agent. By coincidence, Byrnes was working in the Socorro police station that day on another matter. Now retired in Albuquerque, Byrnes says he went to the scene in an unofficial capacity.

"Lonnie was sitting out there with what might be considered a worried look. I tried comforting him. I was the one who called the people at White Sands. But, hey, whatever happened out there didn't hurt anybody. I always thought about it matter-of-factly."

For eight years, Ted Jordan was stationed at Socorro with the New Mexico State Police. Now retired after 25 years with the state police and living in Seminole, Okla., Jordan heard Zamora's radio call, too, and went to the arroyo. He had a 35mm camera with him and took a roll of film: of four 6-inch deep indentations in the ground, of the scorched bush and of what Jordan remembers to be "footprints, shaped like coffee cups."

Jordan says that the following day one of the Air Force investigators asked him for his film. "The dude said he'd give me duplicates," recalls Jordan. "So I handed it over. I forgot all about it until a month or so later. Then I called and asked where was the film. They said sorry, but my film didn't turn out. They said, and this part always bothered me, that my film had been ruined by radiation and the pictures didn't come out."

The troublesome part of all of this was that although the impressions in the ground and the seared bush were seen by many, no one saw what

Lonnie Zamora said he saw. Allen Hynek, the distinguished UFO consultant, says: "It's really a pity, but no one's fault, that other witnesses did not see the object land or take off."

Because of that fact Zamora became a target of skeptics. His character and motives underwent scrutiny. As that began to happen, Zamora withdrew. Crank telephone calls in the night caused him to clam up. Other persons who had followed Zamora to the arroyo experienced the same thing. "I just quit talking about it to every Tom, Dick and Harry," says James Luckie. "I got tired of being called a damn liar. People would say to me, 'Oh, you're a fool; you never saw nothin.'"

However, those who knew Zamora well never questioned his story. "He's a good man, and he was always a good policeman."

Allen Hynek calls Lonnie "basically sincere and reliable. Not capable of contriving a complex hoax."

Hoax. The word began to pop up as soon as the story broke. After all, the history of UFOs then, as now, is a history heavy with folks often regarded as kooks. Was Zamora one?

Felix Phillips lived four blocks from the arroyo. Phillips told investigators that on the evening of April 24, he was at home and his front door and windows were open to catch the spring breeze. Phillips said he heard nothing. Not at 5:50 p.m.; not at any time.

Did Zamora make up the whole thing? Was he drinking that evening? Was this just another swamp gas mirage, a frequent occurrence elsewhere at the time? Hynek says no way. "I found nothing that tends to discredit Mr. Zamora." Art Byrnes, the ex-FBI agent, rules out alcohol. "I knew Lonnie before that incident and I never knew him to drink. There was never any indication of narcotics. I always found Lonnie very stable. And Lonnie wouldn't go for a publicity stunt if one were proposed. He's always been too honest."

But the hoax idea would not go away. A debunker of this case and others, Philip Klass, published a book in 1974 entitled *UFOs Explained*. Klass suggests that the Socorro event was a scheme to pull the community out of an economic depression. To support his theory, Klass says scientists at Socorro's New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, who surely might want to study a UFO sighting in their back yard, seemed totally uninterested. Furthermore, Klass points out that the alleged UFO landed on property owned by Holm Bursum, mayor of Socorro at the time and a prominent banker. Bursum, contends Klass, would "not be unhappy to see an influx of tourist dollars."

Holm Bursum is no longer mayor of Socorro, but he still lives there. He chuckles at Klass' conclusions. "The man is silly. Sure, it was my land where that took place. I went out and took a look like everybody else. And I was as excited as everybody else. It was like saying you saw a ghost in a graveyard. But I sure didn't plan it."

Bursum discounts the idea that Lonnie Zamora fabricated the happening. "To my knowledge, Lonnie is not a daydreamer. He's not a practical joker. He's a very serious person and always has been."

A few months after the incident, Ray Senn, city clerk of Socorro, announced that the town was going to try to cash in on its sudden notoriety. When a Hollywood movie company came to Socorro, Senn led them around with relish. When the movie people said they would premiere in Socorro their film about Zamora's sighting, Senn whooped with joy. "Then they told me they wanted \$15,000 up front to do that," remembers Senn. "Well, \$15,000 was a lot of money in those days. We were babes in the woods. But we weren't that ignorant. We said no."

The movie, titled *Phenomenon 7.7*, was shown in parts of the country, though few in Socorro can recollect seeing it, including Ray Senn. Today, the memory of April 24 and what followed amuses Senn, except where Zamora is concerned. "If it had been anybody else but Lonnie who said they had sighted a UFO," says Senn, "I would have doubted it. Lonnie's just too straight of a guy."

"Lonnie's a real fine fella," adds Opal Grindler, once owner of a Whiting Brothers Service Station on Socorro's California Avenue. Grindler remembers another film company, this one a documentary outfit from England, arriving in Socorro. That firm came to his gas station to shoot footage of the owner. "They come to me," says Grindler, "because on the same day just before Lonnie said he'd heard that noise and saw that flame, a car come into my station. It was a '55 gray Cadillac with Colorado plates. I'll never forget it."

Grindler says a man and two small children were riding in the car. The man asked Grindler if there were any funny-looking, low-flying airplanes in the area. Why? wondered Grindler. "Because," the man answered, "one just made a pass at my car down the road. And a police car went tearing after it."

Grindler told his story to the Air Force. "They said they would look for the man, but I don't know if they ever did. I advertised for him myself, but I never found him."

With no witnesses to corroborate him, Zamora started giving others the silent treatment. Holm Bursum says he can understand Zamora's reticence. "I think: Lonnie just got tired of people coming up and saying, 'What's new on Mars?'"

Zamora's son, Michael, 23, says his father has never talked to him about the incident. "He's a very to-himself person in all ways," says Michael. Lonnie Zamora's wife, Mary, agrees. "He's quiet. I'm surprised he would talk to you."

A tall, slim woman, Mary Zamora works in the records section of the Socorro General Hospital. She has always been a big influence on her husband. After the incident, Zamora could not sleep; he was plagued by nightmares. Mary Zamora pressed him into switching to a night shift and to make sure he always had a partner with him on patrol. (On April 24, 1964, Zamora had just left his partner off for dinner when the he heard the explosion in the arroyo.)

Working nights did not ease Zamora's pain. Arriving home, he would plop down in a chair in a daze and wonder what he had seen in that arroyo. He would question why he had to be the one to see it. Finally, Mary Zamora urged her husband to visit a priest at San Miguel Mission. It helped, says Zamora. "The priest told me to stop thinking about it all the time."

As close as she is to her husband, Mary Zamora says he has told her little about what he saw in the arroyo. The family keeps no scrapbooks. "All I know," sighs Mrs. Zamora, "is what I read in the newspaper."

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Lonnie Zamora was born in Magdalena, N.M., 50 years ago. His father, Domingo, was a cement plasterer. The youngest of nine children, Zamora was 13 when Domingo died. His mother, Rafaelita, moved the family first to Morenci, Ariz., then later to Socorro.

From the time he was young, Zamora has always known hard work. When his mother died while he was still a teen-ager, Zamora quit high school and took a job in construction. Later, after marrying Mary and becoming the father of two children, he took any job he could. He worked at New Mexico Tech in maintenance. He was a bailiff for a local judge. A long-time ambition was to become a New Mexico state policeman. A lack of education prevented him from making it.

Instead, Zamora went to work for the Socorro Police Department. By all accounts he was a competent officer. He was considered conscientious and trustworthy. Zamora had been with the police department for five years when he went to the arroyo.

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Being a small-town lawman did not prepare Zamora for instant celebrity status, and he has trouble coping with it still. After strangers showed up on Zamora's doorstep without an appointment and ordered him to take them to the arroyo, he grew irritated. When pests insisted Zamora accept long-distance telephone calls — collect calls, often — he became bugged. Of the hundreds of letters Zamora has received, he has only answered a handful. He grew weary of defending himself long ago.

From the outset, Zamora decided to cooperate with only those people he trusted, like Allen Hynek. Even today Hynek remains a friend to Zamora. They keep in touch. The famed astronomer occasionally asks Zamora to join him at speaking engagements. Zamora respectfully declines. "I ain't no speaker," he says. Zamora recently turned down an invitation to be flown to Mexico to meet with a group of individuals who all claimed to have sighted UFOs. "They wanted me to join their club," Zamora says. "I ain't no joiner."

Money, even in the form of airline tickets to Mexico, has never interested Zamora. Zamora says a writer from a flashy supermarket tabloid once descended on Zamora's home with an offer: The writer, Zamora says, was willing to hand over \$100 if Zamora would change his story, spice it to suit the tabloid's readers. ("COP BEAMS UP TO MAKE ALIEN BUST.") Zamora closed his door in the writer's face.

Zamora decided to leave the Socorro Police Department 13 years ago. For five years he ran a Chevron station on New Mexico Highway 60, on the western fringe of Socorro. In the mid-1970s he again became a city employee, joining the maintenance department. Today he drives an earth mover. He supplements his income by serving in the National Guard.

A lesser man might have turned to drink after going through what Zamora did. Zamora turned to work and, he says, to God. His mother gave him his religious faith. "I pray every day," says Zamora. "I couldn't have gotten through this without God's help."

He says he doesn't think much about the event unless someone else brings it up. He has been back, but not lately, to the lonely arroyo located just west of where a KOA campground now stands. He doesn't like to go there, he says. He would rather be at home where he enjoys watching television. *Hee-Haw* is his favorite program. No, he has not seen *E.T.* or *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. He does not go to the movies.

"My husband is a simple man but a good one," says Mary Zamora. "He wouldn't talk about this, but he is kind-hearted. When he was a policeman he was always helping out vagrants, you know, people stranded. When he owned the service station, he did the same thing: took money out of his own pocket to give to somebody who was in trouble."

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Two Socorro-related stories: one droll, the other, spooky.

Ray Stanford is the person who wrote an entire book on the events surrounding April 24, 1964. The title of Stanford's 1976 work is *Socorro "Saucer" in a Pentagon Pantry*.

Two copies of Stanford's book have been stolen from the Socorro Public Library. And curiously, that book is about theft: Among other charges, Stanford accuses the government of confiscating evidence, including a scoop of vitrified sand and a rock supposedly sprouting zinc-iron alloy particles. Stanford also claims the Air Force attempted to make Zamora withhold information about the inverted red V Zamora said he saw on the side of the craft (Zamora can't recall the Air Force saying such a thing). Finally, Stanford asserts that Art Byrnes, the FBI agent, told Zamora he did not have to report, if he didn't want to, the small figures in white coveralls he

(continued on page 8)

said he saw. (Byrnes can't recall saying such a thing.)

Shortly after Zamora's sighting, Stanford spent several days in Socorro gathering information. Returning by car to his home in Phoenix, Stanford says he was passing through Datil, N.M., when he spotted something crossing the sky. The object was, he estimates, traveling between 1,200 and 1,400 mph. Definitely a UFO, Stanford claims. And such a shame, he says, that no one else saw it.

Now the spooky story. Ted Jordan, the former state policeman, says that when he was stationed at Socorro he saw lots of peculiar things in the sky. He says that one night he was checking for speeders on Interstate 25, about four miles north of town. "Suddenly I look up and I see this evening star. Well, you always see the evening star, only this one begins to move. I watch it for a while and it keeps moving. I owned a reflecting telescope so I raced home and got it and put a 400-power lens on it. Well, that dude was still moving. I watched it go south of Socorro and then come back. It was taking its sweet time checking out Socorro. It certainly did not look like any kind of star.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

There may be few souvenirs left from that event of two decades ago, but there remains numerous questions. The biggest, of course, is: What did Zamora see?

Most people who have studied the case in depth

truly believe Zamora saw something. James Luckie, the former undersheriff, feels it was an American spacecraft. "It was," confirms Luckie, "the outfit they went to the moon on. It came up from Alamogordo. The reason I know this is that when I got out there I smelled diesel fuel. I know that smell 'cause I worked on highways for 25 years. And what UFO uses diesel fuel?"

"You can't rule out that what Lonnie saw was related to the potential moon landing," says Ray Senn, the onetime city clerk. "The craft Lonnie described turned out to be nearly exactly like the one that went to the moon."

"To my knowledge it wasn't big enough to be an Apollo spacecraft," counters Art Byrnes. "And if that kind of craft had blasted off it would have made a hole in the ground."

Though author Ray Stanford cites all sorts of military obfuscations in the case, he does not believe the government was covering up a visit to Socorro by a NASA device. The visitor, concludes Stanford, a self-proclaimed "ufologist," was extraterrestrial.

The United States Air Force's official report is inconclusive. Zamora's sighting is still on the unexplained list of Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Project Blue Book is the bible of data taken from all reported UFO phenomena.

The Air Force's findings, or lack thereof, do leave little questions unanswered. A few minutes before

Zamora's sighting, someone telephoned an Albuquerque television station to report a UFO was "heading south of the city." There were no reports on radar screens on the early evening of April 24, 1964, but the screens at White Sands and Holloman Air Force Base terminated at 5 p.m. After the object allegedly landed in and then took off from the arroyo, a crystalline-like substance formed on the greasewood bush that had been seared. Those people around Socorro familiar with the area's plant life could not explain the substance. Neither could the Air Force.

"I became suspicious of the military's investigation," says Ted Jordan, "when they said my film had been damaged by radiation. If it was ruined by radiation, doesn't that say that maybe there was something strange in the area?"

Then there is Lonnie Zamora. "People say I saw a flying saucer," says Zamora. "I can't say if I did because I don't know what a flying saucer would look like."

Zamora says that at first he thought it was some kind of Air Force plane because the Air Force investigators took charge of everything. "They were really busy here for a while."

Now he isn't sure of anything except: He was at the wrong place at the wrong time. "If something like this should ever happen to me again, if I should ever see anything strange out there, I know what I'll do," says Zamora, stroking his big knuckles. "I won't tell nobody."



Lonnie Zamora: After years of explaining and defending himself, he's weary of it all

# UFO buffs swap data of mysterious events 150 hold symposium in Guilderland

By Ronald Kermani  
Staff Writer

There's more to chasing UFOs than listening to a middle-aged woman with a bleached bouffant hairdo who claims she gets messages from Venus.

And it goes beyond ignoring the wife, who thinks you're crazy for talking for an hour with a man who claims he went to Mars over the weekend.

Just ask New York City police Detective Pete Mazzola.

"There are a lot of crazy people in

this business," said Mazzola, who chases UFOs for the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, a UFO interest group, on Friday.

"Even I don't believe that people went to Mars for the weekend."

Mazzola and about 150 other UFO buffs and researchers from the U.S. and other countries are spending this weekend in Guilderland at their first symposium.

For two days they will swap stories, compare notes, show slides and pic-

tures, and try to educate a cynical, fearful public about unexplained phenomena.

The organization, which Mazzola founded in 1979, is also trying to pierce what it calls "Cosmic-Gate," an elaborate 36-year government cover-up of the existence of UFOs.

U. S. government documents, obtained by SBI through the Freedom of Information Act from agencies rang-

ing from the Air Force to the FBI, show "beyond any reasonable doubt" that the government is either "suppressing, censoring, concealing or covering up the existence of UFOs that have been sighted, fired upon and perhaps even captured," Mazzola said.

Mazzola's fascination with UFOs began during an Army hitch in Vietnam, where he said he saw his first

UFO. He said he saw his first UFO in Vietnam, where he said he saw his first

**BELIEVERS** — Pete Mazzola, director of the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, left, and Dave Lowenski, are in Albany for a symposium on the "coverup of the century." — UFO's

Times Union photo by Skip Dickstein



UFO during a battle in Vietnam's Demilitarized Zone in 1966. North Vietnamese regulars were lobbing mortars at Mazzola's First Infantry encampment, and his unit was returning the fire.

Both sides stopped shooting at each other and trained their guns on an unidentified object zig-zagging over the battlefield, Mazzola said. "They called it an enemy helicopter — for lack of anything else," Mazzola said, adding the craft moved too abruptly to be a conventional copter.

The Americans and Vietnamese shot at the object for about an hour before it disappeared, Mazzola said.

Upstate New York in the last 40 years also has had "its fair share of sightings," said David Waters, an electrical technician for Mechanical Technology Inc. in Malta. Waters is a UFO investigator in upstate New York for the group.

Waters talked about a June 1955 incident at Albany County Airport when two Monark Airlines pilots spotted an elliptical-shaped object, about 150 feet long, only about 500 feet above them. The pilots reported that the object had "lighted windows."

Waters also investigated what he calls an abduction of two men by a UFO at Indian Lake in the Adirondacks on Nov. 1, 1978.

The two men saw a huge, cigar-shaped UFO which landed nearby. The pair drove to a forest ranger station to report the incident. According to Waters, the UFO chased the men in the car.

Meanwhile, the forest ranger at his station, and some residents observed three disc-shaped crafts perform some aerial acrobatics, then submerge into one of the area's many lakes.

The two men were later hypnotized and "revealed they had been abducted and physically examined aboard the UFO by alien beings not of this Earth," Waters wrote in a paper submitted at the symposium.

BULLETIN, Latrobe, PA - July 29, 1983 CR: S. Gordon

## Area UFO sightings reported

Stan Gordon, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, reported today that his group has had a report of a UFO sighting on Route 981 near Teledyne, Inc.

He said the report was received Monday and is asking that others who may have noted anything unusual in that area to report the sightings to him by calling 838-7768 or by writing to the group at 6 Oak Hill Ave., Greensburg, 15601. All information is held in strict confidence and no names are released.

Gordon also reported that reports of sightings between New Alexandria and Latrobe have been reported in the past month.

NEWS, Lima, OH - Aug. 7, 1983 CR: J. Timmerman

## Effort continues to get information about UFO flyers

By GERRI WILLIS  
News Staff Writer

Aliens who land on Earth and are trailed by humans are found only on movie screens. Right?

Well, if some trailers of the phenomenon known as unidentified flying objects are right, those science fiction scripts might not be too far off base.

To augment public knowledge of the subject, a group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy filed suit against the government seeking release of UFO records under the Freedom of Information Act. Two courts turned down the group's request and the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear it.

But the group did obtain some information from the National Security Administration, much of which was censored by administration officials.

Those efforts have been aided by the Center for UFO Studies, which has a local office at 916 W. Market St. John P. Timmerman, national chairman of the organization, said

the group has donated \$300 to help fund the legal battle.

The donation helped foot a \$1,000 tab to file the case with the Supreme Court.

A second filing by Citizens Against UFO Secrecy was denied by the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia on July 28. The request asked the government to produce alien bodies which UFO watchers say the government has recovered from alleged UFO crash sites.

Timmerman said the court stated that in its opinion it had no jurisdiction in the matter and that no party had been injured as a result of the government's failure to release any such material.

But, retrieved material could be most valuable in understanding the UFO phenomenon, he said. While Timmerman won't say whether he believes such material is being held by the government, he added, "You can't deny the possibility it's true."

"The government has a lot of information, there's no doubt about it," he added.



John P. Timmerman

Timmerman said reports from such crash sites indicate the areas have been evacuated and investigated by military personnel. "There is some evidence of varying degrees that this has happened more than once," he said.

He added that it could be in the government's best interest to withhold UFO information because it could create an unpredictable reaction from the public, dilute military credibility or give away military secrets.

"I don't envy the guys who have to say 'no' (to requests for information)," he said.

APPALACHIAN NEWS-EXPRESS, Pikeville, KY - July 13, 1983

## UFO Sighted In Pike Area

The strange sight over Pikeville Monday night was not the Goodyear Blimp, Superman or the Jaycees' fireworks display.

That is what it was not but no one knows for sure what the sighting could have been.

Spectators at the Pikeville Cubs' ballgame saw it.

Fifteen customers at the Log Cabin Restaurant saw it.

Residents on Coon Creek saw it.

Gene Davis was at the Cubs' game in the press box when shouts went up about an unidentified flying object.

Spectators stood to watch and the players suspended play for awhile.

According to Davis, the object was in the sky about five minutes.

"It was some sort of a vehicle. There were bright lights on it and it seemed to be very low. It moved slowly, almost like it had stopped to watch the game. The lights made it look triangular."

Davis said there was bound to be a plausible explanation for the craft but said it did not resemble anything he had ever seen before.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary McCoy of Coon Creek saw it.

Mr. McCoy and a friend, Hal Blake Amos were riding in a convertible, listening to the Cubs' game on WPKE radio when the announcer said, "Everyone has stopped watching the game to see the UFO."

At that point McCoy pulled into the

parking lot of the Log Cabin Restaurant to see if he could spot the UFO.

Restaurant owner Jimmy Blair and several customers were outside.

All of them sighted the craft. Descriptions of the craft matched Davis' account.

The only difference in all the accounts was from Mrs. McCoy.

She was at home when she saw the craft in the sky. She said it looked rectangular. "It had two bright yellow lights at first, but as it got closer you could actually see four lights. There were two red lights, too."

She said about 15 people were at her home at the time.

During the evening the craft circled, went up Coon Creek and came back.

According to Mrs. McCoy, the sight disappeared about 9 p.m. The excitement died down and the neighbors went home.

"About midnight Gary and I were sitting around the pool talking about the UFO or whatever, and it came back. It was 12:05. It finally just disappeared like it was going to West Virginia."

The main thing everyone mentioned in their description of the craft was the sound, or lack of sound.

"There just simply wasn't any noise at all."



BECKENHAM JOURNAL, Kent, England - May 12, 1983

## UFO—new reports are coming in

**SOMETHING** strange is going on in the night sky, and puzzled residents want to get to the bottom of the mystery.

A huge bright ball of orange light is reported by several people to have been hovering over homes and lighting up bedrooms with a blaze of light.

Now others, who thought they were just seeing things, have also come forward following a report in some Kentish Times editions last week of sightings on April 27.

There is growing pressure for an investigation.

Centre of activities has been Bickley and Chislehurst, but this week the mystery spread to Biggin Hill where a resident believes the object came to earth.

In Chislehurst, Mrs Gladys Austin, of Lower Camden, said: "I thought I was going mad. But now I know from the Kentish Times that other people have seen these lights, I think someone should find out what is going on."

"My bedroom was lit up at about 11 p.m. It was such a bright light I thought I'd left my bedroom light on. But when I looked out of the window there was a ball of bright orange light hovering outside above the trees. I was petrified."

The light hovered for a few minutes, then moved towards Sidcup. "I just prayed it would not come any nearer to me," said Mrs Austin. "I just pulled the blankets over me that night, and hoped the object would go away."

The UFO was spotted earlier that evening over Summer Hill by Mr John Newcomb, of St Michael's Close, Bickley, who stopped his car to watch the lights hover.

And the "bright orange balloon-shaped UFO" was seen by Mr Anthony Adams, of Lower Camden, at 9.25 p.m. while driving down Elmstead Lane, Chislehurst, with passenger Mr Chris-

topher Crouch, of Beckenham.

The lights were still in the sky when they arrived at Mr Adams' home and watched for 10 minutes by Mr Adams and his family. "One balloon disappeared—the other went in the Bickley direction," said Mr Adams.

It was also that night that something landed in Biggin Hill.

Mrs Phyllis Ryan, 75, was looking from the bedroom window of her home in Lusted Hall Lane across the valley at around 9.30 p.m.

"I saw a great light. It was round or oval, and a brilliant white / yellow. It came towards me and got lower until I imagined it was a plane coming in to land at the airport—but it was too far to the left."

"It kept coming lower and I thought it was going to crash, and it touched down and through the trees I could see that brilliant light. There was no bang; nothing."

An account of a separate sighting has come this week from student Miss Patricia Terry, of Clarence Road, Bickley, who wrote: "On April 12 at 11 p.m. I was leaving a friend's house in Bickley when I noticed what looked like a large ball of fire above Chislehurst."

**'FIZZLED OUT'**  
"As I watched it grow slightly smaller and divided into two. The smaller part dropped downwards and fizzled out. The other part moved slowly away."

"By this time I had got my friend, and we both watched it slowly disappear over the horizon."

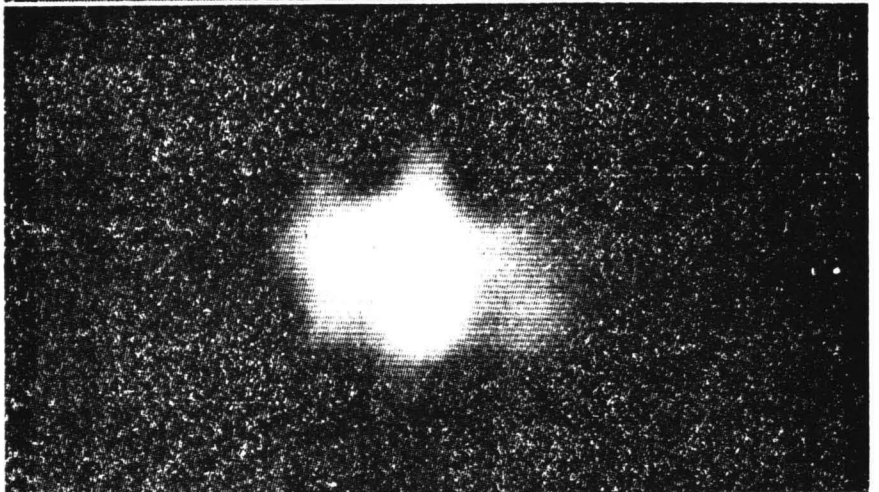
Reports of similar sightings started in Chislehurst last February when residents' bedrooms were lit up by objects in the early morning.

The Ministry of Defence premises in Bickley, police, Army and RAF units, all say the sightings are a mystery.

● Sightings of a kite-shaped UFO across Bromley Common last year brought speculation that the area was on a "UFO flightpath."

SUN, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - May 27, 1983 CR: P. Norman

## Have you seen the light?



THIS picture of a UFO was taken from the rooftop of the Channel 7 studios in South Melbourne on Wednesday night.

It was taken by the station's head cameraman Laurie Bowie between 11 p.m. and 1

A cleaner spotted the pulsating light in the sky when he entered the studios to begin work.

Mr Bowie said yesterday the sight was remarkable. "I've shot a lot of night stuff, but never seen anything

quite like that before," he said.

The film showed a bright light changing colors from white to green to red. It also seemed to be spinning.

Channel 7 yesterday asked Brett Biddington of the RAAF to view the film.

BERRORS WORCESTER JOURNAL, England - June 30, 1983



## JUNIOR JOURNAL

## Close encounters from outer space

HOW many of you have seen 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind' or 'ET'? If you haven't, I know you'll have seen 'Doctor Who'.

The success of these films depends so much on people's fascination with outer space, like the new film 'Return of the Jedi'.

I expect most of you were tucked up in bed when the recent comet passed overhead.

Wanting to have a good look at it myself and armed with a torch I went to the top of the garden and during the brief few moments the clouds parted I saw myriads of stars twinkling millions of miles away.

And I thought I saw the comet in the corner of the Plough.

After a few minutes of slight feeling of unease came over me, and I felt I was being watched. Of course, it was my imagination running riot because I had been thinking about unidentified flying objects—UFOs.

I have only ever seen two of these strange phenomena.

The first was when I was driving in daylight across Grand Bahama. I saw a silver ball in the sky moving very fast—it must have been a few thousand feet up—when it suddenly stopped and hovered in the sky for

quite a few minutes before accelerating away at great speed. It was of course in the Bermuda Triangle!

The other sighting was coming in to land at San Francisco airport when I and some of the passengers on the port side of the Boeing 707 saw a golden ball which passed very close to the aircraft.

As we banked round to come into land the object hovered in the distance, approached the aircraft at high speed and then accelerated away from us. Other people saw it and I have wondered to this day what it was.

Sightings of UFOs have occurred all over the world. Not so many years ago there were quite a few here in England around Warminster, and there have been others since up and down the country.

Aircraft flying in the Caribbean area have been 'buzzed' by these strange objects which have sent the instruments haywire and in some instances after frantic 'mayday' calls there was total silence—the aircraft lost without trace.

When one begins to think about the size of the uni-

verse it's quite possible there are other worlds just as curious about us as we are about them.

Our space programmes prove this as craft full of scientific instruments are constantly being sent up into space, probing deeper and deeper every year.

In America, J. Allen Hynek has set up a UFO research station at Evanston in Illinois. The centre receives around 100 reports of sightings every night.

It is widely accepted there are many other star systems in the universe capable of supporting life and some may have civilisations in advance of ours.

A man called Philip J. Klass, an avionics editor, said that it would take 100 years for people in the nearest star system to ours to reach us—if the space craft could travel at 70 million mph!

As far back as 5,000 years ago the Chinese have records of sightings of UFOs and we seem to have been visited regularly since then.

I am very careful when I go up the back garden at night!

## Flying formations

DURING the last century, 31 sightings were collated from all over the world.

On September 7, 1820, a formation of flying objects was seen crossing the town of Embrun in southern France.

On November 17, 1882, a

vast green disc was observed from Greenwich Observatory. It had a most odd appearance.

It was also seen over Europe, and in November 1888 an aerial vessel passed over Berkshire countryside, frightening domestic and wild animals with its sound.

BROMLEY TIMES, Kent, England - May 12, 1983

## MY UFO SIGHTING

I WAS very interested to read your front page news item on the orange "U.F.O." lights.

I saw an almost identical incident on the evening of Sunday 25 February 1979 at around 8 p.m. at the Whitehall Recreation Ground.

It was a crystal-clear night with the temperature probably hovering around freezing.

I was facing west when I became aware of a bright orange light to my right (on my north side). I watched this for a short time before I noticed an even brighter orange light to the west, just to one side of St Luke's spire.

The western light grabbed my attention but still glanced occasionally at the northern light which was heading due east, until suddenly it wasn't there any more.

The western light which had been static for perhaps 10-15 minutes suddenly moved eastwards at a considerable speed, then slowing quite dramatically.

I walked towards it to a point halfway between the clinic and the Cowper Road entrance, where the light appeared to turn to the north, and as it did so I remember seeing very small, much fainter lights (I believe two were red and one white) which gave me the impression of an ordinary aircraft; but for me to see these lights in such detail, it would have been impossible for me not to hear the roar of engines—there was no noise at all except a low pitched "hum" (which could have been the noise from the A21 traffic).

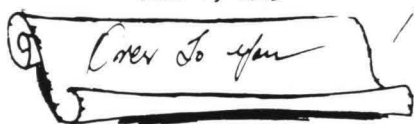
The speed and manoeuvrability of the craft would surely rule out a glider.

However, I didn't see any smoke, as your witnesses have suggested.

Naturally, over the four years my memory has faded over the smaller details, but I reported this incident the next day or two to the British U.F.O. people, and I guarantee you that everything I have written in this letter is true, and I was in no way influenced by alcohol or drugs.

Southlands Road, Bromley.

NEWS, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia  
June 1, 1983



From Dr. David Hodgkinson, Rockdale, NSW.

I have been interested in the UFO sightings in your area and thought you might be interested in the following.

About four to six months ago in the Sydney papers a Mr Noel Martin of Wollongong wrote that as a youth he and members of his family were on a southern NSW coastal resort at night when unexpectedly a UFO appeared in a blaze of light.

It was the size of a small car, with two occupants aboard, and flew from the west, did a zig-zag flight pattern then submerged in the sea waters beside them.

His brother lives at the site and hasn't seen the UFO fly out from the area since.

Noel Martin recently moved to Nowra and set up an underwater "UFO Recovery Mission."

Till two months ago I had his address, but have misplaced it. The site may be somewhere in (deleted by request) in 30 feet of water.

I phoned him a couple of months ago and he stated they had located the UFO.

He initially thought he had a financial sponsor. He even offered Prince Leonard of Hutt Province, Western Australia, full details, likewise the Sydney UFO Society.

Noel Martin said that although rains had darkened the waters for weeks, he and his underwater team felt confident they had located the UFO under deep sand, which refilled once it was shovelled or moved away.

Your Victorian UFOs could have shown their presence because Noel Martin may by now have reached, or is soon to reach his goal.

He wanted to hire some Special Naval gear for underwater recovery, similar to that the police used in Durrenong Dam, Wellington, NSW, recently to recover a 20-year-old lost sunken aeroplane.

# BELIEVE IT OR NOT..!

# SYDNEY

# AIRPORT

# TRACKS

# UFOs

## RAAF to probe radar mystery

THE RAAF is investigating a series of mysterious high-speed radar signals detected by air traffic controllers at Sydney Airport.

About 10 reports of unexplained ultra-high frequency signals have been noted in the air traffic controllers' log in recent weeks.

The readings have been coming

By ELIZABETH FORTESCUE  
and WYNNE GRAY

from within an area 100km to 250km north of Sydney.

They have been reported to the RAAF Operational Command centre, which has begun an investigation into the possible UFOs.

Mascot operations controller

Pat Townsend said sounds could normally be explained, but this series was baffling air traffic control.

"If the authorities can tell us, we would like to know what it is," he said.

But at this stage the RAAF says it hasn't have any idea what is causing the signals.

"Whatever it is, it's flying at about 2400km/h — that's twice the speed of sound," a spokesman said.

The RAAF has refused to speculate about the identification of the "craft" until a full investigation is completed.

"It is very strange and there has been a lot of conjecture as to what it is," Mr Townsend said.

"We have seen so many queer things in our time. Normally they are a ghosting effect coming from another area.

"It is moving fairly quickly. It can be caused by what we call 'angels' — a result of weather inversions or gaseous pockets of air," he said.

Usually air traffic controllers could detect these, but in this case there had been no explanation.

### Mystery

Mr Townsend said the sounds had not caused any conflict with planes in the area.

But one possibility is that military flights operate in an area above Mascot air space, and there could be some form of restricted military activity going on.

The radar system at Mascot has previously had satellite interference, but air traffic control is not aware of any satellites supposed to be in the mystery air zone.

And radar technicians had not noted any malfunctions in the radar equipment during the last six weeks when the sightings were reported.

It was also very doubtful it had been caused by a foreign plane. It was a theory yet to be confirmed. Mr Townsend said.

"Nothing can fly in controlled air space without us knowing about it," he said.

## UFO—a bird, plane or hoax?

IS IT a bird. Is it a plane. Is it a gigantic hoax?

That is the speculation over the mystery UFO that has been hovering over the Bromley area in recent months and, according to one witness has landed at Biggin Hill!

More people have come forward with descriptions of strange objects in the night sky.

Mr Timothy Good, a local UFO expert, wants readers to contact him through us with details of the sightings. Write to Mr Good at the Bromley Times, 20/21, Church Road, Bromley.

But Mr David Micallef, 15, of Edgebury, Chislehurst, thinks the whole thing may be a hoax.

He works at the Ramblers Rest pub, off Summer Hill, Chislehurst, and on April 29 at 9.25 he saw what he describes as two large dustbin liners

filled with a gas, rise from the Old Hill area. Both exploded.

He believes it was an experiment that backfired.

On April 27, Mr Peter Snelgrave and his wife of Heathfield Road, Bromley, were outside Bromley Naval Club in Bromley High Street when he looked up and saw a light. "It looked like the bright light of a plane but there was no noise and it had an orange glow. It glowed, hovered and then disappeared."

The same night, said Mrs Janet Marshall, she and her husband Brian, witnessed a strange sight from their garden in Walden Road, Chislehurst. "I looked up to see a triangular shape of bright lights hovering," said Mrs Marshall. Her up.

Nigel Crist, 27, of Whitebeam Avenue, Bromley, said he saw the orange light hovering in the sky. Mrs Elizabeth Smith and her daughter Amber, 12, of Hazlemere Way, Hayes, were walking their dog when they saw a light in the sky. "It was a brilliant white light and round it a purplish orange haze — of a banana shape with a dome on top," said frightened Amber, they ran. The light zig-zagged across the sky.

The bright orange ball of lights has been spotted — particularly over Bickley and Chislehurst — since January — but police, Army, RAF and Ministry of Defence establishments are puzzled.

## ET leads police a merry dance

By JOHN SILVESTER

HAS Melton suddenly become a popular extra-terrestrial tourist attraction . . . ?

Or were a group of policemen on night patrol the victims of an elaborate prank which resulted in a number of UFO sightings early yesterday?

The police, the RAAF and the Aviation Department are quite frankly baffled.

Eight policemen and two bystanders reported seeing UFOs during a cat-and-mouse chase lasting nearly six hours around Melton.

It all began when Melton police constables, Peter Ferguson and Ray Ellens spotted a mystery object near the Western Highway about 12.40 a.m.

They followed the object's lights until it hovered over the Melton shopping centre.

They then tracked it to Toolernvale, where they trained a searchlight on it. The constables got a glimpse of the tail, which they said was tubular, and similar to a small helicopter or small gyrocopter.

The police followed it and said it landed several times but took off before

they could get close enough to identify it.

About 1.30 a.m. traffic control at Melbourne Airport spotted an object in the Melton area with radar sweeps but it was flying too low to be identified.

About 5.30 a.m. police saw an object which looked like a Harrier jump-jet about 100 m above the Melton police station.

"It definitely appeared to be man-made," a policeman said.

"When it flew it made a whirring sound — it didn't sound like a jet."

Police said the object stayed in the Melton, Sydenham and Rockbank areas before flying towards Deer Park.

A spokesman for the RAAF, Mr Ken Llewellyn, said: "It could be an elaborate hoax."

A spokesman for the Aviation Department, Mr Ken Williams, said: "We haven't a clue what it was, we are just as puzzled as the police."

He said there was no known air traffic in the area at the time.

TIMES, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia

June 11, 1983 CR: J. Magee

## UFOs may not be ET's after all

A CURTIN woman, Mrs Mavis Marshall, says she has reason to believe that reported sightings of UFOs — in the shape of flickering spheres — around Bendigo have been blown out of all proportion.

Mrs Marshall comes from Bendigo where, 20 years ago, she and other hobbyists were in the habit of launching paper hot-air balloons which they tracked across the countryside at night.

They fired the balloons with methylated spirits absorbed in cotton wool and, when airborne, the balloons took on a flickering appearance.

The hobbyists created quite a stir. Newspaper clippings Mrs Marshall has kept from the time reported that motorists gave accounts of sphere-shaped objects moving at great speed high in the heavens.

She suggests that a second generation of balloon-launchers could be doing the same thing now — hence the sightings reported recently.

But we in the newsroom would prefer to think that the reports are indeed not a lot of hot air. For we dream of the day that ET or a similar visitor will walk through the door to give us the story of our lives.

— BEVERLEY MILLER



IT'S THE LATEST DARK SECRET OF UFO-LAND

# E.T. phone the Express — have

# you come back to Earth?

by JACK HILL

WHEN it comes to spotting visiting craft from other worlds, the earthlings of Westbury ought to know a little more than the rest of us.

For the Wiltshire town lies within the famous "Warminster Triangle," which is to UFOs what Cowes is to yachting.

But even there, five mystery circles that have suddenly appeared in a fresh green cornfield have got everyone guessing.

It looks almost as if E.T. has come back to earth.

The biggest circle is 50ft in diameter. The four others, 14ft in diameter, are neatly positioned around it to create four corners. Just as though a spaceship has landed there.

The corn inside has been flattened close to the ground in a swirling, circular manner, as if by a giant fan or whirling blade.

What has been baffling everyone since 40-year-old farmer Stan Pointer reported the strange sight is that there were no signs of entry by tractor or motor vehicle, except where his tractor had made regular patterns while spraying.

## Sightseers

Theories have been flying around like saucers from outer-space.

Stan's wife, Janet, believes the circles were made by a whirlwind. "They can do funny things in a cornfield like this," she said.

But her husband said: "I've never seen anything like this in my life."

Some people say that deer are to blame. But Mr Alan Sheppard, on whose land the circles lie, says: "It is the wrong time of year for deer to be rutting, which could make them flatten an area."

Police in Westbury are not ruling out practical jokers. But a spokesman said: "Whoever did it, if they did, put in a lot of hard work and study to get the circles right."

Even that seems unlikely, though. There are several marks linking the circles now because sightseers have flocked to the field, on the B3093 Westbury to Devizes road.

But there were no clear marks at first, insists Mr Sheppard.

Such weird goings-on will not trouble the folk within the Warminster Triangle too much, of course.

Since the first dramatic sightings in the sixties, they have reported seeing UFOs of all shapes and sizes.

And if it turns out that the five mysterious cornfield circles were left by E.T.'s spaceship they will be able to say to a doubting world: "We told you so."



Circles of mystery... the puzzling holes among the tractor marks Picture: CHRIS WOOD

BROMLEY TIMES, Kent, England - June 2, 1983

## UFO's are back again...

OUR "OWN UFO" has returned — and the spotter says he will be armed with a camera next time.

The balloon-like object was hovering in a blaze of orange and yellow lights over the area on May 24 at 1 a.m.

It was watched by Mr Neil Watts, 18, and his brother, Mark, from the window of their Meadowcroft, Bickley, home.

Said Neil: "I saw it as

I made my way home that night. It was hovering over trees near Chislehurst Railway Station. It was puzzling. I'm sceptical about UFOs — but I do not know what this was. I told my brother and we watched it for a few minutes before it vanished in a large ring."

He felt it could not have been a large firework as it did not move fast — and as there was no noise it could not have been a plane, he thought.

"I was too fascinated to get a camera — but I shall

have one at hand next time," promised Neil.

● Photographic evidence — or even better, a movie film — is needed by local expert Mr Timothy Good, who is investigating the mystery sightings. He is convinced a "certain proportion" of the sightings are genuine UFOs — objects from another planet.

If anyone else saw the UFO on May 23 or 24, or has any theories that may explain it, they should write to Mr Good, c/o the Kentish Times, at 20 to 21, Church Road, Bromley.

CLUTHA LEADER, Balclutha, Otago, New Zealand - June 17, 1983

## UFO sighting?

An unusual object was seen travelling across the sky above Kakapuaka on Wednesday night.

A Kakapuaka resident reported that both she and her husband, as well as their neighbours, watched as an object the shape of a hot air balloon travelled slowly south, then headed north again.

At one stage the object disappeared into the clouds for a short time and at another point it stopped moving.

A pale yellow light shone from both the "balloon" part of the object and near the bottom.

When the residents spotted it about 7pm, they immediately thought it may have been an aeroplane, but dismissed this when they realised there was no sound coming from it.

The residents said they have "never seen anything like it before" and were disappointed at not having binoculars on hand.

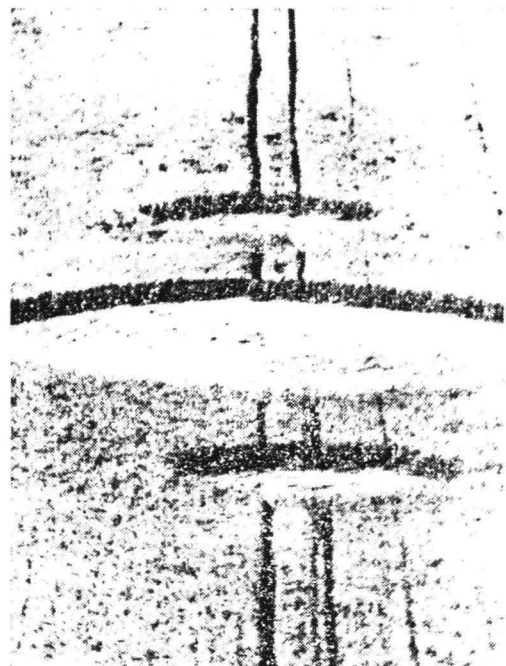
The residents are interested in hearing from anyone else who saw a similar object in the sky that night.

## WHY HAVEN'T YOU PHONED, E.T.?

# We've found enough White Holes to sink a flying saucer!



**HERE** Mrs Payne with pictures old and new of the phenomenon. "The holes are quite friendly," she says. Others are not so sure.



**THERE** Strange goings-on in the Devil's Punchbowl, near Winchester, 1981

## The big mystery of UFO-land is getting deeper

IT'S not just in Wiltshire that ET has left his calling card. It seems he has also paid a visit to neighbouring Hampshire.

And last night the mystery of the farm field holes had everyone going round in ever-increasing circles.

The saga began at the weekend when five rings appeared in a cornfield in the Wiltshire town of Westbury inside the "Warminster Triangle," an area that knows a thing or two about UFOs.

The nation held its breath as the Express invited E.T. to phone from outer space and explain what on earth is going on.

Last night we were still waiting. Then came the startling revelation that five similar rings had appeared in Hampshire's Devil's Punchbowl, a magnificent amphitheatre below Cheese-foot Head beauty spot outside Winchester.

This time they are in barley, not corn. But the geometric perfection and pattern are just as intriguing.

The new circles are in an 80-acre field beside the A272 road to Petersfield.

The big circle is 50ft in diameter, and the four small ones grouped round it are each 18ft across.

And it's not the first time they have appeared there! They also turned up in 1980 and 1981.

This year they were dis-



**AND EVERYWHERE** A new mystery yesterday as they appear again in the Winchester barleyfield: The plot gets cornier

By DAVID THURLOW

covered on the thundery night of June 18. Maurice Botting, manager of a neighbouring farm at nearby Owslebury, said: "I went past that night at 1.30 a.m. and they were not there."

"When I went by again at 6.30 a.m. there they were—and it was quite astonishing. We are all mystified and would love to know what the answer is."

In each circle, the barley has been knocked down

scientifically in a clockwise spiralled spiral from the centre leaving a perfect arc. Mrs Petronel Payne, 37, from Owslebury, said: "The barley is laid perfectly, not ripped, torn or crushed."



"What we want is a logical explanation. There have been other circles in the area."

"People rang the Ministries of Defence and Agriculture two years ago but no one was interested so we left it."

Last night the local pubs were agog as villagers in the two counties put forward their own theories.

Some said the circles were cut by a hoaxer on stilts, or by deer, a whirlwind, or a helicopter.

Others suggested it was the work of hedgehogs joyfully making love in the mid-summer moonlight.

But as the speculation grew that it might be something from outer space, the Hampshire field owner launched a furious rocket of his own.

Lieutenant Commander Henry Bruce has absolutely

no doubt what it's all about. No fancy theories for him.

He declared: "It's grown up people behaving like children making wanton damage."

"They want to delude people who are stupid into believing it's a UFO."

"Any child could do it. It's the easiest thing in the world to do. I won't say how."

Mrs Jenny Randies, director of investigations for the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, said: "We believe the circles are not mysterious but caused by whirlwinds or tornadoes."

We think the weather is to blame."

Come in E.T. The line is open!

## Dim view of new UFO rings

MYSTERY circles similar to those in a Wiltshire cornfield have been found in a field of barley near Winchester, Hampshire.

Just like Westbury, Wiltshire, where five circles of flattened corn led to speculation about UFOs, so have the Winchester five perfectly made rings.

The biggest, about 50ft in diameter, stands in the centre of the four others, about 16 feet in diameter, in a similar pattern to those in Westbury.

Two small paths can be seen trodden through the barley to the centre circle in the field at Cheese-foot Head on the Winchester-Petersfield road.

But suggestions that UFOs were responsible were scornfully dismissed by the owner of the field, Lieutenant-Commander Henry Bruce.

"I am getting very fed up with this," he said last night. "Wanton destruction of the nation's food is not funny."

People with the minds of children had done it, he said. And the circles would have to be similar to the ones in Westbury "because that is the only way it is easy to do," he said.

# Close Encounters of the Wiltshire kind

By JEREMY GATES

IF THE White Holes of Westbury—mysterious patterns in a cornfield revealed in the Express as a possible UFO landing site—baffled most of Britain yesterday, the eighth Earl of Clancarty was far from surprised.

Said the peer, who chairs the House of Lords all-party UFO Study Group: "The marks are fascinating, suggesting something has landed there—and perhaps this does accord with the theory of the ley lines."

"Ley Lines" are claimed to be lines of electro-magnetic energy, reckoned to be the courses by which UFOs steer—in much the same way as the jet pilot works from radio beacon to radio beacon.

"Lots of ancient churches are on ley lines," says Lord Clancarty, "and so, of course, is Warminster."

## Reputation

Warminster, Wiltshire, heart of the "Warminster Triangle" since the mid-sixties and a few miles south of Westbury, is famed for UFO sightings and encounters with the supernatural—a reputation which survives despite the fact that army exercises on Salisbury Plain are just around the corner.

The legend was born one evening in 1964 when troops at Kook, four miles from the town, were awakened by a thunderclap followed by a pounding noise and villagers nearby later heard clatterings and hummings.

The "Warminster Thing"



Clancarty: not surprised

was born in 1965—with flocks of pigeons falling from the air, dead mice found with tiny holes in their corpses, and high pitched droning in the night sky leaving pets cowering in fear.

Over 430 unexplained "sightings" have been recorded in the area—many by those waiting patiently with binoculars on Cradle Hill, outside the town.

But are there perfectly rational explanations? The Express UFO Bureau in 1978 certainly revealed no special bias towards this area of Wiltshire—and Jenny Randles, director of investigations at the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association, is unconvinced that this is where the little green men eventually appear.

Mrs Randles says: "Since the 'Warminster Thing' took hold of public imagination, the story has really developed by feeding upon itself. 'People go there from all over the world because they are told they will see a UFO. So many people are watching there that the smallest event is magnified into front page news.'

Of the White Holes of Westbury Mrs Randles says: "For about 20 years these

mysterious circles have turned up in cornfields in July and August. I believe the marks are caused by whirlwinds and small tornadoes. But it is getting difficult to separate fact from fiction."

She says: "There are basically two different things which have to be explained. 'First, we get reports of 'close encounters' where people claim some contact with the extra-terrestrial; seeing a spaceship, or aliens. We can't dismiss them all as hallucinations, but no photographic evidence exists of either UFO craft or aliens.

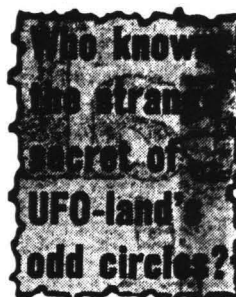
## Burns

"Second, we get UAP's—Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena. These can be physical in appearance, leaving marks on the ground or burns on the skin. Some geo-physical process is taking place producing an increase in radio-activity which can damage people's health, or cause radiation sickness."

A recent incident involving UAPs include the Cornish couple who spotted a green oval object hovering in their courtyard—subsequently they were treated in hospital for symptoms believed to have been caused by radiation.

Could the White Holes of Westbury be another indication of UAP's?

Jenny Randles believes not—but neither she or anybody else, will be certain enough to stop the UFO spotters gathering on Cradle Hill in the weeks ahead.



From yesterday's Express

GUARDIAN, London, England  
July 16, 1983

THE DAILY Mirror revealed recently that Prince Philip is fascinated by the subject of flying saucers, apparently inspired by the late Earl Mountbatten's sighting of something landing on the croquet lawn at Broadlands. Both, it appears, have subscribed to Flying Saucer Review.

This chimes strangely with a report in the current bulletin of the National Unidentified Flying Research Organisation. Quoting the Daily Express, it describes how a guardsman observed a "brilliantly lit" flying saucer land on the lawns of the Swedish Palace in Stockholm one evening last year.

What can it mean? Do the Martians have tabloid newspapers too?

## Simple solution to the mystery rings

MORE mysterious rings have been spotted in the Warminster triangle—famous for its UFO sightings.

But the man who found them Bradford-on-Avon meteorologist Peter Meaden has scotched theories they were caused by alien space craft.

Mr Meaden has been studying similar phenomenon for some years and is convinced whirlwinds are the answer.

The strange rings were first spotted in the West Wiltshire countryside three years ago.

The latest examples appeared on the Bratton to Westbury Road last week.

Corn in a farmer's



PETER MEADEN

field has been flattened into a 40-foot diameter circle surrounded by four smaller satellite circles.

Mr Meaden says another set can be seen from the top of Clay Hill, Warminster, but they are faint and were probably formed earlier.

He said: "This is definitely whirlwinds at work. Although I know it is odd that they are so

perfectly formed and I cannot explain that.

"The barley is laid down flat and still growing. If anything had landed on it the earth would be squashed and it isn't."

"If it was a hoax then the barley would be damaged in some way."

Mr Meaden, editor of The Journal Of Meteorology said the phenomena normally happened in cereal fields in hot weather and could only be seen from a raised level.

He said the circles were basically caused by a vortex spinning round and causing wind damage.

But UFO enthusiasts are convinced the circles were formed by space craft.

Former chairman of the British UFO society Ken Rogers said: "Every year on August 27 we keep a vigil on Clay Hill in Warminster."

"Several sightings have been made on this date over the years. I am sure these circles mean something spectacular will happen this year."

## TRANSLATIONS

CREDIT: Luis R. Gonzalez

City and country of incident: La Mola (Barcelona), Spain

Date of incident: May 20, 1983

Name of paper and date of clip: DIARIO DE SABADELL, May 25, 1983

City and country of newspaper: Sabadell (Barcelona), Spain

### UFO AT LA MOLA?

A businessman, 62, who lives at Sabadell saw a UFO last Friday night, on the road to Matadepera. The encounter took place at 9:40 p.m. when he (and his wife) were driving to their house in Matadepera for the weekend. After passing, on the right, the small chapel of St. Julia, the witness saw "something like a big fiery ball, very bright and white, about 2 kms. away. It was bigger than an halogenous headlamp but smaller than a full moon."

The witness, who prefers to remain anonymous, immediately pointed out the object to his wife. From then onwards both stories match: "The luminous ball went up slowly, majestically, almost as high as the near peak of La Mola. Suddenly, it exploded into an extremely bright beam of light and departed with a vertiginous speed towards 'Puig de la Creu' without leaving any trail." The object was observed for about 15 seconds.

During the incident the driver slowed the car and rolled down his window in order to detect any noise but silence was overwhelming.

When they arrived at Matadepera, still confused, they asked some neighbors just arrived from Barcelona if they believe in UFOs. Their answer was "Where did you see it?," confirming afterwards that they had also seen the light. Our paper has made inquiries at the police but it has been impossible to find more witnesses.

The businessman confessed that "until now I had been a sceptic about UFOs and even laughed at them. Now I would like to talk with some expert who could explain to me what it was that I saw, because I cannot find any explanation."

City and country of incident: Between Valencia and Barcelona, Spain

Date of incident: June 1983

Name of paper and date of clip: SUR, July 3, 1983

City and country of newspaper: Málaga, Spain

### UFO

Vitoria (EFE). - Two Boeing 727s of the Spanish national air carrier "Iberia" met a UFO between Valencia and Barcelona.

The incident took place last June and was revealed now to EFE newswire by the journalist J. J. Benitez.

When both airplanes were flying from Valencia to Barcelona, a very bright, reddish object was seen near the cockpit of one of the jets, commanded by Captain Ruiz Iarrea.

According to both crews, the UFO circled the 727, stopping finally near the wings and tail of the aircraft.

"Another bright object was seen in the same general time period at the small village of Villalengua (Aragón)," Benitez added.

CREDIT: Massimo Greco

City and country of incident: Ca' Bianca de Varzi, Pavia, Italy

Date of incident: June 5, 1983

Name of paper and date of clip: LA NOTTE, June 9, 1983

City and country of newspaper: Milan, Italy

### I'VE MET "E.T." - CLOSE ENCOUNTER NEAR PAVIA

PAVIA - Before all the people sighted UFOs on June 6, is it possible that a UFO landed near Pavia and E.T. emerged from it? Hundreds of witnesses saw the UFO in the sky of Pavia. All witnesses agree on the details of the sighting. The UFO was seen at Pavia, Voghera, Coreolona, Villanterio, Casteggio and Mortara, and we have all the names, surnames, professions and ages of the witnesses. The night of the UFO, or at least of the UFO sightings, started officially Monday night (June 6), but on Sunday morning (June 5), a few minutes before 6:00 a.m. in locality Ca' Bianca di Varzi, near the farmhouse of Prof. Carlo Azzaretti, the ex-mayor of the village, occurred a close encounter of the second kind; an amazing encounter made by a couple of pensioners (husband and wife) and by a farmer. These three persons reported the fact to Varzi's Carabinieri (Italian Military Police). But now for the facts: it is 5:58 a.m. on Sunday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Claretto, respectively aged 56 and 57, living at Magenta, but temporarily on vacation in Varzi, are awakened by the furious barks of Spiro, the dog of a neighbor farmer, Bruno Stafforini, 60. Mario Claretto got up from the bed and went to the window.

The thing he saw at about one hundred meters was incredible: "It was like an egg-shaped object, hovering about 50 centimeters from the ground. From its rotating top when out a strange yellow-reddish light that was intermittent. I called my wife and she also sighted that strange 'thing.' Then I noticed that our neighbor, Bruno Stafforini, was also observing the thing near the metallic enclosure of his courtyard."

Mr. Stafforini explains: "Yes, I was giving the fodder to the chicks when my dog was almost breaking his chain and barking very loudly in the direction of the field. There was a great silence when I sighted that strange thing surrounded by the light. I don't know anything about such things, but I was very afraid. We all watched the object, myself and Mr. Claretto with his wife, while my dog continued to bark as if he was ill. Then, the 'thing' raised up without any noise, remained motionless over us for some moments and then flew away at an incredible speed toward Staffora Valley and then toward Voghera."

Bruno Stafforini, Mario Claretto and his wife Valia, re-entered their houses and watched the sky for ten minutes. Only yesterday morning did they report the event to the Carabinieri.

"We feared that they thought we were crazy," they said, "but after we heard that hundreds of witnesses saw a UFO the day after, we decided to report the fact."

On the table of Captain Bevacqua, chief commander of Carabinieri's Brigade of Voghera, there is a detailed report on the incident. The three witnesses of the close encounter are judged by all as trustworthy persons.



By George Will

NEWS, Kenosha, WI - May 15, 1983 CR: R. Heiden

# Cynics have tough time denying 'Nessie'

WASHINGTON — In the 50 years since an Inverness newspaper reported "the appearance of a strange animal or fish in Loch Ness," we have learned to live with such ideas as these: that matter is energy, that atoms can be smashed, that subatomic particles have some attributes associated with particles and others associated with waves, that light is subject to gravity because space is curved near large masses, and that there is a decipherable code of heredity contained in a substance (DNA) common to all living things from turkeys to violinists. But it is generally considered beneath serious consideration that a large creature

lives in Loch Ness. Because the "monster" has been good for Scotland's tourist trade, cynics dismiss it as a fabrication. Because a willingness to construe other persons' beliefs as products of neuroses is widely considered a sign of bravery and learning, persons who say they have seen the creature or evidence of it, or who even remain open-minded about it, are said to be manifesting an instinctive human craving for myth, and the hunger of a secular age for mystery, and all that stuff.

The loch is only 24 miles long and a mile wide, but it is so deep it is, in volume, the largest lake in Britain and the third largest in Europe.

Therefore, although there have been hundreds of claimed sightings by scientists and laymen, the absence of definitive evidence for the creature's existence can conceivably be due to the fact that the loch has ample room for a reclusive creature to avoid the limelight.

After assessing photographic and sonar evidence gathered in 1972 and 1975, the curator of the Smithsonian's division of reptiles and amphibians said the data "indicate the presence of large animals in Loch Ness." Also in 1975, a curator in the department of vertebrate paleontology at the Royal Ontario Museum said: "There is an unexplained phenomenon of con-

siderable interest." The director of Harvard's museum of comparative zoology said the evidence was "suggestive of a large aquatic animal."

Evidence was treated as scientifically serious in the Harvard museum's "MCZ Newsletter" and in "Technology Review" published at MIT.

Peat particles in the murky water make underwater photographs difficult to decipher, but computer-enhancement of photographs at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena has shown the photographic record to be consistent with the sonar record indicating moving objects 20 to 30 feet long.

A 1976 article in Smithsonian mag-

azine concluded: "There's something in the loch, something big, even though we don't know what." But it is curious the amount of faith sometimes needed, and sometimes forthcoming, to maintain a particular skepticism. It is still possible that the story of the Loch Ness creature illustrates the number of ideas people are willing to entertain in order to avoid entertaining one idea that is considered naive or otherwise out of place.

No metaphysics will come unstuck, no moral code will be refuted, no notion of man's place under the eye of eternity will have to be revised if, say, we someday discover that a species of large prehistoric reptiles

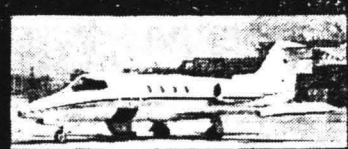
got locked in the loch by a geologic accident and has been dining well on Scotch salmon ever since. (Several sightings have been associated with salmon in headlong flight.) But many persons close their minds against many thoughts in order to avoid being thought insufficiently skeptical.

Of course, credulity can be costly. As Stern magazine can attest. But skepticism can be a kind of dogmatic slumber and the world has much to lose from an atrophied capacity for wonder and surprise. Certainly the history of science in this century should serve as a warning against a narrow notion of the possible.

## FORTEANA NEWS

DAILY MAIL, London, England - May 20, 1983

### Flight 184 to nowhere



## WHAT WENT WRONG?

THE aviation world was mystified last night by the story without an end.

Just why did the ghost jet Flight TJ 184—code-named Snoopy — fly nearly 2,000 miles across Europe with no one at the controls before plunging into the sea off Iceland?

Only the three pilots on board the executive Learjet could have known, perhaps just for a split second before they lost consciousness and died. All the experts could add was speculation.

Was the plane hit by a sudden electrical storm which put the pressurisation system out of action along with the emergency oxygen supply?

That is the belief of Jeremy Smith, who sells Learjets in Britain. He said: "A total electrical failure could immediately decompress the cabin and the back-up oxygen system could then beiced up."

But there were no reports of storms in the area where disaster struck eight miles above Germany. The pilot did not radio any difficulty. And the engines would have probably stopped too, instead of flying on auto-pilot until they ran out of fuel 250 miles north of the Outer Hebrides.

Did the pilot deliberately cut the pressure as a test for the third captain on board, who was being 'checked out' by the other two, to see how he would react?

That was what the RAF Phantom crew who intercepted the ghost jet in British airspace, assumed. Knowing the plane was on a pilot check ride.

### Damage

But the pilot told no one on the ground he was going to practise such a manoeuvre. And in any case he would surely not have carried it out at such a height—at 40,000ft. without pressurisation it takes less than ten seconds for a man to pass out and die soon afterwards. He would have known that a similar test some years ago at 30,000ft. killed both pilot and pupil.

Did a sudden hole appear in the cabin, causing the air to rush out?

This is the theory senior RAF officers were putting forward last night.

But the pilots who escorted the jet on its terrifying

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
Air Correspondent

flight could see no sign of damage, and all the doors and windows were intact, instead of being sucked out as would be likely in such a case.

Was there no one in the cockpit at all, the pilots all having been in the rear part of the plane?

The RAF men who flew within 30ft of the Learjet reported seeing no one in the cockpit.

### Theories

However the pilots may have been slumped on the floor where they could not be seen—though this leads to the question why they were not wearing their seat belts which would have held them upright.

Two of them could have gone back to help the third if he were ill. But the pilot should have reported it on the radio before engaging the auto-pilot.

Did toxic fumes enter the oxygen supply?

This was the theory being put forward by an RAF Wing Commander last night.

But no such fumes have even been known to get into a cabin or oxygen supply before.

And so the speculation goes on. Last night a spokesman for the plane's owners, Air Traffic Incorporated of Dusseldorf, said: "I could suggest a hundred theories and only the 101st would turn out to be the correct one."

The £2 million Learjet, with seating for six passengers, left its home base

in Dusseldorf on Wednesday afternoon with two pilots and a charter passenger. When they arrived in Vienna the passenger disembarked and a third pilot—the man to be checked out—boarded.

The plane then left for Hamburg, where another charter booking was waiting.

Thirty-five minutes out of Vienna the Learjet pilot made a routine check with the air traffic control point at Erlangen, about ten miles north of Nuremberg. The Erlangen controller noted that the plane was flying at its announced cruising altitude of about 41,000 feet, was on time, and that the pilot reported nothing unusual.

The Learjet also corrected its course to aim for Fulda, 125 miles north-west, where it was due 19 minutes later, and where the pilot was scheduled to make another course correction.

### Check

But over Fulda, the Learjet pilot failed to call the control station, so it called him. He did not reply. He also failed to make the scheduled course correction, but continued on the heading set at Erlangen, that eventually took him over northern Holland, Scotland and straight towards Iceland.

Although the owners in Dusseldorf say they were informed within ten minutes that their aircraft had neither answered calls nor changed course as scheduled at Fulda, no one in West Germany went up to check the Learjet.

But Dutch, and later British, fighter planes were scrambled.

Flying officer Mark Hanna and navigator Flight Lieutenant John Marr took off from RAF Leuchars in Fife in their Phantom and circled the Learjet for 25 minutes as it travelled over Scotland at about 450 mph.

Flying Officer Hanna, 23, said: "We had a good look into the cockpit. We could see the seats and the white headrests. There was certainly no one in the cockpit."

If there was somebody in the back of the cockpit they were unconscious or dead. There was no sign of damage.

### Attack

At first the RAF feared the mystery jet could crash on Scotland.

But incident co-ordination contacted a Learjet pilot who worked out the fuel reserves. These indicated a sufficient flying time to clear the country with ease.

Wing Commander Mike Elsom said any decision to attack the jet would have had to be taken at the very highest level. But the Learjet presented no danger, and a civilian aircraft veering from its flight plan was no threat to security.

### Wreckage

After the RAF jets turned back the Learjet flew on alone. Eventually it ran out of fuel and dove into the sea 250 miles off the Outer Hebrides into the icy waters around Iceland.

A search for wreckage was called off yesterday.

HERALD, Everett, WA - July 25, 1983 CR: L. Williford

## Seattle monster-hunters take cameras to Scotland's Loch Ness

Associated Press

LONDON — Two Americans plan to launch a fresh hunt for the Loch Ness monster this week, using a surveillance camera of the type normally used to photograph bank robbers.

Erik Beckjord and Anya Kuratchin-Lincoln, both of Seattle, said they plan to set up a camera for a three-week survey in Urquhart Bay — the section of the Scottish lake where sightings of a monster-like creature are most frequently reported.

"The camera can video-tape a small area

continuously for 240 hours straight, night or day," Beckjord said Sunday.

"We'll let it go for a couple days straight and then use the fast playback to see if anything has popped up," he said.

Beckjord said he had arranged to borrow a security-camera system from an electronics company distributor in London.

"All due respect to previous attempts, but I think we've got a better chance of seeing something — if there's anything to see — with a robot camera. Not only is it cheaper, it eliminates human error and boredom," he said.

Beckjord, founder of the Seattle-based National Cryptozoological Society, said he has spent six years tracking Bigfoot, the giant ape-like animal purportedly sighted and photographed in the mountains of Canada and the northwest United States.

The society catalogues between 10 and 20 sightings of Bigfoot every year, he said.

Beckjord said the society had paid for "Project Water Monster" with money he earned from lectures on his search for Bigfoot.

He said he hoped to attract contributions

of more equipment, particularly an underwater video camera.

"The idea is to introduce as much technology as we can . . . to record what happens in as much area as we can," he said. "We want to gather enough video tape to satisfy scientists that Nessie exists."

Since the year 545, when St. Columba is said to have rescued a farmer from the grips of a monster in the River Ness, more than 3,000 people have reported seeing an animal with a long neck and flippers in the murky waters of the 726-foot-deep lake, Beckjord said.

# E.T., phone Prof. Lightman

By Robert Cooke  
Globe Staff

Now that the search for extra-terrestrials (or E.T.) is under way, Prof. Alan Lightman has a few questions:

"How do we know," he asks, "that our second isn't their year? And what if our inch is their mile?"

In fact, he asks, "How do we know their whole sense of time is anything like ours? This would obviously have some bearing on communicating with them."

Lightman, at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, noted during an interview that an E.T.'s scale of measurement "is something people don't usually question: we make implicit assumptions about their existence," and assume extra-terrestrial beings measure things the same way we do.

To get around these assumptions, Lightman did some calculations that show that E.T. and his kin, if they exist, probably have days and years not very different from our own.

"I looked at two time scales," he said, "the length of the day, and the length of the year. These are important time scales for life." The day, determined by how fast Earth spins on its axis, "determines our waking/sleeping cycles."

At the same time, "all plant life is oriented toward the seasons, which depend on the length of the year. And all higher life forms, those higher up on the food chain, also depend on the year as an important time scale in their existence."

So, Lightman said, these two measurements "are significant for living creatures anywhere."

To figure out what range of time scales — days and years — are possible for living beings elsewhere, it's important to know what Lightman called a few fundamental constants.

These include the temperature at which life is possible, the likely size for a stable, sun-like star, and the speed at which a planet can rotate without breaking apart.

To determine day length, "I had to assume the typical rotation rate for a planet was not much below what it would take to make it break up," he said.

In other words, if Earth were rotating faster, making a complete turn on its axis every two or three hours, it would soon crack and break apart because of centrifugal force.

"Most of the planets in the solar system are spinning within a factor of two or three [slower than] their break-up rates," ranging between nine hours and 25 hours, Lightman said.

"So, I'm suggesting that any [habitable] planet anywhere in the universe would have a day that is not too much longer than six hours," he said, noting that Earth's 24-hour period "is not a large difference" in terms of these calculations.

When it comes to figuring the year's length, however, "I have to make a few more assumptions. The principal assumption is that for a life-bearing planet, you need a temperature that is favorable. If it's too hot, you disrupt the organic molecules of that life form. And if it's too cold, then we know from biochemistry that chemical reactions proceed too slowly, and life would not have time to develop."

He also noted that "some people say you need liquid water, but I don't make that assumption. I don't think we've proven you need liquid water; but you do need the right temperatures."

Earth, for instance, obviously has a hospitable range of temperatures for life as it orbits about 93 million miles from the sun. But if the sun were bigger, or brighter, this planet would get scorched. To remain habitable near a hotter sun, Earth would have to be moved farther away. And vice-versa for a colder sun.

So, depending on the size and brightness of its "parent" star, a planet must be the right distance away, and its distance from its star determines the length of its orbit, and thus the duration of its year.

Lightman noted, too, that for life to arise requires time, which tends to limit how big a central star can be. If the star is too big, too massive, then its nuclear fires burn much hotter and much faster and the star burns out quickly, or even blows itself to pieces. The bigger a star is, the shorter its career, and the less time life would have for getting started.

On the other hand, "if the star is small," Lightman said, "its interior never gets hot enough to ignite the nuclear reactions and shine like a star," and life couldn't arise on a nearby planet. The planet Jupiter is such an almost-star, not quite big enough to touch off nuclear burning in its interior.

Given such calculations, Lightman said, the range of star sizes associated with life arising on a planet ranges between stars one-tenth the size of the sun and ten times bigger. Outside this range, development of life probably isn't possible.

"So the number I get out is very close to our own year, or from one-tenth to ten times our Earth year," he said.

# Minnesota monsters

## Eerie tales put chill in north air

By Don Boxmeyer  
Staff Writer

Some thoroughly dreadful monsters, behemoths, beasts and critters (not to mention the Iceman of Altura) have been stomping around Minnesota and western Wisconsin for years, if you believe all the stories.

Stories like the Monster of Big Sandy Lake, a saga that goes back to 1886 and has to do with some sort of sea serpent in Big Sandy Lake, north of McGregor. Stories like the errant kangaroo that showed up out of nowhere in 1957 to terrorize the natives near Coon Rapids. There were giant human skeletons reported discovered in a creek bottom near Chatfield in 1911. Cattle mutilations, blamed on everything from weird sects to beings from outer space, have taken place all over the state — near Ivanhoe, at Kimball, in Meeker County and at the Carlos Avery Game Reserve just north of the Twin Cities.

Then there's the Iceman of Altura.

There was even a Bigfoot sighting reported near here, at St. Croix Falls in 1976. Four high school boys said they were scared witless when they saw this apelike creature on a hunting trip to the Barrens, a wild and desolate area northeast of St. Croix Falls. They told some friends, and then their friends saw the hairy beast and some of its huge tracks, measuring 19 inches long and 9 inches wide, in sand.

Pretty soon Twin Cities television stations showed interest. United Press International called. NBC's "Today" camera crews arrived on the scene. Bigfoot, though it never uttered a grunt or bashed a skull or disappeared into the bush carrying the village virgin, had put the Barrens on the map.

Then there's the Iceman of Altura.

Late in 1968, noted Belgian zoologist Bernard Heuvelmans and another anomaly investigator showed up at the snowbound Altura, Minn., farm of Frank Hansen.

They came to look at the block of ice Hansen had been displaying at county fairs for 35 cents a peek. The ice, in a refrigerated tank, was unusual because it contained a hideous body, a male of some manlike species, covered with hair and having huge hands.

Heuvelmans and his partner had come expecting to find a hoax — they'd been through several get-rich-quick schemes before. But as they climbed around on the beast's coffin, taking pictures and making sketches, they grew excited. This one seemed legitimate.

They noticed, and Hansen confirmed, that the creature had been severely wounded. The eye sockets were empty and one eyeball was hanging down on the cheek. Hansen said its brains had been blown out. The speculation was that the beast had been shot before it was placed in the block of ice.

Hansen told the Belgian that he acquired it from an unnamed owner in Hong Kong, and that it might have become encased in the ice in the Bering Sea. Hansen, however, wasn't too interested in its origins as long as he could keep on displaying it for 35 cents a peek.

In February 1969, Heuvelmans' report appeared in a Belgian journal. He said he thought the corpse was real and represented an unknown species of man.

In a paper to be published in the *American Journal of Physics*, Lightman said, "I speculate further about the significance of the year." He speculates, in fact, that the length of the year may have played a crucial role in setting up the average lifespans of higher animals.

Thus it may not be accidental that "the lifespan of most advanced creatures on Earth, from mice to men," is, in mathematical terms, fairly close to the length of the year.

"The reproductive period is even closer to the year, and that also may not be an accident."

Back in Earth's history, when evolving creatures first emerged from the seas, Lightman said, they perhaps "built into their biological machinery the length of the year."

The Smithsonian Institution was interested by that time. Dr. John Napier, director of primate biology at the institution, recalls in his book "Bigfoot" (E.P. Dutton, 1973) that Hansen hedged when contacted, saying the "original" body had been taken back by its anonymous owner and replaced by some kind of model.

Napier then tracked down a commercial model maker on the West Coast who said he had made a beast out of latex and hair for Hansen in 1967 — the year Hansen first took his critter on the exhibition circuit.

The Smithsonian wasted no time in bailing out of the project, Napier recalls, "much, I think, to the relief of all concerned, who were understandably jittery at the prospect of press headlines proclaiming 'Smithsonian Scientists Fooled by Carnival Exhibit.'"

Then the rumor mill got cranked up, Napier writes. Rumors began circulating that the Smithsonian was suppressing the fact that the Missing Link had at last been found. Meanwhile, Hansen hauled his icebox and his beast, whatever it was, to the Midway Shopping Center in St. Paul in May 1969 for its first public showing since the Belgian scientist's report and a supporting story blazed across the pages of *Argosy* magazine.

A newspaper columnist spent 30 minutes inspecting the "icy bier" and wrote, "I came away convinced that what I had seen is not a wax model or something made out of plastic."

But after the St. Paul showing, Hansen revealed the beast as "fabricated illusion," a model of a mysterious original. In 1970, the story took an even stranger twist when Hansen, in a *Saga* magazine article, wrote that he stumbled on three hairy beasts while on a deer-hunting trip in northern Minnesota.

When one of them began to attack him, Hansen wrote, he shot it and ran in terror. He told no one about the encounter, but returned several months later to find the body frozen stiff. Not wanting to get linked with a crime, he hauled the body back home where he emptied the freezer of its food and put the body in. He kept it that way for several years before deciding to exhibit it.

If that's true, Napier writes, Hansen's reasons for replacing the original with a latex model were never made clear unless he thought the publicity from the first Belgian report would link him with some kind of crime.

Napier concludes, "... so back into the show coffin went the model, and the 'original' was spirited away to an unknown hiding place, where, presumably, it lies to this day unseen, unmourned and probably — if real — smelling to high heaven."

Hansen, meanwhile, and his icy coffin full of hairy latex are still on occasional tour. He just completed a three-month exhibit in Rochester.

And what of Bigfoot of the Barrens?

The four teen-agers said it was all a joke, that they made up the story and the footprints while on a hunting trip.

"Heck," one the youths later told the Dispatch, "it didn't really hurt anybody, and it gave the town something to talk about besides the elections." □

CR: M. Hall



Rick Yetsko, left, and Wes Sumerlin plan their next moves for a Blue Mountains Bigfoot trip.

## Burnt Fork trip whets Bigfoot appetite

If ever there was a place in the Blue Mountains to shelter a bunch of Bigfoots, it would be the Burnt Fork.

A look at a map of the Walla Walla District of the Umatilla National Forest might give a hint of that, but ride a horse down into the tight little valley and you'll see for yourself.

For just such a look three riders dropped off Lewis Peak on a recent weekend and rode into the Burnt . . . and several hard fought miles beyond before that weekend ran its course. Besides the writer, other mounted Bigfoot seekers were Wes Sumerlin and Rick Yetsko.

While Yetsko — a veteran Baltimore-born cowboy and a computer technician first class — has made a few trips into the area, the real vet was Sumerlin, who has packed in and ridden more of the Blues than most who do this sort of thing. It was to that experience of Sumerlin we were to turn several times before we made it back to our Lewis Peak starting point.

Yetsko as a computer technician does a lot of traveling around the country as a trouble shooter. As a youngster attending prep school, he was indoctrinated into the facts of the equestrian and has been an ardent devotee of the saddle ever since. Getting deeply involved in this hobby and equal involvement in riding the Blues has become an even more important part of his lifestyle.

And, Bigfoot and Wes Sumerlin are just as big.

This weekend horseback trip was inspired when Yetsko and his family had an experience on the Burnt which will forever be etched in their minds. It was while they were camped at their favorite spot there one evening they had what they are convinced was at least a near encounter with Bigfoot. It was a scant year ago the Walla Walla Bigfoot was sighted by Paul Freeman and other tracks also were seen later.

Here, the Yetsko family saw several huge tracks in the dust of the trail near their Burnt Fork camp, then were treated to a series of the unusual whistling sounds reputedly made



Outdoors in the Blues

Vance Orchard

by Bigfoot in other reported encounters in the Blues and elsewhere in the Northwest.

When we three headed back to the site a week later, we failed to find any of the tracks, but photographs taken at the time will back up this sighting. Changing weather conditions, coupled with intensive use of the trail by game, mostly deer and elk, apparently removed track evidence spotted nine days before by the Yetskos.

What we found the end of the next day, though, whetted appetites of all to get back to the heart of the Blues for another search some day. But, it won't be real soon. What we found in the shape of snow will delay that trip. It should have delayed the one we made, because it brought a measure of misery to all and especially to this writer-turned-cowboy for the weekend. There has been enough news coverage of the extensive snowfall in the Blues this past winter but a closeup view of the stuff, piled several feet deep yet on roads and trails, was enough to prove there's a hefty snowpack up there.

Looking back on it all, there were some moments of levity which doubled up some of my listeners, when the tale was recounted:

My RSVP cap, a gift of the agency's director, Gwen Burlingame, proved too light for the brush and other vagrant limbs across the several trails (and non-trails, as well) for it was off my head several times. "No wonder you got sunburned on your head," Wes said on the way home the last day; "your darned hat wasn't on your head all that much."

And, when Mollie, our pack mule, mired down in four feet of snow and broke her pack all over the snow-covered sidehill, it was an experience aimed at testing the minds of man (like, what in the world am I doing up here in a situation like this?). Needless to say, I don't know yet how the stuff got all picked up and the mule repacked. No wonder, we had to almost pull her up the hill; that experience must have boggled her mind, too.

Mollie figured a little later, in another mishap with the assortment of sleeping bags, packboxes and other gear atop her back. While busy with repacking the whole mess for the second time, we failed to notice the disappearance of Wes' sleeping bag. Somehow, it got loose on the steep slope and tumbled down and out of sight. It had to be down there, everyone recalled seeing it as we started to repack Mollie. In spite of being bone weary, Wes picked his way down through the boulder-strewn, brushy sidehill and finally came out with his precious bag, located many yards (like two football fields distance) down the hill.

Snow covered so much of the country for the second night, we found ourselves forced to make camp practically in the snow, melting snow for water for coffee. The noon meal that day had consisted of a couple of handfuls of a dried fruit-nuts trail mix and a snowball.

While the search for Bigfoot over the weekend was nearly fruitless, we did come up with some tracks in the snow near Griffin Peak which could prove real interesting.

The only trouble, as far as Yetsko was concerned was the fact that the tracks were headed back into the Burnt Fork country.

And, we'd just clawed our way up out of there!

PRESS REPUBLICAN,  
Plattsburgh, NY - July 25,  
1983 CR: J. Zarzynski

### Increase seen in sightings of Champ

TICONDEROGA — Thirteen sightings of Champ, the Loch Ness-like creature purported to live in Lake Champlain, have been made this year, according to Joseph W. Zarzynski, Lake Champlain Phenomena director.

"So far, 1983 seems like a prolific year for reported Champ sightings," Zarzynski said in statement.

The number of reported sightings is up from last year. Only 11 sightings were reported to Zarzynski's Wilton office last year. Most Champ sitings were near Rouses Point and Port Henry in 1982.

"Of the 13 reported Champ sightings (in 1983), eight were in June and five were in July," Zarzynski said.

Zarzynski, 33, has been a Champ researcher since 1974.

Of the 1983 sightings, only two were of the neck and head, according to Zarzynski. Sightings of Champ, reported to be a serpent-like creature, date to some of the earliest explorations of Lake Champlain.

HERALD, Everett, WA - Aug. 7, 1983 CR: L. Williford

## Hold it right there — Seattle shutterbug gets Nessie (or something) on film

Associated Press

DRUMNADROCHIT, Scotland — Seattle wildlife photographer Erik Beckjord, hunting the fabled Loch Ness Monster, said Saturday he filmed a long, black object seemingly swimming in the lake, but conceded the object may have been a freak wave.

"I'm calling it 'The Loch Ness Maybe,'" he said in a

telephone interview. "It was 15 to 20 feet long, shaped like an overturned boat and appeared to swim across the light swell on the lake, surfacing four times like a porpoise."

Beckjord arrived at the lake nearly two weeks ago for a three-week watch of its surface.

He is using a surveillance camera of the type used to document bank robberies. The video camera, set up in

the second-floor lobby of a lakeside hotel about four miles northeast of Drumnadrochit, can film nonstop for 240 hours.

Beckjord conceded that the 17 seconds of motion his camera picked up about 250 yards offshore Thursday evening might have been nothing more than a freak wave.

"All I can say is, it was very out of place," he said."



AP photo

## Legend in Styrofoam

Seaside, Ore., sculptor-taxidermist Betty Stark needed several months to create her 8-foot, fur-fabric-Styrofoam version of Bigfoot, for a local sporting goods store, after consulting with people who claimed to have seen the Sasquatch. The hands, feet and face need more work, she says.

STAR, Indianapolis, IN - Aug. 7, 1983 CR: C. Jones

## Chinese scientists examine tree that glows in the dark

Peking (UPI) — Scientists are studying wood from a tall, slender tree that glows in the dark, the official Xinhua News Agency said Saturday.

The report said a farmer in Hunan Province recently discovered the phenomenon in a type of poplar tree that grows in southern China.

WHEN THE farmer, Liu Fugui, cut down the 30-foot tree and stripped off the bark, he found the wood gave off a glow, the news agency said.

"He discovered that even the root, sawdust and the inner bark emit light, which is of a clear blue color," the report said.

"One part of the trunk, which is two inches in diameter and 41 inches in height, is as bright as an 8-watt fluorescent lamp," the news agency said.

THE LIGHT decreased as the wood dries, but returned when the trunk was stuck in wet ground, it said.

STAR, Indianapolis, IN - Aug. 2, 1983

## 2 Americans hunt for Loch Ness beast

Drumadrochit, Scotland (UPI) — Two American explorers Monday opened the Loch Ness hunting season by switching on their underwater sonar probes and waiting for the fabled Loch Ness monster to swim into range.

If it does, the two Rochester, N.Y., residents — Rikki Razdan and Alan Kielar — hope they can hit it with a harmless harpoon. The harpoon is used to obtain samples of skin and tissue from wild land and sea animals.

Anything big enough that swims within 100 feet of their electronics-packed raft will be a target of a harpoon and should yield sufficient samples to identify the type of animal, said their local adviser, Tony Harmsworth, curator of the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition.

Razdan and Kielar spent 2 1/4 months setting up their 80-foot square raft, fitted with 144 sonar devices and nine biopsy harpoons in position off Drumadrochit.

They closed their electronics business in Rochester for six months in the quest for the legendary monster. Their equipment can produce color TV pictures from the depths of the 1,000-foot deep loch.

Harmsworth insisted the monster would come to no harm from a biopsy harpoon. "It's a common, everyday procedure used with whales, dolphins, elephants ... We don't think it will even be felt," he said.

# Mutilation Reported

By GAIL OLSON  
Of the SUN's  
Santa Fe Bureau

A mutilated steer and orange lights over Dulce have Northern New Mexico residents wondering if they are in for another season of unexplained activities, this summer.

A week of mysterious happenings began Sunday, June 12, in Cuba, according to State Police Officer Gabe Valdez of Dulce. A four-year-old cow was found mutilated 3 1/4 miles north of that town. State Police Officer Mike Avilucea, who investigated the incident, could not be reached for comment but Valdez said it sounded like a standard mutilation.

The action then moved to the Chama-Dulce area. Livestock Inspector Jim Byrd received a call from Buzzy Boyd, who oversees a herd belonging to A. J. Killough of Ft. Sumner. Boyd had found one of his charges, a steer, dead and mutilated north of Chama on the Lobo Lodge property. Byrd contacted his compadre in mutilation investigations, Valdez, and the two travelled to the site.

"It was nothing that we haven't seen before," Byrd said, "except that this was the first steer. I'd hate to see this stuff get started again."

Law enforcement personnel in the Chama area have long been perplexed over the mysterious mutilations, which have been occurring for more than a decade in the country they patrol. Despite diligent investigations of each report, cause of the

mutilations is yet to be learned.

In both the Dulce and the Chama incidents, the genitals of the animals were cleanly removed, as though a razor-sharp instrument had been used. Byrd said the steer also had a four-inch circle of flesh cut from its belly. The fact that the mutilated animal was a steer was a variation, Byrd and Valdez explained, as usually the victims were capable of reproduction.

The yearling steer was the second animal reported mutilated in Rio Arriba County this year. The first belonged to Manuel Gomez, who last March 28 found a mutilated cow near its feeding ground on his property. A Gomez victim generally heralds a year when mutilators intend to make their rounds of Northern New Mexico ranches, as Gomez traditionally is the first to find a victim on his property.

Gomez didn't pass the week preceding the summer solstice unscathed by troublesome activities. He said that last Friday as he and other family members were patrolling their property about 10:30 p.m., they noticed an orange light hovering over a bordering ridge. Binoculars revealed that it was not one light, but several.

Asked if he expected any more mutilations this year, Gomez answered in a resigned tone of voice.

"There is nothing we can do about it. We just find them. Sometimes, we miss them. Sometimes we don't know they are missing

until fall," he said of his cattle. "It is hard to get them all together" during grazing season, he explained.

"They are always after us," Gomez said of mutilation perpetrators.

Asked if this might be the year the mystery is solved, he said, "I don't know. We've been counting on that for a long time now."

HERALD-JOURNAL, Syracuse, NY - July 9, 1983

## Young campers report seeing Lake Champlain's 'Champ'

SOUTH HERO, Vt. (UPI) — Champ — the elusive serpent-like creature said to dwell in Lake Champlain — has made another appearance.

Ten counselors and 25 children at a YMCA camp reported seeing ripples on the water near Camp Greylock Thursday. Then, they said, two

brownish-colored humps surfaced about six inches out of the water and headed south.

Counselor Lora Coble, 17, of Essex Junction, said the humps were about 35 feet off-shore in what had jokingly been dubbed "Champ's Cove," and the creature seemed to be about 50 feet long.

"My first reaction was to scream, 'Champ! Champ! Champ!'" she recalled.

"Everybody suddenly realized what I was talking about and looked."

Witnesses said the humps disappeared beneath the surface about a minute later.

Joseph Zarzynski of Wilton, N.Y., who specializes in recording and investigating sightings of Champ, said it was unusual that so many people claim to have seen the creature at one time.

He said there have been seven reported sightings this year.

Several members of the New York State Assembly last year expressed interest in using the reports of sightings as an enticement to lure tourists to the Lake Champlain area.

Several people who have spotted the creature theorize it may be a distant cousin of Scotland's famous Loch Ness Monster, which has eluded attempts to capture or take clear pictures of it.

CR: R. Barrow 18

TRIBUNE, New York, NY - July 30, 1983

## Texas oil man to search for Atlantis now

DARTMOUTH, Nova Scotia, July 29 — Texas oil millionaire Jack Grimm, undaunted after fruitless hunts for the Abominable Snowman, Noah's Ark and the Titanic, now plans a search for the legendary lost city of Atlantis.

Heavy seas and sonar equipment problems plagued what he hoped would be his third-time-lucky attempt to locate the Titanic, which sunk in 1912 with the loss of 1,500 lives after striking an iceberg.

Grimm said his trip was not a complete failure because his crew got some intriguing sonar readings. Efforts to support the readings with film or videotape failed.

As soon as he was back in port Thursday, Grimm told reporters he planned to take a U.S. research vessel across the Atlantic to an area about 450 miles west of the Straits of Gibraltar, where previous Atlantis seekers have tried their luck.

# Is Mutilated Cattle Work Of Cult Members?

(Langley Farmer Says Yes - State Veterinarian Says No)

By Tommy Jacques

The FBI in Little Rock claim though Arkansas harbors a number of religious cults, the majority are located in the northern part of the state. Farmer Claude Lowery, however, believes a cult is responsible for the death and mutilation of three of his cattle on the Lowery farm at Langley.

The cattle, found dead on two separate occasions; June 14 and 16, 1981 and June 3 of this year, were all missing various body parts and suffered all the more mysterious deaths as no bullet holes marred the cattle's flesh and no tracks were found leading to or from the bodies. The sheriff's department refers to

the incidents as "bizarre."

The first incident was discovered on June 14, 1981 as Lowery crossed his pasture during his morning check of his cattle. Checking the night before, Lowery had discovered no sick cattle; that morning he found one of his finer young cattle, a 400 lb. heifer yearling, dead with incisions and hunks of hide missing from its flank and abdomen, as well as a missing left eye.

Two days later, after he had discovered another cow dead and mutilated, Lowery called the sheriff's office and a deputy was dispatched. The second cow was also missing its left eye, though it had no marks or cuts on the body. The

deputy and Lowery proceeded to examine the cow further.

"He thought she might have been shot in that eye so we took a meat saw and sawed the skull off and checked that out. She hadn't been shot."

In their investigation, the two also found the cow's tongue had been removed and all of the animal's blood had seemingly been removed from its body.

The sheriff's department kept watch for a week but whatever had occurred twice failed to occur again. Months passed; then a year; then another; and then...

"I thought it was a thing of the past," Lowery said.

Lowery had no reason to believe the unusual happenings of June of 1981 would repeat themselves; but, in the late spring morning of June 3, 1983, Lowery found another of his cows, alone under a patch of trees, dead and mutilated. Its left eye had been removed; its tongue cut off; its uterus taken and, once again, no cause of death was determined, though the investigating officer, Pike County Deputy James Cogdell suspects the animal was shot with a tranquilizer.

However, another theory presents itself. Could not death have been of natural causes and could not the mutilation of the cattle been the work of scavengers; coyotes and buzzards?

Lowery and Cogdell reject the theory. Both believe the mutilations were the work of men and almost certainly the work of one or more religious cults. Lowery doesn't believe this could have even been a childish prank. He explains he has read a magazine article on the subject and is almost certain of the cult connection.

"It wouldn't have been the kids — it was some weirdo. It's some kind of cult. I figure they could use some parts of a cow in their rituals."

Lowery is not certain, because of the elapsed time between the incidents, if the perpetrators were the same at both occurrences. He is, however, certain of one thing:

"It may not be the same group but they're the same type in their minds."

Both men point to the almost surgical handling with which the parts were taken from the animals.

The word "smooth" comes up often as they compare the cuts to the almost surely jagged work of scavengers.

Dr. James Cornelius of the diagnostic lab at State Veterinarian's Office in Little Rock is quick to disagree. Cornelius says he has seen many cases of supposed mutilation in his five years with the department but has yet to either give or hear a diagnosis of an actual mutilation.

Cornelius says that many times the animal is stricken down and dies of blackleg and then scavengers take over. He explains that people often believe that someone has butchered their cattle because of what looks to be the smooth work of a knife. Actually, this is only the craftwork of nature, Cornelius says.

"A buzzard and a coyote with teeth and beaks can cut with the precision of a knife," he explained.

Though Cornelius says he would really need to examine the Lowery cattle to determine positively what the cause of death was, he cites the fact no tracks were found around the cattle though one was surrounded by a dirt surface to indicate the mutilations were the work of scavenger birds. He says the organs missing from the cattle are commonly taken by birds.

"They usually turn out to be buzzards," Cornelius comments.

Despite the theory of scavengers, Lowery sticks to his guns. He believes the deaths are the work of "weirdos" and he believes the fact his cattle appeared healthy only hours before the incidents coupled with "smooth" incisions on the cattle, the unusual body parts taken

and the lack of blood around the animals prove his suspicions.

He still has no real idea why a cult would come after his cattle specifically and repeatedly other than the fact they can be seen from Highway 369.

"As you come around the curve you can see cattle all out in there when they're out in there grazing." Cogdell believes the nearness of Camp Albert Pike may be a factor.

Lowery is a calm, even-voiced man who retains a bit of lightness in his tone all his life; except the time he spent in World War II, he explains. He's raised broilers for 30 years and, along with his son, has accumulated several hundred acres of land in the area. He doesn't like the fact his cattle may have been butchered, but he says he wouldn't want to risk his or friends lives to stop it.

"No, I'm not going to stay out there in the pasture and watch for them — if they can kill a cow and nobody knows nothing about it; they can kill anybody. There was some guys told me, before, 'We'll help you watch that pasture.' I said, 'No; you won't help me.' They meant at night. I said, 'If anybody'll watch that pasture, it'll be the sheriff.' People that'll do that will do anything."

As long as the harm is to the cattle, Lowery isn't worrying too much. He's increased the number of times he checks the cattle per day and generally keeps a closer eye on things. Lowery says he doesn't have any idea if the cult will visit his pasture again.

"I don't know, I thought they'd quit before," he says with a smile and a chuckle.

Hasty hunter upsets the Loch Ness monster men

GUARDIAN, London, England - Aug. 10, 1983 CR: P. Norman

By Jean Stead  
AN American Yell follower and believer in the paranormal has caused a ripple of scandal at Loch Ness by calmly announcing that he had seen the monster within hours of arriving on the shores. Mr. Erick Beckford, who was taking video films out of a hotel window, says that he now has film, not only of the monster but of the Loch Ness area.

They look more like shadings on the water more than humps and heads, and the various scientific bodies making serious searches are sceptical, but the bookmakers, William Hill, have reduced the odds of Nessie's existence being proved within a year from 100-1 to 33-1.

Since the monster sighting, the business of the lake of Drumadocchil was seriously 50 years ago, local trade and yesterday the village of Drumadocchil was like Orford Street on Saturday, but the latest sighting caused Mr. Tony Harmsworth, curator of the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition, to busy his head in his hands.

Continued belief in the monster depends on its credibility, and the proof required before a sighting is recognized as authentic is almost as severe as that required for miracles in the Roman Catholic Church.

But Kenny MacKenzie, son of the owner of Mr. Beckford's hotel, thought the "I saw the monster once on the way to school with my brother but soon with my anyone because they don't believe us," he said. "We saw his hump and its head." The truth about the monster may soon be revealed



Farmer Claude Lowery Of Langley

DIAMOND, Murfreesboro, AR - June 30, 1983

# Hey, Mr. Bigfoot, leave us a little clue about where you are and what you do

By GARY NELSON  
Herald Staff Writer

MARYSVILLE — Dear Bigfoot:  
Where are you? Gee, you sure are a hard guy to reach.  
We — a logger, a researcher, two psychics and several news people — went looking for you Tuesday, but we couldn't find you. We couldn't even find those imprints of your big feet that you left behind in the mud a few weeks ago in a remote wooded area on the Tulalip Indian Reservation.  
One of the psychics, Shirley Teabo of Seattle, scurried

around in the brush out there with Brian Barnes, the logger who found your footprints.  
After a while Teabo thought she began to feel your travel pattern and believed you had wandered down to Tulalip Bay or possibly Mission Beach. The other psychic, Anya Lincoln, also of Seattle, also felt your presence.  
Don't you ever stay in one place? How can you expect us folks to come and visit if you don't hang around?  
Barnes tried hard, but just couldn't seem to locate those tracks of yours he had found earlier. Did you go back and cover them up? If you did, you didn't get them all.

After Teabo picked up your vibrations, she was able to uncover what bigfoot researcher Erik Beckjord called "some walking marks in the grass and brush." Beckjord was sure they were your tracks, saying, "They were long and loping and looked too big to have been made by a man."  
However, he said he "felt kinda stupid and embarrassed" that he didn't have something more concrete to show us news people. Still, you did get on TV.  
You remember Beckjord, don't you? As director of the National Cryptozoological Society, he's been trying to contact you for a long time, but without much success. His Seattle-based organization — which sponsors Project Bigfoot and Project Water Monster — are dedicated to searching out "undiscovered, unclassified and anomalous animals" such as yourself.  
Well, we'd all like to hear from you. If you ever get near a mailbox why don't you drop me a line here at The Herald. We could do a nice, big Sunday spread about you with color photographs.  
You could tell us about life in the woods and the mountains and how Reaganomics or unemployment has affected you. You could tell us your position on the Trident Submarine Base and maybe nuclear disarmament in general.  
Gee, maybe you could even give us a scoop on your cousin over there in the Himalayas, Mr. Yeti — aka The Abominable Snowman.  
Please write soon.

PRESS, Sheboygan, WI - July 11, 1983 CR: R. Heiden

## Cult May Be Responsible For Attacks On Horses

DALLAS (AP) — A witchcraft cult might be responsible for bizarre sexual mutilations that have killed seven horses near Dallas, all on nights when the moon was bright, authorities say.  
Several horse owners plan to patrol their farms during the next full moon on July 24, said a woman, who lives alone on a farm south of Dallas and asked not be identified.  
"It's getting to be a full moon in a week and a half, and we're afraid they're going to do it again," she said.  
Other ranchers are hiring private investigators and posting armed guards at their stables to try to stop the killings.  
Six horses were killed and sexually mutilated in three incidents in the past four months in southern Dallas County. A seventh horse, injured in an attack June 21, had to be destroyed a week later.  
"It's panicking everybody down here," said Arlene

Brown, whose pregnant mare was killed and a filly was fatally injured in the June 21 attack at the farm she and her husband own. "Everyone's so upset about it, because there's no reason why."  
Horse experts believe there must be more than one attacker but are unsure how they are killing the 1,200-pound horses without being injured.  
"There's somebody involved that has to know something about horses," said Tom McLaughlin, a veterinarian who performed autopsies on several of the mares. "I just don't know how they're doing it."  
In the first case, a Belgian mare kept in a stable leased along Interstate Highway 35 was mutilated internally. A dog belonging to the mare's owner, Robert Roberston, was beaten to death.  
Four quarterhorse mares were killed in a similar way at the stable April 30. Roberston's partner, Jack Chestnut, said they have moved the rest

of their mares to a safer pasture.  
In the latest incident, someone used straw to lure the mare and filly into the Browns' barn. Mrs. Brown's husband, Clayton, said he was unable to move the injured filly and spent several nights standing guard at the barn with a shotgun.  
Police investigator E. E. Carol said he has consulted several psychologists and experts in the occult about the case.  
"Usually in these cult things, you've got feathers around or candles or candle drippings," he said. "But there's nothing. No one can seem to come up with anything that would substantiate it being a cult. However, I could be wrong."  
The Friends of Animals of Dallas County has raised a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the killers' arrest. The nationwide Fund for Animals is offering another \$1,000 reward and has an investigator on the case.

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - June 16, 1983

## Man claims roar that of dinosaur

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — A recording made in a remote African jungle captured the roars of a previously unknown, dinosaur-like creature, an adventurer says.  
But at least one expert said the evidence is inconclusive.  
Herman Regusters, an adventurer-engineer who made the recording and claims to have seen the creature, contends the animal looks very much like a dinosaur and may be 35 feet long.  
Regusters said he and other members of a 1981 expedition to the Republic of the Congo's swampy and nearly inaccessible Lake Tele saw the creature five times in 32 days. Regusters is associated with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which is not involved in the project.

cal evidence for a mysterious creature local tribesmen call "mokele-mbebe."  
Kenith Templin, a sound analyst and manager of the Dynamics Research Facility of Borg-Warner Corp. in City of Commerce, said: "I am convinced in my own mind that it is an animal that has not been identified before."

### Computers used

Computers were used to filter out the heavy jungle noises and to break the low growling roars into component parts, Templin said.  
Resulting graphs and spectrograms were compared with the sounds of other large African animals, including an elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, wildebeeste and gorilla and "it's different from anything I've been able to compare it with," he said.  
But Ian Maddieson of UCLA's linguistics department said such analysis, although procedurally sound, "is not very conclusive evidence by itself."

Maddieson has not heard the tape, a brief sequence compiled from about eight hours of recordings, nor seen Templin's analysis. He discussed only general problems with tape-recorded evidence.

For one thing, he said, "We don't know the full range of sounds that can be made by existing animals," so while the roar of an enraged elephant might be ruled out, for example, that would not necessarily exclude a elephant's mating call.

With so many possibilities, he said, "to say this came from some unknown creature seems difficult to do."

Western explorers since the 17th century have repeated native reports of giant half-elephant, half-serpent animals in the region, Regusters said. Residents of Boa, a village near the lake, consistently identified drawings of plant-eating dinosaurs called sauropods as the mysterious creature, he said.

Regusters said the group is planning another trip in the first half of 1984 to seek more evidence, although he conceded only powerful proof would convince some in the scientific community.

MINER, Newport, WA - July 7, 1983 CR: P. Guttilla

## Cattle mutilations likely not by humans, ag official thinks

OLYMPIA — Mutilation deaths of range cattle and other livestock are more likely to be the work of predators and insects rather than sick-minded humans, says an official at the Washington Department of Agriculture.  
"It isn't something in a little white machine that is doing this," commented Bud Richards, supervisor of livestock services.  
He thus alluded to rumors that everything from satanic cults to aliens in UFOs are responsible for range animal mutilations throughout the West in the past decade.  
Mr. Richards said he was not familiar with the confirmed mutilation death of a steer belonging to Boyd Graham of Lone three weeks ago, but indicated he would like to look into it.  
"We take a hard look at anything. I regularly talk with people

concerned from here to New Mexico, and I have yet to talk to anyone that has a firm link (with human involvement)."  
He said there have been four to six instances of mutilation reported in the state in the last five years, but only a single case has solid evidence that the mutilation was at the hand of man.  
That case involved the amputation of the sex organs of several stallions in Pierce County near Tacoma in 1981. "They were definitely performed by a human being. (The perpetrators) knew what they were doing and there was evidence that a muscle relaxant was injected into the animals," Mr. Richards related.  
There are no other cases in the state where human involvement has been established. "There was supposedly a bunch of cattle mutilated in Clark County several years ago, but the vets and all the experts from the university determined they died of natural causes," Richards said.

He cited a study conducted by the federal government in Colorado in 1980 that reported most cases of suspected mutilation were explainable by natural processes.  
When an animal dies, by whatever reason, predators like coyotes, bobcats and cougars feed first on easily accessible soft tissue portions of the carcass — including the sex organs. Carrion-eating insects also feed on those exposed organs, and produce straight or

even circular cuts that can appear to be the work of a knife.  
However, the fact that the animal in the lone case was still alive when it was discovered would discount that explanation, Richards conceded.  
That case is still under investigation by local authorities, but there are apparently no leads at this point. A \$500 reward is still posted for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone responsible, authorized by the county and the Pend Oreille and Washington Cattle-men's Associations.  
"Cattle theft, which used to be called cattle rustling when they used to take people out and string them up in the nearest cottonwood, in whatever form it takes, be it mutilation or theft, is always a concern," said John Middleton, president of the County Cattlemen's Association.  
"Cattle have to go where the feed is, and a lot of farmers have to put them out on the open range, and that is where people can get at them. It's no less a problem now than when granddad rode into town for the groceries."  
He said local ranchers don't need to be reminded they must keep a close eye on their herds. "It's one of the things as a businessman you have to do."

### Similar to a dinosaur

He insisted he saw "an animal I can't identify (and) the only thing I can conclude at this point" is that it is a relic species — something similar to a dinosaur that somehow escaped the great extinction that wiped out the giant lizards 60 million years ago.  
No useful photographs were taken, however, at least partly because of equipment failure in the harsh region, Regusters said Wednesday, leaving the tape recording as the only physi-

CR: R. Heiden