

UFO

NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

U.F.O. NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

SEPTEMBER 1983 NUMBER 170

CAPITAL-JOURNAL, Topeka, KS — July 1, 1983

Close encounter convincing

By MERLE BIRD
Capital-Journal staff writer

John Stroud and Chris Borchert had a close encounter of the convincing kind not long ago.

"I've watched some of the programs about UFOs on television, and you're always kind of skeptical about these things," Borchert said. "But now that I've seen one, there's no doubt: there are things visiting us from some other place."

Borchert and Stroud saw the object at 10:30 p.m. June 16.

"We saw this white light, and we thought it was a helicopter at first but we couldn't hear the blades," Stroud said.

"We thought it was an airplane until it cleared the trees," Borchert said. "Then we knew it wasn't an airplane."

"I yelled, 'It's a UFO,'" Stroud said. "Can you see that? Can you see that? I can't believe I'm seeing this."

The object came from the west and passed to the south of Burnett's Mound, where the two had gone to talk.

"There was a heavy cloud cover that night, and it was underneath that, so I'd guess it came within a thousand feet of us," Stroud said.

"We got a real good look at it. We were almost directly under it."

They watched the object go out by Forbes Field.

"I've seen planes, and I've been on Burnett's Mound when planes have gone over, but this didn't look like anything I've seen," Borchert said.

"And it was completely lit up, with some of the lights steady and some of them blinking, so it couldn't have been a reflection."

"You see pictures people have taken of reflections, and all you see are these little white spots. But this was right over us."

Stroud said the object made a sound like wind.

"It's totally convinced me there are other life forms," he said. "All I can think of is what was in there and where it is now."

"It looked to me like it was just making observations."

"As it moved it just kind of spun, slowly tumbled, and because it just went right on by we were out there yelling and screaming, just wondering, wondering if they saw us."

Stroud went back the next night, hoping to see it again.

"If it had landed I would have gone to it," Borchert said.

"We talked constantly for two hours afterward," Stroud said. "We kept say-



Chris Borchert, left, and John Stroud made a drawing of the UFO they sighted.

—Staff/Paul Beaver

ing, 'I don't believe it, my God, what does this mean?'"

He said the metal had a dense look to it that was like nothing he has ever seen.

They discussed possible reasons for the object's visit.

"Maybe they had a message," Borchert said.

"But they didn't seem to be trying to contact us," Stroud said. "Maybe like on Star Trek they don't want to interfere with the cycle."

"Or else they could be scared of us as much as we're afraid of them."

"And probably should be."

"I suppose they would think the same thing about us, if some day we got to wherever they were, they'd probably wonder what it was or what it was doing."

"But it seemed awful peaceful to me."

Borchert said it must be a highly advanced life form to so easily counteract the force of gravity.

Stroud said the ship was somewhat like the big ship that came down on the mountain in Close Encounters of the Third Kind, but it wasn't as round as the movie ship.

"It had supports and was land-scaped, so it looked like a city," he said.

"It was huge," Borchert said. "Bigger than a football field."

Stroud said his parents believed he had seen an extraterrestrial visitor.

"They just went to Washington, D. C., and went to the Aerospace Museum and brought back a lot of information," he said.

He said he was telling the woman who washes his hair before it is cut that she had seen one exactly like what he described.

"She said she doesn't usually talk about it because people think she is crazy," he said.

She gave him the name of a local doctor who investigates sighting sites, he said.

"I haven't called him yet, but I'm going to," he said.

"It's one thing you don't expect to see, then all at once you see it," Borchert said.

"You feel so gifted, so lucky, so privileged or something," Stroud said. "Somehow special, like it's a gift or something, like one of the big questions of the universe is whether there is life out there, and I can say I honestly have seen something and what I saw wasn't man-made. No way."

He said some people he has talked with have tried to tell him it's a secret weapon of some kind.

"No way," he repeated. "No way that was man-made."

He expects doubters.

"If I had been by myself, like this lady that does my hair was by herself, I'm not sure I'd be talking about it myself. But we both saw it."

Their lives have been changed.

"Every time I'm out I'm constantly glancing up," Stroud said.

Public service announcement

HERALD, Miami, FL
Aug. 19, 1983

You know those aliens? The ones that crashed in New Mexico in 1950 and whose little bodies have been kept in a secret refrigerator at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base ever since? And the Air Force keeps lying and covering up and insisting they're not there? Those aliens? Listen, somebody has got to know something about those aliens. Some former airman who was on the work detail or something, somebody like that. Won't you come forward and talk about it? Hell, it's been 33 years. You can't go on living like this. Citizens Against UFO Secrecy wants to talk to you — "just one witness to, or participant in, this Cosmic Watergate."

as the organization puts it — and take your sworn testimony so as to blow the lid off things. CAUS is the outfit whose "Petition For Writ Of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial" was thrown out of court in Washington a few days ago. Now the folks plan to go after records through the Freedom Of Information Act — autopsy reports, metallurgical analyses, photos and so on and so forth — and they badly need somebody's deposition that such records actually exist. Is this so much to ask? Contact CAUS at 3518 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, Va. 22302.

CR: L. Bryant

Planes behind part of UFO sightings

By E.B. Walzer
Staff Writer

With the darkness came the lights. First there were only two, but they circled above us as we watched from the Taconic Parkway, and soon they were joined by a third.

The lights — which we saw came from small, single-engine planes — aligned themselves into a V-shape formation, and we knew we had solved part of the mystery of the strange lights in the sky — the UFOs that have been seen by hundreds of people since March.

But only part of the mystery could be explained by these planes, which circled Stormville Airport in Dutchess County, said Philip Imbrogno, an investigator for the Illinois-based Center for UFO Studies.

Imbrogno, along with myself and freelance writer Chris Clark of Rye, had decided to stake out Stormville Airport Thursday night.

"This clears up 75 percent of my paperwork," said Imbrogno, who has been investigating the UFO sightings since March 24, when strange V-shaped lights startled hundreds of people in northern Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties.

"But if I told some of the people who saw a huge, silent, hovering object that they were seeing airplanes, they would be very upset," Imbrogno said.

Imbrogno, who had suspected all along that the multiple sightings over the past four months have actually been of two separate objects, now had his proof.

These lights, Imbrogno said, undoubtedly were what some people have been seeing, especially for the past month or so. They, he said, were probably the small, triangular-shaped object that most witnesses had said they saw flying about 1,000 feet above them.

But that offered no explanation for the massive boomerang that some people said had hovered above the treetops, emitting a low, humming noise.

In their tight V-formation, the planes were odd-looking, but hardly the imposing sight some witnesses had described seeing. And the planes did give off an audible engine noise.

We watched as the lights disappeared to the south. But within a half hour, they were back, heading for Stormville. After photographing the planes, we abandoned our lookout post at a rest area on Interstate 84 and headed for the airport.

We were too late: One plane had already landed by the time we arrived. About eight people stood around on the floodlit runway. The plane was already parked somewhere in the darkness.

The people fell silent and stared at us as we approached.

No, they said, no one had seen any formation of planes. Why were so many people out there on the runway? Oh, just out for a walk in the nice night air.

A man dressed in dark clothes walked out from the darkened row of parked planes. He was met by one of the others, who turned him away from us, talking softly and gesturing at us over his shoulder.

Then there came a ruffling noise from nearby. Suddenly, out of the darkness came a canopy. A parachutist. With a soft thud, he landed on his feet a few yards from us. He was quickly followed by another.

The others surrounded them. As the parachutists rolled up their chutes, a plane came out of the east and landed. We walked down the runway toward where it would taxi to a parking spot. The plane, however, parked somewhere down in the darkness. The pilot never emerged.

But we heard a car engine start up behind us. Then another. About a half dozen of the people still watched us warily. Another plane flew by high above.

"What's that, a UFO?" one of the men said loudly. The others laughed.

Suddenly the floodlights went out. In the darkness, people were scattering to their cars, some to a nearby plane. The plane taxied quickly down the runway and took off.

After a minute, we walked to our car and started the 45-minute drive back to Westchester.

We were perplexed by the odd, defensive behavior of the people at the airport, but we were glad we had seen the formation of planes.

Imbrogno, sitting in the darkness of the back seat, spoke aloud of the theories running through his head.

The pilots were good, he noted. Their formation had been very tight. Could this be part of a government coverup of another, more secret kind of craft?

Or had we just stumbled onto something else, totally unrelated to the UFO sightings?

Somehow, we felt sure these planes were tied in to the whole mystery of the sightings, but they were not of themselves a solution.

"I'd just like to believe that this is what everybody saw," I said.

"So would I," Imbrogno said softly.

But the key to solving the mystery, Imbrogno said, lay with the other object, the massive, hovering boomerang.

"I'm going to concentrate now only on those people who got very close to the object," he said.

That UFO, Imbrogno said, "probably hasn't been back since April — it's very unusual to have continuing sightings of such a UFO. It might come back — after all, it's been seen around here, off and on, for years — but probably not for a while."

'I finally saw a UFO,' woman says

By Seth Mendelson
Staff Writer

People up in Tomkins Cove are still rubbing their eyes over what they saw in the skies late Saturday night.

Some say, a bit hesitantly, that the object that moved slowly through the northern Rockland County skies was an unidentified flying object. Others are totally convinced of it.

Louise Guarasci, whose husband, Joseph, owns Boulderberg Manor in Tomkins Cove, is among the believers.

On Saturday night at about 10:10, Mrs. Guarasci was leaning against a car, just staring into the summer sky above the restaurant. Suddenly, she said, a disc-shaped flying vehicle cruised silently overhead.

Mrs. Guarasci didn't believe her eyes. Yet after getting confirmation from six others at the restaurant that there was something strange in the horizons, she became sure she had just seen a UFO.

I was just awed. I stood there for a second with my mouth open. I couldn't believe what I was seeing," she said Monday. "I've heard about them (UFOs) and I've read about them, but I always said I wish I saw one. I finally did."

Mrs. Guarasci was not the only witness to strange things whizzing through the air. Stony Point police reported "numerous complaints" at about the time Saturday night, including a report from a town police officer.

James Hoyt, a parking valet at Boulderberg Manor, thought the strange lights belonged to a formation of airplanes. Similar formations, thought to be the work of a group of pilots from Stormville Airport in Dutchess County, have been reported in the Putnam County area in the past couple of months.

"A guy I work with just got out of the Air Force, and he said when planes fly in formation they use lights the same way we saw," Hoyt said.

UFO(?) sighted Sunday night

What was that big red object in the sky late Sunday night "five times bigger than a star, with lights flickering on and off?"

Grace Newton and Howard Evans called at 11 p.m. from Evans' home three miles out on the Camp Brooklyn road to report what they described as an unidentified flying object.

Evans said it was oblong and moved slowly and silently across the northern sky. He said they had sighted other "UFOs" last summer and the summer before, but they were much smaller than the one Sunday night. "This one was brighter and looked a whole lot closer," said Evans.

They watched it for about 10 minutes, and when they went back outside it had disappeared. "The ones we saw previously stayed there much longer — as long as we watched," said Evans.

UFO censors?

To the Editor: Vince Kohler favorably reviewed a book, "UFOs: The Public Deceived," by Philip J. Klass (July 26).

If the public is being deceived about unidentified flying objects, part of the deception is being practiced by the federal government. For example, Klass discusses the more than 1,000 pages of material on UFOs that have been released under the Freedom of Information Act. March 8, 1982, the Supreme Court rebuffed a group of flying-saucer buffs who had requested access to 135 UFO-related documents held by the National Security Agency. On the basis of alleged military security, the government can withhold any type of information it wants, Freedom of Information Act or not.

Years ago, The Oregonian printed articles indicating the probability that UFOs were U.S.-made military weapons, and that could help explain the continuing censorship.

HENRY KORMAN,
P.O. Box 592,
Longview, Wash.

Bright ball of light spotted over 8 counties

Residents from around the state, including a number in Sonoma County, called law enforcement authorities and told of a bright ball of light moving across the sky from the Pacific.

A Sonoma County sheriff's deputy this morning said the Thursday night log reflected the fact several calls were received from people asking about an object seen in the sky.

But no one here reported seeing it hit the ground or cause any damage.

Bob Krueger, warning controller for the state Office of Emergency Services, said he received calls from sheriff's dispatchers in eight counties, including Sonoma, Ventura, San Luis Obispo, and Madera, of reports that a ball of light was spotted about 10:35 p.m.

"It was a white glow coming down across the sky with a green tail," said Mimi Johnson, dispatcher for the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department. "I thought it was a shooting star but it was moving too slowly."

"It was a black object that was traveling across the sky and it had a blue glow ... trailed with a yellow tail," said Don Adams of Fremont.

A spokesman for the UFO Reporting Center in Seattle told The Associated Press he received 18 calls from Northern California reporting the sighting of a bright object drifting across the sky.

He said the reports fit the description of a meteor. Vandenberg Air Force Base officials said no missiles were launched Thursday night that would account for the light.

UFOs

Visitor eyes evidence of strange phenomena

By JIM GERSBACH

A strang metallic object hovers low in the sky, glowing eerily. Suddenly, with a whoosh it zooms straight up at tremendous speed and disappears.

If you saw such an unidentified flying object, you might want to report it to Ruby Moore.

A 71-year-old grandmother from the Chicago suburb of Villa Park, Moore has been collecting UFO sightings since she herself saw two while acting as a civilian ground observer for the United States Air Force in Colorado's Grand Valley.

In Washougal to visit her daughter, Carol Unger, Moore talked about the sightings and of the UFO phenomenon.

Moore's reported sightings came at the height of the Cold War, just three years after the Soviets acquired the hydrogen bomb.

America was working feverishly to complete its radar defense net. Until it was in place civilians were trained to observe the movement of air traffic in sensitive areas.

Moore and others in her Fruita Junction town were trained to scan the approaches to nearby Air Force bases, training that included aircraft identification.

One night in 1956 while on her lawn making observations of the sky, Moore said she saw an orange object that appeared to be shooting sparks streak across the heavens headed for Grand Mesa, reputed to be the largest flat-topped mesa in the world.

Moore rushed down to an observation tower in Fruita Junction and asked if anyone else had seen the fast-moving object. Someone else had and confirmed her suspicion that it was probably not a meteor they had seen.

Sometime later Moore said she saw from her back door a round, silvery object she describes as fluorescent. It was hanging over the Colorado National Monument near Fruita Junction.

Because the Air Force refused to take such sightings seriously, Moore said most observers like herself didn't report seeing such objects.

Moore said she has no proof that UFOs are from outer space. But her own belief is that they are.

She said it seems unlikely man-made objects could penetrate American airspace undetected because of our sophisticated defense radar.

As to why aliens would visit as obscure a place as Earth, she replied rhetorically: "Aren't we sending things out to the other planets? We're

only a little behind these things."

"If there are other people or some people or part people, they are interested in us," she continued. "But whatever their interest or purpose is, I don't know."

Moore didn't bother to see outer space's most recent visitor, E.T. But she did see Steven Spielberg's "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" about the flashy arrival of a huge alien spacecraft.

"I think they padded it up," said Moore of the movie.

"We called in the things they wanted to hear and I privately recorded the other observations," she said.

In her years of recording UFO sightings since then, Moore has collected hundreds of accounts, most from people she knows well and considers responsible.

Usually people have to be coaxed into sharing their accounts, said Moore, who works in the business office of a suburban Chicago newspaper.

"People have been so afraid to say anything," she said. Fear of being ridiculed or thought crazy keeps many people from reporting anything.

But Moore said in recent years people have become less afraid of reporting sightings, due perhaps to a greater willingness to investigate claims.

"We're just demanding that we do see things and we're not just crazy."

Should you see something out of the ordinary in the sky, Moore suggests doing the following:

- Get people nearby to come out and look at the object. Sightings by a single person are considered less reliable than if two or more people see something.
- Write down what you've seen immediately. Include the object's color, approximate size, its shape, altitude, direction of flight and how fast it was moving. Also include the time and place it was spotted and how long it was observed.
- Call the police or other authorities. Describe in detail what you saw and ask if other reports were made.

"Now they will usually give you a decent answer. They didn't used to," said Moore, who was interviewed about UFOs May 2 on Chicago radio station WCFL.

If a person wishes to take his or her sighting further, he or she may send it to astronomer Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University at the Center for UFO Studies, P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, IL 60204, or he or she can send a report to Moore at 617 S. Harvard Street, Villa Park, IL 60181.



EXTRATERRESTRIAL OBSERVER—Ruby Moore of Villa Park, Ill. collects sightings of UFOs. In Camas recently to visit her daughter, Carol Unger, Moore talked of seeing two strange crafts in the skies over Colorado during the 1950s when she was a civilian aerial observer for the Air Force. Moore has been interviewed by a Chicago radio station about her sightings as well as by a Northwestern University astronomer interested in UFO phenomena.

HERALD, Grand Forks, ND - July 30, 1983

Three say they saw, well, uh, a, uh, UFO

By Mike Burbach
Herald Staff Writer

Mark Anderson figures it's unlikely he and his friend and a Lidgerwood, N.D., truck driver about 200 miles to the southeast all had the same hallucination about eight minutes apart early Friday morning.

Anderson, 57, and friend Marion Bjerk, Grand Forks, had finished an early morning breakfast at a Grand Forks restaurant and were heading south on South Washington Street just after 3 a.m.

Anderson saw it first, about a half mile ahead of the car and maybe a thousand feet in the air. It was golden-colored, "perfectly round and shaped like a cigar, or a bullet," he said.

That was at 3:18 a.m. He pointed it out to Bjerk, and by the time her stare joined his, the object was emanating a gaseous, blueish color, he said.

"We both saw it at the same time, and there's less than 50 chances in a trillion that we could both go ape at the same time," said Anderson, a retired farmer from Donaldson, Minn.

"It was a beautiful sight, it really was," he said, describing the object's color as "a beautiful, frosty blue."

And, "I wasn't takin' any drugs or anything like that," he said.

Then the object took off in a southeasterly direction, and Anderson reached his home less than a mile farther southeast, near the Burke addition. He called the Grand Forks County sheriff's office to report the sighting. Anderson said later he had the object in view for "four or five seconds."

Truck driver Marvin Dobos of Lidgerwood, after hearing Anderson's story on the radio Friday, called Anderson to report that he'd seen a similar sight at about 3:10 a.m. Friday near Staples, Minn., about 200 miles southeast of Grand Forks, as he was hauling scrap iron to Duluth, Minn.

"I was bringing a load of iron like always, driving along, and I saw a flash out the window. Usually when you're driving at night and you see a flash it's a falling star," Dobos said in a telephone interview Friday evening.

"When this one flashed, it got my full attention. It came from the north and made its way in front of the truck. It just got to the other side of the truck and — bang — it was gone. And I mean bang."

"I tell you what, I got a tingling feeling. I got goose bumps. I never get goose bumps," he said.

Dobos said he drove into Staples and stopped for a train. While waiting for the train, he tapped on the window of another car also waiting for the train.

"I asked him if he'd seen the flash," Dobos said. The other fellow said, no, he hadn't seen a flash. Dobos described it further, he said, then "right away he gives me this look like I'm nuts, you know."

Dobos said he was happy and excited when he heard about Anderson's sighting on the radio as he was returning Friday from his trip to Duluth.

"I saw what I saw, but I was glad to know somebody else saw it," Dobos said.

Anderson said it appeared the object was directly over the buildings on his place.

"I wasn't scared or anything," Anderson said. "I was hoping it would land, so I could go up and see what it was all about."

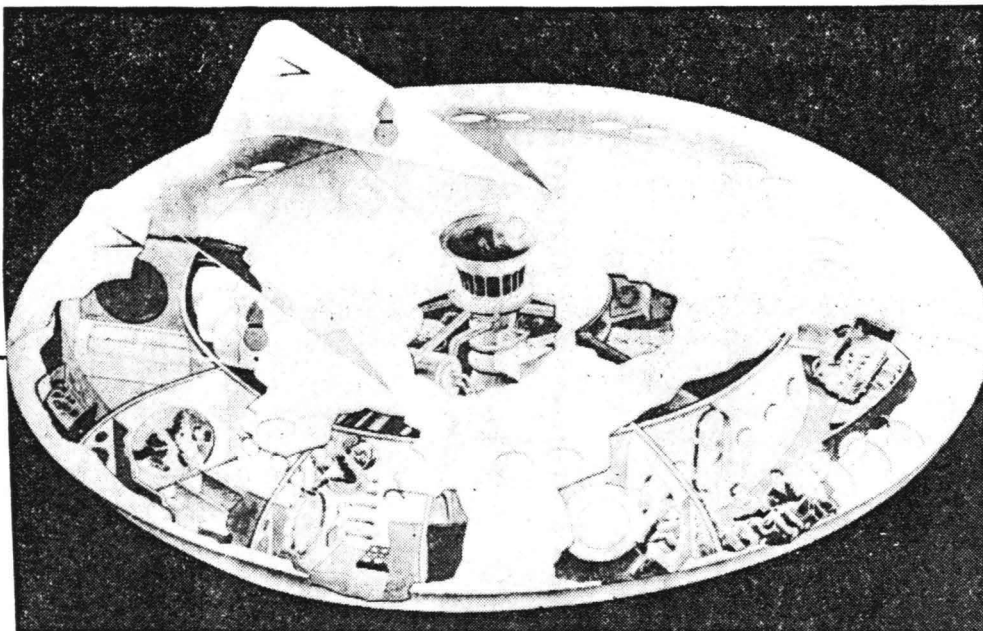
He said it was tough to gauge the object's size, but he guessed it was maybe 20 or 30 feet long and about a third as thick as it was long, with no windows visible. He also said it made no sound, but after he had reached home he heard a buzzing, siren sort of sound. "But that could have been a police car or something," he said.

Anderson called right away to report it, knowing that he was taking the chance of being branded a kook. "If someone else saw it, I'd want them to report it," he said.

"Whether it was something sinister, or something divine, or something of some government's, I don't know," Anderson said.

"I tell you what," said Dobos, "I never believed in those things before, but I believe in them now."

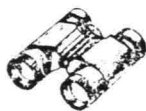
Lt. James Stratford, Grand Forks Air Force Base public information officer, said the Air Force had nothing to do with whatever Anderson and Dobos saw. "There was nothing going on in that area from our standpoint," he said.



Lovell Lawrence, an engineer for Chrysler Corp., predicted in 1957 that this is what the flying saucer of the future might look like. Now, more than 25 years later, not much more is known about UFOs than when Lawrence drafted this design.

Reality Or Illusion?

What Are Those Things in Sky?



Now, 35 years after he began, Walter Andrus is still trying to find out where the thousands of UFOs seen throughout the world came from. He also wants to know what their occupants want and how long they've been checking us out.



By JOE VARGO, Cox News Service

SEGUIN, Texas — Walter Andrus's quest began shortly after noon on Aug. 15, 1948.

That's when his 5-year-old son grabbed his arm and told him to look at the "silver balloons" in the sky over Phoenix.

Andrus saw four circular objects heading north across the cloudless horizon. As he squinted to get a clearer look, one disappeared without a trace. A few seconds later, the second balloon vanished, as did the third and finally the fourth.

A few minutes later, they reappeared in the sky as quickly and mysteriously as they had disappeared. As he watched the objects fade from view, Andrus decided then and there they were not from this world.

"Our sighting sparked our interest," Andrus said. "Before then, we hardly knew about them and we had no interest in them whatsoever."

The "them" Andrus referred to are unidentified flying objects.

And now, 35 years later, he's still trying to find out where they — and the thousands of other UFOs seen throughout the world since then — came from. He also wants to know what their occupants want and how long they've been checking us out.

"No question about it, UFOs are here," Andrus, 62, says. "Any scientist who's taken the time to research the data and evidence believes they're real. It's only the people who have pre-conceived notions about them who don't believe."

Andrus is so sure that in 1969 he helped form the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network to help solve the mystery. The organization has grown to 1,100 members in 75 countries and Andrus is its international director.

A quality control specialist who retired last year from Motorola, Andrus acknowledges he is obsessed — to a certain extent — about UFOs. A quick glance at his house, which is also MUFON's international headquarters, reveals Andrus takes UFOs very seriously.

His library is full of hundreds of books on the subject. Andrus says he buys every one he can get his hand on, and considers reading them part of his homework. He averages about a phone call a day from people all over the world who routinely call the MUFON hotline.

A meticulous man who keeps precise and detailed UFO records in a dozen filing cabinets, Andrus can recall the dates, places and times of hundreds of reported sightings — from a quick glimpse by a Mexican businessman to an appearance witnessed by hundreds of people in a busy metropolitan area.

Being obsessed is okay, Andrus says, as long as the obsession has a purpose. His purpose, and the purpose of the other MUFON members, is the scientific study of evidence of unidentified flying objects.

MUFON members regularly scan the heavens looking for the unearthly lights or shapes that long have fascinated humans. Many also interview people who say they've seen a UFO and help look for physical evidence left behind.

MUFON has even taken its case to court, not to force their beliefs on the rest of society, Andrus says, but to obtain 4,000 government documents on UFOs.

"We're willing to go as far as the law allows to get the truth," Andrus says. "The government has been a part of a coverup since the modern era of UFOs began in 1947. We call it a Cosmic Watergate."

During the 1950s, Andrus said, the government — which wanted to develop a craft that could maneuver like a flying saucer — was more concerned about finding out about UFOs than on keeping the hydrogen bomb a secret.

The government has always publicly denied the existence of UFOs, Andrus said, but at the same time it has used the National Security Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency to investigate UFO reports.

One reason MUFON was formed, Andrus says, is to counter what he called the "absurd" explanations the government used to explain away UFOs.

"In 1957, 18 lights were seen by hundreds of people over Lubbock (Texas)," Andrus said. "We think it was a group of UFOs in formation. The Air Force said they were a flock of seagulls. In 1965, there were hundreds of sightings in Oklahoma. The Air Force said what we saw were three stars in (the constellation) Orion's belt."

For those members who check out reported sightings, MUFON has its own 160-page field investigator's manual, complete with information on how to interview witnesses, how to photograph a landing site and take soil samples and how to measure radiation left behind by spacecrafts.

Reports of unidentified flying objects have been catalogued in a computer used by MUFON at another private concern, the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill. UFO sightings are so common, Andrus said, that MUFON has broken them into four categories.

A close encounter of the first kind is a visual sighting of a craft in the day at less than 1,000 feet.

A close encounter of the second kind is a sighting, in which the craft leaves some sort of evidence behind, such as burnt vegetation or dehydrated soil. Andrus said people who've gotten too close to such soil have suffered the burns and hair loss associated with radiation sickness.

A close encounter of the third kind is marked by actually seeing some form of creature aboard the spaceship.

A close encounter of the fourth kind occurs when someone is taken aboard a UFO and examined. More than 300 people have reported this kind of encounter, Andrus says. Those people have sketched similar likenesses of the creatures who've abducted them.

"They're between 3 1/2 and 4 1/2 feet tall with a fragile build," Andrus says. "They have large heads, large, deep-set eyes, almost no nose and no teeth. They have long arms and fingers but no thumb. They have no vocal cords, no digestive tract and no reproductive organs."

No weapons have ever been seen on a UFO, he says, and scientists have not determined how they are powered. Traces of radiation left behind make it almost certain they're nuclear powered, he says, and there is some evidence they're fueled by microwave radiation.

"The country or corporation that builds a craft that can fly like a UFO will have a gigantic lead in the aerospace industry," Andrus says.

As to where the spacecrafts come from, one theory advanced by some MUFON members is that they are from another solar system. Another is that they are from Earth, but exist in another dimension and are able to disappear at will. A third possibility is that they are using the world's oceans to keep out of sight.

Andrus admits there are some people who will go to great lengths to discredit MUFON. They will send in pictures of garbage can covers, Frisbees and hubcaps and claim they're the real thing.

That doesn't bother Andrus because, he says, all photographs are analyzed by computers to determine their validity. He says 80 percent of all sightings can be explained by such mundane objects as weather balloons, planets, falling stars and satellites.

That still leaves thousands of reports that aren't explainable, he says, and MUFON members make sure those reports are legitimate by conducting thorough and objective investigations.

"You can't believe anything until you've got it documented," Andrus says. "People ask me all the time if I believe in UFOs, and I tell them I don't. Belief implies a religious connotation. I don't have to believe in UFOs. I look at the facts and the evidence and I conclude there are such things."

Philip Klass, a journalist in Washington, D.C., and by his own admission one of the most fervent UFO debunkers, uses one word to describe theories about UFOs: ridiculous.

"The Air Force spent 20 years trying to find a UFO," says Klass, a reporter for *Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine. "They never found anything. There's nothing the Air Force would love to find more than a UFO. They would welcome an extra-terrestrial craft so they could go to the Pentagon and ask for umpteen billion dollars so they could protect us from it."

Klass said he has investigated more than 100 reported sightings and has yet to come up with "one single piece" of physical evidence that would indicate UFOs exist.

"In 30 years, the CIA generated 1,000 documents on UFOs," Klass said. "I bet there are more documents generated on how to control cockroaches in government buildings."

The government's only interest in UFOs, Klass said, was to see if they were being used by the Soviet Union as a form of psychological warfare. After examining reported sightings, he said, the government came to the conclusion that UFOs did not exist.

As for the reported abductions, Klass said, "I'd worry more about being hit by one of Santa Claus's reindeers. They have sharp hooves."

Jeanne Andrus acknowledges she often gets frustrated that some people still think only kooks see UFOs. But her husband says time is on their side, that public opinion polls show more and more people think UFOs are real, and it's only a matter of time until their existence is proven.

"I think UFOs are probably the greatest mystery of the 20th century," he said. "But I think through our symposiums and lectures, we have helped to ease people's fears about them. People only fear the unknown, and as more and more is learned about UFOs, people will become less and less afraid."

Sightings of UFOs reported

By Stephen Weaver
and Steven P. Smith
Staff Writer

Shortly after 9 Monday night, a number of residents of the Doylestown area who happened to be out enjoying the cool summer night looked skyward to the south and saw something very strange.

"My neighbor and I were out walking and I looked up and saw these 10 slow-moving specks of light in the sky," said Tina Atchley, of Elgan Drive, Doylestown Township. "They were flowing in a pattern, changing positions, one of them would get brighter and then glow down, and then one at a time they'd disappear. It was eerie."

Mrs. Atchley, who turned 37 Monday, said her first thought on seeing the display was that "ET

was coming to see me for my birthday."

A number of other residents of Central Bucks — most of them from Doylestown Township, Warwick, and Buckingham — reported seeing similar unusual sights as they looked south toward Philadelphia.

All reported seeing basically the same phenomenon — a constellation of 10 to 15 specks of light, moving slowly and in a formation that disappeared from sight just as mysteriously as they appeared — and all were curious as to what it was.

And so far, Mrs. Atchley's explanation seems about as good as any.

After a spate of phone calls after 9 p.m., the Intelligencer/Record checked with the Naval Air Station in Horsham Township, the Naval Air Development Station in Warminster, and several police departments in the Doylestown area. Most of these reported having received calls of sightings, but none had any idea what it was.

Spokesmen for two atmospheric and space facilities in Virginia said they knew of nothing that would account for the sightings.

Rutledge takes UFO research to England

Dr. Harley Rutledge, a professor of physics at SEMO State University here, will this week tell England the story of his research into unidentified flying objects sighted in Southeast Missouri.

Rutledge, widely known for his investigations of the still-unexplained sightings in this area, will appear on the program of the Third International UFO Congress, sponsored by the British UFO Research Association.

The association, according to Rutledge, "is reputed to be the most prestigious in the world." The three-day meeting opens on Saturday; Rutledge is scheduled to speak at 2:15 p.m. that day.

The only other representative of the United States on the program, which will attract persons from at least 23 countries, will be Dr. J. Allen Hynek,

also a widely known UFO researcher from the academic community.

In 1981 Prentice-Hall Inc. published a book by Rutledge, "Project Identification," detailing his field studies of strange lights first sighted near Piedmont in the early 1970s.

Rutledge has also been invited to speak next June in Dallas at the annual symposium of the Mutual UFO Network, which, he says, "is perhaps the largest international UFO organization."

A member of the SEMO faculty since 1963, Rutledge previously served as chairman of the university's physics department. He earned his bachelor's degree at Tarkio College and both his master's and doctor's degrees at the University of Missouri.

CR: H. Rutledge

POST ("Magazine"), Denver, CO - July 31, 1983 CR: B. Pratt

THE BLUE HEAD has a prominent place in Leo Sprinkle's office at the University of Wyoming counseling center. Perched on a shelf overlooking Sprinkle's well-ordered desk, the blue bust depicts someone obviously not of this world. He (or she or it) is bald, with Marty Feldman eyes, parallel slits for a nose, and a thin, lipless mouth. A local artist fashioned the bust from a description supplied by a Wyoming man who says he was kidnapped by aliens. This is the creature the man saw when he was spirited from the earth in the innards of a UFO.

The bust is a constant reminder of what Sprinkle calls his "compulsion": the study of people who claim they've seen or been abducted by space beings. This may seem like a curious, maybe even absurd, pursuit for a university psychologist, especially one charged with helping students with academic or personal problems. But Sprinkle knows how it looks. He's heard the catcalls and the innuendoes over the years, and he's taken some heat from university higher-ups about his UFO activities, which is why he goes to great lengths to explain that his UFO studies are separate from his job as counseling psychologist. It's not that his study of ufology (his term) is any less important to him, just different.

In a light brown leisure suit and cowboy boots, with a vanishing hairline and a wrinkled brow, fifty-two-year-old Sprinkle looks like any other Laramie academic. A daily jogging regimen keeps him trim. He speaks in the soft monotone of a psychologist but isn't immune to raucous laughter when the mood strikes. He grew up in Rocky Ford, Colorado, and earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Colorado, later adding a doctorate from the University of Missouri.

In the eighteen years since he arrived in Laramie, Sprinkle has interviewed and hypnotized hundreds of UFO contactees (people who have allegedly seen or made contact with an alien) and abductees (those who have allegedly been kidnapped and taken for an interplanetary ride). He was the first UFO investigator to seek out these people diligently and record their experiences. Now recognized as an international expert on these experiences, Sprinkle no longer has to look for subjects — they find him.

Said J. Allen Hynek, noted astronomer and UFO researcher: "If anybody's going to get to the bottom of the UFO contactee experience, it will be Dr. Sprinkle."

Hynek says he was a total skeptic about UFOs when the U.S. Air Force asked him to join its Project Blue Book in 1948. A retired Northwestern University astronomy professor, Hynek is director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois, and

president emeritus of the International Committee for UFO Research. He spends much of his time traveling around the world investigating UFO sightings and doesn't mind if people call him the "elder statesman" of UFO research.

Hynek and Sprinkle were members of the 1978 Playboy magazine UFO Panel, and the two researchers stay in touch about things UFO. "Sprinkle has come up with some amazing things that, if true, are very noteworthy," says Hynek. Hynek qualifies his praise because he believes hypnosis, Sprinkle's primary investigative tool, is an imperfect science. "Some people wonder if he's putting too much faith in hypnosis," he adds.

Hynek calls reports of UFO sightings and contacts

graduate school. He and his wife were returning from Denver on a summer evening in 1956 when they spied a mysterious light over the Flatirons.

"We both remarked how bright and red it was, and how beautiful," says Sprinkle. "We thought it was a planet or an evening star, but the light began to move. I remember the movement as a kind of dipping motion. It came between us and the Flatirons so I knew it was no star."

"We watched for several minutes in the gathering darkness. The light would hover, then it would move; hover, move. I decided that if it was up against the Flatirons, the object must be huge, the size of a university building or larger. If it was over the town, I estimated it to be the size of a helicopter. But it had no sound I could discern, no features. I knew something unusual was going on because I could hear the horns of the cars below (in Boulder). It went north and finally disappeared from our view."

"So the next day I looked in the paper, expecting this to be talked about. There was nothing."

During the next eight years, as the Sprinkles moved to Missouri, then North Dakota, Sprinkle boned up on UFOs. As a psychology professor and counselor at the University of North Dakota in the early '60s, Sprinkle found himself torn between the role of science researcher and UFO investigator.

"My colleagues said, 'Leo, you either have to be a real scientist or a UFO investigator,'" Sprinkle says. "They felt I didn't think logically. Well, I decided if I couldn't be a *real* scientist, then at least I could be a good UFO investigator, so I stuck to the

path I felt was significant."

Sprinkle had one other encounter with UFOs that he didn't remember until a fellow hypnotist put him into a trance and took him back to the fifth grade. Sprinkle saw himself aboard a strange craft peering out at the stars. Next to him was a tall man, who instructed Leo to learn to read and write well so that when he was older, he could help other people become more aware of their purposes in life.

That's how he sees himself today: as someone helping students understand themselves through counseling and also as someone helping UFO contactees understand their experiences.

"I know Leo has helped a tremendous amount of people through his hypnosis," says Linda Moulton Howe, a Denver-based independent filmmaker and UFO researcher. Howe met Sprinkle in 1979 while she was doing research for her award-winning cattle mutilation documentary, "A Strange Harvest," which first aired in May 1980 on Denver's Channel 7. Sprinkle, who had a starring role in the film, is seen hypnotizing and questioning two witnesses to cattle mutilations involving UFOs.

(continued on page 6)

The Alien Obsession of Professor Leo Sprinkle

His pursuit of UFOs is more than a hobby.

By Mike Shay

"incredible stories told by credible people." Sprinkle has chronicled some of these stories in a research paper titled, "UFO Contactees: Captive Collaborators or Cosmic Citizens?" In the preface, Sprinkle warns the reader that he is biased because of his own UFO sightings.

Sprinkle saw his first UFO in the fall of 1949 while a student at the University of Colorado. Sprinkle and a classmate were outside the library discussing the vagaries of the universe when "we looked up and saw what appeared to be a round metallic object the size of a fingernail," recalls Sprinkle. "It was moving from south to north and it seemed to have a glint or reflection of light on its western edge. The sun was setting, so my perception was it was rotating and catching the rays of the sun."

"It moved rather rapidly past the trees, flying faster than jets flew at the time. We thought it might be an Air Force or Army special project. We didn't believe in flying saucers in those days because only looks were able to see flying saucers."

Following graduation and a four-year stint in the service, Sprinkle returned to Boulder and enrolled in

After interviewing scores of UFO contactees herself, Howe says she's convinced Sprinkle's research is sound and its results invaluable.

"To Leo's credit, he's taken the slings and arrows of peer derision and derision from other quarters," says Howe. "He's persisted in a field that's looked upon as a total psychological aberration. And he's hung in there."

Although Howe vouches for Sprinkle's credibility, she agrees that mistakes can be made with hypnosis. Stories can be altered or even manufactured by the hypnosis subject. A few months ago, Sprinkle discovered that a story about a UFO contact told to him by one of his subjects was false. To his credit, Howe says, Sprinkle sent out a letter to fellow investigators labeling the account as a tall tale.

Another of Sprinkle's hypnosis subjects has complained about being "fed" a story while under hypnosis. The subject, a university professor who asked that his name not be used, said the hypnosis sessions are conducted in Sprinkle's office, under the watchful eyes of the blue alien bust, surrounded by books, posters, and research papers about UFOs. Although experts say the hypnotist should be nothing more than an echo of his subject, the professor says Sprinkle led him in ways he didn't want to go during his session. As a result, the professor says he encountered UFOs (Sprinkle's term) in his trance that looked suspiciously like the blue alien in Sprinkle's office. Sprinkle contends that hypnosis, imperfect as it is, is the best investigative tool at his disposal.

UFO contactees often are reluctant to talk because they're automatically considered prime candidates for the loony bin. There's the image of Richard Dreyfuss in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, a middle-American suburbanite who alienates his family, friends, and neighbors with tales of flying saucers and an impending alien landing.

AFTER INVESTIGATING over 250 reports, Sprinkle has constructed a composite of a typical alien contact: The person is driving in the country, sees a light, and stops to take a look. The light flits away and the person feels relieved, then looks at his watch and discovers an hour has passed. He becomes disoriented and can't explain the missing time.

The contactee then drives home and is faced with a dilemma: to talk or not to talk about his experience. He usually doesn't, not at first. Eventually he begins having weird dreams, may develop a scar or some other mark on the skin, will experience upsetting physiological symptoms such as nausea. The dreams

continue and begin to focus on flying saucers, creatures coming out of a flying saucer, or communication with these creatures.

Then comes the compulsive behavior, such as going to the library and checking out books on UFOs, pyramid power, or other paranormal subjects. Then the person gets the urge to contact someone he can tell his story to.

That's where Sprinkle comes in. He relates one story where a woman kept receiving the name Leo S. during her meditation sessions. She didn't know anybody named Leo S. Finally, some friends showed her

people.

He eventually finished the well, and not only did it pump water, it pumped thousands of gallons a minute from the aquifer below. People said it was just a pocket of water and it would soon dry up, but the water continued to flow. Others said McGuire had tapped an underground spring and set out to find it themselves. But they couldn't.

News of McGuire's well traveled far and wide. In the fall of 1980, a crew from ABC's "That's Incredible" filmed the well churning out 8,000 gallons a minute. They also filmed a segment of McGuire talking about his UFO experiences, which were numerous by this time.

In the mid-'70s, a UFO allegedly kidnapped a cow from McGuire's ranch. Five years later, Sprinkle put McGuire into a trance, and McGuire told how he and a relative had watched as a UFO swooped down on a ridge and carried away a cow. They repeated the session on camera for Howe's cattle mutilation documentary.

By the end of 1980, McGuire was quite a celebrity in UFO circles. He became even more visible when he decided to run for Wyoming governor in 1982, on what some pundits called the "UFO Ticket." McGuire said at the time that the aliens had asked him to put his hat in the ring. The wire services picked up the story and spread it across the country. Needless to say, he didn't even come close.

McGuire has kept a low profile since his ill-fated gubernatorial bid, but he's still involved in the bustling Laramie UFO scene. He helped Sprinkle with the logistics for the fourth annual Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation in Laramie last June, a three-day event that brought together

almost a hundred UFO investigators and contactees. "This way, the investigators can learn that many of these contactees are normal people, not wide-eyed occult fringe characters. And the contactees can find out the investigators are open persons and willing to listen. They won't necessarily be convinced by the stories, but they're at least willing to hear what the contactees have to say."

Sprinkle, McGuire, and a Laramie group called PRO UFOs (Paranormal Research Organization for UFO Studies) have staged the conference each summer since 1980. Sprinkle says he hopes the conference will lay the foundation for a permanent UFO research center.

"The feeling some of us have is that someday there will be money for a (UFO) center," says Sprinkle. "My own daydream is that I'd like to obtain some money, give it to the university and let them hire a person to hold a chair in UFO Studies. And if so, I'd



1950: Post artist Charles Schneeman thought "they" looked like this.

a *National Enquirer* story mentioning a UFO investigator named Leo Sprinkle, and she contacted him.

Sprinkle's best-known hypnosis subject is Pat McGuire, a middle-aged Wyoming rancher who says he's seen scores of UFOs on his ranch during the past decade and has been hijacked by aliens at least twice. The first abduction came in 1973. McGuire says he was taken up into a spaceship and given information about the sorry state of Planet Earth by "star people," as he calls them. While in the alien craft, McGuire discovered he'd had past lives, including at least one lifetime as an Israelite battling the Romans. McGuire was told to spread the word on Earth that everyone should lay off the Israelis because they would be the salvation of mankind.

When McGuire returned, he dug a well on his property outside Laramie. His neighbors said he was crazy to pick the spot he had chosen, but McGuire was not swayed from his task — he heard different voices than his neighbors did, the voices of the star

apply for the position and hope I'd be a qualified applicant. There have been chairs established for ESP studies, but as far as I know there are none studying UFOs specifically."

Sprinkle was on the *National Enquirer* UFO panel from 1972 to 1980 and remains its UFO consultant. He is aware of the tabloid's reputation and has mixed feelings about working for it. "But who else is willing to take the time and money to bring together some people and to send out nationwide and worldwide requests for stories?"

He sees several possible explanations for the UFO phenomenon, some of them very sensational. If UFOs are controlled by intelligent beings from another world, he says, they could be here to teach us "about a new age where science and spirituality can come together," without intervening directly. Sprinkle also sees the possibility that UFOs are gradually getting us used to the idea of intelligent beings from other planets before making direct contact.

"Some people say, 'Leo, what if the UFOs are wicked and are coming here to kill us?'" says Sprinkle. "I say,



Professor Leo Sprinkle

if they are, they're slow. They've been at it for thirty-four years. I think they are here to teach us to grow up and be moral creatures. That's a lot worse than fighting because fighting would suggest they think of us as peers."

Sprinkle is convinced that one day soon we will find out what the UFOs are all about. "That's why I jog and keep in good shape," he says. "I want to be around to find out what happens."

JOURNAL, Alexandria, VA - Aug. 23, 1983 CR: L. Bryant

Readers asked to 'tell all' about UFO encounters

Editor, *The Journal*:

Having lost a classic David and Goliath battle but still hanging in there for the war's duration, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy is gearing up for round two.

That loss, at the hands of some slick legalists brought into Washington's Federal District Court by the defendants, merely pointed the way for our next attack against unwarranted government secrecy/press censorship as regards UFO encounters in general and so called "crashed saucers" and their retrieved occupants in particular.

That way, of course, lies in our renewed use of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act. This time, in putting aside our "petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial," we'll go after the records that pertain to the bodies — e.g., autopsy reports, metallurgical analyses, photographs of the UFO crash landing sites, photos of the stored wreckage and of the retrieved extraterrestrials themselves.

As we embark on this avenue in the next several weeks, we will, by virtue of the Freedom of Information Act, be assured of proper standing with the court and of the court's full jurisdiction to hear the inevitable suit.

Why inevitable? Because, so far, the Air Force declines to admit to possessing the bodies of downed saucer crew members. Therefore, AF officials say they have no records to release on the issue.

All we need for countering that claim is to produce in court the sworn testimony of a "Cosmic Watergate Deep Throat."

And that's where *Journal* readers fit in. If any of you know of such a person who'd be willing to "tell all" after these many years of agonizing silence, we ask that you have him/her contact us at CAUS (3518 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, Va. 22302) so that we might review his/her case in confidence and pursue the production of pertinent affidavits.

If just one witness to, or participant in this, the Cosmic Watergate, were to put his/her story on record via our forthcoming litigation, that person will have yielded to the highest sense of civic duty — to fulfill the public's right to know, by helping us tell the biggest story ever, never told.

Larry W. Bryant
Alexandria

Government faces lawsuits over alleged 'Cosmic Watergate'

HAL MCKENZIE



"A Cosmic Watergate"—that is what investigators are calling the government's alleged coverup of data on UFOs, including debris from crashed "flying saucers" and bodies of alien beings purportedly being held in secret government facilities.

That is the title of a major conference scheduled for mid-November sponsored by the University of Nebraska, in Lincoln, its major focus being "UFOs & Government Coverup." And UFO groups are increasingly going to court to force the government to reveal what it knows about extra-

Hal McKenzie is the New York Tribune's senior editor.



Colby Landrum, (top) Vickie Landrum (above left), and Betty Cash are plaintiffs in a \$10 million damage suit against the Air Force as a result of a close encounter with a UFO.

terrestrials.

Successful Freedom of Information Act suits by some UFO writers and the Washington-based Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) have already pried thousands of pages of UFO-related material from the FBI, CIA and other agencies. Other such suits against the Air Force are pending and the Supreme Court some months ago dismissed a suit against the super-secret National Security Agency, which had to admit, though, that it possessed hundreds of UFO-related documents.

Two other suits are generating excitement and publicity: a suit of "habeas corpus extraterrestrial" filed by CAUS to force the government to reveal the alleged alien bodies, and a \$10 million damage suit on behalf of two women and a boy who had symptoms similar to radiation poisoning after they encountered a fiery UFO on a Texas road in December 1980. Because the UFO was reportedly surrounded by more than 20 helicopters such as the military uses, the plaintiffs claim the government should take responsibility for their injuries, which include hair loss, progressive blindness and psychological problems.

Case dismissed

A federal judge dismissed the CAUS suit last month, and the suit filed by Betty Cash, Vickie Landrum and her grandson Colby is being appealed.

After hearing arguments by CAUS and a lawyer representing the Air Force at a hearing last month, District Court Judge Oliver Gasch rejected CAUS Director Larry Bryant's request for a "writ of habeas corpus extraterrestrial," partly because Bryant had no way of knowing whether the alien remains really existed.

Bryant argued, however, that FBI documents recently made public included strong evidence the

government was holding alien remains.

The memo, included in court records and dated March 22, 1950, stated: "An investigator for the Air Force stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. . . . Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only three feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth. . . ."

"This is a public issue on the scale of Watergate," Bryant told Gasch at a 30-minute preliminary hearing. "It may transcend any-

After the suit was thrown out Bryant said: "The bodies are there. It's just getting to them. There's smoke and there has got to be a fire. This court has lost a big opportunity."

In the Cash-Landrum case, the two middle-aged women and the boy, now 9, still have symptoms from a UFO they claim to have encountered on a back road in Texas on Dec. 29, 1980. The diamond-shaped object, radiating intense heat and light, hovered over the road in front of their car, belch-

After the suit was thrown out Bryant said: "The bodies are there. It's just getting to them. There's smoke and there has got to be a fire. This court has lost a big opportunity."

thing this court has ever seen. We are forging a new territory in law.

"This public issue should not be dismissed on a technicality. The government is traditionally secret on this topic. You are not doing justice by letting secrecy prevail."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Royce Lamberth, in arguing for dismissal, said: "They do not know if there are any extraterrestrials. They have never seen them or talked to them and don't know if they ever existed."

Bryant tried to introduce a document submitted by Leonard Stringfield, a retired Cincinnati businessman who has interviewed former military personnel who claim that the ETs were held at Wright-Patterson AFB, near Dayton, Ohio. Gasch asked if Stringfield had ever had contact with an ET and Bryant said no. Then the judge asked, "What you are telling me is hearsay?" Bryant responded, "In a case like this, hearsay prevails."

ing flames downward.

The witnesses said they experienced uncomfortable heat, even though the evening was cool, and that the car door was too hot to touch. Cash got out of the car to look at the object while Landrum stayed inside to comfort the terror-stricken Colby.

The three all claim to have seen military-type helicopters circling the object and following it as it left. Their descriptions matched the twin-rotor Chinook helicopter in wide use by the military.

After returning to their homes, all three developed severe symptoms similar to those of atomic bomb victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, including swelling of tissues, nausea, loss of appetite and hair, blistering of the skin and lethargy. Some of the symptoms persist, most tragically for Colby, who has had a progressive loss of sight. He also suffers from an irrational fear of helicopters, according to space engineer John Schuessler,

who has been investigating the case.

With the help of New York lawyer Peter Gersten, now of Gagliardi, Torres & Gersten in Tarrytown, N.Y., and a member of CAUS, a \$10 million damage claim was filed against the Air Force in December 1982. The claim was rejected on the grounds that "the attendant facts failed to establish that the unidentified flying object or helicopters were owned or operated by the U.S. government."

Gersten in response wrote in a July 20 letter, "Regardless of who owned and operated the strange craft or helicopters, the United States government has the responsibility of protecting the citizens of this country from physical injury resulting from any unwarranted and/or inadvertent exposure to a secret government vehicle or a foreign airborne aggressor, whether terrestrial or extraterrestrial. . . ."

"The burden of proof is now shifted to the government to prove that it is not responsible for the resulting injuries to my clients."

Gersten plans to initiate a lawsuit in the appropriate U.S. district court to press the claim. If the government does not settle out of court, the possibility exists that court-ordered discovery proceedings will force the Air Force to open its files on this incident and others.

These and other cases of alleged government UFO coverup are the main focus of a number of symposiums sponsored by research groups. In addition to the University of Nebraska meeting, a seminar in Albany, N.Y., is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, sponsored by the Scientific Bureau of Investigation, based in Staten Island. An SBI press release says the symposium will present evidence of what it calls "Cosmic Gate," based mainly on 2,000-3,000 government documents released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Identified Waste

A U.S. District Court judge in Washington ruled last week that he doesn't have the authority to order the Pentagon to release any extraterrestrial creatures it might have, dead or alive. So, the Citizens Against UFO Secrecy struck out again.

Larry W. Bryant filed a "habeas corpus extraterrestrial" action on the Air Force on behalf of the UFO group. He based his action on a 1950 FBI memo that allegedly quotes an Air Force investigator as saying that three flying saucers crashed in New Mexico and the government recovered the bodies of the crew. One UFO researcher told the judge that he has six witnesses to the crash, including a doctor who did an autopsy on the alien bodies. The creatures were "spirited away someplace," he believes, and he wants to know where.

We don't know the motives of the persons behind this action—a prank, publicity, or maybe they're serious—but we do know that our courts have enough of a problem with an overload of cases already to have to spend the time and money to hear such frivolous actions.

Wants Release of All UFO Facts, Evidence

To The Times:

In Reference to "Identified Waste," a July 30 editorial, I wish to register a difference in opinion. The reality of captured UFO ships is not a matter for humor or indifference. If someone found the remains of a crashed Soviet ICBM rocket on U.S. soil, what attitude should we take? The presence of any alien hardware or bloware (beings dead or alive) is either cause for thorough investigation or we are totally and hopelessly lost in a dream world of mindless escapism.

The government has a duty to inform its citizenry and should have done so in the case of UFOs. The excuse was either that high security forbade (I accept this

logic) or the American people would panic if the truth were told. This indicated that the truth is fantastic (to which there is much evidence). The UFO problem has not "gone away" as the Air Force hoped it would. They are still with us.

I would hope by now, 30 years later, that some of us can take the facts seriously, whatever they be. Whatever we learn can not help but clarify our future. If we habitually let the government mislead us with a lullaby we can only expect the worst.

My vote is for the release of UFO information, crashed ships, bodies, instruments and whatever else is involved, even by court action. Next time maybe it will not require court involvement.

ERNEST H. WELLS
UFO Investigator
Huntsville

TRIBUNE, New York, NY - Aug. 11, 1983

UFO incidents

YOUR RECENT stories about "Pentagon ordered to find E.T.'s body" (July 15) and "Pentagon won't have to release E.T." (July 31), carried by the Scripps-Howard News Service may not be as far fetched as it might seem.

Such crash-retrievals would be covered by Air Force regulations, JANAP 146-B, civilians under government contract, the statute of limitations, international security implications and the Espionage Act of 1950. Such penalties for unauthorized release of sensitive information carry heavy fines, prison terms, court martial and in some cases the death penalty.

At least the thousands of reported UFO incidents involving landings and occupant encounters over the past 40 years are consistent with over 20 crash/retrievals reported from over six states and seven countries over the past four decades. These crashes reportedly involved the recovery of over 30 bodies.

A report on the MPs who roped off the crash sites, the Air Force officers who removed the wreckage and the doctors who performed autopsies on the bodies have been available since 1982 and even three or four years before that.

Readers of The Gazette want to read the 1982 documents. They can do so by ordering UFO Crash/Retrievals: Amassing the Evidence (Status Report III) by Leonard H. Stringfield, 4412 Grove Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45227 (\$11, includes postage and handling).

Stringfield is one of the most respected UFO investigators and researchers in the world. It was he, who drafted the UN-UFO hearings proposals in 1978, which were held in New York.

With the penalties already outlined, it's easy to see why a federal judge had to reject Larry Bryant's request for time to get an affidavit from Stringfield as only hearsay evidence.

Read the report by both first-hand and second-hand eyewitnesses and make up your own mind. And read the March 10, 1947 letter from the Air Force to the FBI (now available through the Freedom of Information Act. I have and I can only encourage Larry W. Bryant and Leonard H. Stringfield to keep up their good work to get eyewitnesses to testify with impunity.

If I may close with an analogy. It bothers me not so much to know that taxi drivers are injured or killed in taxicab wrecks, or that the same has been reported of UFO occupants and their crafts worldwide through military channels, but that no official wrecks have been reported to the public in our open and free society.

George D. Fawcett
Lincolnton

Citizens say U.S. has UFOs, alien crew

By Timothy O'Leary
WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF

Larry W. Bryant perused a recent editorial in a Baltimore newspaper, then placed it down and sighed.

The editorial poked fun at a habeas-corpus petition filed by Bryant in a D.C. federal court on behalf of an organization called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy. A writ of habeas corpus compels the state to produce the body of anyone being held against his will and to give the legal justification for holding him.

The petition claimed the Air Force has the bodies of outer space aliens who crash landed in the New Mexico desert.

Bryant's petition, entitled a "Writ of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial," sought to compel the Air Force to produce the alien bodies, saying that holding them, if they are alive, would be "an unwarranted deprivation of their right to travel."

The editorial called news of the suit, "The best silly season story so far this summer."

"Alas," it said with obvious sarcasm, "the world shall never know" whether the extraterrestrials actually exist because the suit was dismissed by the presiding judge.

"That's the old school for reporting UFO-related events," said Bryant, 45, of Alexandria. "The press has always treated UFO subjects as a big joke."

To Bryant, UFOs are no joke. He has worked for 20 years to break what he calls a government "cover up" of information about UFOs.

Freedom of Information Act requests filed with the FBI, the National Security Agency, the CIA and the military have turned up some rather beguiling documents suggesting the government may know more than it is telling, but nothing yet to substantiate Bryant's most eye-catching claim: that the government actually has the remains of three flying saucers and nine crew members.

He believes the saucers and the extraterrestrial bodies are stored at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

One especially tantalizing FBI document, dated March 22, 1950, records an agent's interview with "an investigator for the Air Force" who discussed the New Mexico incident.

"(The investigator) stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, about 50 feet in diameter. Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only 3 feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of a very fine texture."

Interesting stuff, but not enough to convince U.S. District Court Judge Oliver Gasch that Bryant's case was worth pursuing.

Gasch ruled evidence of the extraterrestrials' existence "hearsay" and dismissed the case.

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

The giggles and guffaws of courtroom spectators had barely died after the suit's dismissal before Bryant was plotting his next move in exposing what he calls "the cosmic Watergate."

That next move has been to file another freedom-of-information request with the Air Force.

In an Aug. 11 letter to the Air Force chief of staff, Bryant requested information specifically pertaining to the alleged UFO crash. The letter asked for autopsy reports, metallurgical analyses, photos of the crash landing, photos of the stored wreckage and of the aliens themselves.

Bryant said he had to be specific because the Air Force refers general requests for UFO-related

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON
SUBJECT: FLYING SAUCERS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: March 22, 1950

The following information was furnished to SAC [redacted] by [redacted]

An investigator for the Air Forces stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, approximately 50 feet in diameter. Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only 3 feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of a very fine texture. Each body was bandaged in a manner similar to the blackout suits used by speed flyers and test pilots.

According to Mr. [redacted] informant, the saucers were found in New Mexico due to the fact that the Government has a very high-powered radar set and it is believed the radar interferes with the operation of the saucers.

No further action attempted by SAC [redacted] concerning the above.



Larry Bryant, D.C. director of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, discusses his attempts to force the U.S. government to release UFO-related information. Behind him is an FBI document relating to an alleged crash of alien spacecraft.

information to its published study of UFO phenomena, "Project Blue Book," which investigated more than 12,000 UFO sightings from 1947 to 1969. The study concluded there was no evidence UFOs exist, an Air Force spokesman said.

The Air Force replied to Bryant's information request by referring him to "Project Blue Book."

Bryant rejects the report's findings and accused the Air Force of covering up information relevant to the alleged crash.

"Project Bluebook" is a public-relations project," he said. "The Air Force has a vast storage house of hard-core UFO data."

Lt. George Jamison, an Air Force spokesman, said the Air Force withholds only information sensitive to national security and is prepared to comply with information requests from Bryant or any one else.

"We're not hiding anything. It's all in the public access," Jamison said. "If we have anything that he asks for in our records and it's releasable, we'll give it to him."

Bryant says he's convinced the Air Force has those records, and has filed an appeal that gives it 20 days to turn them over. If the Air

Force refuses, he's threatened to take the matter to court.

Once the Air Force has turned over records pertaining to the crash, Bryant says he can then go to court and compel it to present physical evidence.

Despite his dependence on the authority of the courts to force government agencies to turn over UFO-related information, Bryant blames them for failing to face the UFO issue head on.

In dismissing Bryant's petition for a writ of habeas corpus, the presiding judge ruled his court did not have legal jurisdiction because a writ of habeas corpus must be filed in the district where the body is being held. He said there was no evidence the extraterrestrials were being held in Washington.

"It's a Catch-22 because we can't show where the bodies are," Bryant said.

There have been other frustrating dead-ends.

The National Security Agency told Bryant it has 135 UFO-related documents it can't release because it can't delete from the documents information sensitive to national security, and the CIA is withholding 57 documents for the same rea-

son.

"We think that's a specious argument, especially since the intelligence agencies have been able to sanitize hundreds of UFO-related documents," Bryant said.

He said he plans to sue the CIA for the withheld documents.

Bryant said a study by Cincinnati businessman Leonard H. Stringfield is further evidence that the government knows more than it is telling about UFOs.

Stringfield claims to have interviewed more than 20 witnesses to the New Mexico flying-saucer retrieval and storage operation.

The study includes a purported interview with an Air Force officer who saw three "deceased humanoid alien bodies... apparently hastily packed (using dry ice probably) for detention at that base for medical examination or autopsy."

The study also includes a description of the extraterrestrials' bodies from a hematologist who allegedly performed autopsies on the aliens:

"The head was pear-shaped in appearance and oversized by human standards for the body. The eyes were Mongoloid in appearance

and recessed into the head..." Stringfield would not reveal the names of his witnesses because he said they had an understanding that they would talk only if their conversations were confidential.

Despite that, Bryant said he is absolutely convinced of the study's truthfulness.

It is possible, he said, that one of the witnesses, "some Deep Throat inspired by our sincerity and our serious approach to this," will come forward.

"If we could just get that one affidavit, then we'd make our suit really count," Bryant said. "Without it, we don't have much of a chance to win."

He said Stringfield, who is in his 60s, has made provisions to reveal the names of the witnesses to Bryant in the event of Stringfield's death.

Bryant concedes that the public's general impression of those who believe in UFOs is apprehensive at best.

"There is a lunatic fringe in UFO research circles," he says. "What it does is unwittingly reinforce the government's cover up. It helps the government keep this thing secret because it clouds the legitimate issue."

Bryant perceives himself as "a concerned citizen who for 20 some years has been compelled to contribute whatever I can to the resolution of this problem."

"Maybe it's a little bit quixotic," he said, "but I've crusaded for other subjects in the past and I'm not averse to a legitimate crusade."

DAILY RECORD, Hickory, NC
Aug. 18, 1983

CR: G. Fawcett

Gaston College Offers Course On UFO Study

LINCOLNTON — "UFOs: A New Frontier of Science," will be taught for the fifth straight year during the fall quarter at the Lincoln County campus of Gaston College in Lincoln by George Fawcett, a veteran of 39 years of UFO research and investigations.

More than 136 men and women have completed the course to date.

The 30-hour course runs for 12 weeks on Tuesday nights, starting Sept. 13 from 7:15 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. The course awards three continuing education units (CEU).

Registration will be held at the Lincoln County campus, 403 East Main Street, or telephone 735-0487, Aug. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The registration fee is \$10. Those 65 and over may register free.

The course is designed to offer students an insight into the documented UFO evidence on a global basis.

It will explore, pro and con, the various political, scientific, military, spiritual, historical, sociological, philosophical, mythological and parapsychological implications of the UFO enigma.

The class will utilize a wide variety of lectures, printed data, classroom discussions, tape recordings, oral and written quizzes, eyewitness testimony, Freedom of Information documents, UFO slides, photographs, scientific studies and military probes.

Fawcett has served as the North Carolina State Director for the Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON) with international headquarters in Seguin, Texas, from 1969 through 1980. He currently serves as a Catawba and Lincoln County UFO investigator for MUFON.

Man saw dream light summer sky

By Rodney Bowers
SWTR Staff Writer

MULDROW — It was partly cloudy and cool June 13. The moon was absent and John Shellenberger's dog was causing a commotion outside.

"Old 'Boy' up there was raising cane about something," Shellenberger said, jerking his head toward the house. "That's the reason I came out."

Shellenberger, 62, termed what followed as a dream come true. "I ain't going to call them UFOs, but let's put it this way, there was something bright up in the sky," he said.

"I often wished something like that would happen. I figured somebody's got to be a little right somewhere along the line."

Shellenberger said he sighted the object at 10:30 p.m. He then ran inside the house to tell his wife, Allis.

"I didn't believe him," Allis Shellenberger said. "But he got his camera and came out here to prove there was something out here. I told him he had bugs in his head."

Allis Shellenberger, 57, followed her husband outside. What she saw "was too little to be the moon and bigger than a star. Anyway, the moon is back over there," she said, pointing to the south.

Shellenberger was able to click off five shots of the object with his Polaroid Instamatic Camera before he ran out of film. The object in the photos appears to be white and in the shape of a dog biscuit with a long, narrow center and heart-shaped bulbs on either end.

"It ain't no trick on my part," he said of the photos. "I couldn't afford nothing like that."

Shellenberger, who lives about five miles northwest of Muldrow, said he watched the light in the northeast sky for about 45 minutes. "It pained me bad because I didn't have any more film," he said.

At first Shellenberger thought the light was an airplane, but he said it never flashed and "it didn't seem to be moving." And, he said, "I didn't hear ... noise whatsoever." Shellenberger said he also discounted the light being a fire because it was too bright.

After 45 minutes, he said, "It went out just like your headlights," he said, while snapping his fingers.

Shellenberger said he did not report the incident to authorities. "If you tell anyone about it," he said, "they'll tell you you're nuts."

A check with state and local police revealed no reports of UFO sightings June 13.

Tinker Air Force Base at Midwest City, Okla., and the Little Rock Air Force Base at Jacksonville said there were no Air Force operations in the area on the night of June 13. The Fort Smith Air National Guard, however, started air training operations June 11, but a spokesman said no flights were held in the vicinity of the sighting.

Several witnesses reported UFO sightings March 11 from Oklahoma to Mississippi. The UFOs, however, turned out to be a Soviet rocket body re-entering the earth's atmosphere. It was described as a glowing object with a trail of flames.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., said no space debris entered the earth's atmosphere June 13.

Shellenberger said he would have kept his sighting to himself had it not been for a UFO

program shown recently on public broadcast television. The show, he said, "made me angry because they were practically calling (people reporting UFOs) liars."

He has since contacted Tinker Air Force Base about his sighting.

Dr. Allen Hynek, scientific director for the Center of UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill., said the center receives about one or two sightings a day and about a dozen "good sightings" a month, most of which come from rural areas.

In a telephone interview, Hynek said a 45-minute sighting "is a long while." Most sightings, he said, range between 10 and 15 minutes.

Hynek said the object was probably not a reflection, saying "it wouldn't be that intense." He said the description given by Shellenberger is common and expressed an interest in the photos. "There was nothing prominent in the sky at that time," he said.

Shellenberger said he would like to have his claim and photos examined by professionals. "If I'm crazy," he said, "I'd like for the psychiatrist to tell me."

Latrobe area

Saw alien craft, man says

By James W. Siehl
The Tribune-Democrat

Before dawn on the morning of July 27 on the outskirts of Latrobe, a man getting ready to go to work observed a bright light shining through a window of his house.

At first he thought it must be the sun before realizing that the sun does not rise in that direction.

As he looked outside, he saw a large, white beam of light approxi-

The craft was just above the trees, very, very large and metallic gray.

mately 15 to 20 feet in diameter. More strangely, the light was shining from a huge craft hovering right above the tops of a group of trees approximately a quarter-mile from him.

The rotating beam seemed to be covering a 180-degree angle. As it swung toward the clouds, the entire frame was silhouetted below, giving the unidentified Westmoreland County eyewitness a spectacular view of an unidentified flying object.

According to Stan Gordon of Greensburg, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, who investigated the incident, the property owner had estimated the UFO to be at least 250 to 300 feet long.

"This object was estimated to be without a doubt as long as a football field," Mr. Gordon said, adding:

"He said it was flat on top, was elongated. It was metallic battleship gray in color. And, there were two rows of windows in it — square windows."

Witness leaves house

Mr. Gordon said the man ran outside for a better look and watched the object in amazement for several min-

utes. It did not make a sound, he said. Then, it started slowly moving toward the Latrobe Sewage Plant.

The last thing that the man said he noticed, Mr. Gordon said, was that the bright light had turned bright orange.

In the same time frame, Mr. Gordon, whose voluntary organization serves as a statewide clearing house for UFO sightings as well as Bigfoot incidents and other odd occurrences, said reports were received from people within a two-mile radius of hearing a very strange, high-pitched sound along the line where the object was moving — a sound they never heard before.

Headaches reported

"People described severe headaches they had from it, animal disturbances and at least one other person reported a very bright light at the same time at the Latrobe Sewage Plant," Mr. Gordon said.

"Interestingly," he continued, "at 7:45 the same morning, about 2½ hours later, which was now daylight, a woman in Jeannette heard a loud vibration. She thought it was a Life Flight helicopter coming in from Monsour Hospital. It sounded like it was right over the roof of the house. As she heard this, the whole house started to vibrate, the windows started to vibrate and her body and ears actually vibrated from the sound."

Mr. Gordon said the woman pushed out a screen in one of the windows to look out front and observed an object very similar to the one seen near Latrobe.

Although it was daytime, Mr. Gordon said, the craft was just above the trees, very, very large and metallic gray.

"Double-decker"

"She said there were two rows of square windows," he said. "She called it a double-decker because it had two rows for windows. There were red and blue flashing lights around the perimeter. This thing bobbed up and down over the trees. She watched for at least 45 minutes. She said all of a sudden there was a 'whoosh,' and the thing ascended vertically into the clouds and was gone in seconds. She was in shock right after it happened. She said her whole body felt like her skin was crawling off of

her. She said she never felt like that before."

The researcher was impressed by the two reports from the same general area within a couple of hours.

Most interesting, he said, were the windows on the UFO. He explained that reports rarely include windows. When they are mentioned, he said, they usually are reported as round.

Rash of phenomena

According to Mr. Gordon, there has been a rash of unexplained phenomena, particularly since July and mostly in the southwestern part of the state.

He said the reports included strange nocturnal lights in the sky, black panther sightings and persistent accounts that the legendary humanoid — Bigfoot — still roams the remote haunts of Westmoreland, Fayette, Allegheny and Armstrong counties.

According to Mr. Gordon, two men who had been camping out in the vicinity of Irwin on Aug. 16 reported a Bigfoot encounter. Right before dawn they heard a noise in the bushes. When they shined a flashlight into the area, Mr. Gordon said, they saw a creature staring at them from a berry patch.

"They could see the thing from the waist to the head — towering about 5½ feet above the weeds."

Human face

"It was the ugliest thing they had ever seen," Mr. Gordon went on. "It was 2½ to 3 feet broad, covered with dark hair and had a somewhat human face. The face was more triangular shape than a human, and much larger — all black and hairy with some darker patches of hair on the face."

Mr. Gordon said the creature's eyes were very distinctive. The men said the eyes were much larger than those of a human and gleamed a brilliant green — almost luminescent — under the flashlight's glare.

Later, an inspection of the area by the PASU staff brought no additional sightings of the animal, but Mr. Gordon said branches had been broken and the weeds leveled where the creature or creatures could have been resting.

The PASU hotline UFO number is (412) 838-7768 or write to PASU, 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg.

DAILY RECORD, Hickory, NC - Sept. 5, 1983 CR: G. Fawcett

Study Of UFOs Attracts Students To N.C. College

By ELISSA McCRARY
Associated Press Writer

People ages 20 to 90 from 25 North Carolina towns have been drawn to a Gaston College classroom to learn the elusive discipline of ufology — the study of unidentified flying objects.

"It used to be that UFO studies were dominated by the crackpots," said George Fawcett, a newspaper advertising salesman, field investigator for the Mutual UFO Network and teacher of the course. "Now it's dominated by the scientists. Finally, they admit there may be something up there that they can't explain away."

Fawcett said documents he obtained from the federal government under the Freedom of Information Act show federal agencies have investigated UFO sightings for years. Most of the investigations were labeled "top secret," he said.

"I think the government has tried to hold back information on UFOs, to tell people they don't exist," he said. "But while they were telling us there was nothing to worry about, they were investigating the problem in

earnest."

He said other countries, including the Soviet Union and China, recently have begun their own UFO investigations.

Fawcett, 54, has spent five years teaching students — many of whom never saw a UFO — what to look for.

"There are 150 UFO sightings a day all over the world," he said, adding that North Carolina is fourth in the nation in sightings. "They're coming from somewhere and people should know about them."

Fawcett said he became intrigued

with UFOs when he was a boy after reading a newspaper story on unidentified flying objects. He has spent the past 39 years and about \$27,000 on his hobby.

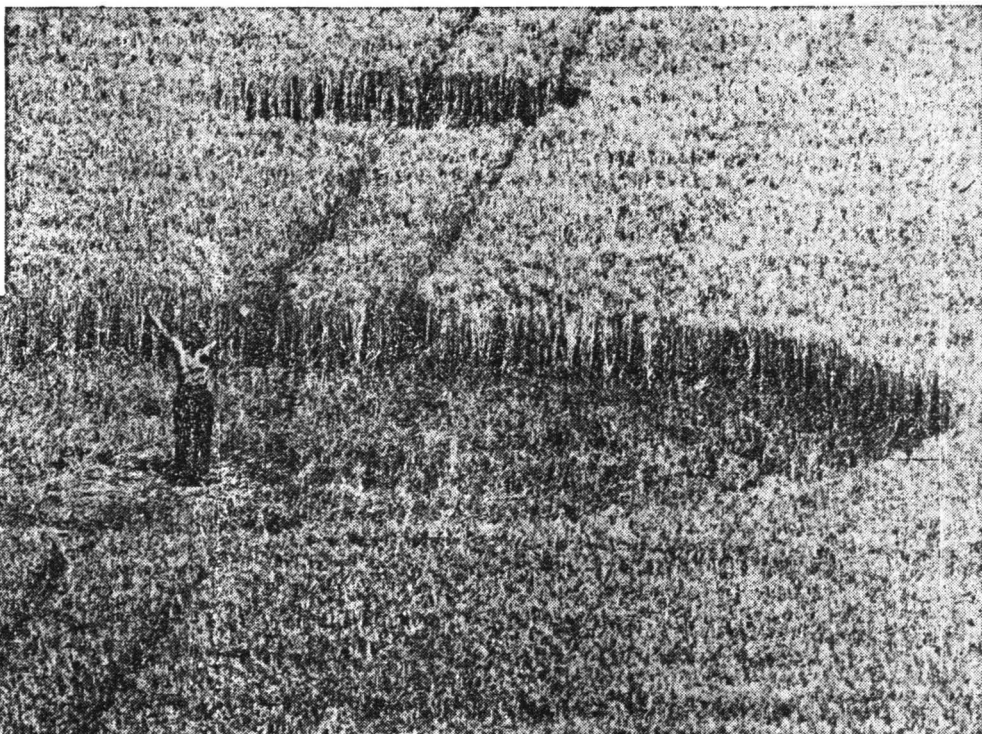
"I have just finished reading my 50th book on UFOs," he said. "Anything written on them just catches my interest."

Fawcett said in all his years of watching the skies, he has seen only one UFO. That was in 1951, he says, when he saw a disc-shaped object glowing orange in the sky over Lynchburg, Va.



DAILY EXPRESS, London, England - July 15, 1983

JEAN ROOK ON THE TRAIL OF THE BIG 'UFO' MYSTERY



Jean marks the eerie spot... what in heaven made it, if it wasn't a four-legged spaceship?*

Picture: CHRIS WOOD

IT'S four days since the Express riddled a nation with curiosity by printing the first pictures of Britain's mysterious White Holes.

Like Black Holes, except that they appear, overnight, in cornfields.

Since then, people have gone round in circles — the windier ones in a flat spin—trying to work out who made them. Or what?

Some say the perfectly round 14ft to 50ft wide holes which have opened up in corn and barley fields in Hampshire and Wiltshire are caused by whirlwinds.

Farmers with their feet on the ground claim it's been trampled by hoaxes, and are at the end of their tether, trying to catch the "vandalising little buggers" whirling derisively round a stake, attached to a length of string.

Some rather welly put down the holes in the flattened corn to hailstones. People with steamier imaginations say they've been ecstatically thrashed out by rutting deer, overheated mating hedgehogs, or lovers making hay in the wrong crop.

UFO spotters and folk who are way out, if not spaced out, are hailing The Return of ET, and standing, strain-



ing skywards, by their phones. One local pub philosopher, surrounded by rings of best bitter, keeps telling everyone who isn't listening for ET's call, "It was a bloody great Wessex chopper, and that's the end of it."

To get to the bottom of the White Holes, and to fill in open-minded readers, I yesterday flew over the notorious "Warminster Triangle", which, for 10 years, has been to stray UFOs what the Bermuda Triangle is to vanishing ships.

Dropped on from the air, the holes look like five perfectly formed spots on a dice. Then a handful of 10ns. Then a set of saucers (but the ordinary kind you wash up).

It's only when you're low

I enter the White Hole of Warminster

(AND COME OUT WITH A BUTTONHOLE FROM E.T.)

as the local hang-gliders (a thought, but they'd make messy triangles rather than holes) it hits you that the four smaller rings are at the corners, and precisely equidistant from the main circle. So what in the name of Heaven that sent it made that, if it wasn't a four-legged spaceship?

I'm pictured here standing in the hell of a hot 50ft wide hole. The temperature at a record 92 degrees, and me sweating even more over what caused the 360 degrees of flattened barley fanning round me.

Because what makes your hair stand up like the untouched crop round them is the absolute symmetry of the rings. They seem to have been cut out of an otherwise perfectly upstanding field with an electric tin opener.

It didn't help that the ears of barley, though swirled flat clockwise round my feet, hadn't been crushed or trodden by any other human foot.

Or as local farmer's wife, Mrs Petronella Payne, pricked my spine:—

"There are no entry or exit marks round the rings. Nobody's been in there, and nobody's come out. Those things seem to have been made by something that's come down, rotating very slowly."

You could tell by the way she dropped her voice that she didn't mean a bloody great Wessex chopper.

Actually, you can enter the magic circle. If you've the guts you nearly spill climbing



two high barbed wire fences and inching your way along the tyre tracks left by fertiliser-spraying tractor.

But to crash across to the "feet" of the spaceship—by now I was in speculative orbit—you're forced to flatten the crop.

A tractor driver chewing my ear with a corn husk, told me: "There's some funny things round here. They say we even had Boadicea."

Maybe she dropped her bra, I suggested.

Meanwhile Mrs Payne welcomed me back from Outer Space and inner speculation with a cup of tea.

"The Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Agriculture keep saying they're just 'the weather.' But that's not a logical explanation. All we've ever wanted, since they first appeared in 1980, is an explanation."

I clutched at the flying saucer I'd nearly dropped. Do THEY come here often, apart from the hedgehog mating season?

"THEY usually come in August," said Mrs Payne levelly. "It's the first time we've had THEM in July, and the first time in barley—in other years it's always been corn. THEY could have been coming for ages, but we didn't notice THEM until 1980—they make their rings well off the road where fast passing cars wouldn't notice. We didn't tell anyone at first because we felt so foolish."

"THEY are very friendly," Mrs Payne added. "THEY

give off good vibes. The first time I saw one this year, I said, 'oh, you're here to have another look at us,' and felt quite peaceful."

Over in the village of Batton, they were keeping an equally admirably low temperature and flattened profile in view from the windows of The Duke of Wellington—of a whacking great 50ft hole which appeared in a cornfield two nights ago.

The landlord of The Duke, who argues, "if it's a hoax, it's very elaborate, it takes a



hell of a lot of stamina in this weather," is offering a pint to the first little green man to claim it.

A heavily pregnant tumescent young girl, with no magic circle on her finger, said it was all a load of manure, the whole blown-up story. "Then would you stand in The Ring alone, at night?", I asked her.

Poppy... flower power



E.T. ... hasn't phoned

She looked at me, like Mother Earth, over her mighty, swelling earthwork. "I never go anywhere alone at night," she said.

Like a lot about this area, there was no answer to that. At the end of the long, mind-scorching day, I was irresistibly drawn back into the vortex. I sat in the middle of the Batton Hole.

I quivered. I was alone, if not exactly frightened, and three million light years from ET, who hadn't phoned.

He'd taken his little earthly pot of flowers with him, and was never, never coming back.

The setting sun, now a vast Red Hole in the evening, struck a tiny red circle in the flattened corn. Full 50ft in diameter, nothing but waste, but for one solitary red-blooded poppy.

I had reached the centre of the vortex. The focus of the cosmos. I had solved the problem, and plucked the flower of universal truth.

Oh wow, ET. Thanks for the buttonhole.

MIDWEEK, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, England - Aug. 23, 1983 CR: P. Norman

Brief encounter with space

UFO spotters, scientists and those who've yet to have a close encounter, will be homing in on Lane End this weekend for the country's third International UFO Congress.

And if the quiet Bucks village seems an unlikely venue for the extra terrestrial blockbuster, the choice of Lane End's Lorch

Foundation centre is a deliberate move by organisers from the British UFO Research Association to take the Congress out of London.

For a fee of £10.00 a day, the curious and the convinced can expect some startling evidence from top American, Canadian,

and European researchers, at least some of whom will tell their star struck audience that "flying saucers are real."

That's the conclusion of experts like Canadian nuclear physicist and Congress star speaker, Dr Stanton Friedman whose work on nuclear aircraft and spacecraft has led him to

believe that some UFOs are spaceships from other worlds.

Also on offer will be a selection of the 600 or so photographs taken in Norway in recent years of UFO sightings by no less than 4,000 people.

The three-day event will run from August 27-29.

DAVID SHEARING on a Northern woman's new theory about UFOs

THINGS do not go bump in the night anymore — they flicker and whine and hover overhead at inconvenient moments, giving rise to the best-known acronym of the modern age, "UFO."

Like them or loathe them, you are well-nigh bound to end up by laughing at them. That is the popularly accepted approach, and UFO-pundits have struggled vainly against it for years.

But a change could be on the way. A woman living in Merseyside has written a compelling and drily-worded review of what the so-called UFO phenomenon could mean when matched against the standards of rational commonsense.

Jenny Randles, the 25-year-old director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, has set out to establish UFO research on the sort of analytical basis which non-believers can readily understand.

Masses of data have poured in over the years, she admits, leading to confusion for the general public and sometimes to frustration and time-wasting exercises for serious researchers.

An unlucky use of words by an American observer in the late 1940s, referring to saucer-like objects in the sky, paved the way for the "flying saucer" syndrome and, Jenny feels, the trivialisation of the issue in the public mind.

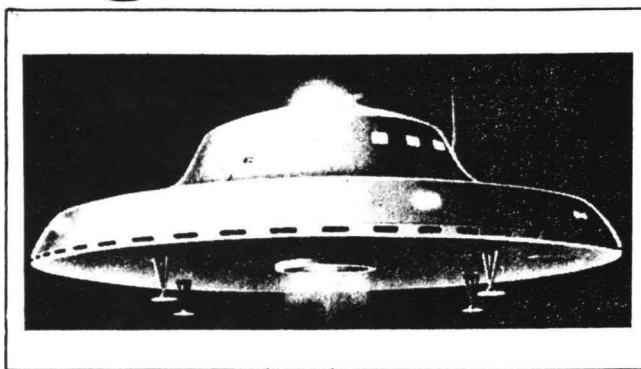
The moment "flying saucers" are mentioned, she points out, the average person thinks of extra-terrestrial beings. What use is a flying saucer, after all, without a tribe of ETs to keep it going?

That sort of reaction sums up the difficulties which Jenny Randles and other serious UFO students say they are facing: an ill-informed and sceptical public, plus a wall of discreet resistance from the authorities.

Reports of apparent UFO sightings are channelled, she maintains, into the pending trays (maybe also the shredders) of various government bodies, particularly the Ministry of Defence.

A bland official answer is given in appropriate cases, she maintains, and serious inquiries often stop at that point. Also, of course, witnesses are

Lights fantastic



often too embarrassed to press for detailed explanations.

When official assistance is forthcoming she says, sensible answers can quickly be sorted out from genuine mysteries. An examination of the flight times of aircraft approaching Manchester airport explained sightings of orange glowing objects in the sky.

But the problems which remain unsolved, even after careful examination, become all the more thought-provoking.

Jenny has gone into some of these conundrums in a new book which uses various incidents on both sides of the Pennine chain for its base material. There have been rashes of incidents in both Lancashire and Yorkshire during the past five years — not only in the "silly season," but sometimes in the depths of winter.

There was plenty of UFO mobility during the heavy snowfalls of February 1979 if the findings of Jenny Randles and her associates are correct.

One man, a British Rail employee whom Ms Randles does not name (many UFO witnesses are shy of publicity) found himself being involuntarily "levitated" — near Headingley railway station, Leeds on a gloomy, darkening, snowbound winter evening.

The man was walking homeward along the track, after alighting from a train at the station, when he saw a green object, several feet wide and looking like "a piece of green cheese with irregular sides" glowing and hovering not far above the ground.

Reaching up in a vain attempt to touch the object, he found himself seized by an invisible force like "some kind of mechanical grab," lifted some six or seven feet into the air and propelled along the track for about 15 feet. Then the same force seemed to place him back on the ground.

Ms. Randles comments: "Not surprisingly, he ran away at this sight and did not use the same route home for some while to come."

Jenny Randles is working on the

theory that certain geographical areas serve as "windows" on the untapped and mysterious world of hidden energy sources which, she feels, may have produced the UFO syndrome.

A week after the Headingley "levitation," two schoolgirls claimed to have witnessed the landing and taking-off of a rocket-like object ("the size of a small car") from open land at Meanwood only a couple of miles away.

Cynics could say that auto-suggestion and the power of rumour are responsible for sudden rashes of UFO-style sightings. Ms. Randles contends that there are too many incidents to be explained away thus casually. No satisfactory explanation has emerged for the strange objects in the sky seen by a busload of Lancashire people some years ago.

Anxious to stress that every effort is made to weed out eccentric witnesses and publicity-seekers, she notes that a police constable, finishing motor patrol duty in Todmorden at the unromantic hour of 5 a.m. in November, 1980, claims to have been confronted by a large, squat, spinning-top type machine, complete with lights, in the roadway. Under regressive hypnosis later, he appeared to re-experience some true "Close Encounter" sequences, meeting inside the mysterious machine with extra-terrestrials, and so on.

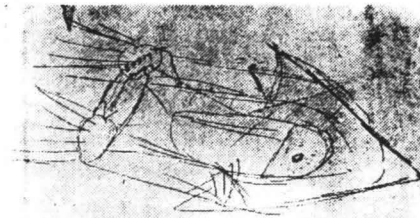
What concerns Ms Randles is the possibility that the geological structure of the Pennines may give rise to outbursts of energy and to what she describes as "Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena" — a better phrase, she feels, than the controversially-laden Unidentified Flying Object.

Allied to these atmospheric effects, she feels, are various other energy sources linked to human beings — sources which surface via the power of coincidence in particular.

"The Pennine UFO Mystery," published by Granada at £1.50.

NEWS, Perth, W.A., Australia - July 22, 1983

Teasing UFO flirts with police



◆ Chief Inspector Paul Hickman's drawing of the mystery object.

MELBOURNE: A UFO "played fun and games" with three policemen today.

Police said the object was obviously teasing them as it continually appeared and disappeared over the Melton area in Melbourne's western suburbs.

Police have no idea what the object was or who was flying it.

Chief Inspector Paul Hickman said he saw the object fly over Melton police station about 6am but could not work out what it was.

"It reminded me of a cross between a Harrier jet and a helicopter," he said.

"We put the spotlight on it, which showed it was grey, about 30ft (10 metres) long and 20ft (6 metres) wide, which made it too big to be a gyrocopter."

A Department of Aviation spokesman, Mr Ken Williams, said the department did not know where to start to look for the object.

A police helicopter was to search for it today.

Constables Peter Ferguson and Ray Ellens first spotted the object hovering over the Western Highway at 12.40am.

"It had two headlights like a car with high beam on and red

tail lights, but it didn't seem to make any noise," Constable Ferguson said later.

For the next six hours the mystery object continued to tease the officers as it flew in a triangle over Melton, Sydenham and Rockbank.

Constable Ferguson said: "We thought it was a bit of a joke at first, but then we got pretty annoyed because the bloody thing was too quick for us."



◆ Constable Peter Ferguson



◆ Constable Ray Ellens

YORKSHIRE POST, Leeds, England - July 20, 1983

It's UFOs galore in Yorks skies

Somebody up there could be watching Yorkshire — more than 30 sightings of UFOs have been reported in the East Pennines area since January, it was revealed today.

Details of the sightings come from Mr. Mark Birdsall, research officer of the Yorkshire UFO Society, who said March and April was a particularly active time for such incidents.

Mr. Birdsall, 24, of Lovell Towers, Leeds, said the East Pennines was Britain's best area for UFO sightings.

He said that the east Pennines was Britain's best area for UFO sightings.

Mr. Birdsall said that during March and April there were two strange incidents at Grassington.

One involved a large circular object, glowing white and flashing,

hovering above a woman as she walked down her garden path.

In the other case a man heard a high-pitched siren noise early one morning and discovered an orange glow in some trees.

When the glow had vanished the trees were examined and one was found to be badly scored. A sample of the bark was analysed by Leeds University, which reported that it had definitely not been damaged by lightning.

Meanwhile Mrs. Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, has just written her fourth book — called the Pennine UFO Mystery in which she recalls sightings made in the area.

BRIDGWATER MERCURY, Somerset, England Aug. 2, 1983

UFO 'was a spaceship'

THE UFO, sighted in Bridgwater during a recent thunderstorm was probably a spaceship looking for a place to land, according to an "expert".

Mr Graham Knewstubb, a 74-year-old retired electronics engineer who is official spokesman for the British Flying Saucer Bureau, said: "This could well have been a spaceship or a remotely piloted vehicle of some sort in a state of malfunction."

He was talking about a Bridgwater housewife's scare when she saw "a huge spaceship" fly over her house in Penzoy Avenue.

"I was petrified," said Mrs Patricia Stark. "It was absolutely huge. It was coming towards the house and glowing. I thought it was going to collide with us."

BRIGHT

The UFO was seen by five others in the town. Mr John Hunt, aged 32, said: "We were watching a thunderstorm and all of a sudden we noticed a bright light. It went straight across in front of us, and about 10 minutes later it came back again. I looked at it through my binoculars and it just went out as though someone had turned the light off."

"It's the first time I've seen anything like it."

Mr Hunt saw the UFO with his wife and three neighbours, who were all leaning out of their windows at the same time.

"We were all amazed," he

said. "It was something that five people saw at exactly the same time. If it had been just myself, I would probably have kept my mouth shut and thought I was just seeing things."

Mr Knewstubb said the sighting would be reported to his Flying Saucer President, Captain Eddie Plunkett.

"If this object was in trouble, it could have been trying to find somewhere to land," said Mr Knewstubb at his home in Bishopston, Bristol.

"The descriptions of this object fit in with other reports we have had from all around the world. These craft would be seeking out remote or lonely parts as likely landing areas and the West Country is a likely a place as any."

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said: "We suggest that the people making these reports should send them to the Civil Aviation Authority or to us and we may investigate."

'It was incredible'... but was it a UFO?

From
ROY S. CARSON in STOCKHOLM

"IT was so unreal! It was incredible!" says pretty seventeen-year-old Swedish horse-girl Pia Andersson.

"The flying saucer just hung there in the air six to eight metres above our heads. The horses were scared, we were scared..."

"I wet myself in fear of what could happen to me and my two friends. I've never been frightened like that before. We were alone. I didn't know what to do — I was paralysed with fright otherwise I might have run for my life!"

Pia Andersson had been out riding near the small Swedish hamlet of Kvilla with neighbors eleven-year-old Anna-Karin Lindahl and fourteen-year-old Carina Sjöström when the mystery UFO appeared out of nowhere to take a look at them.

From inside the extra-terrestrial vehicle they must have looked a strange sight... like two-headed centaurs, approximately.

It was about 9 pm on Wednesday October 27 last. The three chums decided to exercise their horses before turning in to bed.

"It was an unusually bright evening for the time of year," recalls Carina Sjöström. "The horses appeared to be rather uneasy as if there was a 'presence' somewhere around. Now I know the real meaning of horse sense."

"Usually they like nothing better than to be out of the stable. They like the jumps best, and of course to gallop freely. But that particular evening they were extremely restless. We decided to take them for a gallop across the heath to get the wind out of them — it usually worked!"

"It was a wonderful evening, the stars were just beginning to show but it was still light. But suddenly we all stopped in our tracks," eleven-year-old Anna-Karin Lindahl said.

She is the youngest of the three. "I know it sounds crazy and people have told us it just cannot be true — but it is! — We, all three of us, saw a flying saucer!"

"It seemed as if it had arrived from nowhere particular. Suddenly it was there, hovering about eight metres above us. It was about as high up as the roof of the barn. The horse went wild, I was nearly thrown off! But I managed to cling on. Just as suddenly the horses were quiet and docile again."

"It was as if someone had told them there was now nothing at all to fear. It couldn't have been us for we were scared out of our wits and still were. I looked up towards the object. I almost didn't dare to look up at all!"

"I didn't want to believe what I had at first seen but I can tell you, I really saw what I saw — I saw it with my own two eyes. It was a shimmering sort of 'thing' about the size of a large car."

"My daddy drives a Volvo Estate — but it was bigger, though not much. There was scarcely noise coming from it although there had been a shrill whining noise when we first encountered it above us."

"Perhaps it was the noise which put the fear of God into us and the horses from the beginning."

AGAIN THE QUERY IN THE SKIES



Pia Andersson was frightened so much that, afterwards, she experienced a blackout which lasted several minutes. But she observed the UFO as best she could knowing full well the encounter would be doubted when, if they survived to tell the tale.

"There were lights in a myriad of colors along the outer edge of the craft," she said.

"It was like the edge of the craft was a rainbow. It looked as if it was burning at the centre, top and bottom, although I could see no flames. It pulsed red, bright red to pink in a sporadic sort of time pattern — there was nothing regular about the pulses as far as I could see. I can swear to it!"

"And on the underside I was able to see small, silver-metallic feet protruding —

they were perhaps a half-metre each and they were placed around the circumference of the saucer. I guess it must have been landing gear — I can't be sure for they just stuck out and turned slowly with the body of the craft as it seemed to 'look at' us."

"It was weird — I felt strange eyes piercing through us. I was pins-and-needles all over — but it could have been just the fright of it all."

"It hung there in the air over us for more than six minutes," says Pia although she said she can't be precise about the time.

Her digital watch stopped dead during the close encounter and she hasn't been able to get it to work again since. The local watch repairman says it's no use even trying to fix it. He can't explain the damage caused to the electronics inside it.

Local newspaper reporter Alf Olsson interviewed the trio a day after their close encounter with the "extra-terrestrial craft" and says he finds them credible witnesses in every way.

"They are just ordinary schoolgirls," he said. "I can't for the life of me imagine them putting such an intricate and incredible story together just for the effect it might cause on their friends."

"In fact they were rather reticent at first about speaking of it at all to a newspaperman for they thought the readers might laugh at them if the story was used in the paper."

And today, more than 10 months after the weird and wonderful experience, Pia Andersson really wants to forget about it. That's why she refused to be photographed with 11-year-old Anna-Karin and 14-year-old Carina.

"This is the last time I'm going to speak to anyone about it," she said.

"I know I saw it, but people think I've just got to be crazy, that I'm hallucinating."

What's all the more strange about the UFO sighting is that local air traffic controller Mr Peter Erlandsson says there was absolutely nothing in his "air space" that night. If there had been, it would have been registered on the ATC's hyper-sensitive and sophisticated radar system.

As a security measure all ATC's record their air space screenings automatically and continually for future reference. And they can certify nothing entered or left their local air space during the monitored period from 8 pm to 10.30 pm.

Swedish Defence Department early warning radar establishments along the Swedish Baltic coastline at nearby Kalmar report they saw nothing either and the sighting is now being investigated by the Swedish Air Force's special investigation group at Linköping.

Riding school instructress and farmer Mrs Anita Sjöstrand said that on the night the three girls galloped into the farmyard and headed full-tilt for the barn with the horses.

"I ran out to them to give them a ticking-off about the way they had treated the horses," she said.

"I've always tried to tell the girls to take it easy with the horses — but this time they had hidden them home as though all hell had broken loose."

"And, apparently, it had. For the girls were lying in the hay crying their little eyes out when I opened the door to the stable."

"It took me almost an hour to get them coherent enough to tell me what had happened. At first I thought they might have run into a 'dirty old man' or perhaps worse..."

"But I was certainly not prepared for what they had to tell me about a 'flying saucer'. I mean, it was all so incredible. I would have needed to see it with my own eyes."

"I don't doubt for a moment the girls told me the truth — it's just that it sounds so weird and wonderful, strange but still fascinating."

"And I didn't believe in flying saucers, before, either!"

Potato shaped UFO!

AN UNIDENTIFIED flying object caused some concern on Monday evening when several people spotted a "potato" shaped object gliding across the Mitcham skyline.

A police spokesman said the station had received several alarmed telephone calls about the lights in the sky, but he put it down to shooting stars rather than uninvited visitors from outer space.

The strange looking object was seen at about 8.30 pm as the daylight faded into darkness.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - July 24, 1983

'Flying Saucer' has the boffins baffled

A TEAM of French government scientists who have been investigating the report of a Flying Saucer landing admitted this weekend that, for the first time in more than 1,000 cases, they have been unable to find a logical or earthbound explanation.

At first glance the report was like any of a hundred other sightings. While working in his garden in the Gard region of southern France, a farmworker heard

from
DAVID PASKOV
Paris

a slight whistling sound, looked up and saw "a strange machine coming down very fast. It was not spinning and there were no flames or smoke."

After hitting the ground, it took off almost immediately at a tremendous speed.

It was about 13ft in diameter, about 8ft high, and shaped like two inverted soup

plates of unequal size joined together by a projecting rim. At the scene scientists from CEPAN, the group for the study of non-identifiable aerospace phenomena set up by the government in 1979, found some strange evidence.

Plant life had mysteriously changed in character. Although it was summer it was as if autumn had arrived overnight.

Analyses carried out at four separate laboratories produced startling results. Chlorophyll and other sub-

stances in the plants had been reduced by between 30 and 60 per cent.

But that was not all. The scientists' report added that an analysis of soil samples indicated that an object of extremely heavy weight had scraped along the ground leaving evidence of both thermic and mechanical effect and a residue of what was possibly combustion.

Could this really have been caused by a Flying Saucer?

The scientists' report does not indicate a belief in UFOs, but it ends with: "We are in the presence of traces for which there is no satisfactory explanation and we can find no reason to suspect that the eyewitness is deliberately lying."

Top scientist Alain Esterle said: "For the first time we found a combination of factors which leads us to accept that something similar to what the eyewitness described actually did happen."

SOUTHERN EVENING ECHO, Southampton, England - July 12, 1983

Are they made by vandals or an extra-terrestrial?

HAS Hampshire had an extra-terrestrial visit — or are mindless publicity-seeking vandals at work in farmers' fields?

That's the question buzzing round one of the county's beauty spots after more mysterious circles appeared in a barley field near Winchester.

The five geometrically perfect rings follow the appearance of five strange circles in a cornfield at Westbury in Wiltshire over the weekend — and some UFO spotters are convinced we have had a visit from another world.

RIDDLE OF THE RINGS

The owners of the field at the Devil's Punchbowl beneath Cheesefoot head on the main A272 road — and near a car park — believe the visitors are much more earthly and they are certainly unwelcome.

"It is just a terrible waste of

corn — we must have lost a good acre," said Mr. Alastair Bruce this morning. Mr. Bruce is the son of Lt. Commander Henry Bruce who owns the field.

"It is rather surprising that the Martians always choose to

land in the only field right on a main road — this is just man-made vandalism."

It is not the first time that the Bruce's fields have been chosen for such a visitation. In 1980 and 1981 circles were spotted in the ripe crops — and corn was ruined.

And this year Lt. Commander Bruce said he knows full well how the "wanton damage" was caused — but he isn't saying.

Locals are also sceptical of the UFO claims and one theory has it that a build-up of heat in the centre of a large field can cause a whirlwind — which would flatten the crops.



ODD
WORLD

UFO crew 'fat, ugly'

PARIS, Tues., AAP.— A 45-year-old laborer claimed today he was "sucked up" by a UFO and whisked six kilometers away.

Stefan Gasparovic, who is in hospital with bruises and memory and sight difficulties, described the UFO crew as "fat, ugly little men with pointed ears."

He described the UFO as a "ball of flame" flying at a height of 200 metres.

Some townsfolk at Metz, in eastern France, agreed they had seen something bright in the sky on Sunday, but others thought Mr Gasparovic was suffering from heatstroke.

'UFO' scare for wife

AN unidentified flying object was sighted over Bridgwater.

Just after midnight Pat Stark, of Penzoy Avenue, opened her curtains — and what she saw was enough to make her wake her husband in terror.

"It was coming towards the house and it was huge", she said. "It glowed like a coal that had fallen from the fire. First one part would glow and go dark, then another part. It was silent, there was no noise, no smoke, no bright lights. I was petrified. I thought it was going to hit the house".

The object was flying

horizontally from the north and Pat estimated the size as "that of three Vulcan aeroplanes".

Pat and her husband went to another window at the back of the house. She said: "As we watched, it passed over the roof into sight again. It seemed to waver, like a feather, and finally disappeared towards the motorway and North Pether-ton".

Details of the sighting have been passed through Bristol Airport to the RAF. "I couldn't sleep that night", said Pat. "I was so frightened that it would come back. It was a sight that I shall never forget".

Silent silver UFO sighted over town

POLICE are investigating a Birkby man's claim that he saw a UFO above Huddersfield last night.

Mr Roy Humphries said he watched a silver bell-shaped object for about two minutes as it drifted northwards over the town and disappeared over Kirkheaton.

He said the object gave off a brilliant, flashing white light but no engine sounds.

Police confirmed today that a report of the sighting had been made but said there were no other reports of the object.

Mr Humphries, of Norwood Road, was at a bus stop in Birkby on his way to work at Huddersfield Technical College when he saw the object almost overhead.

"I thought at first it was a child's kite but it was about 300ft up.

"There was another man stood nearby and he, too, saw the object, but he thought it may have been a balloon. I have an open mind about flying saucers and the like, but I am certain it was unlike any aircraft or balloon I have ever seen."

● Experts had earlier forecast that last night and Thursday night would be ideal conditions for spotting shooting stars throughout Britain.

TRANSLATIONS

CREDIT: Jane Thomas — TRANSLATION CREDIT: Sandra Hambrecht

City and country of incident: Gutierrez District, Argentina
Date of incident: January 26, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LA VOZ DEL INTERIOR, January 29, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Córdoba, Argentina

UFO IN MENDOZA

Mendoza — An unidentified flying object (UFO) fell last Wednesday morning in a desolate area of the Gutierrez district, in the department of Maipú.

The UFO, as far as could be determined, did not cause any damage, although it did cause a great commotion in the neighborhood which saw it fall from the sky enveloped by intense light.

According to witnesses, it was an object of some 30 centimeters in diameter, which, after crashing into the earth, disintegrated into numerous particles that scattered over a radius of ten meters.

Those who saw the UFO said also that it emitted an odorless smoke, and that the particles which scattered over the ground gave off luminous flashes.

The police went to the spot with technicians from the National Atomic Energy Commission, who took samples from the object.

City and country of incident: Villa Gesell, Argentina
Date of incident: February 24 (?), 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LA RAZON, February 24, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

DISTURBANCE IN VILLA GESSELL

A disturbance was caused in Villa Gesell by the appearance of a "totally luminous red sphere which remained suspended in space for several minutes, and then disappeared with a boom like that of a supersonic airplane." Most of the people (residents and tourists) who were in the coastal area at the time of the appearance agreed that "it was an unidentified flying object." The ball of fire, completely red, remained suspended in the same place, tow-

ard the northeast, for almost thirty minutes — a feat impossible for an airplane. "To me, it was a flying saucer," said Monica Beatriz Fiorentino to a correspondent of the daily *El Atlántico*.

Another young person, Gustavo Guerrero, a resident of the spa who was with some friends, expressed the opinion that, "for us, it was something sensational. Without a doubt, it was a UFO. After remaining stopped in the air for awhile—I believe it was over the air station—it disappeared with a loud noise. It seemed to be completely illuminated with red lights."

Héctor Vaccaro reported, "At first I thought it was a plane, but then I realized that it had been stopped in the sky for a long time, about forty minutes. Then it made a rapid departure toward the northwest, and I realized it couldn't be an airplane."

Tourist Luis Mauricci said, "When it remained suspended in the air as if it were a red star, we went to eat, because we had doubts about what we were seeing." He added, "We heard a very loud noise. It was like an explosion. We left the restaurant again and then saw the red star, which had stopped between some pine trees. After the explosion it made a semicircle and headed at full speed toward the sea."

The opinions were all in agreement and the unusual episode caused a real disturbance. Since early this morning, the coast has been the center of attraction for tourists, who await the arrival of night, hoping the experience will repeat itself.

City and country of incident: Rosario, Argentina
Date of incident: February 22, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LA RAZÓN, February 25, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THEY SAW A STRANGE FLYING OBJECT NEAR ROSARIO

Rosario (From our agency) — An unidentified flying object (UFO) was moving between Maciel and Monje, the latter locality 78 kilometers from Rosario. According to the report of Federico Rubles, proprietor of a bar in the health resort of Monje, the strange object appeared on Tuesday, beginning at 8:25 P.M., as he was traveling in his automobile on National Route 11, accompanied by Rubén Maestro, who lives in Rosario. The object first showed itself with an intense red color, only to disappear at once and then return again with a whitish color, and its size five times bigger than the planet Venus. Finally, the supposed UFO, which was apparently following the automobile, appeared near the Coronda River.

City and country of incident: Shanghai, China
Date of incident: February 23, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: CRÓNICA, February 28, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFO CAUSES DISTURBANCE IN CHINA

Peking — An unidentified flying object the size of a basketball was seen in the night sky over China by several inhabitants of a Shanghai suburb.

The witnesses concurred in having seen the object stop over their heads and emit a powerful light, which, for a few moments, illuminated the area as if it were daylight. Thus reported the daily newspaper *Xinmin Wanbao*.

The wife of Zhu Jinhua, who went to give the report to the newspaper, was returning to her house last Wednesday evening after finishing work. It was already getting dark, and the sky was filled with clouds. It was raining lightly.

The object appeared for approximately half a minute, said Zhu, whose words were confirmed by other witnesses. The object was red and yellow on one side, blue and yellow on the other. It disappeared without leaving any traces.

The newspaper said many residents missed seeing the "magnificent spectacle" because they were in their houses watching television.

City and country of incident: Bilbao, Spain
Date of incident: Unknown
Name of paper and date of clip: CRÓNICA, March 12, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THEY RECORDED THE SOUNDS OF UFOs

Bilbao, Spain — A Bilbao industrialist and his family claim to have tape-recorded the sound of an unidentified flying object (UFO) for 30 minutes, reported UFO investigator Juan José Benítez today.

According to the ufologist, "At present we can reject any possibility of a fraud." The tape is being analyzed by frequency experts.

The UFO, an object of large dimensions and reddish-orange color, according to the authors of the tape, remained for a period of three hours on one night this week, at an altitude just above the roofs of the suburb where they live. It emitted a strange whistle, similar to the sonar of a ship.

City and country of incident: Mendoza, Argentina
Date of incident: Date unknown — 1983?
Name of paper and date of clip: LA RAZON, April 11, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

APPEARANCE OF TWO UFOs MAKES IMPRESSION IN MENDOZA

In Mendoza, two UFO phenomena which occurred in the department of Maipú are being investigated. In the first occurrence, a farmer stopped on a dark road because of a powerful white light. He was traveling together with a friend in a station wagon. When he stopped to observe the phenomenon, the light rose and then came to rest in another place. A powerful beam with clearly outlined edges split off and shone even with the ground. "We could see things more clearly than by the light of the sun," said the farmer, José Portillo. The second incident happened to two mechanics, and technicians from the Atomic Energy Commission gathered traces of the event. A cloud of light descended in the middle of the night, crossed over a tree, and dissolved in a rain of brilliant particles.

Mendoza — Two strange flying objects were observed recently in two districts of the department of Maipú (slightly more than 10 kilometers from this capital) by several persons, some of whom frankly confessed to being impressed by what they had seen. According to reports from our regular contributor, Professor Victorio Corradi, director of the Institute for the Study of Extrahuman Phenomena, the principal witness in the first case was a Spanish farmer, José Portillo, an official of the municipal tax-free fair in Mitre and Pellegrini, from this city, and living in Kilometer 14 of Rodeo de la Cruz. According to Corradi, Portillo told members of the Institute that, a few months ago, as he was driving around with a friend in a station wagon on the Fray Luis Beltrán main road in Maipú, both were startled by a powerful white light which illuminated the side of the road. He added that at first they thought it was a searchlight like the ones used by hunters (since the area is well-suited for that sport). In a few seconds, however, the light illuminated them completely, and was so powerful that they "could see things more clearly than by the light of the sun." Frightened, the farmers stopped their vehicle. They then watched as the luminous object, which seemed to be level with the ground, ascended, emitting from its lower part a "jet" of strong white light similar to that produced in welding. Portillo said that it was the fact that the light didn't disperse that caught their attention more. Rather, it seemed as if it were contained, forming a kind of tube, the edges of which could be clearly seen. The farmer added that, when the UFO reached a certain altit-

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

ude, it stopped, extinguishing the white light and enabling them to observe little colored lights of yellow, green, red and violet, which formed a circle. Then, in a rapid, straight movement, the object headed north, turned on the large, powerful light, projected a ray of light downwards, and descended in such a manner that they couldn't see more because of the uneven terrain. Portillo said that they were very frightened by the spectacle they had observed, and that they were sure it was neither a helicopter nor an airplane, but rather something inexplicable.

The other "UFO incident" investigated by members of the Institute which Professor Corradi directs occurred last January 26th at 10:30 P.M. in Luzziaga in Maipú. Several inhabitants of the locality were witnesses, among them the mechanics Héctor and Armando Molina. The witnesses reported that, unexpectedly, "a kind of white cloud descended from the sky" and headed toward them, crossing over an ash tree (a common tree in that area) located near the sidewalk at the juncture of Sarmiento and Maza Streets. They added that a rain of brilliant particles fell from the "cloud" and remained scattered on the spot. The witnesses said that, "as the particles were falling, the 'cloud' was disappearing, as when one turns off a television picture." Director Corradi said that the Mendoza police recovered samples of the brilliant particles, and that the Mendoza branch of the Atomic Energy Commission also became involved, soliciting the collaboration of agronomy engineer Alberto C. Porcel with regard to the ash tree, since some of the tree's leaves continued to be affected after the incident.

TRANSLATION CREDIT: Sandra Hambrecht

City and country of incident: Mataram, Lombok, Indonesia
Date of incident: July 7, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: EL COMERCIO, July 17, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Lima, Peru

UFO IN INDONESIA

Jakarta, July 16 -- An unidentified flying object was observed by inhabitants of Mataram on the island of Lombok, some 1500 kilometers east of Jakarta, the daily newspaper Kompas reported today.

The mysterious object was clearly observed by the four children and a domestic employee of a Mataram dentist, on July 7 at nine o'clock in the evening, local time.

According to the children of the dentist, Bambang Suryono, the UFO was well-lit.

The children added that the object flew low and made no sound.

It had a hole out of which there streamed fire. It moved very rapidly, and disappeared when the children tried to tell their parents, added Kompas.

On June 7 the same mysterious object was observed over the Riau Islands, some 1200 kilometers north of Jakarta, added the newspaper.

CREDIT: F.A.D.A. - TRANSLATION CREDIT: George Andrews

City and country of incident: Marignane, France
Date of incident: June 6, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LE DAUPHINE LIBRE, June 8, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Grenoble, France

A very bright flying object with a stretched-out shape, traveling at high speed, was witnessed Monday evening about 11:15 by the chief of air traffic control at Marignane, the Marseilles airport. Many other witnesses in the Aix-en-Provence region saw "a large white intensely luminous spot traveling at high speed from west to east."

The chief of Marignane control tower was not able to track the object on radar. He saw it for about 20 seconds. The visibility at the time was 20 kilometers and the temperature was 21 degrees Centigrade. He thought the phenomenon might have been outside the earth's atmosphere.

On the same night, mysterious flying objects were seen by many witnesses over Florence, Genoa and Milan, Italy. Reports were made to airports, police, and fire stations. In Genoa, some witnesses thought they saw a small dark object followed by a long orange trail moving silently from west to east at an altitude of about 150 feet.

City and country of incident: (Various towns), Vaucluse, France
Date of incident: June 6, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LE PROVENCAL, June 11, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Marseille, France

UFO 120 FEET LONG AT VIOLES!

Two young inhabitants of Violes in the Vaucluse saw an impressive object Monday evening at 11 o'clock. Their account was confirmed by several other witnesses. They saw a saucer about 120 feet long, about 36 feet high, pointed at each end, with blue windows. It flew low over the town, nearly touching the roof of a store, and made no noise. The automobile the witnesses were in made strange noises during the sighting, which lasted about two minutes, then returned to normal functioning after the saucer disappeared. The witnesses reported the incident to the local police station. On that same Monday evening a UFO was seen by hundreds of witnesses in that region, particularly at Marignane, Cavailon and Sorgues.

City and country of incident: (Various towns), France
Date of incident: July 12, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LE POPULAIRE DU CENTRE, July 15, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Limoges, France

STRANGE LIGHT IN THE SKY

Limoges - The "strange light" witnessed by many people Tuesday evening about 10:30 was also seen by people in the regions of Creuse, Corrèze, and Périgord.

At Parsac in Creuse, Mr. Marcel Bord, a farmer, was with his family and some people on vacation at the place called "Les Moulins," when a funnel-shaped object appeared suddenly in the sky for about three minutes. The local police were notified, and the village is buzzing with rumors.

At Savignac-les-Eglises and other locations in Dordogne, many witnesses saw "a football-sized fireball that disappeared over the horizon within a few seconds, traveling along a curved trajectory."

On the same evening in Trélissac at 11:10, four young people saw "a sort of red and yellow ring which seemed quite large, from the interior of which rose a column of striped smoke. The column was red and orange with a green stripe."

City and country of incident: Avon, Seine-et-Marne, France
Date of incident: July 15, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: FRANCE-SOIR, July 18, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Paris, France

UFOs OVER FOREST OF FONTAINEBLEAU

The inhabitants of Avon (Seine-et-Marne) and local police watched UFOs over the forest of Fontainebleau for two nights in a row (Friday to Saturday and Saturday to Sunday).

Friday evening, the inhabitants of Avon saw a luminous object moving slowly from east to west, and immediately alerted the police, who watched it for about an hour. Apparently it could not have been an airplane or a satellite. The only possible hypothesis is a weather balloon.

But Saturday evening at exactly the same time, 10 o'clock, two UFOs flying parallel to each other went over the forest of Fontainebleau. The police watched them maneuver at slow speed but high altitude, going from east to west, for about an hour. They disappeared about 11 P.M.

City and country of incident: Sommerécourt, France
Date of incident: July 17-18, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LE REPUBLICAIN LORRAIN, July 19, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Metz, France

STORM OR UFO? - Local fireman victim of a strange phenomenon.

EPINAL - Mr. Stefan Gasparovic is a fireman in the little village of Sommerécourt, which is about 14 kilometers from Neufchâteau. He is also employed as a worker in a furniture factory. He is of Yugoslav origin, but is a naturalized French citizen. He is 45 years old, and has lived in France for the last 25 years. He is married, and the father of six children. He swears that he was abducted by a flying saucer.

Was he the victim of a hallucination, or a natural phenomenon such as lightning, or did he really encounter the incredible? In any case, he was brought to the main hospital in Neufchâteau during the night of Sunday to Monday in a strange condition.

He was suffering from loss of memory, eye trouble as if exposed to very bright light, and had bruises and cuts all over his body. He said he was sucked up into a luminous sphere, then dropped from it about six kilometers from where it had abducted him.

TRANSLATION CREDIT: George Andrews

City and country of incident: Marieville, Quebec, Canada
Date of incident: August 19, 1981
Name of paper and date of clip: LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC, June 18, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Quebec, Quebec, Canada

A PUZZLING CASE AT MARIEVILLE

Most UFO observations reported by witnesses describe no more than lights of different sizes and colors so far away that no details are visible. However, some cases are exceptions to this rule, such as cases in which the object was seen at close range, or in which physical traces were left behind which can be photographed and analysed.

An incident of this nature took place on Wednesday evening, August 19th, 1981, not far from the little village of Marieville, which is 65 kilometers east of Montreal. In this week's column, I will limit the discussion to a description of the incident by the main witness, a 37-year-old housewife in the town of Chambly who wishes to remain anonymous. Next week I will reveal the results of the research which was carried out on this really extraordinary sighting.

The story begins with nine people on a pick-up truck rolling west on route 112 towards Chambly. At 9:15 P.M. the lady in question, who was not driving the vehicle, noticed some blue and red lights on the right side of the road. Their outlines were not clearly defined. Her son, who was seated behind her, noticed them almost immediately after she did. She thought it was a police car coming out on the road.

The pick-up was doing about 55 miles per hour. As it approached the area the lights were in, the outlines of the shapes became much clearer, and they quickly retreated to the far end of the oat field, about 150 feet away. From this moment on the object followed the truck for a total distance of about 2,050 feet. The object resembled a flat blue disc surmounted by a red dome. It flew only a few feet above the ground with a zig-zag movement. Instead of following the truck at a regular distance, it continuously varied its distance from very close to quite far, like a spinning top that hits a wall. The object was a large one.

It is indeed strange that of the nine people in the vehicle, only two noticed the UFO, and only the lady witnessed the incident from beginning to end. She had urged the others to look, but they didn't do so. When the truck got to the edge of a cornfield, the object stopped following them and disappeared from sight.

The witness's brother returned to the area the next day, and to his astonishment found obvious physical traces: the oats in the field had been flattened in clearly defined "whirlpool" patterns.

This physical evidence will be described in greater detail next week. We'll see then to what extent such cases constitute proof that UFOs exist.

City and country of incident: Marieville, Quebec, Canada
Date of incident: August 19, 1981
Name of paper and date of clip: LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC, July 9, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Quebec, Quebec, Canada

(The Universe of UFOs by the UFO Data Compilation Center)

ENCOUNTERS OF THE SECOND KIND

Last week we began our classification of UFO sightings with encounters of the first kind. This week we go on to the much more interesting category of encounters of the second kind.

Indeed this is the most interesting category to study, as the object has left traces of its passage on the earth, vegetation, or nearby buildings. The object is often seen at close range, but without humanoids.

The most typical example that has been brought to our attention is the UFO sighting made by a lady who lives in Chambly, near Montreal, August 19th, 1981. The UFO followed the vehicle in which she was a passenger, completely flattening the grass in the field over which it passed for a distance of over 2,000 feet. The details of this case were described in our column of June 18th.

When one speaks of marks on the ground, one is no longer in the domain of visions and hallucinations. It is no longer a question of words to be verified, which is always difficult. It is a question of physical evidence which can become proof of the witness's statements.

When we say physical evidence, we mean such things as flattened or burned grass, trees broken at right angles, uprooted, or smashed, abnormal levels of radioactivity, electric power failures, et cetera. Fortunately, this type of thing can be photographed or measured or analysed by specialists qualified to do so.

The fact of finding burned grass at a place where a UFO was sighted is not necessarily proof of the reality of the sighting or any indication of its origin. It is part of the picture, which must be compared to other evidence and elements of the story. The researchers who question the witnesses should not be the same as the ones who examine the physical traces, to avoid being influenced and to make the analysis as impartial as possible.

Thus for the scientific community, the encounters of the second kind are the only way to physically study the phenomenon and to establish proof one way or the other. In this respect, they are more important than the encounters of the third kind, which we will discuss next week. In other issues we will discuss all the details of the abduction of a Quebec inhabitant by beings from elsewhere.

If you have questions to ask or comments to make, write to UFOs, Journal de Quebec, C.P. 2158, terminus Quebec, G1K 7P2.



WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI

June 26, 1983 CR: R. Heiden

Lake Mills' lost pyramids

By Susan Lampert Smith
Of The State Journal

LAKE MILLS — There's something besides champion walleyes lurking below the surface of Rock Lake.

Some say it is an ancient Indian pyramid built by roaming Aztecs for blood sacrifices, others say it is a pyramidal rock platform built to function as the Indian version of England's Stonehenge observatory, still others say it's just a pile of rocks.

While America's Dairy Belt seems an unlikely setting for "The Legend of the Lost Pyramids," the story may be less out of place in Lake Mills.

Pyramids, after all, are part of the local mythology.

A check in the Lake Mills phone book shows a Pyramid Cafe, a Pyramid Silo Service and a Pyramid Feed Mill.

A walk down Main Street reveals that the town square is really a triangle — complete with a polished red granite pyramid honoring local war veterans. The Odd Fellows Lodge across the street is crowned by, you guessed it, a pyramid.

Old references

An old front-page column in the Lake Mills Leader was titled "Atop the Pyramid" and during its 1936 centennial Lake Mills billed itself as "The Pyramid City."

Much of the excitement over pyramids is traceable to Aztalan, an pre-Columbian Indian settlement featuring truncated earthen pyramids and located about four miles from Lake Mills. And then there is the story of the pyramids that may have been built much closer to Main Street — in the middle of Rock Lake, to be exact.

The story that there may be one, and as many as four, ancient rock pyramids in the lake first surfaced around 1900.

Two Lake Mills duck hunters, Claude and Lee Wilson, reported they struck the top of some rock structures with an oar during a dry year when the lake was low.

Some present-day Lake Mills residents dismiss the story with a smiling "Oh, that old story," but others say they have seen the structures from the air or hit them with anchors while fishing.

The pyramid legend has tickled the adventure bone of would-be archeologists since a Works Progress Administration project searched for the structures during the Depression. At that time, workers for the Federal Writers' project had uncovered Indian legends of a 16-year drought about 1300. They thought "the structures doubtless are altars upon which the Aztecs made their customary human sac-

rifices to produce rain in those dry years."

Although the name Aztalan remains, today most archeologists think the Aztecs never traveled as far north as Wisconsin.

Many experts, including State Historical Society curator of archeology Joan Freeman, think the "pyramids" are just rocks, distinguishable from their fieldstone brethren only because the last glacier bulldozed into the middle of what would become Rock Lake.

Generations of pyramid searchers seem not to have been daunted by the official skepticism.

In 1937, Max Gene Nohl, a Milwaukeean who invented mixed gas diving, dove in Rock Lake and found what he described as a 29-foot high conical pyramid.

The January 1970 issue of Skin Diver magazine detailed a 1967 search in an article entitled "The Lost Pyramids of Rock Lake."

A Milwaukee woman has spent several summers diving at Lake Mills; her theory is that the pyramids are linked to Indian pyramids in Mexico.

This year an expedition led by University of Wisconsin civil and environmental engineering Pro-

fessor James Sherz dove in mid-June and found what could be one of the pyramids.

"It did have some interesting boulder alignments," diver Richard Boyd said. "Unfortunately, the visibility was so bad, we can't tell whether it was something interesting or a natural occurrence."

This year has not proved a banner year for diving in Rock Lake.

Boyd said he and his divers spent the spring waiting for the lake's visibility to improve. Usually a "window" opens for several weeks between the spring runoff and the summer algae bloom. This year the long rainy spring followed by the abruptly hot weather opened and shut the window in a matter of days.

Boyd said he hoped to dive later this summer, and perhaps make some winter ice dives, to see if he can find other structures that line up with the first. Alignments are important to Sherz's theory; he thinks the lake could have been used as an ancient observatory to help chart the seasons.

Strange rock formations

In his surveying work along the Wisconsin and other rivers, Sherz said he often encountered strange rock piles in river-edge swamps and other places which were likely to have been ignored by white farmers. He said the river systems were part of the trading route linking the Lake Superior copper mines with the mid-Mississippian Indian settlements in southern Illinois.

"These people would need a calendar system to know when to rendezvous and when to go south to harvest their crops," he said.

His theory goes like this:

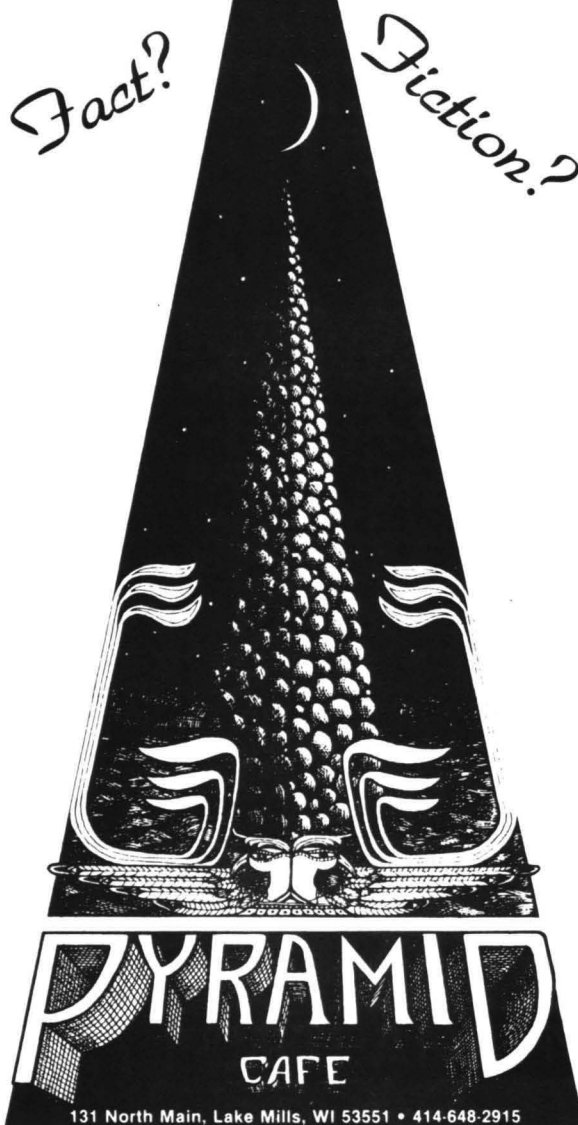
The Indians could have used flat-topped observatories to chart the movement of the sun and planets and thus kept track of the days. Lakes and swamps with their treeless horizons make good viewing spots.

The Lake Mills area is a good candidate for such structures because a number of Indian mounds and sites have been found near the lake. Nearby Aztalan is on the Crawfish River which flows into the Rock and, eventually, into the Mississippi.

The Indians could have built their observatories on top of existing islands, which later were flooded by a rise in the lake level.

Sherz's theory differs from earlier ones, he said, because ancient calendar systems and archaeoastronomy were unknown until recently.

"I use the stars and sun in my surveying business," he said. "And most breakthroughs in archaeoastronomy are made by people trained in it."



This menu from the Pyramid Cafe in Lake Mills depicts a stone pyramid rising from Rock Lake. It is a copyrighted design by local artist Dennis Roldt.

EVENING EXPRESS, Aberdeen,
Scotland - July 18, 1983

Firemen's monster puzzle

INVERNESS firemen were today puzzling over whether they had caught sight of the Loch Ness monster.

The firemen, all from Red Watch, had been called out to Dore in the early hours of Saturday morning to extinguish burning driftwood and grass on the beach.

As they arrived at the scene, they glanced at the loch and saw a large black object sitting on the flat calm surface in the distance. They dismissed it as a boat and got on with their job.

However, casual glimpses at the surface through the smoky twilight deepened the mystery. The object travelled closer, disappeared and emerged again.

One fireman admitted to hearing a colleague say: "If it gets any closer, we're off."

However, after the blaze was out, they checked the loch again, and there it was once more, not far off the shore. Then it sank without trace.

Leading fireman George MacLennan said today: "None of us were very sure what it was. At first we thought it was a boat, then guessed it could have been those dipping ducks which are being used as an experiment to check the strength of waves."

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT,
Little Rock, AR

Sept. 2, 1983

WEST BANK

Christians watching for image of Mary

The Associated Press

BEIT SAHOUR, Occupied West Bank — Thousands of Christian Palestinians from towns where Jesus once walked are flocking to this hillside village just outside Bethlehem hoping to see a misty white image they believe to be of the Virgin Mary.

"I was one of the first to see her," said Amalia Ahanounch, a Greek Orthodox woman. "It was Monday, the day after the Feast of the Virgin, and I had gone to the grotto to pray," she said.

"Then I saw her. There was a light, a shining white light about 1 meter (3 feet) high. All of a sudden it became a mist, and it was the Lady, our Mary, Mother of Jesus," Mrs. Ahanounch said.

Mrs. Ahanounch and the others believe a series of chalky white marks that has appeared on the wall in a small, man-made grotto is an image of the Virgin Mary. The grotto is above a dank pool called Bir Sayida, Arabic for the The Lady's Well.

TIMES, Kansas City, MO - Sept. 1, 1983 CR: V. White

Vision of Virgin Mary seen near Bethlehem

The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Hundreds of Palestinian Arabs have reported seeing a vision of the Virgin Mary this week on a wall in a village near the Israeli-occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem, believed to be the birthplace of Jesus.

One villager in Beit Sahur told The Associated Press in a telephone interview that the vision he saw Tuesday on a wall near the village marketplace was difficult to describe. He declined to be identified.

He said the vision had been seen by many people in the last three days.

Another witness said he was "absolutely amazed" by the vision, which he said was first seen by an old woman who reported it to a priest after attending the nearby Church of the Well of Mary.

Michael Bahbah, administrative director of the Arabic-language daily Al-Fajir, published in East Jerusalem, said the vision he saw was "one foot tall, with the shape of the robe the Virgin Mary usually wears."

She was turning around and walking back and forth."

"As word spread, hundreds of people came to see. Police had to keep people from fighting to get in," Mr. Bahbah added.

He said that at least 300 people arrived at the church and that others had called the newspaper Wednesday to say the vision was continuing and had been joined by one of Joseph.

The district police spokesman could not be reached at his office or home for comment.

Tuned in?

New theory says learning gets easier

Washington, D.C. —AP— Do children have an easier time than their parents did learning to ride a bicycle, master a foreign language, drive a car, play a piano or score on a video game?

Rupert Sheldrake, an English biologist, thinks so. And he thinks he knows why.

His "morphic resonance" theory about how all living creatures assume their forms, develop and learn is stirring a whirlwind of controversy in the scientific world.

Sheldrake presented his startling new theory recently before a luncheon audience of members of Congress who meet occasionally to consider what the future holds.

After hearing Sheldrake's provocative explanation, Rep. Albert Gore Jr. (D-Tenn.) observed:

"An awful lot of people think he's crazy. But a lot of other people think that if his ideas are even partly correct, the implications are just as profound as the discoveries of Einstein, Darwin and Copernicus."

The Tarrytown Conference Center, a think tank in Tarrytown, N.Y., is offering a \$10,000 prize for the best experiment to prove or disprove Sheldrake's theory, and a Dutch foundation has put up \$5,000 as a second prize. The contest will end on Dec. 31, 1985.

Simply put, Sheldrake suggests that embryos, from humans down to the simplest animals and plants, are able to develop into fully formed organisms because they somehow "tune in" to a field created by past members of the same species.

These "morphogenetic fields," he says, exert a crucial influence on the

biochemical activity of DNA, the genetic building blocks of life found in the nucleus of every cell.

These fields also serve as "a kind of collective memory of the species," Sheldrake says. When a certain behavior is repeated often enough, the "morphogenetic field" that it creates sets off a "morphic resonance" — instantaneously through time and space — among other members of the same species.

He likens this field to a television signal, and each cell's DNA to the

"... if his ideas are even partly correct, the implications are just as profound as the discoveries of Einstein, Darwin and Copernicus."

—Rep. Albert Gore Jr.

transistors and circuitry inside a TV set.

"DNA is very important in heredity in giving the right components, and these can affect the tuning. But it does not convey or carry most of the hereditary information. Most of that is coming through the morphogenetic field," Sheldrake told his Washington audience.

In other words, thanks to this "morphogenetic field," it might be getting easier nowadays to dance or program a computer because people

already have figured it out — and done it many times before.

The phenomenon was observed as early as the 1920s, when researchers discovered that after slow-learning rats were trained to run through a water maze at a Harvard University laboratory, test rats mastered the same task much faster during separate, later experiments in Scotland and Australia.

The same theory, Sheldrake says, might explain why small children learn foreign languages so quickly, without textbooks, or why fingerprints know to grow back the way they do. In both instances, he suggests, they are assisted by a kind of pool of memory or previous learning transmitted by "morphic resonance."

Sheldrake says his theory is so revolutionary that it can be tested simply and cheaply by anybody, outside the strictures of orthodox scientific research.

In a sample test of his own, Sheldrake commissioned a Japanese poet to give him a real Japanese nursery rhyme, a poem he had written and a nonsensical rhyme. All three were published in a Los Angeles bulletin.

Sheldrake said preliminary results indicated that readers found the traditional verse — known to generations of Japanese — was easiest to memorize and the gibberish was hardest.

When Sheldrake, a well-regarded, Cambridge-educated plant physiologist, first set forth his theory in a book published two years ago in England, the respected scientific journal *Nature* denounced it as "the best candidate for burning there has been for many years."

By golly, it's Champ

ST. ALBANS, Vt. (AP) — Another sighting of Champ, Lake Champlain's elusive monster, has been reported, and it seems that the serpent-like creature is spending the summer in the northern portion of the long lake.

Three people, one of whom has lived in a summer camp on the lake for 30 years, said they saw Champ last Wednesday night as they sat on a porch at Shanty Point in St. Albans Bay.

"By golly if it wasn't Champ, it was certainly a strange looking creature of some kind," said Dr. Emery Choiniere of Poultney. Choiniere and his wife were visiting the camp of his sister, Irene Domina, who has spent most every summer on the lake since 1954.

Ms. Domina said the creature "was definitely not a fish," and caused ripples along the calm lake several hundred feet from the shore. Two humps then surfaced, at which time she ran to get binoculars.

This time, three humps

While she was away the Choinieres said they saw the creature surface again, and this time saw three humps.

There have been few Champ sightings reported this year, and they have mostly been in the northern section of the lake. Normally Champ has been seen in the southern section, near Port Henry, N.Y.

The last publicized sighting came last month when about 45 children and counselors at Camp Greylock in South Hero reported seeing two humps moving through the calm waters.

Specialists believe holes not meteoritic

By ROBERT CADWALLADER
Tribune-Herald Central Texas Writer

BYNUM — A meteorite would have been nice, but after a quick inspection Thursday of two holes in a pasture near Bynum, experts were skeptical they would find such a treasure.

"It's not meteoritic," John Williams of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History said as he sweated under his straw hat. "The ground is very hard. Most meteorites would have stuck in the ground a little, or bounced. They wouldn't do anything like this."

He was standing over a deep hole about 10 inches across and between 3 and 4 feet deep, one of a pair of holes discovered by a farmer last week.

Williams, director of the museum's Omni Theater, and Calvin Smith, director of Baylor University's Strecker Museum, and their associates converged on the site in Thursday's upper-90-degree temperatures in hopes of finding a meteorite.

A specialist from the Temple office of the Bureau of Radiation Control, an arm of the Texas Department of Health, tested the area for radiation before allowing about 15 experts, friends and neighbors to approach the findings.

Officials eagerly went to work, but were immediately skeptical of the shape of the holes. The "punctures" were more indicative of unauthorized drilling than a meteorite strike.

Experts said the holes apparently were made by an auger, but Walter Zettler, who found the holes, said the owner of the property had not given permission for anyone to dig.

Zettler said he still intended to persuade a friend who has heavy digging equipment to ferret out the mystery.

"Even if I have to pay him, I'm going to find out what's down there," he added.

Zettler found the holes while inspecting his crops on a 120-acre tract of leased land between Bynum and Irene, about 10 miles east of Hillsboro.

He said he first thought the holes were made during seismologic testing. Next he thought it was lightning.

Then he realized it could have been a meteor that broke up shortly before striking the earth, making two holes. After a Hill County sheriff's deputy took a soil sample that was found to contain low-level radiation, Zettler found his way to the Strecker Museum.

Those who slaved in the field most of the afternoon said they weren't disappointed. But they admitted a meteor find would have been especially nice, since they had just returned from an investigative mission to Gatesville, where a reported meteorite turned out to be a plain old rock.

"Oh, we found a nice piece of slag," said Smith in a playfully sarcastic voice that drew laughs from those watching him dig furiously next to one of the holes. "But the lady was real nice to call us."

Margaret Graham of the Strecker Museum emphasized Smith's latter thought.

"As a member of the museum, we're always glad to go out to possible phenomena," she said. "We're not disappointed. We're not disappointed if we don't find anything. This is the way many important discoveries are made."



Robert Cadwallader Photo

David Lintz (center) and Calvin Smith (left) look for meteorites as Walter Zettler (standing) watches

Students of 'the unexplained' are watching you



Hey, Bigfoot

By PAUL SUNYAK
Herald-Standard Staff Writer

In the basement of Stan Gordon's Greensburg home, monitors hum, scanners crackle and lights from an impressive array of electronic equipment periodically flash.

At the other end of this sophisticated nerve center, on the roof, is a sprawling series of antennae. They pull from the sky the latest information from local, state and national radio sources. A shortwave radio enables Gordon to monitor happenings on an international scale.

It is most appropriate that the antennae point toward the sky. Gordon, 33, is founder and director of the Pennsylvania

Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU).

The non-profit group, comprised of 50 volunteers across the state, is dedicated to the open-minded, scientific study of strange and unexplained occurrences. Gordon's five filing cabinets, plus a rack of cassette tapes and desk computer, are packed with information on UFO, Bigfoot, mountain lion and black panther sightings.

Founded in 1981, PASU is the third study group organized by Gordon, a student of strange phenomena since age 10. With consultants from the fields of science, medicine and technology in its ranks, Gordon says PASU represents an elite team of experts.

"It's the most professional and scientific group formed in this

part of the state," says Gordon, who previously headed the Westmoreland County UFO Study Group and the Pennsylvania Center for UFO Research.

With a staff that includes doctors, engineers, scientists and technicians — as well as experts in astronomy, biology, pathology and archeology — PASU stands ready to thoroughly investigate strange happenings.

With the swiftness of the National Guard in an emergency, a crack team of researchers is on hand to converge on any site where an incident is reported. They record testimony from witnesses and study physical evidence, such as tracks, claw markings, hair, metallic residue, ground depressions and burnt land areas.

Physical evidence is gathered and photographed. Plaster casts are made of purported Bigfoot tracks. A tape recorder is brought along, to capture any inexplicable noises emanating from nearby woods.

The group also has access to laboratories where evidence is analyzed. Findings are forwarded to research groups in the United States and around the world.

As a youngster, Gordon's curiosity about UFOs was cultivated by reading about sightings in newspapers and watching televised reports. He phoned witnesses who reported sightings and started keeping records on what they saw.

Skeptical at first, Gordon became convinced of the validity of many reports. His involvement and expertise grew. He is now the author of several internationally-published UFO papers and is a frequent guest on radio and television talk shows.

Gordon is also director of the Pennsylvania chapter of the Mutual UFO Network, headquartered in Saguin, Texas.

An electronic technician specializing in radio communication, Gordon has spent the past few years as a retail electronics salesman. His knowledge of electronics helps in setting up and operating his basement UFO communication station.

Relaying a little-known fact, Gordon says PASU's coverage area of Fayette, Westmoreland, Washington, Allegheny, Beaver, Somerset and Indiana counties is a hotbed of unexplained sightings.

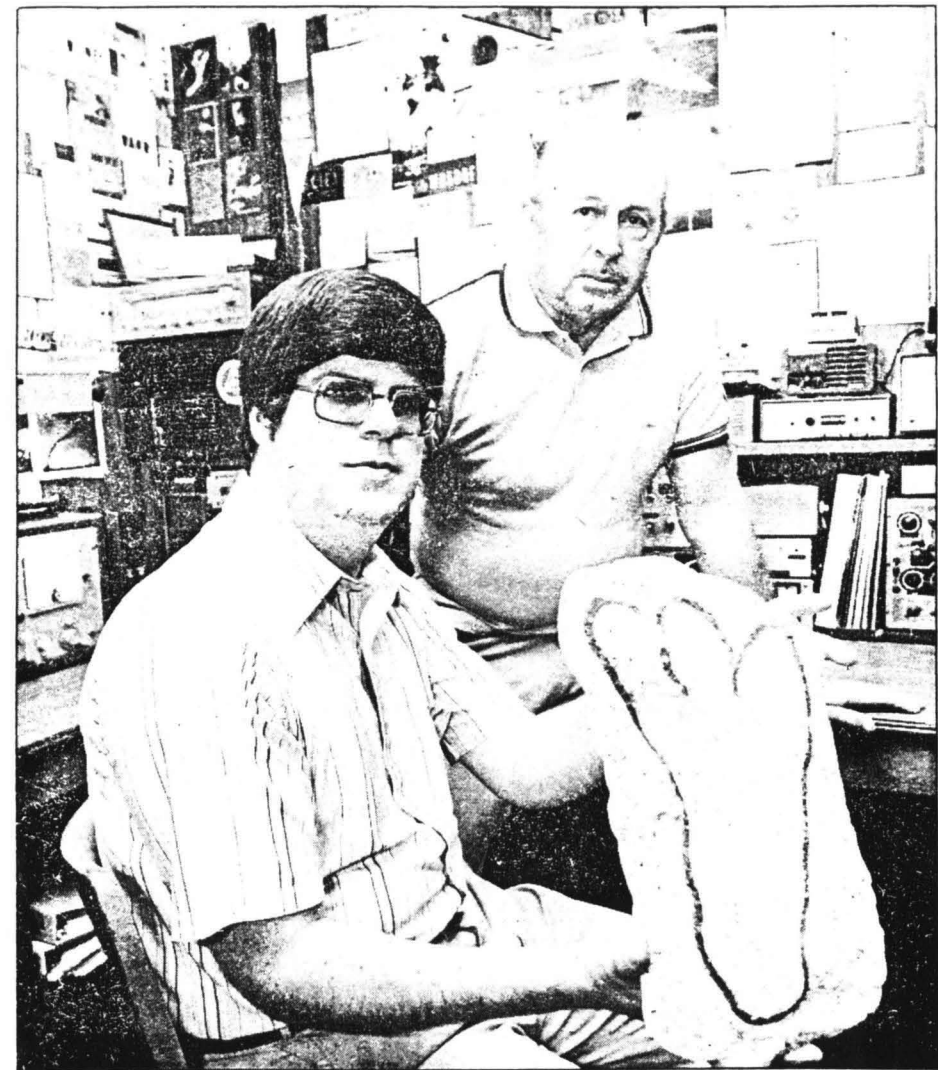
In 1973, he says, the largest wave of Bigfoot sightings in history occurred in the coverage area. Discounting those incidences that could be explained — 95 percent usually are — Gordon says the seven counties reported approximately 118 sightings.

George Lutz, 62, of Greensburg R.D. 9 and PASU's assistant director, says, "We probably have had the best sightings of Bigfoot in the world. And a lot of people don't realize it."

According to Gordon, one of the "most famous, classic cases in UFO history" occurred in Fayette County in October 1973.

Approximately 15 residents of the West Leisenring area saw a ball of light descend into a pasture on Vances Mill-Bute Road.

Driving a truck and armed with a rifle, a farmer's son and two neighbor boys investigated the landing. They reportedly found a glowing white craft, 100 feet in



diameter, sitting in the field and making a noise like a lawn mower.

While observing the craft, the boys were startled by two tall, hairy creatures walking along a nearby fence line. The boys fired several shots, striking one of the creatures. When the uninjured creature held up its hand, the boys said the craft disappeared and the creatures walked into the darkened woods.

"The Bigfoot Casebook," written by Janet and Colin Burd, lists 1,000 of history's most famous Bigfoot sightings since the 1800s. Four of them occurred in Fayette County: the Vances Mill-Bute Road incident, reports in

Ohiopyle in 1973 and 1974, and a series of incidences in 1974 near Jumonville Road, where several people reportedly chased Bigfoot with their cars.

Gordon says only 2 or 3 percent of all reports PASU receives are overt hoaxes. Each report is screened for accuracy, based on dependability of the source and knowledge of previous sightings in the same area.

Often, he says, sightings predate widespread publicity by weeks or even months. The group sometimes keeps a low profile to see if other sources verify the report.

Although most people who

report sightings of UFOs or Bigfoot are creditable, Gordon says many victims of strange phenomena elect to keep it to themselves.

"Most of them are down-to-earth people who come from all walks of life — doctors, policemen, nurses, farmers, schoolteachers, pilots. But they have one thing in common: they've seen something that isn't supposed to exist," says Gordon. "But where do they turn? A lot of them are afraid to call the police or newspapers, for fear of being ridiculed."

"That's why we're here — to act as a clearinghouse for
(continued on page 18)

PASU director Stan Gordon (seated) and co-director Leo Lutz show plaster cast of alleged footprint left by the elusive Bigfoot creature.

HERALD-STANDARD, Uniontown, Pa. — July 11, 1983 CR: S. Gordon

incidents of this nature. People can call us without fear of being laughed at, or of having their names disclosed."

The group's hotline number is (412) 838-7768. Mail can be sent to PASU at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15601.

That's the same address where a television crew of 13 recently completed filming a special on PASU. Acclaimed producer Alan Neuman came from Hollywood to Greensburg for the project.

In nine hours of filming, the crew focused on PASU's work in western Pennsylvania and recorded testimony from six witnesses who reportedly saw UFOs or Bigfoots.

The edited version will be shown on a segment of "The Psychic Connection," a Neuman series dealing with psychic phenomena around the world. Gordon says the segment is to be aired later this year over a national network.

How does the sighting of a UFO or Bigfoot tie in with other parts of the series, which deal with psychic healing and surgery, ESP research and voodoo?

Gordon theorizes that, in some cases, exposure to a UFO or Bigfoot is either related to, or results in, the presence of psychic powers. He says many people who experience close encounters have a history of psychic ability, such

as premonitions and telepathy.

In other cases, he says, psychic ability surfaces after the close encounter. In either case, his group is studying possible relationships between close encounters and psychic ability.

"It may be that these phenomena are attracted to only certain types of individuals, or that only certain individuals are able to experience these phenomena," says Gordon. "But we find (the relationship) to be more than coincidence."

Mountain lion and black panther sightings are somewhat less spectacular, since both animals do exist, Gordon says black panther reports create a little more

excitement, since they, unlike mountain lions, were never indigenous to the area.

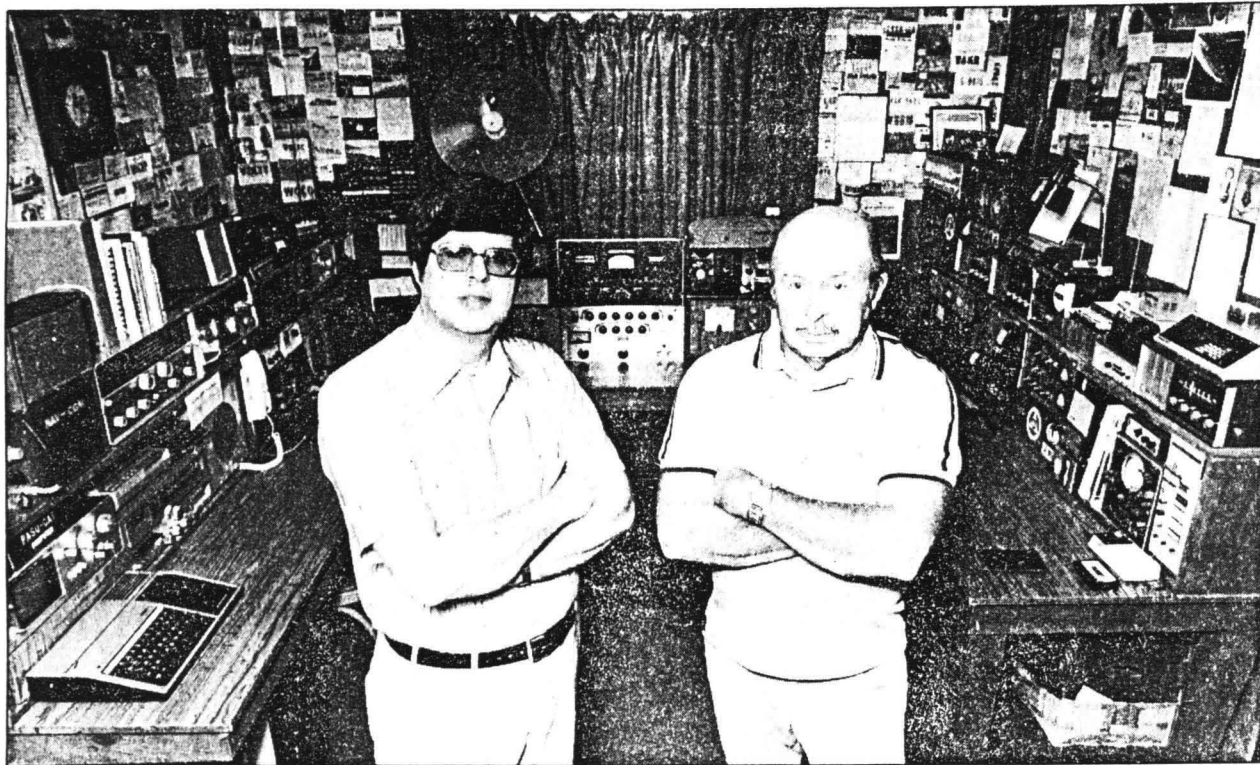
The number of reports fluctuates from year to year and season to season. Most sightings are reported between June and October. On the average, PASU investigates between five and 25 sightings per month. While many reports came in last year, sightings have dropped in 1983.

This year, daylight sightings of 12-foot high hairy creatures have been reported in Butler and Westmoreland counties. Fayette County has reported many nocturnal lights — bright lights making unusual maneuvers in the night sky — and one black panther.

But Gordon, who has never seen a UFO or Bigfoot in 23 years as a researcher, is certain more is going on. He hopes the presence of PASU, which gives callers a cushion of confidence, will bring out more reports.

"I have no doubt these things exist — that's why we're out gathering information," says Gordon. "I don't know what they are and where they're from, nor does anyone else. But we can keep an open-minded attitude, look at the evidence and see where it leads us."

"We're very interesting in these types of reports. The people who have seen these things are not a bunch of kooks. Anybody who has seen something is encouraged to call us."



Herald-Standard Photos by Charles Rosendale

Gordon and Lutz are surrounded by mass of electronic monitoring equipment used to detect and investigate strange phenomena from the basement of Gordon's Greensburg home.

Nessie is target for monster hunters

By PAUL BREEN

TWO young American businessmen who intend to shoot underwater harpoon darts if they encounter the Loch Ness monster yesterday claimed they do not intend to harm the mystery beast.

Mr Rikki Razdan (24) and Mr Alan Kiehl (24), bosses of New York firm Iscan Incorporated, say they intend to shoot at any monster only to get a small biopsy sample for investigation.

As they prepared yesterday to tow out their sophisticated sonar equipment into the loch from Temple Pier, near Drumna-drochit, Mr Razdan said: "We don't intend any cruelty to the monster."

"Our equipment is more like a medical biopsy unit. It is all a matter of scale. We will only fire at something large — something over 6ft. Our darts will take only a small piece of tissue of one cubic centimetre."

The two men have spent a year of preparatory and construction work on a 6400 sq ft sonar array. It comprises 144 sonar transducers and nine biopsy sampling devices similar to underwater spear-guns which fire darts from under the rig.

The rig, which floats on car tyres, is capable of being monitored 1000ft from the shore and can filter out smaller fish up to a depth of 100ft. The electronics and monitoring equipment on which the sonar produces a colour image on a video screen is housed in a lochside building.

The inventors say that if a sufficiently interesting target appears beneath the array, a remote control trigger allows the darts to fire and remove a body tissue sample to be taken for examination.

Mr Razdan and Mr Kiehl will carry out research in the loch until October. They say their current Loch Ness equipment is unique in monster research because it will show two-dimensional structures instead of single-beam sonar images from equipment currently used.

Both men are sceptical about the existence of a monster and claim their research of evidence showed that most of it does not stand up. However, they have been intrigued by the legend since their school-days and are also using the hunt as a big laboratory experiment.

A Scottish Office spokesman said there is no specific protection for the monster in any Act of Parliament.

But he said: "If a person ill-treats, tortures or is the cause of unnecessary suffering to any animal, he could be the subject of legal proceedings under the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912."



AMERICAN businessmen Alan Kiehl (left) and Rikki Razdan show the sampling dart they hope to hit the monster with. Behind them is their 6400 square foot sonar grid they will use in Loch Ness.

Picture by DAVID MURRAY

"The maximum penalty is £500 or six months' imprisonment."

Meanwhile, two other American Nessie hunters, armed with nothing more harmful than video equipment, have re-started their separate searches this year.

Mr Adrian Shine, who works in conjunction with the Loch Ness Monster Exhibition at Drumna-drochit, is continuing his biological study of the loch with his sonar equipment.

He is appealing for volunteers to help in his project.

Dr Robert Rines, of Boston Academy of Applied Science is using a sonar target camera system.

However, over the weekend it will be a human target in the loch who will be attracting most attention.

Scarborough Swimming Club member Mr David Morgan hopes to make a record-breaking swim of Loch Ness in both directions.

PRESS & JOURNAL, Aberdeen, Scotland

July 29, 1983

David previously swam Loch Ness one-way in 11¼ hours — compared with the record of 10½ hours.

He has been training to complete the 56-mile two-way swim in 30 hours.

Accompanying David on the first half of his attempt will be RAF serviceman Ron Macdonald.

A rowboat, a quiet afternoon, and a monster

All things — even Champ — come to reporter who waits

By Ron Kermani
Staff writer

At first, it didn't sound like my kind of story.

"Look," my editor insisted, "a lot of people think there's something big and weird in Lake Champlain. Rent a boat. Sit by the lake for a few weeks. Go find it and write a story about it."

Terrific.

I've covered arsons, murders, white collar crime, and, early on, dog stories. I've sat through my share of zoning board meetings, city council sessions, and listened to state lawmakers without dozing.

I've also had bigger stories — like the one about a local 450-pound golfer who kept breaking electric golf carts.

But this was one monster assignment, and before I could mumble a fake protest about not liking animals or motorboats, I was starting at marching orders to the "Home of Champ" — Port Henry in rural Essex County.

That was in June 1981.

Reporters quickly learn how to turn dog stories into cute, shaggy tales of kids and summertime, or as it were, lemons into lemonade.

A story about Champ, the legendary Bay.

Lake Champlain monster, was no different. Despite the assignment, I was going to enjoy myself.

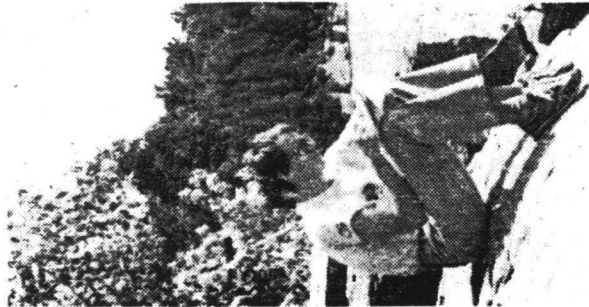
I packed a thick book about the Hearst family, which owns this newspaper, two fishing poles, threw in a few notebooks and pens, and sunglasses. I hired a high school student with a camera from Port Henry to take some scenic shots while waiting for Champ to pose. I forgot the pocket calculator to figure out my two-week expense accounts.

Don't get me wrong. I quickly realized that no bank embezzler, no ax murderer, no state official with his hand in the till could compete or compare with the fun of returning to Port Henry for a two-week "working assignment." After all, there's no beach, waterskiing, quiet hours of twilight or cold beer in The Times Union newsroom.

At least I haven't found any in my seven years of wandering in and out.

Port Henry is an old haunt of mine. Since I was 13, I've spent most of my summers in Crown Point, just 10 windy miles south of Port Henry.

During the lazy summers of my teens, the North Country taught me how to sneak into the local drive in movie without getting caught, how to chew corn silk and enjoy it, and how to pronounce Bulwaga Bay.



A photograph of Champ, the purported monster of Lake Champlain.

File photo

I've waited in line with the rest of Port Henry at Gene's Michigan stand on Route 9N for the best chili dogs west of Bulwaga Bay, but never figured out why they call those hot dogs slathered with spaghetti sauce, mustard and chopped onions "Michigans" in the Empire State.

Even in my first year as an honorary pike or walleye," he would sputter.

Some 15 years later, I found myself on the lake, waiting to play peekaboo with a serpentine-like creature which has turned tiny Port Henry topsy-turvy with the anticipation of a new, living tourist attraction.

I spent a couple of days with Joseph Clonah, secretary of the Moriah Area Chamber of Commerce, wrote to thank me "for all you are doing for our town." The first sentence of the several-part Champ series wasn't written, but Clonah said "we are very grateful for the publicity your wonderful four-part article will give to this area."

Zarzynski of Wilton, a schoolteacher who spends most of his spare time and precious spare money chasing Champ and talking to people who claim they have seen the creature or creatures.

We watched for Champ from the Vermont shore near Basin Harbor. We looked, and looked, and looked some more. The thick book about the Hearst empire became more interesting. I lost a few fishing lures on submerged rocks, and the tan didn't suffer any either. At some point I jotted a few notes in my reporter's notebook.

We even spent a leisurely lunch at the high-brow Basin Harbor Club, courtesy of the expense account.

This monster-searching business is hard work.

I left Zarzynski's Vermont expedition and headed west across the lake to Port Henry, where I interviewed locals who swore they saw Champ, sat on the shore some more, and looked at water. If Champ was around, he had a terminal case of shyness.

About a week and several notebooks later, I returned to the newsroom, heady with quotes, quips and information about Champ, but no first-hand look. I felt cheated.

Bonnie Clonah, secretary of the Moriah Area Chamber of Commerce, wrote to thank me "for all you are doing for our town." The first sentence of the several-part Champ series wasn't written, but Clonah said "we are very grateful for the publicity your wonderful four-part article will give to this area."

The series started to run in the paper and another letter arrived from the Moriah area chamber. This time they didn't like what the series was doing for Port Henry and the local Champ industry.

Then the local ribbing started. "Seen Champ yet?" local attorneys would yell across State Street in downtown Albany. Word traveled fast and invitations to speak about Champ and the Great Times Union Champ Chase at various area civic clubs started arriving.

I grazed my way through the rubber-chicken circuit with tales of Champ, and moved on to more important animal stories, like horses at Saratoga, an infamous barking dog in Olean.

Champ was demoted to a crinkled manilla folder stuffed with lecture notes, clippings about the Loch Ness Monster and UFOs, and a Kiwanis Club certificate.

Few people know THIS, though.

I saw Champ. Honest.

I was fishing from a 12-foot aluminum rowboat about a mile north of the Crown Point Boat Launch on Lake Champlain at 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 2, 1983.

The sky was clear. There was ample light to see several miles in every direction. The lake could not have been any calmer.

I watched clumps of green landscape on the New York State shore, forgetting that some perch had robbed the worm from my hook.

"What's that," Fishing Companion with short brown hair asked quietly.

"Huhh?" I mumbled, not wanting to scare the fish. "Probably something in the water."

"Look!" Companion said excitedly.

I turned and looked north toward Port Henry. Just off a weed bank, about 200 yards away, two large, dark humps were arched out of the placid water.

No boats had traveled the area for 10 or 15 minutes. The humps, estimated to be about 2 feet out of the water and about 10 feet apart, were not a boat wake, a dog, or swimmers.

The humps remained motionless for about 5 seconds, then undulated west toward a shallow bay. Then they sank below the lake surface without a sound.

I was like a kid who had just seen Santa scout out from under the stockings hung by the fireplace.

In a way, I was disappointed. There was no more room for imagining what Champ should or could look like. Those stories of a head like a snake, a body as thick as a flour barrel, and a serpent's tail had all come true all too quickly.

I didn't want to mention my sighting to the editor who sent me packing to Port Henry in June 1981. I've written my first and last six-part monster story.

Besides, I'm too busy writing a book, *A Reporter's Guide to Champ Chasing*.



Monster unavailable for comments to press

FOUKE — A search was launched for the Fouke Monster the other day, but he was nowhere to be found.

The search was launched by yours truly while passing through town on the way south.

He didn't figure to be hanging around the local cafe, but shucks, I thought, if I can find him, the interview might make the front page.



The only sign of the monster was a big sign on U.S. 71 on the outskirts of town. The sign was graced by a very large artist's rendition of the monster.

It was a funny looking rendition. The monster had long, flowing hair and his feet and knees were gracefully set in what seemed to be an extremely feminine and alluring pose.

Maybe the artist knows something the rest of us don't. Perhaps he met the monster at a singles bar, took him home and learned he was a girl.

The sign proclaimed that a book, "Smokey and the Fouke Monster," by Smokey Crabtree, could be had at one of three convenient locations around town: "The only town in the world stocking this book. So get a copy while you are here."

That doesn't seem to be true anymore. Questions asked at several local businesses turned up no knowledge of the local whereabouts of the book. If anywhere, it was said to be at the supermarket underneath that sign.

Inside the store, the manager said the previous owners of the store sold the book, but he didn't.

Why not?

The store manager shrugged his shoulders.

Have people been asking for the book?

"It hasn't been too bad this summer."

The store manager said he hasn't met the monster yet, being in town for only four or five months.

Apparently, the monster hasn't gotten around to making this particular social call.

★ ★ ★

Since 1954, the monster has been popping up around Fouke, apparently because it gets its kicks by scaring the living bejabbers out of people. It supposedly has fire-red eyes, is hairy and comes in around 7 feet tall.

Sounds like he'd make a heckuva good basketball center. Just stick him in the middle of the lane, have him glare and watch the other team shoot nothing but 75 footers.

★ ★ ★

The last flurry of monster news was in 1971, when the creature allegedly attacked a man in his home, walked across the road in front of a car full of people and inspired a hoax. Three Texarkana men were fined \$59 each for scratching each other, then telling police they were attacked by you know who. They were nailed for disturbing the peace.

Mr. Monster also inspired a movie, "The Legend of Boggy Creek," made in the early 1970s.

It would be a great public service for one of the Little Rock television stations to get their hands on the movie and show it.

How about it, guys?

Bigfoot Is His Hobby

By DIANE LEVICK
Courant Staff Writer

NEW BRITAIN — Most people spend their vacations searching for the perfect beach, ski slope or fishing hole. Walter Brundage uses much of his vacation tracking Bigfoot.

Armed with a camera, tape recorder, tent and insatiable curiosity, Brundage has driven to Pennsylvania three times and to southern Virginia once to talk with people who claim to have seen a tall, hairy primate. Still hoping to find the creature himself, Brundage last week visited Sussex County, N.J., where people have reported seeing Bigfoot in past years, and interviewed a Kinderhook, N.Y., family that claimed to have seen one earlier this month.

In addition to travel costs, the 38-year-old machinist estimates he has spent more than \$1,000 on his Bigfoot hobby, including almost \$500 for polygraph tests of two farmhands who claimed to have seen a Bigfoot last August in Ellington.

All this is to pursue a creature that most people do not believe — or will not admit they believe — exists. Yet, police officers who have probed Bigfoot reports say Brundage is not eccentric.

"He seemed totally on the level," said Patrolman Kenneth J. Williamson of Conemaugh Township, Pa., where Brundage has investigated Bigfoot reports. "He was an up-front type of individual," eager and knowledgeable on the subject, Williamson said. Williamson said his conversations with Brundage left him a little more convinced such a mysterious creature exists.

While Bigfoot researchers do not know exactly what kind of a mammal it is, they describe it as having both human and ape-like characteristics. There apparently is more than one Bigfoot, if sightings in almost every state, Canada, Australia and the Soviet Union are to be believed.

COURANT, Hartford, CT - Aug. 15, 1983 CR: G. Earley

The majority of reports say — and Brundage admits some reports are hoaxes — the typical Bigfoot is a mammal 7 to 8 feet tall, 500 to 800 pounds that, unlike apes, always walks on two feet. Bigfoot is covered with brown, black or reddish-brown hair, except for its palms, soles and parts of its face.

"They're very shy, very elusive, apparently not interested in harming humans at all," Brundage said.

Bigfoot, also called "Sasquatch," is mentioned in American Indian legend. And there are reports of Bigfoot sightings in U.S. newspapers from the 1850s.

Since attending a lecture in Bristol about Bigfoot about five years ago, Brundage has read numerous books, magazine and newspaper articles on the subject. He keeps Bigfoot information in a file he jokingly calls his "creature dossier." He reads tabloids, even though they frequently sensationalize Bigfoot sightings. "You have to read between the lines of them, of course," he says. "The nucleus of truth is there. The people embellish it a little, but the sightings are real."

Brundage considers himself more skeptical than the average person. He says he takes his hobby seriously, but keeps a sense of humor about the pursuit and does not mind occasional ribbing from acquaintances. The subject attracted him because, he said, "I've always had an interest in bizarre stuff and animals, and Bigfoot is the best of both worlds."

The Litchfield native, who now has an apartment on Adams Street, has a biology degree from Trinity College but says he never was interested in biology as a career. Instead, he worked as a computer programmer and insurance underwriter after graduation.

During the early 1970s, Brundage, who still plays blues on electric guitar, played with "a couple of garage bands" and six years ago invented and patented a device that converts flat guitar picks into fitted thumb picks. He worked at the Ovation Guitar plant in New Hartford before joining the E&D Chuck Co. in Newington as a machinist six years ago.

One of his bosses, Assistant Manager Paul W. Hudson, is impressed with Brundage's thoroughness in researching Bigfoot sightings. "I find him to be very

interested and knowledgeable, a person who is looking for answers," Hudson said.

Brundage first went looking in the summer of 1981 at Dismal Swamp, south of Suffolk, Va. He camped at the same site where a woman had reported seeing a Bigfoot three months before, but he found no signs of the creature.

Then he explored the rural, forested Conemaugh area of western Pennsylvania, aided by police, to learn about past sightings there.

Last summer, he returned to Pennsylvania to tape-record statements by witnesses so he could have their voices analyzed



WALTER BRUNDAGE
 Searching for 'Sasquatch'

for truthfulness. The analyses, designed to show stress, were inconclusive.

A month after his return to Connecticut, Brundage got a telephone call from Pennsylvania police, who had promised to alert him to any new Bigfoot sightings.

David Gustkey, brother of Franklin, Pa., borough police Capt. William C. Gustkey, had spotted what he thought was a Bigfoot cross the road and disappear into the woods as he was driving to work at 6:30 one morning. The captain vouches for his brother's honesty.

So does Brundage. He gave up three days' pay to investigate the incident, combing the Pennsylvania woods and finding what he thinks is a "bed" — a ground area where the Bigfoot slept. "It was shaped exactly like a huge man had curled up in a fetal position," Brundage recalled. That's all he found though.

"I expect discouragement. You have to. You're looking for a needle in a haystack," Brundage said.

He packs some plaster of Paris in the trunk of his car to make casts of any Bigfoot prints he might find.

Brundage's goal is to take some good photographs or moving film of a Bigfoot "to make some kind of breakthrough on the subject."

That is why he paid Bernie Soldate, a prominent West Hartford private investigator, to administer polygraph tests in March to John Fuller and David Buckley to determine if they lied about seeing a Bigfoot-type animal last August. Apparently, they did not.

The tests cannot prove that the Bigfoot existed, but they do show the two employees of Valley Farms in Ellington were not lying when they said they saw a large, hairy animal walking upright, Soldate said. "I'm convinced they believe what they saw," he said.

Buckley, 22, says he saw the creature again about a month later.

Wayne King, director of the 6-year-old Michigan/Canadian Bigfoot Information Center, does not rule out that one or more of the mammals could exist in Connecticut, despite the state's population density. Besides the Ellington reports, at least three sightings have been made in Connecticut — in Colebrook in 1895, Trumbull in 1969 and Bridgewater in 1970. King, however, says he cannot judge the validity of the reports.

GAZETTE, Texarkana, AR - Sept. 16, 1983 CR: W. Leet

Witness says big bird not a lot of bull

LOS FRESNOS, Texas (UPI) — James Thompson is positive that what he saw glide across a highway was not a model airplane. He swears it was a bird wider than his ambulance that sported a hump on its head and a pouch near its throat.

Thompson's sighting of the strange object or creature in the sky Wednesday afternoon has not been confirmed by any other witnesses, but the episode recalls the "big bird" sightings in 1975-76 from the Rio Grande Valley to San Antonio.

At the time, skeptical police attributed the reports to a mixture of alcohol and Mexican folklore.

Thompson's bird, described as 8 to 10 feet in length, has yet to generate police reaction.

The Emergency Medical Services technician from Harlingen said he spied the mystery bird about 4 miles east of Los Fresnos as he returned from having his ambulance inspected at South Padre Island.

"I expected him to land like a model airplane. That's what I thought he was, but he flapped his wings enough to get above the grass," Thompson told the *Valley Morning Star*. He estimated the creature's wing span at 5 to 6 feet.

"It had (a) black or grayish (color and) rough texture. It wasn't feathers. I'm quite sure it was a hide-type covering. I just watched him fly away," the medical technician said.

Thompson said its head had a hump on the back and that the creature had "almost no neck at all." It also had a small pouch near its throat "something like a pelican's pouch."

The tail was very thin and ended in a kind of a fin, he said.

Nessie's Tale Extends Far Back

Your page-one article on the Loch Ness monster (Aug. 3) says, "The 'monster,' first sighted 50 years ago. . . . Actually, the saga goes back much further."

Adomnan, ninth abbot of Iona, wrote his epic *Life of Saint Columba* in the 7th century, relating how Columba and his 12 disciples crossed the Irish Sea in their skin-covered coracle to land on Iona, a Hebridean island off the west coast of Scotland, in 563 A.D. Somewhat later they went up the sea lochs to King Brude's castle overlooking Loch Ness and the site of the modern town of Inverness. On the way the saint bade a disciple to swim across the Ness to fetch a boat, despite warnings of a fearsome sea monster. Then, to quote verbatim:

"But the monster, whose appetite had been not so much sated as whetted for prey, lurked in the depth of the river. Feeling the water above disturbed by Lugne's swimming, it suddenly swam up to the surface, and with gaping mouth and great roaring rushed toward the man swimming in the middle of the water. And while all that were there, barbarians and even brothers, were struck down with extreme terror, the blessed man, who was watching, raised his holy hand and drew the saving sign of the cross in the empty air; and then, invoking the name of God, he commanded the savage beast and said: 'You will go no further. Do not touch the man; turn back speedily.' Then, hearing this command of the saint, the beast, as if pulled back by ropes, fled terrified in quick retreat."

"First sighted 50 years ago" — indeed! HUGH C. HAMILTON
 Winter Park, Fla.

Far from being "the best the die-hards can offer," the flipper photos taken by the underwater cameras of the Academy of Applied Science, Boston, the 16 mm movie sequence shot by Tim Dinsdale of England, and the numerous, recurring sonar contacts made by various expeditions all demonstrate that there is a substantial case yet to be answered at Loch Ness. It's rather like saying that the best evidence the die-hards can offer for Chrysler's existence is early repayments on its government loans and a ten-point rise in its stock.

At the very least, the best evidence for large, unidentified animals in deep freshwater lakes world-wide (Loch Ness is by no means the only example) renders pointless the high speculation about floating logs, otters, diving birds, etc. being the true basis for all eyewitness accounts.

Many of the much-maligned eyewitnesses are area residents, hunters and fishers who know the loch as well as a broker knows the Street. During travels to Loch Ness, Loch Morar and Lake Champlain, I have spoken with several individuals who claim to have seen large, unidentified lake animals. Some of these individuals, I think, are mistaken and have in fact only observed a boat wake, known animal, etc. But many, I believe, are not mistaken. I frankly defy anyone to speak with such reputable, clear-headed eyewitnesses who have had good, unambiguous sightings of Nessie and cousins, and then come away still thinking these people have merely seen Sylvester the Log.

RICHARD D. SMITH
 Princeton, N.J.

WALL STREET JOURNAL, New York, NY - Aug. 16, 1983