

UFO

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TELEGRAPH, Alton, IL - July 6, 1985

UFO enthusiasts gather in St. Louis

By Bob Mills
Of The Telegraph

On a clear, warm July 7 in 1947, Marian Anderson had just finished her lunch break and was driving back to work at a business in Stoughton, Wisconsin.

As she drove down Main Street, she noticed about 30 people standing on a street corner, looking and pointing up at the sky.

"I stopped the car, got out and looked up -- and there they were," she said. "There were nine of them -- nine objects moving very majestically across the sky. They were circular and flat, at least they looked flat on the bottom, and they appeared to be made of some kind of metal. You could tell by the way the sun was hitting them."

Mrs. Anderson said they all watched for several minutes until the strange objects flew out of sight.

She believes she was part of a genuine UFO encounter that day.

Even now there is excitement in her voice as she recounts what happened that afternoon 38 years ago.

"It was one of the most exciting events in my life," she said. "I've considered myself so lucky."

Mrs. Anderson pointed out that the Stoughton sighting of strange flying objects came only about two weeks after a similar sighting in Washington, in which an airplane pilot reported seeing nine metallic objects moving across the sky "like saucers skimming over water."

Mrs. Anderson said she thinks some UFO's may actually be visitors from another planet.

"At least it's what you want to think. Just because we can't get to the outer planets or to other solar systems, that doesn't mean they can't get here."

MRS. ANDERSON flew into St. Louis last Friday from Madison, Wis., to attend the three-day 16th Annual Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network (MUFON) Symposium at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel.

People came from as far away as Canada and California to attend the symposium.

A model flying saucer, complete with flashing multi-colored lights and a tiny E.T. figure, was on display at the symposium. There was also a display of UFO photos and newspaper articles, telling amazing UFO stories.

There were MUFON T-shirts and a wide variety of UFO related literature for sale. One hot item was the "Galactic Gourmet" cook book, featuring "out of this world recipes".

The symposium featured about 10 speakers, all well versed in the field of UFOlogy. The topics ranged from government cover-ups of UFO incidents to cases of abduction by alien beings.

MARGE CHRISTENSEN of Beverly, Massachusetts, who is the National Director of Public Relations for MUFON, addressed the Saturday morning session of the symposium, stressing the need for the government to sponsor research on UFOs and to reveal everything it already knows about the topic.

"Public information and education on the UFO phenomenon are absolute musts," she said. "If the public were aware of the UFO phenomenon, the burden of proof would be shifted to the government."

Mrs. Christensen said she thinks all mankind stands to benefit from a study of UFOs.

"We would be opening the doors to a wealth of knowledge," she said.

Throughout the symposium there

was talk of the government covering up information dealing with UFOs.

One speaker, Leonard Stringfield of Cincinnati, Ohio, said he had evidence that indicates the federal government is now holding the body of at least one alien creature that was shot by an M.P. at Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

Stringfield said an eyewitness described the creature, which came out of a strange metallic craft, as being about four feet tall with grey, "snake-like skin".

GEORGE FAWCETT of Lincoln, N.C., spoke about common characteristics in UFO incidents, such as the sighting of a reddish orange object, the smell of ammonia or sulfur, magnetic disturbances and the presence of "small creatures in helmets and silver suits".

Fawcett said probably 90 percent of UFO sightings go unreported. He said he has been able to explain all but about 22 percent of the cases he has investigated.

Fawcett said UFO encounters can have strange effects on humans. He said he heard of a case of an uneducated woman whose I.Q. jumped after she encountered a UFO.

"She could read a book and memorize every word in one day," he said. "I understand she also developed psychic powers."

Peter Gersten, a New York attorney, submitted a perplexing problem to the symposium: who is liable for damages when someone is injured in a UFO encounter?

Gersten is currently representing Betty Cash and Vickie and Colby Landrum in a case stemming from a bizarre incident that occurred near Houston, Texas. The three said they were travelling on a road near Houston when they came upon a huge glowing object hovering over the road. They said they also noticed helicopters in the area.

Gersten said within a few days all three began to display symptoms of radiation poisoning. Their hair began to fall out, their fingernails turned black and fell off. They grew

CHART OF BASIC UFO SHAPES AND TYPES MOST COMMONLY REPORTED

	1	2	3	4	BOTTOM VIEW
A	COIN SHAPE			STEAM RAY	
B	HALF MOON	PUSH MOON	HELMET		
C	CANE ON TOP				
D	LENS SHAPE		SATURN SHAPE	BOWEN DISC	
E			EGG SHAPE		
F	METALLIC BALL	TWO OBJECTS CONNECTED	BALL OF LIGHT		
G	TEAR DROP	FOOTBALL	TRIANGLE	BOOMERANG	PURPLE LENS
H					ALONG "TWO" SHIP" OR "CANNON" SHIP

MUFON -- the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network -- uses this chart to describe unidentified flying objects.

very weak, and were often nauseous.

Gersten said they are trying to sue the government for damages in the matter.

"The government recently moved to dismiss the case on the grounds that they neither owned, operated or were responsible for the object the three encountered," Gersten said.

Gersten went on to explain that the government has never denied the existence of the object.

"The existence of the object is not disputed. The problem is the government is acting like it doesn't know what it was or even cares what it was. Do you really believe that? If the government is swearing that the object is not theirs, while there were many helicopters in the area, that is much more significant for UFO research."

SURPRISINGLY very few people at the symposium claimed to have had a real UFO experience. Many told what they heard from other people, but personal eyewitness accounts were rare.

John Roppolo, president of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, which hosted this year's symposium, said about a quarter of the group's nearly 50 members claim to have seen a UFO.

"Mostly we enjoy investigating UFO reports and trying to dig in and see what the phenomena are rather than just speculating about what they are," he said.

Roppolo said there is a group of MUFON field investigators in the St. Louis area. The group is made up of people who have been trained by MUFON to investigate UFO reports.

Walter Andrus, International Director of MUFON, said that MUFON actually emerged from the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and the Tri State UFO Study Group in Quincy, Ill.

MUFON is now an international organization, with chapters in Europe, Africa, Australia and North America.

MUFON was organized in 1969, the year the federal government says it officially stopped investigating UFOs.

NEWS-SUN, Waukegan, IL - Aug. 20, 1985

You think you have problems?

A North Chicago woman told police Sunday that a saucer-shaped, silver-colored UFO has been standing outside her house on the west side of the city for the past two weeks. She said the UFO has been giving her headaches and causing trouble in the neighborhood and that it will not leave.

JOURNAL & COURIER, Lafayette, IN - Aug. 27, 1985 CR: MUFON

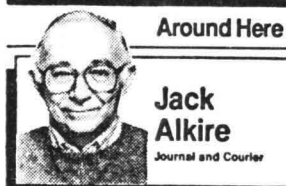
UFO sightings are cyclical: '65, '73 good years

We haven't heard much lately about Unidentified Flying Objects, so we called MUFON - Mutual UFO Network Inc. - down at Seguin, Texas.

"We get that question a lot from the news media, and the answer is that we don't control UFOs: we just investigate them," Walt Andrus, an international director of MUFON, said.

UFO activity is cyclic, and the great years for UFO sightings include 1965 and 1973, Andrus said. MUFON still is conducting follow-up investigations on the outbreak 12 years ago.

MUFON is a worldwide organization, and it has investigators on all continents and in most nations. About a month back, you may have read a short news release about UFO sightings by airline crews in Red China. MUFON



Around Here

Jack
Alkire
Journal and Courier

has an investigator there - an engineer - and the organization is awaiting his report.

MUFON was organized in 1969 when the Air Force closed down Operation Blue Book, its UFO investigative apparatus. However, Andrus said the Air Force and other government agencies still are quietly investigating UFO ac-

tivity.

MUFON's directors are mostly scientists - many doctorate holders. A lot of field investigators are ordinary folks who have a deep interest in solving the UFO mystery.

Andrus said he recently conducted a follow-up investigation at a Kansas farm while he was on the way to a UFO conference in Nebraska. Back in 1973 a UFO landed in a hog lot on the farm. "Twelve years later, only some chickweed has started to grow on that circular landing spot. The soil had been really dehydrated - sterilized, so to speak," he said. Andrus retired a few years ago from a 34-year career with Motorola Corp.

MUFON cooperates closely with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, head of the Center for UFO Studies, and the Fund for UFO

Research, headed by Dr. Bruce Macabee. Hynek was a consultant for the Air Force on its Blue Book operation.

Andrus said HBO, the cable TV channel, will run a special report entitled "UFOs - What's Going On?" later this year. "It's very well done," he said.

One of the problems MUFON encounters, Andrus said, is that the organization gets about one out of 10 reports on UFO sightings because people don't know where to call. We can solve that: MUFON can be reached at 512-379-9216.

You can join MUFON for \$15 a year and receive its monthly bulletin about UFO activity and investigations. Write to MUFON, 102 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155.

Witnesses fear ridicule; UFO group offers help

BY TIM MICKELSON
A-T editor

If you have ever spotted an unidentified flying object, but were afraid to say anything because people thought you might be crazy, there is a support group in the Fox Valley that will sincerely listen to your claim.

According to Judie Woolcott, founder of the Fox Valley UFO Discussion and Support Group and Wisconsin Director of Scientific Bureau of Investigation, most UFO sightings go unreported because most people are afraid to admit what they saw.

The Fox Valley UFO discussion and support group was founded 10 years ago after Woolcott and others who have had sightings met at UFO lectures.

The group averages 12 members who meet on the first

and third Sundays of every month in Menasha.

The main goal of the group is to ease peoples minds on what they saw, because most people are terrified after a sighting, Woolcott said. They also discuss what others have seen and compare sightings.

The group has a library of over 300 books on the subject and loans them out to interested parties.

Many people who have spotted a UFO will write the incident off as a falling star, airplane or weather balloon, but according to Woolcott a UFO will have erratic movements, possibly an odd shape and will make only a low hum if any noise at all.

After a person genuinely believes they have sighted a UFO, they start training their eyes and observing more of them by looking for signs indicating a UFO, such as erratic movements, Woolcott said.

Pilots have probably sighted the most crafts, Woolcott said, although they also have a hard time admitting what they saw. She noted one pilot who took a year to admit to his wife that he saw a UFO.

Woolcott said pilots often talk about UFOs when they get together, but are reluctant to talk about them in public for fear of getting laughed at.

Woolcott has attended many UFO conferences across the nation and has collected enormous amounts of data. From this data and new sightings of craft her group puts together a newsletter for its members and interested parties.

For more information on the Fox Valley discussion and support, or if you would like to report a UFO, call Judie Woolcott at (414)722-2489, or write to P.O. Box 584, Menasha, WI 54952-0584.

DANE CO. NEWS-SICKLE-ARROW, Black Earth-Mazomanie-Plains, WI

Aug. 22, 1985 CR: R. Heiden

Many other UFO sightings are reported in Midwest

by John Donaldson

Rogers Keene is regarded by some as something of an eccentric, given past antics. He's not one to disagree with this assessment.

Keene, a white-bearded, lanky teacher at the Mazomanie Grade School, has largely created this image himself by the way he acts and the things he's written. He used to write a column in this newspaper that was basically devoted to fantasy, though on occasion readers mistakenly read it as if it were the truth.

That's the reason this Dunlap Hollow resident felt it would be wise to leave his name out of the stories in past weeks about a possible "UFO" sighting. Yes, folks, the unidentified flying object seen at about 10 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 2 was first reported to this newspaper by none other than Rogers Keene.

A man dedicated to dramatic productions and hoaxes in general might be subject to question in such a matter, so both he and this writer felt it best to leave his name out of it. During the past two weeks, however, the need to keep Keene out of it diminished—ten others from the area also reported seeing the bright ball in the sky, and though the stories varied somewhat, they for the most part concur with what Keene reported.

More importantly, the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash. received a total of 14 reports that same night at the same time—in five states near Wisconsin: Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

"We consider it a classic incident," said Robert Gribble of the center, because of the "sequential sightings involved...because it was seen in so many states."

Keene reported seeing the object

in the southern sky, which he notes is unusual in his territory. "My first impression was that it was a plane," he said. He then noted to himself that virtually all of the planes he sees when outside his home are in the northern sky.

He had no way of gauging how big the object was, but described its relative size by extending his arm and saying it looked about the size of his thumbnail. What really caught his eye, however, was its movements.

Keene was out walking his dog when he first noticed the ball of light. He recalls it was projecting a beam, which looked like a searchlight, and the beam was moving back and forth, as if scanning. At first it moved to the east, on a constant horizontal plane...then it dropped.

"It started at 75 degrees, and moved down to 30 degrees," he recalled. "I moved back, so I could

This photo, taken by Judie Woolcott, is of four UFOs. It was taken in the company of 10 people in August of 1978. The larger object could not be seen with the naked eye because of its speed, according to Woolcott. The estimated speed of the craft is between 54,000 and 108,000 m.p.h. The photo was taken with 400 speed film and was not a time-lapse photo.

continue to see it. Then it seemed to turn, and it became a pinpoint."

"I wasn't going to fantasize anything," stressed the teacher. "It was ten times brighter than anything I'd seen in the sky. This was unusual."

Keene hurried back to his home as the object was dropping, hoping to get his wife up so she could validate his sighting. ("You've got to have a witness,") but by the time she woke up, the thing was under her angle of vision.

The sightings in the states to the south seem to uphold Keene's, however. In Batavia, Iowa, people reported seeing a huge, white light, hovering very low. In Orient, Ohio, five people reported seeing

the object, and that it shot off at a great rate of speed. Perhaps this is when Keene saw the object turn into a pinpoint.

Other sightings that night were in Laheville, Minn., New Haven, Mayjon and Fort Wayne, Ind., Orient and in parts of Illinois. In addition, there are the ten people here who notified the *News-Sickle-Arrow* that they too had seen something unusual in the sky.

"I'm a kiddie, so I was a little itty bitty nervous about telling anybody," admits Keene. "But really I'm a rationalist...I look for reasons for things."

He couldn't find any for this one....

MONTGOMERY CO. RECORD, Jenkintown, PA - July 24, 1985

UFO group wants to turn you into believer

By Peter Howell
Calkins Newspapers

Richard Carll is a believer. But don't get him wrong — it's a special sway the heavens exert over him.

Twenty-three years ago, while pulling into a Newtown gas station, Carll suddenly became transfixed by a swirling object overhead that changed colors as it drifted away.

"I knew I saw it. I wasn't drinking," said Carll, a 40-year-old landscaper and auto repairman from Yardley. "I'm a believer. That thing and some movies I've seen did it. One would have to be crazy not to believe in them."

It is called an Unidentified Flying Object, and Carll is just one of many people to get hooked on the phenomenon. Some say UFOs are as real as God and maybe scientifically easier to explain.

Carll was one of several shoppers in Oxford Valley Mall Thursday to join the Central New Jersey-Pennsylvania-UFO Study Group, a fledgling organization that is on the lookout for UFOs and new members.

Tom Benson, a balding, soft-spoken urban planner and Unitarian from New Jersey, helped found the group and was

"I knew I saw it. I wasn't drinking. I'm a believer. That thing and some movies I've seen did it. One would have to be crazy not to believe in them."

— UFO believer

spreading the gospel Thursday from a second-floor booth.

Benson saw the light in his youth. Several reported sightings near Washington D.C. convinced him there was something more than just gases in the sky.

"The radar must have picked up hundreds of objects," he said, adding with a mutter. "And still the Air Force said it was a weather inversion."

At 15, Benson saw two UFOs outside his New Jersey home.

"It was like a spiritual experience," he said, describing with several illustrations how the two elliptical-shaped orbs flew over his house, 1,000 feet apart.

"They can materize and dematerize," continued Benson, 47, launching into a detailed

exposition of UFOs. "They can transmit and non-transmit. It's really beyond quantum mechanics."

The origins are little understood, Benson said. They may be extra-terrestrial, other dimensional, short-lived natural phenomena, psychic or energy precipitate projection.

"UFOs are really a philosophical subject," Benson said, reaching for yet another book on the subject. "It's just as much so as cosmology or God."

Perhaps for that reason, shoppers haven't been rushing to get the latest on UFOs.

As always, UFO watchers are waging a running battle against the forces of government and the church, both of which have been loath to admit the existence of extraterrestrial objects.

Benson yanks from the booth reams of government documents obtained through Freedom of Information requests. They detail sightings, investigations and almost always official denials.

There's even a story about two Iranian pilots who were reportedly chased by a UFO in 1978 and even fired a missile before temporarily losing all communication.

"The UFO phenomenon used to

be two levels above the bomb in the '50s," claimed Benson. "It's only now they're gradually releasing information."

UFO enthusiasts locked horns with the church even longer ago. They suggest the biblical prophet Ezekiel's vision of a giant wheel in the sky was in fact an extraterrestrial object — possibly a spacecraft.

The most celebrated dispute was spawned by a bizarre aerial phenomenon in Portugal in 1917. In Fatima, several people saw what the church interpreted as the Virgin Mary hovering over a tree.

UFO experts claim the vision was actually a UFO.

"There have been BVMS (Blessed Virgin Mary sightings) all across the world," said Benson. "These religious apparitions are instances of a scientific phenomenon."

"There's a preponderance of circumstantial evidence that would hold up in a court of law for anything else — why not UFOs?" asks Benson incredulously.

Benson suggests people refuse to accept UFOs because they fear the consequences. It might mean a more advanced society exists or that some principals or religion may have to be tossed, he said.

Repeated sightings of UFO reported in Ahwahnee

Jeff Mitchell

An extraterrestrial spacecraft may possibly be what several mountain area residents have viewed in the skies above Eastern Madera County repeatedly since the end of June.

An Ahwahnee man, who did not wish to be identified, was looking at the nighttime sky between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. on the morning of June 20 when he noticed a falling star. Much to his surprise, what he had taken to be a meteorite came to a complete stop approximately 100 feet above the ground. The man estimates that he was from half a mile to a quarter of a mile distant from the glowing object, looking out from Ahwahnee towards Oakhurst and the Sierra Sky Ranch, the object being located somewhere in between Highway 49 and Road 620.

Puzzled, the Ahwahnee resident woke his wife and the couple watched the UFO until dawn. Because the object hovered in place and was very low to the ground, the man felt that it could not be an airplane. Also, as the UFO was completely silent, he felt that it was not a helicopter, especially given his proximity to its location. The movements of the UFO made the helicopter hypothesis especially doubtful, according to the witness. He stated that sometimes it would drop "like a rock that you would hold above the ground" and then come to dead stop in the air.

As the sun began to rise, the Ahwahnee witness said that the UFO was plainly visible due to the light it was emitting, even as the stars disappeared from sight. Using a pair of binoculars and a telescope, he tried to more closely observe the object, but was able to discern little. With the telescope he saw a variety of colors—reds, yellows, and blues—but felt that this was due to the prism effect of the telescope lens. However, he stated that the object may have had ridges on the bottom, much like the cooling fins on a motorcycle engine. He added that although he is very uncertain as to the configuration of the UFO, he would guess that it was oval in shape.

The Ahwahnee couple watched the UFO for approximately three hours. As morning arrived, the man stated that the object backed away from the horizon until it was gone from sight.

The man claims that neither he nor his wife had been drinking at the time of the sighting.

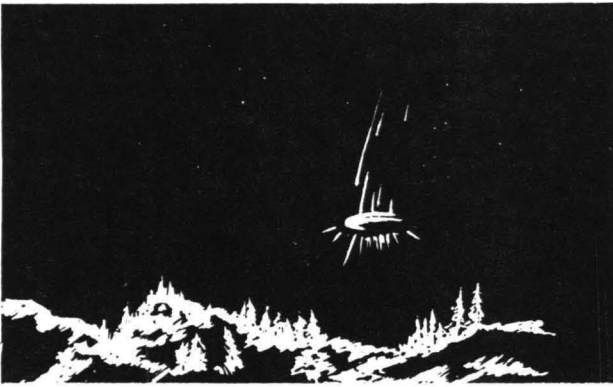
An examination of the ground over which the object was believed to have hovered turned up nothing, the witness said.

The UFO returned to the general vicinity for three consecutive nights, acting in much the same manner. On each occasion the UFO hovered for several hours.

The Ahwahnee man said that after this three day period in June, he did not see the object again until the early morning hours of Aug. 2. He added that he is mystified as to what the object could be.

There have reportedly been two independent sightings of an object matching the description of the Ahwahnee UFO made during the end of the month of July in the Yosemite Lakes Park area.

A meteorologist at the Fresno Air Terminal suggested that the phenomenon might be explained by weather balloons, which are occasionally released in the mountain area. For nighttime flights, lights are tied to the balloons. He added that sometimes the balloons fall to earth, and are equipped with a three



foot parachute for this purpose. The meteorologist recalled a prank performed by a group of UCLA students several years ago who tied safety flares to weather balloons, achieving an effect that looked much like a UFO.

The meteorologist commented that it is very hard to find out who releases weather balloons because the activity is in no way regulated by state or federal agencies. In addition to the military, many private research groups throughout the valley send up such balloons.

A spokesman at the Air Force's national UFO Reporting Center in Washington state stated that "weather balloons do not behave like the sightings made in Ahwahnee." He further said that he would "rule out anything man-made or astronomical as an explanation." He stated that UFO sightings, like those made in Ahwahnee are not uncommon, and that currently the hypothesis that such objects are alien spacecraft is perhaps the best theory to fit the observed facts.

Oftentimes the UFO appears as a light or a lighted object, and drops very suddenly out of the nighttime sky to come to a complete halt. Multiple sightings of UFO's also indicate that they are capable of making 90 degree turns in midflight, something that no man-made aircraft can currently achieve, he said.

The spokesman said that although more than one visit to a locale by a UFO is unusual, it is not unheard of. He added that sightings tend to be made near large industrial projects, such as atomic power plants and hydroelectric dams.

Critics of the theory that UFO sightings are actually visitors from other worlds point to current beliefs by science that the occurrence of life in the universe is probably a very rare phenomenon, due to the inhospitable nature of most stars. Such critics argue that the chances that another race has discovered our civilization, given the extremely short time period that man has existed on the earth (in astronomical time), is much smaller than the chance that one could find the proverbial needle in the haystack.

Of course, this argument assumes that an alien civilization has more or less the same technological restrictions as humankind in space exploration. Admittedly, if an alien spacecraft were limited to traveling at close to the speed of light (and modern physics believes that this is the fastest velocity possible, given the structure of our universe) then chances do indeed become minute that that the human race has been discovered.

Earth's nearest stellar neighbor, Alpha Centauri, would take over four years to reach in a spacecraft which traveled at close to the speed of light (Earth is located in a rather barren portion of the Milkyway Galaxy, being situated on the rim).

Obviously, it is virtually impossible to gauge how scientifically and technologically advanced another race might be, especially one that has existed for a much longer time period than has mankind.

Proponents for the alien spacecraft theory note the difficulty of proving something to someone who does not want to believe because he will find such a belief uncomfortable. They cite the fact that some people still doubt the existence of concentration camps during World War II, pointing out that physical proof of the camps is overwhelming compared to the empirical evidence amassed on UFO's.

Absolute scepticism in the face of so many unexplainable UFO sightings, they argue, is unreasonable and is probably unconsciously motivated. Proponents claim that to dismiss all observations of UFO's (that are not readily identified, specifically, such as a plane or weather balloon) as hallucinations is to dwell in a personal illusion.

Mysterious bright light

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE — A bright light with no sound or no apparent impact, but plenty of mystery, was seen Wednesday night. It could have come straight from the Twilight Zone. And it has caused at least one Lake County family to wonder. "It lit up the whole valley," said Roger Taylor, Lakeview. "There was no noise, no meteor trail."

Taylor, a forest dispatcher for Fremont National Forest, and his wife were watching the sky late Wednesday from their home about four miles southwest of 6,395-foot-tall Dog Mountain in southwest Lake County when "it" was seen. "We live across Drews Valley from Dog Mountain," Taylor recalled. "I, whatever it was, was there. All of a sudden, it lit up the whole sky. We could see the outline of Dog Mountain from the flash. The light went down after about a second, and it was dark

for a second, and then flared up again for another second. "I thought there was going to be one hellacious fire," he continued. "But there were no fires. It was (all) quiet. It reminded me of when an electrical transformer blows up. "But there's nothing out there, just some roads."

The blue-white flash of light seemed to originate from the ground and go to the sky, Taylor continued, as in a lightning strike. But it was a clear, cloudless night. Additionally, a call was received Wednesday evening by Klamath County sheriff's deputies from a Bly man reporting "an unknown object" fell from the sky between Bly and Horseshoe Mountain. And astronomers in the San Francisco area reported seeing a bright light in the skies over northern California about the same times as the other reports. They speculate the phenomenon was a large meteor.

Wayne Earham of Lick Observatory on Mount Hamilton near San Jose reported the light started about 45 degrees over the horizon and moved slowly in a southwesterly direction until it vanished about 30 degrees above the horizon, according to United Press International reports.

Also, reports of a bright light flashing through the sky came from as far away as Sparks, Nev., and Ukiah, Calif., according to UPI.

The object seen at Lick Observatory was bright enough to cast distinct shadows on the ground, Earham said. Vandenberg Air Force Base in southern California did not launch any objects that might have caused the phenomenon, an Air Force spokesman said.

The sightings came at the end of the annual Perseid meteor shower.

CHRONICLE, Houston, TX - Sept. 4, 1985

U.S. judge looks askance at claims in UFO lawsuit

By NANCY STANCILL
Houston Chronicle

A federal judge indicated he is looking askance at a case brought by two women who say the U.S. government is liable for injuries they allegedly received in an encounter with an unidentified flying object.

U.S. District Judge Ross Sterling declined Tuesday to set a trial date in the 1984 lawsuit filed by Vicki Landrum of Dayton and Betty Cash of Birmingham, Ala.

Sterling said he will first study a motion filed by Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank Conforti asking that the lawsuit against the government be dismissed.

"I strongly suspect at this point that this case is almost over," Sterling said.

Conforti has argued that it cannot be proved that the federal government is responsible for the UFO the two women contend they sighted on Dec. 29, 1980, as they traveled on a country road from New Caney to Dayton.

The women, who were returning from a restaurant with Landrum's grandson, Colby, say they saw a diamond-shaped object in the sky about the size of a city water tank. They say the UFO had flames shooting out of the bottom and hovered briefly before "lifting off" in the

company of 23 military helicopters.

The women filed a \$20 million lawsuit in January 1984, contending that the sighting has caused serious skin, vision and other health problems. Cash, 55, who later moved to Alabama and has had cancer and heart problems, was not present at the brief hearing Tuesday.

Landrum, 61, said she was discouraged at the judge's comments. "I feel like we're being treated unjustly," she said.

She said she does not intend to drop the matter if the lawsuit is dismissed.

"Regardless of how it goes, it's not over," she said.

Her lawyer, William Shead, said the plaintiffs are contending that the U.S. government is responsible for the UFO or knew about its existence and should have warned the public about it.

Shead said he is prepared to produce six witnesses who saw something out of the ordinary in the New Caney vicinity that night.

Landrum said she still has skin and vision problems that have prevented her from working as a waitress or grocery clerk, as she formerly did.

She said Colby, now 11, started back to school Tuesday and is doing "much better." The lawsuit charged that he had nightmares after the incident.

UFO Society not surprised by alleged sighting

By ROSEMARY OTZMAN
Times Call Staff Writer

Although the Denver UFO Society hadn't heard about the recent sighting of a huge unidentified flying object over China in time to discuss it at last Friday's meeting, the group's president isn't a bit surprised to learn of it.

Lorita Green said she recalls about seven or eight years ago when a UFO was sighted on the Chinese-Russian border and it almost caused a war between the two countries because each blamed the other for the phenomenon.

The most recent sighting was by the crew of a Chinese Boeing 747 jetliner at 10:40 p.m. June 11. The overseas edition of the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily reported Sunday that the UFO was more than six miles wide and its brilliant light shone for 25 to 30 miles.

"An extremely bright light radiated from the center," the People's Daily re-

ported said. "The object traveled extremely fast, pacing the aircraft in a southerly direction for about two minutes."

The paper said Peking-Paris flight CA933 of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, the state-run airline, was over Lanzhou, the western Gansu provincial capital, when the crew reported the UFO.

Green, who has been a member of the Denver UFO Society for 22 years — joining after she sighted a UFO while standing in her Commerce City garden — said the recent sighting goes along with reports that some of the UFOs are large enough to support colonies of beings.

Green contends the government is keeping information on UFOs from the public, but more and more is being brought out through the Freedom of Information Act. She said in the future, the truth about UFOs will come to light and groups such as hers will no longer be thought of as "a bunch of kooks."

Four years ago Green and her husband, Juan, saw a UFO near their rural home at Barr Lake between Commerce City and Brighton. Their neighbors knew of their interest and so telephoned one evening when they saw something strange in the sky, she said.

The Greens dashed outside and saw spinning lights, as big as a football field, she said.

"It was a beautiful sight," Green said.

The lights moved off toward Hudson, so her husband jumped in his pickup and followed them until they disappeared.

"Soon 12 Navy helicopters started scouring the area," she recalled. "They started at 8 p.m. and were still flying around at midnight." She said a friend called to say she heard on her police scanner that something was sighted at Hudson that night.

The Greens attended a recent national UFO convention in Chicago and heard a speaker who had been in the Air Force for

20 years and had been in charge of categorizing UFO reports.

He told the audience they would be surprised at the difference between the reports that came in and the way they were changed for release to the public and the press, Green said. He said he had a telephone line directly to the Pentagon to use for advice on how to change the reports.

"Now that he is retired, he feels he can talk about his work," Green said, adding many men in like positions are telling the truth about UFO sightings.

There haven't many local sightings lately, but there have been a lot in Russia and South America, Green said. She said Russia officially denies the sightings.

In June, the Associated Press reported residents of Sydney, Australia, jamming the telephone lines to a local radio station on two occasions, a week apart, to report UFOs that gave off a "mysterious bright light" as they hovered over Sydney.

The Meteorology Bureau suggested the

lights might have been a meteor shower.

On April 8, Robert Hastings, a UFO research specialist, spoke before a group of 350 at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. He told the audience the government is covering up the truth about UFOs because they fear a general panic if the truth is released.

Hastings said he is sure the truth will be out soon and he is doing his best to help get people informed on UFOs.

According to Hastings, UFO sightings generally occur on five to seven-year intervals, with the last extensive year of sightings being 1978.

"We are either due for a wave of sightings — or overdue," he said. "This year should be big."

The Denver UFO Society, organized in 1957 and one of the oldest such groups in the country, meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month at the Glendale Fire House, 999 Claremont St. For more information, telephone Green at 659-2886.

Fear of ridicule stifles many UFO tales

SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE, Fitchburg, MA - Aug. 28, 1985 CR: L. Whitehurst

LEOMINSTER — Janet Labor, of 77 Howard St., lost a babysitting job after publicizing in the newspaper that she lives in the former home of Betty Abbe Andreasson, a woman who claims she was visited on Howard Street by extraterrestrial beings.

Labor's loss would not be a surprise to several area residents attending Tuesday's UFO presentation by Raymond E. Fowler, national UFO expert.

At least five people in the audience claimed to have made UFO sightings. Only one, James Dubois, 36, of Althol, would give his name. The others refused for fear of being ridiculed by friends, neighbors and co-workers.

Jules Vallancourt, section director

of the Worcester County Mutual UFO Network, says this fear of ridicule is a normal reaction among UFO observers. Statistics estimate that only 20 percent of actual UFO sightings ever get reported.

Many people attended the presentation because they were curious and would like to believe other beings do exist in the universe.

Ina Larsen, of Lunenburg, feels "there must be some portion of truth in the reported encounters or else everyone has an over-active imagination."

Larsen's daughter, Lori, said, "So many people have seen something, there's a good possibility other beings do exist."

Some of Andreasson's old neighbors

came to find out "what happened in their own backyard."

Elizabeth Foley, of Leominster, owned the house at 77 Howard St. in 1944 when Andreasson had her first alleged encounter.

Foley said she never heard anything about the incident until she heard about Fowler's book just over a month ago.

Molly Keiser, of Leominster, grew up in the same house years later. Keiser said she was skeptical about UFOs and it's related drama, but now finds the story "hard not to believe."

"I never thought I'd say that," Keiser laughed, amused at the possibility of the existence of extraterrestrial beings.

Jerry Gallant, of Leominster, was disappointed that Andreasson was not in attendance Tuesday. She is reported to be on vacation in Bermuda.

Gallant said, "Because she's not here it leaves a really strong doubt as to the validity of the whole situation."

He added, however, that he does believe "there's a possibility of extraterrestrial beings existing because, when you look at the size and scope of the galaxy, (earth) can't be the only place where there's some type of being around."

Rocco Ramiere, of Lancaster, said he "can't get enough" information on UFOs and alien entities. He terms himself a "UFO enthusiast," even though he has never had a personal sighting.

GAZETTE, Bedford, PA - Aug. 14, 1985 CR: S. Gordon

Pa. group charts unexplained UFO sightings

GREENSBURG — The annual UFO update has been issued by the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained.

"A high percentage of many dozens" of alleged sightings of

unidentified flying objects has been explained, such as bright stars or planets, aircraft lights, meteors and balloons.

But "several" 1985 cases still are

listed as unexplained.

PASU reports its hotline was very busy with calls from many parts of the state regarding sightings made around midnight on June 21.

Callers described what appeared to be a formation of 8-12 bright, reddish-orange lights with trails, streaking rapidly across the sky toward the south.

PASU learned from NORAD air defense officials in Cheyenne Mountain, Wyo., that the objects were pieces of the Soviet satellite Cosmos 1530 that was breaking up.

A Somerset County sighting at about 12:30 a.m. June 21 has not been explained, however.

Several people claim to have seen a large, elongated object with lights, hovering quite near the ground.

One man described it as an 80-foot-long dirigible-shaped object with white and blue lights. He said it made no sound as it moved about 75 feet above the trees and across a field.

Another unexplained, early-morning incident occurred Jan. 2 near Jonestown, Lebanon County.

Two young men told PASU they went to a wooded area to check animal traps and observed a large, oval-shaped, metallic object about 200 feet above the ground that made a humming sound as it moved over a group of trees.

They took cover under trees, and watched as the large object hovered nearby. From the bottom front of the object, they said, a bright ball of yellow light slowly descended toward the ground. The larger object then moved off across the sky.

Treetops were found to have been freshly broken off where the ball of light had traveled.

Also unexplained is a case from the New Castle area of Lawrence County.

On March 20 about 9 p.m., many people in the area reported seeing lights low in the sky, as if an aircraft were in trouble.

One man said the lights moved toward his car as he approached. He said they were attached to a very

large, triangular-shaped object that hovered directly over his car, no higher than 200 or 300 feet. The object then silently moved off, in the direction of Butler.

To make the public aware that UFO sightings are still being reported "on a regular basis" and that they are under "serious scientific study," the Mutual UFO Network based in Seguin, Texas, has designated Aug. 18-25 as First National UFO Information Week.

The network claims to be the world's largest UFO research organization. PASU is an affiliate.

PASU operates a 24-hour hotline for reported sightings of UFOs, Bigfoot and other unexplained phenomena — 412-838-7768.

"Incidents are taken very seriously," PASU pledges. "Callers will not be ridiculed, and names are kept confidential."

Reports also can be mailed to PASU at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa. 15601.

NEWS-REPUBLICAN, Henry, IL - Aug. 7, 1985

By George ...

By George, we know of four people that witnessed a UFO last Friday night. Perhaps it was our space station's latest Challenger orbiting the earth. One really doesn't know or maybe it is so common that it doesn't draw attention in the news media any longer.

The large bright object appeared at 9:45 p.m. traveling from west to east with a vapor trail coming from its side, not following as a jet plane would. It shone a bright spotlight-type beam earthward but had no red and green flashing strobe lights as commercial aircraft use.

The entire sighting lasted only a few minutes and the UFO vanished. We have heard nothing or saw no news reports of any such sighting. We will wonder what these four people saw Friday night.

Q What happened that evening?

A A man from Winchester called the Keene police and said, "If you don't have a cruiser in West Keene, it might be a good idea to get one out there, because there's something pretty interesting going on." He refused to identify himself; he was afraid people would think he was crazy. I was dispatched to the scene. I drove out West Street onto the bypass, not expecting to see anything in particular. It was about 7:30 p.m. and just getting dark. I had passed the radio tower and was headed toward the troop station on Route 9 when a car headed in the opposite direction screeched to a halt in front of me, and did so in such a way that it was obvious that something was wrong. Two men jumped out of the car and began pointing to the sky in the direction of the Country Club. I stopped and looked. About a quarter of a mile away, about 500 feet off the ground, this object was hovering.

Q What did it look like?

A It was big. The thing had red and green lights around it which were pulsating in a rather unusual manner. There was no sound coming from it, and it was absolutely stationary. It was hovering in a fashion that I was totally unfamiliar with. Other cars began stopping, and people began to gather around the cruiser. We stood watching it for a minute or two, then I radioed in. I had the dispatcher call the FAA in Manchester, who reported that they weren't picking anything up on radar. They should have; anything over 400 feet from the ground should have been on the radar. The Keene airport wasn't picking up anything either. So the radio dispatcher called the UFO Tracking Center in Seattle, Washington, and relayed my description of the object to them as I was standing looking at it.

Q It was a quarter of a mile away?

A At first. Then I shone my spotlight on it. The spot's powerful, around 300,000 candlepower, and even though the object was too far away to be illuminated by it, once the spot was aimed toward the object, it began to move slowly toward us. It closed in on us until it was about an eighth of a mile away, then began moving down at an angle directly toward us until it was very close, about 100 yards away. At this point one of the on-lookers said, "Don't you think you ought to take your rifle out of your rack?" I said, "No, I really don't think I ought to do that." At about 100 yards the thing leveled off and passed over us, about 100 feet over our heads. I tracked it with my spotlight as it went over.

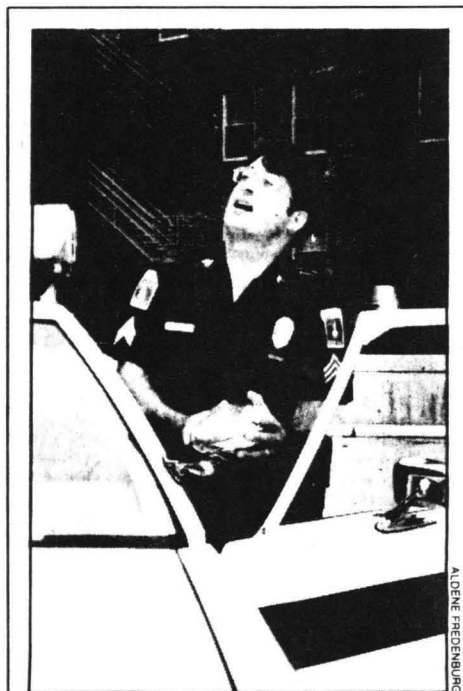
Q You tracked it? Were there any markings on it?

A None. The thing was brightly illuminated and I looked specifically for numbers, or letters, or other symbols, but there weren't any. Nor were there any portholes, or landing gear, no openings of any kind on the bottom. The lights must have been placed on the top part of the craft, because they couldn't be seen from underneath, although the pulsations of the lights could be seen in the air around us. As it went over our heads it made a two-toned sound which lasted about a second. Then it went over and parked about 100 feet above the car wash. It began to turn as if to face us; at that point someone said, "Oh, oh, it's coming back." Then, suddenly, it was at the Ramada Inn. I mean, first it was hovering above the car wash, then it was at the Ramada, just like that. It was that fast. It hovered there for 10 or 15 seconds, then took off at a fast speed, following the contours of the grass and trees. It disappeared over the top of a

Q&A

TIMES INTERVIEW

John Zeller
UFO watcher



On October 15, 1984, Officer John Zeller of the Keene Police Department was dispatched to West Keene to investigate an anonymous tip about "something strange going on." Zeller's ride turned out to be a little more than routine. Freelance writer Aldene Fredenburg recently spoke with Zeller in his office.

Swanzy hill then reappeared a few seconds later, and followed the contours of the hill until it was out of sight. That's the last I saw of it. I'm familiar with aircraft—I've seen planes come into Keene flying low and fast like that—and I'd judge the thing was flying around five or six hundred miles an hour. Another officer reported that he may have seen it go off zoom into outer space, but he wasn't sure. It may have been a star.

Q Did you get the sense at all that the craft was manned?

A Oh, unquestionably. First, my shining the spotlight on the thing was the catalyst to cause it to investigate us. Then there was definitely a decision made to move slowly toward us, to investigate us, then to skedaddle, which was a reasonable thing to do under the circumstances. There's no question in my mind that someone was in it. It was not an inanimate, remote control object. Also, I had the feeling I was being observed, even though there were no portholes or anything for someone to look out of.

Q Did you have any misgivings about reporting the incident?

A A lot of people asked me that, whether I felt silly or afraid. No, not at all. And I had no choice, really; I was on duty, doing my job as a police officer.

Q Were there any negative repercussions?

A From this area, none at all. I've gotten nothing but interest and support. One guy came up to me afterwards and said, "Hey, I saw something that night and I'm glad you had the guts to report it." I've also gotten letters from almost all the southern states, and a lot of the southwestern states. A couple of them came from police officers who'd had sightings. The head of the New Hampshire MUFON, or Mutual UFO Network, contacted me to get more information. He seemed to be a pretty squared away guy. The heads of these organizations seem to be pretty stable; some of the members, well, that's another story. A lot of people seem to want to mix religion up into it. I remember one guy calling from Vermont or Maine, I can't remember which, and asking, "Well, have you gotten a message now?" He began talking about Jesus and the Bible. I don't put any religious significance on the incident. The whole thing was just—bizarre.

Q Has the incident changed you at all?

A No. I never had any interest in UFOs before the incident; I wasn't a doubter or a believer, either one. And I still don't have any fascination for things in outer space. I'm the kind of guy that believes what I see. I don't generally fantasize about things. I'm the kind of person who by nature likes to investigate things. Unfortunately I can't investigate this object because it's gone, and with it any evidence of its existence. So I've done some reading on the subject and tried to compare my experience with other sightings. It's amazing, but there are literally tens of thousands of recorded sightings, not just here in the United States, but in Europe, Russia and the Eastern bloc nations. The military has been concerned about some sightings of objects seen hovering over our nuclear arms depots. Actually, I was a little surprised at the lack of military interest in this local sighting, but I guess if they investigated every sighting they'd have to double the size of the defense department.

Q Do you have any theories as to what it was you saw?

A I've been presented with a lot of theories; people have called and offered explanations. A neighbor of mine gave me a book which purported to explain away all UFOs. It was about the most poorly written book I've ever read. I know that what I saw was not a military object. If we had something like that, we wouldn't need Star Wars or anything else. That baby was fast. It wasn't swamp gas, or a homemade weather balloon. It was a metallic type, hard, articulated object, with mass. I estimated the size of it to be at least 15 feet wide by 50 feet long. It moved with rationale.

To this day I still haven't formulated an idea in my mind as to what I think it is. It isn't because of lack of interest; nothing fits. I'd love to see one again, but if I do, I hope there will be someone there with me, whom I know on a personal level, to relate to about the incident. My wife, or another police officer, someone. That's my one regret. The first car that stopped that evening was from Connecticut, and after the incident, those guys were gone; I never saw them again. One car that pulled up looked exactly like the Chief's unmarked car, and I thought, great, someone I know that can verify what I'm seeing. But it wasn't him; it was someone I didn't know.

The whole incident was bizarre. Absolutely bizarre. ■

1985 UFO watcher aims for down-to-earth image

By WILLIAM SABO
News-Press Staff Writer

Carrying around bumper stickers that read "UFOs are real, ask the government," Everett Walter is making an attempt to run what he calls wackos out of the UFO watching business.

"All you read about is the far-out kooky people," the bearded Edison Community College education professor says. "It's hard to get rid of the image those types of people set up."

Walter objects most to stories in the National Enquirer and similar publications with screaming headlines such as "I had a baby from outer space!"

Instead, as a member of MUFON — Mutual UFO Network — and one of the few people in the world to write his doctoral dissertation on UFOs, Walter tries to educate people on what they may have seen pulsing in the sky. Some sightings he admits are hoaxes or conventional aircrafts; others are UFOs.

"My interest is in educating the public," Walter said. "Most skeptics don't know what they're talking about because they haven't looked at the evidence available."

Walter told a packed conference room Sunday at the Nature Center of Lee County.

"UFOs are real," Walter repeats during his lecture. Whether the UFOs are manned, so to speak, by aliens from other worlds is still up in the air.

Florida isn't one of your better states to see UFOs, Walter said, though Shirley Fox, the area director for MUFON, said a mother and daughter spotted a UFO just north of Fort Myers about 1 1/2 years ago.

They had just come from seeing the movie E.T., Fox said.

Also, there is the problem of Cape Canaveral launching missiles, satellites and experimental aircraft. She said a lot of UFO calls pour in when there is activity at Cape Canaveral.

Walter and Fox are encouraging people who think they have seen UFOs to contact MUFON, even if the sightings took place several years ago. The network will investigate whether there is an explanation for what was seen and if anyone else saw it.

Walter said there is a lot of evidence that there have been space ships visiting this planet. He said the federal government has until recently suppressed the informa-

tion about UFOs. He calls the government's unwillingness to release information a "cosmic Watergate."

He said since the 1940s the FBI, CIA and military have denied having any information concerning UFOs. But since the 1976 Freedom of Information Act, Walter said many documents have come to light revealing military aircraft coming very close to UFOs, some nearly colliding.

"The most interesting thing right now is the data and documents from the government," he said about current UFO study.

Walter shows tapes of people telling of their abduction and examination by aliens or a military pilot telling how he helped clean up the wreckage of a flying saucer.

But do people buy all the UFO, flying saucer and alien stuff?

"There has to be something," Joel Felingson said. "I couldn't say definitely one way or another."

"I've been interested in UFOs ever since I was a kid," Fort Myers resident Steve Tutko said. "I'm convinced there are other beings out there — whether they've landed on earth I'm not sure."

Lansing man keeps tabs on UFOs over state

He's central states chief, too

By JAMES A. HARRIS
Lansing State Journal

Next to hunting Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster, one of the strangest pursuits is the search for the close encounter.

As with Unidentified Flying Objects.

For Dan Wright, Michigan's premier UFO hunter, the pursuit is almost a full-time job. The Lansing man is the central states regional director of the Mutual UFO Network Inc. (MUFON).

He describes his career as a policy analyst for the state Social Services Department as interesting. But his search for that one elusive, proof-positive UFO is "fascinating."

His network is the one to which police stations across the state, in fact, refer the numerous reports they receive annually of something strange in the sky.

For the neophyte UFO enthusiast, close encounters — there are three different kinds — are contacts with those mysterious "things" that from time to time inhabit the sky and don't seem to be from the neighborhood. In short, they aren't supposed to look like any helicopter, airplane or Chevrolet you've ever seen before.

MUFON, Wright said, has over 100,000 such cases logged in its computer files, most explainable.

It was Wright and his network of MUFON investigators and law enforcement agencies throughout Michigan who kept tabs of an errant and doomed Soviet Union rocket booster that fell from space and blazed a path across the Midwestern sky shortly after midnight on June 21.

Dozens of UFO calls were reported to police agencies around the state and Wright, whose network in Michigan boasts 41 members (32 of whom are trained UFO investigators), 63 state police posts and 83 sheriffs' departments, was kept busy for two hours answering his telephone.

"By 2:30 a.m. we had that case resolved," he said.

"I admit (UFO tracking) is an unusual subject and to some extent a person puts his career at risk by being involved because there are people who do not understand the phenomenon and look askance at a person who does. But, for example, the people I work with know I'm serious and many give me the benefit of the doubt or take an active interest."

— Dan Wright

"We called the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD), which gave us the exact time the rocket booster re-entered the atmosphere," Wright said.

"We perform a public service. The police don't have to send out cruisers on every UFO call, and we also perform a service to the general public because most persons who call do not want us to tell them they are looking at a UFO," Wright said. "And in most cases, we can tell them they are not."

That's because 80 to 90 percent of the cases reported are explainable, Wright said. They are called IFOs — Identifiable Flying Objects.

Other than his unusual interest in the night sky, Wright, 38, appears to be like any other red-blooded American Yuppie.

"I admit it is an unusual subject and to some extent a person puts his career at risk by being involved because there are people who do not understand the phenomenon and look askance at a person who does," he said. "But, for example, the people I work with know I'm serious and many give me the benefit of the doubt or take an active interest."

Searching out UFOs is not the kind of hobby one picks up at local 4-H meetings, Wright admits. His



Lansing State Journal / GREG DORUITER

Dan Wright of Lansing, regional director of the Mutual UFO Network, says most of the over 100,000 flying object reports in the organization's computer files proved to have earthly explanations.

curiosity, in fact, was piqued back in 1968, when he was 21. His father, a truck driver, had a close encounter on Old U.S. 31 between Hart and Pentwater, he said. "His truck was paced for about 20 minutes by a very large globe which had a pulsating orange light," Wright said. "He eventually stopped his truck and watched it with another motorist."

Wright said he was too busy

earning a degree in political science at Western Michigan University to take any great interest, but later, after graduation, he recalled his father's tale and began researching UFO phenomena.

"Initially, I got interested because I had confidence my father was not a BS-er and he was really frightened of something he saw close at hand," Wright said. "After a decade of reading books on

the subject, I saw at last that some of the reports were genuine, and if that were so, the possibilities were awesome."

Wright said he has only had one UFO encounter, and that was back in 1978 when activity in mid-Michigan was at an all-time peak. Dozens of reports of mysterious lights in the sky were received by area police departments.

"I just stood in my back yard

and watched what I can only describe as lights," he said.

Wright said such reports vary from year to year. Also, he said, there are at least 600 recorded sightings of aliens, or encounters of the third kind.

Michigan, he said, has had several significant UFO incidents. The most credible began with the

Nov. 23, 1953, "collision" of an Air Force F-89 jet fighter from Kinross Air Force Base near Sault Ste. Marie with an unknown object over Lake Superior. The jet fighter had chased an object at speeds of 500 mph, when it suddenly merged with the object over Superior. No trace of debris or the pilot was ever found.

Then, Wright said, there's the now infamous case of the sightings at Hillsdale College in March 1966, when the civil defense director of Hillsdale County and 87 of the college's coeds, as well as several local police officers watched from a short distance for three hours while an object 20 feet in diameter and flashing red and white lights hovered over the school's arboretum.

The next morning, a deposit of white powder later identified as boron was found on the ground and pond under the object.

The most recent credible sighting in Michigan, he said, was a chase by a KC-135 refueling tanker plane at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda County on Nov. 1, 1979.

MUFON was able to acquire an official Strategic Air Command (SAC) memo on the incident, which gives an eyewitness description by a member of the plane's crew, Wright said.

The crewman had been ordered to identify the object, which had been reported flying low over the base's weapons storage area, Wright said.

The plane chased what appeared to be two objects with strobe lights flying in close formation out over Lake Huron and over to Saginaw Bay at speeds of 200 knots about 10:30 p.m.

Each time the refueling plane attempted to get closer than a mile to the objects, the crewman said, they "would speed away from us."

"I know this might sound crazy but I would estimate that the UFO sped away from us doing approximately 1,000 knots," he said.

Wright said over the last few years MUFON has been able to get more than 6,000 pages of government documents relating to reports of UFOs. The acquisition of government reports, memos and documentation of UFOs and UFO investigations will be the primary focus of this year's UFO Information Week, Aug. 18-25, Wright said.

"This (Reagan) administration, particularly, is tightening the grip on the release of documents relating to UFOs," Wright said. "The press has paid very little attention to this problem which is very aggravating."

By JEFF YOCOM
U of L Public Information Office

UFOs are real.

Whether they come from neighboring stars or are an unknown natural phenomenon, Dr. Burt Monroe does not claim to know. However, the

One group follows a 61-month cycle and moves 15 longitudinal degrees east with each cycle. The pattern is made up of groups of sightings spread over a four-to-12-week period, and includes an increased number of sightings each day before a peak and

regularly coincides with sightings of bright lights, while a larger landing site accompanies reports of three- to four-foot tall "humanoids."

While Monroe described the consistency as "very impressive," he warned that there are not enough cases to eliminate coincidence. In the majority of the groups, however, the same imprints share some common elements, he said.

The most startling cases Monroe has studied—those in which people have reportedly been abducted by UFO inhabitants—also bear noticeable patterns. Most cases usually begin with a time loss, Monroe said, a period of time of which there is no conscious memory. Usually, such abduction stories are never told unless the person is hypnotized, Monroe said.

"Hypnosis is a tricky thing, though," he warned. "You don't know what is being conjured up by the mind or what is real.

However, whether they're an Australian aborigine, a Brazilian farmer or an American pilot, they say the same thing."

The time loss, a physical examination given by other "beings" and enduring psychological and emotional aftereffects repeatedly unify most abduction cases.

"Nothing is as impressive as talking face-to-face to the people who have had these experiences," Monroe said. "Unfortunately, many won't speak out for fear of ridicule."

Monroe said he has always been interested in "flying things

—birds, planes or whatever"—and specializes in the study of birds. UFOs first grabbed his attention when he was a Navy flight instructor from 1953 to 1959. Since then, he has gathered information on sightings all over the world and investigated several local cases. He is a consultant to several organizations, including the Mutual UFO Network.

Monroe said that the lack of radar evidence of crafts entering and leaving the Earth's atmosphere weakens the popular theory that UFOs carry extra-terrestrial invaders.

Photographs taken of UFOs at low shutter speeds have yielded multi-imaged pictures of crafts

instead of the expected blurred image of a craft moving through space.

"Either these things were moving in quick jerks, or they were coming and going to and from our reality," Monroe offered.

Monroe lamented the fact that most scientists refuse to study UFOs, calling them to "see the evidence and investigate it."

"You can pick and choose among the evidence and prove they don't exist, but if you look at all the evidence, you can't," he said. "Something is happening and it needs to be looked at. I don't know what, but something is happening."

UFOs

Professor believes sightings are real, cites patterns of appearances

University of Louisville biology professor has found too many consistencies among UFO sightings to dismiss them as hoaxes or hallucinations.

Monroe said it is the patterns of UFO sightings that capture his attention more than fantastic explanations of where they come from or why they are here. Breaking down sighting reports according to time of day, geographical location, other sightings in the area and the experience of the observer causes patterns to emerge among seemingly unrelated cases, he said.

"Certain groups follow patterns according to time and space," Monroe said.

subsequent rapid decline. The pattern has been documented for 35 years until 1973.

The last two expected waves of sightings probably took place over Russia and Red China, but to date no information is available on them.

Similarly, Monroe said, an analysis of close encounters of the second kind—cases involving physical evidence left at the location of the UFO sighting—shows several consistent patterns.

A number of sightings have been grouped together because of burn marks or imprints left at sites that suggest the landing legs of a craft. The smallest of the three-point imprints

ADVISOR PRESS, Cudahy & St. Francis, WI

Aug. 29, 1985 CR: R. Heiden

notes 'n 'quotes'

by JOSEPH SOULAK

Lots of people stop by the newspaper in the course of an average week. Many have something to say. Some drop by with a tidbit or two of news and some just stop to chat. They all make for an interesting week, such as:

...The man from down the street, who asked if we saw the UFO flying about 20 feet over the treetops last Sunday at about 6:15 p.m. "It was revolving and making all sorts of reflections," he said. "There was a fellow in the next block who saw it, too. He followed it as it turned the corner about a block away."

Mountain hike ends in trip that's out of this world

Following last week's column on the Eastgate woman who reports repeatedly seeing a UFO, the adventure continues:

"I've seen it twice and it's just like she said," said R. W. Vaudrin of Enatai. "I've been skeptical all my life but I've never seen anything like this before."

Six others phoned to say they've seen the object Wanda Todd of Eastgate says she's been seeing. A dozen people—including a retired aeronautical engineer—reported seeing other strange objects in the sky, one that "flashed like a mirror," another that was "the brightest thing I've ever seen."



Bob Welch

Staff Columnist

Chuck Wie, a Woodinville man, said he saw a bright light in the sky one evening; later, he was awakened by his barking dog and, investigating outside with a flashlight, saw a circular red haze that suddenly disappeared.

If that sounds strange, it pales compared to the report of Joseph Cook, a 59-year-old Bellevue man. He claims he not only saw a UFO on July 14, but was taken aboard it.

"I was abducted," said Cook, sitting in the living room of his downtown Bellevue apartment. ("Cook" is a pseudonym; the man asked that his real name not be used until an investigation is completed.)

The incident, he said, happened while he and a friend, Cassandra Wright (also a pseudonym), were at Crystal Mountain, just east of Mount Rainier. The two originally had planned to ride two chairlifts to the Summit House and take photographs. But Wright had sprained her ankle and decided to stay at Crystal Mountain Lodge while Cook went on up.

THE MINERS Basin chairlift, which goes from the base to midway up the mountain, wasn't running. But Cook, wearing slacks, a long-sleeve shirt and dress shoes, decided to hike up the mountain and get on the Iceberg Ridge lift, which goes to the top. He and Wright parted. It was 2:30 p.m. on a warm, clear Sunday.

The next thing Cook remembers is lying face down on rocky Powder Pass, 2,000 feet above the point where he'd started to climb and about a quarter-mile east of the Summit House. "I was panting like a steam engine," he said. "I was petrified. I had no recollection of how I'd gotten there."

"Emotionally drained," he vaguely remembers stumbling back down to the lodge, his back and ribs aching. He arrived at 4:30 p.m. "I don't know how I got there," Cook told Wright, "but I was up there on those rocks."

IN THE TWO WEEKS that followed, Cook was "incoherent," according to Wright. "He'd jump at every little noise—like the telephone ringing. He's never shed more tears. He didn't leave the apartment for a couple of days. He didn't want to be alone."

"It was the first time in my life," said Cook, "that I didn't have control over an event." Adding to the mystery were five puncture wounds on Cook's back, wounds which Wright said looked like "needle marks." Though they've faded now, the marks were photographed by Wright.

On Aug. 8, hypnotherapist Fred Rantz of Kirkland—whom Cook sought out after a recommendation from a friend—placed Cook under hypnosis. Wright observed. Rantz, in California last week, couldn't be reached for comment on the matter. But Cook and Wright say the session revealed that Cook had been taken aboard a disc-shaped spaceship.

"It was about 200 to 300 feet in diameter and was blue—the undersurface was," said Cook. It had no lights on it. It hovered above him, he said, close to the ground.

"I don't remember how I got into the ship; I understand they can levitate you. But anyhow, the next thing I remember—the only other thing I remember—was I was on a white hospital bed and there were about 25 or 30 figures around me and they were diffused. You couldn't see their features but they were humanoids. It wasn't like an E.T. They were blurry."

Cook doesn't remember whether he was clothed, whether any of the "grayish-green humanoids" bent over him or whether any instruments touched him. But he's convinced he was being examined.

And he's convinced he's seen two disc-shaped UFOs since the incident. On Aug. 11, said Cook, he was hanging up the phone in his downtown Bellevue apartment about 7 p.m. when he saw a blue disc hovering above the Seattle Trust Building. Then, in "two seconds," it shot straight up and disappeared.

On Aug. 21, at about 5:30 p.m., Cook said he was turning on the evening news when a disc shot by his window, heading east, "like a bomb."

IN THE TIME between those two sightings, two representatives from the UFO Information Service in Seattle interviewed Cook about the Crystal Mountain incident. "I'm not privileged to talk about the case," said Dale Goudie, one of the two. "It's still under investigation."

Goudie wants to meet again with Cook with two psychiatrists so we can "distinguish fantasy from reality." In the meantime, he calls Cook's story "very convincing—we had a lot of UFO reports in this area at that time."

Though nothing was reported on the day Cook claims he was abducted, the center had eight reports of UFOs in Washington in the two-week period from July 10 through July 25.

"Every year we get cases like this," said Goudie. "This is the third we've had in Washington. One was in Olympia in January and one in eastern Washington in February."

Cook, who has an engineering background and is now in sales, says for weeks after the hypnotic session he denied the abduction story. But he and Wright ventured back to Crystal Mountain last weekend. He double-checked to make sure there wasn't some way he could have gotten up to the rocks on Powder Pass and back to the lodge in two hours. (It's a four-mile trip that would take an avid hiker about 2½ hours, according to a Crystal Mountain spokesman.)

Impossible for him, Cook decided, particularly since he was wearing street clothes, hasn't hiked in years and is admittedly in poor physical condition. He said he hadn't been drinking or taking drugs. He denied he fell and hit his head, mistook something else for Powder Pass, is mentally off balance or is plain lying.

"There's no doubt," he said, "that this happened."

JOURNAL AMERICAN, Bellevue, WA

Sept. 2, 1985

Houston suit asks: Is the U.S. liable for UFOs?

By TOM CURTIS

Houston Bureau

HOUSTON — The three people suing the federal government for \$20 million say they don't know to this day what it was that hovered far over their heads and zapped them with radiation almost five years ago.

They claim it was an unidentified flying object that was escorted away by military helicopters and suspect it was a secret U.S. military experiment. In any event, they say, the government should have warned residents that a UFO was in their area.

But the military says it had nothing to do with the alleged incident Dec. 29, 1980, on a dark, deserted farm road northeast of Houston. And even if there were a UFO, a U.S. attorney now says, the government has no legal duty to warn people about UFOs because the government doesn't know whether they are dangerous.

'It's something the government had up there or they knew what it was, because they had all those helicopters up there.'

— Vickie Landrum

With such straightforward arguments the federal government is urging U.S. District Judge Ross Sterling to throw out a bizarre lawsuit filed here last year by former Dayton, Texas, cafe owner Betty Cash, 56, former waitress Vickie Landrum, 61, and Landrum's grandson, Colby Landrum, 11.

Despite investigations by various parties, the opposing sides are at a stalemate as Sterling's ruling draws near. Federal officials, however, stand fast on the contention that the military would have no obligation to intervene. And, officials say, even if the government were to have chased the UFO off with helicopters as

suggested, the government lawyer asserts, that would amount to a "discretionary function," and thus the government couldn't be sued.

"Faced with the situation of an unknown object, a government determination not to issue a warning," to avoid causing a panic, "... simply would not constitute negligence in any event," Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank Conforti says in court papers filed here.

The suit claims that about 9 p.m. on Dec. 29, 1980, while headed for their homes in Dayton along a two-lane stretch of FM 1485 about 30 miles northeast of Houston, the trio encountered a brightly

glowing craft the size of a city water tower. It hovered at tree-top level, had red and orange flames flowing from its bottom, and bathed them in intense heat for several minutes before it was escorted away by at least 23 helicopters.

Their lawsuit, filed under the Federal Tort Claims Act, claims that the government failed to warn them of the UFO and "negligently, carelessly and recklessly" allowed it "to fly over a publicly used road and come in contact with the plaintiffs."

As a result, all suffered stomach pains, vomiting, diarrhea, radiation burns, deteriorating eyesight, and the women's hair fell out and grew back with a different texture, the suit claims. It also says they became highly sensitive to sunlight, suffered blisters and headaches, and that Cash developed breast cancer.

Despite the trio's report that there were no markings on the "large, unconventional aerial object" or on the helicop-

Schuessler said, "We've investigated this case for five years now and we can find no evidence of fabrication."

Schuessler said "10 to 12 people from east of Liberty to Dayton, Huffman and Crosby" reported witnessing the object or the helicopters over a two-hour period Dec. 29. He declined to release their names, saying he wanted to protect their privacy. In addition, he said, numerous medical records attest to medical condition of Cash and the Landrums.

Former Dayton Police Chief Tommy Waring, 64, said he has known Landrum for "25 years or more" and vouches for her good character.

"She never has lied to me that I know of," said Waring, who said he gave her the phone number for a UFO hotline after she told him her story. "Now, whether she actually saw something out there I don't know."

The alleged incident, meanwhile, has been reported in the sensationalist magazines, National Enquirer and The Globe, and it was among the subjects of a cable television UFO program on Home Box Office this week. It also is widely discussed among UFO buffs.

"It did not act like a UFO at all — it really seems to be a military said Sherman Larsen, co-director with Dr. J. Allen Hynek of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill. "Perhaps this thing just got out of hand and got to where it wasn't supposed to be."

Conforti, the assistant U.S. attorney, says he hasn't "formed any belief one way or the other" about the existence of the UFO, adding that he assumes Cash and Landrum are sincere. But he says he is sure about the facts and the law.

Because the object — if it existed — was neither owned, operated, nor controlled by the United States government, he says the government shouldn't "be held responsible for any liability."



Richard Carlson / Special to the Dallas Times Herald
VICKIE LANDRUM says she should have been warned about UFOs.

CR: T. Adams

LIVING



Angus Lind

All we need are a few good UFOs

I was watching a show on HBO the other night when it dawned on me what this nation really needs.

Not a balanced budget.
Not a good 5-cent cigar.
Not even honest politicians.

No, what it needs, quite obviously, is a good epidemic of UFO sightings. We're simply not laughing enough as a nation. The news is bad in South Africa. The news is always bad in the Middle East, and the news is always bad on the front page. The only way to put a halt to this epidemic of bad news is to start an epidemic of UFO sightings. They're good therapy, they're harmless, they're fun to read about, and you get to find out where the kooks in this country are living.

Besides, it gets the reporters out of the office. I never can find a word processor to use.

There is absolutely no doubt that UFOs exist. All you have to do is look at the various descriptions given of the crafts and their occupants and see how similar they are.

First, the crafts: They're V-shaped, oblong, egg-shaped and triangular. They also are circular, resemble a boomerang, are about the size of a football field, and look like a tractor-trailer parked in the sky. They make swooshing noises, they buzz and they have been known to hiss. They are also undoubtedly silent. They flash, they blink, and they hover. They also zoom, occasionally land, and usually have an L-shaped device hanging from them. They are red and green, but then again, they're blue and yellow. They have strobe lights, tubular things and go "Piff."

Hard to catch on film

Most of all, they're elusive. People who take photographs of them find they wind up with blank pictures.

Now for the occupants: They're diminutive. They're 5 feet tall. They're more than 5 feet tall. They're humanoids. They're robots. They have wrinkled gray skin and taut pale skin. They have long arms and long necks. They have no necks. They are 9-foot-tall giants with red eyes. They're hairy dwarfs. They're midgets in silver suits. They have sharp points for noses and ears, a slit for a mouth, and claws for hands.

With corroborating information like that, you can see how a police artist would have no trouble at all sketching the prototype of an alien and his spaceship.

In 1973, when I was a general assignment reporter, there was a nifty epidemic of UFO sightings on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. As I recall, just about every airborne object known to man was sighted with the exception of the Great Pumpkin, Santa Claus and the Wright Brothers' airplane. Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer was positively identified. Some of these people who sighted the spacecrafts also testified that the creatures on board came over and hugged them.

I used to see a lot of UFOs myself. And on several occasions some creatures came over and hugged me. That was before I quit hanging out in the bars on Fourth Street in Marrero.

Some questions for aliens

One of my favorite moments from the epidemic of '73 came when we did a man on the street story and asked Orleanians what they would say if they had the opportunity to talk to aliens with green ears. One cab driver said he would ask them if their streets were any better than ours. Gov. Edwards, asked if he had spotted any UFOs, said, "No, I don't drink at all." However, he said if any of them landed in Louisiana, he'd have them registered to vote.

The HBO special on UFOs the other night examined the subject as only National Enquirer could. But that's the way it's got to be done. The worst — absolutely the worst — thing that could happen would be for UFOs to be identified. If they were identified, they would cease to exist. Who ever heard of an Identified Unidentified Flying Object?

If that happened, then you wouldn't have the wackos claiming that it is a CIA cover-up. You wouldn't have the wild-eyed UFObiacs stroking their beards and speculating on the next sighting. If it weren't for the sporadic outbreaks of UFO sightings, these poor souls never would make the news.

Take, for example, the Chicago man who was leaning on a downtown lamp-post and gazing at the sky when a cop walked by. Predictably, the cop looked up also. "Looking for something, Cap?" the officer asked.

"My pilot," the man replied. "He's late."

The cop asked him what pilot.

The man told him the one who flew his flying saucer there and dropped him off.

The cop asked the man for his ID, suspecting that he was seeing saucers in his cups. When the paddy wagon arrived, the man calmly told the driver, "You're not my pilot." And with some unsolicited assistance, he reluctantly got on board.



EVENING POST, Port Elizabeth, Cape, South Africa - June 22, 1985 CR: C. Hind

UFO sighting from Walmer?

WAS there any connection between the barking dog wanting to get out of the house and the eerie "blob" seen hovering in the early morning sky over Port Elizabeth last (the longest) night?

Recalling all the best sci-fi movies, a Walmer family stood riveted for more than an hour between 4.30 and 6am today, watching a "translucent blob" hover-

ing over the bay.

The Saddler family, 18-year-old Dominique said, had not had too good a night of it last night and were definitely not seeing things when Dad, Mr Bob Saddler, having let the barking dog out, woke up Mom, Diane and her to look at the UFO.

Early on Thursday morning several PE residents saw a fiery object, which they said had a long burn-

ing tail with sparks shooting off it.

Experts fobbed it off as a piece of "cosmic junk". But how are they going to explain this one?

According to Dominique, last night's object was a "translucent glowing blob" - a UFO, it wasn't flying, it just hovered - while on the side, a triangular or pyramid-shaped thing disconnected, went out, semi-cir-

led it and sometimes went into the blob".

The family watched the object through a pair of binoculars, she said, and even made rudimentary drawings of it.

She said when clouds came in front of the object, the "blob" disappeared, but the brighter shape remained visible.

Then, unlike in the movies, it simply disappeared.

NEWS, Pretoria, South Africa - Aug. 2, 1985 CR: C. Hind

UFO top dog against Hawks

Pretoria News Foreign Service

HARARE. — Aeronautical experts in Zimbabwe are still puzzled about the unidentified flying object which streaked away from two air force jet interceptors over Matabeleland. The commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force (AFZ), Air Marshal Azim Daudpota, told the Herald newspaper: "This was no ordinary UFO. Scores of people saw it. Even the pilots of the two fighter aircraft had visual contact with it."

The incident began when the object — described as very bright, with a rounded shape and a cone stretching above it, was tracked by visual sightings from Beitbridge and across southern Zimbabwe.

It was then seen clearly from the control tower at Bulawayo Airport and tracked on radar. Two Hawk fighters were scrambled from the Midlands fighter base at Thornhill and were

directed on to the object, which was then hovering about 2 300 m above Bulawayo. As the fighters closed on the shape, it accelerated upwards at "tremendous speed", said Air Commodore Dave Thorne of AFZ headquarters in Harare. The Hawks levelled out at about 10 000 m but the UFO did not stop its flat-out climb until about 23 000 m, according to Commodore Thorne.

The spectacular rise of the UFO over Bulawayo, in which it went from 2 300 m to 23 000 m in less than a minute, meant it must have been travelling at more than 2 300 km/h — around twice the speed of sound at those altitudes.

Both Air Marshal Daudpota and Air Commodore Thorne said they did not believe the object was some sort of remote-controlled airship because of its powerful vertical acceleration and its silence.

JAPAN TIMES, Tokyo, Japan - Aug. 30, 1985 CR: Y. Matsumura

China Sees 600 UFOs Since '80

BEIJING (AP) — More than 600 unidentified flying objects have been spotted in China in the past five years, according to a report from the country's first UFO seminar.

The meeting of 40 scientists in the northeast port of Dalian ended Tuesday, the official

Xinhua news agency reported Wednesday.

One scholar said the first UFO picture in the world was taken in China's northeast city of Tianjin 40 years ago.

Others presented papers about UFO research and hypotheses on their origin.

China set up its first UFO research society in 1981 and it now has 20,000 members, the report said.

The most recent sighting was spectacular.

The overseas edition of the People's Daily (Renmin Ribao) quoted the pilot of a CAAC state airline Boeing 747 jetliner as having encountered a UFO whose brilliance extended for 40 to 50 km.

The pilot said he spotted the object in June as he flew over western China's Gansu province on a flight to Paris.

"The object traveled extremely fast, pacing the aircraft in a southerly direction for about two minutes," the paper reported.

In a later press report, pilot Wang Shuting was quoted as saying the yellow UFO appeared only as large as a walnut when viewed from the cockpit. He said it glowed much brighter than other stars in the sky.

SWINDON EVENING ADVERTISER, Wiltshire, England - Aug. 2, 1985

UFO riddle is solved

by RICHARD PORTER

INVESTIGATORS from Swindon think they've solved one of Britain's greatest UFO mysteries.

Two years of study has proved a ball of light filmed flashing across the Oxfordshire sky was a crashing plane, they say.

And now the work of SCUFORI — the Swindon centre for UFO research and investigation — may mean the textbooks will have to be rewritten.

The story began in a country lane near Aylesbury in January 1973.

Architect Peter Day saw an orange light speeding across the sky, and quickly reached for the cine camera he kept in his car's glove compartment.

Experts spent months examining his film and decided it was genuine.

And although it was known an American Air Force F-11 crashed on the same day, reports indi-

cated it was well before Peter Day's sighting.

But SCUFORI has now won proof from the USAF of the time the plane crashed.

"It was thought to be one of the best pieces of movie film of a UFO ever shot," said Martin Shipp, 26, of Westlea.

"But what the man shot was an F-11 on fire. We are the only people to have proved that."

SCUFORI has been investigating UFOs for 11 years.

The group's five members are always keen to hear about more sightings, which are investigated at their base in Berkeley Lawns, the Lawn, Swindon, where investigator Charlie Affleck lives.

CR: T. Good

U.F.O. 'HOAX'

WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE, Arundel, England, July 18, 1985 CR: T. Good

Regarding the appearance of what you refer to as a "U.F.O. hoax in Patching wheat-field," (W.S.G. July 4), naturally the theory that it is a hoax is something which must be looked at and considered in such cases as this.

However, my initial inquiries indicate that Mr. Anthony Wicks was not the first person to walk over to the mysterious circles, and therefore the tracks which he found and suggests were made by those responsible for the circles may not be.

Also, of course, bearing in mind the recent history of the area around Clapham and Patching, i.e. the

number of reported U.F.O. sightings in the area; the as yet unexplained disappearance of a number of dogs; the fact that this is not the first time in this vicinity, all make this recent incident worthy of investigation before reaching any conclusions.

For some years I have been involved in the investigation of the various "strange phenomena" regularly reported in this area and, while I certainly do not dismiss the possibility of this being a hoax, I, like many others prefer to reserve judgement until my investigations are complete.

Charles P.T. Walker
28, Christchurch Road,
Werthing.

MAL, Hartlepool, England, Aug. 28, 1985 CR: T. Good



Mr Patrick Hills

Mystery of bright lights in sky

A HARTLEPOOL man has been set a U.F.O. poser after seeing spots before his eyes for the second time within a month.

Mr Patrick Hills, of Spilsby Close, says he first witnessed strange lights in the skies above South Fens four weeks ago.

Since then, Mr Hills, who is unemployed, has spent each night watching the skies for their return.

And last night he said today his efforts were rewarded when he viewed a bright, white light approaching from Billingham.

"Ever since I first spotted the lights I have been out every night at about 9 p.m. hoping to see them again," he said today.

"But I had seen nothing until last night when this bright light appeared coming towards me."

"It absolutely lit up the sky, and I only hope somebody else witnessed it."

"I don't know what it is, but as soon as a light aircraft appeared heading towards it, the lights went out and it disappeared into the darkness."

HERALD, Harare, Zimbabwe - Aug. 2, 1985 CR: C. Hind

AIR FORCE JETS SENT AFTER UFO

Herald Reporter

THE identity of the "bright flying object" seen over parts of Matabeleland and Bulawayo and which outperformed two Hawk fighter jets in a chase has still not been established.

"This was no ordinary UFO (unidentified flying object)," the Commander of the Air Force of Zimbabwe, Air Marshal Azim Daudpota, told The Herald yesterday. "Scores of people saw it. Even the two pilots of the fighter aircraft had visual contact with it over Bulawayo."

The object, said to be orange, was tracked by visual sightings on Monday afternoon last week from Beitbridge,

Gwanda, Mwenzi and West Nicholson and then Plumtree. It was then seen clearly from the control tower of Bulawayo Airport and the meteorology radar at the airport locked on to it.

Two fighters were scrambled at 5.45 pm and they were directed to the object hovering above the city at around 7 000 feet. It accelerated upwards at a "tremendous speed", according to Air Commodore Dave Thorne of the Air Force of Zimbabwe headquarters.

The Hawks levelled out at 31 000 feet and the UFO stopped at 20 000 feet.

When the two fighters returned to Thorn-

hill air force base the object was seen above the base by the two pilots and several other officers and men.

Air Commodore Thorne said some 95 percent of UFOs are easily explained. "The one that was sighted over Bulawayo and out-climbed our fighters is obviously one of the five percent that are not explainable."

The explainable UFOs that he was talking about are the swarms of bees or flying geese that have on several occasions had United States Air Force fighters scrambling after showing up on military radars.

Neither the commander nor Air Com-

modore Thorne were prepared to believe that the flying object might have been a remotely-controlled airship because of its quiet operation and its powerful vertical acceleration.

After the craft hovered over Thornhill for a few moments it flew eastwards horizontally again at a high speed.

Trained observers at Bulawayo airport said the object seemed to be rounded with a short cone stretching above it. The diameter was shorter than the wingspan of a Boeing 707 and it was silent.

It shone very brightly in the afternoon sun and was difficult to see distinctly. The two

observers, who have both been trained to observe objects in the air accurately, said they had seen nothing like it before.

In the past Met office balloons have been seen and only identified later but this is not one of those cases; the air force says it could not have been a Met balloon and this is confirmed by other sources.

In its spectacular rise over Bulawayo Airport from 7 000 to 70 000 feet in less than a minute the object must have been travelling at more than 2 300 km/h during the middle part of its ascent, around twice the speed of sound at those altitudes.

Big toy balloon deflates airline pilot's story

MILAN, Italy (UPI) — The mystery of a black object that narrowly missed hitting an Olympic Airways airliner Aug. 15 appeared cleared up Thursday when a Swiss woman explained the object was a large toy balloon released by her husband.

The Italian news agency Ansa identified the woman as Rita Ghielmini, wife of Swiss civil engineer Gianfranco Ghielmini, currently residing in a vacation chalet at Pregassano, near Lugano and the Swiss-Italian border.

The pilot of the Olympic Airways jetliner caused an official investigation in Italy when he reported a black object that looked like a missile narrowly missed his plane. At

the time the airliner was north of Como, near the Swiss border, on a flight from Zurich to Athens.

In a telephone interview with Ansa's Milan office Thursday, Mrs. Ghielmini said the "missile" was in fact a black toy hot air balloon with "UFO-Solar" written in silver letters on its side. These balloons are capable of rising thousands of feet into the air.

Ghielmini launched the balloon high up on the slopes of Mount Pianezzo to amuse their 5-year-old daughter, Sara, the woman said. She said he took photographs of Sara holding the string of the balloon and then of the balloon soaring high in the sky.

He also wrote the family's address on a

label attached to the balloon. The day after the launching he received a telephone call from somebody in the Adriatic port city of Ancona, more than 300 miles from the launch site, saying they had found the balloon.

"What might have misled the pilot were the silver letters UFO-Solar, written on the balloon," Mrs. Ghielmini said. "Probably the reflection of the sun's rays on the silver letters made it look as though flames were coming from the balloon."

"We could have kept quiet about this, because nobody saw us launch the balloon," she said. "But then we decided to behave like adults in order not to create further confusion."

ADVERTISER, Andover, England

Aug. 16, 1985 CR: T. Good

The UFO mystery remains unsolved

After a week of frenzied speculation, the Great Andover Flying Saucer Mystery remains unsolved.

Last week we reported the discovery of strange circular markings in a field south of Andover. This followed sightings at Clay Hill, Warminster, Westbury, Alresford, Worthing and Fontwell Bishop all since 16 June.

An Over Wallop woman claimed that early one morning before the discovery at Longstock, she looked out of her kitchen window, south west towards Salisbury and noticed a very bright light with four smaller lights surrounding it.

Another circle has since appeared in the cornfield, but being so small it is thought to be no more than a prank. Several theories have been floated to account for the spiral effect left in the corn. One person claimed it was caused by Wonderwoman spinning around and another claimed the lack of footprints in the vicinity

could be explained by the prankster crossing the field on stilts.

There was even the suggestion that the markings were the remains of a gnomes illegal pop festival, with the larger circle serving as the stage.

And if anyone read their Sunday Times last week they may have reached the same conclusion as Dr and Mrs J. Hoffman of Winchester Road, Andover who discovered an amazing similarity between the pattern left in the field and the latest design for a high technology home for Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher.

Meanwhile Busty Taylor, the pilot who discovered the phenomenon, and a number of UFO experts are adamant that something landed.

Although the mystery remains could we be looking for a Thatcherite gnome dressed in a Wonderwoman outfit, walking on stilts?

SALISBURY JOURNAL, Wiltshire, England - Aug. 15, 1985

New UFO mystery baffles experts

MORE mystery UFO holes have completely baffled Army Air Corps experts at Middle Wallop.

The holes appeared at a farm near the AAC centre, which has now made an official report to the Ministry of Defence.

But the man conducting the investigation, Lt Col Greville Edgcombe, was left dumbfounded.

And he discounts the explanation given by Mr B. Essenhigh of Chilmark in last week's Journal.

There have now been five reports this year of similar manifestations appearing across southern England from Worthing to Westbury.

It all comes as no surprise to students of the rings who say they have appeared fairly regularly since the Second World War.

By Dick Bellringer

Despite their intensive investigations, nothing has been proved.

Certainly, Lt Col Edgcombe remains unimpressed by the theory that two people with a piece of string could have caused them.

In a letter to the Journal he says: "Being a born cynic I am quite happy to accept any plausible 'spook' theory, but I am afraid this does not quite match up to what I saw."

Mr Essenhigh's theory, he says, is quite impractical because it would involve trampling every square inch of every ring.

There was no trampling and the wheat was completely undamaged — just laid gently flat in a spiral.

The hole he investigated was 40ft in diameter and the outer rings were about 12ft in diameter.

So, he says, a 20ft pole, held at one end and flush with the ground, swept slowly round in a full circle would produce the right 40ft hole and effect, except there were no scuff marks at the centre.

It would in any case take inordinate skill for two people to produce the exact measurements and symmetrical layout.

Five people might have managed it with one at the centre and one at each outer ring.

But it would only be possible if each of the circles was connected by tramlines in the field — as they were at Fonthill Bishop.

The most recent configuration, near Middle Wallop, had one of the outer rings completely isolated with no tracks leading to it.

He says: "No, Mr Essenhigh, back to the drawing board."

"I am an aviator and I had an expert aircraft accident investigator with me."

"We were both dumbfounded and none of us could offer a reasonable explanation. Spook? Then how did they do it?"

The weird appearances have been investigated by Alresford design engineer Mr Patrick Delgado for several years.

He says they are by no means new phenomena, although it is only in recent years that people have started taking notice.

He believes there is some as yet unexplained connection between UFOs and the magnetic ley-lines which, many people claim, link standing stones like Stonehenge with other megalithic sites.

It is thought that the rings are created by UFOs at the point where the magnetic fields cross, although it is not known whether the ley-lines attract or are created by the UFOs.

An interesting development from the Middle Wallop rings is that a white jelly-like fluorescent substance was found in the centre of the main circle, and is now being analysed.

The rings in England always seem to crop up in the South, but they are by no means confined to these shores.

According to Mr Delgado they have also been seen in Canada, Australia, Sweden and the USA.

SUN, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Sept. 9, 1985 CR: P. Norman

Wran jet in UFO mystery

SYDNEY — Authorities are puzzled by a UFO seen near an aircraft carrying the NSW Premier, Mr Wran, over the north coast of the state last week.

The Sydney Bureau of Meteorology could not identify the object, which Mr Wran described as being "quite eerie, quite spooky" and oblong.

Mr Wran and the NSW Agriculture Minister, Mr Jack Hallam, were passengers in a Government-chartered jet which passed near the mystery object at 8 am Thursday.

The UFO was photographed from the cockpit of the jet by First Officer Gary Elsass of Rose Bay.

The Sydney Meteorological Bureau reported contact with an object hovering almost stationary 33,000 m above Coffs Harbor.

"It appeared to be too high and too unmoving to be a normal weather balloon," a spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Wran said it was bright and shiny but he could not identify it.

"I have never come across anything like it before and neither has Mr Hallam or the two pilots who are very experienced," he said.

CR: T. Good

Trend of things



David Barclay

Genuine mystery to be solved, says writer

HALIFAX EVENING COURIER,

Yorkshire, England

Aug. 10, 1985 CR: T. Good

THE MYSTERIOUS case of the miner who disappeared for five days before his body was found with strange burns on his head and neck at Todmorden is back in the public eye.

What Mr Zygmunt Jan Adamski did and where he had been in those missing five days was never established and remain a puzzle to this day.

Now Mr David Barclay, a Shipley man who writes under the name of Roger Ford, has published an article for the new paranormal phenomenon magazine "The Unknown" about the case.

Mr Barclay, with a life-long interest in psychic and paranormal events, researched the Adamski mystery with the help of "Evening Courier" cuttings.

Mr Adamski, a 57-year-old miner from Thornfield Crescent, Tingley, near Leeds, left his home on June 6, 1980, telling his crippled wife, Leokadia, he was calling at a local shop for some potatoes. She never saw him again.

His body was found on June 11 in a yard in Rochdale Road, Todmorden, owned by coal merchants J. W. Parker, near the main Halifax-Manchester rail line.

A shirt, watch, money and wallet Mr Adamski had when he left home were missing. He also had a large patch of scar tissue on the back of his head and neck — caused within two days of death by an acid burn or scald, said a pathologist — and there were superficial cuts on the palms of his hands, both knees and small cut on his right thigh.

His widow said his face had a frightened expression. Detectives investigated a theory that Mr Adamski may have been kidnapped by visitors from space, or died of fright after seeing a UFO, but found no evidence.

There had been reported sightings of UFOs around Todmorden throughout the summer of 1980 and a local police constable, Alan Godfrey, claimed in November he had been aboard a spaceship in the town and subjected to a medical examination by a humanoid creature assisted by eight small robots.

Mr Barclay told Trends: "As far as all investigations are concerned it would seem that during the month of June, 1980, Mr Adamski disappeared into, and returned from, nowhere."

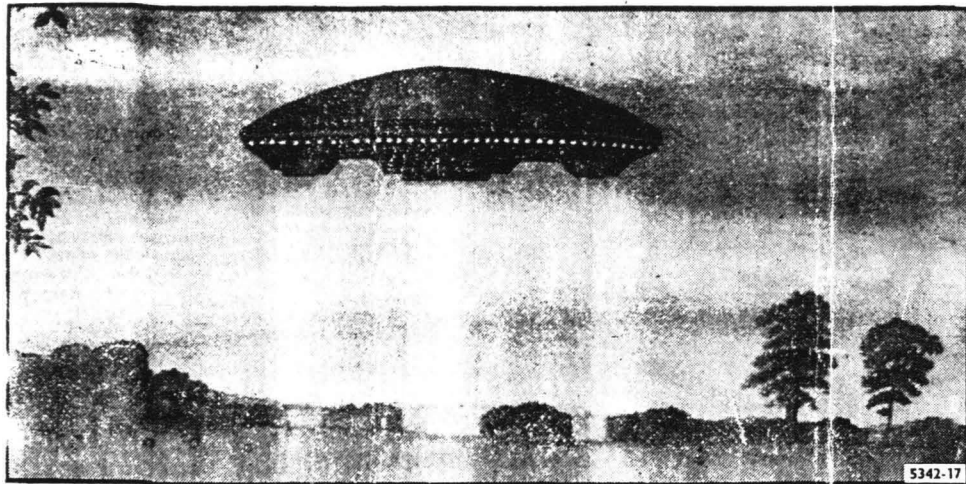
"In spite of the more farcical suggestions of the UFO connection, Mr Adamski's disappearance and reappearance leave a genuine mystery to be solved."

The Coroner who conducted the inquest into Mr Adamski's death, Mr James Turnbull, did not totally discount the UFO theory.

His officer, Con Denis Allan says that if anyone produced new evidence about Mr Adamski's death the inquest could be reopened.

To nowhere and back . . .

Is this the cornfield culprit?



Could this craft be the culprit who left a calling card of five mysterious circles in a cornfield at Leckford recently? Les Winchcombe of King George Road, Andover, who works for the Ministry of Defence at Tidworth, has offered up an artist's impression of how the circles appeared. The craft, he said, would have to be very large and would not actually land on the corn, but hover, leaving no burn marks and only depressions from its jet streams. He also believes such a craft would be able to change its colour to blend in with the surroundings, explaining why it has not been spotted. A fine painting—but all we want now is a photograph of our UFO!

ASHBOURNE NEWS TELEGRAPH, Derbyshire, England - Aug. 22, 1985

BROTHERS CLAIM UFO SIGHTING

With the fifth anniversary of the famous "Ashbourne UFO Event" fast approaching it seems that someone or something has been back for a return visit.

On Monday night at about 9.15 pm two young Ashbourne brothers watched a strange craft pass over their home in Boothby Avenue and silently sink down by the Queen Elizabeth upper school in The Green Road.

Ten-year-old Robert Dawson and his 12-year-old brother Edwin watched from their bedroom window as the object re-appeared and flew close by the end of the road.

Robert described it as round with different coloured flashing lights and although it looked small by the grammar school it seemed quite large when it went over head.

At about the same time flares were spotted in the sky between Ashbourne and Belper by a member of Ashbourne News Telegraph staff and later shooting stars were seen overhead.

On the night of August 30 1980, 37 people made 30 separate sightings of a so far unexplained UFO in and around Ashbourne.

CR: T. Good

WHITEHAVEN NEWS, Cumberland, England - Sept. 19, 1985 CR: T. Good

UFO's seen over hospital?

A 49-year-old Workington man is convinced that two objects he and friends witnessed in the evening sky last Wednesday were like nothing on earth.

The sighting of the UFO's by Mr Jack Foster, of Harrington Road, are to be officially logged.

Mr Foster and two other men were standing near the main entrance of the West Cumberland Hospital, Hensingham, about 7.30 p.m. when they noticed what looked like two vapour trails in the sky to the south west.

The object on the right grew bigger and Mr Foster said that the second object

had what looked like two lights dangling from it. One of the men also saw what seemed to be a boat shape hanging.

Mr Foster said: "We watched them for about 12 minutes until they gradually faded away from us."

Later the same night Mr Foster reported the sighting to local UFO experts and made a tape recording while the memory was fresh in his mind.

CR: T. Good

Family spotted mystery UFO

THE mysterious unidentified flying object which gave Berkshire salesgirl Lynn Brookes the fright of her life was also spotted by the Webb family.

Surprised Derek and Pamela Webb and their 16-year-old son Martin, were driving along the motorway towards Wokingham when they noticed something strange in the sky.

Mrs Webb, of Upper Broadmoor Road, Crowthorne, said: "It was about 8.50pm on Sunday evening. I looked up and saw this thing, all red and glowing in the sky."

"At first I thought it was a helicopter or a star. But it kept hovering and then stopped and stayed there for a few minutes before rising up above us. It was really odd."

Sighting

Lyn, aged 24, of Sparrows Close, Woosell, was scared to death when she saw an object hovering near her home above some woods.

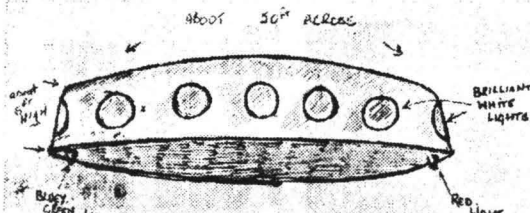
Now, after reading a report in the Evening Post Mrs Webb believes her family and Lyn saw the same thing. The Webbs' sighting was two hours earlier and about a mile from Lyn's home.

Mother of three Pamela, aged 36, added: "I am sure it was not an aircraft. It made me think it could have been a so called 'UFO' and I am not normally that easily convinced. I don't know what to make of it."

SUNDAY MIRROR, London, England - Sept. 29, 1985

Family tell of two sightings

Clouded in mystery — one of the flying saucers as David saw it in his sketch



OUR UFO TERROR

By BILL DAVEY

A FAMILY had a bizarre close encounter on a day out—with two UFOs.

The first flying saucer put butcher David McMurray and wife Susan in a spin when it hovered in front of their car.

Minutes later a second "spacecraft" flew into view—and now the strange sightings are being probed by experts.

David and Susan were driving home across Bagshot Heath, Surrey, to Farnborough, Hampshire, with their two children Paul, 5, and Katie, 18 months.

David, 35, said: "I saw something hovering above the road in front of us. I could not believe my eyes."

"It was a huge saucer-like craft about 50ft. long with brilliant lights coming from portholes around the centre. Then it suddenly took off."

When a second craft began to tail the family's car David stopped, got out and went to investigate. But it too, took off.

David said: "The whole family were weak and trembling for days afterwards."

Susan, 25, a hairdresser, said: "When David tried to start his car the battery was drained."

She added: "I saw the two things with my own eyes. It was an incredible experience."

One UFO was also spotted five miles away by salesgirl Lynn Brookes, 24, of Wokingham, Berkshire. She said: "It hovered in one spot for about five minutes."



Down to earth—Susan, Katie and David

Down to earth—Susan, Katie and David

Down to earth—Susan, Katie and David

Watching

"I was really frightened. It was as if it was watching me."

Now David has sketched the strange craft and is sending his drawing to the Ministry of Defence who are to investigate.

UFO expert Omar Fowler, 54, has also seen the drawing and said: "I have no doubt this report is genuine."

Heathrow Airport say none of the strange craft could have been planes.

UFO-watchers believe the area is a target for flying saucers.

CR: N. Oliver

CROWTHORNE NEWS, Berkshire, England - Sept. 20, 1985 CR: T. Good

'Amazing' UFO sighting by family on heath

A FAMILY came face to face with a UFO on Sunday night.

Their experience has led one expert to believe that the Bagshot Heath area may have been singled out for study by beings from outer space.

Farnborough hatcher Mr David McMurray, his wife and two children, were driving along Red Road near the heath when they saw what appeared to be a massive alien spacecraft.

Just as suddenly, it took off and another one came out of the trees and flew alongside the car until Mr. McMurray (35) stopped.

"It was amazing," he said. "I was really interested and immediately got out of the car and stood looking at it for about a minute-and-a-half."

HUMMING

"My wife Susan wasn't so keen and locked the door and refused to get out. I had never seen anything like it before. The light coming from it was so intense and lit up the whole area."

Mr McMurray described the object as about 50 feet across, five feet high with a series of small round windows. There was a red light on one side, a blue-green one on the other and the craft emitted a humming noise.

The morning after their experience the whole family overslept at their home in Broomhill Road, Farnborough — something they never do because of the children — and when they went to use the car the battery was completely drained.

"I've no doubt at all that it was an alien spacecraft — I do

LOUGHBOROUGH ECHO, Leicestershire, England

July 26, 1985 CR: T. Good

Lasers could be the answer

SIR — I have very much sympathy for people like inventor Mr. Maurice Charles Thurman (Echo, June 21).

After seeing an article on the front page of the Echo in November 1979 regarding some people who had seen the lights from a UFO at Belton, this set me thinking about what sort of engines would be used to power them. After 5½ years' work and hundreds of drawings, I consider I now have the answer: laser beams.

Last year I wrote to NASA in Washington. The outcome was "We can't accept these designs".

Some of them are now with a local firm. Whether they can deal with them, I don't

know. The designs are available for inspection by anyone who is interested, with all the technical details.

With all the unemployment in this country, there must be persons who have ideas for employment and persons who would welcome the chance to employ them. To get the two together is very difficult. The obvious answer is a computerised store, so that people can be put in touch with each other.

If anyone is interested they can get in touch with me. I happen to believe in UFOs and the designs I have. Lots of persons don't.

Any letters or interest will be dealt with.

(Name and address supplied) Any letters can be passed on! — Editor.

AUSTRALIAN, Perth, W.A. [?], Australia

Sept. 9, 1985

CR: P. Norman

Wran's UFO still a mystery

AUTHORITIES have failed to establish the nature of a bright unidentified flying object sighted near an aircraft carrying the NSW Premier, Mr Wran, and the State Minister for Agriculture, Mr Hallam, on Thursday.

A spokeswoman for Mr Hallam said he described it as bright — "almost too bright to look at" — and it appeared to be moving.

She said the Premier's chartered jet was flying at about 9000m when the object was spotted high above.

"It was too high to be a runaway balloon — and apparently did not look like any sort of plane piloted by a human being."

Family's UFO mystery

IT WAS a normal September evening, just like any other. The O'Rourke family were sat in the front room of their semi-detached house in Huyton watching the television. Nothing extraordinary had happened to them that day but what they were about to see was certainly not an ordinary sight ... even in the wilds of Huyton.

Casually glancing out of the window Mr. O'Rourke noticed some flashing lights. For some reason the lights held his attention and he followed their progress as they moved slowly across the sky above the roof tops of Huyton.

Strange

Said Mr. O'Rourke (39): "As I watched them I realized that they weren't the landing lights of an aeroplane. They were flashing and moving slowly over the garden. I'd never believed in all that U.F.O. sort of thing but when I saw this I started to have second thoughts. It was all really clear. You could see everything, all the different lights, really clearly."

Patrick O'Rourke had no difficulty convincing his wife Agnes (33), and his four children about what he'd seen. He just pointed it out to them and let them draw their own conclusions.

The O'Rourke family decided not to confide in anyone about their remarkable sightings — people are quick to pour scorn on claims of U.F.O. sightings and very often accuse the claimants of being mad. But there is no doubt in Agnes O'Rourke's mind about the mental stability of her family. "We're not nutty," she says.

After seeing these extraordinary lights for the first time the O'Rourkes began to keep a keen eye open for any more signs of strange goings on in the skys above Huyton.

And sure enough they were not disappointed.

Mr. O'Rourke explains: "Last December, just before Christmas, we saw two lights just hovering over the flats for four hours. They couldn't have been stars because all of a sudden they started moving."

by Star Reporter

They shot over the house very quickly. It made our ears pop. They were shaped like 50p. pieces."

And the O'Rourkes claim that other people have witnessed these mysterious scenes. Said Mr. O'Rourke: "We've had people here who just smirked when we told them what we've seen. But when they've actually seen it for themselves they've changed their minds pretty quickly."

Flashing

Patrick O'Rourke has not just sat back passively and observed the strange sights he claims to have seen in the skys above Huyton — he also claims to have communicated with them: "I rigged up a telescope with a light attached to it to flash back at these two shapes that had been hovering in the sky. After I'd been flashing this light at them for a while six more shapes



Mr. Patrick O'Rourke—mysterious sights in the skies above Huyton

appeared suddenly and started flashing back at me. It made the hair stand up on the back of my neck," said Mr O'Rourke.

The O'Rourkes are fully aware that many people will scoff at their claims but as Mr O'Rourke said, "We are not trying to convince anybody about anything because we don't know what we've seen anyway. But we wish somebody would explain it to us."

SCOTSMAN, Edinburgh, Scotland - Aug. 30, 1985

Space invaders

UFO enthusiasts in Sweden are speculating that the county of Smaaland is being sized up by extra-terrestrial invaders as a possible site for their earthly base. Smaa chance, cynics might riposte. Nevertheless, there have been flying saucer reports from a number of people in that area recently — from two girls walking home after a country disco, from a policeman and from a couple who had been otherwise occupied in their parked car.

Surely the most amazing report, which could have had interesting consequences, was that of Ante Jonsson (42) who was driving home at night when he found the road blocked by a 200ft wide "mothership" topped by a pulsing red light. Naturally he stopped. He was just being dragged from his Volvo station wagon by six aliens when a timber truck came round the bend and almost crashed into the spacecraft.

Question: Would this have led to (1) An illegal parking ticket? (2) A careless driving charge? (3) The real Star Wars?

CR: T. Good

A mystery disc 'glows' in the sky

UP TO this week, if you had talked to local plumber Mr Paul Quinn flying saucers, he would have laughed in your face.

But now he is convinced that "heavenly bodies" have zig-zagged their way over Towneley and out over Pendle.

Mr Quinn, of Ribblesdale Street, was a matter-of-fact, down-to-earth tradesman, with little interest in objects in the sky.

But not any more... "I've definitely seen one," he told the Burnley Express. "In fact, after telling what I saw over local radio, I know that other people also saw it."

STORM

Mr Quinn tells of seeing a "perfectly round, glowing disc" which was in his view for 30 seconds or so as it zig-zagged under the black cloud layer of a threatening storm, with lightning in the air.

"I had gone to start a job in Queen Victoria Road when I saw it," he told the Express. "The man I was with also saw it. It just moved across the sky quite slowly. It seemed to be the size of a bus. It went out of sight, then came back and disappeared again. I don't think it was of this earth," he said. "It was absolutely white, and glowed."

Mr Quinn said he had not believed in UFOs, and, even after seeing it, had tried to reason out other explanations before finally accepting it was a flying saucer sighting.

"At the time I was not completely sure, but after talking about it on the radio and after hearing that other people had similar sightings at the same time on Tuesday afternoon, I became convinced. Another customer I went to later that day, who lives on Towneley, also saw it," said Mr Quinn.

CR: T. Good

COULD THIS BE AN ALIEN INVASION?

MANY PEOPLE in central and northern Italy reported seeing brightly coloured flying objects in the night sky last week at the same time that Swedish police released a report of a UFO sighting in Smaaland.

In Pavia, south of Milan, residents saw a circular object spinning in an intense green and orange light before disappearing over the horizon. Along Italy's Adriatic coast on Friday, more than 28 sightings were reported of objects which continuously changed colour ranging from gold to blue before vanishing.

Aroused

A disc-shaped object about 15 feet wide and nine feet high was seen in Sweden in July by two young girls and corroborated by a local policeman, Jan Aschan, an officer with 15 years' experience.

Latest UFO reports have aroused particular interest in Italy in view of a claim by the pilot of an Olympic Airways flight from Zurich to Athens that he had a near-collision with a mystery object north of Como near the Swiss border.

Two "flying saucers" were seen by 45 Argentinian journalists aboard a Boeing 737 flight to Buenos Aires last week. Pilot Jorge Requiere said the UFOs veered away each time he headed towards them.

SUNDAY EXPRESS, London, England - Aug. 23, 1985 CR: D. Speed

EVENING POST, Reading, England
Sept. 17, 1985 CR: T. Good

Star-gazing Lyn gets the fright of her life

SALESGIRL Lyn Brookes got the fright of her life when she looked out of her window late on Sunday night.

For what she saw struck terror into 24-year-old Lyn. High in the sky she saw a mysterious unidentified flying object with flashing lights.

Lyn, from Sparrow Close, Wooschill, Wokingham, said: "I heard a sort of whooshing noise and went outside. About half-a-mile away something was hovering high above some trees. I could see red and white flashing lights."

"At first I thought it was just an aircraft but it stayed there in one spot for about five minutes and then suddenly it sank down behind the trees before rising into the sky."

"I was really frightened — it was as if it was watching me."

Lyn reported the sighting to the police but a spokesman for the force said they had not been told of any



■ Lyn Brookes... "I was really frightened."

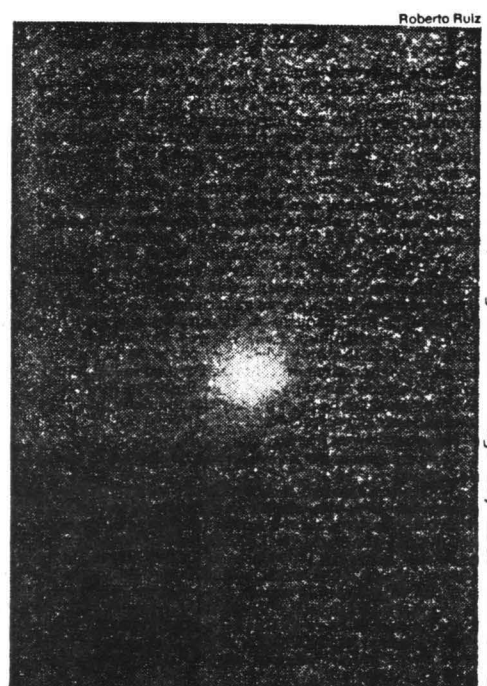
other sightings. An MOD spokesman said it would take days of research to establish whether the object was a form of military aircraft flying that night.

But he added: "The description of the lights sounds like they were navigation lights. It could have possibly been a Harrier."

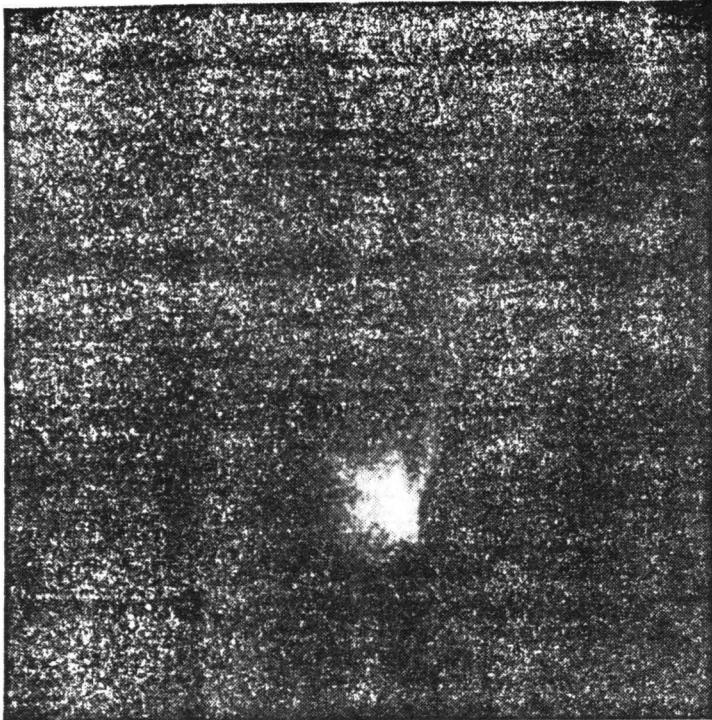


A la izquierda, uno de los OVNI, con una forma similar a la de una banana. A la derecha, otra toma del objeto volador, que se encontraba más cerca del avión de Aerolíneas, el mismo cuya fotografía aparece en la página anterior.

At left one of the UFOs shaped like a banana. At right, another shot of the flying object that was closer to the Aerolineas Argentinas plane, same as the photo in the previous page.



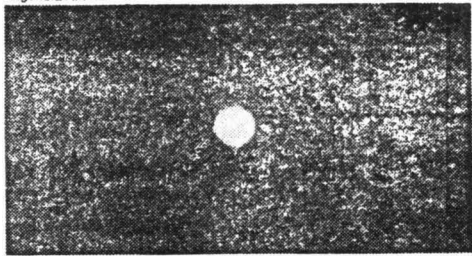
CIARIN, Buenos Aires, Argentina - Aug. 19, 1985 CR: J. Gama



This is the UFO that was closest to the plane; its conic shape is altered, due to its own light reflections.

Este es el OVNI que aparecía más cercano al avión: su forma cónica está alterada por sus propios destellos luminicos.

Agencia AFP

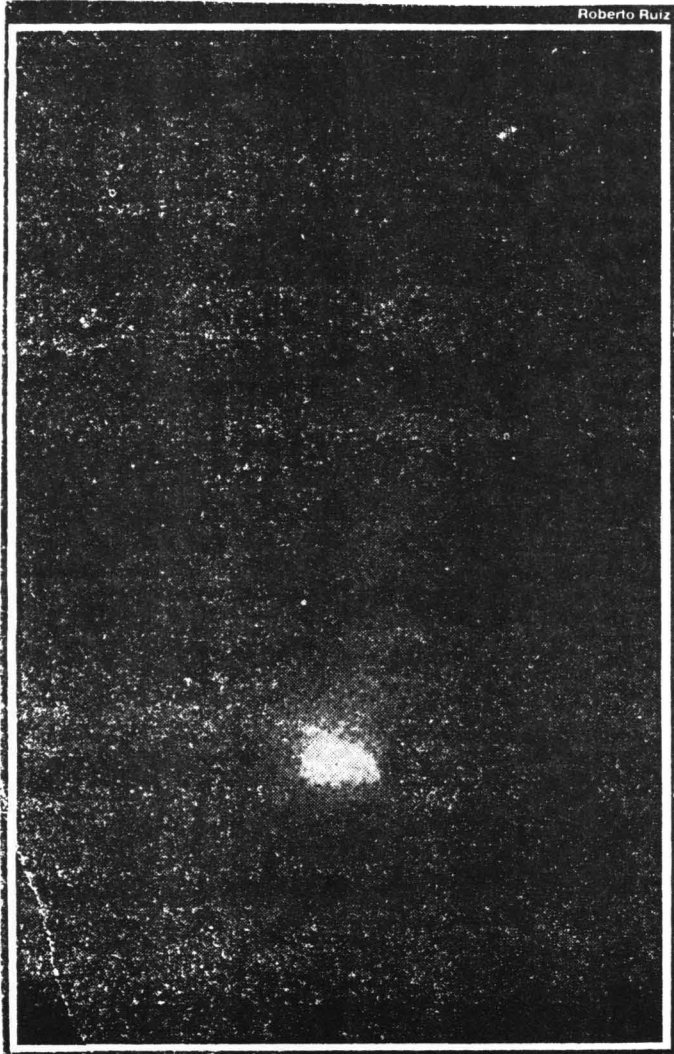


Este objeto luminoso fue observado por miles de habitantes de Santiago de Chile.

This luminous object was seen by thousands in Chile.

This is the UFO that was closest to the plane; its conic shape is altered, due to its own light reflections.

Este es el OVNI que aparecía más cercano al avión: su forma cónica está alterada por sus propios destellos luminicos.



TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Antofagasta, Chile
Date of incident: June 7, 1985
Name of source: AFP news service
[CREDIT: Barry Greenwood]

UFO PLUNGES CHILIAN TOWN INTO DARKNESS, SAY WITNESSES

ANTOFAGASTA (Chile), June 8 (AFP) - An unidentified flying object (UFO) seen by several dozen witnesses Friday morning may be the cause of an electrical power outage that plunged into darkness a large part of the Chilean town of Antofagasta, located 1,400 kilometers north of Santiago.

The object, an enormous saucer that oscillated as it moved and lit up the sky yellow and white, overflew the center of this town of 200,000 people between 4:00 and 6:00 a.m. local time, according to numerous witnesses whose stories match.

The phenomenon also threw clocks out of kilter and upset radio transmission, witnesses report. Employees of the national telephone company also noted a decrease in voltage on their network, lasting several minutes.

City and country of incident: Santiago, Chile
Date of incident: August 17, 1985
Name of source: AFP news service
[CREDIT: Barry Greenwood]

TWO UFOs IN CHILEAN SKIES: MYSTERY DEEPENS

SANTIAGO, August 25 (AFP) - The passage of two unidentified flying objects (UFOs) over Santiago, observed last week by tens of thousands of witnesses, remains unexplained in spite of efforts by Chilean scientists.

The mystery deepened even more on Saturday when Australian meteorological services, in a telegram to the newspaper "La Tercera", categorically denied the Chilean weather bureau's theory that the UFOs were high-altitude probes launched by Australia.

One of the two "phenomena" visible on several different occasions during the evening of last August 17 was photographed through a telescope at the Chilean astronomical centre in Calan. Three scientists subsequently stated that the immense, shining object, which flew over the country from west to east, could not be either an airplane or a satellite.

After the UFOs disappeared behind the Andes, passengers in an airplane flying over Argentina saw and photographed two unidentified flying objects. The witnesses said that the first one looked like a cone with the apex pointing upward, and the second resembled a horizontal banana.

City and country of incident: Ceres, on the border of Santiago del Estero and Santa Fe provinces, Argentina - Santiago, Chile

Date of incident: August 17/18, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, August 19, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina
[CREDIT: Jane Guma]

TWO FLYING SAUCERS APPROACHED A PLANE WITH 45 REPORTERS ON BOARD

The reporters, who specialize in car races, amongst them one from TIEMPO ARGENTINO, were returning from a cross country race in La Banda, Santiago del Estero.

It was the end of an exhausting journey and the 45 special envoys from the different media commented--between notes, coffee and whiskey--on last Saturday's strange event in Santiago de Chile, at which time thousands of people saw a UFO that remained in the sky for more than two hours. Some reporters smiled, others dozed off. Most of them were preparing their notes and comments for today's edition.

But something happened when the clocks reached 19:00 hours. A bright light entered through the right side windows of the Aerolineas Argentinas Boeing 737, which had been chartered especially for the media to be able to cover the race in La Banda. A light that caused all sorts of comments and some isolated cries among the passengers. Eduardo Ruiz, TIEMPO's special envoy, reported on their experiences.

"It had been an exhausting day," said Ruiz. "We had been working since very early in the morning and the only thing we wanted was to return home. We talked about Oscar Castellanos winning the race with a Dodge. The UFOs that were seen in Chile also came into the conversation. I made myself comfortable in my seat--row 12, seat C, aisle--and fell half asleep."

"About 40 minutes after take-off," continued Ruiz, "someone tapped me on the shoulder and said: 'Look...flying saucers.' Frankly, I didn't care. I went to the window and only then did I believe what I was seeing."

He added: "A bright light that continuously moved from left to right and up and down on the right side of the plane, and kept the whole crew in an uproar. It was there for some 40 minutes. You can imagine, thousands of things were said, but we were all in doubt. At one time, the Captain left the cabin and told us to remain calm - they had already seen the same thing on their trip to Santiago del Estero, hardly an hour before. The light disappeared slowly and we calmed down. I tried to make myself comfortable in another seat on the other side of the plane, by the window. Suddenly, something blinded me again. This time it was another light, not as bright as the first one. Like a star. It remained to one side of the plane until we began our descent. What did I see? I think it was a UFO. I saw it and can't forget it."

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

The plane, a Boeing 737 -LV-JMW-, flight 591, had a visual contact with two UFOs over the town of Ceres, on the border of Santiago del Estero and Santa Fe provinces. The commander, Jorge Requiere, and the co-pilot, Luis Marin, entered into the log that on their trips to and from Santiago del Estero, they had visual contact with two things they listed as "unidentified objects."

Another reporter aboard the plane was Orlando Rios, from the sports magazine EL GRAFICO.

"The object was in sight for almost 40 minutes," Rios told TIEMPO. "It moved to all sides at difficult angles and at incredible speed. It went up and down like a yo-yo. I was aware of its existence, was conscious that I wasn't hypnotized and, most incredibly, that it wasn't human. It was something impossible on account of its movements."

Flight 591 arrived at the Buenos Aires airport at dusk yesterday. On board, 45 reporters, two stewardesses (and the flight attendant) had had a terrifying experience. Something had happened at an altitude of 60,000 feet. The end of an exhausting day had for 40 minutes turned into an adventure that for the time being would be difficult to explain.

City and country of incident: Ceres, Santa Fe province, Argentina

Date of incident: August 18, 1985

Name of paper and date of clip: CLARIN, August 19, 1985

City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

[CREDIT: Jane Guma]

CLARIN PHOTOGRAPHER TOOK PICTURES OF TWO UFOs FROM A COMMERCIAL PLANE

The crew and passengers of an Aerolineas Argentinas plane, among them two reporters from this paper, saw two UFOs over Santiago del Estero. One of the objects, shaped like a cone, changed its course when the plane pointed its nose at it.

Two UFOs were seen yesterday by the passengers and crew of a commercial flight of Aerolineas Argentinas over Santiago del Estero, first at 05:00 p.m. and then at 07:00 p.m.

Both UFOs were seen and photographed by a reporter and photographer of CLARIN who were returning from a car race in Santiago del Estero, the report on which appears in our Sports Section.

Upon reaching Ceres, in Santa Fe, one of the attendants of the Boeing 737 (LV-JMW) asked if any of the passengers had a camera. Thus, photographer Roberto Ruiz of this paper was invited into the pilot's cabin to photograph an object in the sky.

Reporter Miguel Angel Merlo, of this paper's Sports Section, also went to the cabin.

Both could see a luminous object giving off intermittent lights; the light rays were violet, yellow and even white. At times the light "lost intensity, then blinked again and changed color," claimed Ruiz. Shortly thereafter, all the passengers learned about the incident.

The CLARIN reporters could verify that twice when the pilot pointed the plane towards the UFO, the latter violently changed its course.

The UFO zigzagged at enormous speed and "suddenly stopped like it were nailed in space," said the CLARIN reporters; "it seemed to defy gravity."

The pilot, commander Jorge Requiere, stated that at the time of the sighting (07:00 p.m.), the plane flew at an altitude of 9,000 meters, and he estimated the UFO to be at an altitude of some 20,000 meters, to the right of his plane.

The phenomenon was also seen by co-pilot Luis Marin, and the following crew: flight attendants Maria Cristina Marcuzzi and Roberto Galarza, stewardesses Marcela Villar and Claudia Rodriguez, and engineer Walter Gomez.

The other UFO, to the left of the plane and apparently at much greater distance, was seen by the crew and CLARIN reporters the second time the pilot pointed the plane at the first object. This second UFO was also seen by the other passengers.

The shape of the UFO on the right was like that of a cone "with the vertex pointing upwards, and its luminous flashes also went up, as can be seen in the picture," said Ruiz. The other "was shaped like a horizontal banana and seemed to be very, very small."

In a way, the crew was on the alert.

When they were flying over Ceres towards Santiago del Estero, they saw a UFO "to one side," although not as clearly, because the sky was still very bright. This sighting was verified by the crew of a Bolivian plane which reported it to the Pajas Blancas base in Cordoba province.

The crew said that "neither sighting was painted by the plane's radar," and explained that the angle at which the two UFOs flew (above the plane and not to the sides) made impossible an eventual detection by instruments.

"In the ten years that I've been flying for Aerolineas Argentinas, this is the first time I saw such a phenomenon," commander Requiere told CLARIN; "I can't give any kind of information until I report to the company," he added.

"I can't say what the objects we saw were. I don't know whether it is a luminous phenomenon, whether it is a terrestrial or extraterrestrial craft, or if it simply was an atmospheric balloon," he claimed.

He then said: "The possibility of defining exactly what we saw is through the pictures. No doubt the shots taken by CLARIN's photographer will help."

Pilot Requiere said the lights of the object that was apparently closer, to the right, were white. His testimony contradicts that of photographer Ruiz. The difference might be due to the fact that Ruiz made his observation through the lens of his reflex camera, with a 300mm telephoto lens, which works as a binocular.

Reports from the sports radio show "Carburando" transmitted by Radio Rivadavia and the Atlantida Publishing house, were also on the plane and witnessed the event.

The closest object...which appeared over and to the right of the plane, was seen for some 10 minutes.

The other object that was on the left side, was visible for some 20 minutes "from Ceres onwards."

A STORY THAT BEGINS IN 1947

APPEARANCES IN ARGENTINA

The story of flying saucers in Argentina begins in 1947 in La Plata (capital of Buenos Aires province), when a neighbor, intrigued by the numerous reports on the subject that started to come in from the United States around that date, looked up at the sky in his city and saw a light "similar to a star" that "went up and down," until it came to rest on top of an orange tree.

The cry he let out woke up the whole neighborhood. The saucer gave off violet flashes until it disappeared ten or fifteen minutes later. And though nobody else saw it, the residents of La Plata discussed the incident for months.

A TIME FOR THE ENCOUNTER

Whether real or hallucinatory, the experience is the beginning of 38 years of flying saucers, marked by irregular ups and downs in the quantity of sightings, the frequency of the reports, and the interest in the subject. Experts indicated that the highest peaks in the appearance of UFOs were in 1962, 1965 and 1968; also, the two most spectacular types of "close encounters" (the second type being a simple landing, the third type being contact with a UFO crew) generally happened at night.

The most spectacular year for the "Argentine UFOs" is 1965, mainly because it was then that the presence of a UFO was officially reported for the first time by the Navy. Talking to a reporter from CLARIN on July 16th of that year, Frigate Lt. Daniel Perisse, commander of the Argentine Naval Base of Deception Island, said: "The object appeared to us to be larger than a first magnitude star, with changing flashes of light. It had a continuous movement around a central point." The Army, which reported previous sightings, prepared an official communique indicating that "the characteristics of the object and its motion lead us to conclude that this is not a meteorological balloon, a star or a plane."

HYSTERICS IN THE CITY

On July 16th of that same year, a real collective hysteria affected the city; the UFOs arrived in Buenos Aires. Newspapers' phones were ringing with calls from different places; Villa Devoto, La Paternal, Ramos Mejia, Lomas de Zamora, Castelar, Parque Lezama, San Isidro, San Telmo [districts in the capital and in Buenos Aires province - Translator]. In spite of many photographs, the control towers of the city's airport, as well as the Ezeiza International airport reported negatively.

Since then, UFOs of different shapes appeared in different places; they had different crews; the effects of their presence would also be different, but general descriptions permitted at least a few systematic classifications. A large number of cases involved isolated individuals, and the classic story is that of a solitary car driver at night who suddenly, to his utmost surprise, finds that his engine stalled and one or more flying saucers are flying overhead or coming down to land.

Many of these cases may have in their favor landing traces; burned grass where the dark marks would suggest different landing pads, thus feeding the academic knowledge pertaining to the differences between the objects.

Aside from the classic shape of one plate inverted on top of the other, appearances of the most striking variations were reported; from fireballs to discs with round domes in the center; from cigars to honey-combed discs, from semi-spheres from which light rays came out, to the classical plate shape, but with an upper cylindrical turret in the center and two semispheres protruding from the lower part, so that its outline vaguely resembled that of a war tank.

Reports vary, but there is a coincidence in behavior which seems to react to its surroundings, confirming the hypothesis of intelligent beings on board. The flight of the UFOs in relation to the flight of a plane, for instance. There are also reports of strange motions; zigzags, elliptic and lineal alternatively, and at times, an apparent incandescent immobility.

And those who claim having had encounters of the third kind describe humanoid beings, varying in volume and height, with whom communication is always by telepathy. The most fascinating description refers to an inconceivable "energy being" who is invisible, but perceptible in the deep sensorial zones.

A SIMILAR PHENOMENON TOOK PLACE IN CHILE

Santiago, Chile, August 18 (EFE) - A UFO flew over Santiago for four hours and was seen by the control towers and meteorological centers of the airports in the capital. Last Saturday, from 04:00 to 08:00 p.m., a UFO the size of a large star, similar to a metallic sphere, moved slowly from West to East in a clear sky, until it could no longer be seen as night fell.

Thousands of people could see the UFO in its slow flight, while several radio stations were describing its course, listeners were phoning in and those in charge of the control towers and meteorological stations were interviewed.

The UFO was seen at the same time in the port of Valparaiso, 140 kilometers to the West of Santiago. Reporters who also saw it said that two objects were seen instead of one for approximately one hour, the second moving faster than the first one.

(continued on page 15)

RADIO HAMS

On the other hand, radio hams claim that during the time that the UFO flew over Santiago, some interferences were experienced in their transmissions.

City and country of incident: Cordoba, Chaco, Salta, Santa Fe, Tucuman provinces, Argentina
Date of incident: August 18/19, 1985
Name of paper and date of clip: CLARIN, August 20, 1985
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina
[CREDIT: Jane Guma]

REPERCUSSIONS FROM A STRANGE PHENOMENON - UFOs WERE SEEN IN CHACO PROVINCE, AND AN OBJECT FELL FROM THE SKY IN SALTA

UFOs were seen in several provinces. In Chaco and in the North of Santa Fe, the phenomenon took the shape of a very luminous source of light which remained in sight yesterday for more than an hour, in full sunlight. On the other hand, reports from residents in Tucuman and Salta were in agreement as to the explosion followed by an earth tremor, caused by the fall of a fireball in the Cafayate area, in Salta.

UFOs were seen in Chaco, Santa Fe, Cordoba, Salta and Tucuman, and according to reports from CLARIN agencies in those provinces, they were described in different ways; very bright points of light, UFO fleet, and in the Northwest, a fireball that caused a loud explosion.

SEEN FOR TWO HOURS IN CHACO

A luminous point of extraordinary brightness was seen yesterday morning, which kept residents in the WSW region of Chaco and in the north of Santa Fe alert for more than two hours. The UFO remained visible by sectors for more than one hour, remaining either motionless or moving slowly, according to different reports.

The phenomenon was seen especially in Charata, main city of the Department of Chacabuco, where a luminous point that gave off a very bright white light was seen shortly before 08:00 a.m., and in spite of the full sunlight, it remained in sight without fading until after 09:00, near the sector where Venus is usually seen. The phenomenon was also seen in Campo Largo, Avia Teraí, Corzuela, San Bernardo, Cote Lai, Charadai, and in towns in the north of Santa Fe near the border with Chaco, for instance in Florencia.

Some experts estimated, although without risking opinions, that it could have been Venus or another first magnitude star which, due to special atmospheric and light propagation conditions, caused the phenomenon. However, the mystery grew when the luminous point continued to be seen in the afternoon in other parts of the province at 04:00 p.m. in full sunlight, as in presidencia Roque Saenz Pena.

A phonecall from businessman Hector Zurita made from Roque Saenz Pena to the Resistencia agency of CLARIN, described it as being of spherical shape, "very bright, and seen through binoculars, it had blue and reddish shades; it doesn't seem to move, although if one looks at it fixedly, it gives the impression of turning at great speed around its own axis." The UFO was seen by most of the residents in presidencia Roque Saenz Pena. In Cordoba, according to some versions, a UFO fleet was seen near San Vicente, Barrio Ipona and Villa Azalais; in this last district, a UFO fleet has allegedly flown overhead at about 08:30 p.m. on Sunday, while the strange craft may also have flown over parts of Jesus Maria and the Punilla valley.

EXPLOSION IN CAFAYATE

In the area of the Calchaqui valleys in Tucuman, and in Cafayate, Salta, several residents claimed having seen a fireball moving at great speed on Sunday morning, causing a loud explosion when it fell to the ground, at which time an earth tremor was also felt.

The explosion caused a great commotion in the Northwest of Tucuman, according to reports from residents of different towns, some of which stated that after the explosion which was heard shortly after 08:00 a.m., a luminosity could be seen on the horizon for several minutes. Reports from residents in Salta near the border with Tucuman were in agreement, and some added that after the explosion they saw a smoke column rise high in that area.

The airport of El Aybal in Salta rejected the hypothesis of a plane in distress, because no plane was flying in that area at the time. On the other hand, due to the uneasiness of the residents, the chief of police in Salta, Alberto Javier Alderete, organized an expedition to the area, and it is estimated that it will arrive there this morning, since it is a very difficult site to reach, in one of the slopes of the San Isidro hill, near Cafayate.

Rumors had not yet quieted down when the version of a similar incident arose in Salta, in the sense of a new explosion having been heard yesterday between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m., but this time followed by a small earth tremor.

A CURIOUS EVENT

A strange thing that happened to Mario Ance, announcer for Radio Nacional in San Miguel de Tucuman, might be related to these events; he was driving in the valleys returning to San Miguel on Sunday night, together with his son Guillermo and a neighbor, Oscar Robles, when on reaching Infiernillo, he ran out of gas.

According to him, around 08:30 p.m., a flood of light suddenly fell upon them, paralyzing them. "It was as if they were observing us," he said. "This lasted several minutes, while we remained inside the car." Then, as suddenly as it had come, everything went dark again; they waited there until a few minutes later a car came along, and helped them on their way.

THERE IS NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION

The phenomenon seen the afternoon of last Sunday in several parts of the Northwest was neither confirmed nor denied by any competent authority.

The official entities that were consulted in this respect supplied no

kind of information whatsoever. For instance, Ricardo Romero, Press Advisor to the Argentine Air Force, said: "We know nothing, ask the National Meteorological Service, because it surely must be a meteorological phenomenon, as happened at other times, and people take it for a UFO."

Meanwhile, at the Meteorological Service, they said they "had not detected anything strange yesterday (Sunday)."

IN CORDOBA

Authorities in Cordoba said they knew nothing. The head of the International Airport in Pajas Blancas, Major Ruben Fernandez, informed CLARIN that "I have no official report, neither from Aerolineas pilots nor from provincial planes having seen anything strange in our skies."

The chief of the Air Force base insisted that the "radars in the control tower did not register anything, that is why I have to repeat officially, that no report was received here about strange things seen in the sky. When I heard comments that the papers claimed that flying objects had appeared, I recommended all operators to pay special attention and should they see anything, to immediately report it to me, but, I repeat, nothing happened. Nobody saw anything at the airport, nor did the radar paint anything."

On the other hand, the staff at the Meteorological Office of the International Airport in Resistencia (Chaco province) which belongs to the Air Force, and observers at the airport's control tower, confirmed to CLARIN the presence of the luminous point which was also seen yesterday in Resistencia from 08:00 a.m. on until fog covered the whole place. Even "pilots who flew over that area" saw this point.

Always according to the testimony from the control tower personnel, the spot where the object was seen, where it remained stationary, its intense luminosity a silvery hue, would apparently be at some 10,000 meters altitude, between the towns of Villa Angela and Charadai, the first one located 268 kilometers and the second one 110 kilometers to the Southeast of Resistencia.

THE CLARIN WITNESSES

"I SAW TWO LUMINOUS OBJECTS"

CLARIN's main expert on motoring is Miguel Angel Merlo, who was also aboard the Aerolineas Argentinas plane from which two UFOs were seen on Sunday. Merlo, an excellent professional, recounts his experience in the passenger and also in the pilot's cabins:

We were returning from Santiago del Estero, from the "Mother of Cities," where we had covered one more meeting of the Cross Country Race, and had prepared the usual sports report. The same as all journalists, we have the professional obligation of reporting on everything we see, and we will report here--racing aside--how a witness behaves when confronted with those machines or things called UFOs which are much faster and sophisticated than racing cars.

At first we had scheduled our return to Buenos Aires for yesterday, embarking on the cute Fokker F-28 which makes the daily flight. But suddenly another flight came up for Sunday in a plane that was not so small. The Boeing 737 (LV-JMW) had been parked at some distance from the airport, because its weight did not allow it to roll along a sector of the runway that has still not been paved.

Contrary to our belief, the passengers listed to return on Sunday were less than we had expected. Thus, the empty seats provided for more comfort and allowed us to gather in several groups for nice conversations. One of these groups had an interesting neighbor; don Nino, an authentic native of Toscana [Italy], a man who has already visited 37 countries and who hit it off very well with this reporter because of our mutual interest in Dante Alighieri, Leonardo Da Vinci and Miguel Angel Buonarrotti.

The flight was what is usually called "especially for brigadiers," which is when the plane seems to be motionless in space, without the minimum vibration being felt in the cabin.

A few runs towards the pilot's cockpit--including the stewardess--slightly worried don Nino. The plane made a pronounced zigzag, tilted to the left, and the sun's glare flooded the cabin.

By impulse and also by professional obligation, we were already with the pilot. He was pointing to the UFO with his expert hand, without taking the plane off its course. Two newspaper photographers were taking photos through the windshield. The forty passengers were showing two attitudes; the older ones were a bit uneasy, the younger ones all had their noses pressed against the port windows. Co-pilot Luis Marin was pointing towards a small bluish grey light in space that went up and down with evident smoothness.

According to the co-pilot, we had two UFOs in sight--two, yes sir--and the light of the first object seemed to be in communication with a much more mobile triangle that emitted flashes of different colors.

POLYCHROME

The undersigned can now recall the red, green and some other lights blinking between orange and blue.

This second UFO made no coordinated movements, but seemed to vibrate while at the same time very clearly retaining its triangular outline. Stewardess Maria Cristina Marcuzzi stated that both UFOs had been sighted on their flight from Buenos Aires capital's airport (Aeroparque) to Santiago del Estero. She said that at that time, they could be seen only as blurred images because the sun was still too high, and her male co-worker--flight attendant Roberto Galarza--added that the couple of bogeys had also been seen by a Lloyd Aereo Boliviano plane.

Meanwhile, stewardess Claudia Rodriguez was serving tonic water to all the other passengers, who seemed very motivated by these unusual flight companions. Flight Engineer Walter Gomez estimated distances in feet, which is the unit measure still being used by space professionals.

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In the meantime, the persistence of the bluish grey UFO was really surprising. It remained motionless alongside the Boeing, to the left-front. That seemed to be its tranquil orbit. The mischievous little triangle, full of flashes, disappeared from our sight. Both bodies, which had started courting our plane at about 07:00 p.m., had disappeared a few minutes later. And we again flew without incident. We were flying over the city of Ceres, Santa Fe province.

Miguel Angel Merlo

I TOOK 36 PICTURES

Roberto Ruiz, CLARIN's photographer, who took the pictures of the UFOs that were published exclusively in our yesterday's edition, explained that "there is no special criteria as to with what camera a UFO should be photographed, and there have been cases when a pocket camera did the job. The difference will be that if a normal lens is used and the object is very far away, there will have to be an excessive enlargement in order to be able to see the shape of the object. Due to the fact of my being a photographic reporter," said Ruiz, "and having with me a Nikkon reflex camera with a motor (with which three and a half pictures per second can be taken), choosing speeds and apertures according to the measurements taken by the camera's high precision exposure meter and having a 300mm telephoto lens--which was the one I used for the UFO--it was easier for me to obtain closer pictures. At that time I resorted to what I had at hand. Of course my camera was loaded, as should be the case with everyone who has a camera, because the time left to take a snapshot of any moving object is very short."

The photographer took 36 pictures, none of them blank, in which can be seen in sequence how the objects were flying away, because in the last pictures only a little point can be seen. "Most of the shots were made from the pilot's cabin," he stated. "The UFO moved in different directions and I followed it with the camera, always keeping it inside the viewfinder. I also took pictures from the passengers' windows, applying the same techniques; in this case the UFO could be seen as a very small object, and not even through the lens could I see the details I saw from the other angle."

"When I took the photograph," added Ruiz, "I leaned the end of the telephoto lens on the pilot's windshield, while I checked the aperture and speed through the camera's viewfinder. The speed was 1/125 and f/4 which is the maximum aperture of the Nikkon 300mm lens, that is, the largest capability of the lens to let the light pass through to the film. At that moment, I felt captivated by what I was seeing through the lens, an image much richer in details than what could be seen with the bare eye, but I did my part, which was to deeply concentrate on the subject, where the only thing that mattered was to make sure that since it was a moving object with luminosity changing a lot, the photograph came out perfectly."

The happiest moment for CLARIN's photographer was "the sense of having felt useful to myself, having obtained the material that was subsequently published, and with which I backed up the opinions given by all the other witnesses. In a way, I feel that I am reaffirming the value of journalistic photography as a testimony. I did not wish to have a color film because it is the goal of every reporter to obtain the testimony, and black and white is sufficient to document any description that may be made verbally."

The film used for the pictures was Kodak Tri-X, 400 ASA, which was later forced up to 1600 ASA through developing. Final enlargements for publication were made on black and white paper 20x25 centimeters. "The grain of the film can be seen in those enlargements, quite separated, which is typical of sensitive materials when they are developed forcing their sensibility," explained the author of the pictures. This, added to the enlargement--which was approximately 5 times--robs the picture of definition.

CONFLICTING OPINIONS

The phenomenon reported day before yesterday gave rise to different opinions. Thus, the Argentine Association of Astronomy commented through one of its members that UFOs do not exist, while the Argentine Foundation of Ufology stated that the event had already been predicted by them.

"I don't have complete information on this incident reported in Santiago del Estero, but it is my opinion that the way this subject has been dealt with is quite commercial," replied Ariel Otero Fraga, Vice-President of the Argentine Association of Astronomy, to a question by CLARIN. This association has some 600 members, and is located in the capital's district of Parque Centenario.

Later, this 22 year old man stated: "We in the association spend all night looking at the sky and we do not know of any serious observer that has ever seen a UFO, and this in spite that we know quite enough about the sky."

The AAA has been in existence for 66 years and about 60 or 70 members gather there daily to trace and discover new celestial behaviors and according to Otero Fraga, they look at the sky all night in different places of the country.

"This subject has been used for quite some time to swindle people. Besides," he adds, "for those who do not know the sky, the first thing they do when they see a light is to say it is a UFO, and that is a serious mistake, because it may be a bird lighted from below or a cloud lighted by the sun. The zodiacal light, for example, which reflects solar waves on dust particles in interplanetary space, is at times quite bright. This, added to people being quite predisposed, makes for a lot of UFOs being seen."

The entity's Vice-President, the same as the members, obviously categorically denies the existence of any unidentified flying object.

NOTES ON UFOs

The President of the Argentine Foundation of Ufology, Luis Alberto Burgos, on the other hand, stated in this regard that "what was seen is in a route--called UFO corridors in Argentina--that goes from the Atacama puna ending up in the Rio de la Plata. We had predicted a wave in our country, especially over the coast of the Parana and Uruguay rivers down to the San Jorge

Gulf, between 08:00 p.m. and 02:00 a.m., especially after the second fortnight of each month, and the peak months will be, aside from the last two months, August and December, with the arrival of Halley's comet."

Burgos also said that the warning about the possibility of serial visits was published in CLARIN last February 1st and 4th. "The idea is based on statistical data referred to decimal appearances of the phenomenon in certain places and regions, that is, events that repeat themselves every ten years with a 100 kilometer range," said this paper in its February 1st issue, quoting the ufologist.

The president of the foundation then said that "the photograph in itself, although it is not the clearest that would be required in these cases, is valid because of the quantity of pictures taken. There are practically no previous records of so many pictures taken of one object in the whole world. This will continue to be seen in the country from now on until the end of the year. It was not seen in the River Plata because the UFO corridor was so long that if the movement is not fast enough, it can go on to other places in the country."

City and country of incident: State of Parana, Brazil

Date of incident: August 22, 1985

Names of papers and date of clips: GAZETA DO POVO, CORREIO DE NOTICIAS and FOLHA DE LONDRINA, August 23, 1985

City and country of newspapers: Curitiba and Londrina, Parana, Brazil

[CREDIT: Daniel Rebisso Giese and Irene Granchi]

FLYING OBJECT IN THE SOUTHWEST SKY

For the whole afternoon yesterday, an Unidentified Flying Object stayed up in the sky in Foz de Iguacu. The whole population watched, but the Meteorological Station at the International Airport was unable to identify the object. In the evening, the object was also seen in Cascavel. Contrasting with the blue sky, the object was very luminous, reflecting a silvery light, although FAEP was unable to determine its characteristics. Rumor says that a Varig plane tried to approach it, unsuccessfully, however, as the strange vehicle flew off at a great speed every time it got near to it. The same occurred with a Transbrasil passenger plane.

From Assuncao, Paraguay, France Press Agency informs that an unidentified object was observed in at least ten towns in the Eastern region, and was described as a half-oval-shaped body with a huge, intermittent luminosity. The specialists of the Institute of Basic Sciences believe the object could be a weather balloon, but they do not discard the hypothesis that it could be Venus, whose present location in the proximity of Earth would make it visible in daylight. The event was followed by all the communities in the Southwest of Parana and by the press, but no conclusion was reached as to the controversial phenomenon.

FOLHA DA TARDE: AN OBJECT SHONE IN THE SKY - A FLYING SAUCER?

Foz de Iguacu - Branch. - Over 50% of the population living on the border of Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina watched a luminous object yesterday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 o'clock p.m. It was very large, shaped like a pan, and with a huge antenna sticking up above. Most of the time it hovered over the Itaipu Bi-National dam. Towards evening, this same machine, unidentified by authorities, left in the direction of Curitiba.

This same object was alternately shining brightly, or dimming, as thousands of people in all the Western region of the State of Parana can testify. Sergeant Jeronimo, an Air Force member, serving at the International Airport at Foz de Iguacu, stated: "The UFO was up at over 15,000 meters, and there is nothing precise that we can say about it." A Varig Airbus, a Boeing 747 and another smaller plane that landed at Foz de Iguacu around midday all passed beneath the UFO. These planes were flying at 7,000 meters high, and both crew and passengers said that the UFO's metallic shine was very bright and that, at the height they were flying, it seemed to be twice the size of the Airbus or of the 747.

Some of the people with powerful binoculars, or with a zoom, were saying that the UFO was rounded. The radar at Infraero at Foz de Iguacu did not register it. An employee at the Bi-National Itaipu dam, Mario Ruth, watched it through a very powerful theodolite (surveying apparatus) and later he discovered that the same type of UFO, with the same characteristics, was seen in Argentina and Chile a few days ago.

In Curitiba, CINDACTA II (Integrated Control Center of Air Traffic) did not confirm the appearance of the UFO here, and only said they were investigating the case and "were not authorized to give out any more information." They confirmed the fact that they had been given notice of the UFO through phone calls from several towns in the state, detailing: "...from Cascavel, Santa Izabel do Ivaí, Francisco Beltrão, São Jorge do Oeste and others."

They guaranteed that they had been investigating everything, and that the information received concerned sightings between 15 and 16 hours. One of the employees at the Center suggested that it could be a weather balloon from some other country. But none of this could be confirmed, due to the contradictory information received at the Center as to the size of the UFO. The UFO was observed in São Jorge do Oeste at about 4,000 meters up and seen to have two antennae jutting from the tips, and looked very bright at 4 p.m. It seemed to be steering towards Salto Osório and Salto Santiago, according to José Leônico, who added that the whole town stopped to stare at the object.

FOLHA DE LONDRINA: UFO CROSSES THE SKY IN PARANA

Cascavel (Branch) [Synopsis] - A UFO was observed in several towns of the Western region of Parana flying towards the Atlantic Ocean. It was bright, of indefinite shape, and was seen to have two shafts, like two flashlights jutting from it. A spokesman at the Traffic Control Service in Foz de Iguacu, Lieutenant Bernardino, Air Force Commander in Foz, would not explain except to say that the UFO was following Route 086, directed East. He does not believe it was a balloon, for those follow air currents, and this object was traveling contrary to the currents. This officer has been with the Air Force for 28 years, and declares he has never seen anything like what he saw yesterday. "This is exactly what could be termed a UFO," he added.



UNION LEADER, Manchester, NH - June 27, 1985 CR: B. Greenwood

1,500-Pound Ice Chunk Falls From Sky Experts Disagree on Source of Deadly Projectile

HARTFORD, Conn. (UPI) — Scientists yesterday tried to determine the origin of a 1,500-pound sheet of ice that mysteriously dropped from the sky and smashed into a back yard fence.

David H. Menke, director of the Copernican Observatory and Planetarium, said the ice was probably 6 feet long, 8 inches thick and moving at about 200 mph.

"It's unusual in the fact that it fell from the sky," said Craig Robinson, curator at the planetarium. "That does not happen often."

A 13-year-old boy was in his yard Monday with a friend when the ice came "whirling" from the sky and smashed into the fence about 10 feet away from them.

"When it hit, I fell on the ground," Michael Torbicki said. "I thought it was going to hit us."

Scientists hope a chemical analysis of the ice will reveal whether it came from a comet, airplane or was generated during thunderstorms passing through the area.

Menke said his preliminary analysis indicated the ice fell from the wing of a plane.



"Because of its shape and how it came down, I tend to think it formed on the wing," Menke said, adding he is contacting airport officials to determine if any pilots had difficulty approaching Bradley International Airport.

"Ice can build up very quickly, and it could have broken off as the plane was coming in," Menke said, noting its weight would have interfered with the flight if

the ice was on for long.

Robinson said because of its massive size, he doubted the ice fell from an aircraft.

"There's a chance it came from a comet. It would have been originally larger since the surface ice would have melted as it came through the atmosphere."

Walter S. Houston, regional director of the American Meteor Society, said he will send a piece of the ice to the Institute of Meteorite Stud-

ies at Arizona State University.

Houston said if the ice is pure, it could have had cosmic origins.

Sheila Slattery, who was in an adjacent back yard, also saw the ice fall from the sky.

"After it had fallen, I was amazed and very thankful it wasn't closer to me because I'm sure I would have been killed. There was no time to move at all," she said.

Slattery saved a piece of the ice about 10 inches in diameter and put it in her refrigerator.

The origin of the ice has already produced conflicting opinions among experts in astronomical and meteorological phenomena.

Arthur R. Upgren, professor of astronomy at Wesleyan University, ruled out the comet theory.

"It certainly isn't from any comet. It would have melted if it was a comet. Ice particles are vaporized by the heat of the sun," he said.

Upgren said he believed turbulence during thunderstorms passing through the area picked up the chunk of ice from somewhere and carried it until it fell.

'Big Foot' Seen In West Rutland

WEST RUTLAND — Some West Rutland residents reported seeing a large creature last Friday night that left a trail of large footprints on a gravel road near Route 4A.

"I started walking up the road and saw a black image. It was taller than me and ran like a human. I saw it and threw rocks at it," said Bob Davis, 16, a student at West Rutland High School. The incident occurred at about 8:30 p.m., Davis said.

"We heard a loud, thrashing noise," said Theresa Davis, who said the visit by the creature scared her visitors.

Ed Davis, her son, said he heard a grunting and screeching noise apparently made by the creature. Al Davis, his brother, who went into the woods to investigate, said the creature gave off a swampy smell.

The Davis residence is situated on the west side of Route 4A. A mountain range extends south towards Tinmouth, the Davises said.

Castleton State College Anthropologist Dr. Warren Cook said he believed the creature was a "Bigfoot" or "Sasquatch." He obtained castings of the footprints with the help of Mel Loomis, a West Rutland teacher. The prints measured about 14 inches and close to seven inches in width.

"The footprints were beautiful," Cook said.

Frank Grabowski Jr., who also said he briefly saw the creature, found the footprints the next day. Grabowski, a West Rutland eighth grader, said he heard the creature bang on the side of a shed at the Davis residence.

DAILY HERALD, Rutland, VT - Sept. 25, 1985 CR: P. Bartholomew via W. Thompson

NEWS, Southbridge, MA - June 27, 1985 CR: B. Greenwood

1,500-pounds of ice falls from sky; origin debated

HARTFORD, Conn. (UPI) — A 1,500-pound sheet of ice that fell from the sky into a backyard was terrestrial in origin and probably came from an airplane wing, tests showed today.

David H. Menke, director of the Copernican Observatory, said chemical studies of the ice reveal it is very similar to rainwater and has many air bubbles, indicating it was formed rapidly in the atmosphere.

"When something falls out of the sky, people look to me to find out where it came from," Menke said. "It didn't come from outer space."

Menke said the ice contained small amounts of sodium and rainwater.

But Menke's conclusions still haven't ended the debate over the origin of the massive piece that smashed a pole and fence when it landed in a yard Monday where children were playing.

Walter S. Houston, regional director of the American Meteor Society, said he is not convinced by Menke's studies that the ice has a terrestrial origin and will send a

piece to the Institute of Meteorite Studies at Arizona State University.

Houston, who believes the ice could have come from a comet, said that theory is reaffirmed by Menke's discovery of nickel in the ice.

He said comets always contain nickel. "In my book, it's still an open game."

Houston noted a 50-pound piece of ice fell in North Chester in 1974 that he also believed came from a comet.

After talking with witnesses who watched the ice fall, Menke said the sheet was probably 6 feet long, 8 inches thick and moving at about 200 mph as it hurtled from the sky.

"It's difficult to believe an airplane flew very far with so much ice on it," Menke said, noting the weight would have interfered with the flight.

"The situation is unusual in the fact that the ice fell from the sky," said Craig Robinson, curator at the planetarium. "That does not happen often."

UNION, San Diego, CA - Sept. 26, 1985 CR: D. Clements

Engineer talks to plants — and plants talk back

United Press International

LOS ANGELES — Joe Sanchez talks to his house plants right in his own living room. And — get this — they talk back to him.

Little of his plants' chatter makes sense, but it certainly makes for quite a conversation piece.

Here's the story.

Sanchez, a 53-year-old aerospace engineer from Long Beach, read the book "The Secret Life of Plants" 12 years ago and was swept away with the notion that plants can communicate and that humans have turned a deaf ear.

So he hooked up his house plant to a mechanical device he constructed. "And," Sanchez said, "the plant would recognize me entering the room, or when I spoke or turned my back to it."

The machine, Sanchez insists, would make clicking sounds that flowed from the plant.

"I'm sure it came from the plant, because when I unhooked it, nothing happened," Sanchez said.

Come now. Does a plant really communicate?

"Yes," Sanchez replied. "There's some kind of a transfer of idea, thought, or perhaps even feelings."

Years passed and the curious engineer, the kind of man who feels quite at home tinkering with space shuttles and the like, decided to press further to find out whether plants possessed a vocabulary and were capable of expressing feelings in human terms.

Last year, he attached a voice synthesizer to a computer. The computer was then hooked to a leafy green illuminati.

Next thing you know, Sanchez, a former nuclear weapons specialist, had the little plant that sits beside his computer desk babbling incom-

prehensibly.

What happened was that Sanchez allowed the plant's electrical impulses to flow through the feeder wires so it could choose from a vocabulary of more than 1,000 words that he programmed for it.

Researchers in the past have hooked lie detectors to plants and reported that jagged lines left on the machine's paper showed that vegetation felt pain or love or fear.

But Sanchez, an rabid science fiction fan who once used his Apple II to handicap horse races and translate Egyptian hieroglyphics, is positive his latest homemade voice box has got his once taciturn plants speaking.

Over the past few months, one of his plants, a dieffenbachia, has croaked a mouthful over the voice synthesizer from among the 1,000 random words in the computer program.

"Yes, I have one here," Sanchez began. "Let's see. It said, 'After the production above a large prototype my in reality in a great or high degree spiritualized well.'"

A few days later, the plant uttered this profundity: "In order above copy in a probability the remedy. Besides the remedy, a long and consistent intuition."

Sanchez said he once placed the feeder wire from the plant in his mouth. "And it said, 'Man tastes good.'"

"Something's going on here, and I don't what it is, but something is going on," Sanchez said.

Another message sounded much like Carl Sagan talking about billions of stars. The computer-plant barked, "Along a cosmic future, flow at first sight, the depth was sharp, define on land, carefully after future, before the expansion, my did, under the sun identical."

Indeed.

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - Sept. 25, 1985

Unusual buzz kills sleeping

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Police do not want to hear any more about a mysterious buzzing sound that has kept residents in the Marina and Pacific Heights district from getting a good night's sleep.

Doug McKechnie, a composer who lives on the northern slope of the city, said the droning noise kept him awake most of Sunday night. "I had to cover myself with a pillow to fall asleep," he said. "It's like a propeller. Something like a helicopter. Brrrrr, brrrr. Like that."

Police operators were bombarded with phone calls from residents Sun-

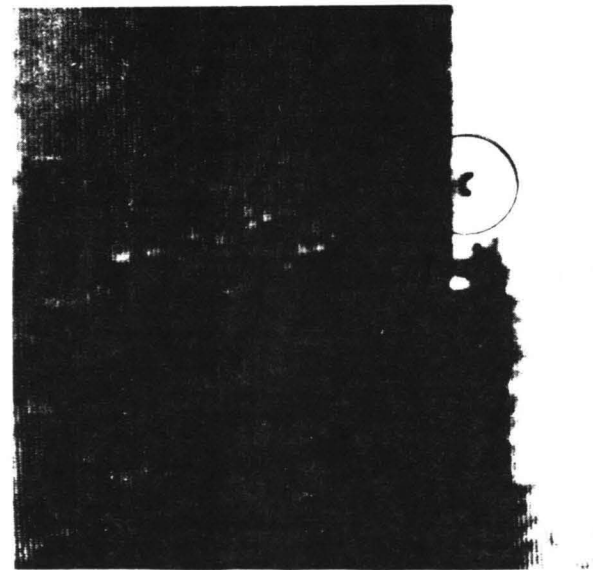
day. Finally, a police sergeant wrote a message to his operators telling them to "disregard reports of loud hum in Northern District."

"Why do people call us about this, for God's sake?" asked Robert Corley, communications-division officer. "What are we suppose to do about it? It's a pain. We're telling everyone to call the Coast Guard."

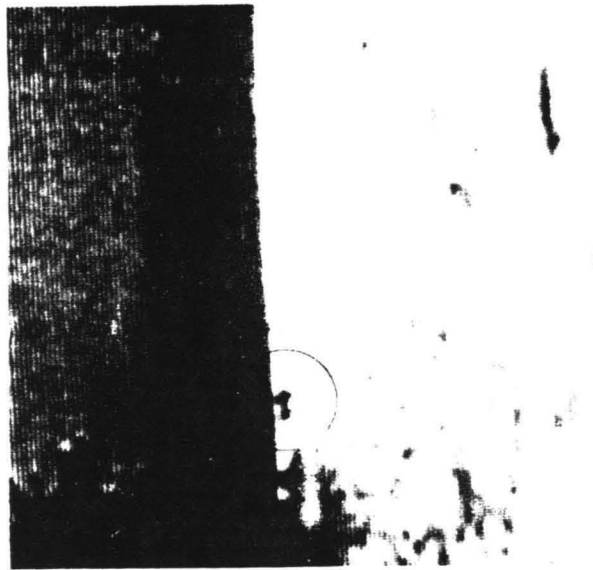
Unusual noises also kept Sausalito's houseboat community awake for 11 summers. Last month, the hum was identified by acoustical engineers working with biologists at Steinhart Aquarium as the mating call of the toadfish. But Steinhart assistant curator John Hewitt said the toadfish cannot be blamed for this one.

Coast Guard spokesman Larry Marshall said officials are trying to solve the latest mystery.

CR: R. Heiden



(Copyright 1985 by Dennis Hall)



(Copyright 1985 by Dennis Hall)



(Photo by Steve Costello)

By STEVE COSTELLO

FERRISBURG — The first sighting was more than 350 years ago, but the Lake Champlain monster known as "Champ" may have made his first videotaped performance recently.

Samuel de Champlain reported seeing what he described as a long, serpent-like creature in the lake in 1609, and P. T. Barnum once offered a \$50,000 bounty for Champ's hide, dead or alive.

Since then, more than 250 people say they have seen Champ. This year six sightings have been reported, and now a Vergennes man has on videotape what he believes is Champ.

Dennis Hall, 28, is a construction worker who says he has looked for the creature since he was 10. He said he was getting into a boat with his daughter and father-in-law when he saw the creature on July 8. The creature was about a fifth of a mile away when it was first seen, he said.

Hall was about a mile from the Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes when the creature surfaced, he said. He said he didn't even know he was filming the animal until his daughter yelled to him.

"My daughter yelled, 'Dad, it's Champ,'" Hall said. "I have film of it for maybe 20 seconds. I can't prove it's Champ... but you can see it raise its neck and then lower it back into the water."

Hall said the creature was about 30 feet long, "but the neck was really thick."

"I've spent my whole life on the lake, and I'd never seen anything, but I'm sure it's him," Hall said.

Hall was sitting in a canoe when he filmed the creature so parts of the videotape are jumbled. The tape does show an object protruding from the lake and moving across the surface. Hall is so convinced he has captured Champ on film that he has had the film copyrighted.

On videotape, the object appears to have two

sections, and it appears to dive into the water with a splash at the end of the tape. The object appears to be alive, but because of the distance, the videotape is inconclusive.

sections, and it appears to dive into the water with a splash at the end of the tape. The object appears to be alive, but because of the distance, the videotape is inconclusive.

Hall said when the creature disappeared from view, he chased after it in a motorboat. When he got around the bend where he said the creature disappeared, there was nothing there.

"There were no boats, the water was calm, there was nothing out there," Hall said.

Still photographs of the videotape, shot in sequence, confirm that an object is moving and its shape is changing in a snake-like motion as it goes. Hall said he taped the creature from about 200 yards so the photographs provide little detail.

It was the second time Hall had seen the creature, he said. He said he had also seen Champ swimming near the breakwater in Burlington June 25.

Joseph W. Zarzynski, director of the Lake Champlain Phenomena Investigation, has been studying Champ for 11 years. He said he has never seen the creature, — he said he saw the Loch Ness monster in Scotland in the late '70s — but he is sure there is some kind of large creature living in Lake Champlain.

Two women called Zarzynski and said they saw the creature on June 29 less than a mile from where Hall saw it.

The women described the creature much as Hall did. Jane Temple and Peggy McGeoch, two workers at the Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes, said they saw the creature while they were at work.

McGeoch said the animal raised its head and neck about five feet out of the water. She said the creature "was huge, about 36 inches in diameter. I thought at first I was seeing a very large fish jump, but then I saw (what I thought were) two other fish jump behind it. That's when I realized it was not a fish. There were humps... Fish do not do a ballet in the water."

McGeoch said the creature "moved like a caterpillar going across your driveway, only it was in the water. I couldn't believe what I was looking at."

Sandra Mansi of West Haven, Conn., is another woman who believes she encountered Champ. She said she was near St. Albans sometime in 1977 when a large, brown creature surfaced about 50 yards from shore. She took one picture of the purported creature, took a second look, and left.

Mansi was with her husband and two children when she said she saw the creature. Their picture, also copyrighted and widely distributed in the press, showed the purported creature, its head facing the other direction, looking much like a dinosaur.

Mansi didn't show the picture to anyone until 1981, when friends convinced her to have it analyzed. Three experts, all specializing in rare and extinct animal life or photography, examined the picture and determined it was not a hoax.

The picture was examined at the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona, and investigators at both schools said the picture showed some sort of animal life.

While it was confirmed the creature in the Mansi photo was alive, its identity was not confirmed.

Dr. Roy Mackal, one of the three who studied the picture, said he thought the creature might be a Zeuglodon, a species of whale thought to be extinct for about 40 million years.

Zarzynski said he thought the creature was a plesiasaur, a sea reptile that is believed to have been extinct for about 70 million years. The Loch Ness monster is also most often explained as a plesiasaur, Zarzynski said.

Zarzynski admits there are probably many citations that are logs or scuba divers, but some people are definitely seeing something out of the ordinary, Zarzynski said.

"We do have America's Loch Ness in our backyard," Zarzynski said.

Pete Horton of Bridport has reported that he spotted a creature in Potash Bay in Addison on July 1. The next day a similar animal was spotted by two Delaware women near Elm Point in Addison.

It was definitely "not a fish, not an eel and not a snake," Rita Schaffer said.

Many of the sightings have come from people who are by themselves, which often diminishes their credibility, but 70 people claim to have seen Champ while on a lake cruise in July 1984, and 35 people say they saw the creature at the same time in July 1983.

Many people who claim to have seen Champ say they have seen him more than once.

Lillian Cayo of St. Albans said she, her husband, her son, and a friend all saw the creature four times near their house. She said all the sightings have occurred when the water was calm and there were no boats on the water.

"It's quite interesting, because after a while, you notice the same things each time. There isn't any noise," Cayo said. "I think the creature must know it's a good time to move about or whatever."

She said she looks for the creature whenever possible, but people still question her about the sightings.

"People ask 'What was it you were drinking?'" she said.

The state of Vermont passed a bill into law in 1983 which protects the creature. But Zarzynski said there is more than one.

"We are talking about animals in the plural," Zarzynski said, "I think we're dealing with 10 or 15 of them, a breeding colony."

Dennis Hall of Vergennes shot 20 seconds of videotape of what he believes to be the Lake Champlain monster. The videotape, made on July 8 near Ferrisburg, shows small black areas in the lake that take various forms, sometimes in a hump as in the first photograph and sometimes in other shapes as in the second photograph. These pictures are still photographs taken of the tape. Hall, who was in a canoe, said

Of Latest 'Champ' Sightings, One Is on Videotape

Don't look now — something odd may be looking back

By Cheryl Truman

Herald-Leader staff writer
How is Kentucky like "Wild Kingdom"?
Let me count the ways.

An unidentified animal dubbed the "Possum Trot Mauler" is mangling trees in Pulaski County.

A gorilla-like critter stopped a motorist last week in downtown Shelbyville for a close encounter of the ape kind.

And three fishermen near Ashland report they caught a baby shark, an unlikely freshwater resident, cruising the aquatic wonders of the Ohio River.

Sightings of unusual animals — usually massive, mean and mysterious — are hardly new in Kentucky. Early last year, the trendy sighting to make was of a big, black panther that was terrorizing deer and coon dogs in backwoods throughout the state.

This month, the "Possum Trot Mauler," so named for its ability to strip, chew, claw and otherwise separate trees from their bark, has been stalking the suburban woodlands of Pleasant Hill near Somerset. The community is nicknamed Possum Trot by its older citizens.

Currently, however, it is more like Mauler

Trot, because the toothy beast is destroying all tree bark in its path. It shows no interest in flowers, plants or even livestock.

As Possum Trot resident Herb Edd Godby says, go figure that.

"If I was a wild animal, I'd rather get some of these calves running around here instead of a tree," he said.

It is a subject of great local dispute exactly what the Mauler is. One theory is that it belongs to the cat family.

"There's nothing else that would have that size of teeth to strip bark," said Godby, who has two wounded maples and an apple tree as

evidence.

The other body of thought is that the Mauler is a big black bear. Several sightings have been reported of such an animal in the area, where Mr. Mauler has also apparently visited the community of Pulaski north of Science Hill.

However, there is no evidence that the Pest of Possum Trot can go urban — like the gorilla that greeted Mark Bohannon of Shelbyville on his way to nearby Simpsonville early one morning last week.

"Well, it looked just like a gorilla," said Bohannon, who was on his way to work at a

sausage factory at 5:30 a.m. on July 19 when he made an unexpected acquaintance.

Bohannon said he heard a scream, and slowed his Jeep near a stoplight in downtown Shelbyville. Out jumped a gorilla — or something like it.

"It was about 6-foot, and hairy, but I didn't get to see that much of it," Bohannon said. "It just turned around and ran."

Bohannon called the police.

"I told them, 'I feel pretty stupid to tell you I saw a gorilla in downtown Shelbyville,'" he said. "But I heard someone screaming.

That's why I slowed down."

A week later, Bohannon said he wasn't so sure of the family origins of the animal involved.

"Now I think it was just some body dressed up," he said. "I don't see how a gorilla could be around here. I just want to know who it was (because) nobody would have been out there at 5:30 in the morning."

Meanwhile, the Ohio River "shark," apparently the first of its kind in water usually more noted for the milder-mannered catfish, was caught Monday by three Greenup County fishermen.

The fish involved has been tentatively — and informally — identified as a sand shark, which can grow to a length of 10 feet and can weigh up to 400 pounds. Unfortunately, this sand shark will never grow to the size of Jaws, because it's now dead.

"It was a bluish-looking color, with fins and a long tail and a mouth with teeth," said Conrad Cooper, the uncle of one of the fishermen. "I was the first one to see it. It was about 14 inches long, and I know it was a shark. I've seen one down in Florida, and I knew what it was."

TIMES, Huntsville, AL - Aug. 22, 1985 CR: M. Hall

Huge Chunk of Ice Crashes Into Home

By ROXANNE ARNOLD
L.A. Times News Service

POMONA, Calif. — Claudette Walker's neighbor was returning home just after 1:30 Wednesday morning when she heard a loud whistling sound, looked to the sky over Pomona and saw the funny glow. She kept on going home.

"She didn't say anything because she didn't want anybody to think she was crazy," Walker said.

Moments later, a huge chunk of ice, estimated at 10 to 20 pounds, tore through the roof of Walker's home here, about 30 miles east of Los Angeles. The ice ripped a wide gash in the living room ceiling and hurtled shards everywhere. Asleep in their bedroom, Walker and her husband, Willie, were awakened by the "large boom" made by the plummeting ice.

"It was like something had crashed," a shaken Walker said later. "I was sure it was my sliding door and that somebody was coming through. I thought it was the (Valley) Intruder, the killer."

It wasn't. Authorities theorize the block of ice fell from a plane en route to Los Angeles International Airport. A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration

said that it is possible that the ice could have come loose from the exterior of a plane.

"We can assume it didn't come from a bird," Pomona Fire Capt. Rob Hecht said.

WHATEVER ITS source, the scene came as a shock to Willie Walker, who crept into the living room to investigate.

"He walked in and just saw ice," his wife said. "We just thank the Lord nobody was hurt and that it didn't happen in the bedrooms or something. Everyone was sleeping."

The shattered ice, enough to fill a plastic bag 10 inches by 11 inches, had caved in the ceiling and scratched its way across living room furniture and decorative crystal glassware. The Walkers, quite literally, could look up through the ceiling to see stars.

"Why it was my house, I just can't imagine," Claudette Walker said. "It's all very weird. Even the firemen said so."

Meanwhile, the Walkers are keeping their ice packaged in their home freezer "for investigation purposes."

"I did contact my insurance company," Walker said, "and I want to have it here."

UNION, San Diego, CA - July 26, 1985 CR: G. Earley

Mars: A truly 'Red' planet?

By George W. Early

Mars as a possible abode of life has long fascinated the people of Earth.

About 200 years before Burroughs, Bradbury and scores of other science-fiction writers populated the Red Planet with stalwart heroes, lovely princesses and myriads of fierce and unearthly beasts, mathematician Karl Friedrich Gauss proposed signaling the Martians by marking Earth's surface with huge math symbols.

In 1869, French inventor Charles Gros suggested building a huge mirror to focus the sun's rays on the Martian desert, "writing" messages by fusing the sand. His government declined to fund the project.

Indeed, contact with Mars was deemed so easy that when, in December 1900, a wealthy French woman offered 50,000 gold francs for the first contact with another planet, she specifically excluded Mars for that very reason.

Then, in the summer of 1976, a few days after the first Viking probe landed on Mars, those fabled Martian civilizations vanished; pictures sent back to earth showed only a lifeless wasteland, bleak and rock-strewn. Mars was dead.

But was it always dead? Among the scores of pictures sent back by the Mars Orbiter before the Viking landers went down, was one (NASA photo #35A72) that shows a mile-wide, human-like "face" seemingly carved from rock. NASA and most of the scientific establishment dismiss the "face" as an illusion of light and shadows on wind-eroded rock, but two computer imaging scientists, Vincent DiPietro and Gregory Molenaar, who have spent thousands of hours (and thousands of their own dollars) analyzing that photo, disagree.

Working with the original NASA

Commentary

data tapes — all pictures sent back from Mars came as computer signals, not as conventional film — they discovered a second picture of the "face." NASA photo #70A13 was taken 35 days later, from a different altitude and when the sun was at a different angle above the horizon. And, says DiPietro, their imaging studies show the features of the "face" in both photos are consistent from the sunlit portion on into the shaded areas. Whatever it is, the "face" is no illusion.

Although the results of their 5-year study are available in a profusely illustrated (and modestly priced) booklet obtainable from Mars Research, P.O. Box 284, Glenn Dale, Md., 20769, the scientific establishment remains unmoved. Carl Sagan, TV's favorite scientist, even went so far as to equate the Martian "face" with the Man-in-the-Moon illusion.

Interestingly enough, none of the scientists who have dismissed the DiPietro/Molenaar work have bothered to actually study it. Yet duplication of a scientist's work is the accepted means of validating, or disproving, his claims.

The anti-"face" faction has carefully ignored this fundamental scientific principle. Given that attitude, it is not surprising that there was no discussion of the "face" at the recent (July 16) Mars symposium in Washington, D.C.

However, not all scientists have ignored the "face." In California, a small group — including Dr. Brian O'Leary, a former Apollo astronaut — is making an independent study and seems favorably disposed towards the DiPietro/Molenaar conclusions.

If the "face" was carved by intelligent beings, when was it done? Di-

Pietro estimates it was done 500,000 years ago when the Red Planet is generally believed to have had abundant surface water and could have supported life.

DiPietro is urging an immediate American commitment to send a manned expedition to Mars, reasoning that if the "face" was carved by intelligent beings, there could be other alien artifacts nearby that could be humanity's ticket to the stars.

And, he warns, if we don't go, the Russians will. He even picks 1992 as the year of a Russian landing on Mars.

Why 1992? That's the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the New World. It's also the 75th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. What better way, says DiPietro, for the Russians to upstage the West than by completing a forward-looking space spectacular while we are celebrating an event a half-millennia old?

Even discounting the "face" and the hypothetical cache of alien artifacts, a successful Soviet Mars trip would dwarf every Western scientific achievement to date — including our planned space station — and give the Soviets scientific prestige they've not enjoyed since they, not us, orbited the first earth satellites.

I don't know if DiPietro and Molenaar are right about the "face," but I do know the question can't be settled by armchair theorists making fun of it on TV talk shows. The only way to find out is to go and look. And, like DiPietro, I am convinced that if we don't, the Soviets will. Do you really want a truly "Red" planet? I don't.

Earley, a former Project Apollo administrative engineer, is a freelance writer living in Bloomfield, Conn.

—Amazing photos of 'Bigfoot'—



Photo shows "Bigfoot" at mystery spot dipping his hand into pond . . .

THESE incredible pictures prove that "Bigfoot" lives, according to a Vermont college professor.

Dr. Warren Cook also has a strand of red hair, movie footage and footprint casts to back his claim.

Cook, who teaches history and anthropology at Castleton College in Castleton, Vt., was in town yesterday publicizing a movie documentary, "In the Shadow of Bigfoot."

The film contains actual footage of the mysterious manlike mammal long reported seen but never caught, Cook said.

The huge furry creature, also known as Sasquatch, reportedly has been spotted in remote places around the world.

Cook just returned from China, which accepts Bigfoot's existence more readily than here.

He displayed a single strand of bright red hair given to him by Chinese scientists, who believe the hair belongs to Bigfoot.

They've studied such hairs, found on tree branches, and "find they're not human but very close to human," Cook said.

Cook has never seen Bigfoot himself, but "I've talked to 39 people who have," he said.



So he can scoop water over his body to wash and cool himself . . .



Photos by Amazing Horizons Inc.

Then dries off with a powerful shake of his massive frame.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Peril of Ice 'Bombs' From Aircraft

■ I read about the ice "bomb" that fell on Linnmore Street in Hartford with great interest [article, June 25, "Large Chunk of Ice Falls Into Back Yard"].

Although we were experiencing severe weather conditions in the area at the time and the possibility exists that this was an accumulation of ice formed in the atmosphere, just as hailstones are formed, the fact that an aircraft was seen flying in the vicinity just before the ice crashed to earth suggests another explanation.

For more than 25 years my brother

has been monitoring the environmental impact of heavy air traffic at London's Heathrow Airport.

In addition to structural damage from the noise and vibrations from aircraft, he has 139 documented cases of falling ice, at least 24 of which involved leaks from aircraft. The number of incidents that occur over unpopulated regions or are unreported can only be imagined. However, the potential health risks posed by the problem of ice "bombs" are real and serious.

Scientists recently investigating mysterious outbreaks of cholera

found two cases in France that defied explanation. However, the location of the outbreak was directly under a major airline route. It now is theorized that cholera germs in an airliner's leaking sanitary system could have survived in the ice that formed on the outside of the craft and were contained in the eventual droplets of water that descended to earth.

Police in the London area have analyzed an ice "bomb" and found it contained galley waste and human fecal material that could have leaked from an aircraft. Galley

waste and sanitation system water leave commercial airplanes via heated pipes. If the heater malfunctions or the system leaks, large blocks of ice can form on the exterior of the plane. Eventually, the ice can fall from the plane as it passes overhead.

The problem of falling ice is on the increase and poses a serious health threat. In addition to the risk to life and limb, there also is the potential for ice "bombs" to spread the many illnesses carried in human fecal material.

Doris M. Nowak
Newington

Depths still probed for sea monsters

The hand-painted sign beneath the blackboard in Paul LeBlond's office in the oceanography department at the University of B.C. declares: Don't be afraid to ask dumb questions.

Okay. Um, do you believe in sea monsters?

"Belief is not the right state of mind," he said, smiling. Certainly sea monsters are possible.

But until someone drags in a furry or scaly corpse from Georgia Strait, he said, there will be those who say sea monsters do not exist.

LeBlond is an oceanographer, a physicist; not a biologist or zoologist. He studies ocean currents, and his sea monster research is a hobby.

He helped found the International Society of Cryptozoologists, the group that is seriously examining reports of sasquatches and Himalayan yetis, the Loch Ness monster and Ogopogo.

Fifteen years ago, LeBlond and marine biologist John Sibert, thought they could catalogue the many sightings of strange creatures in B.C. coastal waters, analyse them scientifically and perhaps develop a computer model of the elusive creatures.

"It didn't work out," said LeBlond, who will speak on sea monsters July 16 at the Vancouver Public Aquarium.

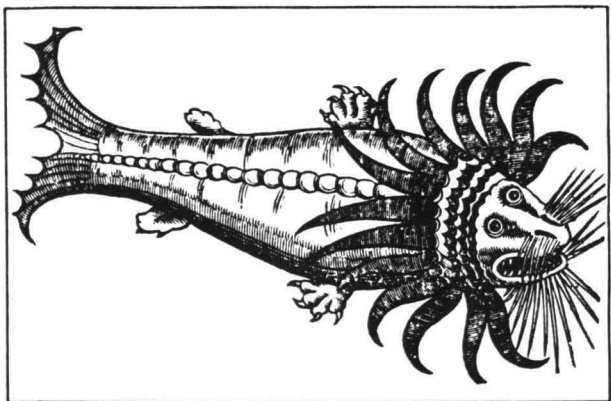
LeBlond has documented 23 sightings from 1905 to 1969 (the year before he and Sibert published a paper on them.) French zoologist Bernard Heuvelmans counted 27 sightings from 1912 to 1962, and only one of his sightings was also recorded by Sibert and LeBlond.

LeBlond says that while the number is impressive, it isn't large enough to do much with statistically.

Another complication is that B.C. waters teem with enough genuine and readily — if not easily — identified monsters.

A pod of three or more killer whales can appear monstrous on a misty morning. There are also giant squid and elephant seals. The carcasses of basking sharks are not uncommon "monsters" found washed ashore on isolated coastal beaches, according to newspaper files. Sharks have a cartilaginous skeleton that can decay into grotesque shapes, fooling even experienced fishermen into thinking they have come upon the remains of something extraordinary.

Known creatures aside, LeBlond says there have been several sightings of "three types of unidentified animals."



SEA MONSTERS . . . some say one has a mane

One has a long neck with a head that has been variously described as like a "camel, giraffe or horse." Some say it has a mane, some say it has hair. The second is similar but with smaller eyes. The third is a serpent-like creature that has shown loops of its body above the water.

Sightings of the first two are more common than of the third, said LeBlond. The most recent was some three months ago by a Sunshine Coast man who thought at first that he was seeing a fisherman standing foolishly on

the prow of his boat. But, on second look, he saw a creature with a long neck and the horse-like head.

A member of the dinosaur species could have survived, says LeBlond. Also possible is an unknown sea mammal, "a large, seal-like creature" that evolved a long neck.

LeBlond isn't saying they are out there. He says only that they have not been proved not to be out there. He is going to keep looking and asking people who have seen things to write to him about them.



LeBLOND