

UFO

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Springs man is UFO prober

Newcomer still awaiting first encounter in region

By Ted Delaney
GT Staff Writer

Dennis Myers hates it when people talk about "close encounters."

Once, that phrase was a highly technical term used only by the intelligentsia of UFO research.

But, through the magic of Hollywood, it became a term well-known to all, part of the title of a movie about UFOs: "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

"Now, it's so trendy a term, I can't stand to use it," Myers, a Colorado Springs resident who serves as the area representative of the Mutual UFO Network Inc., said Wednesday in an interview.

But call it what you will, when it happens, Myers is ready to look into it.

MUFON, headquartered in Seguin, Texas, is a 1,500-member organization founded in 1969 for the purpose "of getting to the bottom of all these UFO sightings," Myers said.

There have been numerous sightings of unidentified flying objects in Colorado Springs over the years. A sampler includes:

■ A cold December morning in 1978, when a prominent Colorado Springs businessman and civic leader opened the curtains of his Cheyenne Mountain home at 4 a.m. — and stared straight out the window at a huge craft, "glittering with banks of lights, making a pulsating, whirring sound."

He reported it, but was adamant that his name not be revealed.

He said he didn't want people thinking he was crazy, "but I have no doubt it was people from outer space."

■ A night in August 1979, when six Colorado Springs residents reported a large UFO near Pikes Peak. Could have been a comet, they said. Except that it took a sudden 90-degree turn and headed off towards Woodland Park.

■ An evening in May 1983, when two Denver salesmen came out of the Palmer House Motel in Colorado Springs and saw "an immense flying triangle" that was "as big as a city block," but made no noise and shot across the sky at an incredible speed.

One of the men, an Army veteran, said, "The only explanation I could dream up as to what it could have been is someone made a kite as big as a city block, put five battery lights on it, and somehow it traveled 2,500 mph or more in a perfect pattern."

Things have been slower of late.

Myers said he hasn't been called to investigate any sightings for more than a year in Colorado or Minnesota, where he lived before moving recently to Colorado Springs. MUFON is not directly accessible by the public, to avoid crank calls, and Myers does not want to name his full-time employer in the Springs.

Sightings are relayed to him from the police or other government agencies.

The organization keeps a low profile, Myers said. It does not say that spacecraft containing people from other planets definitely exist. All it says is that there is some pretty interesting information.

Myers serves as a Springs investigator for the group, visiting people who claim to have seen UFOs and reporting the information to his organization or to the Center for UFO Studies.

Myers said the great majority of UFO sightings can be dismissed as natural phenomena.

"The first thing I do when I talk to these people is to try to give them every possible reason why it wasn't a UFO," said Myers. "I don't stand there going, 'Golly, you seen a UFO ... Wow.'"

He said one of the most prevalent apparitions occurs when "ball lightning" flares near high-voltage power lines.

"Sometimes, you'll have some of these reports describing a non-ballistic action that's not consistent with that ball-lightning phenomenon, but it may be that the people did not clearly remember what they saw."

Myers said the most fascinating case to come to his attention happened in Minnesota.

"It involved a sheriff in Minnesota, Val Johnson," he said of the nationally publicized case.

"He was driving in his sheriff's car when he saw a bright light in a field. He drove toward it to investigate, and when he got within 150 yards, the light became too bright for him to see and came straight at his vehicle."

"His car was going about 60 mph. He said the brakes suddenly locked — although he may have hit the brakes himself, he wasn't sure — and skidded 370 feet and off the road."

"Johnson was able to get a radio signal off, but doesn't remember much else."

Myers said authorities found Johnson in his car an hour and a half later.

"The physical evidence surrounding the case was unreal," he said.

"His chronometer in his car and his watch were both stopped at precisely the same time. His vehicle had no power. The ionization theory was present, that the electricity in the vehicle had been ionized, that it was

Nuke plant guards report hovering UFOs

By JON CRAIG
Staff Writer

Shotguns were drawn and the National Guard was notified, say some.

But officials of the New York Power Authority will not release details about what happened last summer at the Indian Point nuclear power complex during the reported sighting of an unidentified flying object near the reactor.

A dozen security officers at the Indian Point 3 nuclear plant

spotted a large UFO on July 24, 1984, according to Philip Imbrogno, an astronomer with the Center for UFO Studies.

Imbrogno, of Greenwich, Conn., an investigator for the Evanston, Ill. center, said this week, "It was quite an incident and they were quite upset."

He said he interviewed six guards who contacted him about the sighting. They said the UFO was 900 feet long and hovered over the plant for 15 minutes, according to Imbrogno. There was a similar incident on June 14, he said.

Carl Patrick, a spokesman for NYPA, operator of Unit 3, confirmed the sightings but said, "It's a six-month-old story."

Larry Rossbach, a resident inspector with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, recalled Friday that guards were discussing the incident when he reported to work the following day.

Said Rossbach, "I didn't see it, (but) I remember some guys said they saw it. I accept them as reasonable people."

One security officer, who requested anonymity, said the object was 100 feet long, looked like helicopters in V-formation, made some noise and hovered 300 yards above the plant. He said guards "broke out the shotguns."

John Branciforte, a power authority security coordinator, said Friday, "I think people are going to publish stories on hysteria (and) misinformation. As far as I'm concerned, it's pure speculation."

Regarding a report that officers "broke out the shotguns," the commander said, "We just don't do things like that. He (Imbrogno) could possibly be making it up or he took what they (witnesses) gave him and stretched it out."

Another officer, who also asked for anonymity, added, "I talked to some of the people who believe it was something, but some people let their imaginations get worked up. I believe it was nothing. I'm sure a lot of it was very badly inflated."

Patrick and Kenneth V. Spiro, zone sergeant for Troop K of the New York State Police, said they believed the sightings were Cessna 152s flown by pranksters out of Stormville Airport.

"As far as we're concerned, there are no such things as UFOs," Spiro said Thursday.

Jeffrey Baughman of Dutchess County, who leases out two small aircraft which he says may have been involved in other reported UFO sightings, said Friday he doesn't know anything about the Indian Point incident, but, "It's possible that my plane was involved, but I wasn't."

He said pilots of private and commercial planes use the plant as a "handy landmark" when flying nearby. "From the air it's easy to pick out," Patrick said. "I don't know of any regulations that restrict the airspace around Indian Point," he said.

Imbrogno said, "The commander gave the order to pull out the shotguns and they summoned Camp Smith, but we have no documents."

Imbrogno has filed a Freedom of Information request with the NRC and NYPA for documents on the sighting. Brian Norris, a regional NRC spokesman, said his agency received the request about three weeks ago but has no documentation of the sighting.

Trio Spots Another UFO

Another UFO spotting was made Monday evening of this week by three young men in the Lincoln Street-School Street area. Steven Laspesa, 11, Adam Lynch, 9, and Judson Weld, 10, were out playing around 5:30 p.m. when they spotted the spacecraft near the high school.

According to Steven, it was round and saucer-shaped and had green, purple, orange and red flashing lights. There was a single white "headlight" in front.

Steven said the craft flew over the library section of the high school and then disappeared heading in the direction of Essex County Club. A short time later it reappeared over the gymnasium part of the school, hovered for a moment and then disappeared again in the direction of School Street and the cemetery.

Steven said that he was freaked by the incident. According to Steven, he thought Adam was a little scared while Judson seemed to remain calm.

UFO: Over the years, plenty of Virginians have seen the light(s)

By PAUL DELLINGER
Southwest bureau

"Holy cats!"
"Hey — it's almost..."
"Yeah. Almost a perfect..."
"It is. It's round!"
"We finally got one."
"We've found a flying saucer!"

— Dialogue from a group of men gauging the shape of a craft embedded in the ice beneath them, in the 1951 movie "The Thing."

Technically, they are called Unidentified Flying Objects, and their lineage ranges back at least as far as the biblical Book of Ezekiel and forward all the way to the box office's favorite space creature, "E.T."

They have led to at least one fatality (of a pilot whose P-51 crashed while chasing a reported UFO over Kentucky in 1948), a divorce (by the wife of a man who claimed to be meeting a female saucer pilot at night on the California desert), and any number of "I Rode in a Flying Saucer" books.

UFOs did not overlook Virginia while they were doing all this.

One UFO was supposed to have landed in a field near the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center at Fishersville in late 1964. Shortly thereafter, posses of armed vigilantes were combing parts of Augusta County in search of little green men. Two years later, the Air Force was investigating a patch of road in South Hill that was supposed to have been scorched by a departing UFO.

Meanwhile, lights in Virginia skies were being seen by police officers, ministers and any number of others.

"Tell the world. Tell this to everybody, wherever they are. Watch the skies, everywhere. Keep looking. Keep watching the skies."

— A warning broadcast by a newspaper reporter in "The Thing." But not even the man who reported the South Hill sighting believed there was anything unnatural about it. And one "little green man" being hunted around Staunton proved to be 5-foot-10, 190-pound Donald Cash, who wondered why people reported that he left no footprints when "I was standing in mud up to my knees."

That hunt began when Horace Burns, a gunsmith, saw a UFO as he drove on U.S. 220 from Staunton to Waynesboro about 5 p.m. on Dec. 21, 1964. He said later that a large beehive-shaped object passed about 200 yards in front of him and his car engine unaccountably stopped.

He described the UFO as looking like aluminum, and circled by six concentric rings. He estimated it at 125 feet in diameter and 80 to 90 feet long, with a dome top and bluish glow underneath. It touched down in a field, stayed on the ground for about 90 seconds, then flew off out of sight, he said.

It was a month before Burns reported all this. When he did, he was invited to talk about it to a standing-room-only audience of several hundred in an auditorium at Eastern Mennonite College.

Ernest Gehman was a professor of German at Eastern Mennonite in Harrisonburg in 1964 when he became involved with the Burns sighting. (Burns could not be reached for comment.)

Gehman, now retired from the college, was interested in UFOs. He got in touch with Burns. They went to the field just after Burns reported the sighting, and Gehman said his Geiger counter showed a high radiation level.

"I believe he was right about that diameter," Gehman said, based on the spread of the Geiger readings. But a team of Air Force investigators 22 days after the sighting date reported no radioactivity at all.

Gehman disputes that. He said he accompanied the investigators, and they got some high readings at least three times, but would read just their instruments each time. "Then the needle wouldn't move."

"They'll probably give you a medal, for destroying evidence that they're wrong."

— Remark by reporter in "The Thing" to an Air Force officer who had inadvertently blown up the UFO under the ice.

It was retired Marine Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe who first claimed the Air Force was covering up evidence that UFOs were ships from other planets. Keyhoe, originally a skeptic, was commissioned by True magazine to do a documented article on UFOs. His piece — in the January 1950 issue — made it the biggest seller in the magazine's history.

Keyhoe wrote several books on the subject, and magazines such as Life and Look soon got in on the act, with articles of their own. When those articles appeared, sighting reports increased.

Speaking in Winchester four months before the Burns sighting, Keyhoe said he had never seen a UFO but had studied "at least 2,000 detailed reports by fairly highly trained observers and very competent people."

In recent years, there have been few reported sightings of UFOs in Virginia or elsewhere. After coming out with an exhaustive report on UFOs several years ago, the government disbanded the special investigations unit that was studying them.

"I'm still very much interested (in UFOs)," Gehman said. "However, since that thick heavy book (the Condon Report, which discounted the possibility that UFOs were from other planets) was brought out by the Air Force that sought to discredit the whole idea, you know, people don't report what they see... I think there are as many sightings as before, but people don't report them."

In the Burns sighting, Gehman said, one side of the car Burns had been driving also showed radioactivity. For years afterward, Gehman said, when snow would collect on cars parked around the Burns vehicle, that side of it would stay bare.

"I told Mr. Burns that that car ought to be saved. That it is proof of a sort," Gehman said. But he said Burns sold the car and lost track of its ownership.

Later, reports of "little green men" began surfacing in Staunton. After some youngsters reported a "close encounter" with one, groups of armed men started scouring the area.

"This creature — where is he? What is he up to? If he can build a spaceship that can fly to Earth... what other terrors can he unleash at will? Obviously the monster must be found. He must be tracked down like a wild animal and destroyed."

— Radio commentator Gabriel Heater, playing himself in the 1951 movie "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

It was probably the most excitement generated by space visitors since 1938, when a radio play based on H.G. Wells' 1898 novel, "War of the Worlds," convinced listeners who tuned in late that invading Martians had landed in New Jersey.

Augusta County Sheriff John E. Kent called the armed searches "dangerous as well as ridiculous."

What finally stopped them was the "space creature" himself. Donald Cash, then 36, had costumed himself in blue coveralls and brushed his hair under a leather cap to play a joke on a friend — one of many people who claimed to have seen UFOs — but some youngsters spotted him first and chased him. He eventually admitted the prank to halt the searches before someone got hurt.

But more reports were coming in. While Fishersville pharmacist Bill Elliott was luring customers with a "Flying Saucer Information" sign in his drugstore window and bottles of "little green men" bubble bath on his counter, other people across Virginia were still watching the skies.

● Jan. 28, 1965: The Rev. H. Preston Robinson, pastor of the Chilhowie Church of God, and about 10 others reported a UFO over Smyth County. "It stopped some 600

feet above the ground, right over downtown Marion," he said. It "had a round-shaped bottom from which several lights showed."

● Feb. 2, 1965: Roanoke police, Federal Aviation Administration officials and U.S. Weather Bureau officials at Woodrum Field reported a UFO. It was tentatively identified as a weather balloon.

● July 1965: Two Richmond residents driving on U.S. 60 in James City County said their car stalled when a cone-shaped object passed overhead, and wouldn't start until it was gone.

● Aug. 3, 1965: Bill Baker of Route 1, Bristol, and four others saw a bright orange disc. It dimmed, brightened and flew off south.

● June 24, 1966: Richmond Patrolman William L. Stevens Jr. followed a dirigible-shaped object ringed by lights from Richmond into suburban Hanover County, where he lost sight of it. "If I live to be 100, I'll never forget it," he said. "As a matter of fact, I hope I never see another one."

John Andrews, a 13-year-old Roanoke boy, decided to get to the bottom of things. He wrote to President Johnson about the UFO question in 1965.

That brought a response from John A. Lang Jr., administrative assistant to the secretary of the Air Force.

"There is no truth to the report that the Air Force withholds any information on unidentified flying objects," Lang wrote. "The evidence has proved beyond reasonable doubt that all reported aerial phenomena have been objects either created or sent aloft by man, generated by atmospheric conditions or caused by celestial bodies or meteoric activities."

Two years later, he might have had a hard time convincing residents of South Hill of that.

C.N. Crowder, a fertilizer warehouse manager there, was driving

“If I live to be 100, I'll never forget it. As a matter of fact, I hope I never see another one.”

William L. Stevens Jr.
Richmond patrolman

“Our general conclusion is that nothing has come from the study of UFOs in the past 20 years that has added to scientific knowledge. Careful consideration of the record as it

home on the night of April 25, 1967, when he saw something in the road. He would later describe it as "looking like a storage tank on legs."

As he flicked his headlights on high-beam for a better look, he said, there was a burst of white light at its base and it was gone.

State police found a black mark several feet in diameter on the road. They later found four tiny holes around the spot, although at least one trooper said they had not been there when he first examined the mark.

Three paper matches also were found in the blackened area, leading to speculation that someone touched off something flammable as a joke.

That sighting was the subject of a chapter in "UFOs Explained," a 1974 book by saucer-debunker Philip J. Klass.

Despite the 19 pages he devoted to trying to disprove the presence of a UFO at South Hill, Klass could come up with no better explanation than simply branding the affair a hoax — and admitting that only Crowder, whose reputation for honesty was well-established, could have carried it out. It was not one of Klass' stronger UFO rebuttals.

But Crowder himself agrees there was no UFO that night.

Although the Air Force listed the sighting as unresolved, Crowder said Air Force consultant J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University came up with an explanation that

makes sense to him — ball lightning.

"That night, it was kind of cloudy, and it was low pressure. In other words, the clouds were almost down on the road," Crowder recalled. "And what he seemed to think was (that) a cloud drifted through this high-tension line."

"He says it happens real often in New Hampshire or places like that. Well, this cloud could have picked up a tremendous force, just like a condenser in an automobile, don't you see. And when it passed through this line, it picked up a tremendous voltage, just the same thing as a lightning bolt hitting the ground there."

Adding that "there's been every kind of report known to God and man put out on it," Crowder said: "The only thing that I reported was that it was an obstacle... or what appeared to be. And my lights were dimmed and, when I threw my lights up, that was about the time the thing struck the ground and went off... That's the most sensible thing that I've heard of. I've never thought there was any such thing as a UFO."

When private pilot Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine bright objects flying June 24, 1947, near Mount Rainier, Wash., with a peculiar up-and-down motion like saucers skipping over water, newspaper reporters immediately coined the term "flying saucers."

Arnold died last January. His passing went virtually unnoticed by the national media, but the term remains part of the language.

That first report prompted others, and sightings grew to the point where the Air Force found itself investigating some 20,000 UFO reports in the next three decades. The official investigation started as Project Saucer, then Project Sign, next Project Grudge and finally Project Blue Book.

The Air Force declared most sightings regular aircraft mistaken for UFOs, misinterpretations of natural phenomena, or hoaxes, but there was always a small percentage left unexplained.

Finally, the Air Force commissioned Dr. Edward U. Condon — the former head of the National Bureau of Standards — to direct a 15-month study of the subject. The 1968 Condon Report was a thick document, but it summarized its findings as follows:

"Our general conclusion is that nothing has come from the study of UFOs in the past 20 years that has added to scientific knowledge. Careful consideration of the record as it

I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would be only toys.

Thomas A. Edison

is available to us leads us to conclude that further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science can be advanced thereby."

The Air Force took the report at its word. Project Blue Book was closed down.

Flying saucer sightings were highest in the years 1947, 1952, 1957 and 1966, but the Condon Report seems to have put a damper on them since then.

However, Arnold's "flying saucers" weren't the first strange things to be seen in the skies, and probably won't be the last. Some UFOlogists claim biblical writings describe UFOs.

More recently, in 1897, newspapers in U.S. cities coast to coast described sightings of "strange airships" by thousands of people. The March 29 New York Herald said most of the residents of Omaha saw

them. The New York Sun said Kansas City trolley cars stopped as a light as big as 20 stars was observed.

"In Milwaukee, thousands of people saw it," said the Chicago Tribune. "The machine floated over the City Hall, where it stopped for a quarter of an hour."

Just as UFO debunkers 50 years later blamed newspapers, books and magazine articles for keeping flying saucers viable, the San Francisco Examiner declared that "Fake Journalism" has a good deal to answer for, but we do not recall a more discernible exploit in that line than the persistent attempt to make the public believe that the air in this vicinity is populated with airships."

Thomas A. Edison, interviewed at the time, said he had no plans to invent an airship. "I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At best, airships would be only toys."

A 1951 movie directed by Robert Wise, "The Day the Earth Stood Still," began with a flying saucer landing in Washington. One year later, radar observers at Washington National Airport reported UFOs on their scopes and jets were scrambled to chase them.

The Pentagon switchboard was so filled with inquiries that the military finally called the biggest news conference since World War II to try to quiet them. It was claimed the UFOs were temperature inversions — layers of warm air trapped between cooler air, which showed up on radar.

Are they back? Another sighting of objects in the sky

Yes, folks, they're back! Look for them on a clear night over your home town when you least expect them. Try to figure out what they are and what they're doing. Feel free to call your local and state police, as well as the Air Force. Check with TV and radio stations to see if anyone else has called in.

All the above hype could be a media blitz testing some new show called "Return of the Light Creatures" but, as in so many cases, it is not fiction. It is that even stranger item, truth. Those strange lights that so many people spotted in the sky over Windsor a couple of years ago are back.

They were spotted by three local ladies who were headed down to Springfield for the high school basketball game last Tuesday. Myra Poland was driving with Judy Smiley and Brenda Boudro as her passengers.

About halfway to Ascutney they noticed a light in the southern sky that seemed much brighter than anything normal like a star or an airplane. By the time they had reached Carney's Market in Ascutney the ladies began to take note of the fact that the light, by now obviously not a star, hadn't moved. Then it did begin to move, coming straight north and eventually passing right over the car. It also descended to quite a low level, although no one is sure just how low it got.

"It was bright, brighter than anything you'd normally see," said Myra, who was driving the car. She added that at first she thought that the object might be a helicopter, but then she realized that it was too high to be such a craft. A veteran of the sightings two years ago, Myra said that Tuesday night's object ap-

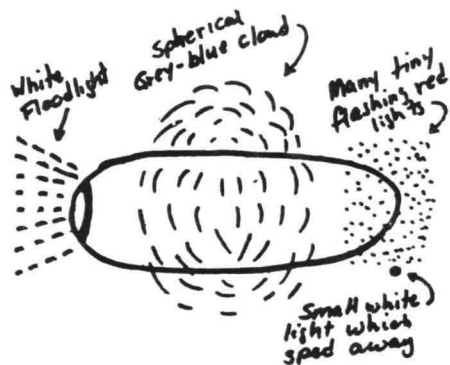
peared similar to the ones she observed back then.

All three of the ladies agreed that whatever they saw was much bigger than any normal aircraft. They described it as basically oblong in shape, with an extremely bright white light at the front end. There seemed to be a sphere or halo of a greyish-blue hue around the middle of the object, and lots of tiny flashing lights at the rear. One of these, a small white light, was stationary for a while but suddenly detached itself from the rest of the lights and sped rapidly away.

It was after the smaller light disappeared that the object began to come lower to the ground. Each of the ladies claimed to be terrible judges of distance, but Judy and Brenda said that they thought it might have gotten to within 200 feet of the ground, "lower than any plane would have been," while Myra thought it got about to the level of Mt. Ascutney. They all agreed that it made no noise that they could hear, although they did not stop or get out of the car. There was no effect on the car from the closeness of the object, they said.

"It was just huge," said Brenda, adding that the object had no visible wings. She called WNE-TV upon her return from Springfield but the station had not received any other reports of sightings. Brenda said that they lost sight of the object when they turned south onto the Interstate as it was heading north, right over the car so that she had to look up out the rear window to watch it.

"I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation for this," she said "but I wish the people who know would tell us what it is."



Composite drawing of the mysterious object sighted by three local ladies, based on sketches by Brenda Boudro, Judy Smiley and Myra Poland.

UFOs spotted twice at Hunlock Creek

A Hunlock Creek man said Wednesday that he and a number of his neighbors observed "lighted, round objects" flying in the sky over the area early Wednesday morning.

James Merriion, a resident of Country Crest Trailer Court, said it was the second time in less than a week he observed the "UFOs."

Merriion said the round objects contain various colored lights, including blue, orange, yellow, green, and white. He noted the objects travel in groups of five to 10 while circling the area.

Yesterday afternoon, Merriion said he observed "white flashes" in the sky in the same area where the objects were sighted. Also, he said, several jet aircraft were "flying in circles" in the region.

After spotting the objects early Wednesday morning, Merriion notified a number of his neighbors who also observed the UFOs.

Similar sightings were observed by Merriion last Thursday.

Officials at the National Weather Service Station at Avoca said Wednesday that no reports were received of any "unusual objects" in the sky early Wednesday morning. It was noted that the sky was clear yesterday morning and visibility was excellent.

High Country May Become Home For UFO Museum

By Gerry Richardson

If George Fawcett's plans work out, the next tourist attraction in the High Country will be "out of this world."

Fawcett, a Lincolnton resident, has spent 40 years of his life investigating sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and thinks a museum devoted to the subject would be a natural addition to the Boone-Blowing Rock area.

"I am negotiating with some people at the present time in the Boone-Blowing Rock area," said Fawcett. "It's going to be up in your area."

In addition to the large number of tourists visiting the area, Fawcett said another reason for locating the museum here was the high incidence of UFO sightings in the western mountains.

"There's also the Brown Mountain Lights and the Cherokee legends of the sky people coming down in sky baskets," he added.

North Carolina ranks fourth in the nation in the number of UFO sightings.

Fawcett estimated the cost of the center at \$1 million, but said he had gotten recent estimates of between two and three million dollars.

One room of the museum would be a library containing many of the volumes written on the subject of UFOs. Another room would include exhibits, sculptures, models and videotapes, while a third room would serve as a study facility with many of the case studies Fawcett has investigated himself.

The facilities would also include a snack bar and "Star-Wars-type" video-games.

"If we got it started, it would take off," said Fawcett.

"It would be very successful—No doubt about it."

"I think the potential is unlimited."



The study of UFOs is based on personal accounts, photos, recordings, and physical evidence. There have also been many reports of alien bodies being recovered.

Only ten per cent of the UFOs sighted are ever reported, according to Fawcett:

"Most people don't know how to report a sighting or who to ask," he said.

In spite of those limitations, Fawcett said the sightings reported around the world are remarkably similar.

"It's interesting how consistent and how persistent the incidents are. . . That is one of the basics of scientific study."

"The sightings are the same in North Carolina as they are in the Soviet Union, China, South America and France."

"It is very specialized research in a very complex field," Fawcett said.

While the Soviet Union and China have both announced national efforts to study UFOs, Fawcett regretted the American government has not been as open.

"Our government's investigation has just gone underground," said Fawcett.

Citing the U-2 incident, the Bay of Pigs, Viet Nam and Watergate, Fawcett said, "UFOs are no different."

"The people who need to know don't always have the right to know."

"All I want is the facts."

Among the Americans who have reported UFO sightings are three astronauts and former President Carter.

Anyone sighting a UFO should know they have an interested ear in George Fawcett. He said he could be contacted evenings at 704-735-5725 or in writing to 602 Battleground Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092.

"I would like to hear from anyone who has ever seen a UFO, either old or new; locally or in some other state," said Fawcett.

Much of his work as a researcher, he said, was spent in trying to eliminate those sightings which could be identified.

Fawcett has also been a state officer in the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and is currently preparing a paper to be presented at a MUFON symposium in St. Louis.

After 40 years of study and investigation of UFOs, the first five of which were spent as a self-confessed skeptic, Fawcett has amassed a large amount of information. The books, files and photos fill most of the available space in the Fawcett home.

"That's one of the reasons for the museum," said Fawcett.

The other reasons for the museum are more important.

Fawcett has reached personal goals of lecturing on UFOs, teaching an accredited course on the subject and writing a book.

One goal remains to be reached.

"The museum is my fourth goal. It is really my big dream," he said.

"I want it to be something for other people to enjoy long after I'm gone."

Mystery lights are still puzzling

By Catharine Huddle
Journal Writer

ALLIANCE — Authorities who investigated mysterious airborne lights near Alliance Thursday night refused to say it was a UFO, but acknowledged they could not identify the lights or their source.

A citizen first saw the bright lights about 8:30 p.m. and called police. The lights then were seen by two Alliance police officers, who contacted other authorities and tracked the glowing object west and north of Alliance.

"I honestly can't say what it was," said Jim Olson, a Box Butte County sheriff's deputy. "It appeared to be the

size of a tennis ball. Part of it was red and part of it was gold. It was extremely high and quite a ways west of here."

Asked to offer his personal opinion, Olson would say only that he estimated the light to be one to two miles high and 100 to 150 miles west of Alliance.

"I was moving directly toward it when I lost sight of it," Olson said. "Of course I was driving and I couldn't really watch it all the time. I honestly couldn't say when I looked up and it was no longer there."

Olson said his office received several reports Friday from people who saw the

light, including one from a person who said the light was spotted near Angola and that it appeared to be first a falling star, then a V-shaped object.

State Patrolman Neil Miles, who is stationed in Scottsbluff, also joined the watch.

"There was a bright light in the sky for 20 minutes or so," Miles said. "It didn't appear to be moving much, pretty much stationary. Then it dropped down out of the sky. It just like dropped out of the sky."

"We went farther west to see if we could get on a higher hill and about eight miles west (of Alliance), we lost sight of it."

Asked if he thought the object was a UFO, Miles replied: "No comment. I guess apparently there were quite a few people that saw it. There's probably a good chance it has something to do with the military. It was mainly just kind of a white light."

"It had no real shape to it. I know it wasn't a planet and it wasn't a star," Miles said. "It may have been a helicopter."

A sheriff's dispatcher said that a radar operator at the Alliance Municipal Airport said the lights were visible from the radar station but didn't show up on radar.

EVENING JOURNAL, Lincoln, NE - Feb. 16, 1985

Cantwell area residents report mysterious white light

The Associated Press

CANTWELL — Cantwell area residents reported this week seeing a blinding white light pass overhead and vanish over the mountains.

"It was not an aircraft," said John Wallace, who saw the phenomenon Tuesday night while he was stopped at the Reindeer Mountain Lodge on the Parks Highway. "It lit the sky up for 30 or 40 seconds, and completely illuminated the mountain range around it for 15 or 16 miles."

Wallace, who has spent 13 years

checking Alascom's microwave sites along the highway, said he has never seen anything like the light before.

"It was passing overhead, quite fast, about three miles up," he said. "It climbed over the mountain and disappeared," Wallace said.

At first, he thought it was a nuclear flash of some sort. "But it lasted for a long time," he said.

"All I could see was the light, no shape or anything. I have no idea what it really was. I called Clear Air Force Base but they wouldn't tell me

anything. Someone must have tracked the thing."

Jack and Shirley Lawson, who run the Reindeer Mountain Lodge, said several people had seen the light.

"I didn't actually see it moving," said Shirley. "But I saw it behind the mountain, and the mountain was completely illuminated, as if the sun was rising right then. But it was white, like floodlights. I thought maybe there were 10 or 15 snow machines driving around back there,

"I'm not a believer in UFO's, but there have been some strange things in the sky," Elizabeth said. "We've seen a very bright white light, hanging low around treetop level. It fades in and out, but it doesn't look like it's moving. It's very beautiful."

The Smiths, who refuel helicopters at the lodge, were positive that the light was not an aircraft.

"It was very, very bright," said Leon. "I thought at first that it might be a helicopter's landing lights, but it was just a white light, no red ones, and it was stationary. I watched it for an hour one time when I was refueling some military trucks that were here. The drivers were watching it too, and none of us could tell what it was. It was beautiful, though."

SENTINEL, Keene, NH - Feb. 26, 1985



SHARING. Police Sgt. John Zeller draws sketches to show Jeremy Prevost details of his UFO sighting last fall. Zeller came as a mentor for the QUEST program for gifted and talented students. Jeremy is researching UFOs.

UFO Sighting: Zeller Shares Experience

Are there other intelligent beings besides those who live on Earth? Ten-year-old Jeremy Prevost doesn't know, but he does wonder when he hears about sightings of UFOs, those mysterious unidentified flying objects people report seeing from time to time.

Keene Police Sgt. John C. Zeller wonders, too, especially since he sighted a mysterious object in the skies over Keene last October. His sighting is still on the books as a UFO.

So the two got together at Symonds School where Jeremy is researching UFOs through QUEST, a new program for gifted and talented children in Keene elementary schools. Sgt. Zeller came through the "mentor program," which pairs volunteers with students to share a common interest.

Jeremy, a fourth grader, had sent for literature from around the country and he's reading all the books and articles he can get his hands on. But the first-hand account of a UFO sighting from Sgt. Zeller was undoubtedly the most fascinating part of his research project.

Jeremy listened with awe as the police officer unfolded his story and drew maps and sketches. Sgt. Zeller described his experience and reports of similar incidents as "weird, since almost everything we see in the sky can be explained." His story went as follows.

He was on cruiser duty in West Keene at

7:40 p.m. when he was asked to check out a reported sighting of a strange object in the sky. After crossing the overpass near Fairbanks Plaza, he was heading south toward Ramada Inn when a car coming toward him skidded and stopped sideways. As he stopped, passengers in the car jumped out and said "Look up there!"

He saw pulsating lights in red, white and green, about over the Keene Country Club, but couldn't make out any object because lights were so bright. While he was on the radio reporting in, the other people suggested putting the cruiser's powerful spotlight on the area and, the minute he did, the object started moving toward them, finally slowing down about 100 feet overhead.

Sgt. Zeller said the spotlight then picked up the object, which he described as cream colored, about 50 feet long, with a rounded bottom like the hull of a boat—with different surfaces but no visible seams. He saw pulses of light, but no source of the light. He said there were no visible wheels, windows, rotors, propellers, or jet engines and he heard no sound, except for two hums as it passed overhead.

The object, he said, then "zipped off" silently to the area of the Covered Bridge Car Wash, stopped, turned around as if to come back, but "zipped" to hover over the Ramada Inn, then moved with great speed over

the hills, then back, then away again, this time disappearing from sight.

The object traveled at great speed, he said, seeming to follow the contours of the ground and it accelerated, maneuvered and moved in a manner that defied all rules of physics. "It just didn't move like things on earth move," he said.

Police headquarters were in contact with the FAA in Manchester, which was unable to pick up anything on radar. They called the UFO Center and reported it to the Air Force, resulting in someone coming to interview Zeller later. He told Jeremy he has had letters and inquiries from everywhere about the UFO sighting, but nobody has been able to explain it.

But some things are explained, Sgt. Zeller said, including a report the following night of a V-shaped object with a light at the point. This was identified when the Air Force confirmed a V formation of airplanes over Keene at this time and the light would have been on the lead aircraft.

But what about the other unexplained sightings?

"Do you think there are other intelligent people out there in space (whose technology just might be more advanced than ours)," asked Sgt. Zeller.

Then he and Jeremy looked at each other and grinned.

"Maybe," they agreed.

PATENT TRADER, Mt. Kisco, NY - Jan. 30, 1985

New UFO Baffles Ossining

OSSINING — Local police are baffled over what could have caused the multi-colored lights seen flying over the village Sunday morning.

Police records show two officers who were responding a motor vehicle accident at 5:03 a.m. on William Street when they saw an "unidentified flying object" pass over their heads.

In their report, the two officers said the object, which was cigar-shaped with yellow and green lights, was travelling southbound at a slow rate

of speed toward Rte. 9 and Briarcliff Manor.

They said they followed it in their cruiser up William Street and down South Highland Avenue.

The officers gave up pursuit, however, when the craft was over Rte. 9 because, they wrote, it headed south at a "very high rate of speed."

Police Chief Ronald Goldfarb said he has "no idea whatsoever" what could have caused the phenomenon.

Last fall, four pilots flying out of

a small airport in Stormville, N.Y. were thought to have caused a number of U.F.O. sightings in the northern Westchester area by flying closely together and blinking their landing lights on and off at the same time.

Mr. Goldfarb said he doubts Sunday's sighting was related to those incidents, adding that genuine U.F.O. sightings like this are relatively rare occurrences.

"This is the first one our officers saw around here," he said.

NEWS-TIMES, Danbury, CT - March 22, 1985 CR: H. Peatfield

Airplanes cheat UFO sighters again

By Olivia Winslow
News-Times staff

DANBURY — You weren't crazy if you saw strange, unexplained lights in the sky last night.

Dozens of people called The News-Times and area police departments last night between 9:30 and 10, claiming to have seen lights in various patterns traveling in the sky. The reports came from Bethel, Danbury, New Fairfield, Redding, Newtown, Brookfield, New Milford and Brewster.

Invariably, these callers prefaced their statements with, "I'm not crazy, but..."

While some may have harbored notions of an other-worldly explanation — extraterrestrial, that is — the answer was of a more domestic origin.

According to Paul Estefan, administrator of Danbury Municipal Airport, the multi-colored lights came from three or four single-engine planes flying in formation at perhaps an altitude of 10,000 feet. He ruled out the possibility that these were ultralight airplanes, which do not have that kind of power, as some police have reported.

Estefan said an airplane, dispatched by the airport, tracked the

planes, which had traveled from the Brewster area up as far as New Haven and back, to a New York airport that he would not identify.

Last year a similar incident occurred and police tracked the planes to a private airport in Stormville, N.Y.

Estefan, who received numerous calls at his home last night about the incident, offered a reason for the flights.

He said the winds had died down, producing a "really nice night for flying. So when you get a situation like that ... you can put together a formation flight." He added that the

people piloting the planes had to be experienced flyers. He said they turned on the bright lights of the planes as a safety factor, enabling commercial aircraft in the greater New York area to see the smaller planes' flight pattern.

Estefan said Danbury Airport officials are continuing to gather information on the flight before notifying the Federal Aviation Administration of the incident.

He said what the pilots have done is not really illegal, but there could be some infractions of air space regulations. More information is needed to determine the exact altitude at

which the planes were flying during their travels to know for certain whether air space regulations were violated.

The explanation of the lights was something of a letdown for Carrie McConnell of New Fairfield. She and her daughter, Tina, had observed the spectacle while en route home from Danbury.

She told of how she and her daughter had been awestruck by the sight, gazing at bright yellow, white and red lights in triangular and round shapes. But now, she said with some misgivings, she has to tell her daughter they were just airplanes.

PSC Instructor in Nashua:

Professor Describes UFOs

By ED ROBERTS
Sunday News Correspondent

NASHUA, Feb. 16 — Until five years ago, Plymouth State College anthropology professor Joseph Long did not believe in the phenomena known as unidentified flying objects or UFOs.

As a scientist, Long was a skeptic for a long time, but he now travels the state lecturing on UFOs and what he considers other kinds of psychic phenomena.

He can't explain what made him a believer but, he says he is one now. Perhaps it was the numerous nights he says he spent spotting the flying objects on the back roads of Kingston with his friend Betty Hill, who wrote a book on her experiences that led him to his belief.

Long, who spoke to an overflow crowd of about 150 at the Nashua Public Library this week, said he is certain there are thousands, if not millions, of other life forms throughout the universe.

Half those forms are probably ahead of ours technologically, Long said, so there are bound to be objects other than manmade flying around the universe and the earth. "Anytime you look at UFO phenomena you have to believe its true," he said.

MANY SIGHTINGS

Long said there are thousands of UFO sightings reported every day. When he asked the crowd how many had seen UFOs, about one-third raised their hands.

More than half the crowd at a Rochester lecture he gave a few weeks ago said they had seen a UFO, Long said.

Several UFO sightings in New Hampshire have been reported in the media over the last few years, including one sighting in Keene a few months ago and in Hillsborough in 1978. UFO sightings in New Hampshire, said Long, are no different than sightings in South America, Australia or China.

A logged map of the United States shows that sightings are not unique to any part of the country. The average UFO sighting is of a flying saucer-type vessel, according to Long.

The objects do things like accelerate at a rate of speed not possible by manmade vehicles, or make turns at right angles.

Other than verbal accounts, the only physical evidence of UFOs is photographs, he said.

OTHER EVIDENCE

Other less tangible evidence exists, like burned out patches in fields where UFOs allegedly have landed. Some of those fields are so badly burned they can't support vegetation for many years after the incident, Long said.

People who report they have been abducted by alien beings in UFOs have passed lie detector tests.

Long suggested that artist

renditions of alien beings based on alleged eyewitness accounts make them to look like the fairies of fiction because the fairies of fiction are based possibly on ancient sightings of UFOs and alien beings.

It is likely human beings are in contact with as many as 10 different groups of alien beings, all of them using a higher form of technology than is available to us, Long said. The contact by aliens with us is "very bizarre" and is at a psychic level that is incomprehensible to us, he said.



DR. JOSEPH LONG
(Photo by Ed Roberts)

NEWS-TIMES, Danbury, CT - March 26, 1985 CR: H. Peatfield

editorial

in our opinion

Make-believe UFOs

The pilots who get their kicks by flying over the Danbury area pretending to be space ships should pause for just a minute and think about what they're doing.

It might be fun, pretending to be a visitor from outer space. It might be a thrill to read in the newspaper the next day about all the people who believed they saw UFOs and called newspapers and radio stations and police departments to report what they saw.

But it is not much fun for the police. Police departments are on call 24 hours a day to handle emergencies. It's a bit difficult to do that if their phone lines are jammed with calls from people who truly believe they have seen an unidentified flying object. And that is what happens when those pilots take to the air over the Danbury-Putnam County area.

For anyone who questioned whether the frequent UFO sightings in the area were real space ships or private planes, last Thursday's episode was educational. A flight instructor for Bluebird Aviation was in the air and saw the 10 single-engine planes flying in formation at high altitudes, flashing their landing lights. He followed them to airports

in Poughkeepsie and Stormville, N.Y.

Paul Estefan, the administrator of Danbury Municipal Airport, has filed a complaint with the Federal Aviation Administration about the incident. But he says he's not sure whether the FAA can do anything about it, since there doesn't seem to be an FAA regulation that prohibits pilots from pretending to be UFOs.

If there isn't, there should be. But getting the FAA after these irresponsible individuals isn't the only solution.

The aviation community in this area is tightknit enough to know who is responsible for these flights. These individuals are damaging the reputation of the pilots who obey the rules. Pilots can and should police themselves and let these pranksters know that their flights must stop.

If this silliness continues there is going to be a tragedy. Someone will die because they couldn't reach the police to get help. Someone will get into a serious car accident because they were watching the lights in the sky instead of the road.

Then pretending to be a UFO won't seem so funny. But, if you think about it, it's not funny now.

Danbury Airport chief lodges complaint over night-fliers

By Trink Guarino
News-Times Staff

DANBURY — Flashing lights may have thrilled skywatchers who want to believe in unidentified flying objects, but the administrator at Danbury Municipal Airport is anything but pleased.

Paul Estefan said yesterday he has filed a formal complaint with the Federal Aviation Administration asking for an investigation into the situation. He has been flooded with phone calls from people who said they saw strange lights in the sky Thursday night.

Estefan said the lights came from 10 single-engine airplanes flying in formation at high altitudes

and flashing their landing lights. He said the pilots were followed to Dutchess County Airport in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and Stormville Airport in Stormville, N.Y.

"We happened to be lucky because there was an instructor from Bluebird Aviation School up in the air," Estefan said.

The instructor followed the aircraft into New York state. Three of the planes landed at Dutchess County Airport and seven landed at Stormville, Estefan said.

"I can find nothing in the FARs (Federal Aviation Administration regulations) prohibiting this kind of activity, but I think someone from the FAA should talk to these pilots and make it clear what kind of problems they are causing."

William H. Williams, the manager of the flight standards division for the FAA's New England region, said yesterday, "From a safety perspective, if the pilots are not in violation of any rules for formation flying, it's acceptable."

He said his Burlington, Mass., office hadn't had any telephone calls about the sightings in this area. He said he was aware that Estefan has called the Westfield office of the FAA, complaining about the situation.

"The most significant thing we can do is to find out who the pilots are and admonish them," Williams said. But he said the FAA can't take formal action if no regulations have not been violated.

Estefan said spent most of Thursday night on the telephone. The airport received another 15 phone calls during the day yesterday. The News-Times received scores of calls Thursday night.

"I tried to call each of the police stations to warn them to expect phone calls, but the lines were so jammed up that the dispatchers kept having to put me on hold to answer the telephones," Estefan said.

Estefan said he called the FAA to complain and followed up with a formal letter requesting an investigation.

"At the very least I want people in my community to know that we know these are not UFOs. We know who these people are and we'd like them to stop."

SPOKESMAN REVIEW, Spokane, WA - March 6, 1985

UFOs — 'This is for real'

By JIM SPARKS
Staff writer

For credibility's sake, Robert Hastings wears a blue pin-striped suit when he gives his slide show.

He doesn't bring photographs of fuzzy round objects flying low over South Dakota, and doesn't claim to have chatted with aliens himself.

But his message is that UFOs are out there, they're buzzing our nuclear missile sites and the CIA is keeping mum.

"This is for real," Hastings

told a group of six at Eastern Washington University's Higher Education Center on Monday. "It's not science fiction."

The son of an Air Force officer, Hastings backs up his claims with documents released by the FBI, CIA and the Air Force through the Freedom of Information Act.

The documents refer to the recovery of flying saucers containing 3-foot-tall aliens, a dog-fight with a UFO over Iran and strange green fireballs spotted from Los Alamos, N.M.

(Continued on page 14)

"In a nutshell, what they indicate is that UFOs exist," Hastings said.

The UFOs, Hastings said, seem to show a special fondness for cruising over nuclear weapons sites.

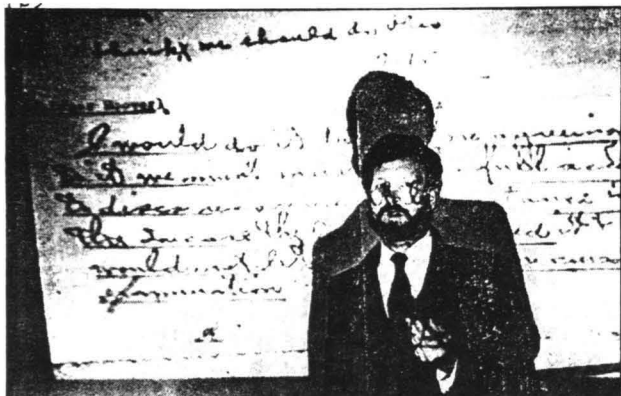
Taking the view that they are benevolent beings, Hastings thinks they may be concerned that we are on the eve of nuclear destruction.

"They — whoever they are — may intervene if it appears we are about to commit the ultimate stupidity," he said.

Four months a year, Hastings does the college lecture circuit, spreading the word that the government is keeping the sightings under wraps.

(continued on page 6)

Robert Hastings at Eastern Washington University.



Fireball, boom remain mysteries

From Staff, Wire Reports

Perhaps someone — or something — is trying to send us a message.

First came the celestial ball of fire Sunday evening that was spotted across a wide area of the Southeast, including Calhoun County, and then, this morning, there was the house-jarring boom that shook parts of Anniston.

Authorities believe the ball of fire may have been a meteorite, although they have yet to issue a definitive ruling.

Local officials were at loss this morning to explain what caused the loud noise that sounded like an explosion. Speculation centered around a possible sonic boom, however.

There is nothing to indicate that the two incidents were related.

William G. Keys was one of those who was treated to Sunday night's fiery spectacle. The 57-year-old retiree said he was fishing by a lake on his Calhoun County property at about 6:50 p.m. Sunday when a ball of fire shot across the sky. Keys said he had never seen

anything like it.

He wasn't the only person to sight the heavenly ball of fire. But, as of this morning, there had been no official explanation for the streak of "brilliant" light, which pilots over Alabama said "changed from red to green to orange" as it raced across the sky Sunday night.

The flash, which was sighted as far south as Orlando, Fla., as far north as Tennessee and as far east as Charleston, S.C., is believed to have been a meteorite, according to Jim Moates, area supervisor for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Birmingham.

W.C. Wilson of the Alabama Forestry Commission said he had received some 100 calls asking about the flash by about 8:30 p.m. Sunday. He said he was also keeping track of calls from people who said they'd heard a noise related to the flash.

Those calls seemed to come from an area around south Calhoun, Clay, Randolph and

Chambers counties, Wilson said.

Jacksonville State Troopers received many calls about the flash, and the sheriff's office in Randolph County said Sunday night that they'd had reports of a loud noise that may have accompanied the fireball. Several callers wondered if a missile had been exploded over the state.

But Capt. Barbara Carr, at Maxwell Air Force base near Montgomery, said Sunday night that no missiles had been exploded.

Observers reported seeing "flames coming out from around" the object as it streaked through the night, said John Whiteside, a FAA duty officer in Atlanta. "Even experienced people are totally amazed at the size and the fact that it came straight down rather than at an angle."

It was not known this morning if any object had hit the ground.

The loud boom in Anniston occurred at about 7:30 a.m. this morning. A 24-year-old man said his house on Christine Avenue

shook while he was making tea. Another Anniston resident said he was traveling east on 10th Street, near the offices of The Anniston Star, when the noise was heard. He said the boom reverberated so violently that he thought his car had been hit by another vehicle.

Yet officials at the Anniston police and fire departments, as well as the Calhoun County Civil Defense office, said they didn't hear the boom and had received no calls concerning the matter.

The public affairs office at Fort McClellan and the Anniston Army Depot said they had no explanation for the noise and that no artillery drills were scheduled for this morning.

The blast may have been a sonic boom, which is generated by an airplane flying overhead at or above the speed of sound, but this could not be immediately determined this morning.

He starts out by flashing a slide of a "Washington Whispers" page from U.S. News & World Report, which speculated that the Carter administration would reveal information about the government's UFO investigations. It never happened, but the whisper helps give a certain authority to Hastings' claims. He said CIA documents from the early 1950s indicate that fear of public panic kept the documents secret, but he argues that eventually the information will be released, and that the public should be prepared for the shock. Some of his audiences are already true believers, although Hastings doesn't necessarily agree with their deductions, such as "fundamentalists who tell him, 'I believe every word you say, because the Bible says these things are in the employ of Satan, and Satan is the prince of the air.'"

On the other extreme are professors of physics and psychology who upbraid him for having gall to make such claims, but who are generally quieter at the end of the slide show.

One of the most interesting documents is a 1950 memo from an FBI special agent to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, concerning the recovery of three flying saucers in New Mexico. "They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, approximately 50 feet in diameter. Each one was occupied by

three bodies of human shape but only 3 feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of a very fine texture." UFO researchers have been unable to turn up anything else about the alleged crash, but researchers have seen only a fraction of the government's documents on UFOs, said Hastings, who estimates that the CIA has 10,000 to 12,000 unclassified documents. "Basically, the climate is much chillier under the Reagan administration, as far as releasing documents, than it was under Carter," Hastings said. Documents could help explain a July 1947 memorandum from the Air Force to the FBI asking for help in interrogating witnesses of alleged UFOs. The postscript to the memorandum, written by Hoover, reads: "I would do it, but before agreeing to it, we must insist upon full access to discs recovered. For instance in the L.A. case, the army grabbed it, and would not let us have it for cursory examination."

Hastings speculates that "I.A." refers to Los Alamos, the New Mexico town where the first atomic bomb was tested.

Working with a former National Security Administration employee, Hastings, a free-lance photographer from South Carolina, hopes to write a book soon about UFOs and the government's alleged cover-up. "We are simply, openly, publicly challenging the right for the deception to continue," he said.

NEWS, Gardner, MA - Jan. 5, 1985 CR: B. Greenwood

UFO Sighting Reported

Although not a common occurrence, there are occasional sightings in this area of objects that are not easily explained. The objects are best known as UFO's (unidentified flying objects). Two Gardner News delivery drivers saw something which they believe may have been a UFO Wednesday. Debbie Bertozzi and Gale Phillips were driving back to The Gardner News from their delivery route in Westminister at dusk when they saw an object in the sky in front of them. The object was an odd shaped bright light hovering in the air. They said the light seemed to stay still for a minute and a half and then went straight up in the sky as they approached it in their car. They said there was no sound and the object seemed to disappear like a cloud. The drivers were headed west on a straight section of Route 2A before the Gardner line. Sightings are sometimes explained in terms of familiar objects such as helicopters, balloons or planes. In this case nothing seemed to fit the description. The woman said the object did not appear to be any sort of natural phenomenon such as the sun or moon. The road was empty of traffic at the time. Westminister police said no one else reported a sighting that night.

You don't have to be a nut to believe in UFOs

By GEORGE W. MOORE
Tribune Managing Editor

Unidentified Flying Objects, otherwise known as UFOs, have been bugging us Earthlings for years now, and they've generated quite a bit of excitement and controversy from time to time.

Some people scoff at the idea that there are such things as UFOs, much less that they may contain visitors from another world. The UFOs are really helicopters, or swamp gas or the products of fertile — sometimes intoxicated — imaginations, the disbelievers say.

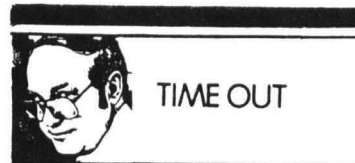
Others, however, aren't so sure, and I confess that I count myself in that group. If we look up into the heavens on a clear night, it's not so hard to imagine that somewhere out there, there's something at least as intelligent and curious as we are, and perhaps moreso.

I BRING up the subject because of some papers that crossed my desk this past week. But more on that later.

First, I'd like to explain how I became interested in the subject of UFOs.

We have to go back to the mid-'60s, when I was a young police reporter for a paper in Richmond, Va. I covered just about every crazy thing that came along between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 2:30 a.m. every Friday and Saturday night, and that included reports of UFO sightings.

There were a lot of reports of sightings



back then, and most came from residents of Hanover County, near Richmond.

I was skeptical, of course, until one night when an acquaintance — a young police patrolman — saw one and chased or was chased by it.

THE PATROLMAN, I should note, was an all-right guy in my book — bright, friendly and about as honest as the day, or night, was long.

His encounter with a UFO occurred in the early morning hours one summer day. He was in his cruiser on Richmond's far East End, near the Henrico County Fairgrounds.

As he approached the area, he noticed bright lights.

Thinking that somebody had inadvertently left the fairground lights on, he pulled into the parking lot to check.

Just then, the lights started rising, and it didn't take him long to figure out that he was looking at some sort of aircraft.

It left the fairgrounds and headed north along the Richmond-Henrico Turnpike, with the patrolman in hot pursuit.

By this time, of course, he was on his radio, and other officers were giving him all sorts of advice. "Shoot it," somebody yelled.

All of the sudden, the cat-and-mouse game was over. The object just took off, straight up, and disappeared.

A DAY OR two later, my paper did a story on the incident, and I talked to the patrolman a few days after that.

He stuck to his story, and when I asked, "Why didn't you shoot at it?" he explained that, in the first place, the thing hadn't done anything wrong, as far as he could tell. And in the second place, he said, he was afraid he'd lose control of his speeding cruiser if he tried to pull out his revolver and pump a few slugs into the thing.

Sounded reasonable to me.

Ever since then, I've been fascinated by the subject of UFOs, and I've even read a few good books on the subject. Which brings me to the papers that crossed my desk this past week.

They are copies of government documents that at one time were classified, and they make up a report entitled "UFO/Helicopter Overflights of U.S.A.F. Bases in 1975." The papers were obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by an outfit called Citizens Against U.F.O. Secrecy.

THE REPORT offers a fragmentary but sometimes chilling account of sightings on 24 nights in the autumn of 1975.

Close encounters of many kinds: UFOs won't go away

By L. Stuart Ditzen
Inquirer Staff Writer

It was a bright, clear afternoon last April, and John Velter, a Harrisburg businessman, and his company bookkeeper, Sandra Schell, were driving west on the Pennsylvania Turnpike near Valley Forge.

Far ahead, a shining silver object like a Frisbee tilted on edge descended from the sky and flew directly toward them. For several seconds the object advanced along the line of the highway, 500 feet or so in the air. Then when it was almost overhead,

it veered north, flew over a meadow and vanished.

"All of a sudden it wasn't there," said Schell. "I didn't take my eyes off it, and then, it just wasn't there." What they saw that day — apparently — was a UFO. Velter, owner of Blue Mountain Spring Water Inc., and Schell reported the sighting to police and then to a UFO hot line in Western Pennsylvania.

"I thought a crackpot had built an airship of some kind," Velter said. "I was waiting to see something in the newspapers."

But the sighting was just one — a comparatively undramatic one at that — of many UFO reports that are made regularly to police, government agencies and UFO organizations around the country and the world.

It has been nearly four decades since the first major wave of UFO sightings in the United States in 1947, and the mystery concerning them has refused to go away. There are thousands of new sightings every year.

As many as 90 percent of UFO re-

ports turn out to be aircraft, planets, meteors, space debris, weather balloons, kites, unusual atmospheric conditions and other explainable objects and events. But there are many sightings that even dedicated skeptics and debunkers are unable to explain.

"People want quick answers — Where are they from? What are they doing here? I wish I knew the answers," said J. Allen Hynek, retired chairman of the astronomy department at Northwestern University and director of the Center for UFO

Studies with offices in Lima, Ohio, and Scottsdale, Ariz.

The only discernable trend, Hynek said, is that a changing pattern in sightings seems to suggest that UFOs, whatever they are, are getting closer.

In the 1950s and 1960s, there were reports of "flying saucers" zooming about the sky. Now, according to Hynek and other researchers, the reports are frequently of "close encounters" in which UFOs are said to hover above treelines and to land. And in a growing number of cases,

sightings of "humanoids" also are reported.

"The strangeness index has gone up," said Hynek, 74, who is widely regarded as the elder statesman of UFO studies in America.

He and a small coterie of other scholars believe that UFOs hold possibilities for a spectacular development in human history — the opening of a window to the universe. There also is a dedicated clique of skeptics. Its leader, Philip Klass, a senior editor of *Aviation Week &*

INQUIRER, Philadelphia, PA - March 3, 1985

Since 1969, the Air Force has referred reports of UFO sightings to local police departments and to private UFO groups. All research on the subject has been done by individuals and a few scantily funded nonprofit organizations like Hynek's Center for UFO Studies, which operates on \$40,000 a year.

The most dramatic — and seemingly preposterous — of UFO sightings are those in which witnesses report seeing, and sometimes being abducted by, human-like creatures.

To describe these cases, Hynek several years ago coined the term "close encounters of the third kind," which became the title of Steven Spielberg's 1977 movie about a UFO landing on earth.

The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), based in Seguin, Texas, has collected 2,300 reports of close encounters of the third kind from around the world, dating back more than 40 years. According to MUFON figures, there were about 300 such reports in 1967. In 1975, there were 1,000. And in 1981, the number had grown to 2,300.

As a rule, researchers say, the people who make such reports appear to be sane, stable citizens. Rarely do they seek publicity. Often their accounts come out reluctantly, sometimes years after the event, and sometimes only through hypnosis.

Budd Hopkins, a New York artist who published the book *Missing Time* in 1981, has studied more than 50 cases in which UFO witnesses recount abduction experiences.

A common trait among the cases, Hopkins said, is that the subjects have memory blocks associated with UFO sightings.

In a typical case, Hopkins said, an individual reports seeing a UFO briefly at close range but later discovers that what had seemed only a momentary experience actually lasted for as long as an hour or two.

To probe the time gaps, Hopkins enlisted a New York psychologist, Aphrodite Clamar, who hypnotized the subjects and led them back through their experiences.

A pattern emerged, Hopkins said: Many subjects told of being confronted by small human-like creatures with bulbous heads, large liquid eyes and frail, emaciated bodies.

They told of being taken inside UFOs, into large lighted rooms, of being placed on tables and examined, as in a doctor's office, and then of being released.

Hopkins said his subjects sometimes told of having a sense of telepathic communication with their captors and a sense of paralysis. Some, Hopkins said, came away with small bloodless wounds — an incision on the back of a calf or a plug of missing flesh on a shin — that healed into scars.

"Nobody has any idea what really is going on here," Hopkins said. "We have no answer to any of the big questions. We just know it's going on, and it ain't the Russians."

Nine of Hopkins' subjects were given psychological evaluations by Elizabeth T. Slater, another New York psychologist, in 1983.

Slater concluded in a written report that the purported UFO experiences of the nine could not be attributed to mental disorders.

"One can conclude that the test findings are not inconsistent with the possibility that the reported UFO abductions have, in fact, occurred," Slater wrote. "... There is no apparent psychological explanation for their reports."

Hopkins declined to release the names of his subjects. "These people do not want any publicity," he said. "They don't know what the hell has happened to them. Every one of them is afraid it's going to happen again."

Hopkins played a 1983 tape recording for *The Inquirer* of a Nebraska woman recalling, under hypnosis, an experience she had in 1959, while driving home from a date late at night with her boyfriend.

Hopkins said the woman had a conscious recollection of seeing a blinding light, a human-like creature descending in front of the car and nothing more — a blank memory. There were two hours of missing time from that night, Hopkins said, that had troubled the woman for 24 years.

As the tape played, the woman's voice rose in distress:

"Do you see that light? Oh my God, did you see that light? My God, I've

never seen nothing like that. What is it? Oh God, what is it? ...

"Oh my God, do you see that? We're going to hit him. What is it? What is it? We're going to hit him. My God, we're going to hit him. ... Some kind, some kind of being. Oh my God. Oh God. There's no feet. There's no feet to him. ... It's just hanging in the air. He has some kind of metallic gray suit on. His hands hang to his sides. He has some kind of hooded top on his head. And, oh my God, his eyes, oh my God, oh my God, his eyes ..."

As the woman's account moved into the realm of forgotten time, her voice became more tearful and terrified:

"I feel numb. Paralyzed. I can't, can't, can't move. I can't talk. ... Oh my God, they're in front of the car. Oh my God, there are three in front of the car. ... The same beings, same beings, the eyes, dark, oh God, the dark eyes, and they're just looking at us. Jesus, just looking at us. They say to me, 'Get out of the car. Get out of the car.' I open the door, and I just stand there like a zombie. ... And one comes around the door and takes, takes hold of my arm. And there's lights all over. Lights all over. I can feel myself going someplace. ... On the road, going north. ... I'm numb. I can't fight him. I can't, I can't get away, can't get away. We're going north, up the hill. Oh God, oh God ..."

"What do you see now?" Hopkins asks on the tape. "What is happening?"

"Some kind of vehicle. Oh my God, it's round. Bright. Very bright light ... And he's trying to get me to walk up some steps. Oh my God. There's about 10 steps. The door slides, like into the wall, and we go inside. A large room ... And there are three beings, and they don't do anything. They just feel around on me. ... I'm by the door. They just look at me. Piercing eyes. And next thing, I'm outside again. I'm back in the car. ..."

Asked about such cases, Allen Hynek replied: "The only thing I can say is that to the people I've talked to — and I've talked to quite a few now — it is absolutely real. ... You cannot fob off the [accounts] as coming from a bunch of dodoes and crackpots."

The accounts are widely ridiculed by UFO skeptics.

"People see all sorts of things. They see pink elephants. They see fairies," said Paul Kurtz, professor of philosophy at the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Kurtz, chairman of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, said abduction stories are "a product of the creative imagination or science fiction. ... It seems to be a psychological, sociological phenomenon."

"All these are tales," said Philip Klass. "Do you believe in Santa Claus?"

Astronomer Louis Winkler of the Pennsylvania State University, who contends that UFOs are bits of debris entering earth's atmosphere from comet trails, regards people who tell of UFO abductions as lunatics. In keeping with his theory about comets, he said, "I call them comets."

A researcher who takes abduction stories more seriously but has developed a completely earthly explanation for them is Alvin H. Lawson, a professor of English at California State University at Long Beach.

Lawson contends that the people who relate UFO abductions under hypnosis in reality are recalling experiences from birth.

The descriptions of bright lights, of emergence from darkness into a lighted room, of strange beings and of loss of control are all birth images, Lawson said. "There isn't a single case that I've read of that isn't just oozing with birth imagery." His theory, he added, has not been widely embraced.

David M. Jacobs, a professor of history at Temple University, has studied UFOs for 19 years.

"This is not just a nonsense subject," said Jacobs, who has written a carefully documented book, *The UFO Controversy in America*, and who teaches a course at Temple called *UFOs in American Society*.

"We are dealing with huge numbers of sightings," Jacobs said. "The sightings do not appear to be related to societal events, societal stress, mass hysteria. Many people think it's a hysterical contagion. Not true.

Also, publicity about UFOs does not generate UFO sightings."

As a rule, said Jacobs, people who report UFOs are not cultists, kooks or hoaxers. "What we are talking about here is your normal, average, everyday citizen. What people see around the world are objects that fit within fairly narrow parameters. They see geometric objects in the sky."

Walter H. Andrus Jr., international director of MUFON, said his organization continues to catalogue about 350 UFO sightings each year for which no explanation has been found.

Stan Gordon, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, which operates a UFO hotline in Greensburg, Pa. (412-838-7768), said that about 20 unexplained UFO sightings occurred in Pennsylvania last year. The Center for UFO Studies has raw data on 80,000 sightings from around the world.

Hynek recently conducted a computer analysis of 400 cases and identified a series of characteristics which, he contends, defy natural explanation. In 68 cases, Hynek said, UFOs were reported to hover silently; in 23 cases, they were reported to silently accelerate with tremendous speed.

"In our physical world," Hynek said, "we don't have objects that can do those things."

The most sensational recent UFO sightings occurred in suburban counties north of New York City in 1983 and 1984, when large numbers of people saw huge boomerang-shaped objects with panels of bright lights gliding at low altitudes through the night sky.

The Federal Aviation Administration and local police contended that several pilots were flying small planes in close formation to create a UFO hoax.

Philip J. Imbrogno, who investigated the sightings for the Center for UFO Studies, found that some pilots did attempt to perpetrate a hoax, but only after reports of the "boomerang" had created excitement in several communities.

Witnesses who saw the boomerang, Imbrogno said in a report, were certain that what they saw was not a formation of planes. They described the object as traveling slowly and silently low in the sky, hovering and having a grey metallic shape.

Another spectacular series of UFO sightings occurred in 1980 near Bentwaters Air Force Base, a U.S. facility in England.

A Jan. 13, 1981, report written by Lt. Col. Charles I. Halt, deputy commander of the base, said a "strange glowing object" was seen by Air Force security police in Rendlesham forest near the base in the early morning of Dec. 27, 1980.

"The object was described as being metallic in appearance and triangular in shape," the report said "... It illuminated the entire forest with a white light. The object itself had a pulsating red light on top with a bank of blue lights underneath. The object was hovering or on legs. As the patrolmen approached the object, it maneuvered through the trees and disappeared."

The craft, according to the report, left three depressions in the ground in a triangular formation.

The following night, the report said, an extended series of additional sightings occurred in the forest and in the sky.

The Rendlesham forest sightings were detailed by UFO researchers Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood in a 1984 book, *Clear Intent*.

The sightings also were the subject of a recent series by Cable News Network that included an interview with an airman who said he and several other Air Force personnel saw three humanoids near a UFO as it hovered in the forest on the second night.

The sightings at Rendlesham forest have generated great excitement among UFO researchers. "It's an excellent, excellent case," said Fawcett. "It's one of the best cases in 30 years."

To date, the Air Force has declined comment on the sightings.

Klass calls the sightings "a typical UFO story in that there's lots of nonsense."

Hynek thinks they are yet another indication that something big is on the horizon.

"We are wandering close to the edge of 20th century science," said Hynek. "I think UFOs are introducing us to an aspect of reality that science hasn't touched yet."

Huge, colorful fireball likely a meteor, scientists say

The Associated Press

A huge fireball that blazed across the night sky over the Southeast, changing colors as it flew above startled spectators, was probably a meteor, scientists said Monday as they began seeking fragments.

Air traffic controllers reported sighting the fireball Sunday night as far north as Chattanooga, Tenn., and as far south as Orlando, Fla., Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Dennis Feldman said in Washington, and people as far north as southern Illinois also reported seeing bright lights in the sky.

The Lee County, Ala., sheriff's office received a "whole lot of calls about a sudden flash" that people said "just lit up their whole yard," said dispatcher Penny Smith.

Witnesses saw "flames coming out from around it," said John Whiteside, an FAA duty officer in Atlanta. "Even experienced people are totally amazed at the size, and the fact that it came straight down rather than at an angle."

"It appeared to be a ball of fire and seemed much brighter and bigger than a shooting star," said Tennessee highway patrolman Harold Munger,

who said he was about 10 miles east of Chattanooga when he saw it around 8 p.m.

"It had fire streaming from behind it. My concern at first was that it might have been an aircraft in trouble," Munger said. "It hit the horizon and went behind a mountain in front of me. I didn't see an explosion or anything. It just disappeared."

"Three pilots reported seeing a streak of light that changed from red to green to orange," said Ken King, the FAA supervisor at the Huntsville, Ala., airport. He said such color changes are typical

of meteors.

The Scientific Event Alert Network at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History said Monday it was collecting reports on the fireball and trying to determine if it struck the ground.

The center was assuming the phenomenon was a meteor and wants to determine if any remains can be located, said Elizabeth Nielsen of the center.

There were no immediate reports of any meteor debris being found.

Ms. Nielsen said the North American Air Defense Com-

mand, which tracks objects in space near the Earth, ruled out a satellite re-entry as the cause of the phenomenon.

"We did have a window for meteor showers for around the 20th of March, and this could have been part of that," said Cmdr. William Ranzinger, a duty officer at NORAD's Cheyenne Mountain complex in Colorado.

Howard Bookman, a meteorologist at the FAA air traffic control center in Hampton, Ga., said that, based on pilots' reports, the object probably entered the atmosphere about 50 miles northeast of Atlanta.

James Montgomery of the FAA at Birmingham said he was in the air traffic control tower and saw what "looked like a flash of lightning." He said it was "typical of a meteor."

Birmingham, Ala., newsman Ley Garnett said the light "broke into several pieces ... almost like fireworks."

Joe Gatewood, 32, of Cotton, Ala., said the light "was big and it changed colors rapidly. It was going from green to red to green to red, and then it was gone. It was only there for three or four seconds."

Glenwood man is perplexed by UFO sighting

By RICK KARLIN
Post staff writer

Lloyd Rauchfuss has hunted deer and elk in the remote sagebrush hills north of Dotsero for 30 years. But he has never seen anything quite like the bright sky-borne object he and his family saw on three separate occasions Saturday night.

He is convinced he saw a UFO. "It was for real, as far as I was concerned. What it was I don't know ... I've always believed there was something strange up there (in space)," the Littleton man said.

“It wasn't an aircraft as we know it, it was not a chopper, and it was not an airplane. I hadn't been drinking either.”

David Rauchfuss

Also viewing the object was Rauchfuss' wife, Helen, his mother, Edna, and son, David.

David, 24, who lives in Glenwood Springs, told the Post of the sighting earlier this week.

At about 7:30 Saturday night, he

was watching television with his father in the living room of his grandmother's cabin home, near the Red Dirt Bridge on the Colorado River Road, about 15 miles north of Dotsero.

Suddenly, Edna spotted a light in

the sky above the hilltops.

"We went outside and there it was, it was wild, I'd never seen anything like it before," Rauchfuss said.

He said the object was saucer-shaped and gave off an intense white light. A number of smaller red, green and blue lights surrounded it.

"It was hovering ... it was about 2,000 yards from where we were and about 2,000 to 3,000 feet high," he said.

That location would have placed the object above the Red Dirt Canyon, near the eastern boundary of the Flat Tops Wilderness area.

David first thought the object was the planet Venus, which is easily visible in the March sky, but he spotted the planet in addition to the mysterious object.

He said the object then started moving around with bullet quickness.

"It would hover then it would shoot up.

"It wasn't an aircraft as we know it, it was not a chopper and it was not an airplane.

"I hadn't been drinking either."

David then observed the object through the crosshairs of the 18-power scope on his varmint rifle for about 45 minutes, until the object disappeared behind a mountain.

The disappearance was followed by a bright flashing light from behind the mountaintop, he said.

David and his family then drove toward a relatives' ranch a few miles further south.

As they drove down the remote road, they again spotted the object flying through the sky.

Seconds later, their car stalled.

They were able to start the engine moments later. David noted the late model car had been trouble-free and had no tendency to stall.

While at the relatives, the sighting was reported to the Eagle County Sheriff's Office. Later, the Rauchfusses drove back up the road around 11 p.m.

"(David) Rauchfuss' manner on the phone was that of a calm, non-intoxicated and rational individual," the sheriff's incident report stated.

Upon returning to his grandmother's house, they saw the object again. David watched it race around the sky for another 45 minutes before it disappeared.

No other sightings were reported that night, according to the ECSCO.

UFO investigators said the sighting could have resulted from a number of phenomena.

Walt Andrus, director of the Mutual UFO Network in Seguin, Texas, said ice particles and dust in the atmosphere could cause a star to flicker and emit different colors.

Weather balloons or debris from rockets and satellites also could appear to be UFO's, he said.

"It's pretty difficult to say, 'yes it was, no it wasn't a UFO' ... 80 to 90 percent of reports, after thorough investigation, can be explained," he said.

But he noted the rapid movement and prolonged sighting might be hard to explain.

"It has all the aspects of a UFO," he said.

The Mutual UFO Network is a non-profit group that investigates UFO sightings.

BEACON, Cannon Falls, MN - Feb. 21, 1985

A close encounter

UFO IN VASA

UFO's -- to most of us the term conjures up visions of flying saucers, long-necked creatures gobbling Reese's Pieces and lizards in human suits clearing the neighborhood of rodents.

However, to Lori Treptow, a resident of Vasa township, the image became a lot more personal last week when she sighted a UFO in a field west of her house. The encounter occurred about 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Lori was first alerted to the presence of something out of the ordinary by the family dogs, all of them being great barkers. She said the dogs were "going crazy" so she stepped out the back door, which faces west, to see what was upsetting them.

"I looked out the window and saw lights in the field. I then stepped out (not far out) to get a better look.

"There were two objects just hovering above the ground. All I could see were lights, bright lights, about the size of four or five yard lights in a cluster. They were red, blue and white, flashing on and off and each changing color. The two light clusters hovered around each other, sometimes going up and down, getting closer together and then separating, almost as if they were communicating, then suddenly one just disappeared, like the lights just went off or they merged with the other cluster of lights."

The light group that was left then started toward Lori, who was still standing on the back step.

"I definitely felt like it knew I was watching," she said.

At that time Lori felt the wise thing to do was retreat to the house and call a neighbor for help. All this took about two minutes, although it seemed like much longer at the time, she said. By the time she was off the phone the object was gone. When the neighbor arrived they looked around the yard for evidence of the visit, but nothing remained but a very vivid memory.

After hearing the story, another neighbor of the Treptows told Lori that her husband and a visiting veterinarian from Red Wing had spotted the same type of light configuration in a field near their home two or three years ago. They never told anyone of the incident, assuming people would not believe it. Could the hills around Vasa serve as a rendezvous point for visiting space ships?

When asked about her feelings on UFO's, Lori said that she had always believed they were a possibility, not really convinced of their existence, but willing to have an open mind on the subject. Now she is sure that she saw something out there in that field that cannot be explained.

"I don't believe we're the only life form in the whole universe. There must be something else out there," she said.

Lori's husband and son had seen an object in the sky once that moved much too fast to be a plane or helicopter, but this was a much closer encounter.

Lori says she finds herself looking out the window often, but she says, "I hope I don't see it again!"

PRESS COURIER, Oxnard, CA - March 2, 1985

UFOs Seminar Topic At Religious Science

Virgil Armstrong, a retired Army officer who served eight years with the country's top intelligence agency and 10 years with the Green Berets, will discuss his experiences as a participant in the United States' first known capture of a UFO during today's seminar at the Oxnard Church of Religious Science.

"ET's and UFO's: Their Presence and Purpose" will be held from 1 until 5 p.m. at the church, D and Second streets in Oxnard. Tickets at the door are \$25.

Armstrong was an Army intelligence officer when he took part in "Project Grudge" at White Sands Proving Grounds, New Mexico, in 1948. Shortly after the incident (the capture), Armstrong began his own research in an effort to study and further uncover evidence of the UFO phenomenon. He said he has developed telepathic abilities to communicate with "higher intelligences"

and has traveled the country sharing his knowledge of the "space brotherhood."

Among the other topics to be discussed will be the question of mass UFO landings, the purpose of UFOs, space colonies, the moon as a space craft, how space beings travel the vast universe and more.

Refreshments will be served. The public is invited to attend this event.



David Rauchfuss

GLENWOOD POST, Glenwood Springs, CO - March 22, 1985 CR: MUFON



Swede's UFO claim can't be faulted

Pretoria News Foreign Service
STOCKHOLM. — Swedish authorities are taking seriously an extraordinary account by a family man who claims a host of "ETs" emerged from a UFO and tried to kidnap him.

A truck driver has corroborated part of the man's story.

A police report detailing the incredible experience of 41-year-old Ante Jonsson of Tingsryd, in February, was released this week.

Immediately after the incident he was sent to a mental hospital for psychiatric tests, but was discharged after two days, described as "fit as a fiddle" with no mental problems.

Mr Jonsson said: "I was driving home to Tingsryd about 1 am when I saw a monster UFO before me — it was about 80 m across and between 5 m and 10 m high. It hovered about 10 m off the road ahead of me."

The object disappeared and Mr Jonsson drove home and fetched his camera.

Skidded

But there was nothing there when Mr Jonsson got back to the spot. He was about to turn round and go home when suddenly it appeared again. This time he braked hard and his car skidded on ice and snow.

"I was scared stiff," he said. "I felt something strange come over me and I knew I just had to get out of that place."

Slithering and sliding on the icy road, Mr Jonsson's car almost crashed into the monster UFO as it

landed, blocking his way home.

"There was no way to get round the UFO — it was huge," he told police. His car stalled and as he tried vainly to restart it, "ETs" poured out of the UFO and came towards the car.

"One of the ETs opened the door and pulled me out. I screamed and managed to get free and flee for my life."

Deserted house

"I reached a deserted house off the road and hid there, but more came after me."

The approach of a heavy timber lorry saved Ante Jonsson's life, he believes.

"The driver didn't stop — perhaps he didn't dare," said Mr Jonsson. "It was probably what saved my life."

"I ran back out on to the highway and saw the timber truck slow down at the spot where I'd left my car. My legs couldn't carry me, fighting against the ETs had taken all my strength."

Back in his car Mr Jonsson collapsed. When he came round, the ETs had gone, but two policemen were ready with questions he could not answer.

Police records show a man calling himself Bengt Johansson had called police emergency to report a flying saucer. He is thought to have been the driver of the timber truck.

Swedish psychoanalysts can find no explanation for Mr Jonsson's story other than that it is the truth.

D.F. ADVERTISER, Kimberley, South Africa - Jan. 4, 1985 CR: C. Hind

'Christmas' UFO's sighted in city

UFO's have been sighted over Kimberley.

Three Kimberley residents said they saw an unidentified flying object on December 22. For fear of being thought 'mad', they were not prepared to be identified. The mysterious object was described as round, brown and balloon-like. 'Rather like a parachute', said one.

The object was first sighted at 4.35 pm and hovered in the sky for nearly half-an-hour before floating out of sight.

One of the residents described the object as, 'totally weird and scary'.

ORANGE

Mrs Cathy Hertog has also sighted a UFO. She and her daughter

Kelly saw the object on Christmas Day, however, and not on December 22.

Mrs Hertog said: 'I was sitting in the lounge when I saw an orange glow flickering through the windows. Thinking it was a fire I went outside and saw this orange ball hanging in the air'.

'Although it was huge, there was no noise, just

total silence. It was quite eerie,' she said.

After hovering in the night sky for about two minutes, the glowing object fell to the ground, dropping behind a house and some trees.

KNOWS

Mrs Hertog's eleven-year-old daughter believes she knows what the object was. 'It was the Star of Bethlehem,' she said.

A more scientific explanation for the object's existence was given by a spokesman for the Bloemfontein Observatory yesterday. The spokesman said there may be two possible reasons for the orange glow, as opposed to the usual white meteorite shower.

'Dust in the air is the most common reason', he said, 'but another explanation may be that the meteorite has started to cool'.

EVENING NEWS, Worcester, England
Feb. 28, 1985 CR: T. Good

UFO riddle has experts baffled

BIZARRE shining lights have been sighted above Bredon Hill, near Pershore.

And UFO expert, Elmley Castle plumber Gordon Gregory is keen to get to the bottom of the mystery.

He told the Evening News: "I have received several calls this week about strange lights in the sky, stopping and

starting again.

"I saw a satellite break up and want to know whether this is what frightened people, or whether something strange was up there."

Meanwhile, Tony Green of Worcester Skyscan, the organisation set up to monitor strange sightings, has heard nothing of the Bredon mystery.



UFO experts Ken Phillips and Dr Alexander Keul.

UFO euphoria!

AN unusual seminar into UFOs was held on Sunday, which focused not on the objects themselves but the people who see them.

Expert Dr Alexander Keul came all the way from Salzburg University, Austria, to host the seminar at the home of Ken Phillips in Falcon Avenue, Springfield.

Despite a poor turnout, the participants managed to concentrate their studies on the witnesses of UFOs, taking into account how they presented the information and their emotional state at the time.

"We are not really looking out of the window at an object that has long since gone. We are looking back through the window at the witness," explained Ken.

Those taking part were hoping to create, "a new body of UFO data... that is likely to generate the interest of professionalists," said Dr Keul.

The seminar organisers pointed out that now because the number of psychologically investigated UFO cases is so small, UFOs are considered "a purely technical business or non-existent".

Dr Keul commented: "I think the challenge of the witness as a phenomenon itself is worth our time and attention."

MILTON KEYNES GAZETTE, Buckinghamshire,

England - Feb. 22, 1985 CR: T. Good

BUNYIP, Gawler, S.A., Australia - Jan. 31, 1985 CR: P. Norman

Many sightings of bright lights over the Far North

By staff reporter
BRIAN BOLTON

BRIGHT lights reported to have been seen in the sky above Cairns and Mossman around 10 pm on Thursday also were sighted in Mareeba, Innisfail and Bamaga.

Most of the Cairns witnesses said they saw the lights at about 10 pm, while those in Mareeba said they saw them at about 9.45 pm.

The accounts differ, but only slightly.

Most witnesses said the lights were orange, but some believed there were red and yellow lights around the perimeter of an object.

One man presented "The Cairns Post" with a sketch of the object he sighted. He said it was oval with a black interior and a thin blue line running along the outside and another through the middle. Around the outside were a series of alternating red and yellow lights.

The man said he believed the object was half as big as the Cairns Showground, as he was standing at an 80 degree angle from it. It was the same height from the ground as the Pacific International Hotel, he said.

A Mareeba woman said many people at the Mareeba drive-in on Thursday night spotted the body of lights and a Mareeba man said he and his wife and two children saw it at 9.45 pm for about two seconds.

The body had some form of blue light at the back, like a comet, and was triangular in shape, he said. It was travelling in a direction as though it was going from Cairns to Mossman.

Another man told the "Post" yesterday he saw the lights cross the Belenden Ker range at about 9.45 pm. They were orange and the whole area was huge, bigger than a plane, and no noise accompanied it, he said.

It was triangular in shape and had two lights at the front and on its corner, he said.

An investigator with the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) Research Far North Queensland, Mr Russell Boundy, said he was unsure of the light's origin.

He said he had received four calls, the most detailed of which was from a woman who said there were three or four lights in a row, orange and pulsating.

The lights in the centre pulsed from orange to green and the body housed a white light at its back.

Mr Boundy said she had told him it was reasonably close to the ground when she saw it.

Two of the people who contacted him about the object said they were certain they had seen it at 10 pm or 10.01 pm.

Mr Boundy said he did not think it was a meteor.

THE SUNDERLAND FAMILY CLAIMS TO HAVE BOTH FRIENDS IN SPACE AND PSYCHIC MESSAGES

By TONY WILMOT

kids and they knew that eventually they would have to admit to any lying. Which is why I was convinced they were telling me what they honestly believed they had witnessed."

Neither Mrs. Sunderland nor her husband claims to have seen aliens. But both think they may have witnessed a UFO in the sky in the distance.

They saw a large pale-yellow light, which suddenly split into two yellow globes. The globes moved on in parallel course, then merged back into one before dipping down toward the ground and vanishing.

Mrs. Sunderland thinks the

children may have inherited the psychic side of their natures from her.

She explained: "I had my first psychic experience when I was nine, when my grandmother died.

"Often I'd see her ghost in my room and she'd tell me not to worry about her as she was all right.

"I wasn't frightened. I suppose I thought then that all people saw ghosts.

"Like many psychics, I can see the human 'aura'—the lights and layers of colour that surround a person. But the children say they see the aura more vividly than I do."

The family's extraordinary claims became the subject of a book—*Alien Contact* by Jenny Randles and Paul Whetnall, published in 1981.

The resulting press publicity put Mrs. Sunderland in touch with other local parents who admitted that their children had also seen UFOs.

It also attracted a host of UFO investigators—some of them crackpots.

Mrs. Sunderland recalled: "Some of these so-called investigators never met any of the family. They'd phone or send us detailed questionnaires to fill in. Some just turned up on the doorstep, demanding interviews.

"Some would dismiss everything we said out of hand. We were accused of being bad parents, or of having flipped our lids.

"Some asked the most personal questions—even to asking if Gaynor had been fed properly

as a baby. What you need is a sympathetic hearing and helpful advice from these people.

"But the majority seem to be looking for a vicarious thrill of some kind.

"My kids have often said to me: 'These people are absolutely dotty. Mum, yet they think we're the dotty ones.'

So what should parents do if their children say they have seen a UFO or talked to alien beings?

Mrs. Sunderland's advice is to listen carefully, not to interrogate and not to laugh the whole thing off.

"Discuss the encounter with the child over a period of time," she said. "Remember, for a child this is a traumatic experience.

"If you're convinced it's genuine, get in touch with the British UFO Research Association who, I'm sure, will assign a responsible investigator to your case."

Though Mrs. Sunderland claims psychic powers, it is Gaynor, she says, who is the most gifted psychic of the whole family.

"Gaynor's abilities are amazing," she said. "Often she seems to know exactly what people are thinking."

Mrs. Sunderland stressed that neither she, nor any member of the family has made any financial gain from their story. Nor had they sought or wanted payment.

Husband Fred, a chef, said: "I wish I knew what it all means, but I don't. Something is happening, though."

TREASURE

brass casket from a grassy mound on the river bank, just as Gaynor had described.

Inside was the stone. Mrs. Sunderland is convinced the group might never have found the stone but for her and Gaynor's psychic messages.

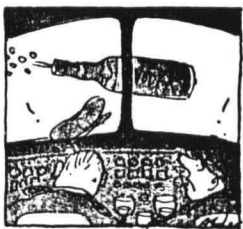
Gaynor, 17, receives "psychic impressions" like seeing a "message" on TV.

"I don't know the source of the messages," she says. "Sometimes it's a voice in my mind."

She adds: "I believe the stone's power can be used for good or evil, depending on in whose hands it is. Its power acts as a defence against evil forces."

Today the sword is in the hands of the Earl of Coventry on whose land it was found. The casket which, the authors say, has been dated at between 400 and 500 years old, is with the authors.

And the green stone—a cloudy-green and only 2in. by 2in.—is kept in Mrs. Sunderland's bank.



Russians see light on UFOs

A SPECIAL commission of the Soviet Academy of Sciences has officially acknowledged that the crew of an Aeroflot airliner on a domestic flight encountered "something that we call UFO's." Details of the incident appeared in the trade-union newspaper Trud. It was the first detailed Soviet account of an unidentified flying object based on air and ground observation.

Flight 8852 from Tbilisi to Tallinn was 75 miles from Minsk when, according to the crew, the co-pilot noticed, at 4.10am, a huge, bright yellowish star. The object emitted a thin ray of light which suddenly widened into a blinding cone, followed by two more cones. Passengers were surprised to see streets below them bathed in bright lights, but they became alarmed when the "searchlight" settled on the plane itself.

The light vanished, leaving a greenish cloud that began to descend at extraordinary speed and eventually took up position behind the airliner. The pilot alerted ground control, which pinpointed the UFO flying behind the plane at 30,000ft and 300 miles an hour.

The cloud changed shape into a plum, then a square and finally "solidified" as a giant, needle-nosed, wingless aircraft with a curious animal-like tail illuminated by a green and yellow light.

This "cloud plane" followed the airliner over Riga and Vilnius. Ground control in both places picked up two aircraft when flight schedules showed only one airborne at the time, and tracked them all the way to Tallinn, where the intruder was again picked up on radar.

But a US space mission controller at Nasa claims UFO sightings are used by the Russians to cover up tests of strategic weapons that violate the 1963 outer space treaty. James Oberg says rocket launches and the fiery return to earth of dummy warheads cannot be concealed from the Soviet public, so they are presented as mysterious intruders from other worlds.

Gabriel Ronay

SUNDAY TIMES, London, England - March 10, 1985 CR: T. Good

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, Leeds, England - March 25, 1985 CR: T. Good

Now an even closer encounter with the ET kind

An internationally-known UFO researcher and adviser to the House of Lords on the phenomenon claimed in Leeds that extraterrestrials have bases on earth.

Mr. Timothy Good, who has studied encounters with unidentified flying objects for 30 years, also claimed that Government intelligence agencies were aware of their presence.

Mr. Good, a professional violinist, was one of the guest speakers at a conference organised by the Yorkshire UFO Society in Leeds, entitled "Seeking the Truth." It was attended by a mixture of phenomena faithful and sceptics.

Mr. Good, of Bromley, Kent, produced dozens of documents marked "top secret" — leaked to him

from the American FBI and CIA — as well as a host of other stuff now available in the U.S. through the "Freedom of Information Act."

The papers, dating from the 1940s, told of mystery incidents involving the military and civilians throughout America and even included a highly-secret instruction to American Air Force pilots on the different approaches to UFOs and unidentified aircraft violating American airspace.

Mr. Good gave detailed information about encounters of the Third Kind — actual contact between people and alleged alien craft. He described many animals found in deserted areas with surgical wounds and claimed there were in America 39 strong reports of landed UFOs

which had been covered up by the American authorities. Mr. Good also showed a recent Russian Government report on UFOs and other documents relating to experiences in countries such as France and Iran.

He said he was not prepared to guess where the spacecraft came from, but said he was convinced some of them had bases on earth and craft and bodies of aliens were now in the possession of the American military.

On the local scene Mr. Mark Birdsall, the Yorkshire society's research co-ordinator, reported that in 1984 there had been 52 reports of UFO sightings, of which 14 had been identified.

AT FIRST glance, there seems to be nothing out of the ordinary about the Sunderland family. Husband Fred and his wife Marion live quietly in a neat suburban house with their five children and a pet dog.

But there are two crucial differences. For the Sunderlands are apparently blessed with amazing psychic powers—and their children claim they have had recurring contacts with aliens from outer space.

Brothers Darren, 16, and Barry, 14, two highly intelligent boys studying for A-levels and O-levels, are in no doubt that they have been privileged to share in close encounters of the third kind.

Their sisters, Gaynor, 17, and Nerys, 11, both say they have seen living forms that did not appear to be of this world.

The family's strange story began in the summer of 1976, when Gaynor, then nine, returned to her home in Flint, North Wales, after a cycle ride.

She told her mother that in a field nearby she had seen "a huge cigar-shaped silver-coloured craft, immobile and eerie".

It had a line of windows and glinted as if made of metal. A man and a woman, Gaynor said, had emerged from the thing. Neither had looked quite human.

The man was thin, angular and wore a skin-tight silvery suit. He also wore a helmet with a glass-like face-plate. He had fired a ray-gun at the ground, making several holes.

The man had seen her hiding in a hedge. The power of his gaze made her dizzy and turned her skin cold.

She felt that "an alien presence had entered her mind and was reading her thoughts".

Minutes later, the weird cigar-shaped object had flown off.

Within that same week, Darren and Barry told their mother that they had seen strange-looking flying objects and alien beings in fields.

Darren's UFO had been wingless, about 25ft. high and had rested on four tubular legs. Around it were five or six human-like men, about 4ft. 10in. tall, wearing silvery tops and green trousers.

The men, he said, had pink faces, large round eyes and only three fingers and a thumb each.

Nerys, at 11 the youngest member of the family, claims that she saw an orange disc that landed on the road near her home.

Some "tiny creatures with

green skin, no fingers and long, pointed ears" got out of the disc and went into one of the houses nearby.

Both Darren and Barry claim that they have had other vivid experiences with aliens.

Darren says aliens have visited him in his bedroom and took him on a trip to a tropical jungle. The experience was so real he could feel tall grass licking around his legs.

Barry says he still "sees his alien friends". He once startled

his mother by saying that the aliens had told him they would take him away one day.

But his mum wasn't to worry because the friendly beings had promised to bring him back again.

Mrs. Sunderland admits that she was "stunned" when the children first told her about it.

"At first I thought they were in collusion," she says. "But Fred and I always instilled in our children to tell us the truth.

"Anyway, they are intelligent



Darren, Nerys, and Gaynor with their Mum, Marion

'VOICES' LED TO BURIED TREASURE



Martin and Graham with the stone, the box and their book

MARION Sunderland and her daughter Gaynor claim that their psychic power played vital roles in the recovery of a historic royal stone which it is said can ward off the powers of evil.

The green gem-stone, which had passed through the hands of an Egyptian Pharaoh and later the 12th century Knights Templar, eventually came into the possession of Mary Queen of Scots.

It is believed that she bequeathed the stone to the Wyntour family shortly before her execution. And soon after this, it vanished.

For Robert Wyntour—executed for his role in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605—is said to have hidden the stone before his own death.

But for psychic messages from "beyond", the stone might have remained lost to this day.

Only five years ago, authors Graham Phillips and Martin Keatman say, they were told by psychics that they must embark on a search for the long-lost jewel.

In their book *The Green Stone*

(Granada, £2.50), Phillips and Keatman say they were directed on their quest at the outset by a mysterious voice calling itself "Joanna".

Phillips fell into a trance and "Joanna" provided a starting point in the hunt—Harvington Hall, near Kidderminster, where Humphrey Pakington, a contemporary of Wyntour's, had lived.

According to the psychics, it was Pakington—not Wyntour—who had hidden the stone after the Gunpowder Plot failed.

In Harvington Hall, the searchers discovered paintings containing a secret coded message which led to a secluded area in Worcestershire. But where to look next?

Hundreds of square miles were involved. It seemed an impossible task.

At this stage, Marion Sunderland came into the drama. She had met the authors at a UFO press conference in the late Seven-

ties, and she told them now of an amazing experience she had at home in North Wales.

While watching TV, she had suddenly had a vision of "a sword lying on a stone slab at the bottom of some water". She was also aware of the smell of rotting vegetation.

Another psychic message led the authors to Knights Pool, near Worcester. Searching the pool, they were aware of "an overpowering stench of decay" near a stone bridge.

In a recess, under part of the masonry, they uncovered a short sword bearing the coat of arms of Mary Queen of Scots.

Some time later, Mrs. Sunderland's daughter, Gaynor, received an "impression" that if she held the sword she would be able to locate the stone.

Standing on the bridge, and using the sword like a divining rod, Gaynor directed the searchers to a bend on the River Avon called The Swan's Neck.

The next day they unearthed a



'I have gone away to walk aboard an alien space ship. . . .
 Dreams assured a . . . voyage to explore the vast universe.
 Love, Granger'

Is vanished son adrift in space?

By Derek Sidenius
 Times-Colonist staff

The silver spaceship sits on metal pillars under the trees at Jim and Grace Taylor's farm near Duncan.

Its aluminum-plate ramp door is ajar and broken — the Taylors suspect from children playing — but inside, the large old sofa, pot-bellied stove, and plywood sleeping ledge are much the way their son, Granger, left them.

All around the verdant property that sweeps down to the marshes of Somenos Lake, there are collections of old equipment — steam pots from donkey engines, old tractors, an ancient bulldozer, railroad artifacts of a bygone era — that their son culled lovingly from Cowichan Valley bushes.

They are much the way Granger left them, too.

The Taylors have tried to keep everything the same.

His bed in his bedroom next to the kitchen is untouched. The plaques he saved from engines he'd repaired — triumphs and trophies of his mechanical aptitude — hang on a cupboard door.

His books are there, too, paperbacks, mostly, with titles like *Black Holes*, *The Secret Forces of the Pyramid*, *Flying Saucers Here and Now*, and *From Outer Space*, stored now in a cardboard box.

The Taylors desperately want to believe their son will come back.

But after 51 months, it is tough to keep up hope.

Granger has simply vanished. Almost as if he was plucked off the face of the world.

If you can take Granger's word for it, that is what happened.

Before leaving, he tacked a note to his father's bedroom door. His father found it when he came home from work the afternoon of Nov. 29, 1980.

"Dear Mother and Father," it said.

"I have gone away to walk aboard an alien spaceship, as reoccurring dreams assured a 42-month interstellar voyage to explore the vast universe, then return.

"I am leaving behind all my possessions to you as I will no longer require the use of any. Please use the instructions in my will as a guide to help

Love,
 Granger"

On the other side of the note was a contour map of Mount Waterloo, west of Duncan near Skutz Falls.

If the map has any hidden meaning, no one knows what it is.

The 42 months were up last May 29. The Taylors left the back door unlocked that night just in case he showed up. But he never did.

RCMP in Duncan have tried to find Granger, who would have turned 36 last Oct. 7, but despite what Cpl. Mike Demchuk described as "exhaustive checks" nothing has turned up — not a single clue to his whereabouts.

Granger presumably left in his 1972 light blue Datsun, one of several older model pickup trucks he owned.

The vehicle is still missing and to Demchuk that is the most baffling element of a most baffling case.

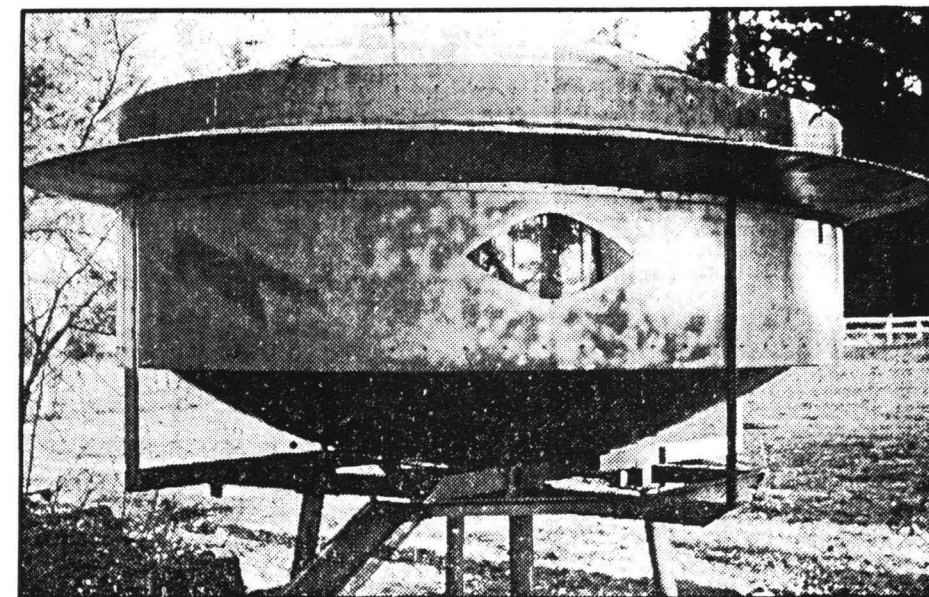
"One would expect the car at least to be found," he says. "You just don't get rid of something that large without someone knowing about it."

The vehicle's licence expired in 1981 so police are reasonably certain it is no longer on the road.

The Taylors, realizing how crucial the recovery of the vehicle is to solving the riddle of their son, periodically take out newspaper ads offering a \$100 reward for anyone finding it.

There has been no response.

With so little to go on, the investigation has centred on standard checks — passport office, Revenue Canada,



■ GRANGER BUILT this spaceship from two satellite dishes and even slept in it on occasion.

Unemployment Insurance. Granger's name has been put on the national police computer system. And the motor vehicle branch in Victoria has been alerted in case Granger's driver's licence, which expires this October, is renewed.

The last anyone recalled seeing Granger was early Saturday evening, Nov. 29, 1980, when he stopped in at Bob's Grill in Duncan for supper. He was a regular at the roadside diner.

Linda Baron was working in the kitchen. She saw him enter and take a table by himself. She couldn't recall any conversation, but Granger was the quiet type anyway.

She remembered he wore a brown knitted sweater zipped up front, a black T-shirt (he was never without), jeans and logger boots. He didn't have his winter coat. Strangely, Taylor discovered the coat a couple of days later inside the sturdy doghouse that Granger built for his huge Newfoundland dog, Lady.

Granger left around 6:30 p.m.

That night a storm struck the central part of the Island. Hurricane winds were reported in Port Alberni. Power was knocked out in several locations, including Duncan.

Granger would have been hard to miss in any crowd.

Built like a bull, he weighed 120 kilos and was as fit as a wrestler. Indeed, he was a wrestling buff and even had his own ring on the farm. According to Taylor, the well-known Canadian wrestler Gene Kinisky once paid a visit.

Granger's shyness, self-effacing manner and introspective nature earned him the sobriquet of Gentle Ben. But what really set him apart was his exceptional ability to fix anything mechanical.

"I guess you could call him an eccentric genius," long-time friend Bob Nielsen said.

Even Granger's teenage accomplishments were impressive.

At 14 he made himself a one-cylinder car. It's now in the Duncan Forest Museum directly across the lake from the Taylor farm.

At 17 he overhauled a bulldozer that no one else had been able to repair.

He restored an old steam locomotive that he hauled from the bush. It's in the museum, too.

He even built an airplane, a replica of a Kitty Hawk warplane that for a couple of years was mounted outside a store on the Island Highway just



■ BOOKS indicate intense interest in space and UFOs phenomena.

south of Duncan.

A Manitoba restorer of vintage aircraft bought it in 1981 for \$20,000. The Taylors put the money in Granger's bank account and there it waits, collecting interest. The balance now totals around \$30,000, including other savings he had on hand.

A Grade 8 drop-out, Granger got his first job with a neighbor as a mechanic's helper. After a year or so, he quit to go on his own. He never worked for anyone else.

At one point he got his pilot's licence and bought a plane with a partner.

In the late '70s Granger, a keen believer in UFOs, built a spaceship out of two large satellite receiving dishes which he welded together.

His father said it took him six or seven months to complete the project.

He spent hours sitting in the contraption. He slept in it on occasion, too.

Granger was obsessed with finding out how spaceships were powered.

All of his friends knew of his interest. It was one subject about which Granger was never reticent about talking.

A month before he disappeared he told Nielsen he had had contact with some other being.

"He said it happened when he was in bed," Nielsen recalled. "He lay there and got mental communications with somebody from another galaxy."

"He couldn't see them. I said they can't just be mental, but he said it was like they were talking just to him and to his mind. He was asking questions about the means for powering their crafts. The only thing they'd tell him was it was magnetic."

A few days later Granger mentioned he'd been invited to go on a trip through the solar system. He would know at the end of the month where and when he'd be picked up.

Granger was thrilled, Nielsen said.

A week before he left he took several of his friends out on the town. It was sort of a going-away party.

"Everyone thought the trip was just a dream," said Nielsen.

They humored him. But nobody entirely discounted Granger's stories. "He was such an unusual sort of guy," Nielsen said.

Granger didn't reveal details of the rendezvous to anybody.

The night before he left he went into his father's bedroom and had a long talk with him about how grateful he was for all Taylor had done for him. Granger was a stepson but that distinction had never mattered in the past. His mother was in Hawaii, her first holiday in years. She's never completely forgiven herself for being away at this critical time.

Granger left two wills with detailed instructions to his parents on what to do with his possessions. The word "deceased" was scratched out and substituted with "departed."

There are those who believe Granger went on his space trip.

John Magor of Duncan is one. He's a UFO devotee who once edited his own quarterly magazine on the subject.

In the past five years or so he's heard of at least 20 sightings on southern Vancouver Island, he said, many from the Mount Prevost area. (Mt. Waterloo is just a bit farther west.)

(continued on page 12)

There have been reported cases of aliens taking humans on rides in saucers in other parts of the world; why not here, then? he mused.

Dr. Max Edwards, a linguist and former professor at the University of Victoria, is another believer. He's devoted years of scholarly research to the phenomenon.

The Island is not on the favored route taken by saucers that circle the globe, he said. Sightings here are relatively rare but that doesn't mean they don't occur, nor does it mean that Granger wasn't telling the truth.

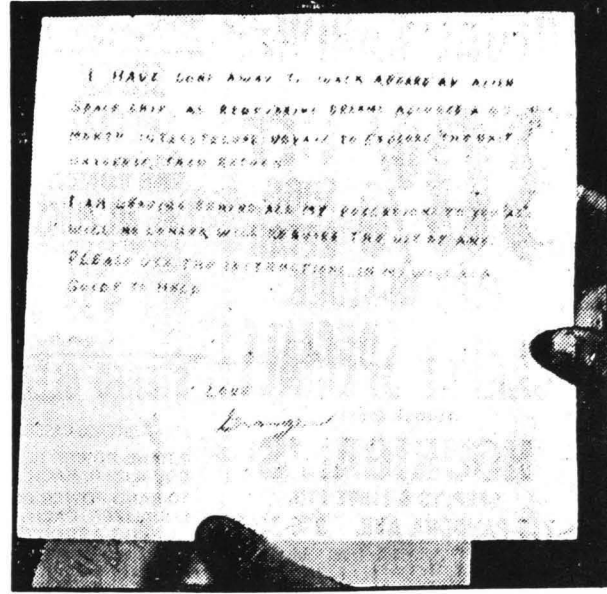
The simple truth is no one knows the answer.

"I can hardly believe Granger's off in a spaceship," his father said.

"But if there is a flying object out there, he's the one to find it."



■ JIM AND GRACE Taylor wait and hope for son's return.



■ LETTER to parents adds to puzzle of what was on Granger's mind.

NEW STRAITS TIMES, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia - March 9, 1985 CR: Y. Matsumura

Village folk report sighting of UFO

KUALA BERANG, Fri. - A UFO sighting has been reported in Hulu Terengganu.

Several people in the area said that they saw an unidentified flying object in the sky last Saturday.

The villagers, especially those living in the upper reaches of Sungai Temong near the Kenyir dam, were awakened by an unfamiliar sound in the pre-dawn hours.

They rushed out of their houses and saw a round brightly-lighted object streaking pass the heavens.

A farmer from Kampung Basong said the object left a trail of rainbow colours in its wake and shot across the sky at a tremendous speed towards the walls of the dam in Sungai Gawi.

"In a matter of seconds, the object reached the other side of Bukit Simpul and suddenly lost speed," he said pointing towards the hill which acts as one of the natural walls of the dam.

A religious teacher from a neighbouring kampung said that as soon as it reached the other side of the hill, the flying object lost balance and disappeared with a loud sound, like that of a bomb exploding, causing a vibration.

The vibration was over within a few minutes but the villagers stayed awake until sunrise. - Bernama

DAILY MIRROR, London, England
Feb. 1, 1985 CR: D. Speed

Russians in UFO probe

RUSSIAN air force bosses are carrying out a secret top-level inquiry into UFO sightings.

At least 300 UFOs have been reported by Soviet military and civilian pilots, it was revealed yesterday.

None of the sightings can be dismissed as hoaxes or genuine mistakes, according to a Russian newspaper report quoted by the New York Times.

The latest incident involved an Aeroflot airliner near Minsk.

The crew and passengers reported seeing a bright yellow light from which a thin, white ray shot to the ground.

The ray of light turned into a green cloud which crossed their flight path and began to take on the shape of a plane.

The crew, all experienced fliers, were convinced they had been buzzed by a UFO.

Ground controllers claimed to have seen the plane being followed by unexplained blips on their radar screens.

Still spellbound by boyhood UFO

LIKE things that go bump in the night, Unidentified Flying Objects are dismissed by the cynics.

We can all enjoy films like Close Encounters and Star Wars, but suggest some reality behind the fantasy, and you are likely to be laughed all the way to the moon.

But one Luton man has been spellbound by the mysteries of outer space for 27 years.

Bill Dillon, of Hollybush Road, was a ten-year-old pupil at Ramridge Junior School when something happened that changed the rest of his life.

"We were in the playground, reconvening after a lunch break," said Bill, now 38. "Suddenly, we saw a glimmer in the west. At first we thought it was a glider

or aeroplane. It started off very small, but as it moved closer, we saw that it was the shape of a classic flying saucer.

"It was an absolutely astonishing event. The whole thing lasted about three minutes and by the end of that time, everyone in the playground was watching."

Bill went to the local library and did a considerable amount of research into UFOs. He started reading specialist magazines avidly and eventually made contact with several of the country's leading UFO experts.

"There are three types of people reporting strange sightings," explained Bill. "People who are mentally deranged, people who are doing it for some sort of

kick, and a small residue who are genuine. Sometimes the calibre of witnesses and the standard of their testimony is so high that no matter how remarkable, it cannot be ignored.

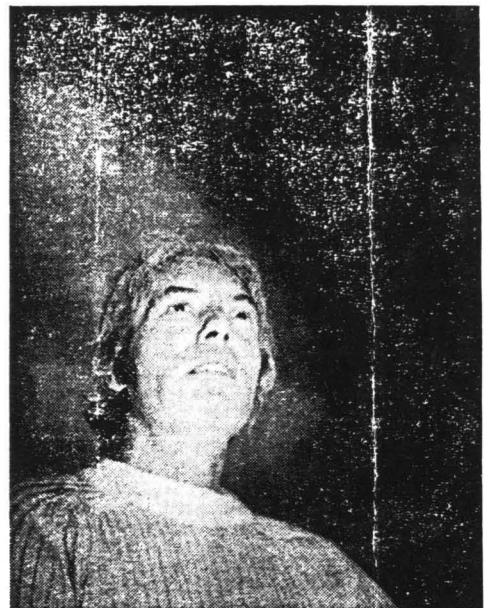
"I can understand people's cynicism, it is something we are stuck with, and there is nothing we can do about it."

Bill has had no other sighting since 1957, but the memory of that one is enough to keep his interest going strong. He is a founder member of Luton Astronomical Society and a member of the British Interplanetary Society, among other organisations.

As an extension of his hobby, he has produced several art works on a space theme. Most of them have been sold, others have been published in various books and magazines around the world.

And with the enormous amount of space research now going on, does he think an answer to his questions will be provided in his lifetime?

"It's possible," said Bill. "But I think we are going to have to find an answer to a lot of the problems by applying our brains as well as by travelling in space."



● Bill Dillon waits in anticipation for another close encounter.

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, Leeds, England - Jan. 4, 1985

Fancy that!

DO YOU remember anything odd about the night of July 23 last year?

According to the main headline in Bradford's evening newspaper you certainly should. The Telegraph and Argus reported on Monday an astounding theory put forward by one Mr. Gerry Birdsall, described as president of the Yorkshire UFO Society.

Mr. Birdsall says there was a succession of UFO sightings over Yorkshire that night and came up with the theory that "silent" helicopters equipped with lights so powerful that they were capable of boiling tarmac at close range were engaged on plotting the county's pits and power stations.

Mr. Birdsall hints at some mysterious military involvement, but this seems somewhat unambitious on his part.

Surely the Army would have had the gumption to buy maps instead of deploying "silent" helicopters?

On the other hand little green men might have felt somewhat shy at the prospect of slipping into Austicks book shops and on this ground, if no other, intruders from outer space seem the more likely candidates.

Why might they be interested? Perhaps the silent helicopters and their furious lights are coal-fired.

If so, they may feel that their resources are endangered by Mr. Seagill's strike.

This may be an entertaining theory but it is far more likely to be a severe case of Uninhibited Fanciful Observations.

CR: T. Good

NEWS, Luton, England - Feb. 7, 1985

CR: T. Good

Mystery of the Saddle Lake monster haunts residents

PRESS & JOURNAL, Aberdeen,
Scotland - Feb. 26, 1985

Woman claims Nessie sighting

THE Loch Ness Monster has once more betrayed his — or her — presence in the dark depths, believes Lady Christian Innes of Balvenie.

A routine sightseeing trip up the west side of the loch with her brother, Maj. Peter

Rattray, Dundee, was interrupted when they got out of the car by the north of Urquhart Bay.

"We had seen the my Scott II cruiser going down the loch five minutes before," said Lady Innes, the Loom House, Auldgowan, near Muir of Ord.

"I remember my brother was looking at a small sloop leaning down the other side of the loch when I saw this long and narrow line of turbulent water at the nearer west side."

"The yacht and cruiser were both too far away to have been responsible, and the line of disturbed water had a very clear starting point, unlike the wake of a vessel."

By CHRIS VAN KRIEKEN

Journal Staff Writer

SADDLE LAKE — Repeated sightings of a suspected lake monster have helped prompt the closing of Saddle Lake and captured the interest of the University of Alberta.

The monster — rumored to have once lured a child to her death — has been seen for generations in this small lake on the Saddle Lake Indian Reserve, 175 km northeast of Edmonton.

The creature has no name because it can't be clearly described.

Some say it is a hairy serpentine monster ranging in length from one to 69 metres. Some say it has a horse-like head and another claims it has a horn on its forehead.

There are those who say the creature has never harmed anyone, but others recall a legend of a girl, about age three, who was somehow enticed into the water by the monster about 100 years ago.

They claim her screams can still be heard at times.

Saddle Lake band councillor Willie Brertton estimated the monster has been sighted about 100 times over the years. He has heard of about 10 sightings already this year.

The band's council decided it wanted answers to the monster mystery after a band employee told the provincial Fish and Wildlife Division he had seen the creature in June.

In late July, the council closed the lake to motor boats, citing fear about the monster and concern that the boats were polluting the lake, the source of the band's water.

Councillor Brertton, who was appointed to investigate the monster reports further, went to the provincial Fish and Wildlife Division, which contacted the University of Alberta.

Three university specialists visited the lake July 31 and Aug. 1. Although they found nothing, two of them may investigate further.

The third expert — Wayne Roberts, curator of the university's zoology museum — believes the sightings were probably nothing more than animals such as moose and beavers.

"That's too bad, because I like to think there are things out there we haven't seen," he said.

Roberts also patrolled Saddle Lake with a depth sounder, but found it had no unusual features. It had an average depth of about 12 metres and was about 18 metres at its deepest point, he said.

But Brertton said local fishermen claim there are bottomless sections in the lake. The lake is also linked to the North Saskatchewan River, which could explain how the creature got into the lake, he said.

Even the band's burly police chief, James Steinhauer, has seen the creature. He was so frightened by what he saw that he still refuses to let his two children swim in the water.

Steinhauer said it was about midnight in August 1983, that he and his partner saw the creature swimming back and forth, about 46 metres offshore.

A light fog made it hard to determine the monster's features. But Steinhauer could see that it was similar to a snake, but measured roughly one metre in width. He could not see its length because it was hidden by the water.

"We got scared," remembered Steinhauer. "We threw a couple of rocks at it and took off."

"Before I used to think it (sightings) was just a bunch of lies. Now, I believe there is something in the lake."

Robert Purdy, a U of A wildland recreation graduate student who had also gone on the Saddle Lake trip, believes



Willie Brertton scouts Saddle Lake for the monster
... legend says it lured a young girl to her death

there might be something to the sightings.

"I believe the people who were telling the stories had seen something that disturbed them," said Purdy. "They couldn't all be mass-hallucinating. Who knows? Maybe they were."

"Since I'm new in this area, I would like to go back there with someone like Jim Butler."

Butler, a wildlife recreation professor, spent only a brief time at the lake July 31 before being called away by a death in the family. He is now on a trip in the mountains and will not return until later

this month. Purdy said he thought Butler wanted to talk to more of the residents.

The residents have no doubt there's something in the lake.

Elmer Jackson, a 59-year-old farmer who lives near the lake, described the creature as having a single horn on its forehead with a body about one metre wide and 69 metres long. He got a view of it three years ago when it surfaced about three metres from his boat.

"I felt scared," recalled Jackson. "I thought it was the end of my life. I just froze there." But the creature swam away.

Saddle Lake Chief Henry Quinney is skeptical of the sightings.

"It's been going on for years, I really don't know what to say," said Quinney. "I have to see it to believe it."

To appease the residents, the provincial Fish and Wildlife Division plans to fly a helicopter over the lake in October when the water is clearer.

"We are willing to do that to appease them somewhat," said Ray Makowski, fish and wildlife director for northeastern Alberta.

"They obviously must be seeing something," he added. "The question is, what is it?"

"I'm quite certain it was caused by Nessie."

Lady Innes said she had no time to investigate the exploitation of the Loch Ness Monster, but she has long been a firm believer in the existence of a family of large prehistoric creatures, lurking in the depths.

"In fact, I've frequently sailed down the loch myself on the Scott II with my binoculars," she said.

Lady Innes is an adherent of the theory advanced by naturalists Sir Peter Scott — that the monsters were deep-sea creatures trapped in the loch after the last Ice Age.



FORTEANA NEWS

HERALD EXAMINER, Los Angeles, CA - Jan. 31, 1985

Q&A

His quest for
life is just out
of this world

"Hello out there, is anybody listening? Boy, would the people behind the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence project love to hear something like, 'Yeah, here we are, send more Chuck Berry.' Of course, nothing like that has remotely turned up, but Dr. Michael J. Kiern, the project manager and co-author of 'Cosmic Quest: Searching for Intelligent Life Among the Stars,' will continue listening nonetheless. Kiern was interviewed by Herald Q&A editor Mitchell Fink."

Question: The search for extraterrestrial intelligence has been going on for a number of years. In any of your searches, has anything ever turned up?

Kiern: So far, the searches have not turned up anything that would indicate that we have a real signal. There have been some interesting events, but we've never been able to verify anything.

Q: What were they, irregularities in sound waves?

A: Not sound, but radio waves. Sound doesn't travel across space, but radio waves do. As we point a radio telescope in a particular direction, we've seen a signal start to come into the antenna beam. In other words, if the sky is drifting and we point our antenna in a particular direction, then the amount of energy coming in, if there is a radio source there, comes into the field of view of the antenna beam then the signal will increase to a peak and then decrease as the source moves out of that beam again.

What we have seen is occasionally a signal coming in at a particular frequency, and not at neighboring frequencies, and then it goes away, disappears. Most likely, these kinds of things have been interference from some transmitter here on Earth.

Q: The project you are managing now, how long has that been going on?

A: The current funding started in '81. It's a 10-year program. Right now, it is in a 3-year research and development program, which will terminate in '87. At that time, we hope to get some implementation money to build some of the hardware we are presently designing, then start a serious search around 1990.

Q: What do you mean by "serious search?"

A: Serious meaning that we will be carrying on searches during our research and development phase, but they are fairly limited. All the other searches that have been done have been greatly limited, a little bit by sensitivity, but mostly by their inability to look at a large number of frequencies at once. The cosmic haystack is a very large place. The haystack is bounded by how far away they are, in what direction they might be. We have no idea in what direction to look, we have no idea how far away they might be, no idea at what frequency they might be transmitting.

Q: Is what you're doing based on the assumption that intelligent life might be trying to contact us?

A: Not contact us, contact emerging civilizations. If you think about it, our sun is a very average star. There is nothing special about it; others are bigger, smaller, older, younger. So, our assumption is that there are a lot of other average stars out there that could have spawned life on Earthlike planets. If planetary systems are as abundant as we think they are.

Q: So, if we're average, we assume that some intelligent life is up to our capability?

A: Right. We assume we are the technological infants. If you are any younger than we are technologically, you can't commu-

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13 -
HERALD EXAMINER, Los Angeles,
CA - Jan. 31, 1985)

nicate, because we didn't discover how to stick our toe into space until our lifetime. A hundred years ago, it was totally impossible to think of transmitting across the great distances of space. Now we can do it with ease.

Q: I'm fascinated by this central assumption that "they" are smarter than we are.

A: That's not even an assumption. If there is life out there, that's almost a given.

Q: If they're so smart, why haven't they contacted us?

A: There are between 100 (billion) and 200 billion stars just in our own galaxy. We know that the number of solarlike stars is several billion for sure. We have to say that the big assumption is that life is not unique to Earth. Everything we know about the universe says it is not. The assumption is that there are other Earths out there and the numbers are so staggering.

I personally believe that there is life out there somewhere. Is it within our destiny, ever, to contact them? There are two ways to contact them. One is to send a spaceship from here to there. Another is to communicate. To send a spaceship is something we can do if the distance is 10 or 20 light years. But when you start going much further, you start getting into one-way trips. In order for them to visit us, you require them to be older than we are. I have no problem with that.

But if you go from here to there, start accelerating yourself close to the speed of light, and if the theory of relativity is correct, and your biological clock runs slower relative to your home base, you could go somewhere and come back in a much shorter time than the time that would have elapsed on Earth. But even then it is a one-way trip.

You come back to an Earth that is no longer the Earth you remember. It might be 1,000 years older than when you left. One has to question the motivation of someone willing to make that kind of trip.

Q: Why are we listening, as opposed to sending?

A: Since we are the technological infants, it behooves us to listen for evidence of more advanced civilizations communicating. They could be directing a signal directly at us. I don't want to rely on that. We make the assumption that someone is sending out signals, but they may not know we are here. Think of a lighthouse with beams going out in all directions.

Q: Let's say "they" are intelligent enough to have come to the same conclusion. In effect, everyone's listening....

A: And no one is sending. I understand your point. But, if they have evolved further with their technology, maybe they are sending.

Q: Why do you do this?

A: I have been interested in astronomy since I was 9. The reason I do it is that I think we as human beings need to gain perspective of who we are, where we came from and what our destiny might be.

I think it's critical that some fraction of our population tries to help us learn collectively, so that we as a human race, will progress from one stage to the next without destroying ourselves, without going back to the caves. I'm in it not so much to advance our technological capabilities, although that is a good thing to do.

My real interest is that we as a race need to gain perspective of who we are. Science helps us do that because it gradually unlocks nature's secrets. And the possibility of unlocking life somewhere else is a very humbling thought, to say the least.

JOURNAL, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - Sept. 1, 1984

Creature is Loch Ness-type, hair or fur on body, man says

Stories By
CHRIS VAN KRIEKEN
Journal Staff Writer

A man documenting repeated appearances of a creature in a remote northern Alberta lake says residents and visitors are seeing a Loch Ness-type monster.

The creature on Christina Lake, 145 km south of Fort McMurray, is at least five metres long — if not longer — and appears to have either hair or fur on its body, said Randy Sampietro, whose father has operated a fishing lodge on the lake for 12 years.

"I think it's a Loch Ness monster," said Sampietro, an oil patch driller from Lac La Biche. "If it's a fish, it's got to be an awfully big fish. (And) a fish wouldn't break the surface and put its head above the water. They do not dive and leave air bubbles and two-foot waves."

Sampietro has spent a year collecting the names of 16 people who have seen the creature in the last five years.

In July, he turned the names over to the Provincial Fish and Wildlife Department, which wants to give the list to Jim Butler, a University of Alberta wildland recreation professor, when he returns to work next week.

Butler and two colleagues recently travelled to Saddle Lake, 175 km northeast of Edmonton, to examine repeated reports of another lake creature.

Sampietro has heard of sightings dating back to the days when only natives wandered through the area, but his father, Ron, has heard reports only in the last 13 years.

Ron also believes he may have been the last person to have sighted the creature, when it surfaced 23 metres from his boat on July 3.

"It was a hell of a sighting," said Ron. "It was a spooky thing. It just gave a person the shivers."

He believes he may have seen only the creature's back because there was no visible head. The

part that surfaced appeared to be covered in hair and was about one metre long and not quite a metre high.

His son estimated the creature was at least five metres long — if not longer — from the glimpses he and other people have had of it.

The Fish and Wildlife Department had hoped to examine the lake later this month while doing an inventory on fish habitat, but the project may be delayed until the spring because of other priorities, said Ray Makowecki, director for northern Alberta.

Makowecki still planned to turn Sampietro's list over to Butler, who appeared interested in the Christina Lake sightings when told of them while examining the reports in Saddle Lake. Butler could not be reached for comment.

But Makowecki added, "we can't explain that there would be something unusual or unexplainable now in those lakes. We (the department) are not convinced there is something."

Cold Lake's Kinosoo is a celebrity

An awesome 12-metre fish is reported to be roaming the chilling waters of Cold Lake.

But the enterprising citizens of this northern Alberta town have no fear of their resident monster.

Instead the town uses the fish — called Kinosoo, a Cree word for big fish — in its town logo and the local chamber of commerce even distributes brochures on an Indian story surrounding it.

The town began capitalizing on the creature about 20 years ago at the urging of Cold Lake resident and businessman Ben Lefebvre, then vice-chairman of the local chamber of commerce.

Lefebvre, owner of the town's Marshall Wells store, is a believer in the creature because as a boy he found on the lake shore enormous fish bones which he believes give credence to native stories of a 12-metre fish.

He has kept one of the bones which was fashioned as a loop for a scarf. He plans to put it in the town's museum whenever it is completed.

Lefebvre, 66, also remembers as a young boy hearing a 100-year-old native tell his father of a sighting of the fish about 140 years earlier.

Natives had been camping on the beach when they saw a moose swimming towards them in the lake, the native said through an interpreter.

But as it approached the shore it started bellowing and the Indians saw a huge fish that had grabbed its back legs.

The moose managed to break free and the Indians fled in terror.

They found the 12-metre fish dead on the beach the next day. Presumably, it had come too close to the shore. But it smelled so bad

that the natives were convinced it was the devil.

"I have no reason to disbelieve (the story)," said Lefebvre. "The stories or the incidents that were recited in front of me by these old natives convinced me they were not lying."

"The fact we found bones was proof enough for me," he added.

The brochure still being distributed by the chamber of commerce recites another Indian story of a young Wood Cree Indian who was canoeing across the lake to see his betrothed.

But as he reached the mouth of what is now French Bay, "a huge fish rose from the water, took the canoe into its carnivorous mouth and snapped it in two." The brave was never seen again and only pieces of his canoe were found the next day.

The last sighting of the creature may have been about 15 years ago by the town's former postmaster, Lyle McKee.

McKee, 62, now retired, recalled seeing something "perhaps the size of a horse's head" rising and falling in the water about 183 metres away as he and three other people watched from the shore. But the creature disappeared when he went to get his binoculars.

McKee is not certain if he really did see the Kinosoo or whether it really does exist.

"It didn't last long enough for us to get a perspective on it at all," he said. "I know the old Indians believe in it. Who's to say?"

JOURNAL, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - Oct. 31, 1984

Spring hunt possible

Monster search cancelled as Saddle Lake freezes up

By **CHRIS VAN KRIEKEN**
Journal Staff Writer

The unseasonably early freeze-up of Saddle Lake has cancelled a government helicopter search for a lake monster supposedly lurking in its waters.

Alberta Fish and Wildlife had hoped to search for the monster today, on Halloween, but cancelled the flight after finding two-thirds of the lake had frozen over by early Tuesday.

The lake, 175 km northeast of Edmonton, normally does not freeze over until late November, said Wayne Brown, fish and wildlife district officer for the St. Paul area.

Another search attempt may be made in the spring if there are more sightings or if it is recommended in a University of Alberta study being done on the monster and other monster reports in Christina Lake, 145 km south of Fort McMurray.

"If it says nothing is there, I don't see any reason for going ahead," said Brown, who feels the monster may be a large sturgeon.

"(But) if we get odd sightings, you can imagine we will have another shot at it," he added.

"It's a long period of time to keep the suspense up but the curiosity still remains."

Alberta Fish and Wildlife has been

promising to make the flight since shortly after the Saddle Lake tribal band council closed the lake in July to motorized boats because of the monster and concern that the boats were polluting the lake, the source of the band's water supply.

The monster — described as a hairy serpentine creature ranging in length from one metre to 69 metres — is reported to have been sighted about 100 times over the years.

About 10 sightings are said to have occurred this year.

The flight had been delayed until fall to wait for the lake to become its clearest.

Another crack at solving the mystery will be made in late November when questionnaires are given to the residents by Jim Butler, a University of Alberta wildland recreation professor brought in by Brown's department to investigate the sightings.

The questionnaires from Saddle Lake, along with those Butler has already circulated at Christina Lake, will be fed into the university's computer to help determine the probability of having lake monsters in those areas.

Butler's report, expected to be completed in December, will also recommend whether Alberta Fish and Wildlife should investigate the monster reports further.

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - March 30, 1985

■ Herman Regusters, 51, of Seattle, an amateur explorer, said that a \$30,000 donation from a Texas computer engineer will allow him to leave next month for the Congo jungles to hunt for a creature resembling a dinosaur that Regusters first spotted in 1981.

Inventor insists incredible machine makes electricity

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

WASHINGTON — A self-educated inventor from the Mississippi backwoods was to return to federal court today to demand a patent on a contraption he claims will produce cheap energy and change the world.

Joseph Newman says his machine not only produces more energy than it uses, but that it also will shrink forever the average American's utility bills. Current physics teaching holds that it is impossible for a machine to produce more energy than it uses.

Undaunted, Mr. Newman told a news conference Wednesday the 5,000-pound machine he built in his backyard deep in the pine woods outside Lucedale, Miss., could make existing power sources obsolete.

"I intend to fight this all the way to the Supreme Court, and I will win," said Mr. Newman, who claims he has been stonewalled for four years by the Patent Office, which contends his device cannot possibly work.

Mr. Newman, who has been in and out of the courts since first applying for a patent in 1979, will ask the U.S. District Court to grant him a patent on grounds his device does work.

He will cite an earlier report to the court from Maj. William Schuyler, a former patent commissioner acting as a special master in the case, who wrote:

"Even though the operation of the plaintiff's (Mr. Newman's) system seems contrary to recognized scientific principles, plaintiff has demonstrated the operation of his system by very clear evidence and is therefore entitled to a patent if he otherwise satisfies the requirements of the patent statute."

Mr. Newman, who brought the device to the Washington area all the way from Mississippi on a truck, says his machine frees a hidden force present in all matter — electromagnetic energy — and converts it to electricity.

The 48-year-old inventor, a high school dropout who later took college courses, said his invention produces only energy in a "100% conversion process," with none of the dangerous radiation or pollutants that result from making electricity in nuclear and steam plants.

He told skeptical reporters of a future in which homeowners could purchase one of his machines for about \$1,500 and escape utility bills forever.

Mr. Newman's machine consists of several loglike chunks of material that rotate like a mill wheel.

Government agrees to probe lake of mysterious 'monster'

ST. PAUL, Alta. (CP) — The provincial Government, in a move to calm concerned residents, has agreed to fly a helicopter over a small lake in northeastern Alberta to see if it can find a monster.

Residents of the Saddle Lake Indian reserve, 175 kilometres northeast of Edmonton, say the monster has been in the lake for generations and has been sighted repeatedly.

The creature has seldom been clearly described and has no name. Some say it is a hairy, serpentine monster ranging in length from one to 69 metres. Others say it has a horselike head or that it has a horn on its forehead.

The fish and wildlife branch plans to send a helicopter over the lake in October, when the water is clearer.

"We are willing to do that to appease them somewhat," said Ray Makowicki, branch director for northeastern Alberta.

"They obviously must be seeing something. The question is, what is it?"

Willie Brerton, a member of the Saddle Lake band council, said the monster has been sighted about 100 times.

There are those who say the creature has never harmed anyone, but others recall a legend of a 3-year-old girl who was somehow enticed into the water by the monster about 100 years ago. They say her screams can still be heard at times.

Saddle Lake Chief Henry Quinney is skeptical. "It's been going on for years," Mr. Quinney said. "I don't know what to say. I have to see it to believe it."

The band council decided it wanted answers to the mystery after a band employee reported he had seen the creature in June.

The council closed the lake to motor boats in late July, giving as reasons fear of the monster and concern that the boats were polluting the lake, the source of the band's water.

Mr. Brerton, appointed to investigate the monster reports further, went to the fish and wildlife branch, which got in touch with the University of Alberta.

Three university specialists visited the lake July 31 and Aug. 1. They found nothing, although two of them may investigate further.

The third expert, Wayne Roberts, curator of the university's zoology museum, believes the sightings were probably nothing more than animals such as moose and beaver.

"That's too bad, because I like to think there are things out there we haven't seen."

Mr. Roberts patrolled Saddle Lake with a depth sounder but found nothing unusual. James Steinhauer, the band's police chief, said he and a partner saw the creature one night in August, 1983, about 46 metres offshore.

A light fog made it hard to determine the monster's features but Mr. Steinhauer said it resembled a snake and was roughly one metre in width.

"We threw a couple of rocks at it and took off," he said. "I used to think it was just a bunch of lies. Now I believe there is something in the lake."

Elmer Jackson, a 58-year-old farmer who lives near the lake, describes the creature as having a single horn on its forehead with a body about one metre wide and 60 metres long. He said he got a view of it three years ago when it surfaced near his boat.

Robert Purdy, a graduate student who went to Saddle Lake with the university specialists, believes there may be something to the sightings.

"I believe the people who were telling the stories had seen something that disturbed them," Mr. Purdy said. "They couldn't all be mass-hallucinating. Who knows? Maybe they were."

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR - April 16, 1985

Officials say groups that worship Satan may be to blame for as many as 200 animal mutilations in Union County, O., and that teen-agers appear to be particular targets for recruitment by the cultists. "I think what we've got to do is help these younger kids not to get involved in it," Union County Sheriff's Deputy John V. Lala said in Marysville, O. Sheriff John G. Overly ordered Lala to work full-time investigating the animal mutilations last December. In co-operation with the Union County Humane Society, he has identified the mutilations of about 200 animals during the last year as probable satanic sacrifices. (AP)

Computer hunts for lake monsters

By CHRIS VAN KRIEKEN
Journal Staff Writer

The University of Alberta's computer will be used to help solve the mystery of whether monsters are really being sighted in two Northern Alberta lakes.

Residents have claimed to have repeatedly seen lake monsters in both Saddle Lake, 175 km northeast of Edmonton, and Christina Lake, 145 km south of Fort McMurray.

But it will be the computer's job to analyse the probability of having lake monsters in those areas and help determine whether the university and the provincial Fish and Wildlife Division should investigate the sightings further.

The data the computer will need to make its conclusions is now being put together by Jim Butler, the university's wildland recreation professor, and his research assistant, Ron Hammerstedt.

Butler flew to Christina Lake two weeks ago to do sonar tests on the lake, speak to the residents and have them answer a scientific questionnaire that will be fed into the computer.

Although he found nothing unusual, Butler determined that one out of every 166 people visiting or living near the remote lake felt they had seen the creature, but could not clearly describe it.

Butler was also at Saddle Lake earlier this summer, and hopes to return next month to distribute his questionnaire to its residents.

Butler is skeptical about whether the monsters really do exist, but refuses to dismiss the claims outright.

"The initial impression was that the people were sincere," said Butler. "That's a step we have to clarify very

quickly — that they aren't trying to pull your leg.

"In both cases, we determined there were no ulterior motives. In both cases, I think, there was a reluctance to talk about it."

Butler was called in to help unravel the lake monster mystery by the provincial Fish and Wildlife Division after it was approached by a Saddle Lake resident who claimed to have sighted the monster in June.

The Saddle Lake tribal band council also closed the lake in July, citing fear about the monster and concern that boats were polluting the lake, the source of the band's water supply.

Their monster, described as ranging in length from one to 69 metres, has been reported sighted about 100 times over the years. Ten sightings were claimed to have been made already this year.

Butler's attention was also turned to Christina Lake after a man began compiling the names of 16 people who have seen a creature there in the last five years.

Butler hopes to have his report completed by December with recommendations on whether the sightings should be investigated further.

Meanwhile, fish and wildlife officials will fly over Saddle Lake in about two weeks with a tribal band council member to see if they can spot anything unusual.

"It's not much, but it will give them a little bit of security," said Ray Makowicki, fish and wildlife director for northeastern Alberta. "It's mainly public relations."

The flyover had to wait until the fall because that is when the lake is the clearest.



Prof. Jim Butler, right, and assistant Ron Hammerstedt . . . computers analyse probability of monsters living in two Alberta lakes

Community feels little fear of mysterious light on road

By SHIRLEY VOLTNER

I first heard about the Prague Light in 1976, two years after moving to this farm. My husband's sister, her husband and I had been discussing unexplainable phenomena. "Like the Prague Light," my brother-in-law said.

"What Prague Light?" I asked.

"Well, you must have seen it," he replied, and then went on to explain the "must" of the thing.

After listening to their matter-of-fact information my curiosity was fueled.

The district we live in is called Prague, in the county of Beaver, south of the town of Viking, Alberta. Our farm is north of a parish hall, church and cemetery. To witness the light you approach it from the north. My brother-in-law thought I must have seen it, since I had often travelled south from town toward the cemetery.

Once the light was brought to my atten-

tion, I looked for it and sure enough eight times out of 10 it was there. Before it had never entered my head to question it. We live in a well populated farming area and seeing a light on a road that runs straight for miles I had probably assumed it was an oncoming car.

There was never a feeling of alarm at seeing the light. I figured it had been there a lot longer than I and hadn't given me any trouble so my new knowledge would not affect anything.

However, the explanation that it was "just there" will never satisfy my curiosity. Time after time I have stopped at our approach to watch it. For brief periods it could well be an oncoming vehicle, but if I watch long enough it is clear the light is not consistent. At times it is brighter than others. It fades in and out sometimes fades out altogether. There are times when it is soft and more even but the next time it is brighter and almost restless.

On one occasion I decided to see if the light was by the cemetery. It isn't, although from here it looks as though it could well be. As I drove south it seemed to remain the same distance ahead of me. After about three miles it faded out and although I waited for considerable time, it did not reappear.

One thing which fills me with wonder is the lack of fear and apprehension it creates. The opposite seems true. For myself there is a feeling akin to disappointment when the light is not there. One of my daughters, who enjoys jogging on the country roads at night, says she feels safe when it is there.

For the most part people just accept it as "the Prague Light." It is there, and since it has been there for as long as the locals remember and no one has ever discovered its source, I doubt that I will be any more successful than anyone else in solving this mystery.

ARKANSAS GAZETTE,
Little Rock, AR
March 30, 1985

Cause of boom unknown

A loud boom resounded throughout Central Arkansas Friday, at points as far apart as Conway, Beebe and Little Rock, but no one seemed to know what caused it.

The Office of Emergency Services said the noise, which occurred about 1:15 p.m., seemed to originate near north Conway, Toad Suck and Gold Creek. Conway police said a booming noise, like an explosion, was heard Thursday and two or three times Friday, but they did not know what caused it.

A National Weather Service spokesman said he did not know of any natural phenomena that would have caused the noise, but said he had heard it and suggested it might have come from artillery drills at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock. The Camp Robinson police said there were no artillery drills or gunfire going on at the camp.

The Little Rock Airport and the Little Rock Air Force base in Jacksonvile said there had been no flights that would have caused a sonic boom.

Spokesman for the Granite Mountain Quarries and 3M, both in Little Rock, said they had not dynamited Thursday and did not know what caused the noise. The State Police also had no clues.

Stalking dinosaurs

Scientist leads 2nd expedition to Congo

Herman Regusters, world's foremost dinosaur hunter, is on his starting blocks for a second expedition to the haunt of a living brontosaurus-like creature deep in Africa's Congo.

"Our equipment is piling up. Everyone's room looks like a warehouse. We're ready to go," Regusters of Seattle said Sunday. April 1 is getaway day.

Regusters, 51, who's leading his second expedition to the steamy Congo Basin jungle to photograph mokele-membe — the beast he spotted in 1982 — still needs \$30,000. Expenses are estimated at \$100,000.

Regusters, a former Jet Propulsion Laboratory consultant and university lecturer, will be joined by wife Kla, 37, a chiropractor; entomologist Mark Evans of the University of Wisconsin; San Diego paleontologist John Rajca, reporter John Sack of Los Angeles and photographer Steven Trass of New York.

Regusters' first expedition to Lake Tele, 400 miles north of Brazzaville nearly killed him. Six weeks of rain, insect bites and crocodile and monkey meat wasted him with dysentery and anemia.

Regusters says he saw the long-necked, humpbacked creature five times. He

blamed equipment failure and distance for not getting a decent photo. He taped its roar, and scientists who've heard it say it sounds like nothing else.

Initially skeptical academicians have been won over, Regusters said, and the Marxist Peoples Republic of the Congo approved Regusters' expedition.

The natives in the Lake Tele area are baffled by Regusters' interest in mokele-membe.

"They say, 'We don't understand why you want to go out on this very difficult trip to see an animal that we know is there. But you tell us



REGUSTERS: Will also gather flora and fauna

that you send men to the moon, and we don't believe that either," he said.

— Eric Brazil

Does Sadie haunt Saddle Lake?

By CHRIS VAN KRIEKEN
Journal Staff Writer

SADDLE LAKE — Some residents here call it the Monster Snake.

University of Alberta researchers affectionately call it Sadie.

But what precisely is being seen in this small lake, 175 km northeast of Edmonton, still remains anyone's guess.

It's big, black and resembles an enormous snake, some residents told five university researchers who spent two days last week in this native village trying to learn more about the monster sightings.

The stories weren't much different than the ones the researchers heard when they visited earlier this summer.

But their eyebrows were raised skeptically this visit after being told that a skull of an unusual monster had recently been found in the Lac La Biche area.

Their eyebrows lowered again when they saw a picture of the skull and instantly realized it was only the remains of a whitetail deer.

The researchers have returned to the university to begin analysing the data they collected, including stories of how some of the Saddle Lake band elders fear the lake will dry up if white men ever take the monster out of the lake.

"It's our belief that thing was there for a century and it kept the water moving," said one woman. She said she and about 18 others saw the "big snake" in June and thought it was 18 metres long.

Ralph Cardinal, another Saddle Lake resident, recalled that his dead grandfather would ritually light a pipe by the lakeshore and dump the ashes into the water as an offering to the monster to keep it from harming boaters or swimmers.

Cardinal said he saw the creature's



Ralph Cardinal, right, describes what he saw
... to Jim Butler, U of A wildlife recreation professor

head about 12 years ago as it swam across the lake. With his hands, he showed that its head was almost half a metre wide.

"I thought it was a snake myself," said Cardinal. "I heard stories about it before so there is something — must be."

But without tangible proof, it can never be proven that a lake monster really exists in Saddle Lake, said Jim Butler, the university's wildland

recreation professor who is heading the investigation into the monster reports.

"You can never prove a lake monster doesn't exist," he said. "You can only prove it does and to do that you need some tangible evidence."

But Butler believes his team has enough information now to do a preliminary report on the Saddle Lake monster from the 25 people who have reported monster sightings to them.

The report, expected to be completed in mid-December, will tell Alberta Fish and Wildlife whether investigations should continue into the Saddle Lake reports and other monster reports in Christina Lake, 145 km south of Fort McMurray.

The Saddle Lake tribal band council closed Saddle Lake in July to motor boats because of fear about the monster and concern that the boats were polluting the water.

Stalking Champ, New England's mysterious beast of the lake

By MICHAEL J. BIELAWA
Special to the Sunday Post

New England is heir to an ancient shadow. A weaving patchwork mist of boundless twilight known as legend. Pirates and ghost ships haunt our windswept shores, while the memories of witches and abandoned towns inhabit the forgotten hills and nameless valleys.

There are many legends of the shadowland that have dimmed with the elements of time and the rationalizations of our technological society; but there are certain tales that relentlessly survive the centuries.

Just such a legend exists in the northern reaches of New England and has evolved into a subject of increasing attention. Situated between the rugged Vermont Green Mountains and the solemn Adirondacks of New York, the shores along Lake Champlain provide the romantic serenity of summer camping and

breath-taking autumn foliage. But for some unsuspecting individuals these same gentle waves offer a possible encounter with the unknown.

Despite the calming solitude, many say you are never really alone on the banks of Champlain, even on the loneliest of dark nights.

These alluring waters are the domain of a mysterious beast local residents have dubbed: Champ, the creature of Lake Champlain.

Intrigued with the fantastic tales which emigrated from this northern wilderness, I journeyed in search of this illusive leviathan. I have made two expeditions to these shores, the first in 1982 with Steve Raguskus, when we established camp on the Champlain islands near the Canadian border. The second excursion was this past summer when I explored the southern portion of the lake with fellow-adventurer Michael Cusick.

The entire region is an enchanted memory of mystical forests and castles. On the banks of these eternal waters brood a myriad of crumbling stone and mortar bastions, the barren echoes of early frontier wars. Here, too, dense woodlands have reclaimed and concealed the foundations of scattered settlements,

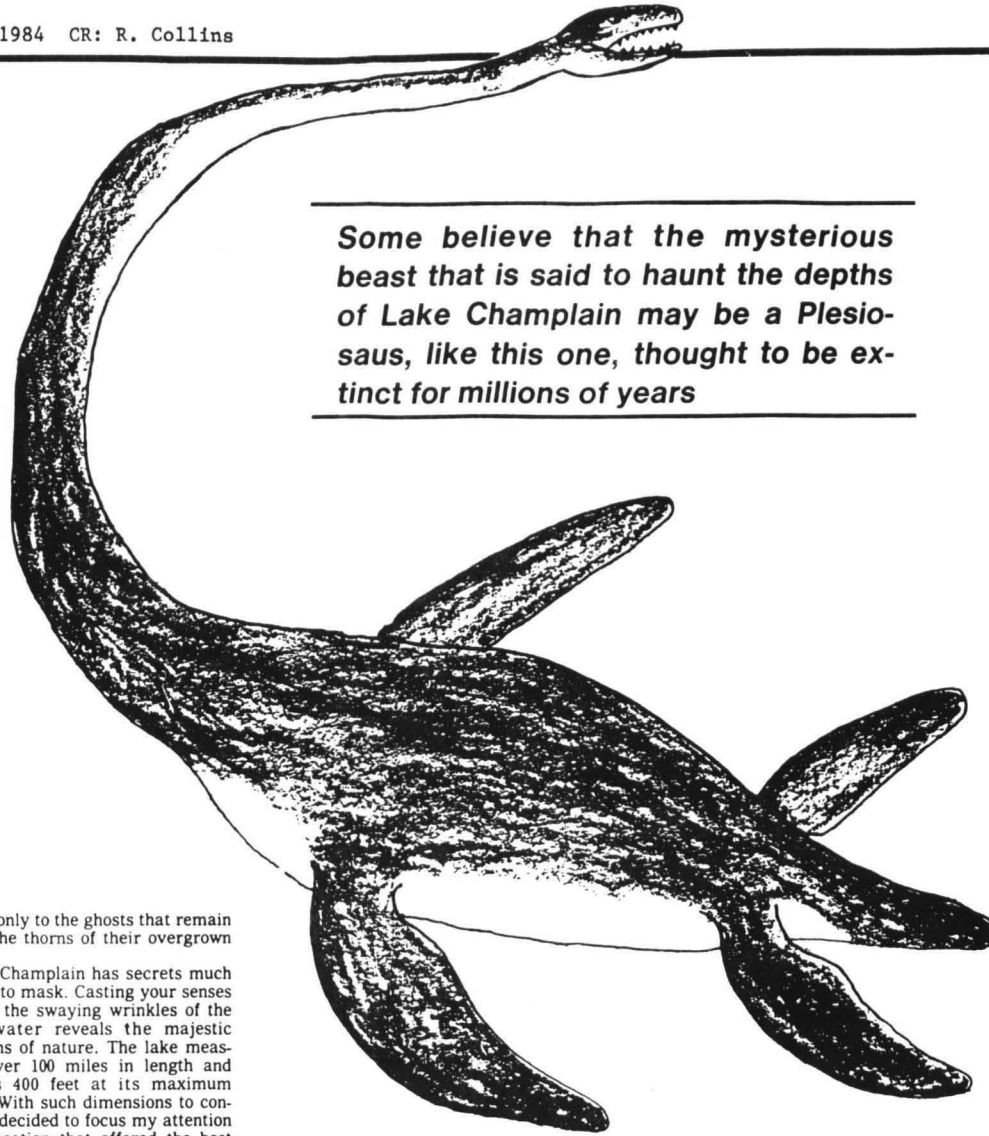
known only to the ghosts that remain to till the thorns of their overgrown fields.

But Champlain has secrets much darker to mask. Casting your senses toward the swaying wrinkles of the grey water reveals the majestic emotions of nature. The lake measures over 100 miles in length and plunges 400 feet at its maximum depth. With such dimensions to consider I decided to focus my attention on a location that offered the best opportunity for sighting the beast. And although the creature has been reported in all sections of the lake, I chose to camp near Chimney Point, Vermont, a short distance across from Port Henry, New York.

The small village of Port Henry once thrived on the iron extracted from the local mines. Now this post-industrial community's claim to fame is that it is billed as the "Home of Champ." For some inexplicable reason, the immediate area surrounding Bulwagga Bay has witnessed a proportionate amount of sightings. Two years previous I had paid a short visit to this quiet town and returned this past August to follow up on the leads and contacts I had originally made.

After we arrived at our Vermont

Some believe that the mysterious beast that is said to haunt the depths of Lake Champlain may be a Plesiosaurus, like this one, thought to be extinct for millions of years



campsite, Cusick and I were startled to discover a greying gentlemen biking along the path (like some latter-day Melville prophet) in the midst of a summer deluge. After a brief talk about the creature, he mentioned an innkeeper that might prove instrumental in our quest. Our guest also explained that there had been "something" seen in the lake that very day by four young ladies traveling north of Ticonderoga. The girls said they saw a sudden swell in the water as if a submarine had just submerged. Needless to say the news created an instantaneous traffic jam as passers-bys hoped to catch a glimpse of whatever caused the wake.

The following sun-filled morning we directed ourselves to the King's Inn on the New York side, as the cycling thunderstorm prophet had sug-

gested. The inn is situated at the end of a sinuous road on the top of a thickly wooded hill. It affords the wayfarer with an excellent panorama of the lake below. As it turned out, the maid at the King's Inn was the sister-in-law of Bill Kimball, an elderly man I had talked with on my first expedition. Bill had seen Champ three years ago, so I felt it would be worthwhile to get in touch with him again. This tall, thin, silver-haired fellow spoke in vivacious tones when I mentioned the creature. He explained what he had witnessed. He casually mentioned names and places, of people I didn't know and sites I'd never seen, as if we'd been acquainted all our lives. Bill said that while insulating a house with several others back on June 5, 1981, they all paused for a

morning coffee break. He recalls the lake's surface smooth as a mirror when suddenly the group saw two light green coils as large as a telephone pole rolling through the water. Bill stated that these humps resembled half submerged truck inner-tubes.

"Definitely not a fish," Bill said. "It caused a big wake, the water was frothing. By Jesus there's something out there I'll tell ya. I've been around this lake all my life, I'm 65 years old and I ain't ever seen anything like it."

Bill paused momentarily and then firmly added, "No one believes it till they see it. By Jesus, I didn't believe it till I seen it."

Sam Ruggles also saw something similar during the summer of 1981.

"It was July, I can remember having spaghetti for dinner," he said as he looked back to that day. "I was on the beach at six o'clock in the evening with a friend, it was a good sunny day and the lake was calm. Out in the lake I noticed, about 30 to 60 feet off shore, three dark green humps cutting the water pretty clean. Not much splashing at all."

Sam went on to describe the creature, "...It appeared to swim with an up and down motion. It's smooth, football-sized head resembled a lizard's. We had cameras with us but by the time I got mine ready the creature was too far out in the water to get a good shot. My friend had a 35 millimeter with him, but he loaded the film wrong and none of the pictures came out."

Sighting such as those experienced by Bill Kimball and Sam Ruggles, as well as many others, have been collated into a single volume by the leading authority on Champ, Joseph Zarzynski, director of the Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation. In his book, "Champ: Beyond the Legend," Zarzynski explores all aspects of the creature's possible existence. This brings to mind the foremost question, "Could Champ exist, and if it does what exactly is it?"

History is full of various controversial creatures as well as those thought to be extinct which have invariably startled the scientific community when discovered. The most famous example centers around the coelacanth, a fish believed to have vanished from the seas 60-70 million years ago. Yet this was absolutely refuted with the capture of a live coelacanth off the coast of South Africa in 1938.

Regarding Champ, Mr. Zarzynski feels that the massive size and depth, as well as the fish population of Lake Champlain, could feasibly harbor a small colony of Champs. In an attempt to describe the animal, those who have studied Champ state it may possibly be related to the long-necked marine creature known as the Plesiosaurs or the snakelike Zeuglodon, both thought to have died off millions of years ago.

But even while the debate of whether or not Champ truly exists continues, the states of Vermont and New York are taking no chances and have made positive strides toward protecting these mysterious creatures. The House of Representatives in both states have adopted resolutions that declare "...the possible existence of the animal commonly known as 'Champ' is recognized by this state and... that 'Champ' should be protected from any willful act resulting in death, injury, or harassment..."

Looking toward the future Joseph Zarzynski and others are going to continue their search for Champ, confident that the tide of evidence is turning in their favor. As for the armchair adventurer in all of us, Zarzynski's research provides worthwhile reading.

Still there are many who refuse to conceive Champ as some kind of "monster" and feel that there is a casual explanation for these sightings. "Just an oversized sturgeon," is a common grumble one runs across when talking with disbelievers groping for a justifiable answer.

But when the golden blossom of memory slips beyond the auburn mountains and into another's distant morning, the reality of night beckons to the unknown, and the shadows that dance upon the lake may not be the swaying of twilight illusions. For the tempest that created the wave gently folding on the sands at your feet could be the creature of Champlain, quietly raising his head somewhere in the darkness in silent defiance to man.



Enthusiasts check footprints thought to be of a Sasquatch at Mission, B.C.

A monstrous attitude

Not satisfied with trying to discredit UFOs, your editorial page has also turned upon monsters (Ranking Of Monsters — Oct. 22). The attitude toward Canadian monsters has obviously made an about-face since the report of "A Veritable Sea Serpent" discovered in Lake Simcoe in The Toronto Globe of July 19, 1881, which said: "There seems no reasonable ground for withholding its publication in the absence of any other objection than it is a somewhat strange tale."

Scuffers complain about the lack of proof of any Ogopogo, Sasquatch or other monsters. But your reluctance to consider available evidence until "they catch one" shows a lack of curiosity and a disregard for historical facts. The Globe and Mail did publicize the Saddle Lake monster of Alberta this September,

but sightings of Ogopogos in Lake Okanagan, Lake Shuswap (B.C.) and Lake Champlain this year were ignored. In more than 90 lakes and rivers, every province and territory of Canada has at least one lake monster; our coastal waters account for one-sixth of the world's sea-monster reports.

Apart from these fantastic claims, Canada is known to be the home of real monsters. In 1631, Captain Luke Foxe found many "sea unicorns" while searching for the Northwest Passage. His description of a creature shaped like a mackerel, with a lobster's head and with a black twisted horn growing out of it, is far stranger than many contemporary Canadian monsters. And Martin Frobisher brought home a unicorn's horn from his second voyage and presented it to Queen Elizabeth I. We know the "sea

unicorn" better today as the narwhal.

The kraken of ancient myth was recognized as a real animal when giant squid were found along the Newfoundland coast in the 1870s. Scores of these monsters have been captured, yet scientists know very little about them. Who knows what other gigantic monsters exist in the depths off our shores, or have migrated into our inland waters only rarely appearing above the surface?

The subject of Canadian monsters should be approached not with ridicule, but with skepticism by an inquiring and open-minded press, as The Globe demonstrated many years ago.

Mr. X
Wolfe Island, Ont.

□ Mr. X is this correspondent's legal name. — Editor.

Bermuda Triangle Dolphins 'Amazing'

Northlanders Wade and Jan Doak have discovered a tiny rectangle within the Bermuda Triangle that seems every bit as mysterious as the larger configuration.

North of the Bahamas in the open Atlantic the Ngun-guru couple recently came across a society of dolphins astonishingly unlike others they have studied elsewhere.

The amazing dolphins of the Bermuda Triangle live in a remote 16km by 5km rectangular patch of the Caribbean Sea.

The Doaks both tell stories of a cetacean interaction with humans there that collectively dwarf the singular feats of Opo at Opononi almost 30 years ago.

Mr Doak said the spotted Caribbean cousins of the New Zealand species displayed toward humans a range of highly developed creative responses that had to be believed.

The Doaks spent most of their time in the Caribbean on board an expensively outfitted 17.5-metre catamaran, specially designed for dolphin research.

Mimicry

The dolphins had day after day made obvious social visits to the catamaran, engaging in a number of activities with those on board, Mr Doak said.

"What Jan and I saw there has put us years ahead in our research," Mr Doak said. "It was the sort of thing we have just fantasised about in the past."

Much of the interaction the Doaks witnessed came in displays of mimicry and body language by the dolphins, signals so unreal that the researchers found videotape a useful aid to belief.

Jan Doak told of initiating a pass-the-seaweed game with the dolphins which had developed into an elaborate play involving about a dozen cetaceans.

Wade Doak spoke of accompanying a four-year-old girl on a dive with the dolphins, perhaps the first recorded modern interaction between a toddler and cetaceans in the wild.

Speakers

Mr Doak said it had obviously been a curious thing for the dolphins to have a miniature human in their midst, and they had responded accordingly.

The dolphins had formed a protective cylinder around the child. One had even made a rare dolphin gesture and rubbed along the youngster's back.

The Doaks told of eerie



Jan Doak



Wade Doak

reactions from the dolphins to sounds played through powerful underwater speakers.

Johann Sebastian Bach's flute sonatas appeared to have a profound effect on the dolphins, and Mr Doak said they had gyrated and grooved when the classics were played.

The dolphins had also repeatedly responded to the sounds of their New Zealand cousins taped at Whangaroa Harbour by the Doaks earlier this year.

But what most amazed Mr and Mrs Doak was the continuing visits by the same dolphins to their catamaran. These visits had become so frequent that the researchers had even given names to regular callers such as Whiteblaze, Ramora Kid and Dee Dee.

Contact

Mr Doak said it was most unusual for numbers of wild dolphins to respond to humans on a continuing basis.

Jan and Wade Doak believe they know the answer to the unique behaviour of the Bermuda Triangle's society of spotted dolphins.

They say the remotely situated colony of cetaceans has had only positive contact with the few humans who visit their patch.

Mr Doak said the human visitors were mostly skilled treasure hunters licensed to dive on Spanish galleons wrecked centuries ago on shoal sandbanks.

Mr Doak said it was amazing to see hard-nosed treasure hunters respond to frequent work-disrupting visits by the dolphins.

When the dolphins arrive, the divers drop everything and play with them," he said. "It is an unwritten rule among the

divers that the dolphins come first."

Shark

The reason for that became patently clear when the divers told of the protection racket run by their underwater friends.

Bob Marx, one of the Caribbean's more celebrated treasure hunters, told Mr Doak of an incident recently when two dolphins had come rushing at him at high speed.

The treasure hunter spun about to avoid a collision and saw the dolphins smash into a shark which had been homing in on him.

Mr Doak said other divers in the area had many similar stories to tell.

The Doaks are hopeful that the dolphins of the Bermuda Triangle will be allowed to flourish in future without human molestation.

Supreme

Their confidence is boosted by the hazardous nature of the remote spot where the dolphins dwell.

Mr Doak said it is a "hell of a place," prone to instant hurricanes, whirlwinds and lightning.

And, as the Doaks found out, it is a place where dolphins reign supreme.

—Graham Scott

CR: R. Collins

SUN, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada - Dec. 3, 1984

Big Foot 'tracked'

CALGARY (Special) — Lucien Lacerte says he isn't afraid if other people laugh at him a little.

Almost 10 years ago he spotted two human-like but hair-covered creatures running into the brush beside the Yellowhead Highway west of Jasper. And now the legendary Sasquatch has entered his life again.

This weekend the Calgary ironworker returned to photograph large tracks he's convinced were made by a Sasquatch.

Lacerte, 48, and a hunting partner found the prints in the snow Friday while hunting in hills 32 km west of Claresholm.

"About an inch of snow fell since then and partly filled in the tracks," Lacerte said last night, noting his Polaroid photos show little detail as a result.

"I don't care if people believe me or not — I took the shots for my own satisfaction."

The tracks showed a stride of about four feet. Lacerte — who's hunted

since his boyhood in southern Saskatchewan — said the creature's trail led directly over a two-foot high tree stump at one point.

He said his partner, Larry McGillis, 35, saw the creature's tracks moving easily over thick deadfall that a man would have to clamber over.

Lacerte added the two Sasquatches he saw while driving the Yellowhead ten years ago were black-haired and ran upright on two legs, with a very distinctive stride.

"Sure, people smile sometimes — but I know what I saw, and those sure weren't bears."

SUN, Baltimore, MD - Feb. 7, 1985

CR: J. Zarzynski

Panel won't protect Chessie

If a giant serpent-like creature known as Chessie really prowls Chesapeake Bay, it had better watch out.

A Senate committee yesterday refused to go on record as recognizing even the "possible existence" of the creature.

The resolution defeated by the Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee was intended to promote protection of Chessie.

Chessie has been described by those who profess to have sighted it as an aquatic animal 35 feet long, "round as a telephone pole, snakelike or eel-like, and with humps and an elliptical head."

Lawmakers were unimpressed Jan. 28 when they were shown a videotape that some researchers say shows Chessie swimming near Kent Island.

"I can't see it, so I can't vote for it," said Sen. Arthur Dorman, D-Prince George's, a committee member.

If a creature is found, the Department of Natural Resources should be able to take care of it, said Sen. Norman Stone, D-Balto. Co., the committee chairman.

"I'm not convinced it's out there," Stone said.

GLOBE & MAIL, Toronto, Ontario, Canada Jan. 8, 1985

Gas bubbles, disasters linked

The disappearance of ships and planes in the Bermuda Triangle may be caused by sudden cases of indigestion in the ocean, a chemist at the National Research Council suggests. High pressure at the cold ocean bottom forms water and methane gas molecules into hydrates, solid material that resembles ice, he says. When a hydrate is warmed or if pressure is lowered, it releases large volumes of flammable gas. Thus, reasons Don Davidson, an earthquake or some sort of disturbance on the ocean floor could suddenly release a huge gas bubble to the surface. Hydrates form in many parts of the ocean, but the releases are more likely to affect people when they occur in the Bermuda Triangle, crossed by many small boats and light planes. The theory was reported in the NRC magazine, Science Dimension.

The elusive Loch Ness monster is real to him

By Frank Rossi
Knight-Ridder News Service

Robert Rines was cautious. He wasn't sure he wanted to talk to another reporter.

For the first time since he started searching for the Loch Ness monster 14 years ago, Rines had been burned in the media, and he hated the feeling.

Some guy asked Rines if he could tag along on one of the expeditions. Rines said sure, even shared some information and equipment with the guy. "The next thing we know, we see a newspaper article saying everything we've done is suspect — not fraudulent, but sloppy work and that we retouched a picture," Rines says.

Robert Rines is a lawyer and a college instructor. Eleven months a year he divides his time between a law practice in New Hampshire and teaching electrical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Six weeks a year he spends in Scotland, searching for the monster whose attitude is: The scarier I am,

the better.

The Loch Ness monster — if there is such a creature — has been seen by thousands of people in modern times. A committee in Scotland has screened those thousands and come up with 90 whose sightings were so good that if what they had witnessed had been a crime instead of an unidentified, swimming animal, somebody probably would have been convicted and sent to jail.

Rines and his team, which includes scientists from MIT and other universities from the United States and Great Britain, were able to get a picture of Nessie nine years ago.

It is a lousy picture, but it shows a flipper. Other photos show a creature with a long neck and a horn in the center of its head. Scientists who are open to the idea say the photos are the strongest evidence yet that Nessie lives.

Now if you took a picture of this quality at your family reunion, you would probably send it back for a refund. When they are the only pictures you have of the Loch Ness Mon-

ster, you try to figure ways to improve them.

Rines shipped the pictures off to a laboratory for computer enhancement. Rines' critics say the pictures were retouched.

What does that mean? "They don't come out and say the picture wasn't real, a fake." If they did, Rines says, he would sue their tails off.

Robert Rines never even heard of the Loch Ness monster until he and his wife took a vacation to Scotland 20 years ago. Loch Ness is a long ribbon of fresh water, 975 feet deep and murky. It is part of a string of lakes that were turned into a canal in the 1820s.

There have been sightings going back to 565 A.D., but no other solid evidence. While on vacation, Rines read a book of eyewitness accounts compiled by a woman whose husband kept the locks.

Rines has a degree in physics from MIT. The scientist part of him said there was no evidence. The lawyer part of him said that too many peo-

ple had seen Nessie. All of those people couldn't be liars, drunks or stupid.

It wasn't until 1970 that Rines started the search. He was invited by a professor from the University of Chicago.

Every summer since, Rines and others have spent their vacations on Loch Ness.

There are a lot of things the Loch Ness monster could be. A ball of lakeweed. The Russian sturgeon is said to go over 35 feet. Maybe that's it. Rines doesn't believe any of it.

"In 12 years I've had one sighting, with my wife and another couple,"

Rines says. "I took some motion pictures of it. You can throw the motion pictures in the wastebasket. But we were looking at it with telescopes, and we see the rib on the back. The thing turns around, comes right in altogether.

POST, West Palm Beach, FL - Nov. 25, 1984

Scientists Unite To Research 'Monsters'

The Associated Press

Man has long believed in monsters, but now a group of scientists has banded together in the International Society of Cryptozoology to investigate reports of creatures in the modern world.

Skeptical scientists and nonscientists, according to an article in the December issue of *Sports Afield*, tend to scoff at reports of the Loch Ness or Lake Champlain monster — Nessie and Champ respectively — and other weird creatures.

But their colleagues from such academically respectable institutions as the Darwin Museum in Moscow, the National Center for Scientific Research in Paris, the Bulgarian Academy of Science, the Beijing National History Museum and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington take a different view.

"We are not trying to prove the existence of these animals but to establish a forum for the transmission of information," said J. Richard Greenwell, society secretary and newsletter editor.

Vice President Roy Mackal of the University of Chicago added, "We also want to eliminate the

'goblin world' approach to these animals."

Unknown animals do exist. As many as 9,000 heretofore unknown creatures are discovered each year. About 7,000 can be dismissed as insects, and many of the remainder are mollusks, worms, crustaceans, amphibians, reptiles, birds and small mammals. These are not what cryptozoologists seek.

"Ninety percent of the research in these areas will have trivial or no interesting results," Mackal said, "and that is about the same return as more conventional lab work. The probability here is very low, but the payoff is great."

A staggering amount of information has been reported on creatures from Scotland's Nessie to the Himalayan Yeti and the Pacific Northwest's Sasquatch. Much is hoax, misinterpretation and people devoted to little green men from Mars.

"There are a bunch of kooks interested in these things — the lunatic fringe," Mackal said. But if even a small fraction of the reported material is factual, that is significant.

Lake Champlain's Champ, for instance, was reported seen 23 times in 1983, pushing the total

number of sightings toward 200. Nessie has been observed for years.

Sasquatch or Bigfoot has been reported from almost every area in the contiguous United States. Mokele Mbembe, thought to be a small sauropod — a type of dinosaur — has been seen by reputable observers in central Africa.

"We know that some living animals belong to groups that have not changed greatly in millions of years," wrote ISC President Bernard Heuvelmans in his book *On the Track of Unknown Animals*.

"We know also that some groups believed extinct for millions of years have proved to have living relations (the coelacanth, a prehistoric fish thought to have vanished 75 million years ago, was caught in 1938 off the coast of southern Africa).

"Therefore, it is likely that any 'extinct' group, such as that of the dinosaurs, will turn up little changed in the modern fauna ... It is a matter of judging probability."

For information on joining the ISC, which encourages lay membership, write to International Society of Cryptozoologists, Dept. SA, Box 43070, Tucson, Ariz. 85733.

TIMES HERALD, Vallejo, CA - Feb. 10, 1985

Lights go out in Napa

NAPA — A mysterious power outage blackened Napa and surrounding areas late Saturday night and the cause was not available at press time.

The lights went out around 9:45 p.m. and were said to have been preceded by "three bright flashes"

seen near Coombsville Road, according to both the pilot of the California Highway Patrol helicopter and a spokesman for the Napa Fire Department, who said a department firefighter was in also in the area at the time of the flashes.

At press time, the lights in town remained out and an explanation for the outage was still forthcoming from P.G. & E. A spokeswoman for the Police Department said no problems with looting had been reported.

INQUIRY INTO MYSTERY OF BURNING GIRL

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London, England
Feb. 25, 1985 CR: T. Good

Fire experts are to investigate the possibility that a girl student at Halton College, Widnes, who died after being engulfed in flames as she stood in a corridor, was a victim of spontaneous combustion, a Cheshire fire officer, Mr Bert Gillies, said yesterday.

Miss Jacqueline Fitzsimons, 17, of Dundalk Road, Ditton, Widnes, complained of a burning sensation on her back and friends who pulled off her cooking apron found her jumper alight.

She was taken to Whiston Hospital, Merseyside, with 18 per cent burns, and died two weeks later, on Feb. 12. Fire experts are to stage a reconstruction of the incident, using similar clothes to the girl's, on a dummy.

Inventor's Claim One Of Patent Injustice

By JOYCE GEMPERLEIN
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — When Joseph Westley Newman invented the plastic-coated barbell, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office gave him a patent.

When he showed up in Washington from Lucedale, Miss., with an orange picker that sucks the fruit off trees in much the same way milk is squeezed from a cow's udder, the government gave him a patent.

But when Newman cooked up his Revolutionary Energy Machine, the office said no.

Newman, a polite man of 48 in a double-knit shirt buttoned to the chin who wears his graying hair in an Elvis-style pompadour, came to Washington again last week to continue his five-year war.

Newman wants a patent for a machine that he and several investors swear contradicts scientific principles accepted for centuries: They say the machine produces more energy than it consumes.

At least 30 once-skeptical engineers and physicists, including one who worked on the Saturn 5 moon rocket, have visited him in Lucedale, tested the machine and pronounced it amazingly contrary to all conventional wisdom about thermodynamics. And most important, they have sworn in affidavits that it works.

They believe, as Newman does, that his nonpolluting generator will rewrite the laws of physics, free the world from utility companies, end the use of oil as a fuel and render the internal combustion engine obsolete.

But the patent office has not seen it that way. It has refused to grant Newman a patent so that he can produce his invention commercially without fear that the idea will be stolen. He has sued the patent office, which does not wish to discuss the case.

Newman's machine uses the properties of magnetism and electricity to generate power. It is

based on Newman's own theories of electromagnetism, which he says no one else has ever thought to consider.

The 5,000-pound prototype in his backyard uses dry cell batteries to trigger a reaction in a "common material" that he declines to name. In tests conducted by scientists, the machine has reached efficiency levels of 1,000%, meaning it has produced 10 times more energy than it drew from the batteries, according to affidavits signed by the scientists.

Newman first applied for the patent in March 1979. In 1980, an examiner who admitted later that he had not read the application wrote across it that it "smacked of a perpetual motion machine."

The generally accepted laws of physics say there can be no such thing. Newman contends that his invention is not a perpetual motion machine and that the labeling of it as such by the examiner, who in a later case was ruled incompetent to evaluate patent applications, has been a curse.

In August 1984, U.S. District Judge Thomas Jackson, who is hearing Newman's suit, appointed a special master to review the case and determine if a patent should be issued. A month later, the special master reported there was "overwhelming evidence" that Newman's machine works and that a patent should be issued.

On Thursday, Jackson ruled that Newman would have to bring the 5,000-pound invention to Washington to be tested. Newman refused, saying he has offered his machine for testing for five years, and the patent office has refused. He sees this new call for testing as a tactic to wear him down financially and emotionally.

So Newman went home once again to Lucedale, set back for now but convinced more than ever that he's willing to suffer scorn in the interest of helping the world.

"One of the things I hope is that my work will have an impact on the teaching process," said Newman, who did not graduate from high school. "We are rewarding memorization and chastising questioning of the so-called facts, and I think it is important that people realize this."

OBSERVER, Charlotte, NC - March 19, 1985 CR: G. Fawcett

Bigfoot: Soviet true-believer plans to lure, tame one

NEWS TRIBUNE, Tacoma, WA - Dec. 17, 1984

Washington Post

MOSCOW — "We will hope that a meeting may still take place," the Soviet official said.

No, not a meeting with U.S. representatives on nuclear arms reductions. Andrei Kozlov has bigger things in mind.

Kozlov, who has headed expeditions of the Alpine Expedition Department of the Soviet Geographical Society for 13 years, is hoping for a face-to-face session with Bigfoot, or the Abominable Snowman, and he hopes to lure him with "aromatic bait" and then tame him. Why? To prove that the creature exists.

The debate about Bigfoot, or the yeti, as he is known in the Himalayas, is not dead in the Soviet Union.

Last April, the Soviet news agency Tass quoted Vadim Ranov, described as a well-known explorer and member of the Soviet Geographical Society, as stating flatly, "I deny the existence of Bigfoot."

Now, this week Kozlov, in an interview with the newspaper *Soviet Industry*, came out staunchly in defense of the Snowy Man, as the mysterious creature is called here.

Since the 1960s, the Alpine Expedition Department of the Soviet Geographical Society has gathered information on the "relic hominoid" from uninhabited re-

gions of the Caucasus and Tyan-Shan mountains.

In the interview, Kozlov, a staff member of the Perm Medical Institute, cited 5,000 descriptions of sightings of the creature in the Soviet Union and claimed about 50 alabaster impressions had been made of its footprints.

From the sightings and other research, Kozlov has concluded that the Abominable Snowman is a more ordinary creature than myth would have it.

"Contrary to legend, it is of average human size — few are taller than 2 meters (6 feet 6 inches). Their weight — more than 200 kilos (440 pounds). And they have a long stride — from 1 to 1.2 meters (3 feet 3 to 4 feet 10 1-2)," he said. Its hair resembles neither that of man nor beast.

According to Kozlov, the creature lives alone, avoiding groups, and inhabits mountain forests, not the snow zone; hence, he points out, its name is hardly apt.

Kozlov has also made some precise deductions about the Snowman's daily life. It sleeps in the daytime on a bed of grasses or branches; toward dusk, it goes off to hunt.

But the Snowman is not aggressive by nature, Kozlov was quick to add. It has only attacked humans five times out of the 5,000 sightings, and then only when they attacked it, he said.

Kozlov made the argument that the Snowman is a relic of Neanderthal man who was pushed up into the mountains by the mentally superior Homo sapiens.

It was precisely this argument that Ranov put to the test last April, noting that according to the theory of evolution, it would be impossible for a species to forget acquired skills such as making stone tools.

In Ranov's view, so-called tracks of the Snowman can be explained easily by the effects of the sun's rays on animal footprints. He also pointed out that the hide

described as belonging to a Snowman fits the description of the blue bear.

In the beginning of his interview, published Saturday, Kozlov conceded that members of his team had "become used to cri-

tiques and irony," but defended their careful research. He blamed the press for sensationalizing the story, complaining that "... when information about the work of our expeditions appears in the popular press without qualified explana-

tions, it then gives rise to unhealthy sensations."

To settle the score with skeptics, Kozlov admitted he needs conclusive proof of the creature's existence. And for that, he needs to capture one.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR

Jan. 6, 1985

The Associated Press

KINGMAN, Ariz. — It has become known as "Death Trap Mountain."

Some say it is near Cherum Peak, the highest point in the Cerbat Mountains north of here.

Others place it farther north — in the pass that is the source of Cane Springs.

Hualapai Indian elders say it may be found across the Hualapai Valley in the Music Mountains, so named because of the sound of the wind across rugged rock escarpments.

It is described in the 1956 book, "Lost Mines and Hidden Treasure," as having been thrust upward from a mass of volcanic rock and having the luster of blue metal.

On moonless nights, the leg-

end goes, the rock — the Death Trap — shines with the brilliance of a neon light.

It is charged, according to legend, with a nameless force. To touch the rock is to die instantly.

"The story is known among my people," said Malinda Pow-sky, Hualapai Indian teacher and cultural coordinator. "A story very similar to that has been passed down. It is a legend, a warning."

In 1895, a small party of hunters went into the Cerbats in search of mountain sheep, according to Leland Lovelace, author of "Lost Mines."

Late one afternoon, the book says, "in the vicinity of Death Trap, they startled a sheep from the brush below."

"The sheep, in its fright, ran

blindly into the narrow gorge ... and, to the great surprise of the hunters, who had not fired a shot, fell dead upon the rock," Lovelace wrote.

According to the book, an old Hualapai appeared from the brush to caution the approaching hunters of the perils of the Death Trap. Pointing out a "vast number of whitening bones lying in the gorge," the old Indian warned them that they, too, would die if they ventured near the stone.

"While they stood gazing at the spectacle, a rattlesnake crawled out from a crevice in the mountain and approached the darkening rock," Lovelace wrote. "Mounting the edge of the stone, the snake writhed, coiled, raised its head and fell lifeless."

Mohave County Supervisor Bill Roper says, "I don't believe it."

Nevertheless, Roper, the retired manager of the Duval Corp.'s Mineral Park copper mine, tried to check out the story a few years back because he thought such a tale might be based on a partial truth that could have meaning to the Duval operation.

"The only thing I could figure," Roper said, "is that there may have been arsenic in that rock emitting fumes or being eaten. Where there is arsenic, there are sulfides, and where there are sulfides, there is ore."

"I called Leonard Neal. If anybody knew, he would, and if it existed, I wanted to take a look at it."

Neal, 73, a rancher whose father controlled virtually the entire Hualapai Valley and who lived at Cane Springs from 1928 to 1973, says he has heard the Death Trap Mountain story "hundreds of times."

"There's not a piece of that country as big as this room I haven't ridden on horseback," Neal said, referring to the Cerbats.

His opinion? Death Trap Mountain doesn't exist.

Mike Price, a 69-year-old prospector, also has heard the story.

Price once shipped a lot of ore out of the Cerbats.

"There's radioactive elements all over here in small quantities," he said. "They're mined today. Selenium, beryllium, rare earths. They're all toxic."

"But I been around them, uranium, mercury, all my life. There's nothing that would do what that rock is supposed to do."

Mohave County historian Roman Malach rekindled the Death Trap Mountain tale a while back after being asked if he could pinpoint it.

Old-timers, he said, are aware of the story.

Malach said he got as far as confirming the existence of radioactive materials in the vicinity of Bull Mountain, a few miles as the crow flies from Cherum Peak.

He mentions the mineral ytrotantalite, discovered here, he said, by the late Ed Edgerton, the object of considerable local folklore. Edgerton, the story goes, wrapped himself in a blanket with one of his discoveries and cured himself of cancer.

That illustrates, Malach said, that there are minerals in the desert that people still don't know much about.

But Death Trap Mountain? "I doubt that it exists," he said.

Experts stage re-run of fire girl tragedy

STAR, Shropshire, England - Feb. 25, 1985 CR: J. & C. Bord

Fire experts investigating the riddle of a girl student who was engulfed in flames as she chatted to friends are to stage a laboratory reconstruction of the tragedy.

They will be investigating the possibility that 17-year-old Jacqueline Fitzsimons may have been a victim of spontaneous combustion. Cheshire fire prevention officer Mr Bert Gillies said.

Jacqueline, of Ditton, Widnes, Cheshire, was engulfed in flames as she talked to friends in a corridor at Halton College, Widnes.

She complained of a burning on her back and friends who pulled off her cooking apron found her knitted jumper well alight.

She was taken to Whiston Hospital, Merseyside, with 18 per cent burns, and died 15 days later, on February 12.

Mr Gillies said, "I have interviewed seven eye-witnesses. So far there is no clear explanation of the fire. There are three or four people I still have to see."

All possibilities, including that of spontaneous combustion, were being investigated, he said.

Fire officers were puzzled about why Jacqueline's pullover was on fire, but not the protective apron she wore for cookery lessons.

An inquest into her death was opened and adjourned at Whiston on Friday.

Chessie and Champ

Editor: News of the Maryland Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee's refusal "to go on record as recognizing even the 'possible existence' of the creature" known as Chessie is shocking.

Up North, in the 109-mile long Lake Champlain, possibly resides Nessie-like animals dubbed Champ. The evidence on their existence was so overwhelming that state resolutions were adopted in 1982-1983 in the Vermont House, the New York Senate, and the New York Assembly protecting the Champ animals.

In my mind the evidence on Chessie merits legislative protection for Chessie, the Chesapeake Bay mystery creature. That resolution should not only acknowledge Chessie, protect Chessie, but also encourage scientific inquiry into the mystery.

I don't think we have scraped the bottom of the zoological tub. A few mystery animals still await those intrepid enough and curious enough to investigate.

State Senator Arthur Dorman was quoted in Maryland newspapers as declaring, "I can't see it, so I can't vote for it," (after viewing a videotape some researchers say is Chessie swimming near Kent Island).

Hey, I haven't seen God, but I believe he exists.

I hope some Maryland Chessie enthusiasts continue to push for that Chessie resolution. If not in the state legislature, why not a city or town resolution?

Wilton, N.Y.

The writer is founding director of the Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation.

Joseph W. Zarzynski.

SUN, Baltimore, MD - March 16, 1985