

UFO

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NY — Jan. 12, 1985

Tricks of light created Rye UFOs

By Paul Kirby
Staff Writer

Tiny natural prisms in the atmosphere playing tricks with light may have created the "UFOs" that a Rye father and son reported Thursday, a meteorologist said Friday.

But Dr. William Gutsch, chairman of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in New York City, could not explain the shapes — hot dogs and dumbbells — that the two men said they saw fly above them in their back yard.

He also did not discount the possibility that the lights were attached to some sort of aircraft or the possibility that the sightings may have been of genuine unidentified flying objects.

Richard and Jonathan Koerner of Maple Drive in Rye said they saw about 25 different multi-colored light formations hover or fly past high in the sky while standing in their back yard Thursday evening.

The two described the lights as flying in formations shaped like Vs, hot dogs and dumbbells, between 6:15 and 7:15 p.m. Thursday. They said the lights were red, green, white and yellow.

A Rye police officer, Barbara Stella, said in a report that she also noticed strange objects. She couldn't explain Friday what the objects were, but said she thought they might be gliders.

"I wasn't there as long as they were, but all I saw was two taillights," Ms. Stella said. "I don't know if it was a UFO."

Several widely viewed UFO sightings in northern Westchester last year reportedly were actually flights by several small-plane pilots turning their lights on and off in various combinations.

Gutsch, who writes the weekday "Sky Watch" column in this newspaper and appears on WABC-TV, offered two explanations for the multi-colored lights.

In winter, movements of the gaseous atmosphere above the earth may cause particles in the atmosphere to form tiny prisms that split light coming from stars or other heavenly bodies, causing a flashing of red, green and white, Gutsch said.

"It's a rapid blinking-type effect," he said. "During the winter months, the difference of the earth's temperature and the atmosphere's temperature allows this to happen."

Gutsch also said that at the time the sightings were reported the planet Venus was particularly bright. He said a bright object in a dark area will often spark an illusion of movement of the bright object.

"It's a looping kind of motion," he said.

JOURNAL-STAR, Lincoln, NE — March 3, 1985 CR: R. Boeche

It's Boeche and Colborn, urging release of UFO data

By Catharine Huddle

By profession, they are employees of a printing company and a real estate agency.

But Ray Boeche and Scott Colborn, both of Lincoln, also devote untold amounts of time and money to the investigation of unexplained phenomena.

They talk about flying saucers, 3-foot-tall entities with large heads and dark eyes and contacts between UFOs and military bases dating back more than 30 years, including bases that house nuclear arms.

Boeche and Colborn are dead serious about their work and they think the public has a right to more information.

The men will not say that UFOs are from another world or that they're piloted by alien beings. But, they say, many questions could be answered if the government would release information they think it holds about such phenomena.

"If there are no UFOs, then why all the secrecy? We believe the public has a right to know," Colborn said.

They met recently with U.S. Sen. J.J. Exon, D-Neb., in an attempt to convince him to push for the release of such information.

Their current project is the investigation of a December 1980 incident in a forest between the Bentwaters and Woodbridge NATO bases in England. Boeche and Colborn, who have interviewed U.S. servicemen involved in investigating the alleged landing site, say they are among about six people worldwide studying the incident.

The men said their fellow investigators in England have acquired a U.S. Air Force document dealing with the incident by using the Freedom of Information Act.

The group also has copies of a British Ministry of Defence document and a tape recording they say was made during an on-site Air Force investigation conducted during the days following the incident.

Driven to frenzy

According to the tape and the document they say was obtained through the information act, an unidentified craft or crafts landed in the forest, driving nearby farm animals into a frenzy, damaging surrounding trees and leaving moderate levels of radiation.

The voices on the tape are muffled, possibly because the men from the

Woodbridge base wore face masks to guard against radiation, Boeche said. But the voices are calm at the beginning of the inspection; the first clue that something is amiss is that their radios don't work.

The voices become animated, however, when the team gets readings on Geiger counters and finds strange abrasions and mysterious white streaks on the trees.

After one man says the animals in a nearby farmyard are raising a ruckus, the men say they see strange, reddish-yellow lights in the trees. After the Geiger counters click, a man is heard saying: "It's coming this way. It is definitely coming this way. There is no doubt about it. This is weird. Get the flashlights off. This is very, very strange."

"Let's go carefully. It looks like an eye winking at you. It's still moving from side to side and when you put the starscope (a heat-sensing device) on it, it looks like it sort of has a hollow center, a dark center. It almost burns your eye."

The men on the tape said the lights remained in the area for an hour or more, dancing around and beaming streams of light down to the ground, before disappearing.

In their meeting with Exon, Boeche and Colborn asked the senator to help them get a film that they think was shot during the Bentwaters investigation. They also want help getting other possible evidence — plaster casts made at the site, lab analysis of residue left by the craft and copies of reports, photographs, memorandums and notes.

17 witnesses

"Something did land at RAF Bentwaters. There were 17 firsthand witnesses who know that something did happen. We know that the event was filmed," Boeche said. "We know the Air Force does have this information and we know that (there have been) contacts between this type of craft and Air Force bases since 1960."

The British investigators — Dot Street, Jenny Randies and Brenda Butler — have written a book, "Sky Crash: A Cosmic Conspiracy," about the incident and have been interviewed at least twice by the British Broadcasting Corp. But, with the exception of a recent segment broadcast on the Cable News Network, there has been little or no U.S. publicity on the Bentwaters incident,

Boeche said.

The men went to Exon, both as their senator and as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, in hopes that they could convince him to push for a series of informational congressional hearings on unexplained phenomena.

They also have government documents discussing UFO incidents in the United States as far back as 1950 and as recent as 1980. One of those documents, dated March 1950, discusses the recovery of a "so-called flying saucer" and of three bodies from inside the craft.

Boeche and Colborn have requested that Exon ask the Air Force to disclose what it knows about such incidents.

They described Exon as concerned that, as a member of the Armed Services Committee, he has not been fully apprised of this and other UFO incidents, and they hope that he will push committee Chairman Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., to release more information.

An Exon aide confirmed that the senator met with Boeche and Colborn but did not know whether Exon planned to pursue the matter. Exon could not be reached.

Boeche and Colborn say there also have been reports that "entities" were seen near the craft in the first incident near the NATO bases in England.

Trip planned

"No one will deny and no one will confirm," Boeche said. "One witness said there were three entities, 3 to 3½ feet tall with large heads and dark eyes," who first looked like little kids in snow-suits.

Investigators also have acquired from the British Ministry of Defence unauthenticated documents that describe entities observed during the Bentwaters incident as being 1½ meters tall, having clawlike hands with three digits and an opposable thumb, and wearing what appeared to be nylon-coated pressure suits with no helmets.

Boeche is planning a trip to England, where the British investigators and others are pushing their government for the release of information. He wants to visit the Bentwaters area and to make people, both here and in England, more aware of such phenomena.

"We want to start a grass-roots effort and we hope" the attitude will be: "Hey, there's something going on here and I'd like to know what it is. I think I'll call (a senator)," Boeche said.

DAILY TIMES, Anchorage, AK — Jan. 20, 1985 CR: L. Whitehurst

Dive sponsor doubts reports of mystery disc

Associated Press

Seattle — A promoter of a diving expedition to locate an unidentified object that splashed down near Bellingham last July now doubts the reports of divers who said they saw a gold, 35-foot-wide disc stuck in the bottom.

"We can't get it confirmed one way or the other. We don't know if they had it or not. Each diver had a different story," said Dale Goudie, director of Puget Sound Phenomenon Research in Seattle.

"There's no evidence," he said this week.

In at least two dives the last week of December, two Seattle divers reported

seeing what they described as an object shaped like an upside-down teacup or satellite dish.

Goudie said he had been trying since July to get divers to the site, between Lummi and Eliza islands near Bellingham, about 80 miles north of Seattle.

On July 27, witnesses on a fish tender saw an orange fireball splash into the water and bubble. The Coast Guard investigated and found no debris. There were no reports of missing planes or space junk. Nothing was seen on radar.

Goudie said he finally found two Seattle divers who agreed to dive in the water which is over 100 feet deep.

They made several trips in the 58-foot Bellingham seiner Diane during freezing weather.

Despite their reports, they failed to bring back video film of the object or to mark the site with a buoy. When they went back for another dive, they couldn't find it. The group broke up in dissension and ran out of money.

Goudie says he has lost contact with the divers and their phone has been disconnected.

Goudie thinks the object might have been a meteor, although a meteor wouldn't have made an "L" turn before crashing in the water, as witnesses said.

"Whatever splashed down in July still has to be up there in those waters," he said.

Goudie said he wanted the object for scientific research. His organization was founded in 1982 to gather evidence from sightings of unidentified flying objects.

Although he promoted the dive, the divers, the boat owner and other backers sponsored the expedition on their own, Goudie said.

The Coast Guard, U.S. Navy and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration were not involved in the search, spokesmen said.

It's not rock, it's not wood; it's a UFO, divers claim

By ERIC THOMAS
Of the Herald Staff

Scuba divers — searching along the murky seafloor between Lummi and Eliza islands Sunday — reported finding a saucer-type object in the area where a UFO reportedly splashed down last July.

Divers John Walker and Richard Burke, partners in a Seattle-based diving company, reported locating the mysterious object at a depth of about 180 feet during separate dives Sunday morning. "It's not a boat and it's not a plane,"

Walker said. "It's not a rock and it's not wood.

"It's shaped like a satellite dish. I've been diving a long time and I've never seen anything like it before. It's something we don't know about."

The discovery wasn't confirmed by any other sources. Attempts by Burke and Walker to get footage of the object with an underwater video camera were foiled by a burned-out spotlight bulb, they said.

Walker said a metallic, gold-colored object is sliced into the mud at an angle and protrudes about 15 feet above the sea

floor. It has a four-inch lip around its edge, at least one cavity and a clamp of sorts at one end, he said.

A depth finder aboard the 58-foot limited seiner Diane, chartered for the dive because of freezing temperatures and brisk winds, showed the object to be about 35 feet long and about 10 feet high.

Burke located the object and began whooping it up during his dive — drawing grins from those on the seiner's deck. "Whooooeee ... I'm standing on the UFO," an elated Burke yelled into his helmet intercom.

"I was thinking 'I've been B.S.-ed by

the B.S.-er (the flamboyant Walker, who dove first)' when ding, I found it," said Burke with a grin afterwards. "It's pretty damn big."

Burke and Walker were unable to budge the object. Burke said mud and darkness prevented him from determining the object's color.

Burke emerged from his dive with a reddish silt on his diving boots that he believed came from touching the object. The group promptly dubbed it "UFO dust."

Before his dive Walker cracked: "I don't want to see the boat cruising away

if I come up with a red glow."

A disagreement over leadership of the expedition broke out after it returned to the dock Sunday. After reorganizing, group members said they planned to return to the site early this morning to try to raise the object with the seiner's deck winches.

Walker, apparently, is no longer with the group.

The group's new spokesman, Sam Sudore, owner of Northern Pacific Seafoods in Bellingham, preferred to keep the discovery low-key until the ob-

ject is raised.

Walker had been updating the Associated Press and a Seattle radio station on the expedition over the past several days.

"We shouldn't have come out with anything until we know what it is," said Sudore. "It could be a hole in a log. It could be a chicken coop. We don't know until we pull it up."

Sudore, however, is a firm believer in extra-terrestrial life.

"We'd be stupid if we figured we were the only intelligent beings in the galaxy," he said. "There has to be some sort of life form out there."

The expedition was organized to locate and recover the remnants of an orange fireball two fishermen on a fish tender saw land July 27 between Lummi and Eliza islands.

The fireball sent a plume of water perhaps 75 feet into the air before sinking and bubbling, according to a U.S. Coast Guard report on the incident.

UFO sightings also were reported that same morning by the crew of a tugboat and also by a woman northbound on Interstate 5, according to group member Lisa Pierce, a representative from Puget Sound Area Phenomenon Research in Seattle.

Richard Hartman, a witness from the fish tender, directed the Diane's owner and skipper, Dominic Papetti, to the location through the fog as day broke.

As it turned out, Papetti anchored just 20 feet from the object.

"I don't know what the hell to believe with all this UFO business," said a skeptical Papetti, who normally seeks salmon and crab with his vessel. He suggested Walker grab some squid if he couldn't find a UFO.

Walker and Burke used a dry suit, helmet and three tanks of air on their dives into the 42-degree water. The pair were limited to just 20 minutes on the bottom and required decompression stops to avoid the bends on the way up because of the depth.

Walker reported a strong current on the sea floor; weather reports Sunday included gale warnings and small craft advisories.

Local sponsors of the expedition include Mr. Steak Restaurant, Sea Galley Restaurant, Q.C. Stereo-Car Audio & Video and the Key Motel.

HERALD, Bellingham, WA - Jan. 1, 1985

Expedition searching for UFO returns empty-handed

By ERIC THOMAS
Of the Herald Staff

An expedition to locate a suspected UFO that reportedly splashed down off Lummi Island last July has been postponed indefinitely until additional funding is obtained.

The decision was made Monday after divers tried unsuccessfully to locate a saucer-type object they say they discovered Sunday on the sea floor between Lummi and Eliza islands.

"This is reality," said diver Richard Burke Monday after seven hours of searching from aboard the 58-foot seiner Diane.

"Yesterday, we were extremely lucky (to locate the object). But I won't sleep until we find the stupid thing."

One diver, John Walker, described the object as a gold-colored, satellite-shaped dish that had a clasp on one end; Burke said it resembled an upside down tea cup and had a cavity in it.

Both divers reported the object was sliced into the mud at an angle, appeared to be metallic and had a four-inch lip around its edge.

The six-member group said they now believe Walker and Burke were examining different objects in different locations during their Sunday dives.

The conclusion is based on the location of the divers' air bubbles on the surface during the dives and differing descriptions of the object.

Examination of the objects Sunday was

hindered by a burned out lightbulb and thick mud that clouded the water.

The expedition was organized to locate and recover the remnants of an orange fireball two fishermen on a fish tender saw land July 27 between Lummi and Eliza islands.

The fireball sent a plume of water perhaps 75 feet into the air before sinking and bubbling according to a U.S. Coast Guard report on the incident.

Coast Guard officials say they have no doubt the fishermen saw something crash into the water.

Group members have disagreed about whether a 30-foot by 10-foot object spotted on the Diane's depth finder in about the same location both Sunday and Monday is

one of the objects found by Walker and Burke.

The depth finder indicated the object was lying in about 140 feet of water; Burke and Walker found their objects at a depth of 142 feet.

Dominic V. Papetti, owner and skipper of the Diane and an experienced local fisherman, spotted the object on the depth finder early Monday but was unable to locate the object a second time. He had planned to anchor directly above the object to aid divers in locating it.

Papetti said he suspects the object may have been hidden by a large school of herring or is too small to consistently register on the depth finder.

Papetti used a sensitive locating device

aboard the vessel to anchor within one foot of where he had anchored Sunday and is positive he was within 60 feet of the object.

However Burke and J.R. Hoirup — each of whom made one dive Monday, said they need at least one additional diver to search the area around the vessel.

"We should have put a bouy line on it Monday," moaned Burke. "We found the S.O.B. yesterday."

The discovery has not been confirmed by any other sources.

The group reorganized Sunday night after an argument with Walker that came close to blows.

Walker, who had been heading the expedition, was "kicked out of town" by the

DAILY TIMES, Anchorage, AK - Feb. 18, 1985

Cause of lights disputed

Times Staff

Colored lights that hovered over East Anchorage and sparked a flurry of concerned telephone calls to police late Sunday were apparently caused by hot air balloons, federal officials said today.

But the head of a local balloonists' group countered that the city's hot air pilots were attending a banquet when the lights were sighted, adding that "nobody in their right mind" would have attempted a night flight over the city without special gear.

The lights, apparently visible over the city between 10:30 and 11 p.m., were reported to the FAA's Anchorage Air Route Traffic Control Center as "foreign" objects, agency spokesman Paul Steucke said this morning.

Observers said up to a dozen of the bright, colored spots — apparently similar in appearance to aerial flares — seemed to move quickly over the Chugach Mountains near Anchorage, then gather over the city itself.

"We had some people call, we did a little checking and it turned out they were hot air balloons," Steucke said.

But Alaska Air Musters Association president Don Reed said the city's balloonists attended a dinner late Sunday that lasted well beyond the time of the sightings. "There is only one balloon in town that's equipped for night flying, and there's only one set of lights," Reed said. "And that set isn't even working."

TOP SCIENTIST BAFFLED AS MYSTERY WRECKAGE FOUND BY DIVERS DISAPPEARS

DID U.S. NAVY SHIP SECRETLY PULL CRASHED UFO OUT OF PUGET SOUND?

By RICHARD TINKLER

A TOP government scientist says that the Navy may have recovered a UFO from the depths of Puget Sound in Washington State — and may be concealing it from the public.

Dr. Bruce Maccavee, a Defense Department physicist, was one of many leading UFO researchers contacted by members of a salvage team whose divers actually saw the submerged UFO — only to find it had vanished when they returned to retrieve it.

Says Dr. Maccavee, who heads the Fund for UFO Research: "This whole affair is very strange. From what I do know, this could be highly significant UFO evidence... but the public may never learn the details."

"We don't know where the object is or what it is. It could have been recovered by the military. If that is the case, the Pentagon study will be classified."

"We are still investigating and I will do everything possible to find out what this UFO is. If the government has it, they should tell us and end the speculation."

Four separate witnesses claim that they saw the UFO flashing across Puget Sound on July 27. They described it as a large, circular, glowing object plummeting from the sky at great speed.

About 100 ft. above the waves of Rosarios Strait, between Lummi

Pentagon denies involvement amid suspicions of a cover-up

6 The government should tell us if they have it?

and Eliza Islands just outside Bellingham Bay, it leveled off and appeared to fly horizontally, skimming the sea, say the witnesses. It then turned sharply and suddenly plunged into the water, sending up a 100-ft. high geyser, they add.

Sam Sudore of Bellingham, who helped organize the salvage mission, recalls the object as a "large orange ball in the sky that stopped dead and shot off sparks" before plummeting into the sound.

Sudore says the phenomenon left the water foaming furiously in its wake.

Local fishermen and two experienced deep-sea divers, John Walker and Richard Burke, decided to get in touch with universities and UFO experts throughout the country, including Dr. Maccavee and his scientific researcher, Dale Goudie.

Goudie relates the events that followed: "The authorities were informed. Through the Freedom of Information Act, we have since obtained copies of the reports made at the time. A military vessel was sent to the scene, but its crew found nothing. However, the captain of the vessel said he saw a light above a nearby island."

"He didn't explain what the light was. He said the object had fallen into deep water where there are strong currents."

"The military didn't think it worth taking any further action and the case was closed."

"Before it splashed down, the object was clearly seen making a turn. It seemed to be under some kind of control. The local people

An artist's view of how the mystery object appeared to divers who found it on the floor of Puget Sound in Washington State.

6 I could hear a low-pitched humming noise?

decided to find it themselves if the government wouldn't help."

According to Sudore, the salvage expedition didn't get under way until late December because he thought the government had retrieved the object.

But then John Walker, one of the divers, informed him the UFO might still be in the water. Sudore arranged for a 58-ft. sailing vessel equipped with sonar.

"On the first day out they found it," Goudie says. "Sonar recorded a large metal object lying on the bottom. Walker and Burke went down to investigate."

Burke has since told Goudie and Dr. Maccavee that 125 ft. down, buried in the mud, was a large round object.

Goudie quotes Burke: "It was dark and the water was very cold. We couldn't stay down long. We found the object easily. About 17 ft.



It was in this part of Puget Sound in Washington State that the UFO crashed into the sea, only to subsequently disappear.

in diameter, it was shaped like a teacup and there was a hole in it that I could put my foot through."

"When I stood on it I could hear a low-pitched humming noise. It made us very nervous. It seemed to be about 10-ft. high, but we couldn't really tell because most of it was immersed in the mud."

John Walker told a local reporter: "It's not a boat and it's not a plane. It's not a rock and it's not wood. It's shaped like a satellite

dish. I've been diving a long time and I've never seen anything like it before."

Sudore, who was aboard the retrieval boat, says he believes the object was "extraterrestrial."

"When Burke came back up, he brought some red dye from the craft," he says. "We took it to the University of Washington to have it analyzed and they couldn't tell us what it was."

"The first day we spotted the

6 I've never seen anything like it before?

craft it was protruding 10 ft. out of the mud. The next day we went back and it was 15 or 20 ft. out of the mud. Three days later, we went back with advanced sonar equipment and another vessel to retrieve the object and it was gone.

"A fisherman spotted a huge boat out in that vicinity between our second and third visits and assured us it wasn't a fishing vessel. So I can only assume it was military."

Says Goudie: "Today we have equipment that can pinpoint a place on the ocean floor with great accuracy. We know exactly where the object was. It had been there for five months without moving. Why should it suddenly disappear?"

"We have heard reports that the Navy went out and picked it up."

"The divers talked about what they found. There are Navy facilities in this area, and no doubt the officers soon heard about the object on the ocean floor. With the equipment the Navy has, it wouldn't have taken them more than a couple of hours to recover this thing."

The Pentagon denies all knowledge of the UFO and refuses further comment.

But a senior Navy source in Washington D.C. says: "It is fairly safe for you to assume that if we heard about a large metal object in the ocean that was transmitting a humming noise, we would investigate."

"I don't know if we have the object or not. If we do, it may be classified. It could be a military device. Perhaps some form of cruise missile. It may even be Soviet in origin."

"I don't believe in flying saucers, so I'm not prepared to speculate about that."

McNamara tells of flying saucers, alien beings

Suspected killer Barry McNamara, accused of slaying his parents, sister and niece, has written letters to news media in Santa Barbara claiming to have seen flying saucers, "unusually white" men and a car hovering above the ground.

McNamara was arrested earlier this month on suspicion of killing his parents, Elger Wayne McNamara, 57, and Florence Barbara McNamara, 56; his sister, Diane Trenner, 31; and Trenner's 4-year-old daughter, Kellin Brooke Trenner.

The murders took place Jan. 5 at the family home, 5520 W. Camino Cielo, a short distance from Highway 154.

way 154.

McNamara was arrested near the residence after the sheriff's department was called by an unidentified woman who said she was talking on the telephone with victim Diane Trenner when the shooting began.

The suspect wrote a letter to the Santa Barbara News-Press describing that he saw a "cylindrical flying saucer" and "unusually white" men on the night of the shootings.

The men had blond hair and beards and were standing near a 1965 Datsun sedan that was "glowing slightly and hovering around three to four inches off the

ground," according to a News-Press story.

The article said McNamara also wrote that the men were "dressed in 1960s clothing that appeared to be new" and approached him while walking in a "funny spider manner." He continued that the men then reached into his vehicle and "sprayed a funny gas into my

face."

McNamara said he later drove to near his parent's home before running out of gas. He was arrested by sheriff's deputies while walking near the mailbox at the end of the residence lane.

"This is the true story of what happened," he concludes in his four-page, handwritten letter.

TIMES, Santa Maria, CA - Jan. 31, 1985

UFO sightings unexplained year later

By RON DEVLIN
Of the Call-Chronicle

It didn't take Fred Schaefer long to get to the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport air traffic controller who saw the bright fireball that streaked across the southern sky that clear Saturday night last winter.

Within several days of the Jan. 28 sighting, the New Jersey truck driver was in the Federal Aviation Administration control tower, flashing his I.D. card from the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and asking to see Doug Snyder.

Snyder told Schaefer he saw a "large, bright orange ball" traveling in a southwest direction at a high speed.

The air traffic controller said the meteor-like object, which appeared for only a second or two, was not picked up by the tower's radar.

With that bit of information, Fred Schaefer began a yearlong investigation that put him on the trail of the bright light that was reported in numerous sightings from the Lehigh Valley to Cape May, N.J.

The inquiry involved interviews with Lehigh Valley and New Jersey residents who saw the

"It burst all orange, then all blue, and disappeared."

Ellen Whitelaw,
describing explosion in sky

light, plus visits to military radar installations and correspondence with North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and government scientific facilities.

Ironically, it led right back to his home town of Clementon, N.J., where 30 meteor-like rocks were found in the backyard of a woman who saw a bright orange light explode above her home only moments after the air traffic controller's sighting.

Schaefer and a fellow unidentified-flying-object investigator, Jerry Miskar, are reluctant to conclude that the light that flashed over the Lehigh Valley is the same as the one that exploded in Clementon, about 10 miles north of Camden.

The report the UFO sleuths are preparing for APRO, an Arizona-based organization with

500 amateur investigators around the world, indicates there may have been more than one strange object in the skies that night. The objects may have come from outer space.

At first, Fred Schaefer wasn't making too much headway with his investigation.

The only concrete things he had were the descriptions of sightings by people like Doug Snyder and the media reports of numerous sightings over the Lehigh Valley and six New Jersey counties.

He knew something had crossed the skies, but he didn't know what.

An inquiry at the Gibbsboro Air Force Radar Station near Clementon, home of the 772nd Radar Tactical Air Command, came up negative.

Schaefer's notes show he was told the facility's radar was out of operation the night the light in the sky was spotted. The installation had no record of any unusual objects in the sky, Schaefer says he was told.

A visit to another Air Force radar facility, a golf-ball-shaped dome that scans a 40-mile,

60,000-foot-high range from its position in Trevose, Bucks County, provided no further information.

Neither NORAD nor the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) facility at Wallops Island, Va., from which weather balloons are launched, had records of sightings.

"The NORAD Space Surveillance Center reports that there were no manmade space objects re-entering the atmosphere in your area on Jan. 28, 1984. The NORAD satellite tracking system does not track meteorites, so we are unable to confirm that as the cause of the sightings," was the reply through the NORAD information office at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Then Schaefer read an article in a local newspaper that told of some strange black rocks found in the backyard of a Clementon home.

Schaefer contacted Ellen Whitelaw, the 39-year-old unemployed factory worker in whose yard the rocks were found several weeks after the sightings.

Whitelaw told of how she was sitting in the kitchen having a cup of tea the evening of Jan. 28 when she was startled by two explosions over the tree tops just outside her second-floor apartment.

She remembered the occasion vividly because she had a clear view through the sliding glass doors that lead to the balcony outside her kitchen.

"It burst all orange, then all blue, and disappeared," she recalled during a telephone interview with the Call-Chronicle.

Whitelaw says the explosions were so close she thought something had landed in her yard. But she dismissed the thought without checking.

Weeks later, Whitelaw's 12-year-old nephew, Edward Senior III, found about 30 black rocks at the base of an old oak tree in his aunt's backyard. The tree had a burn mark on its trunk the size of a softball.

Whitelaw cannot explain the rocks or the burn mark except to theorize that some kind of space matter must have struck the tree the night of the explosions.

There's another thing she can't explain — why the evergreen tree over which the explosions took place died shortly thereafter.

Schaefer sent pieces of the substance to Jim Mullaney, a Pittsburgh astronomer and author who has written about UFOs, for analysis.

A preliminary analysis by a chemist friend of Mullaney's indicated the substance, whatever it was, had entered the Earth's atmosphere "from somewhere else" at a high rate of speed. Temperatures of 5,000 degrees were necessary to account for the deep pits in the substance, the analysis indicated.

Schaefer was told a further analysis was needed to determine the substance's chemical composition and exact origin.

But in a move that has Schaefer and Miskar somewhat puzzled, Mullaney later told them his unidentified chemist friend declined to conduct the analysis. Nine months after they were sent, the specimens have not been returned to the New Jersey investigators.

Mullaney could not be reached for comment.

Schaefer was able to have the substance photographed by a friend who had access to a high-powered camera. The blow-ups indicate the presence of metal and glass but are inconclusive as to whether the material originated in space.

Because they lack a chemical analysis, Schaefer and Miskar stop short of identifying the substance as a coming from a meteor or meteorite.

But the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained (PASU), a Westmoreland County group that received reports of sightings in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, concluded the sightings were of a "bolide, a large fireball of the meteor class."

From Lancaster to Hazleton, the group's UFO Hotline rang with reports of a "greenish-glowing light in the southeast sky coming down at a 45-degree angle."

At the same time, the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle got 55 reports of similar sightings in New Jersey. The center is a privately run clearinghouse for UFO information.

One report had the object ascending.

A Flemington, N.J., couple said they saw an orange ball descend through the clouds and 20 minutes later "a big, bright object" the size of a hot air balloon take off vertically, pause and shoot off into the heavens.

Jerry Miskar still remembers the day in the early 1950s when the crowd gathered down the street from his family's Mahanoy City rowhouse and looked skyward at what the people thought looked like flying saucers.

It was back then, in the Cold War era, that the 38-year-old Woodbury High School English teacher developed an interest in UFOs.

Although he read all he could about UFOs, Miskar didn't really become interested in outer space phenomena until 1970, when he had what he says is his one and only UFO sighting while on night patrol with a Marine unit in Vietnam.

When he returned to teaching, Miskar developed a mini-course on "UFO Theory," which he taught in the Woodbury schools for several years. While attending a UFO seminar in Pottstown, the tall, athletic-looking teacher came in contact with APRO.

Schaefer traces his interest in UFOs to his boyhood fascination with aircraft, particularly military.

At one time, he could identify just about any plane that flew over his suburban New Jersey home.

Until about 1977, the 48-year-old truck driver, who "regrettably and very sorrowfully" has never seen a UFO, was a "complete skeptic." Then he heard Jim Mullaney speak about UFO sightings, and "the rest is history."

Through APRO, Schaefer and Miskar have been working together since 1979.

Indeed, some of the cases this team of galactic sleuths has investigated are as fascinating as the UFOs themselves.

One recent case, for example, involved two Harrisburg nurses who claim they encountered a UFO on Feb. 13, 1983.

Tape-recorded interviews with the nurses indicate they were on break in the hospital's fourth-floor lounge when one of them noticed a huge light, too big and bright to be a star, in the sky.

When the nurses walked to the window for a closer look, a smaller object, described as having flashing red, white and blue lights, emerged from the larger one and proceeded toward the hospital. It moved to within 15 feet of a fourth-floor hospital window, they said, turned on a kind of spotlight that made the nurses feel "like someone was taking our picture," and then shot straight upward and out of sight at a phenomenal speed.

The panic-stricken nurses ran into the hallway and brought a third nurse to the window, where the larger light was still visible. Then it too began to move toward the window. Other nurses in the hospital, who did not see the UFOs, reported hearing a humming sound.

Schaefer says the nurses consented to the interviews on the condition that their names not be made public. He also declined to identify the hospital.

The UFO detective did say, however, that one of the nurses broke out in red welts all over her face as she relived the experience during the taped interview.

Not all the dozen or so cases the team has investigated involved verifiable UFOs.

Schaefer and Miskar traced a June 1980 sighting by a New Jersey couple to an advertising plane with a malfunctioning computer. But the first case they investigated perhaps sticks most in their minds.

In October 1979, Schaefer and Miskar went to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware to investigate widespread reports of strange objects over Delaware Bay and Bowers Beach near the base.

Stories in the Delaware State News chronicle numerous reports by residents and local and state police of "strange lights in the sky that hover and then go off faster than a jet."

In the Oct. 18 edition of the Delaware State News, an Air Force spokesman is quoted as confirming "there were two blips on [the radar] screen" at the time of the sightings. The Air Force first admitted to the radar sightings, then retracted the statement, then finally confirmed their existence.

Schaefer and Miskar talked with a major who was introduced as being in charge of all radar at the base.

The investigators, who asked that the officer's name not be used, say they inquired about the strange lights. Schaefer asked the officer if the lights in the sky could have been from Hawker Harriers, the British vertical-takeoff-and-landing craft, operating out of the base, or if the lights, which reportedly traveled intensely fast, could have been the Air Force's super-secret spy plane, the Blackbird, the fastest plane in existence.

Schaefer says the Air Force officer didn't seem to know the identity of the planes.

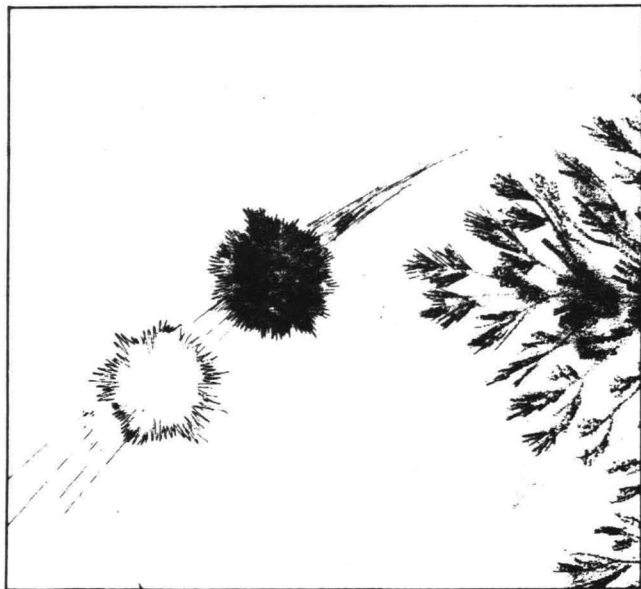
"Can you imagine an officer in charge of radar at a major base not knowing what a Hawker Harrier or a Blackbird SR-71 was?" Schaefer asked rhetorically.

Their suspicions were confirmed some weeks later when they sent a letter of thanks to the major. It came back stamped, "Return to Sender: No record in the A.F. Directory Svc., Dover AFB."

"After that, things started happening," said Miskar.

The investigators noticed strange noises on their phones. Packages

(continued on page 5)



Ellen Whitelaw's drawing of what she saw in the sky

they mailed arrived at their destinations with contents missing, they said.

The most vivid example that led them to believe someone was monitoring their mail occurred in 1981 when they mailed a report to APRO that contained a drawing made by Schaefer's then-10-year-old daughter Susan. At the time, Schaefer says, he was humoring his daughter and felt her drawings of alleged UFOs were "the product of an overactive imagination."

The report was sent registered mail. Schaefer received a receipt dated March 30, 1981, and signed "C. Lorenzen," for Carol Lorenzen, the co-founder and secretary of APRO.

Schaefer and Miskar thought nothing of it until April 30, 1981, when they received a second receipt, dated April 30, 1981, signed "C. Lorenzen."

In a May 8, 1981, letter, Lorenzen confirmed that she received only one package and signed only one receipt. The package, she wrote, did not include the drawing by Schaefer's daughter.

While searching through old "Flying Saucer" magazines months later, Miskar discovered an account of a 1963 sighting of an unusual object in Hampshire, England. James Poulton and P.R. Shergold were walking on the beach near Barton-on-Sea about 4:45 p.m. when they spotted a UFO they described as being "a very bright, ringed object with a spindle through the center."

It was only the second recorded sighting of a UFO bearing that description.

Little Susan Schaefer's drawing, the one missing from the APRO report, was of an almost identical object.



APRIL 1981: EDWARD HEISER, 11, INSPECTS THE ROCKS HE FOUND IN A WOODED AREA IN CLEMENTON, N.J., HOPEING THAT TESTS BEING PERFORMED WILL PROVE THAT HE FOUND PARTS OF A METEORITE.

Boy's find is 'out of space'

By Ramsey Palk Rhodes
CLEMENTON — When Ellen Whitelaw told her children and their visiting cousins to go out and look for a falling star, that she thought landed in a wooded area behind her home, she never thought they would discover what she thinks may be a meteorite.

Whitelaw said the week before the discovery, she was having coffee in her dining area and saw a falling star. It exploded orange and then blue then it was gone.

She said she never investigated it because she never found the time to venture into the woods and look for something especially since she was a mother of what she would be having five.

Whitelaw said that at the time of her sighting, several area people also reported seeing a strange object in the sky.

came to visit her, Whitelaw said she remembered that he was a science buff and if indeed a meteorite or something fell into the wooded area, she was sure he would find it.

Senior, a 12-year-old who lives in Harrison Township, Gloucester County, said he was the leader of the expedition consisting of his brother, Sean, 7, his sister April, 10, and Mary, 11, his cousin.

After searching for about one hour, Senior made his discovery near a hollow about 50 feet into the wooded area.

The cause of the tree was fringed and scattered around it were black rocks with small, extensive trails of them.

"I was excited and really scared," Senior said.

Senior said he recognized the rocks from pictures he has seen in his science book. Whitelaw will want to study them.

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Chris Hanson, left, and Jim Minton point to the location of the lights they saw Sunday.

Amber lights appear again over Anchorage

By GREG GADBERRY
Daily News reporter

West Anchorage skies Monday were dotted with a flock of bright and unexplained amber lights.

The lights, which appeared at about 9 p.m., were apparently very similar to those that floated over Spenard Sunday evening. But spectators and officials were at a loss to explain the source of the lights.

"There were a couple lights but we couldn't tell what they were," said Roger Carpenter, team supervisor at the Anchorage International Airport control tower. "We didn't see anything on the tower radar."

Federal Aviation Administration reports that the Sunday lights were from hot air balloons were denied by balloonists.

As many as 12 lights appeared in the western sky Monday. Some of the lights glowed alone in the sky while others appeared in crude designs or in straight lines of three or four lights each.

The lights appeared to climb slowly into the sky before hovering and then disappearing. They faded about 30 minutes after they appeared.

A number of Anchorage residents apparently spotted the mysterious lights both Sunday and Monday night. On Sunday, skywatchers called Anchorage police, the United States Air Force and the FAA.

On Monday night, police got even more calls. Randi Goode, communication supervisor at the Anchorage Police Department, said about 30 people reported the lights Monday night.

"Some of the same officers who saw the lights Sunday night saw them again tonight and said, 'Yep, that's them,'" Goode said.

Chris Hanson, who spotted the lights Sunday night when driving through Spenard, said he saw "distinct balls of light" moving over town. At first, he said, he thought they were something from the Fur Rendezvous celebration, perhaps flares or a child's trick.

"I thought it might have been little kids putting candles in paper bags," Hanson said.

But seconds after the first lights appeared, another moved silently across the sky, slowed, and joined the first group, he said. Then another came and hovered near the glowing flock.

"That was something that little paper bags and candles can't do," Hanson said.

"I've never seen anything like it," said Jim Minton, a commercial pilot. Minton and his wife were driving with Hanson Sunday when all three spotted the lights. "We all felt it was extremely out of the ordinary."

Following Sunday's sightings, FAA officials declared the lights were perfectly ordinary.

"The controllers spotted hot air balloons, with their burners going on and off," said FAA spokesman Paul Steucke. Because of the distance, those controllers were unable to identify any individual balloon Sunday night, he said.

Local balloonists dismissed the FAA's findings. Many balloon pilots Sunday night were attending the yearly banquet for Alaska Air Musers Association. The banquet was in Rabbit Creek and was still going when the lights were spotted, balloonists said.

"Virtually all the commercial operators were at the banquet," said Mike Carnevale, owner of Balloon Central Station. "I heard that there were 10 to 12 lights. There is no way that many balloonists could have gone unaccounted for Sunday night."

Balloonists flying in controlled airspace are required to radio flight officials and report their movements, Steucke said. No such radio contact was reported Sunday night.

Night-flying balloons are required by the FAA to carry strobe lights, pilots said. Flying without one could cost a pilot a flying license.

"It's too easy to get caught," Carnevale said. "A balloon at night lights up the sky. But it looks like a seven-story light bulb, not like a group of street lights."

Although witnesses contacted Monday about the sightings were anxious to talk about the lights, they were reluctant to guess what the lights might have been.

"One part of me still feels it was a prank with kids and paper bags and candles," Hanson said. "But another part of me said it was something else."

"But I tell you, I'm going to go to the library and check out everything I can on UFOs. I'm interested now."

Spring Lake man reports UFO sighting as his home

By Marci Brown

If you'd have told Earl Buchholz that you believed in UFOs a month ago, he probably would have rolled his eyes and privately thought you were a little unusual.

But a few weeks ago, Buchholz became a believer.

It started one late Sunday afternoon while he was working alone in his garage at his farm in Spring Lake Township. He heard a loud noise, "kind of like a lot of snow slipping off the roof," he recalled.

At first he thought nothing of it. Then his dog started barking like crazy and scurried outside.

When Buchholz followed, he noticed that his old wood machine shed, which stands next to the garage, seemed to be leaning more than it had earlier in the day. As he moved closer, he noticed that the snow was disturbed at the top of the roof.

He grabbed a ladder and went up and investigated. And he couldn't quite believe what he saw.

There were strange indentations in the snow on the roof — two marks about 6-feet, 8-inches long on each side of the roof, with pad marks about 32 inches wide. The snow was pressed down so that he could see just a light dusting of snow on the wood-shingled roof in those spots.

There was no melting or damage to the roof itself. It just looked like something had rested in the four-inch snowfall for a few minutes.

Buchholz also said he could detect some sort of unusual odor. "I don't know how to describe it," he said.

He didn't know what to think. At least, he didn't want to believe what he was thinking.

His four children and wife were shopping that afternoon, so he couldn't bring them out to get their opinion. So he went inside his house

and got a camera and took photos to record what he saw. Then he tried to think of a logical explanation for his findings.

He looked around the buildings to see if there might have been something that could have fallen on the roof. He searched the fields of the farm where he's lived for 16 years for some long object that could have made the marks. But he couldn't find anything.

"I thought about it all day Monday," Buchholz said. "And the only thing I could come up with was that. It had to be a UFO that landed. And I finally decided to call the sheriff's department."

Buchholz said the marks were still there on Tuesday, but he admitted that the sheriff's deputy was reluctant to come out and investigate a UFO landing.

"They didn't really believe me," Buchholz said.

After investigating, however, the department called a professor who specializes in UFO phenomena, a Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Hamilton University in Evanston, Ill. Buchholz talked with him at 11:30 the following evening.

"I was very scared until I talked to him about it," he said. "But he told me that visitor spaceships seldom are sighted twice in the same place. ... I would just have to learn to live with it."

While the sheriff's department isn't going to investigate further, Buchholz said that a colleague of Hynek's who lives in St. Paul plans to come out and visit the farm to gather more information.

Although the marks on the roof have disappeared after the recent snowfall, Buchholz still has his photos. And the negatives are locked in a safe — just in case, Buchholz said.

He said he's glad he took the photos.

AMERICAN, Prior Lake, MN

Jan. 28, 1985

"I'd say only one in 15 (people) I've talked to don't think it happened," he said. "When they see the photos, they believe."

Although UFO sightings seem unusual and unbelievable, few people have teased him or challenged him about it. In fact, one woman called him



The indentations extended from the peak to near the edge of each side of the shed roof, with pad marks near the peak and edges.

the Tuesday he reported the landing to tell him she saw a UFO that Sunday also. And he said a lot of people tell him their dogs were barking a lot and acting strangely that day too.

Did a UFO land in Scott County? Buchholz thinks so. Now that the marks have disappeared, he's glad he has the photos to show that something really did happen that Sunday afternoon.

Although the marks have gone, he can't help thinking about it.

"I tend to get up in the morning and look out in the window in that direction," he said. "And I wonder ..."

DAILY TIMES, Anchorage, AK - Feb. 19, 1985

Night sky lights may be balloons

by Beth Cunningham and Earl Swift
Times Writers

Mysterious colored lights hovering and darting over the city surprised many Anchorage residents for the second consecutive night Monday. One local hot-air balloonist said today he'd "bet dollars to doughnuts" that night-time skywatchers can thank pranksters for the apparent UFOs.

"I know from experience; I did it when I was a teen-ager," said Paul Costa, co-owner of Anchorage's Hot Air Affair, a passenger hot-air balloon service. "It's pranksters."

"They do it for an effect, and that's what they got the Sunday night, so they did it again last night (Monday)," he said.

City police and Alaska State Trooper telephone lines were busy Sunday with reports from area residents that they had seen

strange, colored lights moving rapidly — and in apparent formation — over the city.

The sightings — which came shortly before 11 p.m. Sunday and again between 9 and 11:30 p.m. Monday — were explained as "balloons doing night flying" by Federal Aviation Administration officials shortly after their first appearances. Local hot-air balloon enthusiasts claimed Monday, however, that they could account for every balloon pilot in town at the time the initial sightings took place.

But Costa credited the lights to a local joker with a strong scientific bent.

An aerial-colored light is easy to obtain, the pilot said, simply by tying a lighted candle inside and blowing air into, a plastic garment bag. In very cold weather, such as Sunday and Monday nights, the bag's warmth

causes it to rise rapidly into the atmosphere, he said.

Soon the candle ignites the plastic bag, creating flaming, colored lights, he explained, adding that at some heights fast-moving air currents can carry the bags at speeds up to 50 mph.

Alaska State Trooper spokesman Paul Edscom said he saw "about two dozen" of the lights from his West Anchorage home late Monday and agreed with Costa that they appeared to be homemade hot-air balloons.

"It's not difficult to do," he said, "but someone's putting some work into it. It looked like they just let them go one after the other in a line."

Whoever is behind the prank knows his science, Costa said: With the city's present sub-

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(continued from page 6 -
DAILY TIMES, Anchorage, AK
- Feb. 19, 1985)

zero temperatures, "now is an optimum time" for such balloons to reach great heights and achieve the desired effect.

FAA spokesman Paul Steucke, meanwhile, said his agency received several reports of similar, but apparently unrelated, sightings Monday in other parts of the state.

Accounts of a "flash" on Eklutna Flats at about 8:30 p.m. Monday from several Wasilla residents sent Anchorage police searching the area for a downed plane, Steucke said. Nothing was found.

Five minutes later, an off-duty FAA employee reported seeing a "very bright flash of light, followed by a large thunderclap" near Northway, about 275 miles northeast of Anchorage.

The agency also received reports of a bright orange flash in the sky from the crews of three airliners — Western Airlines flight 723, Alaska Airlines flight 58 and a chartered ARCO jet — flying over Alaska, Steucke said.

Air traffic controllers at Anchorage International Airport and Merrill Field failed to see the lights on both nights, the spokesman said, and neither tower reported spotting any unusual blips on their radar screens.

NEWS-PRESS, Glendale, CA - Feb. 26, 1985 CR: F. Ruehl

Local scientist says there's lots of extra terrestrial life out there

By RICHARD F. SWEARINGER
Correspondent

Spaceflight has become a commonplace event in modern life now that there is a space shuttle mission just about every other month.

But even though Americans long ago accepted the idea of humans in space, the possibility that creatures from other galaxies could make their way here is still a topic that can start a hot debate. If you asked most Americans if they believed in UFOs they would probably just laugh. Some people even hold that earth is the only inhabited planet in the universe.

A physicist living in Glendale takes an opposite view. Dr. Franklin Ruehl is a proponent of the theory that there is plenty of extra terrestrial life. "The universe is teeming with life," he says. "I believe that there is life on every planet." But he stops short of coming out and saying that we have been visited by UFOs.

"I haven't seen one report convincing me that there has been contact with a UFO," he says of the current state of UFO research.

He is different from other UFO researchers, he says, because he attempts to view UFO research from a scientific viewpoint. "I examine new scientific developments that non-scientists would ignore. I look at them in terms of how they would help explain the existence of extraterrestrial life."

Besides writing articles for newspapers and magazines about UFOs, Ruehl also has a public-access television show called "Mysteries from Beyond the Other Dominion" that airs on Group W cable and on Valley Cable. On Group W the show airs fairly frequently, but doesn't have a set schedule. On Valley Cable it airs Thursday at 7 p.m. On the show he not only discusses UFOs, but other natural phenomenon as well.

A recent show included a discussion of the diet of the pirana (they sometimes eat fruit says Ruehl), a review of the 1945 movie "House of Dracula," and a warning about the dangers of unrefrigerated tofu. He picks topics for the show purely on the basis of what interests him at the time, he says. "Sometimes when I'm putting a show together I wonder if I'm going to run out of ideas, but then when I start researching I find I end up with enough for four or five shows."

He has also been on numerous talk shows, everything from Sam Yorty's show to Mid-Morning L.A. He hasn't done Johnny Carson's "Tonight" show yet, but, he says, "I won't decline."

He holds a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from UCLA. His educational background also includes Hoover High, Roosevelt Jr. High, Thomas Edison and Horace Mann Elementary schools.

Unlike the majority of physicists he does not work at a university. Although he still publishes scientific articles and has taught at different schools, he says that he is too independent to be able to be happy in the rigid environment of a university. "I'm not a backslapper. I'm probably learning more than I would if I were working in academia," and, he adds, "I'm earning more money."

He became interested in outer space at age five, and early on in his academic career he felt that scientists should be involved with UFO

investigations. "There are too many flakes out there," he says of the current community of UFO researchers.

He bases his claims about the existence of extraterrestrial life on several types of evidence. The most compelling, he feels, is that life on earth is able to survive in so many different environments. "Recently, giant red-headed worms, clams and bacteria were found living in 600 degree fahrenheit water near a volcano on the ocean floor off the coast of Oregon. They survive in an environment of hydrogen sulphide. There are bacteria that can live without air, bacteria that can live in the arctic. It is a reasonable hypothesis induced from available evidence to suppose that life can exist in conditions that we previously thought couldn't support it."

Another argument for the existence of life outside of earth that Ruehl gives is based on the sheer number of stars and planets in the universe. There are about 400 billion trillion sites for life in the universe, he says, and the probability is too great to ignore.

He thinks that intelligent life exists on about one planet in 10. And given that there are trillions of planets in the universe, there must sooner or later be contact with one of them.

He doesn't have any fantasies about the motivations of visitors to earth. "Some people are treating it like a religion. They believe that the UFO's are going to solve our problems. I don't think they're here to solve our pollution problem or our nuclear problem," he said. "But they could be here for a number of reasons. They could be friendly or hostile." He speculates that they could be coming for any reason from colonizing earth for slaves to simply categorizing the flora and fauna, to simply gathering rocks as fuel for a mass-drive engine.

He says that there have been about 70,000 reported UFO sightings world-wide, but it isn't likely that any government will acknowledge the existence of UFO's. "Governments are jealous of their power," he says. "That's why they clamp down on UFO studies and reports. Suppose there was a documented UFO report, that might undermine nationalistic feelings because people would no longer think of themselves as citizens of a particular country, but as earthlings, as citizens of the world."

"Also, it might cause a panic. Anytime a superior society comes into contact with an inferior society, the inferior society will be changed to a significant extent. Look at what happened when the Conquistadors came to South America."

He believes that despite the risks to their authority, governments are nonetheless likely to be searching for UFOs. "The first nation to capture a UFO and figure out their secrets will become the greatest military power on earth," he says. "UFOs outperform every military aircraft. We have reports of them accelerating from zero to 2,000 miles per hour in seconds, diving and making 90 degree turns at tremendous speeds."

Although he is cautious about making sweeping claims for the existence of UFOs, he says that a scientific attitude is essential. "We have to keep an open mind," he says. "Anything is possible."

EXPRESS, Easton, PA - Feb. 10, 1985 CR: S. Gordon

UFOs no strangers to The Express area

Sightings of UFOs — unidentified flying objects — occur in all parts of the world. The Lehigh Valley and northwestern New Jersey are no exceptions.

The Express' file on the subject is full of clippings on sightings dating back to the 1960s, when the study of UFOs really took off.

The file continues to grow. Sometimes, the sights investigated remain mysteries. Other times, the seemingly inexplicable sights have logical explanations.

Take, for instance, two local sightings last year.

One January night, around 7 p.m., residents of Allentown and northern New Jersey saw a flaming object, bigger than a softball, streak across the sky headed eastward. The object, green with a glowing red tail, also was spotted by air traffic control tower personnel at Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport.

One night in October, shortly before 10 p.m., a large, greenish-white fireball with a long tail was spotted by many people as it moved northwestward through Lehigh County.

The objects were identified as bolides, or, brilliantly shooting meteors.

Other local incidents were not so easily explained.

Over the decades, a number of UFO sightings were reported around The Express area, many of them in the Monroe County/Pocono Mountains region. Many were reported in 1973, a hallmark year for sightings across the nation.

In March of that year, at Saylor's Lake in Saylorsburg, the state police confirmed about a dozen re-

ports of four objects with blue-and-white flashing lights traveling west to east overhead, about 1,500 feet above the ground. One man described the sight as "a flying Christmas tree."

Other sightings were reported that month. Orange-colored objects were seen flying around the Nazareth/Moorestown area. Objects flying in a V formation were spotted over Belfast. Police in Easton, Wilson, Palmer Township and Phillipsburg reported that residents had called them with stories about three vehicles with whitish blinking lights flying in a triangular pattern. Twenty-five people called the Blue Mountain Control Center about objects with colored lights hovering in the sky in Bushkill Township.

In July 1979, some people in Easton, Bethlehem and Palmer and Forks townships saw a glowing, humming, upside-down, cone-shaped object heading westward through the sky. The object was 80-100 feet off the ground and was "as big as a house," according to one of the witnesses. In October of that year, a glowing, disk-shaped object was spotted in the sky near Northampton County Area Community College.

In September 1981, two disk-like objects shone brightly in the sky above homes in Easton's West Ward. A woman who examined them with binoculars said the objects orbited a center disk, which lit up "like a Christmas tree."

In August 1982, another possible bolide was seen in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Local spectators said sparks kept dropping off the tail of the large ball.

ROSANNE RAMUNNI



DR. FRANKLIN RUEHL

'I examine new scientific developments that non-scientists would ignore. I look at them in terms of how they would help explain the existence of extraterrestrial life.'

The Sightings

We can go up there,
why can't they come down here?

The planet Venus, which is now 26 million miles from the earth... has been taken by credulous correspondents in various parts of Kansas for a fully equipped airship cruising about among the clouds within a mile of the earth's surface. These correspondents, with more imagination than astronomy, have telegraphed stories to various Kansas City and St. Louis newspapers describing the monster... Some of the correspondents say that it is supposed that this harmless planet, which is the nearest neighbor of earth, is an airship of the British War Department, spying through the country for fortifications. Friday night members of one family in Kansas City, Kan., declared that they saw the strange craft of the air with the blazing beacon light. The story was passed from mouth to mouth and last evening hundreds of people of the city viewed the planet with awe, and the question on every lip was: "Have you seen the airship?"

Many of the people actually believed that it was an airship. It disappeared from view about 9:30 o'clock.

—from *The Kansas City Star*
March 28, 1897

A source of eternal frustration in my life is that I never have seen an unidentified flying object.

My father-in-law, a sober-minded designer of oil field equipment, once saw a group of them from an airplane—three little white objects that hovered at a lower altitude and then shot out of sight. One of my cousins, a serious girl brought up in a no-nonsense Protestant ranching family, was chased down a dirt road by a shining disc as she returned from organ practice at the Methodist church. A Kansas City acquaintance, who operates his own business and has never been accused of having spontaneous hallucinations, once observed a multi-colored globe hovering high above his parents' house.

So why not me? I grew up on a farm in Texas, where the eternally flat horizons and huge skies are perfect for celestial observations, and even though UFOs love to visit farms and scare the livestock, we never had a single extraterrestrial visitor when I was growing up.

Our farm was near a Navy base where jet pilots were trained, and even though UFOs like to hang out near airports and military bases and give traffic controllers a hard time, the most aerial excitement I remember came from periodic visits by the Blue Angels and the occasional luckless pilot trainee who crashed his jet in an open field.

You might think a childhood appetite for the science fiction of H.G. Wells and the fantasy novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs would have qualified me for at least a perfunctory visit by friendly aliens—a symbolic nod of appreciation from fellow creatures of the universe.

By Robert C. Trussell

But no.

Now I find myself in Missouri, smack dab in the heart, it turns out, of UFO country. Missouri and Kansas have long histories of UFO sightings. Just ask Ted Phillips.

Ted Phillips runs a photography studio in Reeds Spring, Mo., and has spent much of his free time as a researcher for the Center for UFO Studies. Ted has scanned more newspaper microfilm in this state than have some historians. He has compiled reported sightings from as long ago as 1857.

His catalog of 1,619 Missouri sightings includes the case of a Bates County duck hunter who saw an airborne circular object in 1875; that of two young women who saw and heard an airborne, oval, humming, metallic object east of Warsaw, Mo., in 1902; and 30 reported "airship" sightings in 1896-97 (a very good year for UFOs, incidentally).

A wave of airship sightings swept the country in 1896-97, well before Kittyhawk, and many of the reports came from this region. One of the most notable came from Leroy,

Kan., where a rancher and retired member of the Kansas House named Alexander Hamilton claimed that an airship operated by six "jabbering" and strange-looking occupants descended into his cow lot, abducted a calf and left the animal's head, legs and hide in a field to be discovered the next day. (Sadly, *The Encyclopedia of UFOs* has declared the incident a hoax.)

The "modern" age of UFO sightings began in World War II, when some pilots reported seeing tiny balls of light called "foo fighters" flying singly and in groups. Since the late '40s there have been periodic national waves of sightings, the most recent in 1973—the year of numerous reported sightings in southeast Missouri and the year law enforcement agencies in Missouri, Kansas and other Midwestern states began reporting a rash of unexplained cattle mutilations.

Phillips says Missouri has had more UFO sightings that have left physical traces than any state in the union and he estimated Kansas would hold an honorable position somewhere among the Top Ten.

Assuming I might never see a UFO, I decided to do the next best thing. Talk to those who had.

There's a million, million planets up there and there's gotta be one like earth somewhere," said Ronald Johnson. "We can go up there, why can't they come down here?"

Johnson, 29, has done a lot of thinking about this since that night in 1971 when he walked out to the sheep pen behind his parents' house at Delphos, Kan., to feed the lambs. From behind a shed he heard a noise he described as a rumble or the high-pitched whine of tires on the highway.

He saw an airborne object emanating a "white light like a sun." Johnson's white sheep dog was with him, and he said they both seemed immobilized by the object.

"It looked just like a toadstool, so bright it could blind you," Johnson recalled. "It hovered there and then took off."

The object left behind a ring of dehydrated soil that reportedly glowed after the object's departure and caused Johnson's mother's hand to go numb when she touched it. UFO researchers, including Ted Phillips, visited the farm. Air Force officers did too. Philip Klass, a career UFO debunker, went to Delphos and discounted photographs that allegedly captured the ring's glow because the glow looked like light from a flash bulb. A reporter from the *National Enquirer* came out and, according to Johnson, his parents were paid \$5,000 by the grocery store tabloid because of the allegedly persuasive nature of the sighting. (The *Enquirer* once maintained a reward fund for supposedly convincing UFO reports.)

In the following years Johnson said he was plagued by nightmares and was given nerve medication. Curiosity seekers flocked to the farm and made nuisances of themselves. The object returned two more times, he said, once burning out the electrical wiring in the farm house. Not long after the first sighting, the young lambs gave virgin births, he said.

Phillips determined that the dehydrated soil was inexplicably moisture-resistant, but Johnson has stranger stories about the ring—if you carried a transistor radio inside the circle, it would stop playing; for a few years after the incident, nothing grew inside the circle except hard toadstools.

Like other UFO observers, Johnson has had to put up with his share of ridicule and criticism, but he is convinced of what he saw: Extraterrestrial intelligence.

"The ones that refuse to believe it... are scared," he said. "They're just scared... Before that happened I never did believe in saucers. That changed my mind so fast it wasn't even funny."

In 1978 six members of the Sturgill family near Jenkins, Mo., were witnesses to an unexplained daylight farm sighting that left enough convincing evidence for Phillips to place it in his High Strangeness File.

Family members first observed a white object about 200 feet from the house early one morning. After breakfast, farmer Marlett Sturgill, thinking the object was some sort of debris, prepared to take the tractor out to haul it away. Suddenly the object—which appeared to be a disc without wings or visible engines—rose from the ground, rapidly ascended at a steep angle and joined a larger cylindrical object with a black stripe down its side that seemed to hover in the sky. Just as suddenly, the objects disappeared from view. Today, Sturgill declines to speculate on the origins of what he and his family saw.

"I never gave it no thought, but it makes you wonder how it could go up without any sound," he said. "I don't know what it was, but it was something."

The object had left a circular dehydrated area and three smaller circular areas where the soil was compressed and dry. When the grass grew back it was a darker color than the surrounding grass. As usual, the curious sought out the farm.

"They were here by the hundreds," Sturgill said. "They just dogged us to death."

Through the years UFO phenomena have produced a steady source of headlines for grocery store tabloids, "contactees" who have discovered there was money to be made by publishing books and giving lectures about their alleged meetings with friendly aliens, several government investigations that have failed to provide a convincing explanation for UFO sightings and a host of theories—everything from a conspiracy theory that says UFOs are actually government vehicles emanating from secret underground installations to one that contends that UFOs are demonic in nature.

"It gets totally ridiculous when you study the whole phenomenon," said Harley Rutledge, a physics professor at Southeast Missouri State University who became a believer in UFO phenomena when he did research on the outbreak of sightings in southeast Missouri in 1973.

"The skeptics, I don't really care what they think," Rutledge said. "I know what I experienced."

But what he saw encourages skepticism among the most open-minded UFO researchers. He claims to have made 149 personal sightings—including many from his yard in Cape Girardeau.

"The UFOlogists didn't believe you were supposed to have more than one or two in a lifetime," he said. "That has to sound like a ridiculous claim, but I won't back down from it. But then again, I haven't seen anything for years and I don't know if I ever will again."

Rutledge's observations were made at night and in daylight and included discs, unexplained lights, a bullet-shaped craft that changed colors and the lights of what appeared to be a huge craft passing over the airport in Farmington, Mo.

Rutledge no longer does UFO research, but his belief in extraordinary airborne objects is firm. He compares any attempted study of UFO phenomena to quackery: "You go deeper and deeper, you know these things, but nothing ever comes of it."

Phillips puts it another way: "It's kind of like the murder mystery that has no ending... I don't want to sound too skeptical, because I believe something real is going on. I just don't know what. I am as put off by the skeptics as the true believers."

I guess all this leaves me somewhere between the skeptics and the believers. Some students of UFOs have devoted lifetimes to their study but the unanswered questions merely grow in number. As Lucius Farish, who publishes the *UFO Newsclipping Service* in Plumerville, Ark., said: "I've been studying them for 28 years and the more I learn the less I know."

Now, as I periodically scan the Midwestern skies and ponder the conviction with which people have told me of their brushes with the paranormal, I think of something Ronald Johnson said in describing the lingering effects of his own experience: "Sometimes I catch myself looking up in the air."

Robert C. Trussell is a music writer and movie reviewer for *The Star*.

UFOs are reported in Russia

REGARDING your story "Russians Report UFO" in your January 31, 1985 issue, there's more to it than meets the eye. On May 30, 1984, the Russians reopened their UFO investigations (closed in 1967), with former cosmonaut Pavel Popovich appointed to head the commission.

A Russian study of its UFO problem entitled "Observations of Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena in the USSR: A Statistical Analysis" (NASA Technical Memorandum No. 75665) was published in 1980 and is available from the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) for \$5 by writing to CUFOS, P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, Illinois 60204.

Russian UFOs are most often reported by multiple eyewitnesses from the scientific community with 25 percent reported by scientists (7.5 percent astronomers), 17.5 percent engineers and 11 percent pilots.

For the most part UFOs reported in the USSR are similar to those reported throughout the USA. Some examples:

August 31, 1961... several cars were stalled on a highway 30 miles

from Moscow when a UFO hovered on top of an underpass for a few minutes. The cars could not start again until the UFO left the area.

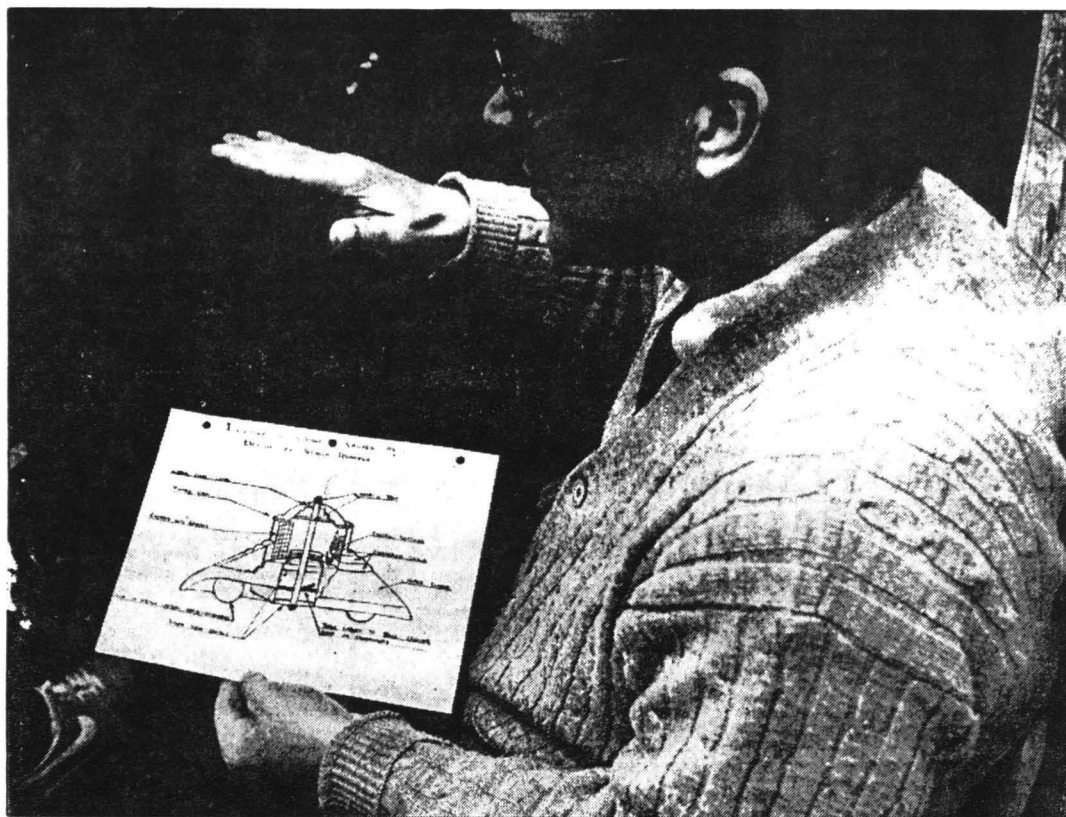
September 19, 1967... at Volgograd a UFO hovered and maneuvered around an Airliner Flight 404, witnessed by frightened crewmen and passengers.

January, 1976... a UFO landed at Volongonsk, leaving behind a 30-meter in diameter ring on the ground, which also indicated that the UFO weighed at least 30 tons.

March 27, 1983... air traffic controllers at the Gorki Airport reported a steel-grey "cigar-shaped UFO" about the size of an airliner, but without wings or a tailfin. It flew at 3,000 feet at the speed of up to 125 miles per hour and was visible on Soviet radar for 40 minutes.

In 1983 the Chinese started their initial UFO investigations, while in 1985 the American UFO investigations have gone underground with more secrecy than ever, so that increased Russian UFO interest was expected.

George D. Fawcett
Lincolnton



Bob Collins with an "eyewitness" vision of a spaceship interior. (Dennis Bradbury photo)

overflow my residence (in Bridgeport), the idea that it had been constructed by our current technology was one I abandoned altogether."

Advocate: When was the "Westchester Wing" first seen?

Collins: It was first reported in the papers March 24, 1983. The previous night there were several hundred people near and around Yorktown, NY who saw this thing cruising low over the town, making no sound. It included police officers, professional engineers, pilots—they were very good witnesses, and their descriptions of what they'd seen were very similar. Several guys told their kids and wives to go down in the basement, locked the doors, and got guns out, because they were afraid. George Lesnick said the people were so spooked that it was almost like *War of the Worlds*.

After that first report from Yorktown, it started hitting this area as often as twice a week. A lot of people saw it. In Westchester it was centered in the Mahopac area; in Fairfield County it was the Sandy Hook part of Newtown.

There was one woman in Sandy Hook who told me she saw something very big, with lights on it, in the open field across from her. She didn't know what it was but it was making her dog very upset (a common characteristic of UFOs). She called the police, but the dispatcher thought she was a loony and hung up on her. Finally, she went outside and started flipping her porch lights on and off. She says this thing suddenly spun, went upwards, with sparks coming off of it.

We went out there later and found there was a large underground cable in the field. The speculation was that it was somehow getting power from it—UFOs are often seen around both elevated and underground power lines. This was one of the earliest sightings. One of the latest was in Goshen—the lady claims that it hovered over her car and changed shape as she watched it—from a horseshoe-shape to a V-shape. Whatever it is, it displays variable lighting, it's huge, and it's not something we're doing.

Has it ever been seen to land?

Only in that Sandy Hook case. Most of the time it's said to cruise slowly at an altitude of less than 1,000 feet. It's also been known to make abrupt maneuvers—sideways, up, down.

My first response was that it must be some new kind of military aircraft. Maybe somebody was cruising around in a hang glider or something and trying to get a reaction from the public. But then the reports began to get too bizarre—the thing made right-angle turns too quickly. And then I saw it myself, by sheer accident. About 10:30 at night on August 21 of '83. It was breathtaking, maybe 800 to 900 feet across. I was one of about 50 people that saw it that night. I was so knocked out that I didn't even think of grabbing a camera. Once I saw it I knew it wasn't anything I could explain. For one thing it moved sideways, and back again, and then down the street. It was moving so slowly that if it had been an air foil it wouldn't have been able to hold itself up—less than five miles an hour.

There were five or six people in my area who saw it. That night it was first seen over East Haven, then New Haven, then police reports started coming in from Orange and West Haven. Then in Bridgeport near the shore and by the Sikorsky plant in Stratford. It was seen over St. Vincent's Hospital and

(continued on page 10)

Close Encounters

The hills are alive with UFO sightings. And the stories show remarkable agreement on the details.

By Jim Motavalli

R. Perry Collins is a genial fellow in his late 30s who looks pretty much like you'd expect an aerospace engineer and sometime high school physics teacher to look: thinning hair, wire-rimmed glasses, cardigan sweater. He is the very picture of the Man of Reason.

Collins is still smiling, however, when he tells you that he had a Close Encounter with a UFO when he was 15, and that he saw another one last year over St. Vincent's Hospital in Bridgeport. Collins is not surprised by these encounters, since he firmly believes we are regularly visited by creatures from another world. He's talked about it on Channel 8, and he's taught a college course on the subject.

With two other investigators, high school science teacher Phillip Imbrogno and Fairfield Police Lieutenant George Lesnick, Collins is devoting considerable amounts of his time pursuing a tantalizing will o' the wisp: the so-called "Westchester Wing."

Since the spring of 1983, the investigators say, Fairfield and Westchester counties have been host to one of the largest waves of UFO

"I was one of about 50 people who saw it that night. I was so knocked out that I didn't even think of grabbing a camera. Once I saw it, I knew it wasn't anything I could explain."

sightings in history. An estimated 30,000 people claim to have seen an extremely large, clearly structured, triangular craft, lit by a series of colored lights, in the night sky. It is most often described as a huge V-shaped flying wing.

Collins says his work has shown "clear evidence of an aerial craft approximately three times as large as the largest-known aircraft, displaying characteristics beyond our current level of technology." He also says he's found "indications of a well-planned and executed cover-up and covert investigation by federal agencies using FBI operatives and other federal agency personnel."

It might be easy to dismiss Collins' assertions as paranoid rambling were it not for the frequency and unanimity of reports on the object, which has been spotted in a wide arc from Pennsylvania to Maine, but is most frequently sighted in Westchester and Fairfield counties.

The "official" explanation for the flying wing is that it is a group of light aircraft flying in formation from Stormville Airport in New York State. The idea is dismissed by Collins and many other witnesses. "After August 21, 1983, when the object circled and

Brian T., electrical engineer, 28 years old. Sighting August 21, '83, 11 p.m., near Whitney Farms Country Club in Monroe.)

I walked out my garage door towards the mailbox. I looked back over my shoulder and due south directly over my house was a display of lights. I didn't recognize them as any normal aircraft markings. No motion was observed. I called to my wife to come out. I looked back up and saw only two lights which then went out. My wife did not come out in time to see any display of lights.

Betty F., graduate student, 33 years old. Sighting September 23, '83, 11:05 p.m., Sandy Hook, near Exit 10, I-84.

I was driving west on I-84...when I noticed three lights in front of me on the highway. At first I thought they were three separate aircraft doing maneuvers, but as I got closer the lights appeared closer. There were two blue lights and one red. The blue light appeared to move, the red one was stationary. There was no noticeable sound. Suddenly, both blue lights disappeared completely. I noticed many

cars on the highway weaving, apparently also watching the object. About 10-20 seconds after, the red light also disappeared. It seemed to me as if the object had just dematerialized before me. I...continued on to the Grand Union, shaken, and called the Newtown Police. They told me that there had been two sightings of cylindrical objects in the past two weeks. They also said that whatever it was the FAA was tracking it.

Laura Lee M., high school student, 16 years old. Sighting September 23, '83, 11

p.m., downtown Sandy Hook.

Heading up Route 34 Robin told us to look at the sky and me and Marci looked up and didn't see anything so we started laughing and teasing Robin. On Walnut Tree Hill Road Robin said, "Look, there it is!" We all looked up and saw this massive structure in the sky that was going slowly.

We stopped the car and me and I think Marci suggested that we get out. Mrs. [redacted] told us to stay in the car. There were four lights and they started going out one by one. All of us were kind of scared and "freaked out." They dropped me and Marci off at the

house and for a longtime we were joking and singing the theme to *Twilight Zone*. I told my mom the next morning and she thought I was just exaggerating (sic) and she gave me a "sure, whatever you say" look so I didn't bring up the subject until the investigator called. If you tell people you saw a UFO they usually think you're crazy so we didn't really talk about it.

Tandy A., middle school student, 11 years old. Sighting September 23, '83, between 11:15 and 11:30 p.m., near Sandy Hook, exits 8 and 10 on I-84.

I was thinking about falling asleep (in the car). Then I saw a bright light above a mountain and I thought it was a radar tower. Then as we drove along it was going along the same way we were. It was very big or at least bigger than a large plane. We got off at exit 10 and stopped to look at it. It was a triangular shape and had one red light and two blue lights. As we were watching it the blue light shifted to the other side of the red light, then the lights faded away. I know they didn't go behind a cloud because it was a totally clear night.

"I Saw It Too"

Eyewitness accounts of "Westchester Wing" sightings

then, six or seven minutes later, over Monroe. All of the reports are consistent; if you put them together you get a recognizable flight plan.

What do you think of the explanation that what's being seen is a group of planes flying in formation?

The group of pilots were first mentioned about a month after the first sightings. It became a very good explanation for a number of agencies—local police agencies, the New York State Police started saying that it was the pilots. They didn't have any other answer and people were calling them—200 calls a night. It turns out that a number of sightings did correspond to the planes. They were flying at high altitude so you couldn't hear them, they had a V-shape because they were flying in formation. So that does explain some incidents.

But when investigators tried to interview the pilots they became very evasive. Seeing people waiting for them at the airport they would detour to other airports. When the pilots saw police cruisers waiting they'd detour too. The pilots were never found.

One of the characteristics of UFOs is that the government continually tries to explain them away. Planes flying in V-formation are a lot easier to accept than some huge object hovering over our homes.

There seems to be a common thread among UFO investigators that there is some kind of government campaign to suppress the research. Why would the government want to do that?

If these things are real they possess a technology way, way ahead of ours. If we were in a position to know what that technology was, we'd have to declare the end of the Cold War. I can show you evidence as far back as 1947 showing that the FBI was deeply involved in UFO investigation. I can give you evidence that I've been followed and set up for spurious interviews by FBI agents. They're not threatening, they just want to know what's going on. The primary thrust is that their technology is way ahead of ours. UFOs have been known to go over a missile base and scramble the computers, preventing them from getting jet fighters in the air. If you have a technology that can do that then you can circumvent World War III. I think that UFOs are putting on a number of demonstrations to say, "OK, we can prevent you from starting a war."

It calls to mind the plot of The Day the Earth Stood Still.

It's a common theme; it's almost mythological. A lot of people laugh at this idea of "saviors from the heavens." But if you examine what's really going on, you might say that they're not going to let us destroy ourselves because they've got a vested interest in us. It may in fact be that they have plans for us—whatever "they" are. My personal experience is that whatever they are is not inimical.

You had a close encounter when you were 15. Tell us about that.

I was living in northern California on a ranch around Napa. I looked outside one night and I saw a strange light, like a searchlight going over from an area behind a ridge. I didn't tell my parents. I waited until everyone was asleep and snuck out to where the light was coming from. I walked up to an object that looked very much like this (artist's conception of a space ship). I don't want to go on record as saying any more than that, but it definitely got me interested in UFOs. Incidentally, 20 or 30 other people saw the UFO that night. Later I had a series of experiences that led me to believe that what happened to me was not unique.

I can't tell you what this thing everyone's been seeing is any more than can anyone else. As far as I'm concerned it's part of a worldwide pattern of sightings. For some reason, the sightings in the last couple of years have accelerated. This particular wave in Fairfield and Westchester counties is the biggest wave in UFO history. There is an estimated 30,000 people who've seen this thing, and they've given reams of testimony to what they've seen. I guess whether you believe or not depends on what kind of evidence you accept.



Collins describes his own "Wing" sighting. (Dennis Bradbury photo)

HERALD EXAMINER, Los Angeles, CA - Feb. 9, 1985 CR: W. Greenawald

The night I saw the flying saucer

By Anna Goins

We heard a lot about flying saucers in the '60s, although I was frankly skeptical, never having seen one. In my mind flying saucers were linked with reports of little green men who landed on lonely roads in a blinding light and induced passersby to go for a spin.

Then I saw something that made me reconsider.

We were living in Cuenca at the time, a city in Southern Ecuador where my husband was making one of his studies of the Quechua Indians in the Andes. Cuenca is near the equator, but it is high enough (8,500 feet) to have an invigorating, spring-like climate, with brilliant sunny days. When the sudden rainstorms swept down from the rugged mountains that enclosed the Cuenca Valley, the air felt as cold as ice.

Instead of renting an ordinary apartment, we lived in five student rooms strung out on top of the highest building in the city, an apartment house with a roof on a level with the blue-tile domes of the cathedral, only two blocks away. It was an ideal location for an anthropologist.

The apartment house faced the Plaza de San Francisco, where Indians for miles around came for the twice-weekly market and the frequent religious festivals celebrated in front of the old colonial church on the corner. My husband could sit out on the balcony on the street side, and have a bird's eye view of all the activity going on below.

There was some danger living on top of a five-story building with only a rickety railing around the central air well that looked down to the green-tiled patio far below. Our two sons (ages 7 and 13) liked to lean over the bannister to see the activity down there, possibly a game of soccer they could join, and I was terrified they might take the short way down.

Aside from watching after the two boys, my days were spent tracking down enough to eat in the market, lugging the baskets up the 119 steps, which I counted each time I ascended them. I prepared three meals a day on a two-burner kerosene stove that had a leisurely, *mañana* view of its duties. It took hours, for instance, to boil all our drinking water.

There were other small inconveniences, such as carrying the buckets of water from the outside taps, and dumping the dirty dishwater in the outside lavatory, because there was no inside sink. In a way, I lived as much outside as inside those small rooms, which I did not consider a hardship. It was so beautiful to see the mountains.

And when the day's work was done, the boys put to bed, my husband at his desk, transcribing his notes, I would stand for a while out on the roof to reflect on my day and look up at the stars. There was such depth to the dark, the stars were so near. I felt restored and at peace with the world.

On such a night I saw the flying saucer. Only it was not a saucer, but a glowing globe. It seemed to be lit from within, with filmy red gasses revolving around it. They were not rings, but more like chiffon scarves.

The globe came toward me in a downward arc, as if it had come over the mountains for a closer look at the city.

SATURDAY STORY

although Cuenca, like most Andean cities at night, was shuttered and dark, with few lights showing.

I stood transfixed as the globe suddenly changed its course, making a square turn, which I knew was impossible, and with a burst of speed, zipped off to the north. It was actually to the northwest as my husband determined when I ran to tell him what I had seen.

My husband had a scientific turn of mind and he went over my extraordinary experience a number of times, looking for a rational explanation. Was it a "fire balloon?"

Fire balloons, or "*bombas*" as they were called in Cuenca, were always being launched at fiesta time from the old church on the Plaza de San Francisco, between volleys of exploding rockets, which were also set off for funerals, birthdays and weddings. The *bombas* were ignited by a priest touching a match to a kerosene rag in a can hung beneath the tissue-paper balloons.

Some balloons had fanciful shapes, like stars or pigs, but my favorites were the simple globes that were breathtakingly beautiful as they took off, unsteadily rising up the face of the apartment house, to sail away, like glowing miniature planets, into the Andean night.

It was not a fire balloon. I insisted, pointing out among other pertinent facts, that my globe had come from the south, out of the mountains, against the prevailing wind, and where no fire balloons were ever launched.

"Why didn't you come call me as soon as you saw it?" he asked.

"There wasn't time, it happened so fast." He wanted to believe me, I could see that, but he also wondered if I had been

overtired that night. I stuck to my story. I had seen a very large, glowing globe. It had turned a square corner. I had no idea why it was not shaped like a saucer.

A week later my husband showed me a small item in the Cuenca paper. It was a wire-service report of a reddish-colored globe with whirling gasses around it that had passed over South Texas. It had also been sighted twice in New Mexico where it disappeared at a fast clip going north by east. The date given was the same night I had watched my glowing globe disappear in the same general direction.

"Looks like you did see something," he admitted, "but what?" Neither of us were prepared to guess. There was no mention of anyone else seeing the glowing globe in the southern hemisphere. As far as I knew I had the sighting all to myself.

Several years later, when we had returned home to California, I happened to read the account of an international scientific expedition, a joint cooperation of French and Spanish scientists who went to South America 250 years ago, to establish the exact location of the equator. They spent 20 years on the project, a good part of that time working out of Cuenca, making triangulations. They also took sightings in the coastal desert of Peru, 100 miles to the south.

It was there, in the desert, that Ulloa, the Spanish scientist in the expedition, saw the same phenomenon that I had seen. A glowing red globe in the sky with revolving gasses, that seemed to pass quite close overhead. Although I pointed out this historic precedent to my husband, he did not find it as significant as I did, and preferred not to think about it at all.

Aside from the fascinating possibility of interstellar travel, via a glowing globe, I couldn't help wondering if the Spanish scientist and I, separated by hundreds of years, were the only beings to observe it in those southern skies. Or had an occasional Indian, coming home from a fiesta, or gazing at the stars outside his house in the middle of the night, seen it, too, then crossed himself and never mentioned the wondrous sight?

I must confess that, through the years, I retain a certain skepticism about little green men in flying saucers. But who knows? Some day I might see them, too, if I ever go back to Ecuador ■

Anna Goins is a free-lance writer living in Riverside.



FOREIGN NEWS

HUNTS POST, Huntingdon, England - Jan. 17, 1985 CR: T. Good

I was there

HERALD, Bordon, England - Dec. 14, 1984 CR: T. Good

I HAVE decided to record on tape the true facts and sequence of events that occurred on my farm in the parish of Alresford near Winchester on Thursday 19th July 1984 because I was there and saw everything with my own eyes. I am making a recording as I am more at home driving a tractor than pushing a pen. I shall seal this tape and give it into the hands of my solicitor with instructions that it is to be heard only by members of my immediate family and in no circumstances to be released to the media.

My immediate concern is for the future of my farm and my newborn son who I hope will farm this land as the fifth generation. Stephen Appleshaw. Where once over twenty people were employed here I have only three men working for me now. A cowman, Harry Green, a shepherd, Jim Carter, and the tractor driver and general handyman, Tom Wallace. It was he who knocked on my farm office door at about nine a.m. on the morning of the 19th. I was struggling with my VAT returns and was rather annoyed at being disturbed, but was struck with the look on Tom's face. He is not a local man but a native of Ayrshire and could be described as usually laconic and dour, a typical Scot. He asked me rather excitedly if I would come at once up to High Down field and look at some very queer marks right in the centre of our one hundred acre barley field. He had been up there early, he told me, checking up the fences as the deer had been rather troublesome in that area and as he had driven up over the hill he had noticed a huge circular burnt patch. He had walked over to it and had thought it so odd that he had come straight to me. We got straight into the tractor and drove up there. It was exactly as he had described it and the only track leading to it was Tom's. It was a black circle of about thirty feet in diameter in which the earth had been scorched thoroughly. Four smaller circles of about twelve feet at regular intervals sunk deeper into the soil. There seemed to be a regular pattern stamped into the scorched circle with lines running round in a kind of maze and the barley stood up straight all round. This ruled out a helicopter landing which would have blown down the barley and flattened it in a wide area. I walked through to the centre and as I stood there feeling totally bewildered a peculiar stinging sensation ran up my spine, sweat poured down my face and I stepped out of it pretty smartish I can tell you. As I listened to Tom's Scottish voice starting to talk about ships from outer space, I suddenly made up my mind that this must go no further. If Tom of all people was thinking along those lines, what would other folk make of it. In no time at all I'd have Bruce Parker and his television crews stamping all over the farm flat-

tening the crops, to say nothing of the UFO Society and I even had a sudden picture of myself giving lectures to local WIs! So I make a joke of it to Tom and said he'd be seeing little green men yet and added in a firm voice that it must have been caused by flash lightning in the storm last night. Tom looked a bit shame faced as he went back to work.

Later that evening I took my wife Sally up there to have a look around and do a bit of dowsing. Sally is a reliable natural dowser and has found many a useful spring with her pendulum. However there was no precedent for the way it behaved over the circle. It immediately swung around at high speed burning her hand so that she dropped it. This upset her and as her baby was due soon we left it at that and went home to bed.

It was a week later that Jim Carter, the shepherd, came to see me. He is a man of few words. "Dipped the sheep yesterday," he said, his hand on the head of his dog. "Terrible lot of scab this year. Had a look at them s'morning, someone's been along and branded 'em. Marked like I never see'd afore, sort of round, with lines like a maze."

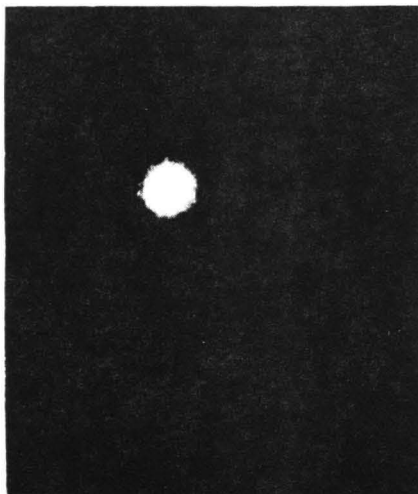
My heart sank. I had said nothing to anyone about the maze mark I found on the rabbit I'd shot last week, or the neat identical marks on the flanks of the litter of kittens born to the barn cat, or the one on the leg of the calf born last night.

I've even done my homework. I knew I'd seen that maze mark somewhere, it definitely rang a bell. I searched through my books. Eventually in a Readers Digest book on pre-history I found it! There it was, the mark of the labyrinth of Crete on a Greek coin identical with the maze scatched on a rock face in Rocky Valley near Tintagel, the connection unexplained, found in two vastly different parts of the world. Of course I knew the maze on St. Catherine's Hill and had walked it frequently since I was a boy. That was a different pattern.

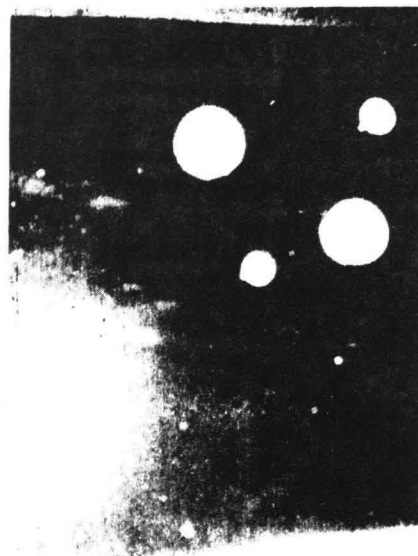
Last week I watched my dear little son Stephen being born, an experience no father should miss and one I shall never forget. I watched the nurse wash him clean with my heart in my mouth and I must record here that I have not slept properly since she showed me what she called a birth mark, the raised maze mark on his right buttock.

I don't know what all this means but I'm fearful for the future. I'm just a farmer who wants no scandal nor notoriety to touch myself or my family. The harvest was a record one and the mark vanished when I burnt the field. It becomes clearer every day on the beasts and the child. What will be the outcome only time will tell. Tape finished this day 2nd of September 1984 by Stephen Appleshaw aged thirty three of Minos Farm, Alresford.

DID YOU SEE THESE UFOs?



The last of the UFOs spotted by Mr Trevor Singleton.



Some of the strange flying objects captured on film by Mr Trevor Singleton.

Trevor says he photographed 'strange flying objects'

Strange flying objects have been sighted by Huntingdon youth Trevor Singleton.

Trevor (16) says he was sitting watching darts on television, when he heard strange noises outside the window of his house at 31 Trent Street. Said Trevor: 'I was sitting in my front-room just after midnight on January 3, when I heard a loud sort of hissing. Then I opened the curtains, looked straight out and saw these objects. So I dashed for my camera, saw one, and then a few more came over.'

Trevor described them as a mixture between a creamy and a

very light green colour and about ten in number. They were moving from west to south. 'First there was one and then two clusters and one orange one following the rest. The quickest took about five seconds and the slowest about 12 to move across. They were either very far away, or very big and close to the ground.'

Trevor who attends St Peter's School and does work experience at the House of Glass, stressed that he was not a UFO spotter. 'I wouldn't really like to say what they were,' he said.

He was interested to find out whether anyone had made similar sightings on the same night.

JAPAN TIMES, Tokyo, Japan - Feb. 20, 1985 CR: Y. Matsumura



This UFO photograph was taken in April 1970 by a Miyagi Prefecture high school student. The boy said he saw the object, about four meters in diameter, flying slowly a hundred meters above the ground and a few hundred meters away from him. It vanished behind a hill 20 seconds after the boy snapped this photo from his front yard, he said.

CHRONICLE, Wangaratta, Victoria, Australia - Feb. 11, 1985 CR: P. Norman

UFO group starts investigation

The Victorian UFO Research Society is looking into last Thursday's mysterious lights above Wangaratta and brief power black-out.

Society member, Mr Paul Norman, came to the North East yesterday to open the inquiry.

Mr Norman spoke to several eye witnesses yesterday and will continue his investigations in the Beechworth area today and tomorrow.

He will return to Wangaratta on Wednesday in the hope of speaking to more witnesses.

Mr Norman has been investigating UFO sightings for the

past 32 years. In 1976 he took up full-time research with the Victorian branch -- the biggest UFO investigation body in the Southern Hemisphere.

"We received a call from a Wangaratta person last Friday and the report sounded strong enough to look into," Mr Norman said.

He said a 3-4 second blackout or "electro magnetic defect was the main thing in the UFO report."

Prior to the power failure at about 11.15 pm, witnesses saw a blue light in the sky, which then began flashing.

"The witnesses said the light was on a 45 degree angle from the ground," Mr Norman said.

The light was also seen in the Beechworth area.

Mr Norman said a ratio of only one person in 10 report UFO sightings because they fear ridicule.

"I know of about six people who saw this who came forward to report their brief sighting. All names are confidential," he added.

Anyone who would like to supply information to Mr Norman should ring him on 215755 either today or tomorrow.

He said 80-85 per cent of sightings boil down to mistaken identity, but the other sightings remain as "unknown".



UFO Investigator, Paul Martin

BURNHAM & HIGHBRIDGE GAZETTE, England Jan. 8, 1985

UFO seen

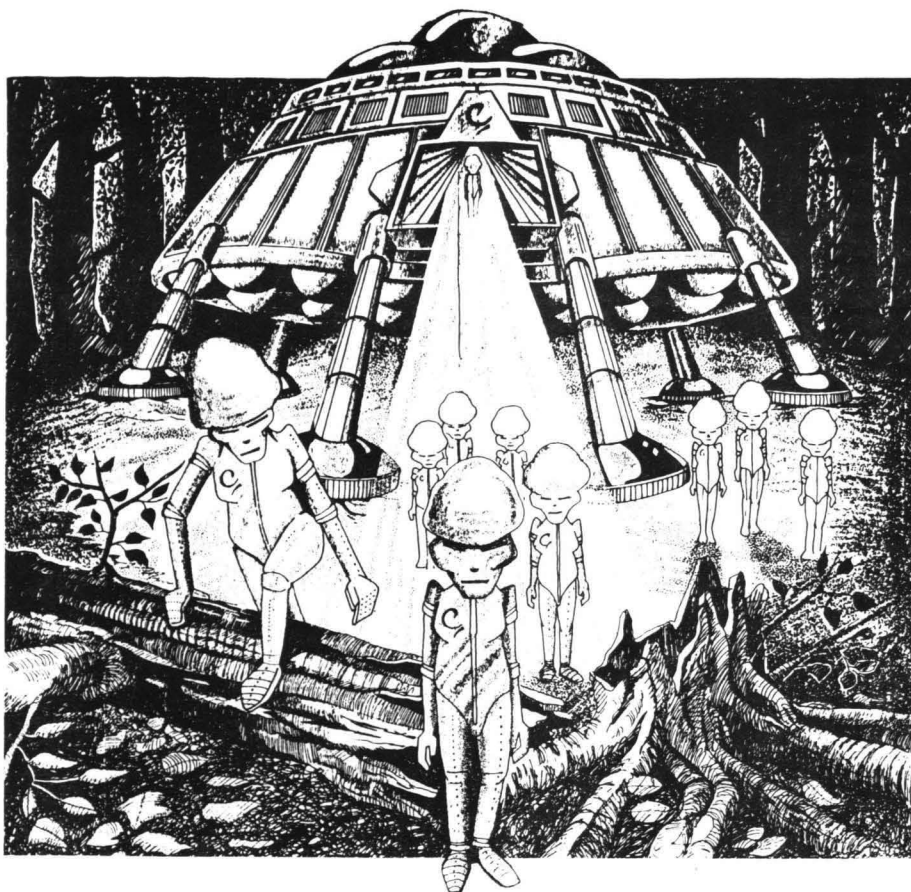
WHAT is thought to have been an unidentified flying object has been seen off Burnham's coast.

While in a patrol car on the Esplanade at 7.57 am on Sunday, PC Frank Neill noticed a strange red and orange crescent-shaped light over South Wales.

It then assumed the shape of a mushroom.

CR: T. Good

'There's a red light ahead. It's definitely coming this way. Weird. It looks like an eye winking at you.' Then the speaker seemed to lose control and ordered the men to base.



A dramatic tape recording points to an alien landing and a UFO group wants an inquiry.

Report by Shirley Davenport
Drawing by Mike Pochodzaj

They HAVE landed

SAY UFOLOGISTS, CLAIMING A BIG COVER-UP

THERE was an eerie silence in the chill night air as a group of American servicemen raked a Suffolk forest with their torchlight.

They were hunting for clues — traces of a UFO crash-landing reported by a security patrol three nights before, in which tress and lights at the end of the air force runway had been damaged.

They recorded radiation levels, strange indentations in the soil and damaged trees.

Moments later a senior officer in charge of the men ordered them to "douse lights" as a strange object appeared to be moving towards them in the night sky.

What happened next on that night in December 1980 is on a dramatic tape-recording which a group of British ufologists claim was made by the colonel in charge of the search.

The quiet description of the wooded scene in which men were heard taking readings was suddenly in-

terrupted by the stunned voice of an American officer indicating a small red light in the sky.

"Douse flashlights," he called.

"See if you can get the starscope on it."

"There's no doubt about it. There's a strange red light ahead."

"Weird. It's coming this way. It's definitely coming this way."

"This is weird. It's just moved off to the right. Strange! Whew! It looks like an eye winking at you."

Seconds later, the same office reports into his tape-recorder: "We have got two strange objects, half-moon shaped, becoming full circle, with coloured lights on them — five to 10 miles out, maybe less."

"Now we have an object 10 degrees directly south."

He paused, and a hint of panic entered his voice.

"They are moving — moving up fast."

"Here he comes from the south. He's coming towards us now. There appears to be a beam coming down to the ground. It's unreal."

The next moment, the speaker almost seemed to lose control as he ordered the terrified men back to base.

The British ufologists who say they received the tape-recording recently

are demanding a public inquiry into the Rendlesham Forest UFO sightings.

They claim that suppression of the tape and previous denial of its existence was part of a massive cover-up by the Americans and the British defence ministry.

But they are keeping secret the identity of the supplier of the tape-recording, allegedly a copy of the original, said to have been made by someone at the American base.

Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, says: "Our objective is not to convince anyone that a spaceship landed there, even though there are eye-witnesses who swear that they saw aliens in silver suits communicating with an officer at this same spot three nights before the tape-recording incident."

"What we are concerned about is that whatever landed there eluded the radar network which is supposed to be our front line of defence."

Jenny, who has written about the Suffolk incident with two other ufologists, Dot Street and Brenda Butler, *Sky Crash, A Cosmic Conspiracy*, pub. Neville Spearman, £7.50, said: "We are not just trying to sell another book. We believe the British

public has a right to know what is going on. It may or may not have been a UFO which crashed in that forest the first time. But whatever it was had radiation connected with it, which makes it potentially dangerous."

"I don't know whether it was alien, Russian or one of ours. And we don't have enough information to judge."

She claims that there is enough sworn testimony from eye-witnesses to warrant an open investigation and accuses the British and American authorities of a "conspiracy" to hide the truth.

Jenny claims that the UFO researchers also have the support of Ralph Noyes, who for four years was head of the section within the Defence Ministry responsible for collating UFO data.

Civilian eye-witnesses, she says, have been warned off and in one case, paid off. Military witnesses were debriefed and then sent back to the United States.

One, who has since left the air force, is still too afraid to give his real name but talks of being taken to an underground room at his air base and seeing a UFO similar to the one which had crash-landed in the forest.

Jenny Randles says this

same airman had been able to give descriptions of the silver-suited aliens he saw in the forest, trying to repair their damaged craft.

They were just over three feet tall, had large heads with slits for eyes, nose and mouth, and eyes like inverted cat's eyes. And, he claimed, they communicated through some kind of sign language with one of the commanding officers.

Jenny claims that the Defence Ministry flatly denied any UFO reports from that area at the outset of her inquiries. Two years later, she said, they admitted that there had been "unusual lights" reported. Eventually, through the American Freedom of Information act, the release was secured of an official report to the Defence Ministry from the US colonel in charge of base operations.

In it, he mentions both events when UFO's were spotted, describing the object as triangular, metallic and capable of extraordinary manoeuvres.

Jenny says: "The people of Britain have a right to be treated with respect. Too much secrecy could be catastrophic. The government have not told the truth and still refuse to do so."

BANSTEAD HERALD, Surrey, England - Feb. 8, 1985 CR: T. Good

Bright sky light mystery

AN EPSOM couple think they saw an unidentified flying object last Wednesday morning.

The huge object beamed brilliantly in the distance and was "brighter than anything we've ever seen", they said.

Mrs Molly Crafter, 72, drew the curtains at 6.40 am and saw the "UFO", which

appeared to be miles away from her Asley Court flat, in Asley Road.

She called her husband, Bill, 74, who got out of bed and was just as amazed at the sight.

"We were both dumbfounded," said Mrs Crafter.

"The sky was beautifully clear, and I saw this brilliant light in the distance to the east, Croydon way."

"It was stationary for about 30 seconds then it suddenly started up and veered to the left at a fast rate. As it was going, the light got dim-

mer and dimmer."

"I know I wasn't mistaken and there wasn't any clouds."

Ewell Astronomical Society's secretary, Mike Goldwater said judging from the direction, it was probably an aeroplane "coming in straight on".

EVENING SENTINEL, Stoke-on-Trent, England
Feb. 4, 1985 CR: T. Good

Wolstanton boy sparks U.F.O alert

Police at Newcastle are investigating reports of a U.F.O. sighting at the weekend.

Teenager Nicholas Gregory was with three friends on Wolstanton Marsh yesterday afternoon when he saw a bright light travelling towards Keele.

Nicholas was alerted by three friends who had first spotted the light about 10 minutes before.

"I've been interested in UFOs for about five years so they phoned me up and

told me to come and have a look," said 13-year-old Nicholas of Marsh-avenue, Wolstanton.

The light was also seen by Mr. Mervyn Edwards, who was playing football at Wolstanton.

Both sightings happened between 3.30 and 4.30 p.m. yesterday. Police at Cheadle also received reports of another sighting of a bright light over Tean-road, on Saturday night between 8 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

A 'Green Cloud' Adds to Soviet U.F.O. Lore

By SETH MYDANS

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Jan. 30 — Witnesses say it first appeared as a yellow light, then as a white ray. Then, it became a green cloud that turned into something resembling a plane.

It was the latest example of a phenomenon that has caught Russians' imagination — sightings of unidentified flying objects.

The witnesses were the passengers and crew of Aeroflot 8352 on a night flight from Rostov to Tallinn and ground controllers who had seen unexplained blips on a radar screen. And their audience was a member of the

Academy of Sciences, who solemnly declared that the sighting must have been of "what we call a U.F.O."

The report, carried today in the labor union newspaper Trud, was one of a number that have appeared over the years in a nation fascinated by unexplained phenomena such as Abominable Snowmen, the Bermuda Triangle, Loch Ness monsters and the search for the lost city of Atlantis.

In 1967, the Soviet Air Force set up a commission to investigate U.F.O.'s, though its findings have not been made public. And Trud carried an appeal from a Commission on Anomalies asking for more reports of sightings.

The newspaper account emphasized

the sobriety of the crew, giving the names, educational backgrounds and flight experience of its four members.

The second pilot, Gennadi Lazurin was quoted as having said during the flight, "Of course, they are going to say we are not normal."

But it seemed from Trud's account that, on the contrary, they were being taken quite seriously.

According to the account, the adventure began at 4:10 A.M. on a clear night some 75 miles Minsk when crew members saw a bright yellow light that shot a thin white ray toward the ground.

They watched, transfixed, as the ray turned into concentric cones of light, and then dissipated into a green cloud

that crossed their flight path and began to take on the shape of a plane.

Passengers asked anxiously what was going on.

"Tell them it is some sort of cloud," the captain, Igor Cherkashin, is said to have told the flight attendant. "Say the yellow thing is a reflection of city lights, the green thing of polar lights."

But ground controllers in Riga and Vilnius confirmed the presence of a cloudlike plane next to the Aeroflot airliner.

After landing in Tallinn, the crew learned that ground controllers had seen not one but two blips following the Tu-134 across the radar screen.

Nikolai N. Zheltukhin, a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, ruled out weather as an explanation and said a genuine U.F.O. was involved.

He said his Commission on Anomalies had made a study of U.F.O.'s, and he called the sighting a valuable documentation of the transformation of an unidentified flying object.

Not all newspaper accounts have taken U.F.O.'s seriously. A television documentary in 1981 derided them, along with underwater monsters, snowmen and the rest.

In 1976, an underground document attributed to a professor at Moscow's Aviation Institute referred to 300 U.F.O. sightings over the years. The report was not confirmed, but its author did not publicly refute it.

Some of the purported sightings have become classics. These include a 1976 U.F.O. said to have hovered for 36 hours over Nalchik; a flying saucer that purportedly appeared above a railroad crossing near Moscow in 1961, stalling engines for 45 minutes, and an object that, like the one reported today, trailed an airliner from Vorkuta all the way to Omsk.

The document drew a sarcastic rebuttal in the youth newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda, deriding U.F.O.'s "and humanoid everywhere, in trolleybuses and in palaces of culture," as Russians call their community centers.

Komsomolskaya Pravda even managed to blame the Americans. It said the Pentagon was using the U.F.O. scare to justify more military spending, calling flying saucers the "secret weapon of the Bolsheviks."

UFO hunter seeks clue to new film

HERALD, Luton, England - Feb. 1, 1985

CR: T. Good

A TOP UFO hunter is looking to Luton for a vital link with amazing filmed evidence of a sighting.

The clip could be the most important film yet of unidentified flying objects, says the expert.

But the only clue to the sender of the movie was a Luton postmark on the plain brown envelope.

Inside was a 15-second sequence showing a bright object racing across the sky.

Careful analysis — including enlarging the image 3,500 times — has convinced experts the

By MIKE GLACKEN

shots have not been faked.

But the biggest puzzle of all is who is the Unidentified Film Operator? Why did they send it anonymously, and are they still in Luton?

The clip of Super 8 amateur film, shot somewhere on the south coast, shows an orange egg-shaped object speeding horizontally at low altitude and then streaking upwards at a steep angle.

What has excited the experts most is the quality of the filming, far better than the usual amateur record of a Close Encounter of the Blurred Kind.

"I am anxious to trace the person who posted this film in Luton," says writer and lecturer Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the

British UFO Research Association.

The film package was posted early last year to her Warrington home, but no name or address of the sender was included.

"If this witness turns up with direct testimony, this could easily prove to be the most significant movie film ever taken about unexplained objects."

"I have been investigating for the last 12 years and I have seen most of the films taken world-wide. This is easily the most interesting to come to light."

Jenny's appeal for the identity of the film maker was brought to the Herald office by Luton UFO researcher Bill Dillon, a 38-year-old artist, of Hollybush Road.

AGE, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - Feb. 1, 1985 CR: P. Norman



Cliff Donohue, MBE, in the graveyard near Boulia

Picture: ROB LEESON

Boulia sees lights on its dull horizon

By LINDSAY MURDOCH

The people of Boulia indulge in strong drink on occasions as the climate is extremely hot, but they are down-to-earth folk, not ones to tell tall stories and certainly not to hallucinate.

So it was surprising to hear them talk of visits from outer space, the existence of birds with luminous wings, and ghosts.

Something strange happens in the Boulia district of western Queensland every now and again. A light appears suddenly at night: a luminous, fluorescent football that hovers in the air, often bouncing and rolling, but never getting close.

You cannot chase it, as it stays the same distance away. This is the mystery of the Min Min light.

Mr Cliff Donohue, MBE, is a sober and greatly respected citizen of Boulia, the owner of the local store who was chairman of the Boulia Shire Council for a record 19 years. They have named a highway after him.

Mr Donohue, 58, has seen the Min Min light three times. "The only conclusion I can reach is that it is something from outer space. It is the only thing I can put it down to," he says.

The last reported sighting of the light was several years ago. So it was with considerable interest and in some cases relief that news was received two weeks ago in Boulia of the sighting of an unidentified flying light by two train drivers crossing the Nullarbor Desert.

Even more than attracting the tourist dollar, the citizens want the light to keep appearing so that the mystery can be solved. The light has terrified witnesses but caused only harm to the foolhardy.



Stockmen have tried to chase it across the plains, only to crash their horses through fences. The legend of the Aborigines is that the light is the ghost of an old man. Min Min to them means Devil Devil.

The light has appeared many times in the harsh interior of Australia, but mostly in a 100-kilometre area around Boulia. The most reported location is the site of the old Min Min Hotel, a former slab-built shanty about 120 kilometres from Boulia, on the road to Winton.

One of the first confirmed sightings was by a stockman who rode past the hotel graveyard about 10 o'clock one night 60 years ago.

He told police that he saw a strange glow in the middle of the little cemetery. It enlarged to the size of a small watermelon, hovered in the air and followed him almost to Boulia, where it is recorded he arrived in a condition of funk and incoherence.

Mrs Audrey Stevens, who runs the Boulia cafe, says her sighting while camping at Slasher's Creek, not far from the old graveyard, convinced her that it was a ghost. "It is the only thing it can be," she says.

There have been thorough investigations of the mystery, most notably by Queensland police. Detective Sergeant Lyall Booth of the police stock investigation says that on 2 May 1981 he saw in a paddock 60 kilometres east of Boulia what appeared to be a car headlight.

It appeared to be moving but did not get any closer. It was below treetop height, and its intensity appeared to fluctuate.

One of the most plausible explanations, according to the residents, is that the light is caused by gas from cracks in the ground.

Mr Donohue bluntly dismisses this theory. "There is no gas in this country. I've lived here all my life. My father has lived here all his life. My father has always said it was a bird with luminous wings," Mr Donohue said.

We left Boulia, scratching our heads, driving toward Winton. It was midnight. We saw a light. I'm sure it was hovering, bouncing. Amazing. It was just like a car's headlight. How could it be anything but the Min Min?

'My UFO shock' — shaken driver

CORNISH GUARDIAN, England - Feb. 14, 1985 CR: T. Good

A SHAKEN 28-year-old woman was yesterday puzzling over the UFO-type object which she says petrified her as she drove to work.

The woman did not want to be named, and said: "People will only think I am a nutcase, but I am not."

It was at about 5.45pm one day last week that the woman, who lives in the Colan area, joined the Quintrell Downs St. Columb Road road at Mount Joy.

"Suddenly I saw a bright yellow light, about 10ft long, oval in shape, by my offside hedge," she said. "Although brilliant, it did not radiate light, other than a mellow glow on a cottage wall. It was so powerful that it obscured my vision up the road."

"It hovered close to the hedge, then seemed to shrink, went pitch black and moved from side to side across the road."

"It shrank to the size of a large football, changed to bright luminous green with a red glow in the centre, and finally went almost purplish before vanishing."

"Quite suddenly the light appeared again on my right, further down the road, and followed the same pattern of changing colour and size before disappearing."

"This happened six or seven times over a stretch of half a mile. I was doing about 20mph, and I was getting mesmerised. All the time it was getting weaker and slower."

By the time I reached White Cross and saw it on the opposite side of the junction I was in such a panic that I turned off my route into the minor road just to get away from it."

The woman, who is married, reported the incident to police, who checked the area and found nothing. They suggested it might have been a weather balloon. "But I know it was not that," she said.

"I know, too, that it was not a white fireball as I have seen one before. It exploded in my kitchen, and I had two other people with me to confirm what had happened."

The woman was certain that the phenomenon was not the result of reflections from her wind screen.

After work, the woman was too frightened to drive back along the road alone. She waited for her husband, and also for another car to be travelling in the same direction.

"I was absolutely petrified," she said. "I had not drunk any alcohol before I left for work, and I did not take hallucinatory drugs."

UFOs dismissed as no threat

assessment and control section of the NRC, the president of the privy council and the criminal investigation branch of the RCMP.

Michalak, who later wrote a 40-page booklet describing his experience, claimed to have come in contact with a UFO.

He showed officials burns on his body and pointed out the area where he came into contact with the UFO.

Two large cigar-shaped burns on the site were analyzed and found to contain radioactive material.

A five-page report concerning the contaminated site concluded "the radiation levels measured were not high enough to create a radiation hazard to the general public."

mental to the primary operational responsibilities and duties of the section," states the unsigned assessment of Robertson's work.

"Correspondingly, field units have also indicated that the administrative work load increase associated with UFOs is causing some concern and disruption to their normal duties."

In other words, the defence department felt it was spending more time on UFOs than on its regularly assigned duties.

One "disruption" may have been referring to a sighting reported by Stefan Michalak on May 20, 1967, at Falcon Beach, Manitoba, near the Ontario border.

Documents concerning this case were filed by several government departments including the safety

ing the period of Robertson's research.

Undated and unsigned documents attached to Robertson's brief concluded that the DND should no longer continue the investigations of UFOs because:

"The primary interest of UFOs lies in the field of science and, to a lesser degree, to one that is associated with national security."

The recommendation to get the air force out of UFO research blamed high administrative costs during the previous year and over-zealousness on the part of the search team.

The marked increase in the air section administrative work load which is directed towards actioning UFO reports is reaching a stage which is considered detri-

city of investigating UFOs and they work with the University of Toronto in cooperation with DND, in my opinion we are on the right track."

The note was written nine days after Robertson completed a lengthy brief on UFOs in the hope that the NRC would undertake the responsibility to continue his investigations.

The file contained several reports which he had hoped would convince the NRC that extraterrestrial activity actually occurred in Canada.

W. W. Turner, of the defence staff, sent and received information and copies of reports of sightings to other research groups including the University of Toronto and the University of Colorado dur-

that any of these objects are of extraterrestrial origins," said Dr. A.G. McNamara, head of planetary sciences at the NRC's Herzberg Laboratory.

"When this (UFO) phenomenon was at its peak, many investigations took place and they all came up with no conclusive evidence."

But the Canadian investigation file, which is now open to the public at the archives, documents the struggle of a determined few who were involved in continuing investigations into Canadian UFO incidents.

In a note dated Nov. 24, 1967, Wing Commander D.F. Robertson shows hope and optimism in turning over his baby, the UFO file, to its new custodian.

"If NRC accepts the responsibility

By MARGARET BRUINEMAN
Southam News

OTTAWA — The Canadian air force had information about unidentified flying objects that was not followed up by the National Research Council, according to confidential files now released to the public archives.

Although news of UFO sightings have simmered since the hot days of interest in the 1950s and 1960s, the Canadian government decided there was no threat to national security.

In 1968, the department of national defence passed the UFO file to the planetary science section of the National Research Council where all interest ceased concerning UFO sightings.

"No scientific evidence indicates

UFO info filed away

INFORMATION about UFOs seen in Oxfordshire is being sent to the Ministry of Defence.

But they will not reveal the results of any of their inquiries, say local UFO expert Derek Mansell. "It's almost impossible to get any information out of them, so we will only know after 30 years," he said. "And that's too late."

Mr Mansell, of Crown Lane, Wheatley, sends the strongest examples from his UFO Data Research Centre to the MoD. And UFOs reported to the Thames Valley Police end up there as well, via the air traffic controllers at RAF West Drayton.

An MoD spokesman said they were only interested in any defence implications a sighting might have. After that, they are filed away.

"We are only interested in the defence of the realm," he said.

EVENING POST, Yorkshire, England
Jan. 8, 1985 CR: T. Good

Those mysterious lights

JOHN Wellington has dismissed my report into the unusual events over Leeds and surrounding districts on July 23, 1984, without having even read it.

The Yorkshire UFO Society, and those who know how well we research cases such as this particular one, is not interested in making political capital out of its findings.

However, factual evidence is presented in the report, and based on that evidence, we are the only group of people who have given a detailed explanation

into mysterious lights, that, if military, and if where our 38 witnesses say they saw them, were breaking every Civil Aviation rule in the book.

That there should be total silence from civilian and military air authorities in our region speaks for itself. However, residents who live close to Leeds and Bradford Airport, and who have seen certain

military flights there, may be interested to learn that according to our Ministry of Defence, not a single military aircraft / helicopter uses the tarmac.

Finally, it was the military helicopter establishment at Topcliffe that gave us the information about their lights being capable of melting tarmac, and had Mr Wellington asked to read my report, that fact would have emerged, along with dozens more.

G. W. BIRDSALL
(President) Yorkshire UFO Society, Miles Hill Street, Leeds.

TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Komis Republic, USSR
Date of incident: Summer, 1976
Name of paper and date of clip: LE DEPECHE DU MIDI,
January 29, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Toulouse, France

STRANGE STONE IN RUSSIA

A stone discovered during the summer of 1976, on the bank of a river in the Komis Republic in the Ural Mountains, has Soviet scientists puzzled, as they have not yet been able to determine its origin.

The daily paper "Socialist Industry" published a photo of the stone in its Sunday edition, but didn't indicate its weight. It has been examined in several different scientific institutes, and it is definitely not a meteorite.

According to Professor V. Fomenko, a member of the Commission on Abnormal Phenomena, it is artificially constructed, composed of elements not found together on our planet, and is not more than a hundred thousand years old. The professor does not exclude the possibility that it might have been constructed within our solar system or even on Earth by extra-terrestrials.

According to Professor Fomenko, its stratified structure shows that it was formed under pressures of many dozens of thousands of atmospheres, pressures far beyond the capacity of our present-day technology.

The stone is 67.2% cerium, 10.9% lanthane, and 8.78% neodyme. The rest is iron and magnesium. Its radioactivity level is 140 times more than that of terrestrial rocks.

City and country of incident: Saint-Sylvestre, France
Date of incident: January 24, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: LA DEPECHE DU MIDI,
January 29, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Toulouse, France

DAYTIME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT: AT LOT-ET-GARONNE ALSO!

Agien - The celestial phenomenon which we described in our Sunday edition, which occurred in the Lot region, was also witnessed in the Lot-et-Garonne region.

An employee of the Dept. of Agriculture, Miss Annie Rey, about 8:45 P.M. on Thursday evening, saw as she was leaving her home at Saint-Sylvestre to go to the movies: "A clarity illuminated the night. Looking upward, I saw a steel-blue ball surrounded by a fiery halo, moving slowly and silently just above the roof-tops. It traveled in a sort of curve, and seemed to land behind a near-by garage."

Nobody believed Miss Rey until a similar apparition, resembling it in every detail, was reported from the Lot region in yesterday's edition of this paper.

City and country of incident: Esnazu, France
Date of incident: February 2, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: L'ECLAIR DE NANTES,
February 4, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Nantes, France

UFO: WIDE-EYED

Two police officers and three customs officers on patrol watched a UFO for nearly an hour Saturday evening near the Franco-Spanish frontier at Esnazu.

According to the officers, this UFO was round with blinking red and green lights. It remained stationary in the sky for about half an hour at an altitude which could not be estimated accurately.

STAR, Oxford, England
Jan. 4, 1985 CR: T. Good

HELLOSKI! IS THAT A SPACE ALIEN CALLING?

MOCOW: A Soviet astronomer believes that a glowing nebula over 1,000 light years away is a giant artificial beacon sent by a distant civilization as a signal to our world.

Doctor Boris Fesenko, writing in the weekly *Moscow News*, said the position of Nebula NGC 6543, a gaseous cloud of planetary matter with a hot star at the centre, was too closely matched to the earth's position to be natural.

Fesenko, attached to the astronomy department of the Gorky Pedagogical Institute, said that because planetary nebulas had a lifespan of only a few thousand years it could be concluded that NGC 6543 had been deliberately set to appear in its present position at a time when man was entering the technological age.

"It means that the signal was conceived at least 3,000-odd years ago. It was conceived by those who had studied the earth and foreseen our development," he added.

He said he was convinced the nebula was intended as a sign for earth from a superior civilisation that there was life in other galaxies.

Fesenko said it could also be taken to mean that such a civilisation was benevolent towards the earth and carefully watching its development.

Rancher finds mutilated calf

At first glance, John Eustance didn't think much of the body of a 450-pound steer calf he found in some brush the day after Thanksgiving.

That is, until he turned it over.

Then he found that different parts of the calf's body had been removed and he could find no signs of blood on the ground nearby. The cause of death has not been determined, although Eustance skinned the animal

and said he could find no signs of bullet wounds.

Eustance, 79, owns the White House Feedlot on the Sun River 10 miles west of Great Falls. He said similar incidents took place about 10 years ago when two of his bulls were mutilated.

This time, Eustance said an ear had been cut off the skull with a neat round hole, both upper and lower lips

were removed, the rectum was cut off with a round hole, and the calf's male organs were removed. He said the cuts were clean and appeared to have been made by a sharp knife.

Eustance said there was no blood around the animal and that he could not figure out how it had been killed. He theorized that it may have been tranquilized.

The Cascade County Sheriff's office is investigating the incident. Sheriff Glenn Osborne said there is no reason to suspect the calf's death was anything other than normal.

He said there were quite a number of similar incidents about 10 years ago when some cattle were killed and mutilated. Osborne said the department never determined what caused those deaths.

But this time, Osborne said there was a possibility that the calf died a natural death and some predators may have chewed the soft parts off the body.

He said there is no cause for alarm — yet. "If we start getting a series of them again, we'll react to them and try to determine what the heck's doing them," he said.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London, England - Nov. 22, 1984 CR: T. Good

Sculptures on Mars

SIR—The picture of the "alien face" in the Cydonia region of Mars reminds me of the so-called Martian pyramids I examined in photographs taken by the Mariner 9 spacecraft.

Two photographs obtained in the east central sector of Elysium Quadrangle shows three-sided pyramid-like structures which cast strong triangular shadows. The structures have a base width of approximately three kilometres.

The regular features of these structures are best explained by wind faceting of lava cones and lava flow ridges. One theory is that the "pyramids" are immense solidified lava blocks which broke away and became rooted into the underlying molten lava aeons ago, having tilted to expose corners.

Wind and erosion have fashioned them into the regular structures we now observe.

Likewise, the "face" in Cydonia has all the marks of being sculptured by wind and dust and has no more reality than faces one can sometimes make out in the dying embers of a fire.

KENNETH W. GATLAND
Past-President, British
Interplanetary Soc.,
Ewell, Surrey.

SIR—In the light of the discovery of what appears to be a monument resembling a human face constructed by aliens on the surface of Mars (report, Nov. 19), is not the proposal by American scientists to send a joint East-West space team to the planet the most sensible step towards détente and multilateral disarmament?

It is a fallacy that we live in a so-called civilisation which is content to waste astronomical sums of money on missiles which will lead to the destruction of its own planet, while a galaxy exists at present outside its reach which remains totally unexplored.

The lack of "serious" space projects is all too often blamed on lack of money, but if the East and West were to abandon their ridiculous nuclear arms policies and collaborate on far-reaching space projects, mankind could leap prematurely into the 21st century, thus completing its greatest ever step.

If, as you reported, the monument may have been actually purposely built by aliens, it is very likely that they would have left technological information which would be so far advanced as totally to tip the balance of world power if one side reaches the site on Mars before the other.

G. J. BARROW
Purley, Surrey.

'It was real, and no one can tell me it wasn't'

Images such as Bigfoot almost universal

By JAY RATH

Capital Times Staff Writer

"Just in the outer fringes of the headlights, not quite out of the headlight range, I saw this big hairy thing. It scared the devil out of me. It was probably seven or eight feet tall. It was running across, from south to north, and it jumped a four or five-foot barbed wire fence."

The story of what Dennis Fewless saw near Delavan that late night in July 1964, is one of Wisconsin's few reports of Bigfoot.

Bigfoot, also known by the Indian name Sasquatch, has been described by hundreds of people since the 1800s as a large, heavy ape-like creature that walks on two legs. Definitive proof of the creature's existence has not yet been found.

While most sightings are reported to have occurred in the Northwest, Sasquatch has been reported across the United States, from Arizona to Maine, from Washington to Florida.

Just as often as sightings are made, large tracks are found, earning the legendary creature the nickname, "Bigfoot."

In addition to the report by Fewless, bow hunters in Fremont, near Weyauwega, have said they saw the creature in 1968.

A Delavan native, Fewless said he was driving home around midnight after working at the Admiral Television Corp. in Harvard, Ill. After turning onto Wisconsin 89 from U.S. 14 his headlights picked up an animal running across the road, from field to field, on two legs. It was dark colored and weighed between 400 and 500 pounds.

"I was awful scared that night," said Fewless, 44. "That was no man. It was all hairy from feet to head."

The next day Fewless and his wife returned to the spot, to look for footprints or other evidence. The hot July sun had hardened the ground so that there were no tracks. "But we found where the corn had been pushed back aside," Fewless said.

Robert A. Brightman, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, has studied reports of Bigfoot in the sensational press. He said he doesn't believe the creature exists. But he still is interested in studying why people believe the reports.

"I think it fits into a larger tendency that you can observe in every human society," said Brightman.

"Images like Bigfoot, images between humans and animals, seem to be common to people of all states of society," he said. "If it's not universal, its close to universal."

Stories of near-human creatures are indeed widespread. Ancient Greece had its half-man, half-horse centaur. Besides Sasquatch on the North Pacific

Coast, there is Nepal's Yeti, the Abominable Snowman. China has a wild man and Russia has a snowman. Theorists have seized on the widespread nature of these stories as proof of the creatures' existence.

Brightman likes to keep an eye on publications such as the *National Enquirer*, in which, he said, Bigfoot stories surface every two or three weeks. He divides the published accounts he finds there into three categories:

1. Bigfoot the Monster: In this version, the huge, slaving creature stalks humans and attempts to kill and eat them. Only narrow escapes allow these stories to be told at all. This kind of story, Brightman said, is in the tradition of wild-man and werewolf legends.

2. Bigfoot the House-Pet: This docile, dependent creature is in need of human aid and care. A recent example of this type of story, Brightman said, was headlined "I Delivered Bigfoot's Baby." As the story goes, an Alberta farm girl went into the family barn, where she discovered a female Sasquatch in labor. The girl aided in delivery. In the dawn, the creature expressed its heartfelt gratitude in a touching, hypnotic gaze. The beast looked right into the girl's eyes and left.

3. Bigfoot, Friend of Man: In this third category, injured hunters and lost travelers are befriended by the gentle giants, who aid them. Sometimes the creatures lead the humans to a cave or dwelling where Bigfoot nuclear families are observed, complete with speech or some other method of sending complex messages to each other.

The tale by Fewless, however, doesn't easily fit into any of these categories.

"I'm no nut," said Fewless. "I'd been making that same drive night after night. It wasn't just a one-night affair. I know what to look for. You know what deer look like or skunk or bear — you know what that looks like."

"This didn't look anything like that at all," he added. "As far as I'm concerned, it was real, and no one can tell me it wasn't."

Not all Sasquatch reports are as simple and straightforward. Some of the stories are strange and outlandish.

Brightman said that because the stories are so widespread, it leads one to believe that they may serve some intellectual or emotional function. Some people just may want to believe in a Big Foot.

Brightman says society may feel a need to separate itself from animals, to know how we are different. Creatures that merge the characteristics of man and animal let us define ourselves more clearly. The closer the creature comes, the more specific we can make the rules for being human.



The Associated Press

Wayne Long, a U.S. Forest Service spokesman, displays the plaster cast of the foot of a creature sighted in 1982 near Walla Walla, Wash. Also shown is a sketch of "Bigfoot" drawn by the Forest Service employee who says he sighted the creature.

The strange, bizarre and spooky...

BY CHERYL KENNEDY

Where will you spend this Halloween night? Beside your door, "treating" the neighborhood kids, perhaps before they trick you? Will you read spine-chilling Halloween stories, as the wind moans and howls outside your window? Will you try to relax in an easy chair near the comforting blaze in your fireplace?

If you do build a fire on Halloween night, you will follow a centuries-old tradition. Throughout history, people around the world have built fires to push back the darkness and ward off the evil that lurks in the shadows, just beyond the reach of our five senses.

Do you scoff at the idea that anything more unusual than wolves or rats could creep about in the shadows?

Suspend your disbelief for a few moments, as you read these stories, sworn to be true by the folks who told

them...

Vicky Barnett is a hard-working nurse at a large hospital in Little Rock. She does not believe in psychic phenomena or things that "bump in the night." Nonetheless, to this day, she cannot explain what she saw about four years ago during the wee hours on a deserted highway.

She and two friends had worked the 3 to 11 shift. Since all three nurses had families in a small south Arkansas town, they decided to pool their money and go home for a three-day weekend. Although they would not start home until midnight, they planned to take turns driving to avoid fatigue.

After their shift ended, the three friends hopped into Vicky's rickety car and set off down I-30 toward Pine Bluff. Around 12:30 or 1 a.m., they approached the Woodson Lateral Exit,

where the state Highway and Transportation Department was building an overpass. The car's headlights eerily silhouetted the steel beams and the heavy construction equipment.

As the women drew closer, they saw what looked like children playing, running up and down on the bridge beams and jumping on one of the bulldozers. While they discussed the oddity of the whole situation, Vicky slowed the car even more to be certain what they were seeing.

The children stopped playing to watch the approaching car, the only moving vehicle on the highway. The little ones on top of the bridge peered down and the kids on the heavy machinery scurried down and jumped to the side of the road. As the small images became clearer in the headlights, the trio realized these were not children, but very small, brown people,

whose faces resembled dried apple dolls.

Vicky gunned her car and sped past the tiny creatures.

The nurses didn't know exactly what they'd seen but they didn't really want to speculate, either. No sooner had they rounded a small curve in the freeway than they saw a woman, clad in raggedy gypsy array. She was larger than the "children," but smaller than an average person. Her face also was dark and wizened. One nurse wondered if the woman was "the mother of the things back there."

Then another car approached from behind and Vicky commented, "At least, we're not the only ones to see this."

The mother-like creature, walking along the side of the highway, continued to stare at the nurse's car. Just as they drew even with her, she jumped in front of the vehicle and Vicky slammed on her brakes. The old woman continued to stand in the road, even as the car skidded to a stop in the other lane.

Immediately, the nurses heard the piercing squeal of the approaching car's brakes. Even as they turned to look, it appeared that the second car had run over the old woman. But there was no corpse.

The second car finally slid to a stop. As the smell of burned rubber drifted in the air, a businessman got out of the second car. These four bewildered people stood by the side of the road, hearts thudding, the almost palpable darkness cut only by the two car's headlights. After several speechless minutes, they hysterically asked each other, "Are you all right?", "Yes, are you all right?"

They looked at one another for what seemed like a lifetime, then got in their cars and went their separate ways. Never again did those three nurses drive home in the dark to a long holiday.

There are probably as many explanations for the nurses' story as there are readers. Maybe they were exhausted by the long shift. Perhaps they sipped a little wine. Maybe those really were little children. Or maybe...

Big Foot sightings among reports under scrutiny by cryptozoologists

By Gina K. Roberts
Arizona Daily Wildcat

If you have ever wondered whether Big Foot or the Loch Ness Monster really exist, you are not alone. There are more than 800 people in Tucson wondering the same thing.

Richard Greenwell, secretary of the International Society of Cryptozoology, yesterday discussed cryptozoology's definition and implications.

"No one has really defined cryptozoology, but they know it when they hear it," Greenwell said. "I'm trying to clarify it and define it into more objective terms."

In actuality, cryptozoology is the investigation and evaluation of sightings of supposedly unknown, undescribed, uncollected or extinct animals consistently reported by several eyewitnesses, he said.

For an animal to be in this classification, it should be known to either explorers or natives of that region, Greenwell said.

"Like stories that are carried down from generation to generation," he said.

There are six categories that animals may fall into to qualify. Those categories are:

- a species that is unrecognized in one geographical area, although it is recognized in other areas.

one geographical area, although it is recognized in other areas.

An example of this is the white rhino, which was first reported in Sudan but was never recognized by zoologists until earlier this century, Greenwell said.

- a known species which supposedly became extinct, but is living, such as the white-winged guan bird. The bird supposedly became extinct 100 years ago, but for the last ten years, people have claimed to have seen it, Greenwell said.

- a species described only from limited skeletal or skin evidence, with no actual specimens collected. The pygmy hippo was not actually captured until 1930 but now there are two such hippos in the Reid Park Zoo, Greenwell said.

- a species that resembles animals that have become extinct. The animal looks like a fossil form but obviously has adapted to the changes. An example of this is the Coelacanth fish found in the Indian Ocean in 1938 with very little change in its evolution, Greenwell said.

- discovery of a new species with no knowledge of previous existence such as a second bear species in Nepal.

- an already known species that

includes individual or group cases of extraordinary sizes such as giant snakes, octopuses and sharks, Greenwell said.

The media has a way of creating "mass delusion" when a report is made, he said.

One person may report a valid sighting and 100 more people make the same report believing they have seen it when actually they have not, he said.

"You have to be very careful and critical when you are reviewing evidence," Greenwell said.

Right now the society is concerned with reports of Steller's sea cow in the Bering Sea; large octopuses spanning 50 feet or more; "lake monsters" in Irish, Swedish, Soviet, Canadian and United States lakes and reports of "Big Foot" in the Himalayas, the Soviet Union, China and North America, Greenwell said.

Although some investigations have been conducted for more than 50 years and have not found any conclusive evidence, "in science, you don't have to come to a conclusion," Greenwell said.

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT, Tucson, AZ - Oct. 25, 1984 CR: L. Whitehurst

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Dec. 31, 1984 CR: G. Conway

Cult link probed in mutilations

MARYSVILLE, Ohio (UPI) — The mutilation killings of 24 cats, eight dogs and 78 chickens in Union County may stem from a satanic cult that practices in the area, Sheriff John Overly says.

Overly said Sunday his department's investigation shows that, although some evidence appears to be cult-related, the relationship is only speculation.

He said spite-killings, gruesome "kicks" or the workings of a mentally disturbed individual also have been considered.

"We feel that we do have cults practising in this county, but the whole thing is something new to us," Overly said. "It's something you'd think of being in a city . . ."

Overly said elements of the slayings could be cult-connected: the sacrificing of black animals and chickens; incidents occurring on nights of a full moon; and a potential star-shaped pattern developing when slaying sites are connected by lines.

Overly said he has also discovered symbols engraved in the hearth of an empty house for sale and the attempted unearthing of a Civil War soldier's grave in a remote area of the county several months ago.

Dr. Tad Sullivan, a veterinarian who performed autopsies on several of the dogs, said they could have been killed by other dogs.

HERALD-AMERICAN, Syracuse, NY - Jan. 20, 1985

State to vote on monster

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Like other states, Maryland has a state bird, a state dog, a state fish and a state insect. But how many others have hopes of a state monster?

A joint resolution introduced in the Maryland Senate asks that the General Assembly recognize "the possible existence of an aquatic animal known as the Chesapeake Bay Phenomenon or 'Chessie.'"

Chessie hasn't attained the legendary status of Nessie, Scotland's Loch Ness monster, but there have been infrequent reports in recent years that some sort of sea monster is living in the Chesapeake Bay.

A videotape of the supposed sea creature was made in May 1982, but results of an analysis by Johns Hopkins University scientists using computer enhancement equipment were inconclusive.

The resolution sponsored by Sen. George Della describes Chessie as "about 35 feet long, round as a telephone pole, snakelike or eellike and with 'humps' and an elliptical head."

Della said he doesn't know if Chessie exists, but that "the possibility is certainly there, and that's the basis of the resolution."

The resolution would put the Legislature on record as favoring continued investigation into the possible existence of Chessie and the protection of the monster if there is one.

CR: R. Barrow

Read on, and see if you sleep well tonight

By Jackie Looahals
of The Journal Staff

Uh-oh. It's Halloween time again. When strange things can happen. Ghosts. Monsters. Unexplained lights in the sky.

Lucky you live in good old normal Wisconsin where nothing weird ever pops up. Where you can sleep soundly at night. Where you're nice and safe.

As long as you don't look behind you.

Because Wisconsin has had more than its share of strange goings-on. For almost 200 years, the history of

the state has been peppered with incidents that sound like outbreaks from "The Twilight Zone."

Look back, for instance, on an odd day in Oshkosh. Remember it the next time you pass that town. And watch the skies.

The day was March 19, 1886, a bright and sunny one in Oshkosh. But little did the residents of that city realize what the weather forecast really was for March 19: "Darkness at noon."

It started around mid-day — the strange feel in the air, the restlessness of the animals. Then at 3 p.m. it hit, a sudden blackness that blanketed the city.

Dogs panicked and residents ran for shelter. Driverless carriages careened down the streets behind hysterical horses.

Then, 10 minutes later, it was over. There had been no unusual wind. No freak weather systems. No eclipse. And no explanation...

Fall is the perfect time to take brisk hikes through the Wisconsin countryside to see the wonderful colors and the geese and ducks flying overhead.

But you could get some unexpected company in those woods. The Ridgeway Terror would just love to join you.

For more than 100 years, this fellow has been materializing at the most inappropriate times around the Dodgeville area. Like the day two Pokerville gents were walking down the road carrying a heavy plank on their shoulders.

They were heading into the woods when a white apparition jumped onto the plank between them. The men

turned white themselves and started to run, holding onto the plank with the ghost bumping along for the ride.

The men finally dropped the wood and covered on the ground. When they looked up, the apparition had vanished. But it would return; the Ridgeway Terror reportedly has milked cows dry, hampered railroad construction and even has taken the empty chair in a local poker game.

Maybe Wisconsin always has been a little weird. There is, after all, the problem of "Wisconsin Rockhenge," that 2,500-year-old spot near Wisconsin Rapids that whispers of ancient Egypt.

At least one investigator, James Scherz, an engineer and mapping specialist with UW — Madison, feels that the stone piles at the site were a calendar system used to predict solstices and equinoxes. This in itself is not all that odd; ancient people tended to be into star-gazing.

The difficulty lies with the type of measurements used by the ancient Wisconsinites and the Egyptians. The Egyptians often used measuring units translating to exactly 100 feet. The Wisconsin builders apparently used a measurement of — not 100.1 or 99.9 — but exactly 100 feet. There also are similarities in the two time-calculating systems.



—By Journal Artist
Luis Machare



And then there's the question of what happened to the quarter-million tons of copper dug out of prehistoric Lake Superior mines. At least one archaeologist has suggested that the metal found its way through trade routes to ancient Ireland and on to the Mediterranean.

How did prehistoric Native Americans and ancient Egyptians end up using such similar calendar systems? Coincidence? Or did some ambassador from the Nile once sail down the Wisconsin River in the equivalent of Cleopatra's barge?

Nah. Couldn't be. That would be too unbelievable. And as for those underwater pyramids that divers keep spotting in Rock Lake, well... We won't get into that.

But with this kind of history, maybe it's better to watch your step in Wisconsin. Better to stick to the ordinary, where nothing strange can happen. Something safe — like fishing.

Except that the fisherman angling in Lake Mendota in the autumn of 1917 probably thought he was safe, too. He was fishing from the shore when a huge snakelike head suddenly reared up out of the water less than 100 feet away. The creature had large jaws and fiery eyes. It headed straight for the fisherman.

He froze with fear, but managed to get control of himself before the creature did. He ran off, sure that nobody would ever believe his tale.

Nobody might have believed him if several other people hadn't reported seeing strange things in the lake soon afterwards. And if earlier in the year a university professor hadn't been given a large rough object that a student found on the Mendota shore.

The professor wrote down his identification of the object: "Sea Serpent Scale."

Well, no matter. Just sit down in your parlor and have a nice cup of tea and forget all this strangeness. That's what the Richard Lynch family was doing in the Town of Cady on

Aug. 13, 1873. Of course, that was before the poltergeist struck.

The family was eating together when they heard a loud thump coming from a cabinet. They looked up to see a teacup being hurled to the floor by invisible hands. A moment later another cup dropped to the floor and whirled around. When one of the men tried to grab it, the cup sped from him and zipped under the table.

That was only the beginning. The Lynches were soon ducking self-propelled eggs and potato mashers that flew at them. A quarter of beef disappeared before their eyes. A table, according to witnesses, "started across the room, bounded up to the ceiling and back to the floor hard enough to split one of the leaves."

The Lynches were never able to discover what caused their furnishings' restless behavior.

But that was long ago. Nothing like the angel hair that fell out of the sky on Milwaukee in 1881 could happen these days.

Oh, there was that little incident about the chunk of white-hot metal that plopped itself down in the front yard of a Northwest Side home in 1974. There was a perfectly logical explanation for that. The metal came from a metal-processing plant across the street, everyone said.

There's a perfectly logical explanation for everything. A logical explanation for the unidentified flaming ball that streaked across the night skies in 1977. For the 30-inch crocodile caught in Pewaukee Lake in 1971 and its five-foot cousin found in the Rock River in 1892. For the mystery meteor that once dug a 55-mile hole across the western part of the state from Eau Claire to Winona. For the terrifying howl that for 30 years rang out from a South Side graveyard whenever the moon was full.

Just remember all those logical explanations tonight when you're in your cozy little Wisconsin bed.

And try to keep them in mind — when you turn out the lights.

MERCURY NEWS, San Jose, CA - Feb. 8, 1985

Chinese 'Wild Man' may be rare monkey

Mercury News Wire Services

PEKING — Chinese anthropologists say a legendary Chinese "Wild Man" captured by peasants in the mountains of central Hunan Province could be a rare species of monkey, China Daily newspaper reported today.

Local peasants caught the 3-foot-8-inch tall Wild Man tormenting a 30-year-old woman in Hunan's rugged Chengbu County, officials of the China Wild Man Research Society said.

Like the Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas or Bigfoot, the hairy giant of the Northwest, the Wild Man is legendary in China, with accounts by witnesses spanning the nation's 4,000 years of recorded history.

The capture was first reported Tuesday by the Shenzhen Special Zone Daily newspaper in an article entitled "Mystery of Wild Man to be cracked soon."

The newspaper said it was the first reported capture of such a creature, but anthropologists said the research society claimed it caught a Wild Man in October that was later determined to be a short-tailed monkey.

Shi Muozhuang, director of Peking's Museum of Natural History, told China Daily his research since the late 1970s indicated the Wild Man might be the rare species of monkey.

The Shenzhen newspaper reported Tuesday that peasants in Hunan Province "caught this male Wild Man red-handed, teasing and throwing sand at a 30-year-old girl, Deng Yucui, who was wearing a red jacket,"

Li Guangyu, a council member of the Wild Man society, said that the wild man is 3 feet 8 inches tall, weighs 55 pounds, has hair all over its body and a beard covering a face similar to a man's.

Li added that the creature reeks of garlic.

He said, "The interesting thing about this hairy man is that it can be angered and made happy. The animal seems to have sensitivity like a human being, and likes to tease women who have long hair and wear colorful clothes."

"It can use a ladle to drink water... and can produce sounds like an old man," Li said. "When it's offered some candies, it takes off the paper before eating."

He said the Wild Man, known in Hunan dialect as Hairy Man, "likes to have a lot of attention from people."

Li said his research society, aided by the government, is inviting noted zoologists, anthropologists, biologists and other experts to examine the Wild Man, which he said is currently being kept in a heated apartment in Wuhan, Hubei Province, across the border from Hunan.

A spokesman for the Paleontological Institute in Peking said it was informed of the claim but said, "It's not worth going. We believe it's a monkey, not a wild man."

The official Xinhua news agency said it had obtained a picture of the beast but a photo editor said, "We suspect it's a short-tailed monkey so we're not going to release it unless it's verified as a wild man by scientists."

CR: W. Thompson

NEWS TRIBUNE, Tacoma, WA - Feb. 8, 1985

Okanagan's great Ogopogo hunt on

KELOWNA, B. C. (AP) — The \$50,000 hunt for Ogopogo, Okanagan Lake's answer to the Loch Ness monster, is on.

Three members of the 14-member search team have arrived in Kelowna, in south-central British Columbia, and plan to do preliminary underwater tests this weekend. The hunt in the 80-mile-long lake is scheduled for late July.

Rick Bain, the expedition director, said the team will use a "sonar net" to sweep the lake in search of Ogopogo.

They will use a remote-con-

trolled vehicle developed by the offshore oil industry that is equipped to dive to 1,200 feet and carries both still cameras and video equipment to transmit pictures to the surface.

The group hopes to raise money for the expedition from sponsors. Expedition members also plan to produce a documentary of their search.

Bain, a mechanical engineer from Vancouver, said he thinks the "sea monster," which has been described as a serpent, sturgeon

or monster measuring from 10 to 40 feet long, is "a cold-blooded form of plesiosaurus, a prehistoric water creature thought extinct at the time of the dinosaurs."

Dave Faubert, the underwater coordinator who makes his living as a diver and underwater photographer, said Ogopogo is likely an herbivore, or plant eater, because the lake contains too few fish to feed something that size.

He also is convinced there must be at least 10 of the species in the lake to ensure its reproduction.



Age old ghostly mystery still at work . . .



Mystery and intrigue still surrounds the "Four Stones" at Clent, which paranormal investigator, Nigel Smith, says were erected by the first Lord Lyttleton and was once part of Hagley Hall estate.

The stones, put there in the 1700's, are on the highest point from here to the Ukraine.

Have you ever seen a ghost or a bright light in the sky?

Perhaps while walking the dog on a late winter's night you saw a huntsman on horseback followed by an eerie pack of spectral hounds.

Hallowe'en is over now — or so you think!

If you thought that you were wrong, so says paranormal investigator, Nigel Smith.

For he says Hallowe'en is an ancient Nordic festival called "Sanhain" and continued from October 31 (Hallowe'en) until

bonfire night on November 5.

During the pagan festival, which was one of eight they celebrated, the Norsemen lit fires and held ritual ceremonies.

With the onset of winter and the coming of the "dark period" they believed the evil spirits were let loose to cause chaos resulting in bad weather and storms.

Nigel, of Frankley Avenue, began his interest in paranormal research several years ago and is more than a spiritual force behind a national organisation of people from all walks of life called the Association for the Scientific Study of

Anomalous Phenomena (ASSAP).

He works as a nursing assistant in a local psychiatric hospital and is the first to admit he looks and sounds older than his 21 years.

ASSAP is an advice and investigative group formed two years ago with scientists, doctors, nurses, typists, labourers and possibly even journalists among the many other professions in its ranks.

They quietly and methodically investigate any "earth phenomena" as Nigel calls all unexplained happenings.

These include UFO's, ghosts, telepathy, clairvoyance, historical myth and legend and

any other "event".

His research is "hard graft" he says and involves meticulous reading of historical records, newspapers and library archives.

Amongst scientists experiments into "quantum physics" and many paranormal events usually and with results that are not conclusive.

"It is such a new and difficult area to work in. You can't put it into a bottle and carry it into a laboratory," he explained.

But ultra modern mathematics in the new areas of physics have given paranormal investigators new hope. For the indications are that many "events" can

be explained by the new theories, which are incredible by even our understanding of the universe.

The paranormal does not fit into categories. All manner of "synchronicities" lead to the "event" taking place.

People, place, time, may all be involved in producing "events", and removing somebody and placing them in an artificial environment will make them react abnormally, he says.

All things are related and have their own "conscience" even trees, in fact the whole earth is connected by a special relationship, which our ancestors knew and understood

more deeply than we do now.

The "whole earth" concept or "Gaia" as it is called in a book by Doctor Kit Pedler, states that the unbalance produced by human disregard and destruction of the planet will and is leading to a reaction from the earth itself.

An example of this is a holiday trip Nigel took with psychic friends recently. When the weather turned into a monstrous storm completely against any weather forecast or weather experienced in other areas, the group became concerned.

Only after meditation did they realise that an element in the en-

vironment had become offended by their presence or lack of respect.

The next day they went to the shore of the sea and performed a simple ceremony.

Completely barmy? you might say, but the storms stopped and the weather cleared.

To a farmer, a tribesman or a Buddhist that ceremony is an every-day part of their lives and there is nothing "weirdo" or "nutty" about it.

Nigel thinks many people have experiences or "events".

Occasionally they are too bizarre to ignore and then they pass into folklore or common beliefs.

MORNING NEWS, Dallas, TX - Nov. 5, 1984 CR: T. Adams

SCIENCE

Two explorers hope to chart Congo Basin

By Gayle Golden
Science Writer of The News

It was part zoology and part adventure that lured California engineer Herman Regusters and his wife, Kia, into Africa's heart of darkness.

For years, rumors had spread of a large animal, a serpent-like elephant resembling a dinosaur, which the Congolese natives called *mokele-mbembe*, or "one who stops the flow of rivers."

In 1979, the Regusters heard those stories; in 1981, they pursued them, by trekking the essentially uncharted, dense jungle of the Congo Basin.

When they returned from that grueling six-week stay, they did indeed report seeing a strange animal, one that resembled a brontosaurus, but when they failed to produce any pictures of the beast, the scientific community grew suspicious.

There is, however, no disputing the gutsy adventure that put these two within range of whatever might be out there.

For days they sloshed through dense swamp toward an unexplored lake 50 miles from the nearest village — battling tangled vines, scores of insects and the jungle's psychologically assaulting hisses and wails. For weeks they lived in damp, hot conditions that corroded their equipment, rotted their clothes and depleted their bodies. After nearly two months, Regusters had lost 50 pounds; his wife had lost 25.

In Dallas last week to discuss their work, now promoted under the auspices of their newly formed Unicorn Foundation, the Regusters say they are ready to do it again if they can raise the \$300,000 to fund another trip to Lac Tele in the Congo.

Currently, they are the only group allowed into the area, in an agreement they signed with the Republic of Congo last August.

Although the date is not set, they do know this time will be an easier entry: by aquatic plane, instead of the previous expedition's grueling five-day hike through the swamp, a journey undertaken "only out of sheer ignorance," Regusters said.

Sending them back for more this time, however, is a belief that there is much to be learned from the area, they said.

They and less than 10 others — including David Jordt, a geologist from Dallas — hope to gather information about the uncataloged flora, fauna and terrain of the murky lake, which supports an abundant and complex food chain.

On their first visit, the Regusters identified 15 types of edible fish, along with numerous shrimp, crabs, clams and varieties of tropical fish, according to a monograph on the expedition published by the California Institute of Technology.

The Regusters are, however, cautious about calling their next trip a dinosaur hunt.

"We don't need to prove to ourselves that the animal is out there," Regusters said. "We know what we've seen."



Special to The News

Two members of the Regusters' 1981 party paddle an inflatable raft on Lac Tele in the Congo.



Kia and Herman Regusters

A recording of the animal's melancholy wail, which ends with a peculiar knocking sound, has befuddled researchers from Borg-Warner Corp. and Tübingen University, in



The Dallas Morning News

West Germany, whose computer analyses show the recording does not resemble any known animal sound.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES IN TRIANGLE OF THE DAMNED

A FEW weeks ago, the bodies of three of the four crew members of a missing fishing boat from an Italian port were retrieved from the water and brought back to land.

Their boat, the Carmela Madre, has never been found.

Just before it disappeared the crew complained to another boat over the radio of seeing a great blinding light.

The tragedy which befell the Carmela Madre was just the latest in a long line of strange disappearances of ships and aeroplanes, both large and small, in the sun-kissed area between Sardinia, Sicily and the western coast of Italy.

Its shape corresponds

Ship's crew described a huge, blinding light in the sky—then radio went chillingly dead

roughly to that of a triangle, which is why the area is now being called the Triangle of the Damned by frightened local folk.

Fateful

The first major incident involving the fateful triangle occurred in June 1980. A DC9 plane left Bologna,

in the north of Italy, for an internal flight to Palermo, the capital of Sicily.

The aircraft took off at 8 p.m. for a routine flight scheduled to take 1 hour 45 minutes.

There were 81 people on board. Four of these were crew members, 77 passengers, among them 13 children.

Thirty-seven minutes after

taking off, the plane's pilot radioed Ciampino Airport in Rome, giving his position as being in the region of Ponza Island, some seventy miles west of Naples.

He asked for permission to fly at a lower altitude. But when this was granted he did not reply.

Radio contact was then lost. The control tower never heard from the pilot again.

The DC9 was reported missing and a massive search operation involving warships and military planes and helicopters was launched.

Wreckage of the plane was found scattered in the Tyrrhenian Sea sixty miles north of the holiday island of Ustica.

Later, the bodies of more than forty of the people on board the doomed aircraft were retrieved from the water.

There were no survivors. An unusual aspect was that many bodies were found twenty miles from the wreckage of the plane.

Officials investigating the cause of the disaster put forward the theory that the DC9 exploded in mid-air and the bodies of the passengers were thrown far and wide.

There were traces of blood and bruises on the bodies found, which supports this idea.

Fine spirits

A sudden explosion would also explain why the pilot and his co-pilot did not send out a Mayday message. It seems they didn't suspect anything was wrong until it was too late.

But just why did the DC9 suddenly blow up? That question has remained unanswered.

Since that incident scores of boats have been lost in the triangle. The tragedies culminated early in October this year with the disappearance of the Carmela Madre.

She was a sturdy motor

vessel and the weather was good when she left her moorings.

The crew were in fine spirits during a radio call to another ship as they sailed south through the Tyrrhenian Sea until one of them cried suddenly — "I can't say any more. There's a huge light."

Then the radio went chillingly dead and the Carmela Madre was silent for ever.

Speculation is rife about what it can be about the triangle that is causing all the disasters.

Theories

Some say it might be bursts of freak weather or a great magnetic force in the Earth pulling craft downwards.

Others more fancifully suggest that UFOs or monsters might be involved. Some experienced mariners have reported seeing strange shapes they can't properly make out in the shimmering water.

But most of the theories are based on the fact that the disasters don't seem to have any pattern. Sometimes the missing craft are found intact without a crew. Other times boats simply disappear and the bodies of men who sailed them are recovered from the water.

It would appear that the Carmela Madre will not be the last boat to succumb to whatever lurks within the Triangle of the Damned.

TRIBUNE, Chicago, IL - Nov. 4, 1984

Phenomena

Scientists to search Congo for dinosaur-like creature

Sightings reported as early as 19th Century

By John Sack

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo—A scorpion in his tomato patch. A cobra in his outhouse. A lion in his chicken coop. In 20 years in Africa, the Indiana missionary thought he had seen every hair-raising animal.

But one afternoon, as his 30-foot dugout took him to Bible class in Motaba, he was startled to look through his steel-rimmed spectacles at a big brown something, swimming slowly across the Motaba river.

"Man," he remembers thinking, "the thing is as long as this dugout"—about as long as three elephants.

Though he didn't know it, Joseph Ellis of Sunman, Ind., had seen serendipitously what the Congo's zoologists suspect is a species of living, breathing dinosaur, intrinsically unextinct after 65 million years.

NO SUDDEN sensation, its footprints as big as cymbals had been reported by 19th Century missionaries as well as by England's 19th Century traveler, Trader Horn.

"The size of a good frying pan," related Horn, but not till that afternoon a dozen years ago did Ellis become the first white man on record to see the heart-stopping creature itself. He says he watched it lumbering into the jungle before he went to Motaba and told his Bible class. "Be careful, there is a monster there!"

It was Ellis' second surprise that a monster dinosaur shape was nothing new to the Congolese, who merely shrugged.

No one is jaded these days. The science-minded government of the Congo has just commissioned an international team of geologists, zoologists and paleontologists to slog across the jungle in search of the boa-necked, boa-tailed animals called the *mokele-mbembes* here.

"At present, we only know that they're something big," says Bourges Djoni of the Congo's forest ministry, who once reported watching one of the writhing leviathans himself.

THE CHOSEN explorers, unlike the omnivorous pygmies who in the 1950s reportedly ate two *mokele-mbembes*, intend to shoot the monsters photographically, nothing more. All have been authorized by the Congo to use still and motion-picture cameras as well as big-game rifles for self-defense—extraordinary privileges, for the Congo's government is communist and the expedition's leader is an American, Herman Regusters, an



engineer with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Early next year, Regusters and his six-person group are to go to Lake Tele, an almost inaccessible lake that is 400 miles from Brazzaville and 40 miles from the nearest human huts.

Its level water belies the lake's awful reputation here in the Congo, where superstition insists that it funnels into an all-engulfing whirlpool. A compass won't work at Lake Tele, say the Congolese mistakenly, and cameras can't take a perceptible photograph there. But according to local zoologists and to Regusters, who was there for a month in 1981, the lake is the stomping ground for a pair of immense *mokele-mbembes* that can be seen, sometimes, swimming along its 12-mile shore.

EIGHT YEARS AGO, the Congo sent a one-man expedition to sort superstition from science at that mystical lake. But that explorer, Frenchman Jean Grandin, only contributed to the uncertainty when his 20-horsepower boat was hit by a lightning bolt, just as the legends predicted.

In four days there, Grandin missed the shy *mokele-mbembes*, but other explorers didn't even get to Lake Tele. In the last decade there were at least 20. A Frenchman tried to walk there, almost starving to death; a Belgian with a \$2,000-a-day helicopter found no place to land there; and Roy Mackal of Chicago tried to paddle there on a river, but it led in another direction.

One man who didn't get to the lake carved a balsa dinosaur, which he photographed floating down the Ubangi, selling the spooky-looking film to TV's "That's Incredible."

To the Congolese, all these people are an embarrassment to what should be serious scientific research. "We want no more adventurers here," says Jean-Pierre Ag-

nanoye, the French-educated secretary-general of the Congo's forest ministry and an admirer of Regusters.

IN AUGUST, Agnanoye drew up an 18-clause accord with Regusters' Unicorn Research Foundation. It creates a Congolese-Japanese-American expedition that will be more exhaustive—and less exhausting—than the one-month expedition in 1981.

While arranging that expedition, Regusters learned that the one route to Lake Tele was the ancestral secret of the people of Boha, Congo, who asked him for \$2.5 billion to divulge it. After intense negotiations drove the price to \$100 down, \$100 due, Regusters was guided into an ant-crawling, bee-swarming swamp as high, sometimes, as his shoulder straps, to emerge after five unendurable days at the tsetse-teeming shore of Lake Tele.

There, he had nothing to eat except protein—fish, crocodiles and monkeys—losing as much as 50 pounds while he collected data for a monograph, published the following year by the California Institute of Technology.

But this time Regusters is going in by amphibious plane. His most likely co-director on the two-month safari is a Congolese zoologist, Dr. Rufin Antoine Oke, who has heard what's apparently the *mokele-mbembe*'s horrendous roar and who credits it to no known creature of Africa.

A PALEONTOLOGIST, John Rajca of El Cajo, Calif., may attempt shooting a tiny radio transmitter into the far-ranging animal, and Japanese photographer Shinjiro Kanazawa will try to get the first picture of it.

As in 1981, the expedition's doctor will be Regusters's wife, Dr. Kia VanDusen, and Dallas geologist David Jordt will investigate the enigmatic origin of Lake Tele. "To our knowledge," says Regusters, "the expedition will be the first uniting a communist country and the United States."

By spring, the Congo may know—at last—whether it lies in a time warp of one whole geologic era, as the first of Africa's bring-'em-back-alivers believed.

A lifetime ago, Carl Hagenbeck of Germany wrote: "The natives told that in the great swamps there dwelt a huge monster, half elephant, half dragon." He concluded: "It can only be some kind of dinosaur."

Scripts-Howard News Service

'Wild man' a rare ape

PEKING, Mon., AP — A recently captured ape-like male beast is a rare monkey and not the mythical "wild man" as previously claimed, according to a Chinese newspaper.

Canton's Yangcheng Evening News said 34 peasants and 11 hunting dogs in Hunan province tracked down the creature, which clawed the ear off one of its human captors and was knocked unconscious with a pole.

The newspaper made the claims on Saturday in a special dispatch from the central city of Wuhan, headquarters of the China Wild Man Research Institute, where the beast reportedly has been kept.

Chinese press accounts last week claimed a one-metre, hair-covered specimen of the mythical "wild man" — China's version of the Yeti or abominable snowman — had been captured in Hunan.

But leading anthropologists were sceptical of the find.

A front-page story in the Yangcheng Evening News quoted the Wild Man Institute's deputy secretary, Li Jian, as saying the crea-

ture was captured on October 24 by peasants from Shuitou village in a mountainous region of Hunan, honeycombed with caves.

After a few days the "mao gong" (hairy male) became used to its captors and started eating fruit and nuts, the report said.

The peasants sold the beast to some local traders.

"According to an appraisal by experts, this 'hairy male' belongs to the rhesus monkey category, with a short tail," the report said.

"It is a rare animal." At 24 kg, it was twice as heavy as an ordinary short-tailed monkey, the report said, but its tail was 4 cm, half the size of a short-tailed monkey's tail.

"The hairy male has an abundant variety of facial expressions," it said.

"Sometimes it displays sorrow and woe, other times indignation."

SUN, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia - Feb. 12, 1985 CR: P. Norman

Is he roaming the woods near the Ocmulgee River?

By Emory Josey
Macon Telegraph and News

He was a big burly man with curly brown hair that had a reddish tinge. I saw him through the one-way vision glass as he got out of his car but immediately dropped my eyes back to my work. I paid him little attention until I heard him say, "I want to see him," and as I looked up again I saw that he was pointing at me.

As I made my way the 20 feet from my desk to the front counter, his eyes burned into mine. "Could we step outside for a minute?" he asked.

Outside in the warm Indian summer sun, he offered his hand, but not his name. I still don't know his name. He preferred it that way.

"I've seen Sasquatch," he said. "In fact, I've seen four of them. I don't expect you to believe me. My wife and children don't, and I haven't told anyone else. I don't drink. Neither do I have any mental disorders. I simply saw four of them, down on the (Ocmulgee) river."

A couple of weeks ago, in my question and answer column, I casually made note of Sasquatch, known to some as "Bigfoot." I never expected to get any comment on it. Instead, I have had several.

Sasquatch is the name the Indians gave to a big hairy creature that allegedly stalked the northwest states of Oregon and Washington. "Bigfoot" was tagged due to the massive sizes of the tracks he was supposed to have left. Professor Grover Krantz, a 52-year-old anthropologist who teaches at Washington State University, calls the erect biped *Gigantopithecus*. Krantz has pursued all traces of Sasquatch for 20 years, and is thoroughly convinced that he — and many of his kinfolk — really exists.

THERE HAVE BEEN some 2,000 claims by people bearing witness to having seen one or

more of the creatures. For the last several years, the spotlight has moved right into Central Georgia, as well as in the Florida Everglades. The alleged sightings in Georgia center around the Ocmulgee River, along that portion that stretches behind Robins Air Force Base out toward Highway 96. Of the 11 letters, calls or visits that I have had in the last two weeks, 10 have pinpointed that area.

Piecing together little bits and pieces of information, it was interesting to note that nine of the 11 sightings have been between 2 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. Only two claimed to have seen old Bigfoot in broad daylight — although four clocked the sightings at right after daybreak.

Six of the 11 said they saw what appeared to be a male, a female and a young one. Two stated that the female was carrying the young one. One even claimed to have watched through binoculars, from a deer stand, and witnessed the young one actually nursing the mother.

Amazingly, without exception, the descriptions were almost identical. I won't even give the descriptions here, in an attempt to keep that part of my file a secret. Why? I want to see if the descriptions I know I'm going to get are still so close. I will show one sketch that was drawn for me — just an outline with no references to size, weight, color or other physical characteristics.

After talking with the man who came to my office, I finally said, "Draw me a picture." He did. He walked away without ever giving me his name. He didn't look like a drunk. He surely was very intelligent. If he was acting he should be living in Beverly Hills!

THERE IS A feeling of sheer mystery about all these sightings. Those who claim to have actually seen a Sasquatch don't act like they really want to talk about it. Some of the people I talked to appeared to be enveloped with fear. That in itself doesn't make too much sense to me

— but then I haven't seen him! After all, not one shred of evidence has popped up that might indicate that Bigfoot is violent. The majority of those claiming to have seen the creature(s) were certainly in a position to be attacked. They weren't.

So many alleged sightings — yet no tangible physical evidence, like a body, flesh, hair, bone. Why hasn't some hunter shot one? Why hasn't a car or a train hit one?

Professor Krantz says that Bigfoot is so secretive that it will be difficult to ever get physical evidence. Krantz explains the lack of physical evidence by saying that bodies of wild animals that die of natural causes are never found because they go somewhere and hide to die.

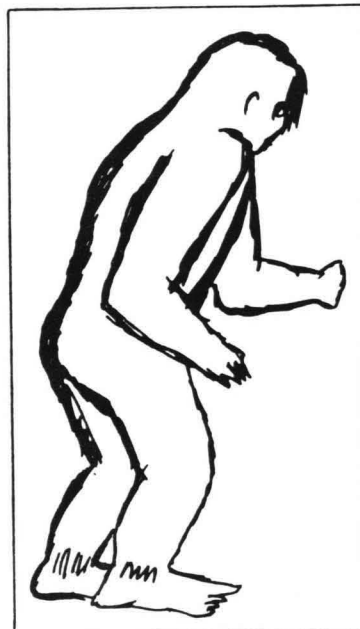
Well — I've seen lots of carcasses of dead deer that were either hit by cars or wounded by careless hunters, but I don't ever recall finding one that had apparently died of natural causes. The same thing goes for other wild animals.

Then there is the rumor that some government officials have photographs, movies — an entire file on Bigfoot, and they are keeping the lid on it.

IF IT'S ALL a hoax, these are the most convincing people I have ever talked to. Those two who contacted me but wouldn't give any names — I don't want any. I just want to talk. No cameras. Just talk.

Does Bigfoot exist? Are there between 200 and 2,000 of them as Professor Krantz believes?

What have you seen? My home address is Box 278, Route 2, Gray, Georgia, 31032. I'm also in the telephone book. If you want to play kid's pranks, don't waste my time. If you are serious, I'm interested. All information, if you want it that way, will be considered privileged and confidential.



One man's sketch of Bigfoot

DISPATCH, Columbus, OH - Feb. 8, 1985 CR: J. Moseley



**Mike Harden
IN ESSENCE**

From a galaxy far, far away

It was late, the night air frigid. Above the tall pines hugging the edge of the narrow road like sentinels, a full moon played upon the white fields of Delaware County. The stillness of the night was so pervasive that each footfall upon the brittle crust of snow resounded as though the muffled, measured cadence was not the noise of one man, but of a battalion on winter march.

In the moonlight, the massive flat reflector of Ohio State University's radio telescope scanned the heavens, waiting, listening for things that go blip in the night. For 32 years, the telescope has had an ear pressed against the edge of the universe. During that time, those who labor at interpreting its findings have located and logged 20,000 natural sources of radio signals: the sound of stars exploding, of galaxies and quasars, of clouds of hydrogen.

NOT ONLY DO the telescope's receivers and computers digest the natural rumblings of the universe and print seismographic etchings on an ever-flowing sheet which a man of the cloth might liken to God's EEG, they also scout the heavens for other signs of life.

"For the last ten years," explained the facility's assistant director Robert Dixon, "it has been the only radio telescope on Earth searching for extraterrestrial life."

One of its most impressive findings was a strong signal

from deep in space back in 1977. The source of that signal, which became known as the "Wow" object because of the exclamation its stunned discoverer penciled in the margin of the computer readings, was never found. Researchers made at least 100 attempts to find it again with no success.

As Dixon spoke, he pored over the computer printout for the previous several days, studying the assembled numbers plotted by galactic latitude and longitude, the time, the frequency, the intensity of the signal.

"THIS IS ALL pretty much random noise," he confessed. If the computer had recorded anything of interest, it would have red-flagged the printout with a "Search Output" notation. There was none.

Dixon turned the page and scanned another sheet. There near the bottom was a "Search

Area group studying prints found on ridge

Stan Gordon of the Pennsylvania Association for the study of the Unexplained reported today that he was "very encouraged" by an investigation of strange tracks found near a home on Chestnut Ridge near the Kennametal plant.

The report of the tracks was first turned into The Bulletin and then relayed to Gordon's group which spent yesterday investigating.

Gordon said the prints were spotted by two men on their way to work at about 6 a.m. They noted the prints, Gordon said, because they appeared to be so large and unusual. At first they believed the prints belong to a bear.

Gordon said the prints are about 17 inches long, nine inches wide and belong to a five-toed, human-like creature. Gordon's investigators followed the prints for about half-mile and indicated it

was a large, heavy creature.

An investigation of the snow under the prints indicated that the creature weighed over 250 pounds because about a foot of snow and ice underneath had been compressed. Gordon said the tracks were followed over the ridge in the direction of Ligonier. He added that last night's blowing snow covered the tracks, but not before photos were made.

He also noted that the stride was a large one and that the prints indicated the creature stepped over a snow bank six feet high and three feet wide.

Gordon said his investigation will continue, but the tracks do not appear to be a hoax, he added, because yesterday's tracks were fresh, encompassed a large area in an isolated section of the ridge, and there were not any human foot-

prints in the vicinity when investigators arrived.

He also indicated that similar sightings of Bigfoot-like creature have been reported in that area since the early 1970s.

Gordon said that a year ago near Ligonier a young couple reported a large, hairy, ape-like creature that fled into the woods and that prints similar to yesterday's were located.

Anyone with similar reports may contact Gordon confidentially by calling 838-7768 or by writing to his group at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg.

Output" signal. His index finger drifted over the cluster of numbers.

There, at 11 minutes past 10 on the night of Tuesday, Feb. 5, it was. There, while America was watching *Remington Steele* and Europe snored and the smoke of morning fires from Southwest Asia drifted skyward, a signal was recorded.

"This really is an astoundingly good discovery," Dixon said. "I haven't seen anything like that for many years." He squinted at the readings. The signal had been sharply focused.

"That signal," he continued, "came through on only one of these (receivers), so we know it has the hallmark of intelligence."

HE SUMMONED the graduate student. Could it have been a fluke, a phantom, a malfunction? No, Dixon said, the chance of that would be very rare.

He circled with a pencil the cluster of numbers which rose like the curve of a bell and then fell away. It was not strong enough to write "Son of Wow" in the margin, but, he promised, "You can be sure we will try to find it again."

But what are the odds? Even the strongest "intelligent" signal ever received by the telescope was never heard again. True. True.

It was after 11 when his visitor departed, crunching out to the small parking lot with the moon over his shoulder and the telescope's superstructure framed against an indigo sky. The cold was deep, penetrating. But even deeper was a vague emotional chill, a gnawing, visceral sense that tells one instinctively upon entering a darkened room that it is not empty.